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GAA



LEINSTER

Comhdáil Cinn Bliana
2019



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CLÁR

12.30 pm	Lunch
2.00 pm	Opening Of Convention (a) Guest Speakers (b) Minutes of 2018 Convention (c) Discussion of Annual Report
3.00 pm	Election of Leas - Cathaoirleach Nua
3.15 pm	Adoption / Review of Accounts of Comhairle Laighean
3.30 pm	Address by outgoing Cathaoirleach Séamus Ó Bolgúir
3.45 pm	Election of 1. Cisteoir Nua 2. PRO Nua
4.00 pm	Na Rúin
4.15 pm	Address by Cathaoirleach Nua Pádraig Ó Teachain
4.30 pm	Convention Closes

Each County is entitled to the following Delegate representation at Convention, in addition to its two representatives on the Provincial Council

Ceatharloch 4	Cill Mhaintain 4	Iarmhí 5	An Mhí 6
An Lú 4	Longphort 4	Cill Dara 5	Uibh Fhaili 4
Cill chainnigh 4	Laois 5	Átha Cliath 6	Loch Garman 5

NOTE

Leinster Council delegates cannot be proxied in an election

NOTE

Micheál Mac Raghnaill (Rúnaí)
Áras Laighean, Portlaoise, Co. Laois



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Ainmniúcháin

CATHAOIRLEACH:	Pádraig Ó Téacháin	(Uibh Fhaili)
LEAS-CATHAOIRLEACH:	Deasún Ó hAilpín Deiric Ó Ceannt	(Lú) (Loch Garman)
CISTEOIR:	Deasún Ó hAilpín Deiric Ó Fathaigh Colm Ó Fionnagáin	(Lú) (Longphort) (Cill Mhantáin)
OIFIGIGH CAIDHREAMH POIBLI:	Pádraig Ó Laighneach Páraic Ó Suilleabháin	(Iarmhí) (Laois)

Na Rúin

Comhairle Laighean Bye Laws 2020 COMHAIRLE LAIGHEAN C.L.G.

A. In accordance with Rial 3.29 T.O. 2019 Comhairle Laighean C.L.G. shall consist of a Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Treasurer, Public Relations Officer, Chief Executive Officer (full-time secretary) without voting rights and two representatives of each county. The immediate past Council Chairperson shall be an ex-officio member for the year following termination of office.

The Leinster Handball Council, the Leinster Higher Level Colleges Council, the Leinster Post-Primary Schools Council, and the Leinster Primary Schools' Committee shall each have one representative, without voting rights, on the Council.

B. In accordance with Rial 3.32 T.O. 2019, Comhairle Laighean C.L.G. shall appoint the following Sub-Committees whose duties and functions shall be as set out in Rule.

1. MANAGEMENT AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

There shall be a Management and Finance Committee which shall consist of the Comhairle Laighean Officers, plus four named representatives of the Council, two nominees of An Cathaoirleach and Rúnai of the Council (without voting rights) subject to approval of Comhairle Laighean CLG, four County Chairpersons (without voting rights) on rotation for 1 Year (i.e. over the term of Cathaoirleach Comhairle Laighean 12 County Chairpersons will have served on the Committee.

Quorum: The quorum shall be one quarter and not fewer than three of the members entitled to attend and with voting rights.

2. COMPETITIONS CONTROL COMMITTEE

There shall be a Competitions Control Committee which shall consist of the Cathaoirleach, Chief Executive Officer (without voting rights) the Leas Cathaoirleach, Treasurer, P.R.O., six named representatives from the counties on Comhairle Laighean C.L.G. (not represented on the Hearings Committee), 1 named representative of the Post Primary Schools and 1 named representative of Third Level Colleges.

(a) It shall have the authority to delegate appoint Sub-Committee(s) whose membership does not necessarily come from the members of C.C.C. to be responsible for the Management of Provincial Inter Club & Inter County activities other than Inter Club and Inter County Championships other than disciplinary matters which remain the responsibility of C.C.C..

(b) The Competitions Control Committee shall appoint a workgroup to appoint Referees and Match Officials as required for Competitions within the jurisdiction of Comhairle Laighean C.L.G. as provided for in Rial 3.30 T.O. 2019 and shall report as required to the Competitions Control Committee. The workgroup shall consist of an Officer (who shall act as Chairperson) two other voting members of the Competitions Control Committee and the Provincial Referees Administrator and a maximum of two other members.

3. HEARINGS COMMITTEE

There shall be a Hearings Committee which shall consist of a Chairperson and Secretary, and three other named members appointed by Comhairle Laighean C.L.G., six named representatives from the counties on Comhairle Laighean C.L.G. (not represented on the C.C.C.) who shall be elected on a rota basis on the nomination of their respective counties and the Chief Executive Officer (full-time secretary) whose only function shall be to act as a non-voting secretary to the Hearings Committee when dealing with Appeals. It shall consist of at least three members for any hearing.

(a) It shall adjudicate on all disciplinary matters where a hearing is prescribed and requested relating to the Enforcement of Rules arising from games under the control and jurisdiction of Comhairle Laighean C.L.G. and on reports arising from the Provincial Competitions Control Committee or its Sub-Committee.

(b) The Vice Chairperson of Comhairle Laighean may nominate an extra member to be added to the Hearings Committee during the year prior to the election of the following Chairperson. The appointee should be the Vice Chairperson's proposed nomination as Chairperson of the Hearings Committee during his/her term as Chairperson of Comhairle Laighean. This appointment shall be approved by Comhairle Laighean C.L.G.

(c) Whereas provided for in Rule 7.14 T.O. 2019 a newly Constituted Hearings Committee is required for a re-hearing or re-processing of a case the Cathaoirleach, Comhairle Laighean, may recommend for appointment by the Management and Finance Committee temporary members for the Hearings Committee and such temporary members do not have to be members of Comhairle Laighean.

4. COACHING AND GAMES DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

There shall be a Coaching and Games Development Committee whose named members are appointed by Comhairle Laighean on the recommendation of Leinster Management and Finance Committee.

It shall be responsible for monitoring and evaluating County Performance in Games Development

5. PUBLICATION RELATIONS/MARKETING COMMITTEE

There shall be a Commercial & Communications Committee, whose members are appointed by Comhairle Laighean on the recommendation of Leinster Management and Finance Committee. It shall be responsible for the development and implementation of all Marketing and Public Relations Strategies and advise Comhairle Laighean on these and related matters. It shall assist County PRO's and where necessary provide adequate training and support. It shall report to the Management and Finance Committee.

6. CULTURE & COMMUNITY COMMITTEE

There shall be a Culture & Community Committee, the Executive of which shall consist of a Chairperson who shall be appointed by Comhairle Laighean; two Scór representatives and two Coiste Gaelige Laighean representatives.

7. COMHAIRLE IARBHUNSCOILEANNA LAIGHEAN

There shall be a Post-Primary Schools Sub-Committee known as Comhairle Iarbhunscoileanna Laighean which consists of

- Chairperson appointed by Comhairle Laighean
- Secretary who shall be the Provincial Post Primary Schools Officer.
- Named Representative on Comhairle Laighean.
- Named Representative from each County Post-Primary Committee.
- Provincial Schools Servicing Officers.

The Council Committee has the authority to add other personnel when deemed appropriate.

The Committee shall appoint a Competitions Control Committee which shall be responsible for all arrangements and control of games under the jurisdiction of the Post-Primary Schools Committee and matters arising from same, other than those functions reserved to the Provincial Hearings Committee, the Central Competitions Control Committee, the Central Referees' Appointments Committee and the Central Hearings Committee.

Quorum – 3 members.

CCC shall hear objections and Counter Objections arising from and games under its control.

It shall investigate and process matters relating to the Enforcement of Rules and Match Regulations, other than those functions reserved to the Committees (dealing with disciplinary matters) stated above.



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Disciplinary Matters (games related) – where a hearing is requested – shall be referred to the Leinster Hearings Committee.

CCC may appoint work groups to deal with delegated matters/activities i.e. Additional Competitions.

CCC, together with Provincial Coaching and Games Development Committee, shall be responsible for organising (a) Games Programmes for Post-Primary Schools in Leinster (b) Promotion of Development of Gaelic Games in Post-Primary Schools (c) Accepting Affiliations from School Year to School Year (d) Grading and Re-grading

The Committee shall report to Coaching & Games Development Committee.

8. REFEREES ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

There shall be a Referees Administration Committee which shall consist of the Provincial Referees Administrator (who shall act as Chairperson) and the Referees' Administrators of the twelve Counties in the Province.

The Secretary of this Committee may be one of the County Referees' Administrators or an additional person appointed by Comhairle Laighean C.L.G.

9. PLANNING & PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

There shall be a Leinster Infrastructure Safety and Insurance Committee whose members are appointed by Comhairle Laighean on the recommendation of Leinster Management and Finance Committee.



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Miontuairiscí De'n Chomhdháil Bhliantiúil - 25.1.2019

Seamus Uas. O Bolguidhir (Cathaoirleach) presided at An Chomhdháil Bhliantiúil Comhairle Laighean CLG, held in the Knightsbrook Hotel, Trim on 25ú Eanáir 2019. Present also were: Padraig O Teachain (Leas-Cathaoirleach); Padraig O Laighneach (Cisteoir); Mairtin O hAllmhurain (PRO); Declan Mac A Bhaird (Cumann na mBunscol); Labhras O Curtain (Iarbhunskoileanna); Sean O Maolmhuaidh (Liathroid Laimhe); Micheal O Maonaigh, Micheal O Faolain (Ceatharloch); Sean Mac Nicholas, Tomas O Se (Ath Cliath); Sean McMathuin, Mairtin de Faoite (Cill Dara); Seamus O Fionnalaigh (Cill Chainnigh); Paschal Mac Aodhbhuí, Tomas Mac Seoin (Laois); Gearoid O hAgain, Deric O Fahaigh (Longphort); Deaglan O Broin (Lu); Brendan O Coimin, Prionsias O Loinsigh (An Mhi); Dolores O Sleibhin, Seosamh O Briain (Uibh Fhaili); Micheal MacAodh, Albert O Labhraí (Iarmhi); Maire Ni Foghlu, Diarmuid O hUilin (Loch Garman); Chris Ui Conchubhair (Cill Mhantain) and Micheal Mac Raghnaill (Runai).

The following represented the Counties at Convention:

Ceatharloch:	Micheal O Dorain
Ath Cliath:	Bernie Ui Lochlainn, Donal O Cerin, Micheal O Saomhar, Seamus de Roiste Sean Mac Seanlaoch, Sean Mac Coisdealbha.
Cill Dara:	Micheal O Fionnain, Micheal O Gormain, Gearoid O Donnaile, Nollaig O Maonaigh, Alan O Duinin, Daithi O Cathail.
Cill Chainnigh:	Conchur Denieffe, Seamus Breathnach, Padraig Mac Aindreas, Vail O Maoileoin, Barra O hIci.
Laois:	Gearoid O Caomhanaigh, Monica Ui Dubhshlaine, Padraig O Suilleabhain, Tomas O Cleir.
Longphort:	Eamonn O Raghallaigh, Eoghan O Muireartaigh, Peadar O Raghallaigh, Sean O hAnnain.
Lu:	Padraig Mac Mathuna, Prionsias O Ciaran, Muiris Mac Enri, Roibeard O Duchanna.
An Mhi:	Ciaran O Floinn, Deasun O Muirchearthaigh, Peadar O hAllmhurain, Sean O Caomhanaigh, Seasun Pluinceid, Seamus O Maolmhuire.
Uibh Fhaili:	Niall O Gliasian, Brendan O Muineog, Seosamh O Briain, Padraig de Scealas
Iarmhi:	Maitiu O Conactaigh, Liam O Murphy, Prionsias O Dooncha, Seosamh O Mairtin.
Loch Garman:	Donncha O Nuallain, Tomas O Riain, Deric O Ceannt, Gearoid Mac Daibhead, Mairead Ui Dhuill.
Cill Mhantain:	Mairtin Mac Ghearralt, Mairtin O Colmain, Eoin O Dubhghaill, Liam O Broin
Sub Committees	Risteard de Buitleir (Coisde Eisteachta), Donal Mac Gabhann, Sean O Bannain (Coisde Reiteoiri), PS O Ceallaigh (Infrastructure), Deasun O hAlpin (Post Primary)
Iar-Oifigigh	Albert O Falluin, Nioclas O Braonain, Liam O Neill, Micheal O Dubhshlaine, Padraig O Flannagain, Tomas O Fearghail, Sean O hUaine, Sean Mac Carthaigh, Padraig O Tomhnair, Sean S Breathnach
Others:	Cait Ni Slattaire, Caoimhin O Flannagain,
Aras Laighean:	Seamus O Dubhain, Alan O Maolchathail, Seaghan O Flannagain, Sean Mac Fachtna, Sean de Brun.

Apologies for inability to attend had been received from: Micheal O hAolain (Ard Oideachais); Liam O Diomsaigh (Cill Chainnigh); Padraig O Conchuir (Lu); Micheal O Murchu (Cill Mhantain); Seamus Aldridge, Seamus O Beara, Sean O Broin, Seamus de Grae, Sean O hOrain, Sil O Mearain, Mairtin O

Oscailt

Mairtin O hAllmhurain (PRO) formally opened Convention.

Failtiu

Peadar O hAllmhurain (Cathaoirleach, Coisde Co. na Mi CLG) welcomed Convention to the Royal County.

Miontuairisci (26.1.2018)

Adopted and signed by an Cathaoirleach on proposition of Deaglan O Broin seconded by Seosamh O hUigin.

Corporate Trustee

A presentation on the above was presented by Cait Ni Shlattaire (Bainisteoir Airgeadais Náisiúnta).

Games Development

A presentation on Games Development was presented by Alan O Maolcathail and Seamus O Dubhain

Report of CEO Comhairle Laighean & Sub Committees

The reports by CEO and Comhairle Laighean Sub-Committees - adopted.

- GAA Conventions**
Padraig O Teachain (Leas-Cathaoirleach) stated he agreed with the sentiments of the report re the present day benefit of the present format of Conventions.
- Under 20 Football Inter County Dates**
Micheal O Saomhair (Ath Cliath) expressed reservations of both clubs and Coisde Co. Ath Cliath regarding the dates of the Under 20 Football Inter County League 2019.

In reply, An Runai stated that if it was a matter for the province only, probably March would be the preferred option to play the said competition but are constrained by the Official Guide.
- Fixture Certainty**
An Runai commented on the demands for Fixture Certainty across the board but to do so there has to be an acceptance of more games to 'finish on the day'.
- Discipline**
Risteard de Buitleir asked counties to assist the Hearings Committee in their work - he highlighted a number of cases during 2018 that were heard by Leinster Hearings Committee and had no compelling evidence to offer them wasting everyone's time.

Annual Accounts 2018

Padraig O Laighneach (Cisteoir) presented the Accounts to Convention. The Annual Accounts were adopted on the proposition of Prionsias O Ciarain, seconded by Gearoid O Caomhanaigh.

Address by an Cathaoirleach

The Cathaoirleach, Seamus O Bolguidhir addressed Convention as enclosed.

Election of Officers

All Officers were returned unopposed on the proposition of Peadar O hAllmhurain, seconded by Francis O Loinsigh.

The Convention Ended

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Chairmans Address to Convention

Iar-Uachtaráin, iar oifigighm agus a dhaoine uaisle tá fáilte romhaibh uilig chuig Comhdhail Cinn Bliana Laighean i Óstán Knightsbrook anseo i mBaile Átha Troim anocht.

Firstly I would like to thank Meath GAA on their invitation to hold our convention here tonight in the historic town of Trim. We were here recently enough as we launched very successfully, our Senior Football Championship and utilised the magnificent back drop of the Castle for our photo-shoot.

Our Sporting Fields 2018

Hurling

After an enthralling round robin series Galway the reigning all-Ireland champions at the time team needed two bites at the cherry before they overcame Kilkenny in a sweltering Thurles to retain their provincial title. Kilkenny were at the time the recently crowned 2018 Alliance League Champions and proved once again that kittens in Kilkenny take very little time to turn into cats! Once again the Bob O'Keefe crossed the Shannon and subsequently Galway came very close to retaining their all-Ireland crown when they lost out to Limerick by the narrowest of margins.

2018 was the year we welcomed Galway into our u/21 championship and they took full advantage by winning the silverware but only after a memorable epic against Wexford that went all the way to the wire in extra time. Hurling folk are still talking about this one.

Imagine scoring 7-12 and ending up on the losing team well that fate befell the Kilkenny minor hurlers who lost out to a Dublin team that scored 6-19 in a game which was a true score-fest. Ironically, Kilkenny went onto the all-Ireland final while Dublin were defeated at the all-Ireland semi-final stage by the eventual winners Galway.

It should be noted that Kilkenny played a total of 10 games, none were replays losing 3 times including the All-Ireland Final.

Wexford won the Walsh Cup in a history making final in Nowlan Park as they won it after a draw - in a 65m free taking competition.

In a battle of the blue and gold colours Longford came out on top by the narrowest of margins to defeat Wicklow in the Bord ná Mona Kehoe Cup.

Club Hurling

In the final Ballyhale Shamrocks put in a fine display to defeat Ballyboden St. Endas. I wish them the best against the Munster champions Ballygunner and I believe that they can go all the way!

Kilkenny champions won both the intermediate and junior titles. Unfortunately Graigue-Ballycallan lost out by the narrowest of margins last weekend in the All-Ireland semi-final. However, Dunamaggin are through to the All-Ireland final and I wish them only the best in the quest for that additional piece of silverware.

The following won Leinster Senior club league honours which are much valued competitions:-Shinrone, Belmont, Eire Og CorraChoill and St. Kevin's Dublin, well done to all.

Hurling Monies

Three of our four designated Counties this coming year will operate in the Joe McDonagh cup. Progress with these counties is evident in many ways but particularly when we look at the support mechanisms all have in place around their teams.

Congratulations to Carlow the inaugural winners of the Joe McDonagh a great achievement as the competition was keen and turned up many excellent matches. They are now replaced by Offaly who it has to be said were very competitive last year and their addition this year, I am sure, will make the McDonagh cup very interesting again this year.

Ideally, I would like to see more Leinster teams compete in the Bob O'Keefe however, we are where we are as they say but it is something I will push for in the near future.

With this particular project pre-spend approval continues, accordingly I would like to acknowledge Nickey Brennan and the lads who have worked tremendously hard on this project from the out-set.

