

J U N E 2 0 2 1
NUACHTLITIR
MEITHEAMH 2021



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IMPORTANT GAA COVID-19 UPDATE FOR CLUBS IN THE 26 COUNTIES

A chara,

As you are aware, the Irish Government last Friday confirmed a further relaxation of Covid-19 restrictions to take effect from Monday, June 7th.

In terms of Gaelic Games, the impact of this for various activities is outlined below.

Games/Attendances From June 7th, competitive and challenge games at all levels of club and inter county are permitted to take place. However, it is essential that we continue to proceed with caution and that the Return to Play Protocols linked here continue to be followed.

In terms of attendances, 100 spectators will be permitted to attend GAA games (club and inter county) in the 26 Counties from Monday, June 7th. This number is in addition to players, team personnel, stewards or media attendees. Where a ground has a minimum accredited capacity of 5,000, a maximum of 200 spectators can attend.

It is likely that from July 5th, up to 200 spectators may be permitted to attend games, and up to 500 may be permitted in grounds with a minimum capacity of 5,000. However this will depend on progress in broader society – if these increases are to be permitted, we will advise in advance of July 5th.

Where attendances are permitted at games, the advice, prepared by the National Health and Safety Committee needs to be followed. For underage games, where parents are attending in a child-protection capacity, they will count as part of the 100 spectators permitted to attend.



All grounds should have appropriate dispersion measures in place at all entrances and exits and parents/guardians should be advised that congregation in large groups on or outside club grounds is not permitted.

Dressing Rooms For club games, dressing rooms must remain closed. This is to ensure the risk of players or backroom personnel being classified as close contacts is minimised. As in the summer of 2020, players should arrive ready to warm-up and play and leave the ground once the relevant game is over.

Use of gyms In broader society, the use of gyms for individual training will be permitted from June 7th. However, we are advising that club or county owned gyms should remain closed for the moment, unless being used on an individual basis by players on a county panel. Again, this is being advised on the basis of ensuring the risk of an outbreak in a club among your players is minimized.

From July 5th in broader society, it is likely that indoor training, will be allowed to recommence in pods of up to 6 people. We will review the position on the use of gyms at that point and provide further advice for clubs and counties in advance of July 5th.

Club Bars From June 7th, club bars will be permitted to serve food and alcohol outdoors and in line with general guidance for the sector. Further information is available [here](#).

From July 5th and subject to maintaining progress with the virus, indoor services in bars and restaurants may be allowed to resume.

Drive in events From June 7th, drive-in cinema and drive-in bingo events may take place.

Family fun days and other fundraising events It is permitted to hold family fun days or other fundraising events from June 7th, provided the numbers involved do not exceed 100 persons. It is possible that this number may increase to 200 from July 5th – again we will confirm in advance of that date if this is to be permitted or not.

Indoor meetings. All Club and county meetings should continue to be held remotely until further notice.

It is worth noting however that the Government have made provisions for indoor events to be allowed return from July 5th. However, these will be subject to a maximum of 50 attendees, in groups of up to 6 people and with arrangements in place to ensure no intermingling of groups.

Again we will advise further in this context in advance of July 5th.

Information for Clubs in the 6 Counties Clubs in the 6 Counties should continue to follow the advice contained in the Ulster Council communication of May 21st – this can be accessed [here](#).

Is muidé, le meas,



Labhrás Mac Carthaigh
Uachtarán



Tomás Ó Riain
Ard Stiúrthóir

STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE – CLUB CONTRIBUTIONS TO COMMENCE IN JULY

WORK ON THE GAA'S PREPARATION OF A NEW STRATEGIC PLAN FROM 2021 TO 2026 IS CONTINUING. A FACILITY FOR CLUB MEMBERS AND THE PUBLIC TO ENGAGE AND CONTRIBUTE WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE IN JULY.

A Steering Group chaired by Uachtarán CLG, Larry McCarthy, has met numerous times since 31 March and coordinated over a dozen meetings with groups of Club members to find out the most important areas to focus on in the strategic plan. Here is an overview of the approach being followed:

Phase 1 – What are the big issues?

The main research methods used so far have included:

- Surveys and focus groups with various groups of Club members: players, managers/coaches, and officers, at both the club and county levels, and youth members.
- Surveys and focus groups with the GAA's senior management and staff.
- Submissions from key groups such as central sub-committees, county committees, sister organisations, the GPA, Sport Ireland, and sponsors.
- Submissions from past GAA Presidents, and GAA media figures.
- A review of GAA research and reports in the last 20 years.

The overall aim is to identify the key issues, be they challenges and opportunities, to be addressed.

Phase 2 – How might we address them?

Once the big issues have been agreed, a large public consultation process will begin to discover possible strategies to adopt.

Uachtarán CLG Larry McCarthy has encouraged all members to take up the opportunity to have their voice heard via the forums provided as the Association focuses on some key issues to address over the next five years. The input of Club members will be an integral part of the approach taken.

The finer details are currently being worked out, but the main consultation method will likely be a Club Survey.

Phase 3 – What is the most effective way to address them?

The ideas to emerge from each research The ideas to emerge from each brainstorming activity will be compiled and considered by the Steering Group. Focus groups will then be established and given responsibility to come up with a final list of recommendations for presentation to the Steering Group.

Please continue to follow gaa.ie for updates on when and how Club members can be involved in this project.

The Steering Group with responsibility or then preparation of the strategic plan are:

- Conor McCarthy (O'Donovan Rossa, Cork)
- Dr. Elish Kelly (Padraig Pearses, Roscommon)
- Pat Gilroy (St. Vincents, Dublin)
- Paul Foley (Patrickswell, Limerick)
- Prof. David Hassan (St. Mary's GAC, Banagher, Derry)
- Shane Flanagan (Johnstownbridge, Kildare)
- Tim Murphy (Brosna, Kerry)
- Larry McCarthy (Uachtarán CLG)
- Tom Ryan (Ard-Stiúrthóir CLG)
- Ruairí Harvey (Planning Coordinator CLG)

PLAYER INJURY FUND – IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

PLEASE CLICK ON [GAA INJURY BENEFIT FUND FOR ACCESS TO THE 2021 GAA INJURY BENEFIT FUND SUMMARY DOCUMENT OUTLINING THE TERMS AND BENEFITS OF THE FUND. COVER IS EFFECTIVE FROM JUNE 1 2021 – MAY 31 2022. IT WOULD BE APPRECIATED IF THIS INFORMATION IS SHARED WITH YOUR PLAYING MEMBERS \ EXECUTIVE SO THAT THEY ARE AWARE OF WHAT THE FUND IS, THE BENEFITS AVAILABLE AND THE EXCLUSIONS THAT APPLY.](#)

Important points to note

Registration

Each unit will receive an invoice detailing their fees for the 2021 cover. **Registration for the Fund will be via Foireann.** Please review the teams within Foireann requiring cover and register accordingly. Registration and payment must be completed by August 20, 2021.

Payment

Payment for the 2021 fees must be received **in full by Friday August 20 2021.** Payment will only be accepted via Stripe. Once teams are registered on Foireann, the unit will be directed to pay via Stripe. It is important that if a unit has not a Stripe account set up that time is allowed for the set up and transfer of funds from a club account. If payment is received after August 20 2021, cover will only commence from that date until May 31 2022 and any unit that was entitled to a discount, will have that discount revoked.

The logo for the GAA Injury Benefit Fund. It features the GAA logo on the left, followed by the word 'INJURY' in a large, bold, blue font with horizontal stripes. Below 'INJURY' is the text 'Benefit Fund' in a smaller, solid blue font.

Please see the attached link with regards to registering and payment

GAA | Player Injury Fund – Gaelic Athletic Association (zendesk.com)

Benefits

Following the decision of Ard Chomhairle to maintain the loss of wages cover within the Fund, all benefits remain the same. To allow the Association to manage the cost of the loss of wages benefit, a loss

of wages claim will not be opened on the DWF Claims portal until a letter is provided from the player's GP confirming that the player will be unable to work because of the Injury sustained.

Claims notification

DWF Claims are the appointed claims administrators on the Fund and all claims are required to be notified within 60 days on the DWF Claims portal <https://gaabenefitsportal.dwfclaims.com/>

Membership & Return to Play protocol
Any player seeking to benefit from the GAA Injury Benefit Fund must be a registered member of the Association at the time of injury and must be in compliance with all GAA return to play protocols.

Injury Fund Email Address

An Official GAA Injury Fund email address is available for all club injury fund administrators. Please note that for GDPR compliance purposes, DWF Claims will not deal with any non GAA email addresses.

Please contact mailsupport@gaa.ie should your club require an email address.

Contacts

Foireann support – please email gmssupport@gaa.ie
Calculation of claims bands and queries on cover – please email ciara.clarke@gaa.ie
Accessing Injury Fund Claims portal & claims queries – please email InjuryFundGAA@DWFCclaims.com



NHSC GUIDELINES FOR RETURN OF SPECTATORS FROM 7TH JUNE 2021

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION FOR SPECTATORS IS TAKEN FROM THE LATEST DOCUMENT PREPARED BY THE NATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMITTEE, SENT TO CLUBS ON JUNE 2.

This guidance document, which has been reviewed by the National Health & Safety Committee on behalf of the GAA Covid-19 Advisory Group, is intended for all those associated with the organisation of GAA, Camogie and LGFA matches for the 2021 season. These guidelines which are not exhaustive, outline the key safety and operational elements that Ground Management/Event Organisers should currently consider when planning games in the context of Covid-19.

The efforts of staff, volunteers, players, coaches, medics, backroom personnel, match officials, contractors, administrators, and spectators in 2020 in ensuring that the guidelines in this document were diligently followed was a key reason for the success of the season. The roll out of the vaccine programme and continued adherence to all relevant guidance and public health advice will be crucial in ensuring a safe and enjoyable year for everyone involved in our games.

The guidelines may change over the course of the coming weeks and months as new health advice emerges or as changes in Government regulations are issued. This is a working document and should serve merely as a template for a more detailed site-specific Risk Assessment and Event Management Plan for each venue and event. Although variations in government advice may differ between the two



jurisdictions on the island, it is intended that most of these recommendations can be applied to grounds in all counties.

These guidelines should also be read in conjunction with the Central Competitions Control Committee Match Regulations document, GAA Ticketing Communications and with all relevant Camogie and LGFA guidance on Competitions, Inter County Teams and Ticketing.

Spectators

- Spectators should be aware that in attending GAA, Camogie and LGFA games not all the risks posed from Covid-19 can be eliminated but that essential control measures have been put in place to reduce risks for spectators.
- Spectators must not attend games if they display any symptoms of Covid-19 and instead should phone their GP and follow public health advice.
- Individuals that are considered high risk or are in close contact with others who are considered high risk should not attend games (**click here**)
- Individuals must be informed that much of the responsibility for managing Covid-19 risk remains with themselves, particularly in relation to social distancing, the wearing of face coverings and sanitation
- All spectators should be encouraged to bring their own hand sanitiser.
- The use of face coverings is required for all patrons over the age of 13 (including those who have been vaccinated)

- Spectators must not enter the field of play at any time, whether pre-match, at half-time and other intervals or after the final whistle or at end-of-match presentations
- Spectators should be advised to keep their own record of contacts at a match for potential tracing purposes.
- All spectators should be encouraged to download the HSE tracing app ([click here](#)). The link for the 6 counties is ([here](#))

Capacity

In accordance with the latest Government of Ireland guidelines 100 spectators will be permitted to attend GAA games in the 26 Counties from Monday, June 7th. This number is in addition to players, team personnel, stewards or media attendees. Where a ground has a minimum accredited capacity of 5,000, a maximum of 200 spectators can attend. These figures do not apply to grounds in the 6 counties. These numbers are subject to change on an ongoing basis and should be reviewed accordingly. It should be noted that the current guidance also allows for the number of spectators to increase to 500 (safe capacity more than 5,000) and 200 (safe capacity less than 5,000) from 5th July subject to the public health situation at that time. Further increases are expected in August and beyond.

