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KELLOGG'S GAA CÚL CAMPS OPEN FOR 2019 REGISTRATIONS!

Yet another summer of GAA fun awaits young people all over Ireland at the Kellogg's GAA Cúl Camps following record-breaking numbers in 2018.

Cúl Camps rank as one of the greatest promotional success stories in the history of the GAA with thousands flocking to take part every summer. The attractive and distinctive Kellogg's GAA Cúl Camp kit that is supplied to participants is worn with pride by young boys and girls all over the country.

A record-breaking 153,858 children took part in a Kellogg's GAA Cúl Camp last year across 1,234 camps.

One in every four children aged between 6 and 13 now attend Ireland's biggest summer camps enjoying an action-paced week of fun and games, learning new skills, making friends and getting active.

Another action-packed week of fun and games awaits children aged 6-13 at their local club this Summer, as throughout the months of July and August children of all skill levels can learn and play GAA games with qualified coaches. Registration includes the latest Kellogg's GAA Cúl Camp jersey, training top and back pack which have become the 'must have' kit for kids over the summer!

Children are coached in hurling, camogie, football and ladies' football and some camps offer rounders, handball and fun & run. One camp in each province will also receive a surprise visit from one of the inter-county player ambassadors who will be unveiled at a Kellogg's GAA Cúl Camps' launch on April 9.

The week-long Kellogg's GAA Cúl Camps are priced at €60/£50, dropping to €55/£45 for a second child and just €45/£40 or a third and any additional children. All participants get the training top, jersey and backpack.

Everyone who registers for a Kellogg's GAA Cúl Camp can enter a competition for a chance to win €5,000 worth of training gear for their team and a €500 voucher for themselves by entering the code from promotional packs of Kellogg's Corn Flakes or Rice Krispies in store from April or answering a question online.

Register online now - gaa.ie/kelloggsulcamps

2019 NATIONAL CLUB DRAW WINNERS ANNOUNCED



The GAA's National Club Draw was a phenomenal success with €1,624,480 raised by GAA Clubs nationally and with all of this money being retained by the clubs who raised it through ticket sales.

Every year the GAA's National Finance Committee organises the NCD which allows clubs to sell up to a maximum of 2,000 tickets that cost €10 each for a draw that has all of the fantastic prizes paid for by the GAA at national level and allowing clubs to potentially raise €20,000.

John Horan, Uachtarán Cumann Lúthchleas Gael presided over the sixth GAA National Club Draw which took place in Páirc an Chrócaigh on March 6.

This year's Draw smashed the target of €1.5m and raised €1,624,480 for GAA Clubs nationally. The Draw was independently observed by Brian Cormack, Audit & Assurance Director, Mazars.

The prizes ranged from cars, tickets and vouchers to individual members to awards for clubs that included the chance to play a match at Croke Park.

National Club Draw Prize Winners

1. Renault Clio 4 Expression – **Kathleen Finnegan – Glenflesk GAA**
2. Travel Voucher to the value of €2000 – **Adrian Coyle – Carrigallen GAA**
3. All-Ireland Hurling & Football Final Package 2019 – **Kathleen Hogan – Coolderry GAA**
4. All-Ireland Hurling & Football Final Package 2019 – **Tommy Donnelly – Glen Maghera Watty Grahams GAA**
5. All-Ireland Hurling & Football Final Package 2019 – **Sean Burke – Kilcummin GAA**
6. €750 Blue Book Voucher – **Niamh McKee – Rodger Casements Portglenone GAA**
7. €500 Blue Book Voucher – **Noel Lavin – Balla GAA**
8. €1000 Shopping Voucher, Retailer of Your Choice – **Brendan Gallagher – Kiltane GAA**
9. €1000 Shopping Voucher, Retailer of Your Choice – **Shane Lynch – Bailieborough Shamrocks GAA**
10. All-Ireland Hurling Final Package – **Eamonn Mulligan – Man O'War GAA**
11. All-Ireland Football Final Package – **Margaret Minogue – Whitegate GAA**
12. €500 One4All Voucher – **John Rooney – Aodh Ruadh Ballyshannon GAA**
13. €500 SuperValu/Centra Voucher – **Tomás Mc Weeney – Dunshaughlin GAA**
14. All-Ireland Hurling Final Package – **Jonathan Sawyers – Beragh Red Knights GAA**
15. All-Ireland Football Final Package – **Mickey Mc Mahon – Beragh Red Knights GAA**
16. €500 One4All Voucher – **Michael Kerin – St Michaels GAA**
17. €500 SuperValu/Centra Voucher – **Mike Kelly – Ballinamere GAA**
18. €250 Intersport Elverys Voucher – **Jim O'Neill – Ballymaguigan St Treas GAA**
19. €250 SuperValu/Centra Voucher – **Celia Tyrell – St Oliver Plunketts Eoghan Ruadh GAA**
20. €250 Shopping Voucher, Retailer of your Choice – **Hugh Gillespie – Aodh Ruadh Ballyshannon GAA**



Kathleen Finnegan and family from Glenflesk GAA in Kerry who won the Renault Clio top prize, pictured with Uachtarán John Horan.



Members of Cortoon Shamrocks GAA in Galway with Uachtarán John Horan who have won the chance to play a match at Croke Park



Members of Kilbrin GAA in Cork with Uachtarán John Horan who have won the chance to play at Croke Park

CLUB SPECIFIC DRAW

Clubs who won an opportunity to play a match in Croke Park

- Club 1: Kilbrin, Cork
- Club 2: Cortoon Shamrocks, Galway

Clubs who won €5,000 in the National Club Draw

- Club 1: Ballinagore, Co. Westmeath
- Club 2: Moycullen, Co. na Gaillimhe
- Club 3: Tullogher Rosbercon, Co. Kilkenny

Clubs who won €1,000 in the National Club Draw

- Mayo** Crossmolina
- Sligo** Geevagh
- Galway** Mountbellew Moylough
- Roscommon** Shannon Gaels
- Leitrim** Melvin Gaels
- Kildare** Two Mile House
- Carlow** Ballinabranna
- Dublin** Scoil Uí Chonaill
- Louth** St. Kevins
- Laois** Camross
- Kilkenny** Conahy Shamrocks
- Offaly** Tubber
- Meath** Ratoath

- Longford** Emmet Óg
- Wexford** Clonard
- Wicklow** An Tóchar
- Westmeath** Milltownpass
- Kerry** Cordal
- Limerick** Fedamore
- Tipperary** Newport
- Waterford** Ballinameela
- Cork** Killeagh
- Clare** Feakle
- Fermanagh** Enniskillen Gaels
- Donegal** Glenswilly
- Antrim** St. Galls
- Armagh** Sliverbridge Harps
- Down** Castlewellan St. Malachys
- Monaghan** Aughnamullen
- Cavan** Killygarry
- Derry** Coleraine Owens Roes
- Tyrone** Greencastle St. Patricks

The clubs who had the highest ticket sales in each province

- Connacht** Easkey, Sligo
Sold: 1821
- Munster** Kilcummin, Kerry
Sold: 1780
- Leinster** Oulart-The Ballagh, Wexford
Sold: 1960
- Ulster** Naomh Mhuire Convoy, Donegal
Sold: 2000

GAA PRESIDENT'S AWARDS 2019

The GAA is pleased to confirm the recipients for **Gradaim an Uachtaráin 2019** which will be presented at a special banquet in Croke Park.

These prestigious annual awards, organised with the support of Club Championship sponsors AIB and broadcast by TG4, affords Uachtarán CLG with an opportunity to acknowledge outstanding commitment and long service across the club and county network.