Football

Dublin footballers were the masters once again, breaking their own record by winning their 8th Leinster title in a row against somewhat of a surprise package in the guise of Laois, who built on their Alliance National League Division 4 title which capped a very successful year for them.

However, magnificent Dublin crowned their year by going all the way winning a record equalling 4 Sam Maguire's in succession - a magnificent achievement by any standard particularly when we factor in what is required to win at this ultra-competitive level and I would like to commend them for that.

Kildare were the inaugural winners of the u/20 championship and used their victory as a springboard to go and win the ultimate prize which based on their performances throughout the year was fully merited.

Meath won the inaugural minor title at u/17 level however, and unfortunately for them, they succumbed to a fine Galway side in the all-Ireland semi-final.

Our Bord na Mona O'Byrne Cup final was played later in the year than usual, in May between neighbours - ultimately Meath coming out as victors over Westmeath.

Our junior champions were Kildare who turned in a fine performance in the final however,

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they came up short against a fine Kerry team in the all -Ireland semi-final.

Well done to all our foot-balling champions!

Club Football

A day that will live long in the memory -Mullinalaghta's historic defeat of Kilmacud Crokes in Tullamore. This was a proper 'David versus Goliath' contest - of course as we all know we would never have heard of David if he was the same size as Goliath!

I now wish Mullinalaghta the first Longford team to achieve this feat only the best against another Crokes team this time of the Killarney variety in the All- Ireland semi-final and I hope they go all the way.

Unfortunately our intermediate and junior champions Two-Mile House (Kildare) and Young Irelands (Louth) respectively, lost out narrowly at the All-Ireland semi-final stage just last weekend. Commiserations to both teams especially after showing so much promise in our own championships.

Coaching and Games

Once again this is the area where we have our biggest spend and 2018 was no exception in this regard. As you have heard through Pat's report earlier we have had a significant increase in spending here, attributable in the main to the East Leinster project specifically with the recruitment of staff and it should be noted that this project is in year 2 of 3.

While development of our players is extremely important so is 'bang for our buck' accordingly, we would like to see a return on our investment and in this regard we need to be relentless with regard to oversight mechanisms which is essentially measuring performance. However, I think you will agree that the lads in their earlier presentation gave all of us very good insight into depth and breadth of their work in this very important area.

As you will have noted the TURAS initiative has blossomed which is very welcome relative to empowering our club coaches. This initiative I believe will only go from strength to strength and clubs are the real beneficiaries.

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Mile buíochas to our Chairman Liam who has been busier than ever since her retired from the day job! Well done to him and the team who did a great job for us over the year and as we know Liam does not confine his efforts for us just to coaching and games I thank him for that.

Health & Wellbeing / Games for All

Once again I must commend the great work being undertaken by the Health & Wellbeing and Games for All Committees under the direction of Brian Carberry and Pat Lynagh respectively. While there is a push at Central level to amalgamate both committees I feel they operate better as separate entities. The size of our province must be taken into account and in addition, we must factor in the sensitivities of all of our relevant stakeholders.

In the 'Games for All' sphere worthy of mention once again is the success of our wheelchair hurlers as they retained their championship and league titles. Well done to all concerned - what an achievement.

Additionally, I would like to acknowledge and commend all involved in our special schools football where we run provincial blitz competitions culminating with a day out in Croke Park where excitement and un-bridled joy are commonplace. No money can buy this type of enjoyment.

In the Health & Wellbeing arena we are well aware of the pressures on our current day players. Gambling is a massive issue with online platforms so readily assessable - it poses a huge challenge for us, especially as there does not appear to be a silver bullet cure in this regard. It is in all our interests to address this.

Social media has its positives however, with the advent of the so called keyboard warrior brigade whose faceless comments have had detrimental effects on many of our players and mentors alike. This is another area of huge challenge for us as there is seemingly very little we can do.

Associating the word warrior with them and their antics is I believe wholly inappropriate - to my mind the term 'keyboard cowards' would be more apt. However, balanced and objective comment is always welcome.

Cross-County Competitions

As previously mentioned the Senior Hurling Leagues are becoming increasingly more popular. Surpassing them is our underage cross county leagues with a massive take-up. This is a hugely positive initiative in relation to developing players and teams as they are exposed to regular meaningful games that will stretch them in a suitable fashion.

Referees

Referee support continued at apace under the guidance Donal Smith and John Bannon and I would like to acknowledge and thank all concerned. Abbotstown continued as the venue for fitness preparation /testing and presentations. Our coaching and games staff were extremely supportive and I would like to thank in particular Colm Clear and Emmett Egan in this regard.

Anyone who ever refereed or tried to ref knows how difficult a task it can be and we are lucky in Leinster to have so many quality refs however, with retirements and recruitment proving difficult we will have to make additional efforts to sustain and hopefully enhance the numbers.

Our fixtures schedule in 2018 posed many problems for us when it came to finding officials. In relation to encouraging more refs to come on board a few things are worth trying-

1. Eradicate abuse of refs -this applies all round i.e. players, mentors and spectators.
2. Full support of refs on disciplinary matters i.e. eroding the culture of trying everything in the book in relation to getting a player off. We all know right from wrong from an early age however, if a mistake was made by a referee it will be fairly apparent from early on I believe.
3. Not excluding top refs at 50years of age if they fulfil all the relevant criteria.



In relation to the recently tried and ongoing rule experimentation I am satisfied the refereeing viewpoint was taken on board.

Where we can we should try and make the referee's lot easier an easier lot particularly in relation to our club refs and the suggestion in some quarters of having a second referee to me seems nonsensical.

After all we have 4 refs and 4 umpires officiating at our top games –how many more officials do we really need? Perhaps we should empower support officials more!

Finally it was great to see that we piloted umpire training which by all accounts was very well received.

Finances

Pat presented our positive accounts earlier however, they do come with a health warning. Hurling for the first time ever outshone the big ball on gate receipts.

The drawn replay of the hurling was a great help but we cannot afford to rest on our laurels. In relation to football we had three of the less populated Leinster Counties in our semi-finals with Laois going through to our final. While we did not get our usual take through the turnstiles this is not necessarily a negative as we cannot underestimate the knock on, positive injection football and the GAA in general has received in the counties of Carlow, Laois and Longford as a direct consequence of their progress. This is an intangible that I believe is well worth the hit in the pocket and perhaps is also a wakeup call for some other counties as well.

Football has received much bad press of late. It is understandable that we get criticism from outside our great association but it galls me when the berating in this regard comes from within. Football has evolved, possession is king, after all the opposition as we know cannot score when you have the ball.

Yes I accept there are issues with football and we have tried and are continuing and will continue to address those issues. At present we have many of the fittest, strongest, smartest and most dedicated players playing our game than we ever had. The recently commissioned ERSI report found that our top players are putting 31 hour a week into our games. They are measured and analysed like never before. What kind of a message are we sending to them? What kind of a message are we sending to our young aspiring players who also love our game? What do they think when they hear some iconic foot-balling people state that they cannot watch our great game anymore – we have a duty to those players not to go down the populist route. We must I believe stand up for our games! As we know life is change and change can be a challenge.

Back to the financial situation, overall I satisfied that we are in a position to add to our capital fund which is important as we know we have many 'mouths to feed,' so to speak. Well done and a big thank you to Pat and John Brown for doing a fine job for us.

Infrastructure, Safety & Insurance

Congratulations to Laois who are in the final phase of their Centre of Excellence and to Longford who are near completion of their works on Pearse Stadium. Meath and Kildare are well advanced with their County Ground up-grade plans and Louth have made significant progress in Dundalk since ending their stadium plan venture in Drogheda. Westmeath have taken a very practical approach in relation to their plan which is in its infancy and I commend them for that.

Prudence is the key word for all projects of this scale and we must develop for our actual needs to ensure the final build is 'fit for purpose'. Of course proper planning can serve to ease the financial burden.

The maintenance and upkeep of our facilities must also be factored in- as sometimes we neglect the ongoing operational and depreciation costs which can be significant.

Mile buíochas to Croke Park for the provision of the increased development fund grants.

Once again we were in a position to top-up the grants this year. Without the development officers within each county we would find it difficult to ensure that the works have been undertaken satisfactorily - a big thank you to all.

Safety

Our safety team continued their great work with club and county alike. In addition, they work closely with our insurance members in an area that is proving more problematic for us. This time last year I highlighted the changes that we needed to see in relation to the amount of third party events, the use of prohibited activities, record keeping and additionally the need to notify the insurance officer as soon as practicable after an accident or incident. Alas, that seems to have fallen on deaf ears given the financial hit we are facing. As I said last year it is easier to save money than it is to fundraise for it.

Our committee plays a very important role for us so to PJ and all the members a very big thank you.

Scór

On what is a very important year for Scór its 50th anniversary we will on the 10th March next hold the Senior Scór finals in the National Opera House in Wexford. In this iconic venue we already held the Scór Na nÓg finals on the 13th of the month last and the venue seemed to have brought out the best in the participants who set a very high standard. To mark this special year for Scór we have provided perpetual cups for all 14 competitions. 'Netwatch' have kindly sponsored these cups for us and I would like to acknowledge their support and generosity in this regard. In addition, I wish all our provincial winners the very best at the National Finals. Finally, Mile buíochas to Catherine, Áine and the committee who have excelled once again this year.

PR & Marketing

Through our organisational review we identified a resource gap here I would like to take this opportunity to welcome John Haughney to our ranks. Additionally, I would like to thank Cian Murphy for his great work for us over the last number of years and wish him the best in his Croke Park role.

Overseas

Overseas playing numbers are on the rise again. The commitment and dedication of our overseas units is best exemplified by Amsterdam when they participated in our junior club championship, covering the costs of the trip to Dublin, primarily out of their own pockets. Just compare that with how difficult it sometimes to get club membership from our own players here in Ireland. The sustainability of overseas units relative to resource requirements is a real challenge for us. Factoring in the diverse range of teams, nationalities and cultures, we, I believe have to have a wider conversation on this entire area. To provide clarity and direction an agreed policy is required which I believe will give comfort to overseas units in relation to where they actually sit within the GAA world.

Handball

Well done to our handball arm throughout what was an extremely busy and successful year. Thanks to John for keeping us very well informed through his comprehensive reports at our council meetings.

Discipline

Our hearings committee met on 23 occasions last year which is the record. They dealt with a massive workload stretching our volunteers to the limit. It is incumbent on all counties to ensure that CCC and hearing committee members are familiar with our official guide and disciplinary handbook. This is of particular relevance where there are many new members on committees. In this regard it is very disappointing that only one of our counties asked for a disciplinary workshop to be held. If more would avail of the expertise on our committee it could serve to make us a lot more efficient and effective on disciplinary matters especially in relation to our volunteer's time.

To Dick Butler, John Byrne and the hard working committee a big thank you.

Reflection

At this time of the year we often reflect on all the great gales we have lost in the last year and in this regard I would like to pay tribute to all the families, clubs and counties who have lost loved ones.

Michael our CEO has paid tribute to Paddy Clarke of Louth who had a unique coaching personality and did great work for us and of course Seamus Howlin of Wexford in his report.

Just a short year ago Seamus was with us at convention and addressed us as Chair of the National insurance committee. He fought his illness with great dignity and fortitude. Seamus as we know was long time PRO, a former vice-chair and chair of Leinster who oversaw the redevelopment/upgrade of Aras Laighean on foot of the foresight of another chairman Seamus Aldridge in relation to the purchase of the property. He was a very affable man and had friends the length and breadth of the province and further afield given his varying roles at National level and overseas. Our thought are with his wife Vera and his family and all families who suffered loss - Ar dheis Dé go raibh a h-anamnacha.

Challenges/Issues

Ticket prices are the latest hot topic. It hard to credit but the issue was raised in the Dail – more populist rhetoric. Our association recycles somewhere in the order of 82cent out of every euro we take in, surpassing all other organisations including charities. Therefore we are in a very strong position to defend our position on this, after all our clubs ultimately will be the beneficiaries.

Based on the National Club committee's survey 'empowerment' is the most important issue for clubs at present. We have to answer their call in this regard. Initiatives like Turas and Officer Training is already serving to address this I believe. However, we have to sustain our efforts and try where we can to reduce the bureaucratic burden on club officers which is a big deterrent to recruiting volunteers.

We are currently exploring the provision of more supports to Counties where skill-set deficiency has been identified as an impediment to progress. Areas such as finance, marketing, IT are typical of the deficiency areas identified.

As alluded to earlier to 31 hours a week our inter-county players are putting into their hobby - is this sustainable? Players at this level are younger and younger, many are students or are in careers that are compatible with this level of commitment required. Team preparation costs are well documented at club as well as county level.

It is now the entourage that are adding to our woes more and more. Our units have to become more self-sufficient in this regard and if we implement our mandatory coaching standards they should help – as ever with anything we deem to be mandatory is difficult to implement or police.

Ard Stiúirtheóir

In relation to our new Ard Stiúirtheóir Tom Ryan I would like to take this opportunity to formally acknowledge his appointment and wish him well in his tenure in this very challenging role.

ÁrasLaighean Staff

As ever the loyalty and support of staff in Aras Laighean is truly appreciated and our units throughout the province benefit in the main in this regard.

To the officers, volunteers and staff in each County throughout the province a big thank to you all for the welcome and courtesy shown to me over the year which is much appreciated.

It is my hope that we have supported you and served you well over the last year and rest assured that we strive to continually improve on that.

To the members of all our sub-committees a big thank you for all your work over the year and a special word of thanks for those of you who are leaving us at this juncture.

Through all our honest and open discussions by our management committee I would like to thank you for your support an input throughout the year.

To the 2 Pats and Martin my fellow officers a sincere thank you for your commitment, work and support at all times.

Go raibh maith agaibh go léir agus ar araighaidh linn le chéile.

Seamus Ó Bolgair,
Cathaoirleach, ComhairleLaighean.

Túairisc An Runaí

Report Of The Secretary





Introduction

Last season saw some tremendous action throughout the Province. The abiding memory for many will be of the history that was made. In terms of hurling the resurgence of the Model County while in football the continued excellence of Dublin. As we look forward to 2020 it is important to look back at what worked, or didn't, from last years Championships.

A Change of format in the Walsh Cup saw Galway, Kilkenny and Wexford join at the Semi Final stage following a round robin between Carlow, Dublin, Laois and Offaly. The Tribesmen ultimately emerged victorious with a win over Wexford in Enniscorthy.

The Kehoe Cup had a dramatic finish as it became the first Hurling game in the Province to be decided on penalties. Westmeath once again claimed the silverware meaning an extremely successful Leinster Series for the Lake Land County.

The Kehoe Shield was contested by DCU St Patricks, Longford and Louth. The Wee County repeated their Round Robin victory over DCU to claim the 2019 title.

Bórd na Móna have been excellent sponsors of the Leinster Series since 2012 and I thank them on your behalf for their commitment over the years.

Senior Championships

The hunt for the Bob O'Keefe Cup served up arguably the most exciting fare of the GAA Year. Who could have scripted such drama that would unfold on that faithful Saturday night in June? Following the full time whistle in Parnell Park and Dublin beating Galway by 4, mathematical experts were called into action when Kilkenny and Wexford ended level. A 4 way tie at the top saw the Westerners exit on score difference with old rivals Kilkenny and Wexford through to the Leinster showpiece.

June 30th and 51,000 patrons in Croke Park were treated to an enthralling battle which ultimately saw Davy Fitzgerald return the Model County to the Leinster summit after a 14 year wait.

The scenes that followed over the coming weeks showed just what Provincial glory can mean. Special mention must be made to Carlow who performed admirably on the return to the Leinster Championship, their 1st Round performance in Salthill a particular highlight. It is important now, that practical and realistic structures are in place in good time for post 2020.

The opening rounds of the Leinster Senior Football Championship served up some intriguing match ups. Louth left it late to win in Wexford, while Wicklow and Offaly gave both Kildare and Meath respective scares. The Quarter Final stages saw two double headers taking place with Dublin proving too strong for Louth and Meath likewise for Carlow.

The other side of the draw proved closer with Laois overcoming our O'Byrne Cup Champions by 2 points, while Longford staged a late comeback to force a replay with Kildare. The Lilywhites ultimately ran out victors the 5 following weekend. The Semi Final stages proved disappointing with both games being decided early on.

This set up the most traditional of Football Finals with Meath and Dublin facing off. The final itself did not live up to the billing with it proving to be one of those days for the Royal county, who I'm sure will go on to prove that day was a blip in the coming years. Having successfully retained their Leinster title Dublin duly made history by claiming their 5th All Ireland crown. An incredible achievement by a superb panel of Players and Management.

Leinster GAA

Comhdháil Cinn Bliana



Leinster GAA

Comhdháil Cinn Bliana



Club Championships

The AIB Club Provincial Championships have just reached their conclusion and as usual they served up great excitement and storylines.

In hurling there was a clean sweep for the Cats but St Mullins were undoubtedly the team of the Championships. Their victories over Cuala and Rathdowney-Erill added an exciting and welcome dimension to the year. In the Final they more than held their own with the reigning All Ireland Champions. In the end Shamrocks Ballyhale were worthy winners in their quest for back to back All Irelands.

The Football Championships served up similar excitement with Éire Óg and Ballyboden St Endas lighting up the early rounds. On what was a tough day for football it was Dubliners who ran out the winners just holding on over the resolute Carlow side.

The Intermediate championship through up a surprise package with Kilkenny Champions Mullinavat going further than any Nore side before. However, the ultimately came up just short against a strong Mattock Rangers side who look to be returning to their best. In the Junior Championship the victory went to the South East as Rathgarogue Cushinstown won over Clann nan Gael of Meath.

U20 Championships

With the inception of the U20 Developmental League the Leinster U20 Football Championship reverted to Winner on the Day format. There are mixed views as to the success of this League.

From a Leinster perspective we had winners in 2 of the 5 Divisions with Offaly and Laois claiming honours. The U20 scene suffers greatly from a Governance perspective, or rather lack of same. To me, it appears that at this age grade we vote one way and subsequently act another.

On the field holders Kildare fell at the first hurdle to Laois. They in turn took care of Westmeath and Meath to set up a final clash with Dublin. In a final that unfortunately failed to live up to its counterpart of the previous year, Dublin ran out comfortable victors. They went onto to ultimately lose the All Ireland in one of the games of the year.