Social Distancing

It is imperative that all spectators (including those who have been vaccinated) adhere to social distancing guidelines when travelling to games, arriving at the ground, in the seated areas, on the concourses, using toilets and facilities, when leaving the ground and travelling home.

- The current public health guidance advises that a social distance of 2m be maintained between people. Future government guidance may change, and the GAA's assessment methods

- may change as a result.
- Where small groups of people are attending games together members of these groups should be from the same household.
- Insofar as possible, individuals and small groups should remain in the same area for the duration of the game, remain 2m apart from others and avoid intermingling with other individuals or groups.
- Signage should be in place to remind spectators to practice and maintain social distancing, particularly at 'pinch points' identified in the risk assessment.
- Consideration should be given to the ingress and egress of patrons particularly when there is more than one game taking place. Where possible, separate entrance and exit points should be used to reduce crossflow of spectators and to help maintain safe distancing.
- There should be adequate space at the entry point to facilitate socially distanced queueing and adequate signage, ground markings and stewarding should be in place.
- It is essential that spectators do not congregate in groups in the vicinity of the grounds before, between and after games as social distancing and contact tracing measures will be compromised by such congregation and the potential risk of transmission will be higher.
- Under no circumstances should spectators enter the playing area before and after games or during intervals unless part of and the activation of the emergency plan.
- Celebrations involving 'pitch invasions' are strictly prohibited.

Contact Tracing

All practical measures, e.g. through public announcements, signage, and stewards, should be taken to inform spectators attending matches to restrict contact

with individuals and groups outside their own household once inside the ground. All spectators should be advised to download the contact tracing application. Ground management will be responsible for the contact-tracing records of staff, volunteers, players and officials but are not responsible for the contact-tracing records of spectators.

Ticketing

For games with an expected attendance of 200 or more it is recommended that entry be by pre-paid ticket only. Where possible grounds should operate reserved seating in line with social distancing guidelines. If a ground cannot operate a reserved

seating policy, measures must be in place to ensure there is social distancing between patrons inside the grounds.

Key information should be available to spectators before they purchase a ticket to ensure they understand the specific Covid-19 control measures in place.

There should be no re-admittance to the ground once a patron has left.

Patrons with Special Needs
Individuals that are considered high risk or are in close contact with others who are considered high risk should not attend games ([click here](#)).



INSPIRATIONAL CLUBS HIT FUNDRAISING TARGETS FOR NEW DEFIBRILLATOR UNITS



BALLYMUN KICKHAMS PRO CATHAL ROCHE (LEFT) WITH CLUB CHAIRPERSON, PAUL ASHTON, AND THE DEFIBRILLATOR RECENTLY PURCHASED BY THE CLUB THROUGH THE GAA'S COMMUNITY HEART PROGRAMME.

CLUBS IN ALL FOUR PROVINCES ARE STARTING TO HIT THEIR FUNDRAISING TARGETS FOR NEW DEFIBRILLATOR UNITS THROUGH THE COMMUNITY HEART PROGRAMME.

As more than €45,000 has been donated recently by clubs across Ireland for new defibrillator units in their communities, one club has told how they were sparked into action when they checked their existing unit and realised it was not working.

Siobhán McDonagh is a GP and club member with Bearna Furbo hurling and camogie club. She told gaa.ie the recent defibrillator awareness campaign and Community Heart Programme, came at the right time for them.

In the last few days, the club have hit their target of fundraising for two new defibrillator units,

and they have joined up with the football club in Bearna as well as soccer and athletics to get cross-community support.

She said: "There is a defibrillator there but when we checked it, we realised that it needed to be replaced.

"We had started to talk about it and weren't sure how we were going to organise the fundraising for it and then saw the GAA initiative and the Community Heart Programme so we jumped on it.

“I really like the fact that the scheme is called the Community Heart Programme because it is the whole community that benefits by it being there.”

“I know that heart incidents do not discriminate and can happen right across the age range. It would have been awful for us if something had happened in our club and there was not a defibrillator there.”

A regular stream of communication to club members has focused the minds and helped zero in on their target amount in recent weeks and which will result in a unit being in the community sports facility as well as in the GAA pitch in Bearna.

Siobhán added: “We have got support from the whole community and have put it into the parish messages as well as Facebook posts and WhatsApp. Every time a post goes up about it as a reminder, we got a few more donations through.”

The issue of replacing an old unit is a story common to Dublin county champions Ballymun Kickhams who last week took charge of a new defibrillator that replaces a unit that was 20 years old.

Cathal Roche is a club member in Ballymun and also has 24 years’ experience working with Dublin Fire Brigade and has seen how crucial they are.

He says: “Having a working defibrillator is one of the most important links in the chain for survival.”

“Everyone knows someone who has had a heart attack. Having the knowledge of good CPR and having a defibrillator unit is crucial and we were delighted to be able to get a new unit.”

Cathal was club chairperson 20 years ago when the existing AED was sourced through a charity fundraising initiative driven by a local heart attack survivor who had his



CLUBS INVOLVED IN THE COMMUNITY HEART PROGRAMME CAN GET A LIFEPAK CR2 AED AS SHOWN IN THIS PHOTOGRAPH.

life saved by a defibrillator. Although it was never thankfully needed for an emergency, Ballymun ensured it was checked, serviced and maintained regularly and also used in the CPR training for club members.

The GAA’s Community Heart Programme gave them a chance to secure a 2021 upgrade on the 2001 model.

Cathal added: “We were able to raise the money for the new unit in a matter of days thanks to a couple of tweets and then the use of Facebook and Instagram.”

His advice is to be aware that the units will

need to be checked and kept in perfect working order. “It is important they are serviced. It is a piece of equipment and like a car, if it is serviced and maintained it will stay in good condition.”

Leixlip GAA in Kildare have also successfully fundraised enough for two units recently. Leixlip GAA Healthy Club officer Richard Shanahan has been overwhelmed by the local response and explained they wanted to make sure their units were available outdoors 24/7.

He told gaa.ie: “The main message for me is the more AEDs that are easily accessible means people who have cardiac arrests in the

community have a greater chance of survival. As the Community Heart Programme states; 42 lives have been saved by GAA AEDs and by increasing the number of AEDs out there will only increase this number going forward.

“We are in hard times with many people out of work, but the goodwill and generosity of people donating for this cause overwhelmed me in Leixlip. Using email, social media and local press were very successful in us reaching our target.”

“One of my healthy club initiatives was to raise awareness of the importance of CPR and the use of AEDs. From this I had two goals. Firstly to have an AED at both our sites. When I took over as health and wellbeing coordinator both our AEDs were on one site; one in our club bar and the other accessible outside. It was felt we didn’t need two situated so close together, so we moved it to our second site. My second goal was to have as many of our members trained in CPR and AED use. The unit at our clubhouse is accessible 24 hours to the public however, the second one currently isn’t, so as part of this initiative is to move the AED box to the roadside to make it accessible 24 hours a day.

“When we heard of the Community Heart Programme it fitted in very nicely with our own initiative. Leixlip have had two AEDs for more than 10 years so replacing them was advised,” added Richard.

A previous study by DCU some years ago showed that three out of five GAA Clubs had access to a defibrillator unit. The Community Heart Programme helps not only those clubs who do not have a defib, but also supports those that do have units and are looking to follow advice that units older than 10 years should be upgraded.

Secretaries are encouraged to register their club on the Community Heart Programme website to begin the donation process.

<https://savealife.communityheartprogram.com/gaa>

GAA CLUBS FUNDRAISE OVER €5M FOR CHARITABLE CAUSES IN 2020

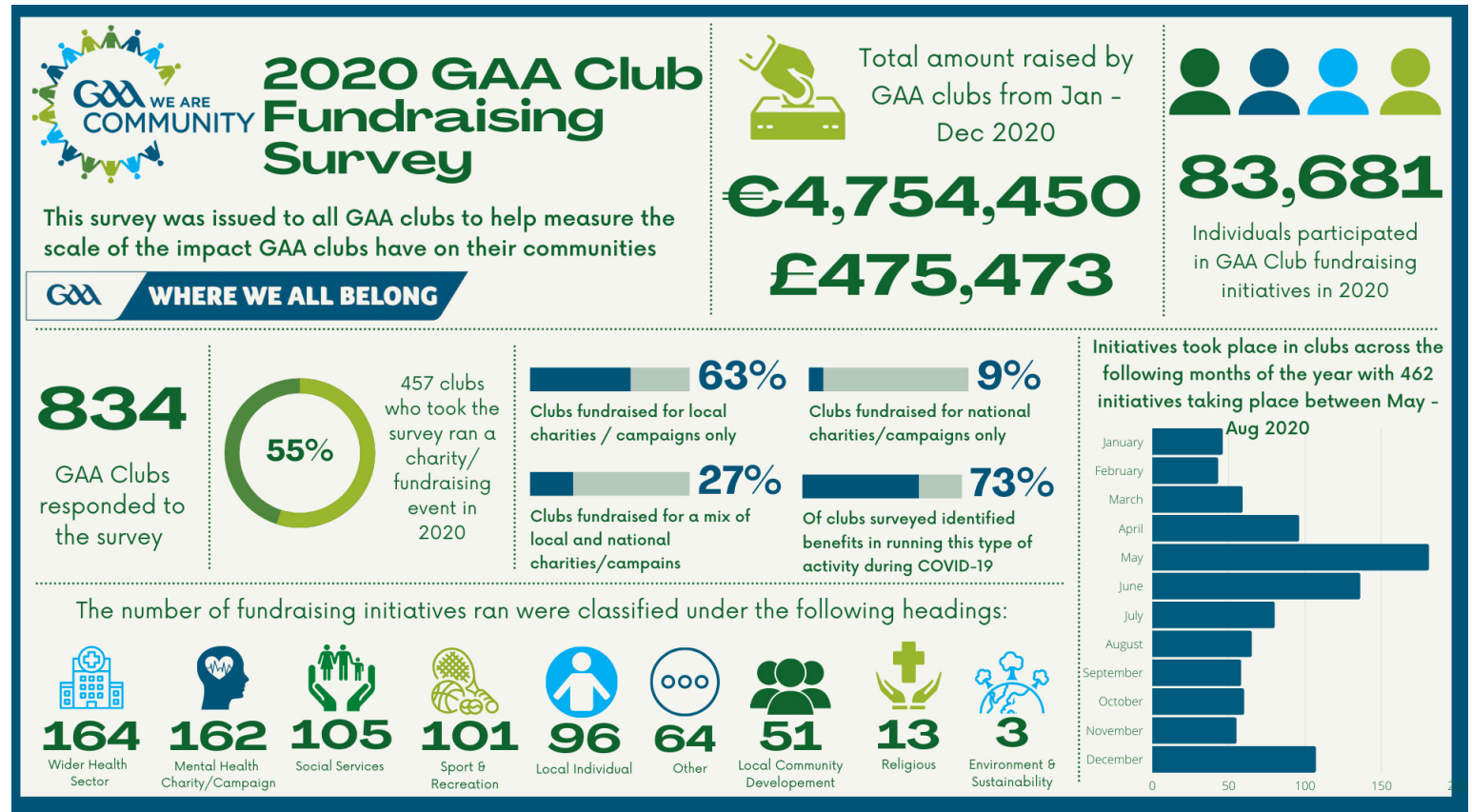
A SURVEY HAS REVEALED THAT GAA CLUBS FUNDRAISED ALMOST €5,301,895 FOR CHARITABLE CAUSES DURING 2020 AS MEMBERS ACROSS THE ASSOCIATION RESPONDED TO CALLS TO SUPPORT IMPACTED SERVICES DURING THE PANDEMIC.