Uachtarán Chumann Lúthchleas Gael Seán Ó hOráin said: “The GAA is many things but ultimately it is always about People because it is People who are the unselfish volunteering rock upon which our Association is built.

“This important event affords us an opportunity to recognise some extraordinarily special People who have given lifetimes of service to their communities and to the GAA.

“They represent the high standard and high calibre of People who we have been blessed to have at our core and are an inspiration.

“I would like to acknowledge AIB and Denis O’Callaghan, Head of Distribution AIB, for their ongoing support of these awards and of their wider commitment to Gaelic games.

“Míle buíochas also to TG4 for their assistance in helping us to bring these awards to the widest audience possible and for the work they do each year in showcasing Gaelic games.”

The awards are made on a provincial and code basis. As well as Gaeilge, Education and International Awards, the presentation of the annual Dermot Earley Family Award will also be made.

The GAA Presidents’ Awards (Gradaim an Uachtaráin 2019) will be broadcast tonight on TG4 at 7:30pm (Live from the Hogan Suite in Croke Park).

Buaiteoirí Gradaim an Uachtaráin 2019

ULSTER AWARD: SEÁN TREACY
Devenish St Mary’s, Fermanagh

Seán Treacy has made a phenomenal life-long contribution to the GAA over a wide range of roles and responsibilities. He was a player who enjoyed ground breaking success first at minor level and then at senior level in a golden period for the club in the 80s and 90s, as well as winning an All-Ireland with the Jordanstown Fresher team in 1985. He has been an officer since his early teens, acting as club PRO in 1977 when just 14-year-old. He went on to hold numerous posts at Club, County, Provincial

All of the GAA President’s Awards winners alongside Uachtarán Chumann Lúthchleas Gael John Horan, Denis O’Callaghan, Head of Distribution at AIB, and Alan Esslemont, Director General of TG4, during the GAA President’s Awards at Croke Park in Dublin.



and Third Level and was assistant secretary of Fermanagh GAA for several years.

During a 17-year stint as Club Secretary, Seán played an integral part in a major club development which saw the establishment of state of the art playing fields and club rooms, making Devenish the envy of many clubs inside and outside the county.

In 1992 he took a lead role in forming Ladies Football in the county, chairing the

meeting in 1993 that elected the first ever officers of Fermanagh Ladies GAA. The club proudly celebrated its centenary anniversary in 2017 and not surprising Seán was centrally involved in the memorable programme of events.

He remains active in the club and is a member of the development committee looking to provide more facilities for the club members and serve the community – always looking to contribute for the betterment of many.

MUNSTER AWARD: MICHAEL WALL

An Coilleagain na h-Emmetigh, Waterford



Michael Wall has been ever-present in the Colligan Club for the last 55 years.

His first involvement was as a 10-year-old boy at a time when there was

no underage Club in the Parish but local young boys would go down to the field to strike the ball back to the adults at training.

He was just 17 when he was first elected to a club committee in 1963 and went on to hold several key positions including being elected Chairman in 1967 when he was just 21 years old.

In the early 80s the club launched an ambitious project to purchase and develop grounds and Michael was again the driving force behind the fundraising activities and was again involved in the construction of dressing rooms in the early 90s.

There is never a job too big or too small and today he is Vice President, Honorary Life Member and Club Lotto Co-Ordinator.

He has been an integral part in the Club standing tall today and is delighted in seeing the membership pull together to create a family ethos – a source of comfort in times of triumph and tragedy.

A proud family man, his selflessness and commitment to his local club for more than a half century make him a very worthy recipient.

CONNACHT AWARD: NOREEN CORCORAN

Kilglass Gaels, Roscommon

Noreen became involved with Kilglass Gaels shortly after moving into the Parish from the neighbouring Kilmore area more than 30 years ago and where she had already built up a strong reputation with numerous Scór titles across a range of areas.

Her first role with Kilglass was that of Minor Club Secretary and she has been immersed in volunteer work with the Club ever since and is the current club secretary. A founding member and first secretary of the Ladies club in Kilglass in 1999, she was a very deserving recipient of the Club Person of the Year Award for Kilglass Gaels in 2002. Aside from the meeting room, Noreen has served on numerous Ladies management teams and provided First Aid assistance to several teams in the Club

Noreen was a driving force behind entering the Kilglass into a prestigious national competition that resulted in the club winning a makeover of the club field valued at €100,000.

When the club was touched by tragedy through the loss of one of its younger members, Noreen was instrumental in a fundraising drive in their memory which led to the addition of a gym to the club premises, and she remains heavily involved in all fundraising activities. Noreen is a dynamo who is always on hand to lend a hand and we salute her.

LEINSTER AWARD: MICK SPAIN

Drumcullen, Offaly

Born in January 1933, the fifth son in a family of 13 children, Mick Spain was destined to leave an indelible imprint on his native place and county.

This would be achieved through his commitment to his community in many forms but particularly his dedication to the GAA - where he has seen it all as a player, coach, manager, referee, administrator and visionary.

In 1949 he won an Offaly Minor Hurling Championship with his beloved Drumcullen and went on to play with Offaly minors in the 1950 Leinster Final v Wexford. He was a substitute on the Drumcullen senior team in 1952 when they won their third Offaly Senior Hurling Title in- a- row and then featured on the successful teams of '54, '55, '57, '58 and 1960.

He later moved to live in Birr and trained and played on the team which won the title in 1971. He served as Club chairman and is credited with helping to lay the foundations for the future unprecedented success of that club on the provincial and national stage.

Returning to Drumcullen in 1978 he immersed himself in the club and served as Treasurer and Chairman over a period of 12 years. He was one of the leading lights in the construction of dressing rooms and the first covered spectator stand in Offaly at that time. Over a distinguished career Mick also acted as Trainer and selector on his club's teams at different levels from school

up to senior while also assisting other clubs in their development and led the club camogie team to county and provincial success in 2005.

His involvement with the Offaly Senior Hurlers coincided with the county's Leinster break-through year of 1980, followed by Liam McCarthy success in 1981, '85 and '94 all with a common thread as Mick Spain as selector.

Identifying a reliable water supply as an essential service to encourage young people to build and remain in their locality – saw Mick dedicated himself tirelessly through political and official channels to the pursuit of a group water scheme which was duly delivered. An immense contribution and commitment to others.

LGFA AWARD: KATHLEEN COLREAVY

Naomh Mearnóg, Dublin

One of 11 children, Kathleen was born into a strong GAA house where her late parents Tommy O'Riordan and Lily Reynolds played a pivotal role in the development of Ballyboden St Enda's GAA Club.

Kathleen met and married Michael Colreavy, an established Leitrim footballer who had played in the 1967 Connacht Final and they moved to Portmarnock in the early 70s and where they both were soon immersed in the local Naomh Mearnóg Club.

For more than 30 years Kathleen has been synonymous with Ladies football in the club and during this time has held the position of club secretary, registrar, selector, jersey-

washer, pitch organiser, board delegate and female liaison.

During this period, she has worked tirelessly in promoting Ladies football in her club as well as being actively involved in all the Ladies teams and the nursery. One of her proudest achievements was when her daughter Orla and clubmates Karen Kennedy and Cliodhna O'Connor went on to represent Dublin at adult level and appeared in several All-Ireland finals with Cliodhna, Karen Kennedy and Denise Masterson members of Dublin's first All-Ireland winning team winning team in 2010 with Denise captaining the team and Cliodhna and Denise winning All-Stars.