In hurling the same format as 2018 was used the level of success and positivity achieved is all relative. Offaly hurling became energised as their young players went on a run of 4 Championship games. Having accounted for Carlow and Westmeath they took on Dublin in Parnell Park. After a titanic struggle the Offaly men had a solitary point to spare. They came up just short against Wexford in the Semi Final. Kilkenny put pay to Galway on the other side of the draw and our 3rd Kilkenny Wexford Final of the year was set up. The Noresiders this time emerged victorious. While Offaly had 4 games this year some sides only had 1.



Minor Championships

This year's Football Championship saw all 12 Counties participating. In what proved to be an inconsistent Championship. Kilkenny made the welcome return to the championship, but it ultimately proved to be just beyond their current level. I hope in time they can again re-enter the main Championship. Kildare and Dublin overcame

Laois and Westmeath respectively to set up a final clash in Navan. In a high scoring encounter, extra time was needed before Kildare were crowned Champions. In the Seamus Heaney Cup Longford retained their title with a workman like display over Wexford.

In truth, the structure of the 2019 Hurling Championship did not deliver. There is a widespread acceptance that at the current time Dublin, Kilkenny and Wexford are considerably ahead of the rest. With the exception of the Kildare and Laois game, both Tier 2 & 3 were uncompetitive. Kildare went on to have a fantastic run in the Championship defeating Offaly in the Quarter Finals and pushing Kilkenny all the way in their Semi Final.

The other side of the draw saw Wexford overcome Laois and then Dublin in a thriller to set up an age old clash. The Model County ran out winners in Croke Park by 4 points in what was an exciting game.

When it comes to Championship and Competition Structures we must always have an open mind. With particular attention being paid to demands on players, we at Leinster have changed our own structures a number of times in recent years.

One positive is the openness and honesty with which Counties assess their own abilities ahead of each season. With the current gulf in class set to continue, we may be facing into a reality of a 2 or 3 Tier Championship. If this were to be the case the 3rd Tier, at least, would have to operate on a nationwide basis.

The present situation of a second round robin is unsustainable. It is my hope that with openness and frankness we can come up with some viable alternatives. This should, now in particular, be the case with the emphasis on Minor Level being developmental. As I see it we are currently left with 2 options –

1. The top teams in Leinster, Munster and Galway all participate in All Ireland Series only. From a Leinster perspective, the remaining Counties plus Antrim, Down, Derry and Kerry would compete for the Leinster Championship.

Or

2. The second option would see Galway enter the Leinster Championship. This may not rest easy on all - including myself - shoulders. Presently Galway have a distinct advantage when it comes to the Celtic Challenge and Minor grades. I believe that were Galway to participate in Leinster the All Ireland Semi Finals be abolished, with the final being a straight contest between Leinster and Munster winners. This would mean the revamp of our own Championship in its entirety but so be it.

Myself, I would question the validity of All Irelands as we know them for this age group. With the move towards a more development mindset we could well look to the Celtic Challenge Model for a positive Template.

Junior Football

This year saw 6 Counties participating in the Junior Football Championship. This resulted in another Kildare Meath Final. In what, it must be said, was an entertaining final it was the Royals who ran out victors by 2 points.

This Championship is one that attracts little or no interest from both spectators and participating Counties alike, and yet we persist. It was, this year, the recommendation of Leinster CCC that it be discontinued. There has also recently been calls for an U23 grade here, which would run concurrently with the Senior Championships. Whether there are changes in the immediate future remains to be seen, currently we are where we are!



Urban Rural Issues

It is predicted that the population in the east of the country will grow by an additional 500,000 people by 2030. This is now just a decade away and it is imperative we as an organisation begin to plan for that challenge. National and local government planning and development policies are now focused on providing residential housing in well-serviced urban areas and this is and will create difficulties for local communities and not least the GAA Clubs.

Under the Chairmanship of Pat Teehan our own Urban/Rural Committee has identified the challenge and engaged with senior officials in the Dept of Rural Community Development this year and outlined in particular the importance of sustaining clubs in rural areas as they create activity and keep these communities vibrant.

The committee has also collaborated with the National Community Development Urban-Rural Committee on their demographic pilot study ongoing in Westmeath. That committee is piloting a GIS Mapping Tool that is linked to CSO data and will ultimately give us a better understanding of the profile of our communities and participation in the GAA.

This project highlights how this is a national issue primarily but equally we locally in the province have a role to play and we should be proactive in engaging with local agencies and influencing the provision of playing fields for our games and youth.

It is essential sport is accessible to our youth and with society becoming more urbanised we need to ensure our great games are sustained in these areas too. In this regard we need to be innovative in meeting our future infrastructure needs and also practical and not over-develop in areas when perhaps sharing with partners internally and externally is the better way.

Our committee long identified a good games programme as being essential and to this end be that at club or schools level we need facilities to provide a meaningful programme and season of games - but in a targeted way. I would urge County Committees to reflect on their own situation and think ahead to ten years' time and start planning now. With a number of County Development Plans up for review opportunities exist to engage with Local Authorities.



Reports & Changes

The Fixtures Task Force issued its Report in November 2019. There are occasions when we set the bar so high it is impossible for a Report to satisfy our expectations. Perhaps this was the case with the most recent Report. Nevertheless of the 32 proposals many of them are of the practical nature. Similar to other Reports it is unfortunate that we are still relying so heavily on Congress to give the implementer to policy, rather than Central Council.

The Report contains two proposals re Inter County Football with particular emphasis on the provincial structure. Yes if we could have a blank canvass we would more than likely go with 4 regions of 8 counties each. However this would not necessarily result in equal population basis. Such a divide could be well suited to football but hardly for hurling!

Reference is made from time to time of vested interests by the provincial councils. This charge at the provinces does not reflect the reality - Provinces exist because the counties (to date) want it that way. There is much more to a provincial council than inter county championships. Perhaps the range of shared services that a province provides to its respective counties, clubs and education sector is the fundamental reason there is no inclination presently to change the current structure.

Back to the Provincial Senior Football Championship. I suggest that for our province a round robin format for counties in Division 3 and Division 4 prior to joining the Division 1 and 2 counties in the Quarter Finals is worth consideration

- it is only a few short years ago that such a motion at Congress had significant support just failing to get the needed requirement of two-thirds. Why not examine the feasibility of having the said structure for 2021.

When Convention day arrives the HR Review is anticipated to be in its concluding stages. Whether or not it was necessary to contract consultants to this exercise is questionable, but the following are definitely a must for the Association;

- Adhering to all aspects of legislation re the work place
- Effective Governance
- Reporting lines
- Know how many employees work for the Association.

It is vital that once and for all our HR department at National level is adequately staffed to provide the necessary service to the Association across the country.

Since June the Talent Academy and Player Development Report has been in the public domain. At times there was a danger that it would be swamped by the relatively long running saga of Age Grades. Hopefully the Age Grades issue will be finally legislated this year. The Association must accept, for a variety of reasons, that a clean break between Juvenile (Under 17) and Adult is in the best interest of our players. Furthermore we are excellent at publishing Reports, but in many cases that is as far as they get. The Report gives much food for thought. It is the blueprint to ensure that as many Juveniles and young adults participate and enjoy our games.



Games Development

2019 was a significant year for Leinster GAA Games Development with notable growth across our three focus areas - club support, providing games opportunities and coach development.

Our TURAS club support program has had a major impact in only its second year of existence. It has enabled us to interact with 3,000 club coaches around the province. In this model our staff hold regional workshops where age appropriate coaching, utilising the 5 TURAS Principles are outlined.

These Principles in question are;
T - Testing & Challenging: All players should be challenged to improve at their level,
U - Understands the player is at the centre of the game and provides individualised development
R - Resembles the gaem (game base)
A - All players involved, all the time, lots of touches, lots of decisions
S - Should be an enjoyable, developmentally appropriate and holistic GAA experience

Coaches who attend these workshops are then supported in their clubs on at least two more occasions. Thus by engaging on a one to one level with our staff it is hoped that practical advice can be given to the teams they are working with.

Clubs are hugely appreciative of the increased presence of our staff on their pitches from week to week and seeing the benefits of more informal coach education supports.

A comprehensive reporting system has been created to track this large volume of work, allowing us to critically assess our impact on a club by club basis around the province. and help us to support the backbone of the association - our clubs!

As a finale to the years' work in this sector, our Games Development team held two provincial workshops in the new indoor arena at the National Sports Campus in Abbotsstown. Both these days were coach education of the highest quality in a world class sports arena and the feedback from coaches has been phenomenal. The TURAS club support programme will continue to grow in the coming years

Another aspect of the TURAS programme is to focus on educating coaches at Academy Squad and County minor level, using the 5 TURAS Principles to promote a player centred approach in place of a "win at all costs" approach.

Each county has appointed a member of staff as Talent Development Leader to oversee this coach development in their county and we are seeing great improvement in this area around the province.

In November all county minor management and a selection of those coaches working at Academy Squad level were invited to attend the Leinster GAA Talent Development seminar, in the Tullamore court hotel over two days. Drawing on the excellent knowledge of presenters Áine McNamara, Niall Corcoran, David Gough, James Owens, Jack Cooney along with our own staff members, coaches were wholesome in their praise for the seminar and we plan on this becoming an annual fixture in our coach education calendar.

Such an open forum for coaches from competing counties to share ideas is a first at minor level in the organisation and is an indication of a refreshing changing approach to coach education in our games. Having reviewed the Talent Academy & Player Development Framework recently published by Úachtarán John Horan, we are confident that much of the work being carried out in this area is aligned to the recommendations, however we look forward to a more structured implementation of the same in 2020.

Our greatest challenge at youth level continues to be one of providing a consistent season long games program in all our counties. The number of clubs and the strength of both codes in certain counties make this problematic to achieve which has led us to the creation of our Leinster Cross County league



at U13 & U15 level. In 2019 over 200 Teams took part across both codes. While we see a continued growth in entry every year, we would love to a much greater uptake in clubs increasing the length of their season to combat player drop out.

As with every year our hardworking schools' fixtures team of Noel Delaney, Tadhg Doran, Hannah Horan & Pat Henderson are busy providing a huge programme of games to youth players from September right through until May.

Huge thanks are due to the many teachers who give up so much of their time in this area. Thanks also to the many different key holders at a variety of venues all over Leinster. In excess of 1600 games involving 224 schools are played in Post Primary Schools competitions throughout the year in Leinster.

Other competitions that fall under the remit of Games Development to deliver include Celtic Challenge, Talent Academy Games Program, National Féile, and Regional Féile & Leinster Adult Hurling League. While this leads to a large demand on staff time, all are crucial to supplementing the programme of games in place by counties and enhance the offering to players aged 13 – adult.

The Kelloggs Cúl Camps continue to be the national flagship project for the recruitment and retention of players. The last decade has seen remarkable year-on year growth in participation.

A record 154,868 children took part in 2019 with Leinster accounting for 55,752 (36%) of the total figure. With such large-scale numbers, challenges around coach to child ratios are proving more difficult each year and we are certainly close to reaching our maximum numbers.

In 2019 a more competitive workplace led to a difficulty in many counties recruiting the number of coaches required while other venues simply did not have the facilities (pitch space, dressing room space, toilets etc) to cater for another increase in numbers leading to many camps limiting their numbers. Sustaining our current numbers and less of an expectation on increases will be the focus for 2020.

On a similar theme, we continue to support national projects such as 5 Star Centres, Super Games, Future Leaders and World Games at both provincial and county level on an ongoing basis.

This year will mark the end of Pat Daly's role as National Director of Games and we would like to acknowledge the huge support he has been to our counties over the last number of decades. Pats vision for the role has been outstanding and his work rate was insatiable during his countless visits to our counties.

Overall staff numbers have increased in the province in 2019 with all counties adding to, or seeing a change in personal within their staff. This provides time demands around recruitment and staff training on an ongoing basis but must be seen as a positive in improving our service to clubs, schools and counties.

An increase in spending at National, Provincial & County level always brings our pursuit of value for money into focus which has lead us to providing robust yearly reports on each county.

Games Development covers a wide variety of activity in each county often with areas going unnoticed or unreported to the relevant stakeholders and we would encourage all county executives to familiarise themselves with these reports.

Huge efforts has been undertaken by our Games Managers and their committed teams of workers and we thank them for their continued commitment to their work.



Learning & Development

The aim of learning and development for Games Development in Leinster is to continuously strive to upskill our full time staff who in turn develop and up skill our coaches, players, parents and officials. Each year we complete a training needs analysis for all staff to establish what supports they require to assist them in meeting their goals and objectives. These supports can be generic across all staff or bespoke to individuals, but all are specific that meet the overall purpose of ensuring that our staff are in the best possible position to support and develop the volunteers working within our clubs, schools and academies throughout the province.

Staff Training

Leinster GAA provide the Coaching Ireland Level 1 Coach Developer training for new staff. This course takes significant time and resources but is essential for developing staff to both deliver courses and to support coaches in their clubs. 36 staff members completed the course in 2019 and there is another 27 have started the course last December and will complete it in 2020

In 2019 we once again provided In-service for all staff on the delivery of the TURAS program. This is one of the key projects in the province and will continue to be a key part of the CPD (Continuing Professional Development) training for staff. Working with and supporting coaches is key and an important part of this is for coaches and clubs to be aware of what is available to them. With this in mind we have provided training to assist staff in communicating their offering to coaches through tailored social media training specific to their needs

Biannually we provide refresher courses in the area of sports first aid training to all Games Development staff. This year we also offered this training to Cúl camp coordinators meaning that Leinster GAA trained up 147 full time and part time staff as qualified sports first aiders

Leinster GAA once again hosted the Leadership & Management course for both staff and volunteers from around the Province. This is the fourth year of this collaboration with IT Carlow, with the feedback once again highlighting the benefits to all those who attended.

Coach Education

Tutor Training – Over 100 tutors in Leinster have completed the in-service training to be able to deliver the new content for the newly launched Introduction to Gaelic Games Coaching. This is the new introductory coaching course that has been designed in partnership between the GAA, The LGFA and Camogie Association. This course will mean all the newly qualified coaches will now be fully recognised by all organisations.

Leinster GAA have once again been to the forefront in the delivery of foundation, Award 1 and Award 2 courses. In 2019 there was 145 foundation course, 49 Award 1 courses and 5 Award courses scheduled

In 2019 Leinster GAA launched our first Webinar series. This was well received not only by coaches in Leinster but also coaches from many other provinces and overseas units. The level of engagement has shown that coaches are always looking to learn and develop, it is our challenge to find new ways to support them and assist them knowing that time is precious. It is up to us in Leinster

GAA to continue to strive to find new ways of supporting coaches with the technologies now available to us.

In 2019 Leinster GAA continued to develop and roll out bespoke courses and workshops to coaches around the province. We continue to deliver the Leinster GAA Youth Resistance Training Course and the Introduction to Performance Analysis course but this year we added two additional workshops to the menu, “In Season Fitness for Gaelic Games” & “Plan to perform”. These workshops were developed and delivered by staff in the province and will be available to club, school and academy coaches on an ongoing basis in 2020.



Fixtures Analysis

Our Fixtures Analyst Committee have made a number of observations throughout the year. My thanks must go to Michael O'Brien and Alan Mulhall for their work in what can only be described as a tricky area.

Firstly with regard to the introduction of the Tier 2 in the football championship. It is their belief that the fixtures window within Counties will not be greatly affected. The reason being that their will only be a small addition to the time period already in place to run the Qualifiers.

However, Tier 2 does highlight one other concern. There could well be a reluctance to release county players for clubs fixtures. This is due to the heightened importance the league now holds for those in Division 2 and 3 in particular. How best to deal with this issue is not quite clear.

The decision to bring the All Ireland Club Championships creates concern for a number of counties. Some counties are now of the belief that they will struggle to finish their own Championships in time. This is a legitimate concern. However, one possible solution could be the moving of some games to finish on the day. The removal of possible replays at certain stages would give a concrete (barring weather) finish time to all Championships. If we wish to move towards a more certain fixtures calendar then this is one nettle we all need to grasp.

The U20 Inter County Competitions or rather the uncertainty around the same continue to cause problems at club level. Providing adequate games at a suitable time of the year is always a struggle. This is made increasingly difficult when 2nd Level and 3rd Level begin to be taken into account.

Until this is rectified in a concrete manner these struggles will remain in place. The use of April as a club month is having a mixed reaction. Most continues to their credit, are using the window to provide league activity.

However, the lack of willingness to start Championships here may be one of the reasons counties struggle to finish in time. The gap between this and the concluding stages of the Championships is the abiding issue.

Fixtures remain a consistent issue within the organisation. I often question whether there will ever be a programme that there is consensus on. I doubt there is but we must continue to make improvements where we can.



Games For All

Wheelchair Hurling

This year proved to be a challenging one for our Wheelchair hurling team in both the League and the All Ireland Championship held in Abbotstown. Up and down results meant the League came down to a winner takes all clash in Newport between ourselves and Ulster. A last minute equaliser was not enough as the point proved decisive in clinching the title for the northern side. Munster ultimately won out in the Championship. Many thanks must be paid to all whose hard work ensure the success of this team remain and ongoing pursuit, in particular those who train collectively in Mountmellick every Thursday.

Royal Visit

This May the GAA were honoured to host King Carl XVI and Queen Silvia of Sweden at Croke Park. Here in partnership with the Central Community and Health Department our Committee organised an exhibition of all activities within the Games for All remit. This included the ever successful Fun & Run project. This gave both children and parents/guardians the chance to grace the hallowed grass, an opportunity that they would not previously have had.

Inclusivity Camps

This year has seen a huge increase in the number of Inclusion Camps being provided within the Province. I wish to commend both our Counties and Games for All Committee for the provision of such a vital asset to schools, ASD Units, Clubs and Parents. The impact these camps have on attendees cannot be undersold. One such example our Committee's 3rd Annual Camp at

the Dundalk Sports Centre. In total 35 children ranging from 6-16 were catered for with a whole host of activities, ranging from Floorball to "Have a Go" session. Thanks must go to both the Louth Sports Partnership and Irish Wheelchair Association for their ongoing support in the provision of these activities.

Towards the end of the year our Committee worked in partnership with Kilkenny GAA to provide GAA based coaching for a multi sports club in the Watershed Sports Centre. This camp has been ongoing for a number of years, being run by IWA and the Kilkenny Sport and Recreation Partnership. This club is open to individuals of all ages with intellectual, learning and integration difficulties. A thanks here must go to Brian Cody and the Kilkenny GAA Executive who attended the most recent training session. Here our Provincial Wheelchair Hurling team provided and exhibition. It is hoped that in time, this club can act as another feeder thread for our Provincial Team.