The survey, conducted by the GAA's Community and Health department, was issued to all 2,000 clubs across Ireland and abroad. 834 GAA clubs responded, with 457 or 55% reporting total monies raised of €4,754,450 and £475,473 during 2020. In rolling out the fundraising activities, clubs recorded that 83,681 individuals supported these events.

While fundraising events were hosted throughout the year, they peaked in the month of May during the first lockdown of the pandemic. Clubs indicated the following causes as the most common to benefit from their efforts:

- health sector (local hospitals, medical research etc.) – 164 fundraising events
- mental health charities/ campaigns - 162 fundraising events
- social services (families, homeless, youth, ethnic minorities etc.) – 105 fundraising events
- sports and recreation – 101 fundraising events
- campaign to support a local individual/family cause – 96 fundraising events
- Others reported (131 initiatives) included local community development, religious and environment and sustainability initiatives.

A total of 462 activities took place between May and August of 2020. A further increase in fundraising activities was noted in



December with 107 initiatives reported to have been ran by clubs during this month.

Of the initiatives that were reported 63% of clubs indicated that their fundraising efforts were used to support local charities and campaigns only. 27% of clubs supported

a mix of local and national charities and campaigns with 9% of clubs supporting national campaigns only.

While 67% of clubs reported some expected challenges in fundraising during the pandemic (not being able to gather in

groups, travel restrictions, etc.) 73% of clubs noted that there were benefits to running fundraising initiatives during the restrictions including: increased community involvement; individuals taking part in their own time; the use of online platforms.

By John Harrington

ZAK MORADI DELIGHTED BY REACTION TO 'NO TO RACISM' LEITRIM JERSEY



ZAK MORADI PICTURED WITH THE NEWLY LAUNCHED LEITRIM HURLING JERSEY.

ZAK MORADI IS DELIGHTED BY THE POSITIVE RESPONSE TO THE LAUNCH OF A NEW LEITRIM HURLING JERSEY THAT HAS THE SLOGAN 'NO TO RACISM' WRITTEN ON THE FRONT.

The jersey is a partnership with Migrant Rights Centre Ireland and Moradi himself was pivotal in making it happen.

It's a project that's close to Moradi's heart because he's a Kurdish migrant himself after moving to Ireland from Iraq in 2002.

"It has all worked out very well and has gotten great publicity over the last few days," says Moradi, who won the Lory Meagher Cup with Leitrim in 2019.

"The reaction has been great. I've been getting loads of texts from people saying they want to get the jersey.

"It's a powerful message and it looks really well on the jersey, the jersey is gorgeous.

"We just wanted to raise awareness with the jersey, I wasn't expecting it to go viral to the extent that it has and to have the whole country talking about it.

"We're obviously the first county in Ireland to have a logo like 'No to Racism' on it and I think it's a great message to be putting out there."

Moradi says the new Leitrim hurling jersey is a timely initiative because he believes racism and anti-social behaviour in general has been on the rise in Ireland in the last few years.

“I think a lot of the racism is just another form of bullying or anti-social behaviour which unfortunately we’re seeing more of in this country and which needs to be sorted out,” he says.

“It’s not just minorities that are being attacked and picked on, all sorts of kids and people are now being picked on and there’s a lot of it going on around the country.

“You might be living in an area of 50,000 people, but all you need is 20 anti-social people to destroy the whole area. And if

they feel they can get away with it, that’s when you’ll see racist behaviour increase because it’s just another form of bullying or anti-social behaviour.

“It’s only a small minority and I think a lot of it is coming from younger kids. People who have these arrogant and racist attitudes quite often are acting out because of problems they have at home or elsewhere in their lives.

“Most people are very good. I work in a company and we have all nationalities and

we all get on great together, that’s the reality.

Moradi is a powerful example of how the GAA’s inclusive approach can help migrants to this country become part of their local communities and he’s hopeful his story will soon become the norm.

“There’s going to be a lot more in the coming years and the face of the GAA will change,” he says.

“There might not be that many at county level yet, but there are more and more playing Gaelic Games at club level and underage.

“There’s no better way to integrate migrants in this country than through the GAA because there are GAA clubs all over the country.

“It can take time to get them involved but you just have to work hard at it.”



GAA MUSEUM LAUNCHES NEW ONLINE SHOP - CROKEPARK.IE/SHOP

AS WELL AS THE POPULAR GIFT SHOP AT THE GAA MUSEUM, THE MUSEUM HAS LAUNCHED A NEW AND IMPROVED ONLINE SHOP. HAVE THE PERFECT GAA GIFT DELIVERED DIRECT TO YOUR DOOR - PERFECT FOR THOSE WHO CANNOT MAKE IT TO CROKE PARK FOR NOW.

There's a wide variety of products for GAA fans of all ages, from future stars to seasoned supporters, including dedicated 'Sam and Liam' and 'Croke Park' collections. The GAA Museum Shop is committed to supporting Irish suppliers and shoppers can choose from a homegrown 'Made in Ireland' collection.

For customers looking for gift ideas, but are not sure what to buy, the new GAA Museum Shop Gift Card is the perfect solution, as are the ever-popular Croke Park Stadium Tour and Skyline Tour Gift Vouchers. Or there's the very special 'Friends of the GAA Museum' annual membership package.

Customers can purchase prints from the GAA Museum archive exclusively on crokepark.ie/shop, which is a true treasure trove for Gaelic games aficionados. Print available include:

- Match programme covers from All-Ireland Finals throughout the decades. The earliest All-Ireland Hurling Final match programme cover in the collection dates back to 1913 and the earliest All-Ireland Football Final match programme cover is from 1924.
- GAA All-Star posters from 1971 – 2014.
- Archival images depicting scenes from GAA and Croke Park history.

Finally, the GAA book section offers special discounts on the 'Book of the Month' in line with the GAA Museum Book Club.

Customers will be able to avail of promotions, including seasonal offers and discount codes. Delivery rates range from €1 - €4.95 per order and delivery is available throughout the island of Ireland.



Visit www.crokepark.ie/shop

THE GAA MUSEUM AND SKYLINE TOURS ARE BACK!

FROM MONDAY MAY 10TH, THE GAA MUSEUM WILL REOPEN ITS DOORS GIVING GAA FANS AN OPPORTUNITY TO GET TO CROKE PARK THIS SUMMER! TICKETS FOR SKYLINE TOURS OR A VISIT TO THE GAA MUSEUM MUST BE BOOKED ONLINE IN ADVANCE AT WWW.CROKEPARK.IE/TOURS

Croke Park Stadium Tours cannot take place just yet, but there's plenty to enjoy in the GAA Museum in the meantime.

Those who book a self-guided visit to the GAA Museum will have access to two floors of exhibitions charting the history of Gaelic Games from ancient times to the present day. The original Sam Maguire and Liam MacCarthy trophies are on display as well as medal collections, jerseys and footage from memorable GAA matches. Visitors can also spend time in the GAA Museum Hall of Fame and will have a chance to view the very special Remembering Bloody Sunday exhibition. This exhibition opened last September to remember the victims of Bloody Sunday on the 100th anniversary of the tragedy.

Those who wish to take a Skyline Tour will be treated to panoramic views of Dublin from the open-air walkway on the rooftop of Croke Park. There are five stops along the route, each offering a different outlook on the city. Tour guides will point out the landmarks and treat visitors to stories about Dublin's most famous places. The highlight of the tour is the suspended walkway above the pitch where visitors take in the stunning views of the Croke Park pitch – a very welcome sight!

Book your ticket now on www.crokeparke/tours. Visitors must also familiarise themselves with the GAA Museum Covid -19 safety procedures at www.crokepark.ie/tours/Covid-19 in advance of travelling.



THE DAVIS FAMILY, FROM LEFT, DYLAN, GARY, ETHAN, AND TARA DAVIS, FROM KINNEGAD IN WESTMEATH, WALK THROUGH THE GAA MUSEUM AT CROKE PARK.

STREAMING SCAMS – DON'T FALL FOR IT

BE VIGILANT AND NEVER CLICK A LINK THAT SAYS IT'S TO STREAM A GAA MATCH UNLESS IT'S POSTED BY THE GAA, A PROVINCE, COUNTY OR CLUB.

DETAILS OF WHERE YOU CAN WATCH ALLIANZ LEAGUES FIXTURES AND GAA CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES ARE AVAILABLE ON [GAA.IE/FIXTURES](https://www.gaa.ie/fixtues) AND PUBLISHED REGULARLY ON GAA SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS."



STREAM GAA LIVE AND ON DEMAND IN FULL HD

A DOMESTIC PASS INCLUDES:

- 65+ games in 2021 exclusively available on GAAGO.
- Get every non-TV game in the Allianz Leagues (Division 1 Hurling and Divisions 1,2,3 and 4 of Football), and the Hurling and Football Championships.
- Watch live or on demand in full HD.
- Download the GAAGO app and cast to Chromecast, Apple TV, Android TV and more.
- Matches will be available for streaming until the end of the season

PLEASE NOTE

Matches broadcast on domestic Irish TV (eir Sports, Sky Sports, RTÉ, TG4, BBC NI) are not available via GAAGO on the island of Ireland. For more information see

[our FAQs](#).



GAAGO

GET EVERY UN-TELEVISED
GAME IN THE LEAGUE
AND CHAMPIONSHIPS
OF 2021 FOR JUST €25.

STAYING SAFE ON-LINE

CONSIDERING THE RECENT CYBER-ATTACK ON THE HSE IT IS IMPORTANT TO NOTE THAT CYBERCRIME IS A RISK FOR ALL OF US TO BE AWARE OF, BOTH IN OUR ROLES IN THE GAA AND IN OUR PERSONAL LIVES.

Here are some simple pointers to help keep you, and your club, safe on-line.

Password Best Practices

- Use passwords or phrases that are easy to remember but hard to guess.
- The best defense is to make it as long as possible, at least 12 characters.
- Use a mix of lower- and upper-case letters, numbers and symbols.
- If possible, use a leading password manager to generate long random passwords.
- Never share passwords with others.
- Never write down your passwords
- Use different passwords for each of your accounts. If one system is hacked they won't be able to access other systems.
- Don't base it on personal information or easily guessable information about you i.e. your club or county.
- Don't reuse old passwords or just change the number.
- Be careful when entering passwords in public spaces
- Use 2 factor authentication where possible.

Passphrases

Passphrases are 'stronger' than passwords as they can be longer but easy to remember. Here are two methods to use to create a passphrase:

You can take the first two letters of every word in a song lyric (avoid popular lyrics):

"The winter it has passed and the summer's come at last" becomes:

thwiithapaanthsucoatla
(4 billion years to hack!)

Alternatively take four or more random words (avoid very common short words). A bit of Gaelige can help here too!