Kathleen's big project every year is the All-Ireland Club7s and Gaelic for Mothers and Others which she has been involved with since the inaugural international event in 2000 in her home club. Her organisation and ability to get people to work with her for those two weeks is phenomenal.

Kathleen has been involved with Dublin both as Assistant Secretary and Player Liaison Officer for over 14 years. Her dedication to both roles is absolutely total. She is known nationwide for her commitment and dedication to Ladies Football and is a great ambassador to her club, her county and the LGFA.

CAMOGIE AWARD: DEIRDRE MCGRATH
Aghaderg GAC, Down



Deirdre is a member of Aghaderg GAC and was brought up in a traditional Gaelic Family in Bryansford, County Down. Her late father, Arthur Brannigan, was heavily involved in the local GAA community. At the age of 11 he took Deirdre to the All-Ireland Hurling Final in Croke Park and this is where her love and passion for the GAA began.

Deirdre founded camogie in her home club Bryansford, in 1970. She held the post of club secretary and attended coaching courses in Gormanstown to learn the skills. In 1973, Deirdre was awarded the first ever Sports Personality Award in Down and in 1977 Bryansford Camogie Club was awarded Club of the Year.

In 1974, Deirdre took on the role of County Secretary at Down Camogie and remained in the post till 1977. During this time, she saw Down Minors win their first ever All-Ireland Final in 1974 and in 1976 the All-Ireland Junior Premier Championship.

Married in 1975 into a family with very strong Gaelic tradition and moved to Ballyvarley, a townland in the parish of Aghaderg where hurling was very prominent. Her husband Francie played hurling and so they both shared their time volunteering in the GAA. Francie also managed the Bryansford camogie team to success, a team which Deirdre played on, winning leagues in 1975, 1977 and 1980.

After having two children (Mark and Sheelagh), Deirdre decided it was time to think about starting camogie in Aghaderg, where she now lived. Through the decades there was a history of camogie in the Banbridge/Ballyvarley area and in 1984 Deirdre formed a camogie team in Aghaderg, giving it the parish name. She took up the camogie secretary role in Aghaderg Club and her husband Francie managed the team.

The first competitive match was played in 1985 and in 1988 Aghaderg won the Novice Championship. In 1989 they won the Junior League and Championship unbeaten and then the Intermediate Championship in 1991. During this period, Deirdre remained on the Aghaderg GAA club committee and was also an executive committee member of the Banbridge Sports Council for many years.

HANDBALL AWARD: TONY BREEN
Wexford

Tony Breen has had a long-distinguished career as both a player and a volunteer in GAA Handball. As a player Tony has captured numerous National, Provincial and County titles and in 1994 captured a World title in Over 40 Doubles.

Tony joined the committee of Ballyanne Handball Club (home of the great Dick Lyng) as a 15-year-old in 1969. He has served as Secretary/PRO of Templeudigan Handball Club for 15 years from about 1985-2000. He has been a member of Wexford GAA Handball County Committee for the past 30 years and has held the positions of Chairman (twice), Vice Chairman, Secretary

(twice), PRO, Development Officer (twice), Secretary CCCC, Sponsorship Officer and Website Administrator.

Handball thrived under his stewardship to the point where Wexford are one of the strongholds of GAA Handball in Ireland thanks in no small part to Tony's stewardship and vision.

At Provincial level he has held the post of Leinster Chairman on two occasions and is currently Chairman of GAA Handball's Central Competitions Control Committee.

Despite the time constraints associated with owning a busy business, Tony is never found wanting in terms of taking on the workload associated with volunteer positions. Tony is regarded by all as an administrator who is extremely fair and balanced and an extremely hard worker. A fitting recipient for many years of service of the Gradaim an Uachtaráin.

GRADAIM GAEILGE: CIARÁN Ó FEINNEADHA
Na Gaeil Óga CLG, BAC

Tá a shaol caite ag Ciarán Ó Feinneadha, B'leá Cliathach, ag cur chun cinn na gluichí Gaelacha trí Ghaeilge.

I 2010, bhí Ciarán ar dhuine de bhunaitheoirí Na Gaeil Óga CLG, cumann lán-Ghaeilge i mBÁC. Chaith sé 5 bliana mar bhainisteoir ar fhoireann peile an chlub, agus bhain 5 ardú céime amach le linn an ama sin. Tá rólanna éagsúla comhlíonta ag Ciarán ar choiste an chlub ó shin. Leis an bhfás atá tagtha ar an gcumann le blianta beaga anuas tá sé anois ag feidhmiú mar Chathaoirleach

orthu. Tá sé ag iarraidh áit bhuan a bhaint amach dóibh i Leamhcán faoi láthair – áit a bhfuil struchtúr faoi aois láidir ag na Gaeil Óga agus iad ag freastal ar pháistí Ghaelscoileanna an cheantair.

D’imir Ciarán le Clann Choláiste Mhuire i mBÁC, club a d’fhreastail ar iarscoláirí an Ghaelcholáiste aitheanta Coláiste Mhuire. Is mar lántosach ar chlé a chuimhneofar air agus bhí sé ag croilár fhoireann ré órga an chumainn idir 1978-1983 nuair a d’éirigh leo dul ó Shóisear C go grád na Sinsear. Bhí an dá Chraobh Idirmheánacha a bhuaigh sé mar bhuaicphointí imeartha aige. Bhí dualgais rúnaíochta air le linn a thréimhse leis an gclub freisin. Chaith sé bliain ag imirt le Cumann Micheál Breathnach i gConamara ina dhiaidh sin.

Chaith sé tréimhsí ar Choiste Náisiúnta Gaeilge CLG, mar Oifigeach Gaeilge ar Choiste Contae BHÁC, ar Choiste Náisiúnta Chomórtas Peile na Gaeltachta agus ar Chomhchoiste Iománaíochta an Oireachtais.

Bhí sé ar dhuine de bhunaitheoirí an Fheachtais Náisiúnta Teilifíse a bhain TG4 amach. Bhí sé lárnaigh i mbunú trí Ghaelscoile i Leamhcán – (Gaelscoil Naomh Pádraig, Gaelscoil Eiscir Riada agus Coláiste Cois Life) agus baint aige ar feadh a shaoil le Conradh na Gaeilge agus Ógras.

Is mór an mórtas do Chiarán an tacaíocht a fuair sé i gcónaí óna bhean chéile Máire Ní Choileáin, na laethanta a chaith sé ag imirt lena dheartháireacha Pádraig agus Colm le Clann Choláiste Mhuire agus na cuimhní atá aige dá pháistí Fiadhna, Cormac, Ruadhán agus Neasa a bheith ag imirt leis Na Gaeil Óga CLG.

EDUCATION AWARD: BR JAMES DORMER



Born in Dublin, Br James Dormer has been immersed in the promotion of the GAA throughout several teaching posts around the country.

He began his teaching career at Wexford CBS in 1970. He spent three years in Wexford town where among his best-known students would be Billy Walsh, future Olympic boxer and coach.

After a short period in Carlow, in January 1974 Br Dormer began teaching in Sexton CBS in Limerick City, and though he finished his teaching there in 1980 he was an ever-present figure in Sexton Street from then on, sitting on a wide range of boards and assisting in a vast array of positions throughout the school.

In February of 1980, Br Dormer was appointed Principal of Lismore CBS Primary School in Co Waterford. He enjoyed 13 years as principal of this school where he fostered the education of the local boys and in hurling too. He brought unprecedented success to Lismore winning a host of county and divisional titles at underage level and two county senior hurling titles in 1991 and 1993. He was a mentor in the lives of many famous past pupils here including Waterford county players, Dave Bennett, Brendan Landers, and Dan Shanahan.