In total 9 of our Counties provided Camps based around inclusion and Games for All. We are moving the right direction in ensuring that we truly leave up to the mantra of being an Association "Where We All Belong".

The on going work of this Committee does not go unnoticed in particular to Cathaoirleach Pat Lynagh and Runai Brian Carberry. A special thanks also to our National Committee and Brian Armitage and Tony Watene whose encouragement and guidance throughout the year proved invaluable.





Health & Well-Being

Health and Wellbeing is increasingly becoming a significant area of work within our organisation. It can be loosely described as the achievement and maintenance of physical fitness and mental stability. As such our Committee has for the past year worked hand in hand with County Committee's to ensure the Province as a whole is provided for on this level.

This was carried out through a simple Action Plan being devised for the year which saw regular meetings occur right across the Province. One such action from this plan was the provision of Health Club Officer training. As I mentioned with regard to club officer retention, the more that we can do to assist volunteers stay within our organisation the better.

Another key area that the Committee, under the guidance of Brain Carberry and John McCarthy, worked on in 2019 was the development of links with Sports Partnerships and the Health Service Authority. The more we can build cross organisational partnerships such as these the better for our members. By becoming exposed to best practice in the area of Wellbeing in particular, we can pass this expertise onto our Counties and Clubs.

This year saw the GAA launch TILDA (The Irish Longitudinal Study on Ageing). The aim of this significant study is to make Ireland the world the best place in the world to grow old. This work in partnership with Trinity College seeks to find ways to assist our aging population.

This is a significant piece of work from our point of view within the GAA. For a majority of the time our focus can be taken up by children participating and the younger generations, but it is important to remember that a vast cohort of our membership would fall into the category that TILDA is looking to provide for.

Mental health has never been of more importance than at the present time. As such I was heartened to see our Committee partner with the Tony Fenton Foundation. Together they organised "Men's Health Nights" in local clubs. These nights look to encourage men to explore and health concerns they may have in a relaxed and sociable setting. The more recent of these was organised in conjunction with Carlow Health and Wellbeing Committee. I hope that we can build on the early successes of this initiative in 2020.

In the past we would have been reluctant to move into the area of Health. However, it is worth noting that there a similar number of GP's across the Country as GAA Clubs. We as a body, can provide a new way in which to deliver health promotion and interventions. If it even only makes a difference to a small number it will be worth it.

Hearings

2019 as with many other years was a busy one for our Leinster Hearings & Disciplinary Committee. In total 11 Hearings were carried out with 16 appeals. In total 14 of these appeals were ruled out of order and were never heard. In total 2 of our Leinster cases ended up with the CAC (Central Appeals Committee) and the DRA (Dispute Resolution Authority). One of these cases in particular placed extra duress on our Committee of volunteers as it required 6 meetings in total spread from Portlaoise to Cavan and Dublin. This allied to the increasing demand for hearings and appeals to be heard at short notice, leave one with the view that a complete review of our disciplinary process may be required.

Last year the issue around lack of knowledge of rulings was raised both in this report and at convention. Since then only one county has been forthcoming in asking our Committee for a workshop. This is something that will need to be addressed in the coming year as a continued basic lack of ruling knowledge is creating unnecessary work for many volunteers at both County, Provincial and indeed National level.

The support we provide to both our CCC and Hearings Committee's needs to be addressed. Increasingly clubs and counties are calling on the support of external law practitioners to assist them. This increases the ever growing level of pressure on our volunteers, while ultimately leading to an appeal culture. The inability to accept even the most lenient of rulings is one which all of us within the association need to address internally.

A special word of thanks to Cathaiorleach Dick Butler and Runai John Byrne under whose guidance the Committee performed admirably throughout the year. Michael Delaney was welcomed onto the Committee as incoming Chairman in order to ensure a smooth transition next year. This period of transition worked well and is one that may be worth pursuing with other Committee's in the future.

A final note must mention our colleague Michael Murphy of Wicklow who we sadly lost during the year. Michael was a great servant to both County and Province and we extend our condolences to his family. Ar dheis Dé do raibh a anam.



Ardoideachais Laighean

Higher Education plays an invaluable role in our young players lives as they manage the transition from Post Primary School. The Higher Education GAA Club differs from your traditional home Clubs in that it provides a positive environment for students to engage with their peers. To this end the games offered both ourselves and the National Committee play a significant role in our Players Developmental Pathway. It is important that this significance is remembered as we look to a new fixtures Calendar for 2020 and beyond.

To the games themselves. Many thanks must be offered to our Cathaoirleach Ciaran Flynn and his Committee for the work they have and continue to carry out. Not all of our Higher Education teams get to represent their college at National Level. As such we have introduced a number of competitions to fill this void. Our Junior Football Championship is one such competition. This year saw it run on a knockout basis with 7 teams entering. The final as contested between DKIT and DCU with the Dublin side emerging victorious. Our Intermediate Hurling League consisted of 6 teams with the final being held in the National Games Development Centre in Abottstown. GMIT ultimately ran out victorious.

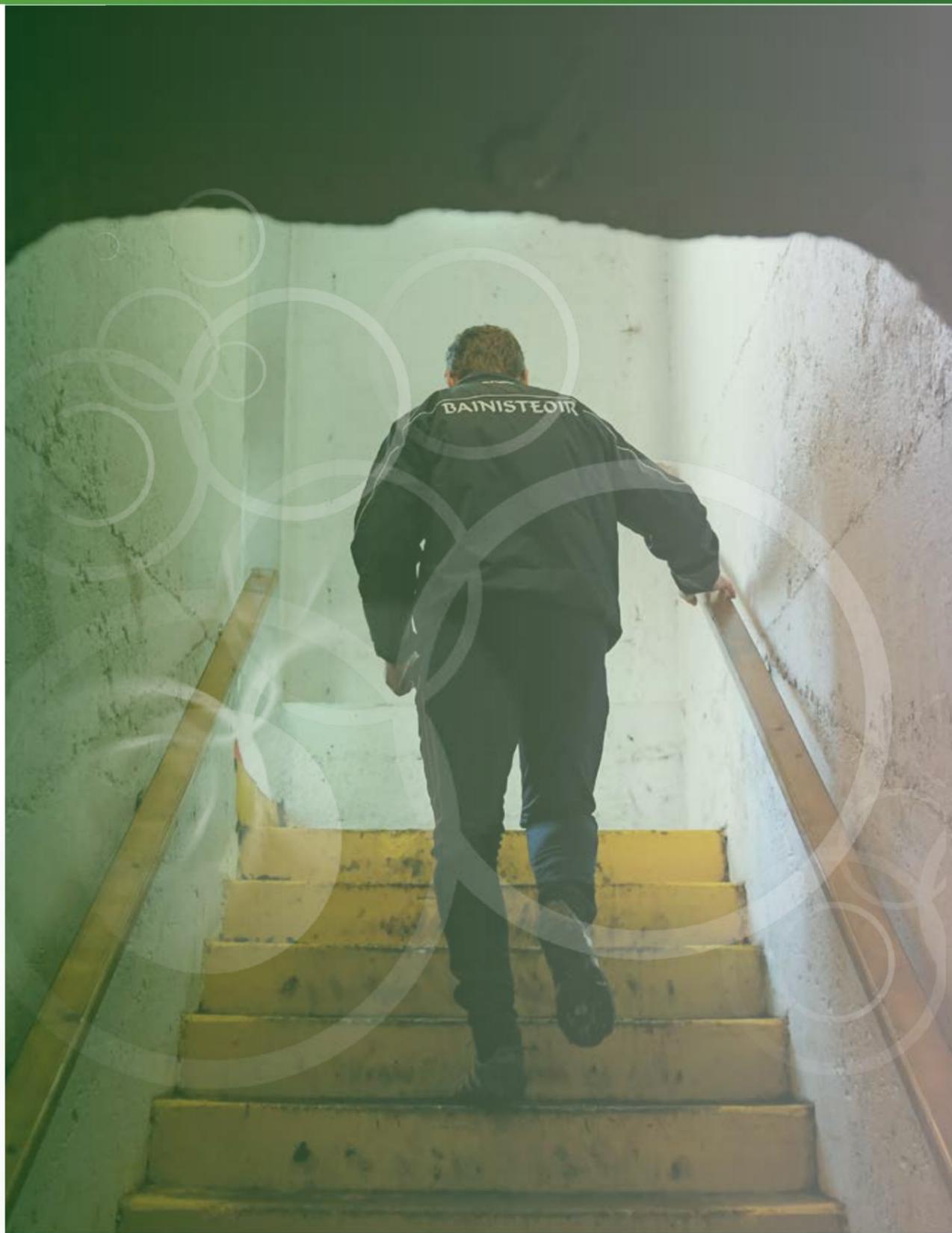
One of the highlights of the calendar year is our Bursary Awards presentation night. This gives us, in Comhairle Laighean, a chance to recognise the hard work being carried out by the younger generations of our Association.

In its 15th year this is a support we are only too happy to give and 2019 saw us once again award 30,000 in bursaries. It is hoped that this support will further encourage these young adults to become involved in administration, refereeing and coaching in the future.

It, as with all our activities, is worth noting the contribution of our officials. Without the ongoing support of referees these games and many others simply could not go ahead. It is imperative that these vital components of our games are treated with the upmost respect by both players and coaches alike. These games could not go ahead without organisation, as such I would like to thank our servicing officer Brendan Connolly. Brendan carries a significant body of work throughout the year, especially in securing venues at the most inopportune times of the year. This work does not go unnoticed and on behalf of the Ardoideacais I wish Brendan continued success into the future.

A further word of thanks must also go to the National sponsors Electrical Ireland. As with all our partners their impact has not gone unnoticed. The increased exposure you bring to our games is greatly appreciated and we hope is something that will continue long into the future.





Infrastructure & Safety

2019 was a busy year for our Infrastructure, Safety and Insurance Committee with responsibilities including; assisting and supporting Clubs & Counties with their Club Physical Development(s) i.e Grant Applications, Strategic Club Planning Programmes, Land Acquisitions and facilitating Safety Inspections & Insurance queries as necessary.

This year as with recent years, showed an increase in the number of clubs applying and receiving club grant allocations. This increase was in the region of 40%. One hundred and forty four Clubs shared a total of 1.2 million (an increase of circa 17% on 2018 funding allocation) in Development Grants with Ard Chomhairle contributing 850,000.00 and to ensure the percentage set from previous years was maintained, Comhairle Laighean also contributed. Educational entities shared a total of 95,000.00. At this stage I must acknowledge Ard Chomhairle's increase and continued support in this regard.

As in previous years the trend continued with Clubs seeking to purchase land to provide additional playing facilities for all members. A number of Clubs completed transactions during 2019, with a large number of developments still in progress. In the main, the Association fortunately is acquiring such land at agricultural values however, it may be reality that a small number of clubs have paid over the odds.

For a variety of reasons including identity and economy of scale, it must be emphasised that purchasing additional land adjacent to a Club's present facilities is preferable to having to purchase elsewhere. Not only should land purchase(s) be fit for purpose, but transactions must also be financial sustainable on a long term basis.

Notwithstanding Ard Chomhairle's increase of funding for 2019, with the number and scale of developments increasing in recent years and likewise anticipated for the coming year(s) our allocation of funding is more important than ever and is still possibly falling short of expectation. This Committee in whatever guise will certainly continue to put forward a strong business case again in 2020 for additional funding to allow us continue assisting clubs with their development of facilities which are deemed necessary, fit for purpose and value for money.

Some major projects were completed during the year and many others commenced and great credit to all involved. Laois have completed their Centre of Excellence (3 pitches) including dressing rooms, gym, administration and catering facilities. Kildare GAA is also progressing with their redevelopment of St Conleth's Park in Newbridge. Pearse Park in Longford completed the final phase of their safety works on their stand and credit must be given to all involved. Louth GAA are also making progress following their purchase of a 10 acre site to accommodate the building of a 14,000 capacity stadium close to Dundalk IT. Meath GAA received full planning permission in 2018 for a 21,000 seater redevelopment of Pairc Tailteann in Navan and are currently progressing with same. Westmeath GAA are exploring options available

to them in terms of what development would serve them best to facilitate the needs of all their County teams. This includes upgrade works in Cusack Park and the possibility of purchasing additional lands to develop a Centre for Excellence. Kilkenny GAA also further enhanced their Centre of Excellence with the additional infrastructure works to their already impressive facilities at Dunmore Training Centre.

The Committee also visited other Counties that have plans in place for their forthcoming projects in 2020 and we endeavour to continue providing support and advice in relation to same. The most recent tranch of funding released in the Sports Capital Grants mean that 2020 looks like it will be another productive and rewarding year for all involved.



Our safety personnel had another busy year, as they continued carrying out general safety inspections in many Counties including club grant inspections. Great credit to all involved and it was evident in most clubs that safety is to the fore. However, we highlighted some serious faults in a small number of grounds where immediate action was required and a follow up visits are planned for the forthcoming year. Furthermore, our safety personnel will be visiting all Counties in the months to come with a view to delivering safety workshops and information sessions.

I would not be wrong in stating that we in Leinster have set a trend for the remainder of the Country in addressing safety issues at venues. For instance the safety checklist that was devised by our Committee is now a template in use across the country.

Our vision now is to further enhance this initiative and help clubs and Counties promote a safety culture within their respective grounds and try getting all relevant personnel to value safety. Furthermore, it is envisaged that we will liaise with our National Health & Safety Committee members in rolling out the 'Safe Club Initiative' to Counties within Leinster.

It is in our own interest as an organisation to ensure that all units operate to the highest standards possible and while we tend to focus on the 'bigger games', it is important that we are Safety conscious at all levels.

From an Insurance perspective our Association may be facing into some major obstacles in the months and years ahead. The legal system is and increasing myriad of challenges due in no small part to the fact we are no longer an association who simply play Galeic Games.

While we can all welcome the continued development facilities within our association there may well be some unforeseen risks in doing so. The more these facilities cost in upgrading them the greater the need for them to self-generate income. This can lead to many hosting non GAA activity which in turn brings a new range of issues. Our Committees experience thus far have led us to the realisation that in court if it is not written down it did not happen. A vast number of the claims that we have been privy to have highlighted that we are failing to adequately manage facilities and activities in the following ways;

- H&S statements inadequate or non-existent
- Recording keeping limited or non-existent
- Not requesting Proof of Insurance from Users (Indemnity)
- Limited if any paper trail
- No Provision for Maintenance / Upkeep or Replacement

The Associations Liability claims experience sees cost & numbers of incidents rising annually. In conclusion it is not necessarily the development and use of our facilities that is creating these problems, but rather our management of them. If this mismanagement of facilities continues it may set a worrying trend which could threaten the Associations ability to obtain adequate insurance cover in the future

As a result a number of Insurance personnel from our committee will be teaming up with our safety team to deliver workshops and information sessions to all Counties. It is hoped that by communicating with and supporting clubs to this end we will gradually reverse this alarming trend. I would strongly encourage all personnel to take ownership over this issue before it becomes unmanageable.

A Special thanks got to all members A Special thanks got to all members of this Committee as the work carried out is of vital importance and too often unseen. To our Cathaoirleach P.J. Kelly and all members I offer my appreciation of your time and effort.

Scór Laighean

This year was a significant one for our Scór Laighean Committee under the dutiful guidance of Cathaoirleach Caitriona Ui Dhalaiigh and Runai Aine Ni Chinneide. For 2019 marked the 50th Anniversary of Scór Laighean. As such a number of events were held throughout the year to mark this milestone.

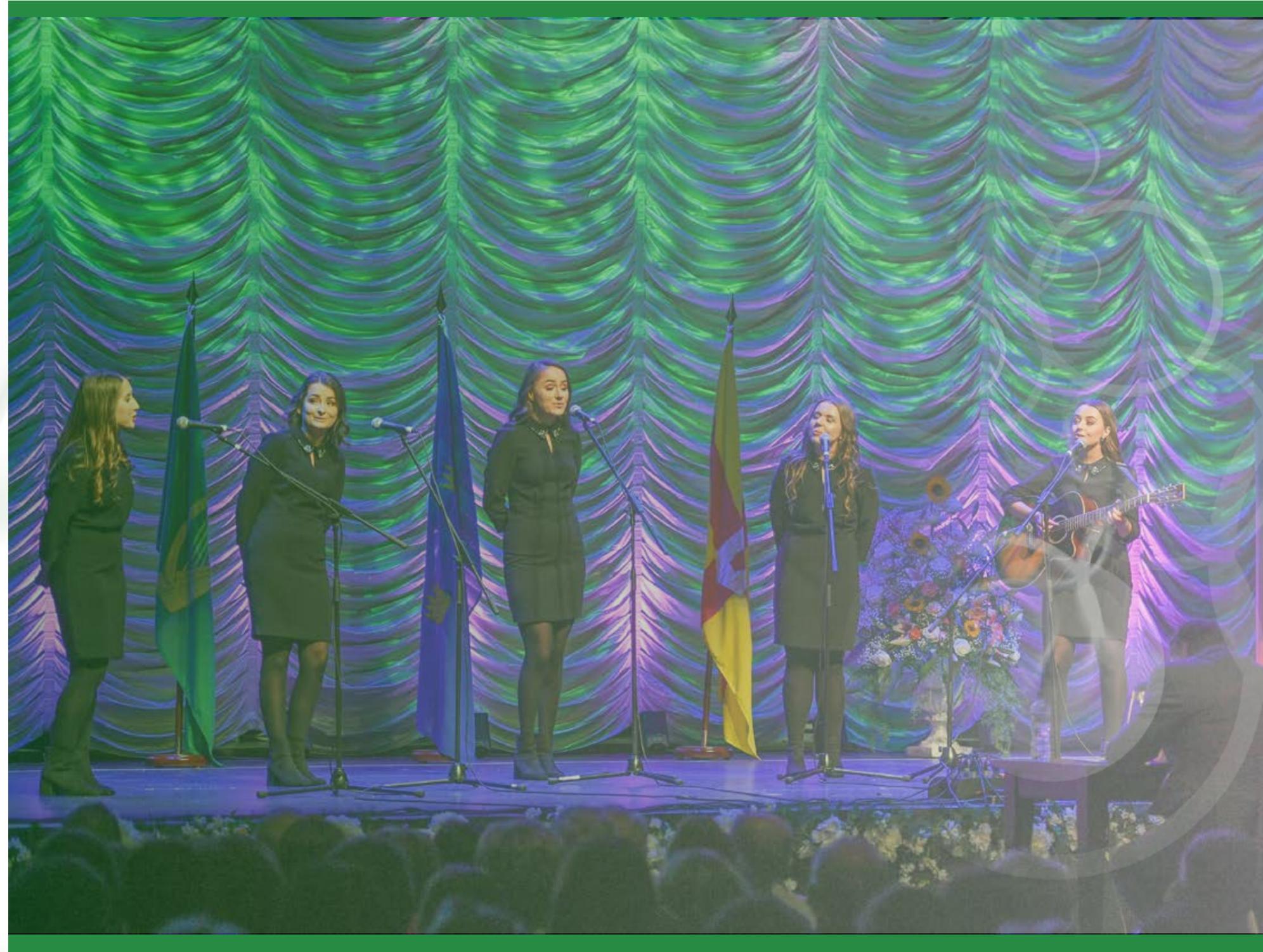
These events culminated in a celebration concert being held in the Midlands Park Hotel, Portlaoise. This concert saw Scór participants past and present come together for a wonderful night of song, music and dance. In attendance on the night was Cathaoirleach Scór Naisiunta Aodhan O Braonain and our own Cathaoirleach Seamus O Bhuilgdir.