FencesSlotarBinsBattery
(76 billion years to hack)



Password Examples

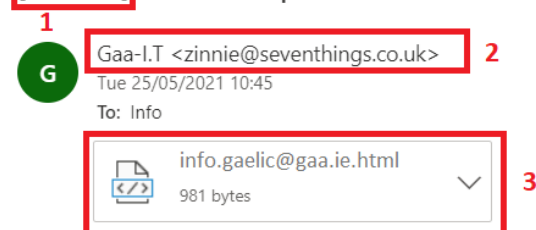
Password	Time to hack
Password1	0 seconds
Gaelic123	4 seconds
Jack0519	53 seconds
Mayo4Sam!	18 minutes
K1ldar3!	5 hours
D0wnW1thTh4t50rt0FTh!n9!	1,000 years
%F4th3r_T3dCr1lly	1,300 years
SteakComplexVarnishSlate	3,000 years
riverB4rr0wleinster	5,400 years
FoireannRobotTinsPhone	2 billion years

How to Spot Suspicious Emails

- [External] in email subject**
If you have a GAA email address, all emails from outside of the GAA have **[External]** added to the email subject. Be extra vigilant of any emails with this in the subject.
- Email domain does not match the display name.**
Hover over the email address to see their email address.
- Unexpected attachment**
Never open unexpected attachments. Especially if they are HTML or EXE files.
- Unfamiliar greetings or signatures**
If it is from someone you know but they use "Dear sir or madam" or they use your email address display name "Dear Secretary St Patricks Kerry". The signature may be incorrect also such as using the wrong name "Regards, Pete" or using "Gaa" instead of "GAA"
- Urgent call to action or threats**
Be suspicious of emails that claim you must click, call, or open an attachment immediately. GAA IT or Microsoft will never send you a notification with a link to reset your password via email.
- Spelling and bad grammar**
This might be the result of a bad translation from a foreign language or deliberate misspelling to avoid spam filters.
- Suspicious links**
Don't trust the address in the link text. Watch out for typos in the address too (E.g., www.faceb00k.com). Hover your mouse over the link to see the real address. On a mobile long press on the link to see the real address.
- Unexpected password prompts**
If you have just opened an attachment or clicked on a link and you are prompted for your username and password DO NOT ENTER IT.

Here is a sample phishing email with examples of some of the items above highlighted:

[External] Password Expiration for info.h*****@gaa.ie on 25, May 2021



Hi Info.gaelic, **4**

The password for (Info.gaelic@gaa.ie) will **expire today.** **5**
You can change your password or keep using the same password.

To Retain Your Current Password: Confirm password by **clicking secured link attached.** **6**

Failure to act may result in a temporary loss of access to your Outlook. **5**

Sincerely,
Gaa IT Support **4**

Payment Requests

If you make payments on behalf of your club it is critical that you check that everything is correct before you transfer any money to anyone


- Validate one-off or unusual on-line payments by phoning the company in question first (Use details that you previously had, not those in the email).
- Never make a transfer to a different Bank Account than normal without checking.
- Verify that emails requesting payments actually came from the real person (email addresses can easily be copied).
- Be especially careful if being asked to do anything 'urgently'.

If you Suspect you Have Been Compromised

If you suspect that your password has been compromised or opened a suspicious link/ attachment please follow these steps:


- Reset your password in line with the guidance above. If you use the same or a similar username and password combination on other systems reset it there too.
- Ensure your device operating system (e.g., Windows) is fully updated.
- Ensure your antivirus is fully updated and run a virus scan.
- Be vigilant for any related attacks. Inform colleagues to be vigilant too.
- If you have a GAA account, contact mail.support@gaa.ie.

Thu 29/03/2018 14:34

 **John Murphy** <john.murphy@abcie.com>
URGENT Payment Required

To: treasurer.club@gaa.ie

Note: Slightly different email address and Urgent Payment Request

 Wire Instruction.pdf
294 KB

Hi Sir,

Please find attached wire instruction for payment.
Our Bank is presently undergoing financial audit and as such cannot take payment till further advise, Please proceed with the remittance to our company subsidiary bank details and advice me with a copy of confirmation.
Please see the attached document for account details and let me know should you need any clarification .

Kind Regards
John Murphy - Company Accountant

ABC Limited

Web: www.abc.ie
Email: john.murphy@abc.ie

ALLIANZ EXPANDS EXCLUSIVE GAA OFFERS WITH €20,000 AVAILABLE FOR SUPPORTERS TO WIN FOR THEIR GAA CLUBS

ALLIANZ IS OFFERING GAA FANS ACROSS THE COUNTRY ACCESS TO EXCLUSIVE OFFERS ON CAR AND HOME INSURANCE AS WELL AS THE CHANCE TO WIN €5,000 FOR THEIR NOMINATED GAA CLUB..

Through this offer, all new and existing customers will not only receive a great discount on their direct car or home insurance, but Allianz will also support their passion for the GAA by donating €10 for each policy purchased to their nominated GAA club.

In addition to this exclusive offer being open to all GAA fans, Allianz are investing a further €20,000 into clubs across the country. All customers availing of the offer will automatically be entered into a draw to win €5,000 for their nominated club, with one winner selected per province.

With a grand total of €20,000 up for grabs, and more through the offer, Allianz has expanded its investment into, and support of, grassroots Gaelic Games which includes the Allianz Cumann na mBunscol competitions.

Allianz had sponsored the Allianz Leagues for 29 years and the competition for national schools, Allianz Cumann na mBunscol, since 1993 making them one of the longest running supporters of Gaelic Games in the country. Allianz is also the insurer of over 2,200 GAA clubs across Ireland.

For full details or to avail of this exclusive Allianz offer, get a quote now at www.allianz.ie/gaa

Allianz p.l.c is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland. Standard acceptance criteria and policy conditions apply.

ARMAGH MANAGER KIERAN MCGEENEY HELPED LAUNCH THE 2021 ALLIANZ FOOTBALL LEAGUE SEASON



SEÁN FINN, LIMERICK'S ALL-STAR AND ALL-IRELAND WINNING DEFENDER, HELPED LAUNCH THE 2021 ALLIANZ HURLING LEAGUES

INJURY PREVENTION THROUGH GAA15

AS COMPETITIVE MATCHES RETURN FOR CLUBS, THE ISSUE OF INJURIES AND INJURY PREVENTION IS PROMINENT.

The opening rounds in the Allianz Leagues also serve as a reminder that players need to be careful about increasing their effort after a long lay-off from full contact sport.

GAA15 is a 15-minute injury prevention warm up designed specifically for Gaelic games players.

Injury Prevention in Gaelic Games Since 2006, the GAA Medical, Scientific and Welfare Committee has been working with UCD Physiotherapy in developing a framework for injury prevention in Gaelic games. The first phase of this has been the development of the National GAA Injury Database, where participating inter-county teams have registered injuries throughout the playing season.

We now have information which gives us a clear picture of the type, nature and mechanisms of injuries incurred in football and hurling.

Key results are that: Two-thirds of players get injured and 1/3 have more than one injury in any season. One quarter of injuries are recurrences of existing or old injuries. Over 75% of injuries are to the lower limbs and the majority are to the 'soft tissues' i.e. muscle, ligament and tendon, with hamstring strains being the single biggest problem (17-23%).

Knee and ankle sprains and groin and pelvis muscle/tendon problems each account for about 10-12% of all injuries.

Approximately 1/3 of injuries occur in direct player contact situations, with the remaining 2/3 being non-contact injuries. These non-contact injuries most commonly occur in sprinting (rapid acceleration and deceleration), jumping/landing and, rapid changes of direction (plant/cut) manoeuvres.

Development of the 'GAA' 15 Injury Prevention Programme

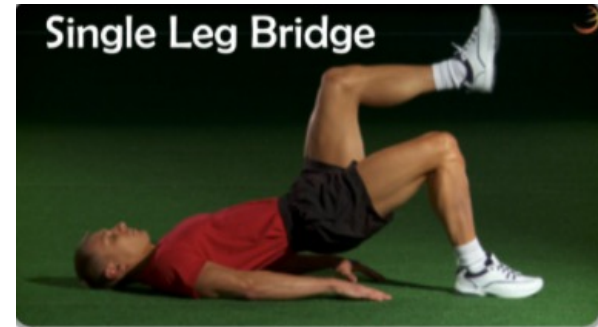
The second phase in developing the framework for injury prevention was to explore risk factors for injury in our own GAA data as well as in other sports internationally and then to move on to looking at the evidence for injury reduction. There has been extensive research into the biomechanics of non-contact injury in sport and one risk factor which has been identified is poor neuromuscular control in the player.

By neuromuscular control we mean the body's ability to stabilise, correct, control and withstand the forces demanded in the course of training and play.

There is evidence that neuromuscular control can be trained, so some injuries may be prevented or reduced through exercise-based training. We know from the research that some but not all training programmes have shown benefits, but these had never previously been adapted for or tested in Gaelic games.

What does this mean for you as a Coach?

- Exercise based training which targets neuromuscular control is proven to reduce lower limb injury in sport.
- The GAA tailored programme is safe and effective in improving neuromuscular control, which reduces injury risk factors.
- Key activities are dynamic warm-up, core stability and muscle activation, sport-specific dynamic balance, landing techniques, plyometrics, plant and cut, hamstring strengthening
- Activate core and posterior leg muscles
- Train SOFT LANDING i.e. land on toes, not flat footed. Keep KNEES OUT, BEND KNEES when you land.
- Make players aware of how they move
- Neuromuscular training for injury prevention is about training movement control, stability, reactive ability and agility.
- These skills are also inherent sport specific skills - so games based training, performance enhancement and training for injury prevention go hand in hand.
- Like any motor skill, players need to PRACTICE consistently and if they don't, the benefit declines
- The idea of training to prevent injury should start early to develop good biomechanics and movement control.
- Important in transition from child to youth level – changing mechanics and body mass



FOR THE FULL GUIDE TO THE GAA15 INJURY PREVENTION PROGRAMME, INCLUDING EXPLAINER VIDEOS, PLEASE GO TO

https://learning.gaa.ie/sites/default/files/GAA-15-Warm-Up_Handout_0.pdf

By John Harrington

DAVID KELLY BUSY MAKING SPORT SCIENCE ACCESSIBLE TO ALL



FORMER SLIGO FOOTBALLER, DAVID KELLY, IS A LECTURER IN SPORT SCIENCE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPORT AND HEALTH IN ATHLONE IT.

FORMER SLIGO FOOTBALLER, DAVID KELLY, IS A LECTURER IN SPORT SCIENCE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF SPORT AND HEALTH IN ATHLONE IT WHERE HE TEACHES ACROSS THE SPORT SCIENCE, ATHLETIC THERAPY, AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY PROGRAMMES, SPECIFICALLY IN THE AREA OF HUMAN PHYSIOLOGY AND PERFORMANCE TESTING.

He's also a member of the Athletic Development sub-group of the **Gaelic Games Sports Science Working Group**

which this year produced the highly regarded **Be Ready to Play programme** among other initiatives.

Kelly spoke to GAA.ie about his involvement with the Working Group, what they hope to achieve in the coming months and years, why he's still in love with Gaelic Football, and passionate about helping young athletes fulfil their potential.

Q: David, you played Gaelic Football at the highest level. Presumably you drew on your own experiences during your studies and continue to do so now as a Sports Science Lecturer?

David Kelly: Without a doubt. When I started with Sligo in 2005 the change from then even over a five-year period was dramatic, and even since then again.

But there was a five-year period there when it went from 10 mph to 50mph.

It just jumped up a level in terms of preparation, support staff and level of expertise coming into the game.

I was always interested in trying to make myself better and you'd always be questioning why you were doing certain things at certain times and obviously wondering would it be the right thing to be doing.

The way Gaelic Football teams were being trained at the time, through my



DAVID KELLY IN FULL FLIGHT FOR THE SLIGO FOOTBALLERS IN 2015.

postgraduate area of research, I really wanted to investigate was there another way of training, maybe a better way or maybe a more efficient way.