Appointed principal to Doon CBS Primary school in Limerick, Br Dormer spent 23 in

Doon and in that time, he dedicated his life to advancing education, Irish culture, Irish language, Irish games and religion in the local area. Br Dormer officially retired on August 31st, 2016 after 46 years teaching and was the last Christian Brother to teach in Doon CBS, and also the last Christian Brother to be a primary school principal in the country.

Every one of his pupils learned to play hurling in the school yard and the school have been leading lights in primary School hurling since he came, and as a result the Doon club had enormous success in all grades of hurling. Presently Doon is the only club in county Limerick fielding three hurling teams in the Adult grade, with success at all levels. Among the many hurlers to pass through his hands at school and club level were 2018 All Ireland Senior medalists, Pat Ryan, Barry Murphy and Darragh O’Donovan and All-Star Richie English.

Br Dormer has served on Cumann Na mBunscoil in Limerick and Waterford for four decades. From 2011 to 2016 he was Uachtarán of Cumann an mBunscoil having filled the role of National Treasurer for the five years prior to that.

INTERNATIONAL AWARD: HUGH DUGGAN Armagh & USGAA

A lifelong member of the Pearse Óg club in Armagh, whom he served with distinction both as a player and an administrator, and a former Inter-County referee at the highest level, Hugh Duggan’s GAA credentials were well-established when he arrived in the United States in 1981.

Quickly embedded in the local GAA scene, in 1987 Hugh was a founding member of the San Francisco Ulster Club, also becoming the club’s first Secretary and Team Manager. Although no longer having a day-to-day involvement with the club, he took great pride in their subsequent 5 North American Senior Football titles.

In 1991, Hugh became manager of the emerging Michael Cusack’s club, immediately winning a North American Junior Football Championship, followed by an Intermediate title in 1992. Their crowning achievement arrived in 1994, when Hugh coached the Michael Cusack’s to only the second Senior Football Championship title victory by a San Francisco team in 25 years.

In 1996, Hugh was appointed coach of the North American Men’s Football team, which competed at the International Cup in Dublin, and once more Hugh led a successful team.

Following on from his time as a coach, he assumed various Administrative roles at Divisional Board level, including San Francisco Divisional Chair and Chair of the 2001 North American Finals. As he did during his time as a referee and manager, Hugh brought dedication and passion to bear during a period of significant growth for the GAA in North America.

Away from the meeting rooms and training fields, Hugh continued to volunteer his considerable refereeing experience at both Divisional and National levels. He was awarded the San Francisco Referee of the Year on three separate occasions, while

also being appointed referee at multiple North American Finals.

In recent years, Hugh has taken on the role of USGAA Referee Administrator, where he is dedicating his time to providing USGAA players with the best quality of referee experience possible. In recognition of his distinguished service, Hugh was inducted into the San Francisco Hall of Fame in 2015 and was elected Honorary President of USGAA in 2017.

FAMILY AWARD: THE SMITH FAMILY

Boyle GAA, Co Roscommon

The Smith family have been synonymous with Boyle GAA for many years. All members of the family have had a role to play at some level within the Association, whether this is at club or county level.

From an early age, Mike played with the club, being one of the first of many U10 teams to be coached by former Derry player and Roscommon coach Sean Young. Mike's skills shone through in his exploits with St. Mel's and on underage Roscommon teams.

Mike had a long-playing career with Boyle GAA club, playing a pivotal role on the field with many favourable results. He also held several key roles in the club including club secretary in the '80's, senior team manager at the start of the millennium and a number of manager and coaching roles with underage teams. His business acumen has been evident in how he supports the club with fundraising initiatives, setting standards and motivating the club to reach targets. Mike has recently been tasked with coordinating the club's strategic plan.

A wife and mother in a busy sporting home, Mary Smith has also been deeply involved with Boyle GAA. As treasurer in the early 2000s, Mary played a critical role in the Club's massive fundraising drive to complete the development of the main pitch in Abbey Park. This period was followed by a number of years as Secretary, a role she also excelled in. She was a member of a Lotto team for several years and was heavily involved in the Club's Road to Croker fundraising initiative. It was no great surprise that Mary was previously awarded Club Person of the Year for her commitment, dedication and service to Boyle GAA.

The eldest of the four Smith brothers, Cian has tasted success for his club at all grades. A key member of the 2006 Roscommon Minor team that captured All Ireland glory after a 55-year gap, his football career had to be put on hold in 2007 while he successfully overcame serious illness. Cian fought his way back to football and was an integral member of the Boyle team that captured intermediate honours in 2013. Since retirement he has become heavily involved in coaching and with a club fundraising project.

Donal has enjoyed much success with the club over the years at both underage and senior level. He was a key part of Boyle's Minor team who won a Division 1 title in 2011 along with his brother Enda. Donal has played a central role in firmly establishing Boyle as a Senior team in recent years and was part of the team who won the Intermediate title in 2013. A Connacht Minor medalist with Roscommon in 2011, Donal added two Connacht Under



21 medals to his collection in 2012 and 2014. In 2012 in particular, his scoring prowess was a feature of the Under 21 Championship, earning him a Cadburys Hero of the Future nomination. Donal also had a glittering colleges career capturing a Freshers All Ireland medal in 2011 and two Sigerson Cup medals in 2013 and 2015.

Donal made his debut for the Roscommon senior team as a 20-year-old in 2013 against Sligo and played an integral part in landing the 2017 Connacht title in addition to two National League Division 2 medals in 2015 and 2018. While still at the height of a busy playing career Donal has already begun his managerial career as he has guided the club's Under 20 team for the last two years.

Enda's talent and skills were evident from an early age as he came up through the ranks of Boyle and Roscommon GAA. He has enjoyed a fine underage career with Roscommon and is one of an elite group to have won two Connacht medals at both Minor and U21 levels. Enda also had a fine colleges career capturing both a Freshers

All Ireland medal and a Sigerson Cup medal with DCU.

Since making his senior debut in the 2013 National League, Enda has been an integral part of the Roscommon team. He delivered a Man of the Match winning performance in the 2017 Connacht Final. Indeed, Enda's performances that year earned him an All-Star Nomination and a place on the International Rules team making him Boyle's first ever representative to earn these accolades and is captain of the county senior team.

Whilst Mike, Mary, Cian, Donal and Enda are familiar names within the GAA family and further afield, Mike and Mary's second son Ronan will be well known to many who have met him in his travels as he supports his brothers on the fields of play. A keen athlete who runs marathons, Ronan's career as a nurse has now taken him further afield to work in the Middle East.

Boyle GAA are rightly fiercely proud of the Smith family and their unwavering dedication to the club.

RENAULT GAA WORLD GAMES 2019 OFFICIALLY LAUNCHED

Renault Ireland has been announced as the title sponsor of the 2019 GAA World Games, which were officially launched at Croke Park today and will bring some 1,300 players from 10 regions around the globe home to play this summer. Renault Ireland is also the official car partner of the GAA and GPA.

This will mark the third-ever staging of the competition with the 2019 Renault GAA World Games set to be the biggest and best yet.

The initial stages of the event will be played out at the Sports Campus of Waterford Institute of Technology in Carriganore from July 28 to August 1, with the finals taking place on August 2 at Croke Park.

In keeping with the tradition of other GAA festivals, visiting teams will be twinned with local clubs throughout Waterford to enhance the social and cultural element of the Games.