2019 also saw us welcome Netwatch as Title sponsors of Scór Laighean. Their support has already made a notable difference. We very much look forward to the coming years of the partnership as they support a vital part of the associations' heritage.

This year saw our Scór Sinsir Laighean and Scór na nOg take place in the National Opera House in Wexford. The fantastic setting was perfectly aligned to the talent on display. This year we had winners from right across the Province in all events with two Offaly clubs going onto National success. Kilkormac Killoughey claiming the Ceol Uirlise title and Ferbane taking the Ballad Group title at the All Ireland's in Castlebar Co. Mayo.

In May of this year representatives from Scór Laighean attended a National Forum at Croke Park. Here there were stringant discussions about the future direction of Scór.

Several new rule changes have been introduced and will be in place from 2020 onwards. I would like to thank Caitriona, Aine and all the Committee for their continued hard work and commitment to the future of Scór Laighean itself.



Cumann na nBunscol

As with all years 2019 proved to be a busy one for our Cumann na nBunscol Committee. All 12 Counties have extremely active Cumann na nBunscol units, and the activities being provided have significantly grown in number. At a meeting in November each of these units provided a report on activity to date, with all placing a heavy emphasis on the promotion of our games.

The young whistler programme continues to go from strength to strength. This year training was provided in 5 Counties across April and May. Each of these young referee's were subsequently used to referee mini games throughout our Championships. In a similar vein referee's from Dublin and Louth were used at our Provincial Go Games days in Croke Park. Programmes like this are brilliant for introducing children to the skills required to referee. However, whether we are currently doing enough to retain these young officials is another matter. It is one that hopefully we can all look to address in the coming years.

The mini games programme was once again a resounding success. These games add great value to our main Championships. I would like to thank our Runaí Gerry O'Meara in particular for his help in organising these. We had games on 20 separate days and at 9 different venues. These days could also not be possible without the support of parents and teachers alike, the difference this experience can make in the retention of players cannot be understated. In total over 500 children participated with all having their names printed in the matchday programme. We look forward to continuing this activity in 2020.

A number of individual activity days and camps were held right throughout the Province. These activities continue to provide a variety to the traditional Games Programme and ensures all children are catered for. Events such as the Carlow Lift & Strike, Laois Boys & Girls Blitz days and the Dublin Girls Tournament in DCU are great examples of just this.

This year also saw the successful running of the Twinning Project. This saw 2 Counties come together to run a combined day of activity. Louth and Meath had a combined football day, while Offaly and Laois came together on the hurling front. Again this is another variety to the traditional programme which can open children up to the larger GAA community. Our thanks to Ronan McKenna, Nolaig O'Neill Forde, Declan Ward and Shane Maher for co-ordinating.

I would like to pay particular tribute this year. To the active work being done in counties with regards to promotion of their activities. Their active social networking and engagement with local media in particular, go a long way towards promotion our organisation as a whole. If we give those being introduced to our games a beneficial experience we go a long way towards retaining them as lifelong members.





Post Primary Schools

The 2018/2019 school year had a number of highlights, while also presenting various challenges throughout the year. St Kieran's College regained the Corn Ui Dhuill SH "A" trophy at the expense of Colaiste Eoin in a very entertaining Final in O'Moore Park. Naas CBS retained the Bro Bosco Cup SF "A" with a thrilling win after extra time over Wicklow Schools in Parnell Park. As mentioned in last year's report, this certainly gives encouragement for other schools to follow suit and take the step up in grade where possible. Castlecomer CS came out on top in a very competitive SH "B" Championship with Ashbourne CS taking the SF "B" honours. To all our winners, provincial and regional, I extend congratulations.

All our provincial winners went on to represent themselves and the province with great distinction at All Ireland level. Unfortunately, last year's tally of 5 titles could not be matched! 2018-19 saw only one All Ireland title return to the province - St. Kieran's College winning their fifth All Ireland title in six years, a remarkable achievement for all concerned.

The past school year saw a number of our competitions been delayed, for various reasons. This is, understandably, very frustrating on the team and mentors that are forced into long delays out of their control. The ever-changing school environment, e.g. class based assessments, has made completing our fixture programme on schedule very difficult. While understanding that these delays are more often than not out of the mentor's control, all concerned parties must continually

review and try put in place procedures to avoid these delays. Definite deadlines etc may have to be put in place. In order to meet All Ireland dates in certain competitions we had to request schools to play 2/3 times in one week. This is far from ideal or fair, but we are grateful to those that helped us out.

My thanks to all the schools and teachers for their understanding and co-operation. As stated, at times it was very frustrating for all concerned. All the above, plus weather etc, is something we need to be aware of when deciding on dates, formats etc. Planning and communication is the key!!

During the year our long serving colleague Tom O'Donnell retired. Tom's knowledge and guidance will be missed and was reflected by the number of well wishes sent in. To Tom, Pat Henderson Noel Delaney, Tadhg Doran and Hannah Horan, my thanks for all the help and hard work throughout the year. Thanks to our Cathaoirleach Des Halpenny who was also a great source of advice and help. My thanks also to the various county coaching & games personnel for all your assistance and work. It is very much appreciated. Thanks to all the teachers and coaches who are helping to keep GAA alive and continuing to grow in our schools. Your time and work is appreciated especially in the challenging and changing times in our schools. As mentioned above, we are indebted to the clubs and county boards who make their facilities available to us, some often at short notice. Our games would not be an event but for the venues and officials we use - because of the large programme of Gaelic Games - third level, second level, primary level, hurling, football, camogie, ladies' football - it is not always as easy as anticipated to arrange venues and referees.

As always, we will endeavour to review any feedback to learn and improve matters where possible. I'm glad to say that Comhairle Iarbhunscoileanna Laighean and Leinster GAA Games Development are actively and regularly reviewing our competition structures etc. The proposal to go to 1st & 2nd Year competitions in lieu of Juvenile is evident of this and comes on the back of strong opinion at last year's Schools AGM.

A special word of thanks to our sponsors Top Oil for your assistance and for helping promote our games. Hopefully our link will continue for many more years to come.

PR & Marketing

Digital Content and Championships

In terms of our Marketing and Promotion within the Province 2019 was an extremely busy one. The year itself saw our focus shift slightly to a more digitalised approach to promotion. We had trialled this approach during the 2018 Club Championships and in particular our coverage of matchday activity. This is reflected in our online Social Media following as it continues to grow, now totalling almost 60 thousand across all platforms. Not only this but we are currently averaging over 21 thousand view per month on our home pages.

One example of this new way of thinking was our approach to promoting our flagship Senior Championship Finals. Two live roadshows were held in both Meath and Wexford ahead of both finals. These roadshows were live streamed on our Facebook pages reaching an audience of over 15 thousand. These roadshows were a ground-breaking moment as similar had never been tried at a Provincial level. It reinforces our continued commitment to being at the fore front of Digital Content in our area. Many thanks must go to the past players who participated in these roadshows and it is something we hope to build on in the future.

Our traditional Championship launch this year was a resounding success. This was due in no small way to the Defence Forces for their use of Casement Aerodrome Baldonnel. Their support in running this event was second to none.

The launch itself received extensive coverage and was the lead on the main six-one sports bulletin that night. A thanks also to the media for their continued support and coverage of our games. The Championships themselves were another highlight of the year. In total the attendance for both Senior Championship comes in at over 260 thousand which see's us remain in line with last season despite not having a replayed final this year.

Chadwicks Club Hurling League

2019 also saw us welcome a new sponsor to the Province in the form of Chadwicks. They have come on board as title sponsor of our Leinster Club Hurling League. Year one of the partnership was a resounding success with over 50 teams participating, and 3 of the 4 Finals being played as double headers with Senior Inter County Games. To mark the partnership a "Kit Out Competition" was run, to assist clubs carrying out renovation work on their facilities. A huge number of clubs applied, and 12 county winners received a 1,000 voucher for Chadwicks. The overall winner of the competition was Kilmacow in Co Kilkenny. They received 10,000 worth of product from Chadwicks to assist in their dressing room renovation. Many thanks, to all who assisted in the running of this competition and to Chadwicks for the generous prizes. We look forward to 2020 and building on our partnership.

Beko Bua Programme

The return of the Beko Bua Programme for 2019 saw us build even further on this programme. A new structure saw Clubs complete and online audit before submitting a future planning form was submitted. This new structure gave us greater access to up to date data on clubs.

Top Oil Post Primary Schools

2019 saw our most active year in terms of social engagement when it came to 2nd level schools. The intiation of our Player of the Round Awards and Video content were well received. The streaming of both finals was an added highlight. This was topped off by our Next Great Commentator Competiton Winner Liam Kelly O'Rourke doing a phenomenal job. Liam has a bright future and I wish him all the best.

Many thanks as always to Top Oil for their continued support it is a partnership that is flourishing.

Shared Services

Our team also assisted in the recruitment of new staff across the province by creating Promotional Videos based around Games Development Staff. These videos proved extremely successful as we reached a new audience of applicants. The benefit of these videos has been two-fold. Firstly, the quality of those applying for new positions and secondly they are highlighting the already fantastic work being carried out by existing staff, right across the Province. Next year more such videos are planned in order to further promote the work that is ongoing in all Counties.

My thanks go to our PRO Martin O'Halloran and his Committee for their work and expertise in pushing the Province forward. As stated above it is the hope that we can build on the centralised support provided to Counties while also pushing the boundaries of what we are capable of. With a number of new initiatives in place for 2020 it is sure to be an exciting year on the Promotional Side of the house.



Club Leadership & Planning

This year our Club Leadership & Planning Committee, headed by David Denieffe met on numerous occasions. The main focuses throughout the year were that of building on the activities linked with the GAA's Club Leadership Development (CLDP) and Club Planning Programmes.

This Committee in particular works extremely closely with the National Officer Development Committee (NODC) and in particular Ruairí Harvey and his team of Eoghan Tuomey and Jack McCarney in Planning and Training in Croke Park and I would like to thank them for their support throughout the year.

The Committee has been involved in identifying and supporting associates in the province with the intended aim of rolling out the CLDP programme more fully in 2020. The stated aim of the CLDP is to provide the principal GAA Club Officers - Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, PRO - with the basic knowledge and core leadership skills required to fulfil their roles effectively.

A key initiative undertaken was the rollout of the Pre-AGM module all counties in Leinster. This module supports the club officers in planning, running and following the AGM. Its presentation to over 300 club officers in late 2018 was met with a very positive response and was rolled out again in 2019. The elective modules in the CLDP in 2019 on Office 365, Volunteering and Club Governance also proved very popular.

The intent is to further provide these modules as counties and officers need them. The Committee actively supports Club Planning particularly in its piloting in clubs in Kilkenny, Carlow and Offaly and will be involved in facilitating this further in 2020. Training so far has been provided to almost 30 facilitators in September 2019.

A big plus to the Club Planning side of the house has been the addition of the Beka Bua Programme. This programme requires Club to an introspective look at how they operate, while also casting an eye to the future. It is hoped that in the coming year we can further link these two activities together.

For 2020 plans have already been put in place to further support in a number of areas. Most notably with regard to the recruitment and retention of Club Officers. This is a major issue at grass roots level as more and more people are struggling to find the time to commit to such roles.

Not only this but as our organisation comes under more and more scrutiny, there is a reluctance from amateurs to take up positions of responsibility they feel they are not qualified for. As a result it becomes imperative that we as a Province provide as much support to clubs and counties as possible to ensure these barriers are eradicated.

One such way of doing so, will be through the establishment of a network of knowledge. This will be a platform through our Committee where challenges and solutions can be discussed with Clubs to establish best practice examples. This shared knowledge can then be applied to training modules for both Volunteer Recruitment and Club Governance.

We look forward to what the year brings in this one of our most important areas.



Conclusion

At this Convention the terms of office for four of our Officers comes to an end. An Cathaoirleach, Jim Bolger during his three year term was a steady influence. I wish him well in the future particularly in the coming months.

Pat Teehan moves from Leas Cathaoirleach to Cathaoirleach. It is a proud day for Pat and his family, Club and County. I have no doubt that Pat's years in GAA administration will stand to him in good stead in the three years ahead.

Also thanks to both Pat Lynagh (Cisteoir) and Martin O Halloran (PRO), who also vacate their positions, for their contribution to the work of the province over the past three years.

Buiochas

This year's work would be impossible without the assistance of many

- Club and County Officials and Education Sector
- The players from Go Games to All Ireland
- Officers and Members of the Council
- Our Supporters/Colleagues in Croke Park and Comhairle Connachta
- The ever increasing number of media outlets
- Our Sponsors - Beko, Chadwicks, O'Neills and Top Oil
- The Aras Laighean team who continue to deliver for the province.

On behalf of the team and province I extend appreciation and thanks to Shane Flanagan who for the past 14 years did not spare himself working with and for all of us. On all our behalf I wish him well in his new role of National Director of Coaching and Games Development and that his skill set and work ethic will continue to have a positive influence.

Micheal Mac Raghnaill
Runaí

Leinster GAA

Comhdháil Cinn Bliana



Leinster GAA

Comhdháil Cinn Bliana

Leinster Committees 2019

COISDE BAINISTÍ & AIRGEADAIS CATHAOIRLEACH

Jim Bolger

LEAS CATHAOIRLEACH

Pat Teehan

CISTEOIR

Pat Lynagh

OIFIFEACH CAIDHREAMH POIBLÍ

Martin O'Halloran

RUNAI

Michael Reynolds

GAMES DEVELOPMENT

Michael Meaney

P.R. & MARKETING

Brian Carberry

INFRASTRUCTURE & SAFETY

Paschal McEvoy

FIXTURES ANALYST

Tomas O'Se

Leinster Council 2019

CARLOW

Michael Whelan
Michael Meaney

DUBLIN

Tomas O'Se
John McNicholas

KILDARE

John McMahon
Mick Mullen

KILKENNY

Willie Dempsey
Val Malone

LAOIS

Tom Jones
Paschal McEvoy

LONGFORD

Derek Fahy
Albert Cooney

LOUTH

Padraic O'Connor
Declan Byrne

MEATH

Brendan Cummins
Brian Carberry

OFFALY

Dolores Slevin
Joe Higgins

WESTMEATH

Michael McHugh
Albert Lowry

WEXFORD

Dermot Howlin
Mary Foley

WICKLOW

Colm Finnegan
Fintan Fanning

HEARINGS

CATHAOIRLEACH Dick Butler

RUNAÍ John Byrne

PR & MARKETING

CATHAOIRLEACH Martin O'Halloran

RUNAÍ John Haughney

SCÓR

CATHAOIRLEACH Catherine Daly

RUNAÍ Áine Kennedy

FIXTURES ANALYST

CATHAOIRLEACH Michael O'Brien

RUNAÍ Alan Mulhall

INFRASTRUCTURE & SAFETY

CATHAOIRLEACH PJ Kelly

RUNAÍ Michael Reynolds

COACHING & GAMES DEVELOPMENT

CATHAOIRLEACH Liam O'Neill

RUNAÍ James Devane

POST PRIMARY SCHOOLS

CATHAOIRLEACH Des Halpenny

RUNAÍ Noel Delaney

CUMANN NA MBUNSCOL

CATHAOIRLEACH Edward O'Riordan

RUNAÍ Gerry O'Meara

ARDOIDEACHAIS

CATHAOIRLEACH Ciarán Flynn

RUNAÍ Conor O'Shea

GAMES FOR ALL

CATHAOIRLEACH Pat Lynagh

RUNAÍ Brain Carberry

HEALTH AND WELL BEING

CATHAOIRLEACH Brian Carberry

RUNAÍ John McCarthy

URBAN RURAL WORK GROUP

CATHAOIRLEACH Pat Teehan

RUNAÍ Shane Flanagan

CLUB LEADERSHIP & PLANNING

CATHAOIRLEACH David Denieffe

RUNAÍ Terry McCague

REFEREE APPOINTMENTS

CATHAOIRLEACH Pat Lynagh

RUNAÍ John Bannon

REFEREE DEVELOPMENT

CATHAOIRLEACH Donal Smyth

RUNAÍ John Bannon





Cluichí Laighean 2019

Bord na Móna O'Byrne Cup Senior Football

Group 1:

9/12	Westmeath	(0-12)	Carlow	(0-8)	-	Netwatch Cullen Park Carlow
15/12	Kildare	(0-16)	Carlow	(1-6)	-	St Conleths Park Newbridge
20/12	Kildare	(1-20)	Offaly	(0-11)	-	Faithful Fields
29/12	Westmeath	(0-11)	Offaly	(0-11)	-	Lakepoint Park Mullingar
5/1	Carlow	(3-12)	Offaly	(2-14)	-	Netwatch Cullen Park
6/1	Westmeath	(1-13)	Kildare	(1-7)	-	The Downs, Mullingar

Group 2:

8/12	Longford	(1-7)	Wicklow	(1-6)	-	Newtownforbes
29/12	Louth	(1-17)	Wicklow	(1-9)	-	Bray Emmets
5/1	Louth	(1-16)	Longford	(1-16)	-	Glennon Bros Pearse Park