And, yeah of course, I would continue to use myself as a test dummy and it's often by your own experience and trial and error that you really figure out what works, what doesn't work and what is actually practical.

Q: Has the approach to coaching in Gaelic Games changed dramatically in the last 10 years?

David Kelly: Yes, it has. As the game has progressed, coaching has had to adapt as well. There are always going to be transition periods and in my opinion we need to be patient with these periods and allow the game to evolve without interfering too much. I fully believe having more individuals from sports science

backgrounds within Gaelic Games and within team environments to help inform coaches and inform best practice will improve this approach.

When people look at Sports Science they often think that Sports Science is just for the elite athletes or Sports Science means you have to increase your volume of training or amount of sessions. Really, what Sports Science and specifically athletic development, is about doing things the correct way. It's about doing the right things at the right time. It's about getting the most out of what you're doing and being efficient with your time.

That might mean doing less sessions but doing them better, with a specific plan. So, if you can only do two sessions a week, then what's the best way of doing those sessions to get the most out of your players.

Q: What would you regard as the key objectives of the Gaelic Games Sports Science Working Group?

DK: For me, one of the main objectives is to reduce the drop-out rate of men and women playing Gaelic Games and encourage more people to engage with the Games. We can do this by influencing coaches, educating coaches, and establishing best practice and providing a framework for them to work within.

Right now there is so much information out there for coaches that it is hard to know what is right, it can be easy to believe there are these magic silver bullets, the latest trend on social media. One of our goals is to inform coaches and help educate them to be critical of this info so ultimately they provide a better experience for the player.

If players are having a better experience and they're progressing, then they're more likely to keep participating and I think that's the big thing. It's about improving training standards and coaching standards and giving coaches the key information without bogging them down in too much nonsense.

It's about providing that information in a really digestible manner and allowing them then to make sense of it and implement it with their own group whether that's U-8, U-12, senior, whether it's men, women, football, hurling, or camogie.

Q: You're part of the Athletic Development sub-group with people like Des Ryan, Niall Moyna, Bryan Cullen, and Louise Keane. People who are best in class. Is it enjoyable being part of a group like that and sharing ideas?

DK: Absolutely. You think of the calibre of the people you've mentioned there and Des has brought in a number of other individuals from the UK including Rhodri

Lloyd, Sean Cummings. Martina McCarthy from the Institute of Sport is another fantastic S&C coach involved as well.

Some of the group I was familiar with and some of them not, so it's been great to meet all. For me, it's a great initiative. I've a vested interest in Gaelic Games. I've played my whole life, I'm still involved with my club, it's my sport I suppose.

These people who are coming in to give up their free time, most of them are involved in GAA but some of them are not, and they want to improve standards and it's fantastic to see that. Working with them has been great, there are some brilliant people in all the groups.

Aoife Lane deserves a lot of credit for bringing such a high calibre of individuals together to work on this. It's great to have the opportunity to work on a framework that will help coaches and players throughout the country, rural and urban, from your biggest clubs to the smallest.

Q: There has been a great reaction to the Be Ready to Play resources which are helping coaches and players in real-time. Will the group also be producing some more resources and literature that will be of help clubs and coaches in the long-term?

DK: At the moment we're putting together a body of work that covers a variety of areas. The Sports Science Working Group is a broad group and we're looking at areas such as the health benefits of our sport, the drop-out rate in Gaelic Games, athletic development, maturation through the age-groups into early adulthood, periodisation and planning and how you should set up your season.

Our Athletic Development sub-group want to produce two documents. One that might be a more technical document and one that's really easy to read, a practical

document for coaches that's easily digestible and that they can implement straight away with practical examples of the types of things we're talking about.

When you're working with club teams you have a limited amount of time with those teams. You need to maximise that contact time with your team. The big thing from our working group is how can we give this information to coaches that they should be working on the right things at the right time.

You don't need to be doing a three-month pre-season, often it is very possible to do it in four to six weeks. We want to help people understand what they should be concentrating on at a particular time in the season, or even more importantly sometimes, what they shouldn't be doing. Volunteer coaches are giving up their time to do their best, and it's up to groups like us to provide information to allow them to do this better.

Gaelic Games is unique, it's amateur, and people do have a life outside of it, so we do need to maximise our time with our players so they enjoy it and want to keep playing it.

What this will hopefully do is influence clubs in a positive way by providing a framework. The club then can take it and manipulate it for their own demands and playing population. What we produce will be for every single club and every single member, whether that's men, women, children or across football, hurling or camogie.

Every club can take this framework up and use it.

Q: You're involved with the SHE Research Group in Athlone IT which promotes gender equality in Sports Science and I know that's also a focus of this Sports Science Working Group?



DES RYAN, HEAD OF SPORT MEDICINE AND ATHLETIC DEVELOPMENT, ARSENAL FC ACADEMY, SPEAKING AT THE 2020 GAA GAMES DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH SKY SPORTS.

DK: It's something we set up in the last couple of years, the SHE Research Group, and it focuses on the female athlete and bridging that gender data gap between men and women. The vast majority of research in Sports Science is completed on men.

Much like we cannot take all the advice from rugby and soccer or other team sports and simply apply it to Gaelic Football, we can't take data from men and apply it to women. Women aren't just smaller men, they have a different physiological make-up and we need to carry out more work on the female athlete to continue to drive the standards of the sport.

There is a huge need for more information for female athletes and coaches and our

group aims to contribute to this gap in the research and continue to promote female sport to the masses. We understand that this won't be done overnight, but we've highlighted it as a priority moving forward.

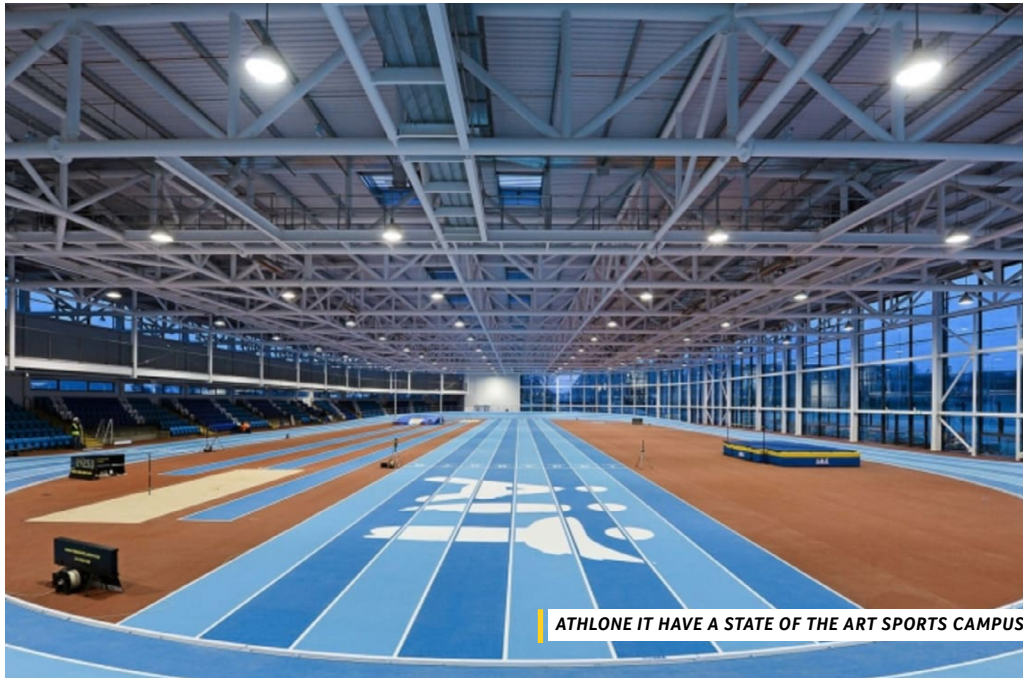
Q: Are you still playing club football yourself with Tubbercurry? Do you still love football as much as ever?

DK: Playing might be an overstatement, I'm still jogging around the pitch anyway! I've played football all my life and I'm getting to the stage where a lot of my friends are stopping but I still love it. I've played with Tubbercurry continuously, travelling back from wherever I have been living to play with them and I'll do it as long as I can. It's a fantastic club led by the brilliant Dermot Gannon at the moment and my family is heavily involved as well.

I still enjoy it, I still love going back and meeting the lads and playing away.

We've been lucky and unlucky at different times but very appreciative of the county title I did win. I still love playing the game, and for me it's also about meeting up with friends and meeting up with younger lads and trying to help them along and just see the talent coming through.

I still get a great buzz off that, especially in the last year. We returned to training a few weeks ago and the first session was like letting cows onto a field, there was great giddiness and excitement. Even though we're a town club we wouldn't have huge numbers, but a lot of guys have returned to playing which is great. People are coming back to team sport in their droves which is fantastic.



ATHLONE IT HAVE A STATE OF THE ART SPORTS CAMPUS.

Q: Did you ever technically retire from the Sligo panel? I don't remember a statement to that effect...

DK: When I pulled out of the panel initially it was an extremely hard decision. The travelling was a big thing for me, I wasn't living in Sligo, and the travelling really took it out of me. I wanted to put my time into other things. I was very selfish with my time for my own performance for a long period and eventually you have to think how long you can sustain that. It was a hugely difficult decision, an emotional decision actually, but once I made it I probably knew I wasn't going to go back. I did end up going back for one season, but that was me done.

I didn't release a statement or anything, I just felt it was better to leave it be and let the next group come along because Sligo were in transition. They have some really

young, fantastic talent there and it's great to see it develop. Hopefully we can start getting performances and results over the next year or two and some of those young lads come through really well.

Q: You were involved with a great group of players with Sligo, you must have some very fond memories of that time?

DK: It was amazing, I loved every minute of it. I did not see it as a sacrifice or a chore, I absolutely loved it. From my first year in 2005/06 when I was doing my Leaving Cert all the way up to 2017, it was a brilliant experience and I made some brilliant friends.

I was lucky to win a Connacht medal in 2007, and it was amazing, the first time in 32 years. I was a young whippersnapper and probably didn't really realise what I had done. I remember people saying to

me at the time that you don't realise what you've done.

When I came into panel that time it was a different game. I came in and I was a child really, and came into a really mature, older panel and learned a huge amount. We lost three other Connacht Finals and 2010 and 2012 are two of the ones that you'd look back on and think maybe you could have won them.

Overall, I've great memories. Sligo will always be one of the smaller counties and you're always going to be trying to punch above your weight, but we loved that challenge and I was lucky to be part of a great group.

Q: Is it enjoyable to still be involved in that world of sport through your day-job?

DK: I'm very lucky, extremely lucky. Led by Aoife Lane in Athlone IT, we have a

fantastic, young ambitious group that is a great collective working together on various projects. Working with enthusiastic young people every year who want to get better is really rewarding too.

We have students coming in who are actively involved in Gaelic Games and other team sports, Olympic sports, martial arts etc. and it's super to see people coming in with enthusiasm and trying to make themselves and other people better.

That constant flow of students and young people through AIT is brilliant, and I love working in that environment. I have a number of post-grad students working mainly on Gaelic games projects, trying to improve standards, and seeing them develop and go through those processes as well is very rewarding.

I understand I am very lucky to work in an area I'm so passionate about.



DAVID KELLY CELEBRATES WITH TEAM-MATES AFTER VICTORY IN THE 2010 CONNACHT SFC FINAL.