There are now more than 400 GAA Clubs in existence outside of Ireland and this is reflected in the presence of 97 teams that are confirmed for the Renault GAA World Games and representing clubs from across

Europe, New York, USGAA, South Africa, Argentina, Canada, Britain, Australasia, India, Asia and the Middle East.

World titles for Football, Ladies football, Hurling and Camogie will be on offer with competing teams made up specifically of native born or Irish born players.

There will be eight finals in all on a hectic day of international activity at Croke Park and with four finals staged for Irish-born players in Football, Ladies football, Hurling and Camogie and then another four finals for native born players competing across the four codes.

In total it is anticipated that approximately 5,000 people will be involved in this year's Games between players, team officials, administrators, families and supporters.

The Renault GAA World Games 2019 will showcase the extent to which the passion and participation for Gaelic Games has now spread far beyond our shores and will acknowledge the keepers of this flame. The collage of international colours on parade will also be made possible by the on-going support of official kit suppliers O'Neills.

Their announcement as title sponsors of

Wicklow footballer, Patrick O'Connor, Westmeath footballer Boidu Sayeh, Dublin footballer Lyndsey Davey with Kilmacud Crokes, and former Clare and Dublin manager, Anthony Daly, at the Renault GAA World Games 2019 Launch at Croke Park



the World Games enhances even further the growing positive relationship between Renault and the GAA.

In addition to the World Games, a three-year partnership as official car partner to the GAA and GPA cements Renault's ongoing support for GAA heroes on and

off the field. Renault Ireland has been the county sponsor for the Westmeath senior and minor football and hurling teams since 2014, and together with Joe Mallon Motor Group, the brand recently announced its sponsorship of the Wicklow county senior football team for the next three years.



Uachtarán Cumann Lúthchleas Gael John Horan said:

“One of the great privileges of the GAA Presidency has been the opportunity to see at first hand the phenomenal growth and development of Gaelic games overseas and witnessing the success of World GAA.

“GAA Clubs abroad provide an invaluable service to the Irish Diaspora establishing a home from home and are proving increasingly popular with non-native Irish won over to the skills of football, hurling and camogie.

“The Renault GAA World Games is a celebration of this success story. It reflects

the world-wide popularity of Gaelic Games and I want to acknowledge Renault for their invaluable support in assisting us in the 2019 event.

Patrick Magee, Country Operations Director, Renault Group Ireland said:

“We are delighted to be the title sponsor of the 2019 GAA World Games and look forward to working with the Association and the players as official car partner of the GAA/GPA over the next three years. The GAA is such an integral part of communities across Ireland and around the world, as demonstrated by the success of the GAA World Games, and we look forward to a successful Games in Waterford

Uachtarán Chumann Lúthchleas Gael John Horan, right, with Patrick Magee, Country Operations Director, Renault Group Ireland, at the Renault GAA World Games 2019 Launch at Croke Park

in late July. GAA already plays a key role in our business model, as well as within our 26 dealerships, and we are excited about this partnership and getting on the road in 2019 and beyond.”

Marie Hickey, President of the Ladies Gaelic Football Association, commented:

“We are looking forward to a festival of Gaelic Games in Waterford later this year, and it is great to see such strong representation once again from Ladies Gaelic Football. The Renault GAA World Games continue to go from strength to strength and the LGFA is delighted to play a part in such a prestigious event.”

Kathleen Woods, Uachtarán Cumann Camógíochta said:

“I am looking forward greatly to welcoming all of the teams who will take part in this year’s Renault GAA World Games which were a tremendous success in both 2015 and 2016. It is particularly heartening to see the huge rise in the number of native Camogie teams taking part in this year’s event which highlights the growth of our game to new audiences around the world. All of the teams can expect a warm welcome to Waterford in July in what promises to be a great occasion to create new bonds and friendships as we showcase our unique games.”

The GAA will have dedicated social media channels covering the Renault GAA World Games and news and events surrounding the Games can be found at:

Instagram: [@gaaworldgames](https://www.instagram.com/gaaworldgames)

Facebook: [@GAAWorldGames](https://www.facebook.com/GAAWorldGames)

Twitter: [@gaaworldgames](https://twitter.com/gaaworldgames)

Web: www.gaa.ie/worldgames

Web: www.renault.ie

For further information on the Renault GAA World Games please contact GAA international Officer Aine Gibney on 01 865 8620 / ann.gibney@gaa.ie

For further information on Renault Ireland, contact Roisín O’Hea, O’HEA PR : 01 6608524 / Mobile +353 (0)86 2430839/ roisin@oheapr.com

ALCOHOL AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION PROGRAMME

The positive impact of the GAA's Alcohol and Substance Abuse Prevention (ASAP) Programme since its inception in 2006 cannot be truly measured.

When it comes to reducing alcohol harm for players and fans, the GAA is already leading the way with the long-standing ASAP Programme – a collaboration between the GAA and the HSE designed to reduce the harm caused by the misuse of alcohol and other substances.

Since 2014, there has been no sponsorship of any GAA competition by an alcohol company, and no senior inter-county team has an alcohol sponsor. In 2018, the GAA partnered up with the HSE's Ask About Alcohol campaign to encourage fans to 'Drink Less and Gain More – on and off the pitch', offering members a positive way to bring the ethos of the ASAP programme to life and provide an opportunity to lead by example when it comes to our younger members.

Like the introduction of the Codes of Best Practice and Behaviour for Children, the ASAP programme encourages proactive steps designed to enhance the positive experiences our members accrue from engagement with the GAA, and hopefully encourage them to realise

some of those health-related benefits in their everyday lives as well. At any level drug and alcohol related issues can be a complex area and provides challenges and dilemmas for anyone faced with dealing with such issues on the ground. The first step a club can do is to develop and adopt the ASAP policy.

The policy outlines the positive culture a club can promote and offers guidance on how to educate and respond to alcohol and drug related issues should they arise. Clubs that implement the ASAP programme will be able to...

- 1. Prevent alcohol and other drug related problems from occurring**
- 2. Educate members about relevant issues**
- 3. Respond appropriately should an issue arise**

The positive message of the ASAP programme will remain one of the foundation stones of the Association's work in the area of promoting health and wellbeing.

The following resources are available to help clubs implement the ASAP Programme; *Template and guidelines on how to develop and implement an ASAP policy, ASAP manual, ASAP flyer, ASAP Club Matters DVD, Coaching for Confidence SAOR booklet and links to external partners.*



All resources are available at
www.gaa.ie/community

LÁ NA gCLUBANNA 2019 – GET ACTIVE, GET INVOLVED



A booklet advising clubs on communicating the day, budget and fundraising, volunteer recruitment and activities, can be downloaded from

www.gaa.ie/my-gaa/getting-involved/la-na-gclubanna

“The vision of the GAA is that everybody has the opportunity to be welcomed to take part in our games and culture, to participate fully, to grow and develop and to be inspired to keep a lifelong engagement with our Association.”

Lá na gClubanna is a day when clubs will have the opportunity to showcase all that is

positive about Cumann Lúthchleas Gael in communities the length and breadth of the country and of course internationally too.

This activity has been a feature of our club network for many years and in many instances our club units organise these events on an annual basis. Last August we also had the Gaelic Sunday Centenary celebration which

was another chance for Club's to show their pride in their place and role in their community.

This is an opportunity for the GAA to highlight the important role of members, players, sup-porters' and families in our Association and for the local community to have fun. It will also provide clubs with

an opportunity to engage with potential new members.