Group 3:

8/12	Meath	(3-11)	Laois	(0-6)	-	O'Moore Park Portlaoise
20/12	Wexford	(2-13)	Laois	(1-11)	-	St Patricks Park Enniscorthy
5/1	Meath	(1-20)	Wexford	(1-13)	-	St Patricks Park Enniscorthy

Cross Group Games (2 & 3):

8/12	Wexford	(0-16)	Louth	(1-6)	-	Darver
15/12	Meath	(1-5)	Longford	(0-9)	-	Ashbourne
5/1	Laois	(2-11)	Wicklow	(2-10)	-	Bray Emmets

Semi Finals & Final:

12/1	Dublin	(1-12)	Meath	(1-12)	-	Parnell Park [Shoot Out - Dublin (3) Meath (1)]
12/1	Westmeath	(2-10)	Longford	(0-4)	-	The Downs Mullingar
18/1	Westmeath	(1-12)	Dublin	(0-10)	-	Parnell Park

Bord na Móna Walsh Cup Senior Hurling

9/12	Laois	(2-16)	Offaly	(1-16)	-	St Brendans Park Birr
11/12	Dublin	(2-21)	Carlow	(1-16)	-	Netwatch Cullen Park Carlow
16/12	Dublin	(0-27)	Offaly	(0-18)	-	Parnell Park
16/12	Carlow	(2-23)	Laois	(1-18)	-	O Moore Park Portlaoise
6/1	Dublin	(1-18)	Laois	(1-16)	-	O Moore Park Portlaoise
6/1	Carlow	(2-18)	Offaly	(0-18)	-	Netwatch Cullen Park
13/1	Wexford	(0-16)	Kilkenny	(0-13)	-	Bellefield Enniscorthy
13/1	Galway	(0-21)	Dublin	(1-17)	-	Parnell Park
19/1	Galway	(1-23)	Wexford	(0-20)	-	Bellefield Enniscorthy

Bord na Móna Kehoe Cup Senior Hurling

9/12	Westmeath	(2-22)	Wicklow	(1-7)	-	TEG Cusack Park Mullingar
9/12	Meath	(1-15)	Kildare	(1-15)	-	St Conleths Park Newbridge
(Meath win 2-0 shoot out)						
16/12	Antrim	(0-21)	Wicklow	(0-13)	-	Abbotstown
6/1	Kildare	(3-20)	Wicklow	(0-10)	-	St Conleths Park Newbridge
13/1	Antrim	(4-20)	Kildare	(1-19)	-	Abbotstown
13/1	Westmeath	(1-23)	Meath	(1-13)	-	Kinnegad
19/1	Westmeath	(2-20)	Antrim	(1-23)	-	Abbotstown (WH won 3-0)

Bord Na Mona Kehoe Shield

8/12	DCU St Patricks	(2-14)	Longford	(1-13)	-	Killoe
11/12	Louth	(2-20)	DCU St Patricks	(0-17)	-	Dundalk IT
5/1	Louth	(0-18)	Longford	(0-14)	-	Glennon Bros Pearse Park
13/1	Louth	(1-18)	DCU St Patricks	(0-14)	-	Darver

Leinster Minor Football Championship (Murray Cup)

Group 1

23/4	Westmeath	(2-08)	Longford	(0-08)	-	Longford
23/4	Carlow	(0-11)	Laois	(0-11)	-	I.T. Carlow
8/5	Laois	(3-06)	Westmeath	(1-11)	-	Portlaoise
8/5	Longford	(1-08)	Carlow	(0-09)	-	Carlow
15/5	Westmeath	(4-12)	Carlow	(0-08)	-	Mullingar
18/5	Laois	(2-14)	Longford	(2-12)	-	Longford

Group 2

23/4	Dublin	(4-10)	Meath	(2-10)	-	Parnell Park
23/4	Offaly	(1-10)	Wexford	(1-09)	-	Enniscorthy
8/5	Meath	(0-08)	Offaly	(0-05)	-	Pairc Tailteann
8/5	Dublin	(3-12)	Wexford	(1-10)	-	Enniscorthy
15/5	Dublin	(2-13)	Offaly	(0-13)	-	Tullamore
15/5	Meath	(6-13)	Wexford	(0-07)	-	Pairc Tailteann

Group 3

23/4	Kildare	(1-16)	Wicklow	(0-11)	-	Newbridge
23/4	Louth	(3-16)	Kilkenny	(3-08)	-	Kilkenny
7/5	Wicklow	(9-20)	Kilkenny	(2-03)	-	Kilkenny
8/5	Kildare	(1-18)	Louth	(0-16)	-	Drogheda
14/5	Kildare	(1-12)	Kilkenny	(0-05)	-	Nowlan Park
15/5	Wicklow	(5-18)	Louth	(0-10)	-	Aughrim

Quarter Finals:

1/6	Westmeath	(2-15)	Meath	(1-14)	-	Mullingar (AET)
1/6	Dublin	(0-20)	Wicklow	(1-09)	-	Aughrim

Semi Finals:

21/6	Kildare	(0-12)	Laois	(1-06)	-	Portlaoise
22/6	Dublin	(0-18)	Westmeath	(1-11)	-	Mullingar

Final

6/7	Kildare	(2-21)	Dublin	(1-19)	-	Navan
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Seamus Heaney Cup

1/6	Carlow	(7-22)	Kilkenny	(0-02)	-	Kilkenny
2/6	Longford	(1-09)	Offaly	(0-08)	-	Tullamore
22/6	Longford	(2-18)	Louth	(2-09)	-	Longford
22/6	Wexford	(1-12)	Carlow	(1-11)	-	Carlow
3/7	Longford	(3-15)	Wexford	(2-05)	-	Portlaoise

Leinster Minor Hurling Championship (Hanrahan Cup)

Group 1

27/4	Kilkenny	(0-15)	Dublin	(2-08)	-	Kilkenny
27/4	Wexford	(3-11)	Offaly	(2-11)	-	Tullamore
4/5	Kilkenny	(3-13)	Wexford	(2-15)	-	Enniscorthy
4/5	Dublin	(1-23)	Offaly	(1-10)	-	Parnell Park
11/5	Kilkenny	(5-29)	Offaly	(1-09)	-	Kilkenny
11/5	Wexford	(2-17)	Dublin	(3-14)	-	Enniscorthy

Group 2

27/4	Laois	(2-21)	Westmeath	(0-07)	-	Portlaoise
27/4	Kildare	(2-19)	Antrim	(0-07)	-	Abbotstown
4/5	Laois	(1-14)	Kildare	(2-10)	-	Newbridge
4/5	Antrim	(2-23)	Westmeath	(2-08)	-	Abbotstown
11/5	Laois	(6-19)	Antrim	(0-14)	-	Fingallians
11/5	Kildare	(1-19)	Westmeath	(2-10)	-	Mullingar

Group 3

27/4	Carlow	(3-17)	Meath	(1-03)	-	I.T. Carlow
4/5	Meath	(2-28)	Down	(2-06)	-	Abbotstown
11/5	Carlow	(6-19)	Down	(0-05)	-	Fingallians



Peadar O Liathain Cup

7/6	Meath	(1-17)	Westmeath	(0-16)	- Trim
22/6	Carlow	(3-22)	Antrim	(1-16)	- Navan
29/6	Carlow	(3-17)	Meath	(2-12)	- Navan

Leinster Junior Football Championship

22/5	Louth	(4-10)	Wicklow	(1-16)	- Aughrim
29/5	Longford	(0-13)	Carlow	(1-03)	- Longford
5/6	Meath	(0-17)	Louth	(2-10)	- Navan
5/6	Kildare	(1-18)	Longford	(1-09)	- Longford
23/6	Meath	(2-14)	Kildare	(0-18)	- Croke Park

Leinster Under 20 Hurling Championship (Robbins Cup)

25/5	Carlow	(0-25)	Antrim	(2-16)	- Abbotstown
27/5	Offaly	(1-23)	Westmeath	(0-09)	- Mullingar
16/6	Offaly	(1-20)	Carlow	(1-17)	- Carlow
24/6	Kilkenny	(5-21)	Laois	(0-10)	- Portlaoise
26/6	Offaly	(1-29)	Dublin	(2-25)	- Parnell Park
3/7	Wexford	(2-20)	Offaly	(1-18)	- Tullamore
4/7	Kilkenny	(1-19)	Galway	(1-15)	- Tullamore
17/7	Kilkenny	(1-17)	Wexford	(0-18)	- Wexford

Leinster Under 20 Football Championship (Flood Cup)

22/6	Offaly	(3-22)	Carlow	(2-04)	- Carlow
22/6	Wexford	(1-14)	Wicklow	(2-07)	- Enniscorthy
25/6	Laois	(0-17)	Kildare	(1-11)	- Newbridge
2/7	Laois	(2-20)	Westmeath	(0-20)	- Mullingar
2/7	Meath	(1-12)	Offaly	(0-12)	- Navan
2/7	Wexford	(3-10)	Louth	(0-16)	- Drogheda
2/7	Dublin	(4-21)	Longford	(0-07)	- Longford
9/7	Dublin	(1-17)	Wexford	(0-06)	- Parnell Park
9/7	Laois	(1-13)	Meath	(0-07)	- Portlaoise
19/7	Dublin	(4-18)	Laois	(0-17)	- Tullamore

Leinster Senior Hurling Championship (O'Keefe Cup)

11/5	Kilkenny	(2-23)	Dublin	(1-21)	- Kilkenny
12/5	Galway	(1-24)	Carlow	(1-18)	- Galway
19/5	Wexford	(2-19)	Dublin	(1-22)	- Parnell Park
19/5	Kilkenny	(3-22)	Carlow	(1-14)	- Carlow
26/5	Wexford	(0-16)	Galway	(0-16)	- Galway



2/6	Dublin	(2-22)	Carlow	(1-13)	- Carlow
8/6	Wexford	(2-28)	Carlow	(0-19)	- Wexford
9/6	Galway	(3-20)	Kilkenny	(2-22)	- Kilkenny
15/6	Kilkenny	(1-18)	Wexford	(0-21)	- Wexford
15/6	Dublin	(3-19)	Galway	(0-24)	- Parnell Park
30/6	Wexford	(1-23)	Kilkenny	(0-23)	- Croke Park

Leinster Senior Football Championship (Delaney Cup)

11/5	Kildare	(0-15)	Wicklow	(1-10)	- Carlow
12/5	Meath	(1-13)	Offaly	(0-14)	- Navan
12/5	Louth	(0-22)	Wexford	(1-14)	- Wexford
25/5	Meath	(2-17)	Carlow	(0-9)	- Portlaoise
25/5	Dublin	(5-21)	Louth	(0-10)	- Portlaoise
26/5	Laois	(0-12)	Westmeath	(0-10)	- Tullamore
26/5	Kildare	(1-21)	Longford	(3-15)	- TullamoreAET
2/6	Kildare	(1-18)	Longford	(0-10)	- Tullamore
9/6	Meath	(3-13)	Laois	(0-11)	- Croke Park
9/6	Dublin	(0-26)	Kildare	(0-11)	- Croke Park
23/6	Dublin	(1-17)	Meath	(0-4)	- Croke Park

Leinster Club Junior Hurling Championship (Ryall Cup)

19/10	Clann na nGael (MH)	(4-17)	Maynothh H.C. (KE)	(1-10)	- Trim
19/10	Naomh Brid (CW)	(3-14)	Naomh Moninne (LH)	(1-11)	- Bagenalstown
19/10	Clonguish Gaels (LD)	(5-11)	Barndarrig (OY)	(2-6)	- Glennon Bros Pearse Park
19/10	Fingallins (DB)	(W/O)	Clara (OY)	(SCR)	
2/11	Ballygarrett Realt na Mara (WX)	(3-9)	Naomh Brid (CW)	(1-12)	- Fenagh
2/11	Conahy Shamrocks (KK)	(2-17)	Fingallians (DB)	(1-9)	- Lawless Memorial Park
2/11	Clonguish Gaels (LD)	(2-15)	Mountmellick (LS)	(1-12)	- Glennon Bros Pearse Park
2/11	Cullion (WH)	(4-9)	Clann na nGael (MH)	(1-10)	- Pairc Tailteann
16/11	Ballygarrett Realt na Mara (WX)	(4-20)	Cullion Hurling (WH)	(1-13)	- TEG Cusack Park
16/11	Conahy Shamrocks (KK)	(1-22)	Clonguish Gaels (LD)	(0-7)	- Jenkinstown
30/11	Conahy Sharmrocks (KK)	(4-13)	Ballygarrett Realt na Mara (WX)	(3-12)	- Bellefield

Leinster Club Junior Football Championship (Eiffe Cup)

26/10	Kenagh (LD)	(3-15)	Berlin (Europe)	(3-5)	- Abbotstown
26/10	Ballynacargy (WH)	(0-12)	An Tochar (WW)	(1-7)	- Lakepoint Park
26/10	Roche Emmets (LH)	(5-15)	Castletown Gaels (LS)	(2-6)	- Dowdallshill
26/10	Shannonbridge (OY)	(0-14)	Fenagh (CW)	(0-13)	- Faithful Fields
3/11	Rathgarogue Cushinstown (WX)	(1-17)	Mooncoin (KK)	(1-12)	- Graiguenamanagh
9/11	Clann na nGael (MH)	(3-8)	Ballynacargy (WH)	(1-9)	- Lakepoint Park
9/11	Ballymore Eustace (KE)	(2-20)	Kenagh (LD)	(0-5)	- Newtowncashel
9/11	Rathgarogue Cushinstown (WX)	(0-11)	Craobh Chiarain (DB)	(0-6)	- New Ross
9/11	Shannonbridge (OY)	(2-13)	Roche Emmets (LH)	(1-8)	- Faithful Fields



23/11	Clann na nGael (MH)	(2-8) Ballymore Eustace (KE)	(1-10) - Trim
24/11	Rathgarogue Cushinstown (WX)	(1-8) Shannonbridge (OY)	(0-7) - New Ross
7/12	Clann na nGael (MH)	(0-13) Rathgarogue Cushinstown (WX)	(0-12) - Pairc Tailteann

Leinster Club Intermediate Hurling Championship (Murphy Cup)

26/10	Rosenallis (LS)	(3-12) Bagenalstown Gaels (CW)	(1-15) - Fenagh
2/11	Seir Kieran (OY)	(1-18) Kildalkey (MH)	(0-10) - Trim
2/11	Tullaroan (KK)	(3-18) Rosenallis (LS)	(1-12) - O Moore Park
2/11	Naas (KE)	(0-14) Cloughbawn (WX)	(0-9) - Bellefield
2/11	Bray Emmets (WW)	(2-17) Scoil Ui Chonaill (DB)	(1-7) - Aughrim
16/11	Tullaroan (KK)	(3-17) Naas (KE)	(1-13) - Callan
16/11	Seir Kierans (OY)	(1-13) Bray Emmets (WW)	(0-13) - Aughrim
30/11	Tullaroan (KK)	(2-25) Seir Kieran (OY)	(2-13) - Nowlan Park

AIB Leinster Intermediate Football Championship

26/10	Mattock Rangers (LH)	(1-13) Bracknagh (OY)	(1-10) - Gracefield
26/10	Dunlavin (WW)	(1-11) Caulry (WH)	(0-7) - Athlone
27/10	Fr Manning Gaels (LD)	(1-10) O'Hanrahans (CW)	(0-12) - Fenagh
9/11	Dunlavin (WW)	(2-15) Nobber (MH)	(1-12) - Baltinglass
9/11	Mullinavat (KK)	(3-11) Ballyboughal (DB)	(2-11) - Thomastown
9/11	Rosenallis (LS)	(2-9) Fr Manning Gaels (LD)	(1-6) - Killoe
10/11	Mattock Rangers (LH)	(3-9) Monasterevin (KE)	(1-8) - Stabannon Parnells
23/11	Mullinavat (KK)	(2-10) Rosenallis (LS)	(1-7) - Dunmore
23/11	Mattock Rangers (LH)	(2-17) Dunlavin (WW)	(0-9) - Stabannon Parnells
7/12	Mattock Rangers (LH)	(1-14) Mullinavat (KK)	(0-11) - Drogheda

AIB Leinster Senior Football Championship (McCabe Cup)

27/10	Eire Og (CW)	(4-6) Castletown Liam Mellows (WX)	(1-10) - Carlow
27/10	St Patricks (WW)	(1-14) Ferbane (OY)	(2-9) - Tullaomre
27/10	Garrycastle (WH)	(0-15) Killoe Emmet Og (LD)	(0-6) - Mullingar
10/11	Eire Og (CW)	(1-12) Sarsfields (KE)	(0-9) - Carlow
10/11	Garrycastle (WH)	(3-11) Ratoath (MH)	(2-12) - Mullingar
10/11	Ballyboden St Endas (DB)	(1-11) Newtown Blues (LH)	(0-5) - Drogheda
10/11	Portlaoise (LS)	(1-11) St Patricks (ww)	(2-8) - Aughrim
Penalties – Portlaoise (5) St Patricks (4)			
23/11	Eire Og (CW)	(2-11) Portlaoise (LS)	(1-6) - Portlaoise
24/11	Ballyboden St Endas (DB)	(3-14) Garrycastle (WH)	(0-12) - Mullingar
8/12	Ballyboden St Endas (D)	(0-08) Eire Og (CW)	(0-06) - Portlaoise

Leinster Club Senior Hurling Championship (O'Neill Cup)

3/11	Rathdowney Errill (LS)	(4-16) St Rynaghs (OY)	(0-10) - Portlaoise
3/11	St Mullins (CW)	(2-13) Cuala (DB)	(0-18) - Carlow
3/11	Shamrocks Ballyhale (KK)	(3-21) Clonkill (WH)	(2-15) - Mullingar
16/11	Shamrocks Ballyhale (KK)	(5-19) St Martins (wx)	(1-16) - Kilkenny
17/11	St Mullins (CW)	(2-17) Rathdowney Errill (LS)	(1-19) - Carlow
1/12	Shamrocks Ballyhale (KK)	(1-21) St Mullins (CW)	(0-15) - Portlaoise