CONNACHT LGFA FINALS DAY

CONNACHT LGFA ARE DELIGHTED TO ANNOUNCE THAT THE 2021 CONNACHT LGFA CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP FINALS WILL TAKE PLACE ON SATURDAY 19TH OF JUNE IN MARKIEVICZ PARK, SLIGO. ALL THREE GAMES IN ONE VENUE WITH ALL THREE GAMES BEING STREAMED LIVE. TIMES TBC.

Junior Final:

Naomh Mhuire Galway v
Eoghan Rua Sligo

Intermediate Final

Geevagh Sligo v Glencar/
Manor Leitrim

Senior Final:

Kilkerrin Clonberne Galway v
St. Nathy's Sligo



MAGHERA CLUB WINS PRESTIGIOUS TRANSLINK ULSTER GAA COMMUNITY SUPPORT AWARD

WATTY GRAHAM'S GAC, GLEN, BASED IN MAGHERA, HAVE COLLECTED THE TRANSLINK ULSTER GAA COMMUNITY SUPPORT AWARD IN RECOGNITION OF THEIR WORK THROUGHOUT THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC.

The award was created to showcase the outstanding contribution of GAA clubs in their communities throughout the last, challenging 15 months. As club gates across the province were closed in March last year and all GAA activity was suspended, clubs and their members remained hugely active in alternative ways by providing much needed support for local people.

An expert panel of judges comprising Crossmaglen Rangers star, Aaron Kernan, Neil Loughran, Sports Correspondent at the Irish News, John Morgan, Translink, and Diarmaid Marsden, Ulster GAA's Head of Club & Community Development, selected one winner from each county in Ulster to win £100 of O'Neills Sports equipment vouchers, with Watty Graham's GAC, as the overall winner, receiving an additional £1,000 of O'Neills Sports vouchers.

Congratulating the club on their award, **John Morgan, Translink** said:

"On behalf of Translink, I'd like to congratulate all of the shortlisted clubs who have each been outstanding contributors to their local communities. The standard of nominations was exceptional, and to be recognised should be a great source of pride for the clubs and their members.

"Special congratulations must go to Watty Graham's GAC, who are very worthy winners. From delivering over 100 food parcels at Christmas, a litter pick to lift 1.5 tonnes of rubbish, and senior players producing at home skills videos, the club went above and beyond to help their local community during a very difficult period."

Ulster GAA President, Oliver Galligan added:

"Our experiences of the last 15 months have clearly shown that the great teams in the GAA are not just on the pitch. The restrictions on our normal activities have allowed a spotlight to be shone on the exceptional work of club volunteers across the province and every nomination we received demonstrated what a strong community organisation the GAA really is. I congratulate the Watty Graham's GAC club for winning the overall award and commend them for their excellent range of initiatives to keep their members and the community engaged throughout the pandemic."

Conor Molloy, Public Relations Officer, Watty Graham's GAC said:

"Watty Graham's GAC is delighted to receive this award from Translink and Ulster GAA. This recognition is testament to the community ethos within Glen and is just reward for our hard-working volunteers who continually give up their time to help and look after others. We are very proud of the collective effort in reaching out to the entire local community and would like to thank all those who contributed in any way to our Covid response."

The full list of county winners in the Translink Ulster GAA Community Support Award was:

Antrim – O' Donovan Rossa

Down – Clonduff GAC

Armagh – Clann Eireann

Fermanagh – St Patricks Donagh

Cavan – Mountnugent GAA

Monaghan – Scotstown GAA

Derry – Watty Graham's GAC, Glen

Tyrone – Galbally Peares

Donegal – CLG Beart

GLEN WATTY GRAHAM'S GAC CLUB MEMBERS BRONAGH MULHOLLAND AND AINE BRADLEY, CROSSMAGLEN RANGERS STAR AARON KERNAN, NEIL LOUGHNAN, SPORTS CORRESPONDENT AT THE IRISH NEWS, JOHN MORGAN, TRANSLINK, AND DIARMAID MARSDEN, ULSTER GAA'S HEAD OF CLUB & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.



By Emmet Conlon, Regional Hurling Development Officer

HISTORY FOR FERMANAGH HURLING



SEÁN BEAGAN, PAUL TEAGUE, KEVIN SMYTH, VINNY WOOD AND GERALD MCCONNELL PROUDLY SPORT THEIR NEW JERSIES.

ON MAY 19 AN HISTORIC CHALLENGE GAME TOOK PLACE ON A SUNNY WEDNESDAY EVENING AT PÁIRC NA HEIRNE IN THE SMALL VILLAGE OF BELLEEK ON THE FERMANAGH / DONEGAL BORDER. IT WAS THE FIRST TIME IN EIGHT YEARS THAT TWO ADULT HURLING TEAMS FROM SOUTH FERMANAGH CONTESTED A GAME.

The game saw the home team Erne Gaels have a mixture of young players who have come through an impressive youth system at the club as well as senior footballers wanting to pick up the game for the first time and even some veterans of the game wanting to be part of this historic match.

The away side was South Fermanagh Gaels, who had another unique selection of players with many playing in their first ever hurling match and others playing after more than eight years of no game time. The one element you could sense in this match was the pure enjoyment of the game from both sides, in which the match had the perfect balance of enjoyment and craic as well as good competitive hurling and skill. Both teams are entering a newly created South Ulster junior development league with teams from Fermanagh, Donegal, Tyrone, Cavan and Monaghan.

The idea of starting up underage hurling in the Erne Gaels started when a number

of boys were playing hurling a few miles over the Donegal border for Ballyshannon but once they got to 12 years old, they couldn't play, so the decision was made to start up underage hurling with Erne Gaels. From there club have won county minor titles and now the first couple of players from these successful minor teams are available for adult hurling. Wednesday saw the first adult hurling game take place in Belleek for over 20 years.

For South Fermanagh Gaels a number of people approached Ulster GAA regional hurling development officer, Emmett Conlon last November about creating a regional adult team.

Little did Conlon know it would result in him playing full forward the following May.

He says: "When I was asked about the idea of a regional hurling team, I thought this project would not be possible but that challenge also got me thinking, let's see what the interest is, let's give this a go, why not? "

After a few phone calls, texts and whatsapps Conlon saw the interest was there.

"We organised a meeting, decided a team name and club colours then had a number of meetings with Fermanagh county board and after a long process we are hurling!"

The team have been very thankful to all their sponsors who have backed them resulting bringing back adult hurling to south Fermanagh. This includes Gerald Hughes at Beltertech , Niall Murphy at Murphy Eyecare , David McGorman at DMG Architectural Services and Niall Connolly at Le Sanctuaire Des Moines. Underage in Fermanagh has seen amazing growth and this is the first sign it is progressing to adult. Fermanagh now have eight teams at underage level.

When south Fermanagh started, they wanted to try to recruit as many and be open to all. One example of this is the two Beagan brothers from Roslea. Last year they would have used hurlys to help move cattle on the farm - now they are hurling.

Younger brother Seán played full back and Tommy corner forward. Six weeks before they had never lifted a hurl.

Tommy is enjoying his hurling. "It's a brand new experience for me, meeting plenty of new people and enjoying the skill and fitness end of it as well. Emmett approached me about going out and I thought why not." Tommy would have played some underage football for Roslea but is enjoying returning to Gaelic games via the small ball for south Fermanagh.

The captain and chairperson is Paul Teague who also is enjoying the return of hurling. "I have not been playing over six years and although I have got involved in coaching and refereeing, nothing beats playing. I am enjoying the training and looking forward to the games ahead."

The game itself was hugely competitive, for south Fermanagh Paul McGoldrick scored seven points in total including six long range frees while Shea Curran in midfield also had an impressive game. In defence centre half back, Paul Teague had an impressive return to hurling alongside corner back Gerald McConnell.

For Erne Gaels Thomas Burns was outstanding in full back. Michael O'Garrigle and Ben McCann two very skill full footballers showed they could play the small ball as well. The game finished with the home team recording a 9-point victory with the youthful subs of Erne Gaels too much for the South's. Erne Gaels 4-14 South Fermanagh Gaels 2-11.

As Emmett Conlon got in the car leaving Belleek to drive back the scenic route driving past lower lough Erne back to south Fermanagh, he said he felt two things "A tight hamstring and a sense of achievement from both teams on a historic evening for Fermanagh hurling."



VINNY WOODS TRIES TO ESCAPE THE SOUTH FERMANAGH DEFENCE

GAA NATIONAL INCLUSIVE FITNESS DAY 23.09.2021

ON THE 23RD OF SEPTEMBER 2021, THE GAA INVITES ALL CLUBS TO OPEN THEIR DOORS TO THE WIDER COMMUNITY AND SUPPORT GAA NATIONAL INCLUSIVE FITNESS DAY. THE EVENT FALLS DURING THE EUROPEAN WEEK OF SPORT (23RD – 30TH SEPTEMBER) AND AIMS TO PROMOTE SPORT, PHYSICAL AND HEALTHY LIFESTYLE ACTIVITY TO EVERYONE REGARDLESS OF AGE, SEXUAL ORIENTATION, ABILITY, ETHNICITY, NATIONALITY, OR FITNESS LEVEL.

Inclusion means people having a sense of belonging, of being comfortable in being part of something they value. Diversity means being aware of, accommodating, and celebrating differences.

GAA Diversity and Inclusion officer Ger McTavish explains:

“Inclusion is about making a difference. Inclusivity is a movement, a move to include. Being truly inclusive is living our GAA motto, ‘Where we all Belong’.

“This work takes many forms. It ranges from ensuring that our policies and practices support the cultural integration and social inclusion of people from across Ireland’s diverse ethnic population, to making sure that all Gaelic games are adapted for people with different abilities.”



GAA FOR ALL

A simple 6 Steps process, including access to all necessary resources, has been developed for clubs interested in participating in the GAA’s National Inclusive Fitness Day, a process that will also support their journey in becoming a more inclusive club.

1. Your club must register online by September 9th here

2. Sign up to CARA Sport Inclusion Disability Charter here

3. Share the GAA inclusive club policies and resources in your club

4. Hold an Inclusive Healthy Lifestyle activity at your GAA Club on September 23rd

5. Share a video or pictures of your activity on social using #GAABelong, #BeActive, #HealthyLifestyleForALL

6: Receive an Inclusive GAA Club certificate to proudly display in your club.

For more information please contact geraldine.mctavish@gaa.ie

GRÁINNE MCELWAIN CEAPTHA INA CATHAOIRLEACH AR CHOISTE NÁISIÚNTA NA GAEILGE, CLG

DHEARBHAIGH UACHTARÁN CHUMANN LÚTHCHLEAS GAEL, LABHRÁS MAC CÁRTHAIGH, LE GAIRID GURBH Í GRÁINNE MCELWAIN A BHÍ CEAPTHA AIGE MAR CHATHAOIRLEACH AR CHOISTE NÁISIÚNTA NA GAEILGE, CLG, DON TRÉIMHSE 2021-2024. DHEARBHAIGH SÉ, FREISIN, BAILL EILE AN CHOISTE, INA BHFUIL SÉ DE DHUALGAS ORTHU POLASAÍ AGUS TOGRAÍ GAEILGE A LEAGAN AMACH AGUS A CHUR I GCRÍCH DON CHUMANN UAIDH SEO GO CEANN TRÍ BLIANA.

Is de bhunadh na Botha i gcontae Mhuineacháin í Gráinne ach tá sí ag cur fúithi i Leitir Móir i gConamara le tamall de bhlianta anuas agus clann a tógáil aici ann lena fear céile. Tá os cionn deich mbliana caite aici ag obair sna meáin chraolta agus aithne mháith ag muintir na hÉireann uirthi de bharr na rólanna éagsúla a bhí aici ag cur i láthair agus ag obair ar sheónna éagsúla spóirt ar leithéidí Sky Sports, TG4, RTÉ, BBC, TV3 agus Eir Sport.