Bainigí sult as an ócáid agus go néirí go geall leis cibe áit in a bhfuil sibh ag caomhnú agus ag spreagadh ár gcluichí agus ár gcultúr.

Le gach dea ghuí,
**Micheál Mac Concharraige, Cathaoirleach
Coiste Náisiúnta na gClubanna**

GENDER DIVERSITY WORKING GROUP

The recently established Gender Diversity Working Group has now commenced its work which will see them publishing a draft Gender Diversity Policy document by the end of 2019, in addition to agreeing a discussion document on the impact and implications of the policy document on the GAA.

The policy document will cater for all age groups and once the draft has been proposed, follow up consultations will commence in 2020.

The working Group includes nominees from the GAA, LGFA, Camogie and Cumann na mBunscol and is Chaired by the GAA Child Safeguarding Manager Gearóid Ó Maoilmhichíl.

The working group also includes a number of external persons who have vast experience in the area of gender diversity in Ireland.

Given the absence of detailed discussion or policy documentation relating to gender diversity in Sport in Ireland, the Working Group is anxious to give our membership the opportunity to submit their views or suggestions on our work. Any suggestions or submissions may be forwarded to genderdiversity@gaa.ie and all submissions will be acknowledged.



CUMANN LÚTHCHLEAS GAEL GNÓTHACH AG CEILIÚRADH SHEACHTAIN NA GAEILGE



Bhí an-spórt agus spraoi ag clubanna agus ag contaetha de chuid Chumann Lúthchleas Gael ag ceiliúradh Sheachtain na Gaeilge i mbliana. Eagraíodh na céadta imeachtaí ó cheann ceann na tíre agus bhí an Cumann an-lárnach sa cheiliúradh iontach seo ar an nGaeilge a dhéantar chuile bhliain.

Mar chuid de cheiliúradh CLG ar Sheachtain na Gaeilge go náisiúnta tugadh faoi na rudaí seo a leanas:

An Fáinne

Ag tús na seachtaine fógraíodh plean Chumann Lúthchleas Gael an fáinne a chur chun cinn i measc bhaill an Chumainn. Bhí

Comhairle Uladh, ach go háirithe, an-ghníomhach agus iad ag chur chun cinn an fháinne ar a gcuid ardán cumarsáide féin.

Tuilleadh eolais anseo:

www.gaa.ie/news/paul-conroy-agus-declan-hannon-ceaptha-mar-ambasadoiri-ar-phlean-clg-don-fhainne/

Leanfar ar aghaidh leis an bplean seo de réir mar a théann an bhliain ar aghaidh.

Spotify

Cuireadh an chéad seinnliosta oifigiúil #GAAGaeilge amach ar spotify le linn na seachtaine. Is féidir éisteacht leis an seinnliosta anseo:

<https://open.spotify.com/user/y2622b0suk0btaxvrbs4iwu9h/playlist/3OpKanzCX854d2yNz7TViD?si=qrn-r8LeT0mqnlmORbrBw>

Athrófar an seinnliosta seo ag amantaí éagsúla le linn na bliana.

Podchraoladh

Cuireadh an dara heagrán den phodchraoladh amach le linn Sheachtain na Gaeilge agus is féidir éisteacht leis ag an nasc seo a leanas:

www.gaa.ie/news/tomas-o-flathara-faoi-agallamh-ar-phodchraoladh-gaagaeilge/

Bí ag fearadh amach do go leor podchraolta eile ón gCumann de réir mar a théann an bhliain peile agus iomána ar aghaidh.

Músaem

Eagraíodh 'Lá Gaeilge' sa Músaem i bPáirc an Chrócaigh agus bhí deis ag lucht Gaeilge turas timpeall ar Phairc an Chrócaigh a dhéanamh trí Ghaeilge.

Bhí an-tóir ar na himeachtaí agus ar na tionscadail seo go léir. Is féidir tuilleadh eolais a fháil fúthu ag jamie.otuama@gaa.ie

#GAAGaeilge Abú!



Name: Michael Devlin

Job title: Communications assistant

GAA Club: Stewartstown Harps

Honours won: Minor Club Championship, All-County Junior League

No of Years working for the GAA: Not quite a year (10 months)

Favourite Club Memory:

Without a doubt, winning the Tyrone Minor Grade 3 Championship in 2008. After near misses in semi-finals and finals at U14 and

U16 level, my age-group eventually got our hands on some silverware at U18. It was a roller coaster of a final. We threw away a nine-point lead and trailed by one deep in injury time, but we managed to get two scores right at the end to clinch it! I'll always remember the emotion at the final whistle, as my friends and I were part of an age group who'd never won an honour for the club and were always falling short, so to eventually get over the line in our last year of underage football is extremely memorable.

Favourite Inter-County GAA Memory:

Being from Tyrone, it's hard not to say anything other than 2003. I was lucky enough to be in Croke Park on all three of our All-Ireland wins in the 2000's and I have vivid memories of them all, but the first one will always be the sweetest. I was just 11 years old then, but to see grown men of my father's age - and older - overcome with emotion after waiting a lifetime to see a Tyrone man lift the Sam Maguire, it was really special.

What does your club mean to you?

It means representing your little patch of the county and being proud to be from there, no matter where you go in the country. The people in your club are more than just team-mates or managers or coaches, they are next-door neighbours, they are lifelong friends, and they are family. When I look at the club crests from each county on the wall outside the GAA Museum, I can point to the Stewartstown Harps crest among the many hundred and say with pride - "That's my club".

What do you like most about working in Croke Park?

There's the small things like being able to go for a puck around in the Dressing Room 1 warm-up area during lunchtime, or just having a bit of chit chat about the weekend's games when you meet someone on the corridor. Then there's the obvious things like walking into the home of the GAA every day, looking out over the pitch each morning, and being able to meet the biggest names in Gaelic Games at events and match days. It's been, and continues to be, an amazing experience.



Name: Kelly Cunningham

Job title: Data Protection Officer

GAA Club: Wolfe Tones na Sionna
Honours won: My playing career never amounted to much - All Star Supporter is about as good as it got for me!

No of Years working for the GAA: 1

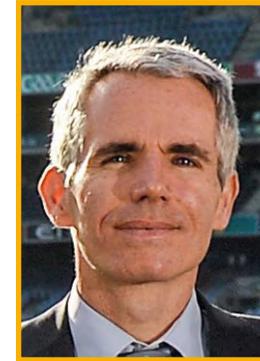
Favourite Club Memory: The 1997 All Ireland Club Hurling Final. My Dad was manager at the time, and although I was quite young I can distinctly remember the buzz in the house and around the town before the

big day out in Croke Park. The run our hurlers went on in 2015 winning the Clare and Munster Intermediate Championships is also a fantastic memory I have of the Club. Seeing my two brothers win their first titles together was very special.

Favourite Inter-County GAA Memory: 28th September 2013 and the week (or two) that followed! My brother was playing for Clare at the time so the build up to the final and later the replay was immense. I have never felt elation like it - I can't even imagine what it must be like for the lads on the pitch. My whole family were together in the stand and there were plenty of tears shed. It's a memory I will hopefully have with me forever. An rud is annamh is iontach!

What does your club mean to you? The Club is what binds our community in Shannon together. As well as the social aspect of travelling to matches together, the Clubhouse is where medal presentations, birthday parties, christenings, funerals and everything in between take place. My family have all been heavily involved in the Club and the importance of the Club has been ingrained in me from a young age. It's the craic at matches and the support when times are low. In a funny way, the fondest memory I have of the Club is my Grandad's funeral last year - The Club held a guard of honor and the Church was full of green jerseys and WTNS tops. Its that interconnection between Club and family that makes it so important and so special. The older I get the more I realise how important the support system of the Club really is.