Cluichí Iarbhunscoileanna Laighean 2018-2019

COMORATS PEIL	BUATHOIRI	NEASOIRI	ÁTH CLIATH
Sen F "A"	Naas C.B.S.	Marist, Athlone	Sen F "A"
Sen F "B"	Lucan C.B.S.	Gallen C.S.,Ferbane	Sen F "B"
Sen F "C"	St.Cillian's, Ardee C.S.	Terenure College	Sen F "C"
Sen F "D"	St.Farnan's,Prosperous	H.F.C.S., Rathcoole	Sen F "D"
Jun. F "A"	Col. Mhuire, Mullingar	Colaiste Eoin	Sen F "D1"
Jun F "B"	St.Joseph's, Rochfort-bridge	St.Declan's C.B.S.	(Section 1)
Jun F "C"	Mercy., Kilbeggan	St.Mac Dara's C.C.	Sen F "D2"
Jun F "D"	Cross & Passion, Kilcullen	Clonaslee VS	(Section 2)
Juv. F "A"	Good Counsel College	Scoil Aodhain	Sen H "A"
Juv. F "B"	Gorey C.S.	St.Colmcille's C.S.	Sen H "B"
Juv. F "C"	Cross & Passion, Kilcullen	Ballymahon V.S	Sen H "C"
Juv. F "D"	Borris V.S.	Oaklands C.C	Sen. H "C1"
Juv. F "A"			Juv. F "A"
Juv. F "B"			Juv. F "B"
Juv. F "C"			Juv. F "C"
Juv. F "D"			Juv. F "D"
Juv. F "E"			Juv. F "E"
Juv. F "F"			(Section 2)
Jun.F "A"			Jun.F "A"
Jun.F "B"			Jun.F "B"
Jun. F "C"			Jun. F "C"
Jun.F "E"			(Section 1)
Jun.F "F"			(Section 2)
Jun.F "A"			Jun.F "A"
Jun.F "B"			Jun.F "B"
Jun. F "C"			Jun. F "C"
Jun.F "E"			(Section 1)
Jun.F "F"			(Section 2)
Jun.H "A"			Jun.H "A"
Jun.H "B"			Jun.H "B"
Jun.H "C"			Jun.H "C"
Jun.H "D"			Jun.H "D"
Jun.H "E"			Jun.H "E"
Jun. H "A"			Jun. H "A"
Jun. H "B"			Jun. H "B"
Jun. H "C"			Jun. H "C"
Jun. H "D"			Jun. H "D"
Jun. H "E"			Jun. H "E"
Jun. H "F"			Jun. H "F"
Jun. H "G"			Jun. H "G"
Jun. H "H"			Jun. H "H"
Jun. H "I"			Jun. H "I"
Jun. H "J"			Jun. H "J"
Jun. H "K"			Jun. H "K"
Jun. H "L"			Jun. H "L"
Jun. H "M"			Jun. H "M"
Jun. H "N"			Jun. H "N"
Jun. H "O"			Jun. H "O"
Jun. H "P"			Jun. H "P"
Jun. H "Q"			Jun. H "Q"
Jun. H "R"			Jun. H "R"
Jun. H "S"			Jun. H "S"
Jun. H "T"			Jun. H "T"
Jun. H "U"			Jun. H "U"
Jun. H "V"			Jun. H "V"
Jun. H "W"			Jun. H "W"
Jun. H "X"			Jun. H "X"
Jun. H "Y"			Jun. H "Y"
Jun. H "Z"			Jun. H "Z"



Leinster GAA

Comhdháil Cinn Bliana

LAIGHEAN THUAIDH	BUATHOIRI	NEASOIRI
Sen F "B"	Gallen C.S., Ferbane	Cnoc Mhuire, Granard
Sen F "C"	Ardee C.S.	Mercy Sec. Sch Ballymahon
Sen F "D"	Killina Pres. Sec. Sch	St.Finian's, Mullingar
Sen F Lge "A"	St. Pat's,Navan	Marist Athlone
Sen H "C"	Boyne C.S.	Portlaoise C.B.S.
Sen H "C1"	Clonaslee V.S.	Dunshaughlin C.C.
Sen F "A"	Col.Mhuire, Mullingar	Marist, Athlone
Sen F "B"	St.Joseph's, Rochfort-bridge	Ballymahon V.S.
Jun. F "C"	Mercy, Kilbeggan	Bush P.P.
Jun. F "D"	Clonaslee V.S.	Col de Lacy
Juv. H "B"	Mountrath C.S.	Col. Mhuire, Mullingar
Juv. H "C1"	In Progress	Banagher College
Jun H "B"	Naas C.B.S.	St.Fergal's Rathdowney
Jun. H "C"	St.Joseph's, Rochfort-Bridge	Castlepollard C.C.
Jun. H "C1"	St. Finian's Mullingar	
Sen F "B"	Scoil Dara, Kilcock	F.C.J. Bunclody
Sen F "C"	Pres D.L.S., Bagenalstown	Col. Eoin Hacketstown
Sen F "D"	St.Farnan's Prosperous	Clonaslee V.S.
Sen F Lge "A"	St.Peter's Wexford	Naas CBS
Sen. H "C"	Bridgetown V.C.	Wexford C.B.S.
Sen. H "C1"	New Ross C.B.S	Duiske College
Juv. F "A"	Good Counsel College	Sc. Mhuire, Clane
Jun. F "B"	Gorey C.S.	St.Mary's C.B.S., Enniscorthy
Juv. F "C"	Cross & Passion, Kilcullen	Kilkenny C.B.S.
Juv. F "D"	Borris V.S.	Col. Mhuire, Johnstown
Juv. F "D" (11-a-side)	Duiske College	Portlaoise College
Jun F "A"	Naas C.B.S	Good Counsel Col.
Jun.F "B"	Scoil Dara, Kilcock	St. Mary's C.B.S., Enniscorthy
Jun. F "D1"	Cross & Passion, Kilcullen	Borris V.S.
Jun. F "D2"	Duiske College	Meanscoil Gharman
Juv. H "B"	Gorey C.S.	F.C.J. Bunclody
Juv. H "C"	Knockbeg College	Pres DLS Bagenalstown
Juv. H "C1"	Col. an Atha, Kilmuckridge	Duiske College
Jun. H "B"	Gorey C.S.	Heywood C.S.
Jun. H "C"	Col. Bhride, Carnew	Pres. D.L.S., Bagenalstown
Jun. H "C1"	New Ross C.B.S.	Duiske College

Leinster GAA

Comhdháil Cinn Bliana

Handball - Boys

Colleges 60 x 30	
U-19 Singles	O'Carolan Col., Nobber
U-19 Doubles	St. Kieran's, Kilkenny
U-17 Singles	Grennan Col. Thomastown
U-17 Doubles	Castlecomer C.S.
U-15 Singles	Kilkenny C.B.S.
U-15 Doubles	Col. Eamann Rís, Callan
First Yr. Doubles	Grennan Col. Thomastown
Colleges 40 x 30	
U-19 Singles	St.Kieran's Kilkenny
U-19 Doubles	Castlecomer C.S.
U-17 Singles	Grennan Col. Thomastown
U-17 Doubles	Castlecomer C.S.
U-15 Singles	Kilkenny C.B.S.
U-15 Doubles	Col.Mhuire Johnstown

Handball - Girls

Colleges 60 x 30	
U-19 Singles	Confey College
U-19 Doubles	Grennan Col. Thomastown
U-16 Singles	Col. Chiarain, Leixlip
U-16 Doubles	St. Brigid's Callan
Colleges 40 x 20	
U-19 Singles	Confey College
U-19 Doubles	Grennan Col., Thomastown
U-16 Singles	Castlecomer C.S.
U-16 Doubles	St. Brigid's, Callan



Hall of Fame 2019

Hurling

Christy O'Brien (Laois)

Christy O'Brien sailed the championship seas with Laois' flagship hurling team over the course of three decades, starting out in 1955, playing throughout the entire 1960s before docking in 1970 when making his farewell appearance as a sub, revealing in an interview with the GAA Oral History that he was on the bank that day in Birr and was called on to tog out.

During that time O'Brien made 24 championship appearances, a versatile character, as, of his 23 starts, 15 were in defence (8 was at full-back, 2 at left full back,

3 at centre-half back, 2 at left half back) and 8 in attack (7 at centre half forward, 1 at full forward).

Proof of his prowess in attack is the fact that Christy scored 11-23 (56), 11-16 from play, 0-7 from placed balls, 4-1 of that tally compiled when starting out in defence and brought forward to try and save the day. During the course of his championship career Christy contested 5 Leinster semi-finals - 1956, 1959, 1962, 1965, 1967 - suffering defeats at the hurls of Wexford (3) and Kilkenny (2).

While championship success eluded Christy and Laois, the O'Moore County did win two NHL Division 2 titles, 1959-60 and 1964-65, Christy's league career predating his championship start by a 3 years graduating from minor ranks in the early 1950s.

His outstanding hurling with Laois saw Christy selected on the Leinster Railway Cup team, playing

all his hurling with the province in attack and right well he did too, scoring 5-3 in 8 appearances including 5 finals against Munster,

the Laois man winning three Railway Cup medals on the field of play, 1962, 1964 and 1965. Christy had previously won a Railway Cup medal in 1956 when selected to play the final but forced to cry off.

In 1966 Christy, along with Bernie Hartigan of Limerick was selected to join hurling legends Christy Ring and John Doyle, both winners of 8 All-Ireland medals, to travel to America for the Cardinal Cushing Games in New York and Boston, a trip he recalls with great fondness in that Oral History interview with Regina Fitzpatrick.

Selected on the Rest of Ireland hurling team in the 1960s, his greatest individual honour came in 1984 when selected at full-forward on the Team of the Century of the greatest 15 never to have won an All-Ireland medal. Again he was in exalted company, that team reading: Seanie Duggan (Galway); Jim Fives (Waterford/Galway); Noel Drumgoole (Dublin), John Joe 'Goggles' Doyle (Clare); Sean Herbert (Limerick), Sean Stack (Clare), Colm Doran (Wexford); Joe Salmon (Galway), John 'Jobber' McGrath (Westmeath); Josie Gallagher (Galway), Martin Quigley (Wexford), Kevin Armstrong (Antrim); Jimmy Smith (Clare), Christy O'Brien (Laois), Mick Bermingham (Dublin).

Having enjoyed his first success with his school team in the late 1940s, on the club scene Christy with his beloved Borris-in-Ossory won a Laois JHC in '52, an IHC in '53 and 5 Laois SHC medals, 1956, 1957, 1960, 1961 and his swan song in 1972 when almost 40 years of age he scored 3-4 in the county final.

Leinster GAA

Comhdháil Cinn Bliana

Football

Ollie Crinnegan (Kildare)

Ollie Crinnegan, Kildare's first All-Star, honoured with selection as the 1978 goalkeeper, made a massive 139 competitive outings with his county senior team between 1965 and 1980, 42 of those Lilywhite appearances in the championship but alas the outstanding net guardian suffered the heartache of six Leinster SFC final defeats (1966, 1969, 1971, 1972, 1975, 1978).

Kildare and Crinnegan also lost the 1968 National League final to Down but won a National League Division 2 medal in 1974 with a victory over Dublin's emerging Heffo's Army. His only other senior inter-county medal was an O'Byrne Cup memento in 1971.

In 1965 Crinnegan played minor, U21 and senior championship football, actually playing in a minor and senior championship match on the one day. Kildare were beaten in the Leinster minor final that year but the U21's not only won Leinster but went on the win the All-Ireland title playing an exciting brand of football.

A full-back with Edenderry and Offaly Vocational School teams, Crinnegan was called on as a goalkeeper by the Kildare minor selectors for a game against Offaly and remained there ever after.

He has played Leinster SFC against all 11 other Leinster counties.

Leinster GAA

Comhdháil Cinn Bliana



He has also played again those 11 in the NFL as well as facing all six Munster counties, Galway, Sligo and Roscommon from Connacht with Down the lone Ulster county Crinnegan played against in competitive fare. In all he played against 22 of the 32 counties as well as Warwickshire in a 1974 league play-off.

Presidents Awards 2019

- 2004
Paddy Kelly (MH)
Paddy Flanagan (WM)
Kevin O'Brien (WW)
John Doyle (WX)
Con Ryan (D)
Miriam Malone (KE)
Michael Walsh (KK)
- 2005
William Price (D)
John Cullen (WX)
Bro. Denis Minihane (OY)
Paddy Collins (WM)
Patsy Kiernan (D)
John Nevin (CW)
- 2006
Martin Quigley (WX)
Kevin Heffernan (D)
Tadhg de Brun (D)
George Delaney (WW)
Margaret Delaney (LS)
Donal Hickey (D)
Marcus de Burca (D)
Jimmy Bergin (KK)
- 2007
Tommy O'Brien (KK)
Podge Butler (KK)
Gerry Buckley (WM)
Pat Holland (LH)
Bro. Bosco Mulhare (LS/CW)
Lulu Carroll (LS)
- 2008
John Ryan (LD)
Fr. Moling Lennon (CW/KE)
Michael Noel Byrne (OY)
- 2009
Fr. Michael Cremin (WM)
L.V. Conway (CW)
Peter Keogh (WW)
Ned Quinn (KK)
Ger Murphy, St. Olaf's (DB) Education

- 2010
Tommy McLoughlin (LD)
Charlie McAllister (LH)
Mary Donohue, (LS)
Cathal Friel (WW)
Christopher Hughes (D)
- 2011
Fintan Ginnity (MH)
John Curtis (WX)
- 2012
Brian Finnegan (WW)
Tommy Nally (KE)
Fitzhenry Family, Duffry Rovers (WX)
Martin Meagher, Carlow IT (3rd Level)
Rosemount GAA Club (WM) Social Initiative
- 2013
Michael Mulhaire (LS)
Noel Murphy (D)
Michael Dowling (LS)
Peter Rice (WX)
Seán Gavin (CW)
- 2014
Máire Ní Cheallaigh (DB)
Maureen Kincaid (OY)
- 2015
Har Ramsbottom (LS)
Kevin Loughlin (MH)
- 2016
Ned Flynn (WH)
Paddy McMahon (LH)
- 2017
Ann Gannon, Summerhill (MH)
Matt Purcell, Baltimore Eustace GAA Handball Club (KE)
John Sheridan, Kilmacud Cokes GAA Club (DB)
Ger Proctor, Cuchulainn Rounders Club (CW)
- 2018
Jack Napier, Bray Emmets (WW)
Margaret O'Leary-Lacey, Buffers Alley, (WX) Camogie
- 2019
Mick Spain, Drumcullen (OY)
Kathleen Colreavy, Naomh Mearnóg (DB) LGFA
Tony Breen, (WX) Handball
Ciarán Ó Feinneadha, Na Gaeil Óga (DB) Gaeilge
Br James Dormer, (DB/WX) Education

Leinster GAA

Comhdháil Cinn Bliana



Volunteer Awards 2019

Comhairle Laighean Hall of Fame

- 2003 Michael "Ducksie" Walsh (Kilkenny)
2004 Leinster Camogie Team of the Century
2005 Brian Smith (Meath)
2006 Tony Doran (Wexford)
2007 Pat Henderson (Kilkenny)
2008 Damien Martin (Offaly)
2009 Pat Critchley (Laois)
2010 Jimmy Gray (Dublin)
2011 Eddie Keher (Kilkenny)
2012 David Kilcoyne (Westmeath)
2013 Pat Dunney (Kildare)
2014 Paddy Quirke (Carlow)
2015 Don Hyland (Wicklow)
2016 Mick Jacob (Wexford)
2017 Brian Whelehan (Offaly)
2018 D.J. Carey (Kilkenny)
2019 Chrsity O'Brien (Laois)
- Seán Óg Ó Ceallachán (Dublin)
Paddy Flanagan (Westmeath)
Kevin Heffernan (Dublin)
Sean Boylan (Meath)
Eugene McGee (Longford)
Seamus Aldridge (Kildare)
Frank Lynch (Louth)
Kevin O'Brien (Wicklow)
Cyril Hughes (Carlow)
Matt Connor (Offaly)
Mick Carty (Wexford)
Jack Kenna (Laois)
Des Barry (Longford)
Trevor Giles (Meath)
Des Dolan (Westmeath)
Jimmy Keaveney (Dublin)
Ollie Crinnigan (Kildare)

Comhairle Laighean Club Website Award

- 2007 Tara Rowan, Jeff Sheridan & Brendan Cummins (Meath GAA)
2008 Chris Lynam (St. Brigid's GAA Club, Dublin)
2009 Brian Ramsbottom and David Kelly (Park-Ratheniska GAA Club, Laois)
2010 Paddy Bates and Gerry O'Sullivan (Ballyboden St. Enda's GAA Club, Dublin)
2011 Fearghal Gogan and Aidan McHugh (Dunshaughlin GAA Club, Meath)
2012 Fergus McNally and Noel Manning (St. Jude's GAA Club, Dublin)
2013 Marc Cunningham and Anthony Rowan (The Downs Club, Westmeath)
2014 Colm Devaney, Jimmy Halpin, John Dowd (Emmet Og GAA Club, Longford)
2015 Brian Ramsbottom (Park-Ratheniska GAA Club, Laois)
2016 St. Colmcille's GAA Club (Meath)
2017 Mary Foley (Buffers Alley GAA Club, Wexford)
2018 Colm Cummins (Edenderry GAA Club, Offaly)
2019 Sinéad O'Dea (Ballyboden St Endas GAA Club, Dublin)

Comhairle Laighean Match Programme Award

- 2004 Alan Aherne (Wexford)
2005 Brendan Cummins (Meath)
2006 John Duffy (Longford)
2007 Mary Foley (Wexford)
2008 Mary Foley (Wexford)
2009 Brendan Cummins (Meath)
2010 Mary Foley (Wexford)
2011 Ronan Lynch (Louth)
- 2012 Ronan Lynch (Louth)
2013 Tomás Moore (Laois)
2014 Martin O'Halloran (Meath)
2015 Martin O'Halloran (Meath)
2016 Martin O'Halloran (Meath)
2017 Bob Doheny (Louth)
2018 Ciarán Flynn (Meath)
2019 Ciarán Flynn (Meath)

Comhairle Laighean County PRO Award

- 2016 Seamus Reade (Kilkenny)
2017 Christine Murray (Kildare)
2018 Pat O'Sullivan (Laois)
2019 PJ Howlin (Wexford)

Leinster GAA

Comhdháil Cinn Bliana



DUBLIN LEINSTER GAA SENIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS 2019



WEXFORD LEINSTER GAA SENIOR HURLING CHAMPIONS 2019



KILDARE LEINSTER GAA MINOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS 2019



WEXFORD LEINSTER GAA MINOR HURLING CHAMPIONS 2019



MEATH LEINSTER GAA JUNIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS 2019



WESTMEATH BORD NA MÓNA O'BYRNE CUP WINNERS 2018



DUBLIN LEINSTER GAA U-20 FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS 2019



GALWAY BORD NA MÓNA WALSH CUP WINNERS 2018



GALWAY LEINSTER GAA U-21 HURLING CHAMPIONS 2019



WESTMEATH BORD NA MÓNA KEHOE CUP WINNERS 2018







HANDBALL

2019 Yearly Report

New National Handball Centre at Croke Park.