Is í Gráinne atá mar phríomhláithreoir reatha ar chraoladh Sky Sports ar na cluichí Gaelacha agus roghnaíodh mar Ambasadóir í ar Sheachtain na Gaeilge sa bhliain 2020. Is i mbun ceoil a bhíonn sí nuair a bhíonn cúpla nóiméad le spáráil aici agus is minic a ghlac sí páirt i Scór agus i bhFleadh Cheoil na hÉireann thar na blianta.

Labhair GAA.ie le Gráinne inniu lena cuid tuairimí a fháil faoina ceapachán agus faoi na pleananna éagsúla a bhí aici don chéad trí bliana eile. Ar an gcéad dul síos, mhínigh sí dúinn gur mhór an phribhléid di a bheith ceaptha ina Cathaoirleach ar an gCoiste. 'Bhí me riméadach, bródúil agus an-bhuíoch as an deis a fháil', a deir Gráinne. 'Is mór an



phribhléid é a bheith mar Chathaoirleach ar an gCoiste seo agus tá mé ag dúil go mór leis an Ghaeilge a chur chun cinn agus a láidriú sa Chumann ag achan leibhéal agus ceangal níos láidre a dhéanamh le muintir na Gaeilge thar lear, fosta.'

Is é normalú na Gaeilge sa Chumann an sprioc is mó atá ag Gráinne don Choiste agus tá sí ag súil go mór le seifteanna éagsúla a chur i bhfeidhm leis an sprioc sin a fhíorú. Labhair sí faoi na nithe éagsúla ar mhaith léi féin a bhaint amach mar Chathaoirleach ar an gCoiste uaidh seo go ceann trí bliana.

'Normalú na Gaeilge agus an rud atá i gceist agam leis sin,' a deir Gráinne, 'ná go mbeadh an Ghaeilge le cloisteáil agus le feiceáil sa Chumann. Mothaíonn go leor daoine nach bhfuil a gcuid Gaeilge maith go leor agus bíonn faitíos orthu an méid atá acu a úsáid.

'Ba bhreá liom é dá mbeadh achan duine sásta cúpla focal a rá. Bheadh sé iontach níos mó Gaeilge a chluinstin agus a fheiceáil sna meáin chraolta náisiúnta, in achan chlub agus in achan chontae ag cruinnithe agus in óráidí.

'Ba mhaith liom go mbeadh an Coiste ag cuidiú chun na rudaí sin a bhaint amach agus an méid tacaíochta agus spreagtha agus is féidir linn a chur ar fáil dóibh.

'Ní hamháin go bhfuil muintir na Gaeilge in Éirinn ach tá siad ar fud na cruinne. Tuigeann muid go maith cé chomh tábhachtach is atá Cumann Lúthchleas Gael d'aon duine atá thar lear agus ba bhreá liom go bhfeicfeadh muid an ceangal céanna leis an Ghaeilge. Is é sin, go bhfuil baint ag an duine ní hamháin le Cumann Lúthchleas Gael ach leis an teanga fosta.'

Maidir leis an gCoiste féin tá sí ag súil go mór le gabháil i mbun oibre le baill eile an Choiste

– Tomás Ó Cadhla, Frainc Mac Cionnaith, Sinéad Ní Fhionnagáin, Liam Ó Laochdha, Tricia Ní Chearra, Barra Mac Thiarnáin agus Séamus Ó Mídheach.

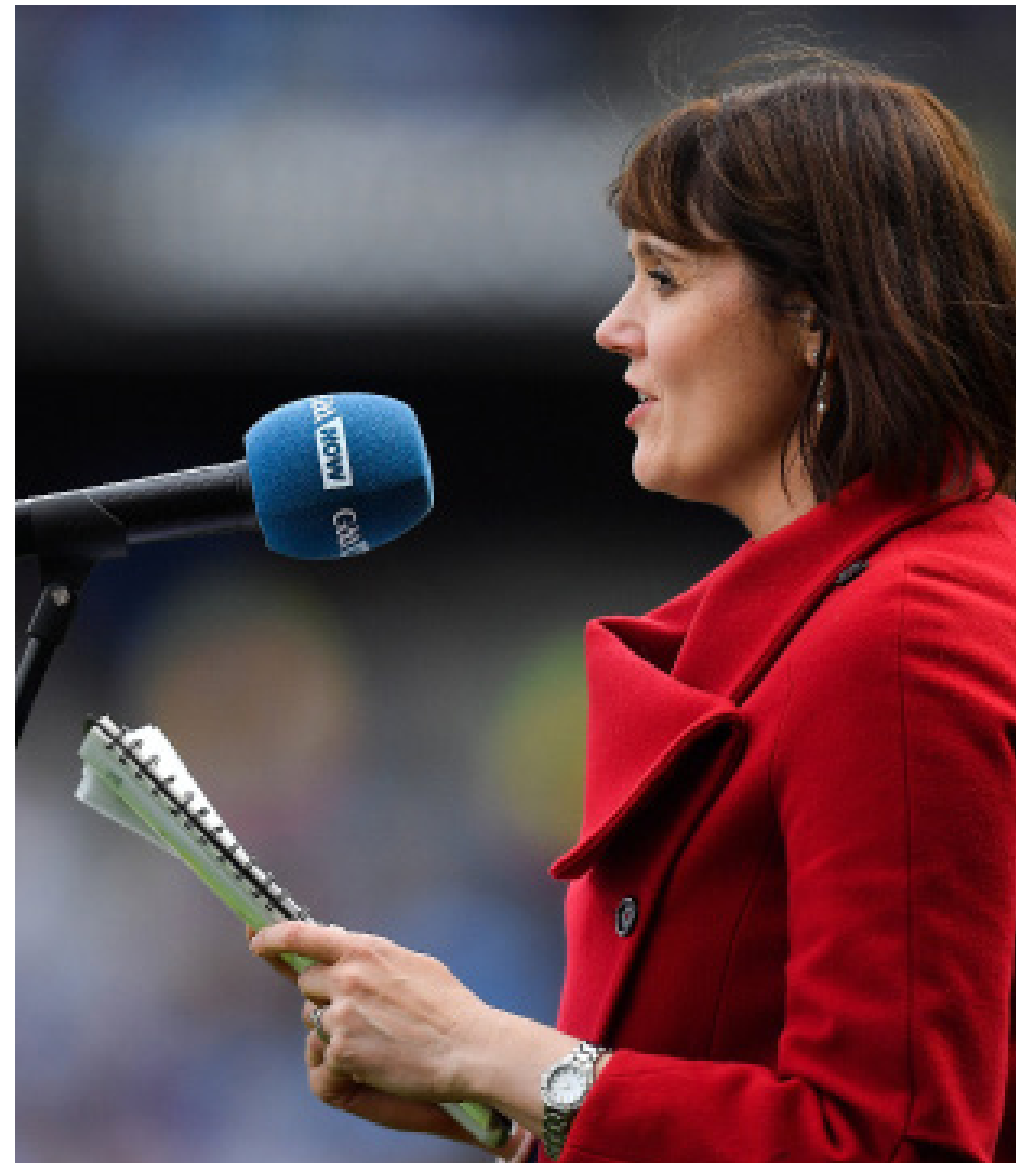
'Tá mé ag súil go mór leis. Tá grúpa ildánach ann le scileanna éagsúla agus iad iontach fuinniúil mar ghrúpa. Tá mé ag súil go mór le smaointe a phlé agus tabhairt faoi na spriocanna a bheidh á leagan síos againn uaidh seo go ceann trí bliana.'

Agus í ag labhairt faoin áit ar mhaith léi an coiste a fhágáil ag deireadh a tréimhse mar Chathaoirleach air, dúirt Gráinne: 'Tá sé ar nós geansaí do chlub a chaitheamh. Déanann tú do dhícheall nuair atá an geansaí sin ort agus nuair atá sé in am é a thabhairt do dhuine eile bheifeá ag súil go mbeadh ardchaighdeán bainte amach agat.

'Ba mhaith liom go mbeadh ceangal níos láidre ann idir an Ghaeilge agus Cumann Lúthchleas Gael, go mbeadh an Ghaeilge le cluinstin agus le feiceáil níos mó agus go spreagfadh muid daoine le níos mó Gaeilge a úsáid sa saol.'

Ceapadh na baill seo a leanas ar Choiste Náisiúnta na Gaeilge CLG, don tréimhse 2021-2024.

Gráinne McElwain, Cumann Naomh Anna, Leitir Móir, Gaillimh
Tomás Ó Cadhla, CLG Dhún na Mainistreach-Baile na Cúirte, Port Láirge
Frainc Mac Cionnaith, Cill Chua, An Dún
Sinéad Ní Fhionnagáin, CLG Fhine Ghalainn, Áth Cliath
Liam Ó Laochdha, CLG Eochail, Corcaigh
Tricia Ní Chearra, CLG Sheáin Uí Mháirtín, An Dún
Barra Mac Thiarnáin, CLG Chill Tiobraid, Liatroim
Séamus Ó Mídheach, CLG Ard Cloch, Cill Dara



RISK ASSESSMENT & CHILD SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

THE GAELIC GAMES ASSOCIATIONS OPERATE A JOINT CODE OF BEHAVIOUR (UNDERAGE), WHICH IS ENshrINED IN OUR RULES AND THE CONTENT OF WHICH REFLECTS HOW WE ADDRESS OUR ASSOCIATION, LEGAL AND STATUTORY SAFEGUARDING OBLIGATIONS.

A specific aspect of the Code of Behaviour (Underage) and of our legal obligations is that due to the recognition of the GAA as a provider of 'relevant service for children', our Clubs & County Boards must undertake a risk assessment that considers the potential for harm that could come to these children while they are in our care.

A risk assessment is an exercise we carry out where our Clubs, County Committees, and each of our Associations at national level examine all aspects of our service from a safeguarding perspective and establish whether there are any practices or features of our services, whether they be games, training, other activities for children, or the recruitment of coaches & mentors, that have the potential to put children at risk.

Experience shows that discussions on the risk of harm to children while in our care inevitably leads to a greater awareness of the Child Safeguarding measures required

and undertaken in our day-to-day work in the Gaelic Games Associations.

Each unit must now discuss and complete this procedure at Club Executive and County Committee level and must record, sign and date when this discussion took place. Carrying out a risk assessment procedure shall now be required of all units, every two years.

Once a Risk Assessment procedure has been completed, organisations are then required to develop, and put on prominent display (on club social media, website, clubhouse etc.), a Child Safeguarding Statement that outlines

the policies and procedures which are in place to manage and minimise risks that have been identified.

For more information and to download the Risk Assessment & Child Safeguarding Statement templates, please visit:

<https://www.gaa.ie/the-gaa/child-welfare-and-protection/children-first>

Queries can be sent to safeguardingriskassessment@gaa.ie



Your Club Crest

Child Safeguarding Statement

The Gaelic Athletic Associations (GAA, LGFA, Camogie, Handball and Rounders) in accordance with our Code of Behaviour (Underage), our policies, procedures and our legislative requirements have agreed this **Child Safeguarding Statement**, which is binding on all members and units of our Associations.

The basic aims of the Gaelic Athletic Associations include fostering and developing our Gaelic Games and Irish cultural activities among young people and children. These games and related activities are organised and promoted by dedicated volunteers at Club, County, Provincial and National levels with the cooperation and support of an equally

dedicated cohort of staff all of whom are committed to the safeguarding of children and young people in our Association as we seek to create a safe environment for young people to grow and develop.