What do you like most about working in Croke Park? Monday mornings and Friday afternoons. The chats pre and post match days are always the best part of the week. I consider myself extremely lucky to be working somewhere with so many people sharing a passion for the same thing and driving up to the Davin every morning is a view that will never get old. My favourite part of my role in the GAA is the people across the Association I get to talk to on a daily basis. Getting the chance to connect with Clubs across Ireland and the world is definitely the best part of my job.



Name: Fergal Ormsby

Job title: National Financial Accountant

GAA Club: Current Clane GAA (Kildare) U9 Mentor and Club Treasurer
Formerly Garrycastle (Athlone Co Westmeath) Player & Assistant PRO
Honours won: Several underage medals football (Garrycastle & Southern Gaels Hurling).

No of Years working for the GAA:10

Favourite Club Memory: Garrycastle seniors winning the Leinster Senior Club

Football Title in December 2011(First and only Westmeath Club to do so) and the club reaching the All Ireland Club Final in March 2012(defeated by Crossmaglen Rangers (Armagh) after a replay.

Favourite Inter-County GAA Memory: Westmeath winning the Leinster Senior Football Championship in 2004 (for the first and only time so far!).

What does your club mean to you?

In the GAA's own manual for clubs the Association itself states that: "The GAA Club is the bedrock of every Irish community and provides an organised structure from which great community spirit is generated." From some sporting bodies a line like that might be seen as an inflated sense of their own importance but for virtually the entire island of Ireland, and a growing number of places around the globe, the GAA really is the heart of the community.

You're playing with your best friends, your club is always where your home is, where your heart is. The club is always where it will be and it has to be for the ethos of the GAA to work. The club is the most important thing and is the rock on which the GAA stands.

What do you like most about working in Croke Park?

The opportunity to work with like minded people to myself on a daily basis. In the current working environment that togetherness is vital to success.

OUR TEAM – YOUR TEAM

Meet some of the Croke Park staff putting their GAA passion and knowledge to good use

SPRING INTO ACTION WITH CLUASÓG THE IRISH HARE AT THE GAA MUSEUM - JUNIOR EXPLORER TOURS TO RESUME OVER MIDTERM

Attention mums, dads and junior GAA Fans! Are you looking for a midterm or Saturday morning activity that's a bit more exciting than a trip to the playground? Are you searching for something to do with your kids that's both fun and interactive?

The GAA Museum at Croke Park has announced the return of its wildly popular Junior Explorer Tour for young families on Saturday mornings from February 23rd February until May 18th. And for all those mums and dads scrambling for something different to do during the midterm break, an additional date has been added to kick start the season early this Friday February 22nd.

The family-friendly tour, created to bring the home of Gaelic games to life with all its magic for younger visitors, was a sell-out success last year with the country's littlest GAA fans taking over the iconic stadium every Saturday morning.

On arrival, your family will be greeted by the GAA Museum's mascot, Cluasóg the Irish hare, who can't wait to meet and have his photo taken with a whole new bunch of friends!

Next you go behind-the-scenes and learn fun facts about the GAA and Croke Park.

During the Stadium Tour, your intrepid little explorers will get to visit the team dressing rooms and warm-up area and run out pitch-side through the players' tunnel – a highlight for any GAA fan or aspiring young star!

Back at the GAA Museum, children will then receive a Junior Explorer Passport so they can follow clues throughout the Museum to ensure they fully engage in the tour with their guide. They'll discover some of the museum's most famous exhibits including the original Sam Maguire and Liam MacCarthy cups along the way. If the group find all the clues, all younger visitors will receive a special Junior Explorer badge and sticker pack!

Another highlight for many boys and girls (and mums and dads!) is the museum's Interactive Games Zone, where the future All-Stars can test their own hurling and football skills. Who's the fastest in the family? Find out by measuring the speed of your strike as you hit a sliotar down the hurling alley or test your goal scoring ability with a family and friends football challenge!

Junior Explorer Tours are recommended for all family members but will be of particular interest for children of 8 years of age and under. Children must be accompanied by an adult.



Tours will depart from the GAA Museum at 10.30am and will continue on Saturday mornings (subject to GAA fixtures) until May 18th.

Junior Explorer Tours lasts approx. 1.5 hours including time in the museum and a meet and greet with Cluasóg. The route is fully wheelchair and buggy accessible.

Advance online booking is recommended. Free parking is available and the museum's Blackthorn Café will be open for a snack afterwards.

For more see www.crokepark.ie/juniorexplorer

Tour prices

Adult: €14
Children (ages 3 – 12): €9
Under 3 years: Free of charge
Students / seniors: €11
Family (2 adults & 2 children): €38
Family (2 adults & 3 children): €40



Football

Hurling

Club

General

MÍLE BUÍOCHAS



GAA MONEY AT WORK

GAA Finance – Supporting GAA Clubs

Every year the GAA reinvests back into the development of our Clubs and the communities and people they are proud to serve.

Your support of our games matters.

Míle buíochas

€2.5m invested in 424 club redevelopment projects in 2018

€11.1m invested in GAA coaching and Games Development and also funding Cúl Camps, Féile, Go Games and Five Star Centres

345 coaches working with clubs and schools nationwide

€9m spent assisting 6,233 injured club players in 2018

€200,000 shared between Club teams that win a senior county championship and play in the AIB club championship.

€375,000 shared out for Senior, intermediate and junior club champions who take part in the All-Ireland series

€120,000 for free training of club officers advancing roles of Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and PRO.

€365,000 cost of the fixture management system is covered by Croke Park

€237,000 invested in 2018 in GAA Community and Healthy Club wellbeing initiatives in a partnership with Irish Life

€1.6m raised by Clubs for Clubs in the National Club Draw with all prizes provided by Croke Park

€9.7m currently being loaned out to Clubs via the Development Fund

42 new club applications for loans worth **€2.8m** being assessed

EOCHAILL ÓG / YOUGHAL GAA SIGNS UP WITH REFILL IRELAND

Single use plastic water bottles are a great source of plastic pollution and litter. As a method to encourage the use of reusable water bottles Youghal GAA is signing up to Refill Ireland to promote to Club members, players, visitors and members of the public that they can fill their water bottles at our outdoor tap.

It is estimated that 26 million tonnes of waste plastic is produced in Europe annually with experts claiming that, by 2050, we could have more plastics than fish in our oceans.

Ireland is the worst offender when it comes to plastic waste, with over 60kg being generated per person per year.

As a thriving and successful GAA sports club Youghal GAA knows that hydration is an essential part of playing sport, we know too that unfortunately single use plastic water bottles are the most common item littered on the Club premises. As a way to address this and encourage the use of reusable water bottles Youghal GAA is partnering with Refill Ireland to encourage the public to get tap happy and switch to reusable water bottles, as concerns on plastic pollution increase.

Refill Ireland is an environmental initiative aiming to make Irish towns and cities tap

water refill friendly for everyone while on the go. We locate and encourage the creation of locations where filling your reusable water bottle for FREE from an increasing number of refill stations becomes an easy to do everyday habit helping hydration and ultimately protecting our environment from bottle waste.

According to Martha Doyle of Cork Environmental Forum: "People want to help stop plastic pollution, and Refill puts the power in people's hands to do that. We are very proud that Youghal GAA is coming onboard and showing itself to be a great community leader in this field to other sports clubs around the country."