PRINCIPLES TO SAFEGUARD CHILDREN FROM HARM

This statement recognises that in accordance with legislation and with the requirements of our Codes and Rules that the welfare and interests of children are paramount in all circumstances. It aims to ensure that all children and young people have a positive, developmental and enjoyable experience of Gaelic Games and when participating in our activities that they do so, as far as is practicable, in a safe and enjoyable environment.

RISK ASSESSMENT

In preparing this statement we have completed a risk assessment of the potential for harm to children when they are participating in our games and attending our activities under the following headings: Club and Coaching Practices; Complaints & Discipline; Reporting Procedures; Facilities; Recruitment; Communications and General Risk of Harm.

To the right is a list of areas of risk identified and the list of procedures and policies that address these risks.

RISK IDENTIFIED

Risk of harm including assault, ill treatment or neglect of a child in a manner that seriously affects or is likely to seriously affect the child's health, development or welfare or sexual abuse of a child

Risk of harm of abuse when hosting an activity and or an away trip

Risk of harm of online abuse through social media

Bullying of a child

PROCEDURE/POLICIES IN PLACE

Code of Behaviour (Underage) (QR code 1)

Maintaining Good Practice and Behaviour (QR code 2)

Recruitment Policy

Vetting Policy

Safeguarding Training Policy

Guidance for Dealing with & Reporting Allegations or Concerns of Abuse (QR code 3)



Code of Behaviour (Underage)-Hosting, Away Trips & Transport

Code of Behaviour (Underage) Association Social Media Policy

Anti-Bullying Statement, Guidelines & Training

PROCEDURES

Our Child Safeguarding Statement has been prepared in accordance with the legislative requirements contained in the *Children First Act 2015*, *Children's First: National Guidance for the Protection and Welfare of Children (2017)*, the *Children (NI) Order 1995*, *Tusla's Child Safeguarding: A Guide for Policy, Procedure and Practice* and as required by our Association rules.

Each Club shall maintain a list of members who, if known, and in accordance with the Children First Act 2015 are specified as mandated persons, regardless of what role (if any), they hold in the Club.

The following procedures contained in our risk assessment support our intention to safeguard children while they are availing of our services.

- Procedure in respect of the management of allegations of abuse against any member, non-member or staff/volunteer of a child availing of our services
- Procedure for the safe recruitment and selection of workers and volunteers to work with children and young people
- Procedure for provision of and access to Gaelic Games Child Safeguarding Training and information including the identification of the occurrence of harm
- Procedure for the reporting of child protection or welfare concerns to the Association, Tusla and or Gateway Team as applicable
- Procedure for appointing a relevant person i.e. the Children's Officer (National, Club and County as appropriate) who is the relevant person for the purpose of this statement (see name below)

MANDATED PERSON PROCEDURES

The Mandated Person, who has a legal obligation to report harm of children as per legislation and who has been employed for the purpose of performing the child welfare and protection functions within each of our Associations is:

GAA/Rounders	<u>Gearóid Ó Maoilmhichíl</u>	<i>mandatedperson@gaa.ie</i>
Camogie	Roberta Farrell	<i>mandatedperson@camogie.ie</i>
Handball	John Kelly	<i>mandatedperson.handball@gaa.ie</i>
LGFA	<u>Paula Prunty</u>	<i>mandatedperson@lgfa.ie</i>

All policies and procedures listed above are available at www.gaa.ie/the-gaa/child-welfare-and-protection

IMPLEMENTATION AND REVIEW

The Gaelic Athletic Associations recognise that implementation is an ongoing process. The Associations are committed to the implementation of this Child Safeguarding Statement and the accompanying child safeguarding policies and procedures that support our intention to keep children and young people safe from harm while availing of our service. This Statement adopted and endorsed by our Club Executive Committee will be reviewed by **31st of May 2023** or as soon as practicable after there has been a material change in any matter to which the statement refers.



Club Children's Officer



Community Finance Ireland Offers Creative Financial Solutions for the GAA Community

As the fastest growing social finance provider across the island of Ireland and the UK, Community Finance Ireland is a social enterprise that offers our clients the benefit of a real partnership.

This summer, despite Covid challenges, we continue to work with a wide variety of clients, who eagerly await a re-opening and are more than ready as vaccines and phased safety measures start to take shape, across all sporting facilities.

With 41% (ROI) and 27% (NI) of current clients involved in sporting clubs and facilities we understand how sport can improve rural life. Here are two clubs we work with who might be familiar:

- Paula Boland and her team at **Kiltegan GAA and Camogie Clubs**, located in Co Wicklow, are celebrating as their project to install an All-Weather Pitch & Walkway has been the catalyst to have Kiltegan village nominated by Wicklow County Council as one of the entrants in The National IPB Pride Of Place Awards 2021.
- Sheila Kelly and her team at **Kilcoo GAC Club**, located in Co. Down were delighted to cut their ribbon and open their sporting facility that has generated local and UK interest.

Both have shown us that hard work pays off and of understanding the importance of facilities, such as they have delivered, being critical to a vibrant and healthy rural life.



Kiltegan GAA and Camogie Clubs. Location: Co Wicklow, Leinster



Kiltegan village is small in size but large in impact. The GAA and Camogie joined forces to build a facility that is fully accessible to all ages and abilities. They haven't been idle whilst sport has stopped either, raising €37k in fundraising by reaching out to current & past players, members & supporters of their club at home and abroad – some as far as Australia.

Community Finance Ireland provided exceptional support to our project. They supported us every step of the way. Their support, professionalism and communication were brilliant throughout the process. We would highly recommend them to any group thinking of financing a project.

Paula Boland, Secretary of Kiltegan GAA & Camogie Development Committee & Secretary Kiltegan GAA

[Click here to see how their dreams really did come true:](#)





Kilcoo GAC

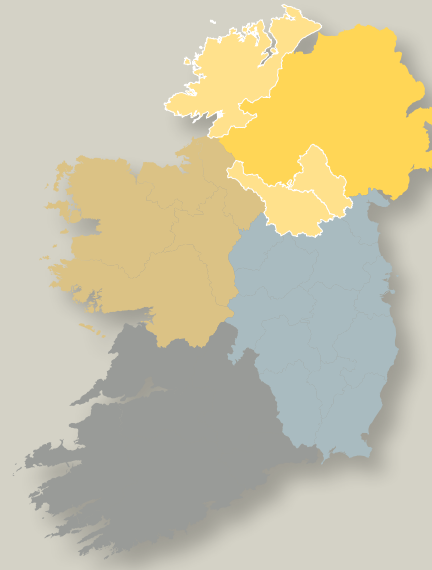
Location: Co. Down, Ulster



Kilcoo GAC, Co. Down is the story of a rural community pulling together and punching well above their weight. They have been featured by BBC News such is the breath and scale of what the team have built here for their sporting fans.

Community Finance Ireland were a key partner in our ability to cut the ribbon and open our facility to our volunteers, players and village. They were engaged with us at every step and we are very thankful to their support and advice. We most likely wouldn't have made it this far without them. Sheila Kelly, Development Officer Kilcoo GAC Club.

Click here to see the terrific facility they have built:



choose change

We want to ensure social impact is felt, not just dreamt.

We welcome change-makers.

Click here to

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THE GAA DEVELOPMENT FUND IS OPEN!

- **THE GAA DEVELOPMENT FUND IS OPEN FOR SAVING DEPOSITS FROM GAA CLUBS**
- **CLUBS ARE ENCOURAGED TO DEPOSIT MONEY INTO THE FUND E.G. CLUB LOTTO**
- **THE VARIABLE INTEREST RATE A CLUB CAN EARN ON THEIR DEPOSIT IS CURRENTLY 1.9%**
- **MINIMUM DEPOSITS ARE €1,000/ £1,000**
- **DEPOSITS CAN BE SENT VIA BANK TRANSFER OR BY CHEQUE**
- **CLUBS WHO SUPPORT THE FUND ARE GIVEN PRIORITY WHEN APPLYING FOR A LOAN - WHEN APPLICATIONS FOR LOANS REOPEN**
- **FORMS FOR DEPOSITING FUNDS CAN BE OBTAINED FROM A MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL FINANCE TEAM IN CROKE PARK - PLEASE CONTACT EOGHAN.MAGUIRE@GAA.IE**

ADOPTING THE CORPORATE TRUSTEE

- The Executive nominate the Trustees for and on behalf of the Club;
- As per Rule 5 the County and Provincial Council nominate a Trustee to act on its behalf, Counties and Provincial Councils have nominated the GAA Corporate Trustee to act on their behalf.
- The nominated Trustees are ratified at a General Meeting, this requires a simple majority.
- Existing Trustees should be advised of the proposal before it goes to a General Meeting as they are required to transfer their interest to the Trust Company.
- Once this has been completed a Solicitor is appointed by the Club to update the title in line with the decision of the Club
- The minute of the Club should be forwarded to **EOGHAN.MAGUIRE@GAA.IE** to enable the Corporate Trustee to execute the transfer.
- There is an information pack with templates available to your Solicitor to assist with the transfer and declaration of trust.
- The Declaration of Trust states that the property is being held for and on behalf of the specific Club.
- Documents are signed locally by the existing Trustees and forwarded to Croke Park for signing and sealing by the GAA Corporate Trustee.
- The transfer needs to be signed by two Directors of the Trust Company or the Director and Secretary.
- The Directors of the Trust Company are the four Provincial Secretaries, the Árd-Stiúrthóir and Finance Director, the Head of National Finance acts as Secretary to the Trust Company.
- The Solicitor registers the transfer in the Property Registration Authority and stamps the Deeds. Each unit of the Association should be exempt from Stamp Duty if they have applied for the tax exemption, this exemption can be checked on the Revenue website:
- <https://www.revenue.ie/en/corporate/information-about-revenue/statistics/other-datasets/sport-bodies.aspx>
- Entities such as the CSSO and the banks who have a charge/ mortgage on the Clubs property should be advised of the transfer by the Clubs Solicitor.
- Clubs who adopt the GAA Trust Company are eligible to a grant of €1,000, this is available when the transfer is registered.



COMMONLY ASKED QUESTIONS ON THE CORPORATE TRUSTEE

Does the club lose any control over the property?

The Corporate Trustee (ICCLG) can only act following a request from the Club, you will see in the code of Trustees that the Minutes of the Club signed by the Secretary is required to progress action by the Trustee.

Is Approval of property transactions still required?

Under Rule 5 all property transactions require the consent of Central Council and you are advised to approach your County Development/Facilities Officer in this regard, approvals are required for all the following transactions:

1. Acquisition of Property
2. Disposal of Property
3. Borrowings
4. Charges on Property to drawdown grants
5. Leases

This consent is separate to the Trustee sign off and will be required before the Trustees can sign for such matters.

The Trust Company holds the property for and on behalf of the Club.

NEWLY UPDATED GAA OFFICIAL GUIDE NOW AVAILABLE VIA

[HTTPS://WWW.GAA.IE/DOWNLOADS/](https://www.gaa.ie/downloads/)



THE UPDATED GAA CLUB CONSTITUTION AVAILABLE VIA

[HTTPS://WWW.GAA.IE/API/PDFS/IMAGE/UPLOAD/OMPAE1LS3SLDQHDQKQMI.PDF/](https://www.gaa.ie/api/pdfs/image/upload/ompa1ls3sldqhdqkqmi.pdf/)





Football

Hurling

Club

General

MÍLE BUÍOCHAS

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

Produced by the GAA Communications Department in Croke Park,
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