In December 2018 the Taoiseach Leo Varadkar announced plans to phase out single-use plastics across all government departments and agencies.

For Eochail Óg Chairman Hugh Dorrian "When this initiative was brought to our attention we didn't need much convincing that this is a very good idea for both the community and for our club. It's a great privilege to be able to play a small part in influencing young peoples habits around the use of plastics. I'm delighted that Youghal GAA has stepped up to reduce plastic-bottle waste, which ultimately will help to keep Youghal streets, beaches and water free of waste plastic."



Eochail Óg Chairperson Hugh Dorrian with young Eochail Óg players and members launching Youghal GAA's Refill Ireland plastic bottle initiative



THE COUNTDOWN TO FÉILE 2019 IS ON

What is Féile?

The John West Féile na nGael and Féile Peile na nÓg tournaments are club festivals for Hurling, Football, Camogie, Rounders and Handball at Under 14 years of age level. Teams from every county in Ireland as well as overseas are invited to take part. The national Féile committee, appointed by Uachtarán CLG, has the responsibility for the organisation of the tournaments. A local organising committee is appointed to manage much of the day to day activities.

In 2019 Féile Peile na nÓg is being hosted by Connacht, while Féile na nGael is being hosted by Corcaigh.

When will Féile 2019 take place?

Féile na nGael will take place on Friday, June 7th

– **Sunday, June 9th**

Féile na nÓg will take place on Friday, June 28th

– **Sunday June 30th**

Who takes part?

Participating teams are either host clubs or visiting clubs. The host clubs come from the organising counties. Host Clubs in Féile na nGael are from Cork and Kerry, while the host Clubs for Féile na nÓg are from Connacht (Galway, Leitrim, Mayo, Roscommon, and Sligo). Visiting clubs are clubs nominated by their respective counties. Generally, these teams are nominated by their county having won the local Féile competition. Invitations also are extended to the various overseas units of the GAA to send teams.

The number of visiting teams is decided by the number of hosts available. These are currently being finalized.

Are all teams 15-a-side?

All Football, Hurling and Camogie games shall be played on a 15-a-side basis, unless the national Féile committee has decided that particular divisions can be played at 13/11/9-a-side. This is agreed based on the requirements of the local organising committee.

Do we play on a full-size pitch?

15-a-side and 13-a-side games are played on a full-sized pitch

How old can players be to take part?

The age grades for Féile are the same as for Under 14 football and Hurling county competitions. Players who are over 10 and under 14 years of age on 1st January in the year of Féile are eligible; this means that any player that turns 11, 12, 13 or 14 in 2019 is eligible to take part.

Any player that is eligible to play Under 10 Hurling or football in 2019 is too young.

We have both boys and girls teams, can we take part in both competitions?

Yes, any club with both boys and girls teams can take part in both competitions. Please note that you will have to host both a boys and girls team.



Ballyboden under 13 boys' football team were selected as winners of the John West competition as part of their sponsorship of the Féile. John West has sponsored the Féile since 2016 and throughout the sponsorship, John West has focused on encouraging children to participate in Gaelic Games while emphasising the importance natural protein plays in fuelling a young athlete. Pictured is Paul Mannion with Leon Murphy, age 13, with Luke Fitzpatrick, age 13, both from Knocklyon and Ryan Culleton age 13, from Rathfarnham, during the John West Training Session with Paul Mannion at Ballyboden St Endas GAA in Ballyboden.



Leah Cummins from Turloughmore GAA Club in Co. Galway in action during the John West Skills Day in the National Sports Campus on Saturday 23rd June. The Skills Day is an opportunity for Ireland's rising football, hurling & camogie stars to show their skills as part of the John West Féile na nÓg and John West Féile na nGael competitions



We have two Under 14 teams – A and B – and we take part in our county competitions, can both take part?

Yes, both teams may be entered in to the Féile.

We are combined with another club at Under 14, can we take part?

Yes, Independent Teams are permitted once they participate in the local county Under 14 competitions that year as an Independent Team.

It is not permitted for two or more clubs to try to form a specific Independent Team in order to take part in Féile.

HOSTING

Hosting is a key part of the ethos of Féile. Host clubs are paired with a visiting team. The players and mentors from the visiting teams stay with members of the host club, and games take place on the host club's pitch. Host families should be well known to club officials and are required to comply with vetting procedures.

How many players and mentors stay?

For the 15-a-side competitions, panels are a maximum of 24 players. Where a division is 13-a-side, the panel limit is 20 players. There is also a limit of four mentors.

Players are hosted in pairs by members of the host club. There is no obligation to host more than 24 players.

We are entering both boys and girls teams, what does this mean for hosting?

As you are entering a boys and girls team, you would host both boys and girls teams. Where players are hosted by a local family it must be based on either two boys or two girls, rather than mixed – i.e. one boy and one girl.

Is it mandatory to host a visiting team?

To take part as a host club, yes, it is a requirement that you host a visiting team.

How do you decide who we host?

Each host team is graded into the appropriate division by the local organising committee. At the same time, the national committee grade the visiting counties. A draw is then completed matching each host team with their visiting counties. As each county competition is concluded and teams are nominated as visiting teams, clubs are put in touch with each other.

We already have a relationship with a club from another county that is travelling to Féile. Can we be paired with them?

Unfortunately, this cannot be guaranteed. The timing of the local competition in the visiting counties varies. In some cases, the Féile tournament is the first tournament of the year, taking place in February/ March, however many visiting counties complete their competitions in April. To be as fair as possible to the visiting teams – especially those travelling from overseas, the draw is made in early in the New Year. This is to allow the parents and supporters of any visiting team book accommodation.

FÉILE COMPETITION STRUCTURE

What is the format of the competition?

Generally, there are 16 teams per division. Each division is divided into four groups of four teams – A, B, C and D, composed of two host clubs and their visiting teams. The initial stages of the National Féile will be played on a league basis, with each team playing three games. Within the round robin stage, two points are awarded for a win and one for a draw.

The top two teams in each group shall qualify for the Cup quarter finals with the 3rd and 4th placed teams qualifying for the Shield quarter finals. The Cup and Shield tournaments are then played off on a knock out basis.

Who decides what division we play in?

Grading is the process of ranking all the host and visiting teams into the appropriate divisions. The local organising committee will grade the host clubs. This is based on the local grading for U14 that year, and also on previous year's activities at U12 and U13 as appropriate.

The visiting counties are graded by the national Féile committee.

How many games are played, and when?

The final fixtures schedule is agreed with the local organising committee. Usually, there are two games played on the Friday evening, with the final group game played on Saturday morning. Generally the Friday evening games are played at one of the two host clubs, usually where there are two or more pitches. The Saturday morning game is played between the host and their

visiting team, and takes place at the host club venue.

Upon completion of the group games the teams are ranked.

The quarter finals are played on Saturday afternoon/evening, with the semi-finals and finals played on Sunday morning/ afternoon.

All teams are guaranteed three games and all teams will play up to the quarter final stages.

How long is each game?

All games are played at 15 minutes per half.

We only have one pitch, is that ok?

Absolutely. The specific details of all the fixtures will be agreed with the local organising committee and will be adapted to suit clubs regardless of the number of pitches that they have. The Friday games as well as the knock out games generally take place in multi pitch venues, but again this will be decided closer to the tournament weekend.

TAKING PART IN FÉILE

How do we enter?

To enter Féile as a visiting team, you must firstly compete in your local County Féile tournament. To enter as a host teams must complete and return the application form before the agreed deadline as previously circulated to potential host teams.



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.

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