Dublin's Eoin Kennedy rolled back the years on an emotional night at Handball HQ tonight as he captured his tenth Myclubshop.ie Senior Singles title in what surely must rank as one of, if not his sweetest ever victory.

Leinster continue to dominate in the soft Ball court winning Open singles and Doubles intermediate singles and doubles, minor singles and doubles, Ladies Intermediate singles and Ladies minor singles.

In 4 Wall game leinster won All-Ireland Titles the Open Singles, Ladies minor singles and doubles, Ladies Intermediate singles.

Leinster dominated the Open handball winning four of the six titles on offer. Kilkenny won three of the with Robbie McCarthy winning the Open Singles.

John West Feile 4 Wall, One Wall and Soft ball were held in South Leinster proved to be a huge success. The was the first that there was a stand- alone Soft ball Feile with 26 Teams taking part

At Juvenile level is falling behind other provinces winning 4 Titles in both codes. As juvenile competition has fallen off a bit with just four counties, Kilkenny, Wexford, Carlow and Laois entering the full complement of Juvenile players.

GAA Handball enters a new era with the closing of the Handball Centre in Croke opened in 1972 and expected opening of the New state of the art National Handball Centre at Croke Park. GAA Handball has long craved a home to be proud of, and this state of the art new centre is sure to be the beginning of a new dawn for our sport, an iconic home that young players will aspire to play in, with our first major finals hosted anticipated to be the All-Ireland 4-Wall Singles Finals in March 2020.

At National Level Joe Masterson (Offaly) tenure as GAA Handball President ends at GAA Handball Congress in n February 2020. Dessie Keegan (Mayo) was elected President elect at Congress in Dunboyne on 3rd February 2019.

A brilliant evening on Saturday at Dunboyne Castle saw a sold out gathering of 200 Handballers celebrate the 2018 All-Star Awards. Leinster only award winner was Young Female Player of The Year - Leah Doyle (Kildare).



Leinster GAA

Comhdháil Cinn Bliana

A coaching initiative has been started by (Kilkenny-Laois- Carlow) to develop players in the 3 counties. Progress has been made but it will take time to reach targets.

Other grouping suggested are (Dublin-Kildare-Louth), (Wicklow - Wexford) and Offaly -Meath - Westmeath - Longford). Nothing of note have happened in these areas yet. The (Kilkenny-Laois- Carlow) is a template for the other areas. The other areas have to get going someway or other.

National Cumann na mBunscol

All that is good about GAA Handball was in evidence in Kingscourt Handball Club, Cavan on Saturday 02nd March 2019, where numerous young families travelled from all corners of the country to compete in the Day.

From Galway to Wexford, from Tyrone to Kerry, young stars of the future, having won their way through their Provincial Championships, got the chance to represent their Provinces, and compete against top players in singles and doubles across the U11 & U13 grades.

2019 Second Level Colleges 4 Wall Finals.

2019 Leinster GAA Second Level Handball 4-wall Championship.

2019 Leinster GAA Second Level Handball 4-wall Championship was completed on Sunday 26th January 2019. There were entries from Kilkenny, Wexford, Laois, Meath, Offaly and Kildare. Large entries in boy's competition but worrying very small entries in girl's competition.

Leinster GAA Handball Second Level College Winners 4 Wall.

Boys.

Junior Singles (u15):
Col Mhuire Johnstown – John Doheny

Junior Doubles (u15):
Col Mhuire Johnstown – Tomas Sharkey & Daniel Hanrahan

Intermediate Singles (u17):
Wexford CBS -Mark Doyle (Wexford CBS)

Intermediate Doubles (u17):
Castlecomer CS – Kyle Dunne & Billy O'Neill

Senior Singles (u19):
O'Carolan Col Nobber – Conor Owens & Adam Crosbie

Senior Doubles (u19):
Grennan Thomastown – Jack Holden

Girls:

Junior Singles (u16):
Pres SS Kilkenny - Noelle Dowling.

Junior Doubles (u16):
St. Brigid's College Callan _
– Sontae Jackson & Nathania Jackson

Senior Singles (u19):
Col Chiarain Leixlip – Mollie Dagg

Senior Doubles (u19):
Grennan Thomastown
– Dearbhail O'Keeffe & Roisin O'Keeffe



Leinster GAA

Comhdháil Cinn Bliana

GAA Handball Second Level Colleges All-Ireland Finals.

There were some great tight games of Handball played at the 4 Wall 2nd level colleges championships that was played in Bawn, Corduff and Kells courts. The Senior Winners were as follows. Kilkenny's Jack Holden representing Greenan College, Thomastown when he captured the Boys Senior Singles title while Kildare's Mollie Dagg, Colaiste Chiarain, Leixlip took home the Girls Senior Singles title. What's remarkable was that both players also won the Soft Ball 2nd level colleges titles back last October.

Titles went to the four corners of the country as the cream of the crop came to the top. No one school dominated the titles with Ten different schools taking one title a piece. It was a very good day for Kilkenny handball as they took home three titles, Clare followed with two, while Galway, Kildare, Mayo, Meath and Monaghan schools follow with one each. The 4 Wall season has begun in earnest now with the first All Ireland's decided. Some of these players will meet again through the season for more titanic tussles on the court.

GAA Handball would like to thank all the venue official's, referees, players, parents/teachers, Tadhg Doran (Leinster GAA) and coaches for making the day such a success.

GAA Handball 4 Wall Second Level Colleges -Leinster Winners.

GJS Final: Noelle Dowling (Pres SS, Kilkenny) defeated Mairead Fox (Loreto, Omagh)

BID Final: Kyle Dunne/Billy O'Neill (Castlecomer CS, Kilkenny) defeated Conor Owens/Jack Darcy (Omagh CBS) 15-3, 15-9

BSS Final: Jack Holden (Greenan College, Kilkenny) defeated Alan Masterson (Rice College, Westport)

GSS Final: Mollie Dagg (Col Chiarain Leixlip, Kildare) defeated Caitlin Conway (Dean Maguire)

BSD Final: Conor Owens/Adam Crosbie (O'Carolan Col Nobber, Meath) defeated Konrad Kowal/Justas Dumbinskas (St. Macartan's, Monaghan)

2019 GAA Handball Gael Linn

The 29th Annual Gael Linn competition which took place today saw the country's best young handballers descend on Ballydesmond HC, Cork to compete for the novel mixed doubles event. The competition is played with the use of the Irish language being encouraged throughout it.

The format of the Gael Linn sees two pairings from each Province (one boy and one girl) play off in a timed basis of 3 matches; Girls Singles, Boys Singles, Mixed Doubles. A strong field, with names now well known in Handballing circles resulted in a series of exciting tussles which led to Clogh's (Kilkenny) Katie Brennan and Bobby Brennan coming out

top of the pile following a 50-26 final victory against Cork's players Carmel Kelliher and Tomas O'Connor representing the Boherbue club. In the Solas section, Una Ni Dhugain and Niall Ó Draighneain of Galmoy overcame Annaghdown Ava Sweeney and Daniel Kavanagh.

GAA Handball would like to thank all the competitors, parents, coaches, volunteers and especially the host venue for making the day possible and most importantly, enjoyable for all the players.

Corn Section

QF:

- Galmoy W/O Breacach scr.
- Boherbue defeated Moycullen 67-13
- Ballydesmond defeated Annaghdown 53-47
- Clogh W/O Loughmacrory scr.

SF:

- Boherbue defeated Galmoy 37-36
- Clogh defeated Ballydesmond 64-17

Final:

- Clogh defeated Boherbue 50-26
- Solas Section

SF:

- Galmoy defeated Moycullen 95-13
- Annaghdown W/O Loughmacrory scr.

Final:

- Galmoy defeated Annaghdown 80-16

For Leinster GAA handball this the busiest part of 4 Wall adult and Juvenile Season. The Adult 4 wall singles finals are completed, Second Level Colleges 4 Wall Handball Completed and Leinster GAA Handball Juvenile 4 Wall championship also completed.



The Leinster Allianz Cumann na mBunscol.

The Leinster Allianz Cumann na mBunscol boys handball competition took place in St Brigid's GAA club in Castleknock.

Boys U11 singles final.

Kilkenny (Eoin Brennan, Firoda NS) beat Wexford, (Eoin Kinsella, Coolgreaney NS)

Boys 11 Doubles final.

Wexford, (Conor Doyle and Danny Peiro Taghmon NS) beat Kilkenny, (Jack Egan and Shane Doyle Windgap NS).

Boys U13 Singles Final.

Kilkenny (Niall Drennan, Galmoy NS) beat Wexford, (Joshua Roche Screen NS)

Boys 13 Doubles Final.

Wexford (Seán Fitzharris and Michael O Rourke Scoil NaomhÁine NS, Rathgarogue) beat Kilkenny (Eanna O Keefe and Alex Begley, St Mary's NS Thomastown)



National Cumann na mBunscol Day.

All that is good about GAA Handball was in evidence in Kingscourt Handball Club, Cavan on Saturday 02nd March 2019, where numerous young families travelled from all corners of the country to compete in the Boys National Cumann na mBunscol Day.

From Galway to Wexford, from Tyrone to Kerry, young stars of the future, having won their way through their Provincial Championships, got the chance to represent their Provinces, and compete against top players in singles and doubles across the U11 & U13 grades. What was clear from the abundance of matches throughout the day is that the future is bright for GAA Handball, with the standard of play increasing year on year. Boys, some as young as 8 -9 years of age displayed skill levels beyond their years, which clearly highlights the hours upon hours of volunteer coaching and effort that is taking place nationwide is paying dividends.

An additional treat was on offer for all the young enthusiasts in the form of two top class Men's All-Ireland Open with the top two players in Ireland on court. Robbie McCarthy of Westmeath had to pull out all the stops to withstand a gutsy challenge from Meath's Brian Carroll, winning in a tiebreaker, whilst arguably the game's best ever player Paul Brady putting in a mesmerizing display to defeat Antrim's Owen McKenna.

GAA Handball would like to thank the numerous parents, coaches, volunteers and referees for their priceless help on the day, and for their effort in bringing the children to the event. But most importantly we would like to congratulate all the players for their excellent performances whilst representing their Provinces.

2019 Leinster GAA Handball Adult 4 Wall Championship.

Entries are up on last year by 20. Kilkenny and Wexford lead the way with entries from 11 Leinster Counties.

Overall Leinster won 17 Titles notably Men's Senior Singles, Men's Intermediate Doubles, Ladies Minor Singles and Doubles and Intermediate Singles.

GRADE	WINNER	COUNTY	RUNNER UP	COUNTY
DBMD	Tom Byrne / Miley Byrne	Wexford	Tommy Kelly / Eddie Dunne	Laois
DMAD	Michael Rossiter / Benny Doyle	Wexford	Martin Clancy / Tom Kane	Carlow
DMAS	Benny Doyle	Wexford	Michael Rossiter	Wexford
DMBS	Tom Byrne	Wexford	Gerry Murphy	Kilkenny
EMAD	Robbie McCarthy Snr / Liam Cassidy	Westmeath	Philly Parsons / Eamonn Purcell	Kilkenny
EMAS	Michael Dowling	Kildare	Robbie McCarthy Snr	Westmeath
EMBD	Stephen Murphy / Brendan Murphy*	Wexford	Martin Mc Kenna/ Kevin Mc Kenna	Dublin
EMBS	Joe Brennan	Laois	Rory Lynch	Dublin
GMAD	Tom Sheridan/John Leahy	Meath	Mick Armstrong* / Mick Carty	Wexford
GMAS	Tom Sheridan	Meath	Egin Jensen	Dublin
GMBD	Brendan Higginbottom/ Billy Higginbottom	Kildare	Tommy Armstrong / Jimmy Dunne	Wexford
GMBS	Brendan Higginbotham	Kildare	Ricky Barron	Wexford
ID	Galen Riordan/ Peter Hughes	Wexford	Ciaran Neary /Brendan Burke	Kilkenny
IS	Gary McConnell	Meath	Gaelen Riordan	Wexford
JBD	Sean Foley Eamonn Hawe	Kilkenny	Micheal Busher/ Robert Byrne	Wexford
JBS	Darren Carter	Westmeath	Jamie Balfe	Kildare
JD	Kevin Barrett/Aaron Geoghegan	Carlow	Darren O'Toole / Malachy Whelan	Wexford
JS	Brian Mahon	Kilkenny	Chris Doyle	Wicklow
LID	Hannah Dagg / Mollie Dagg	Kildare	No Opposition	
LIS	Molly Dagg	Kildare	Hannah Dagg	Kildare
LJBD	Dearbhail O'Keefe / Sorcha Delaney	Kilkenny	Aoife Brophy /Lauren McGuigan	Laois
LJBS	Margaret Purcell	Margaret Purcell	Dearbhail O'Keefe	Kilkenny
LJCD	Nicole Dowling /Lauren Grace	Nicole Dowling /Lauren Grace	No Opposition	
LJCS	Lucia Merrigan	Lucia Merrigan	Nicole Dowling	Kilkenny
LJD	Marguerite Gore / Cora Doyle	Marguerite Gore / Cora Doyle	Aoife Holden /Deirdre Purcell	Kilkenny
LJS	Meadhbh Ní Dhálaigh	Meadhbh Ní Dhálaigh	Cora Doyle	Wexford
LMD	Leah Doyle / Abby Tarrant	Leah Doyle / Abby Tarrant	Roisin O'Keefe /Mary Ellen Phelan	Kilkenny
LMS	Leah Doyle	Leah Doyle	Noelle Dowling	Kilkenny
MAD	Egin Jensen / Johnathan Westlake	Egin Jensen / Johnathan Westlake	No Opposition	
MAS	Barry McWilliams	Barry McWilliams	Gavin Grace	Kildare
MBD	John Roche / David Redmond	John Roche / David Redmond	John Morrissey / Noel Doherty	Kilkenny



GRADE	WINNER	COUNTY	RUNNER UP	COUNTY
MBS	Noel Doherty	Noel Doherty	Fergal McWilliams	Wexford
MD	Jack Holden/Jack Doyle	Jack Holden/Jack Doyle	Billy O'Neill/ Kyle Dunne	Kilkenny
MS	Josh Kavanagh	Josh Kavanagh	Jack Holden	Kilkenny
O35AD	Gavin Buggy / Paddy Haughton*	Gavin Buggy / Paddy Haughton*	David Hope* / Noel Murphy	Offaly
O35AS	Gavin Buggy	Gavin Buggy	David Hope	Offaly
O35BD	Diarmuid Burke*/Anthony Martin	Diarmuid Burke*/Anthony Martin	Ciaran Gallogly / Damian Carty	Kildare
O35BS	Diarmuid Burke	Diarmuid Burke	James Stanners	Wexford
O70D	Tony Campbell/Dermot Howard	Tony Campbell/Dermot Howard	No Opposition	
O70S	Eugene Kennedy	Eugene Kennedy	Dermot Howard	Kildare
RMD	Sean Ryan / John Rossiter*	Sean Ryan / John Rossiter*	Eugene Kennedy/Vinny Farrelly	Dublin
RMS	John Rossiter	John Rossiter	Tony Breen	Wexford
SMAD	Conor O'Brien / Sean Ryan	Conor O'Brien / Sean Ryan	Willie Holden /Eddie Burke	Kilkenny
SMAS	Adrian Benson	Adrian Benson	Michael Sheridan	Meath
SMBD	Joe Mulvanney / David Mulanniff	Joe Mulvanney / David Mulanniff	Mick Fogarty / Ray Fogarty	Laois
SMBS	John Roche	John Roche	Ray Fogarty	Laois
SS	Peter Funchion	Peter Funchion	Gavin Buggy	Wexford
U21	Kevin Diggins	Kevin Diggins	Eoin Brennan	Kilkenny
U21D	Eoin Brennan/Connor Murphy	Eoin Brennan/Connor Murphy	Cathal Barry / Aidan Barry*	Kilkenny

GAA Handball All-Ireland Adult 4 Wall -Leinster Winners.

Leinster won 12 Singles and 5 Doubles titles in total in the GAA Handball S 4 Wall finals in Kingscourt Pride of place goes to Robbie McCarthy (Westmeath) on winning Men's Senior Singles Titles, Leah Doyle and Mollie Dagg (Kildare) winning ladies Minor and intermediate Singles finals plus Leah Doyle along with Abby Tarrant won Ladies Minor Doubles.



Robbie McCarthy jnr. 2019 Open 4 Wall Champion.

1. MSS Westmeath (Robbie McCarthy) defeated Clare (Diarmuid Nash) 21-17, 21-15
2. O35AS Wexford (Gavin Buggy) defeated Mayo (Joe McCann) 21-10, 21-17
3. SMAS Dublin (Adrian Benson) defeated Mayo (Michael Ginley) 21-18, 21-7
4. GMAS Meath (Tom Sheridan) defeated Tyrone (Niall Kerr) 21-13, 21-2
5. EMAS Kildare (Mick Dowling) defeated Tyrone (Conor Kerr) 21-0, 21-14
6. EMBS Laois (Joe Brennan) defeated Down (Sean McNally) 21-4, 21-19
7. DMAS Wexford (Benny Doyle) defeated Antrim (Thomas Maguire) 21-15, 21-20
8. RMS Carlow (John Rossiter) defeated Monaghan (Michael McCarron) 21-0, 21-11
9. O70S Dublin (Eugene Kennedy) defeated Galway (Morgan Darcy) 21-6, 17-3 ret. inj.
10. LMS Kildare (Leah Doyle) defeated Galway (Niamh Heffernan) 21-8, 21-16
11. LJBS Kilkenny (Margaret Purcell) defeated Sligo (Laura Finn) 6-21, 21-15, 21-17
12. LIS Kildare (Molly Dagg) defeated Tyrone (Eilise McRory) 21-14, 21-17
13. ID Wexford (Galen Riordan/Peter Hughes) defeated Tyrone (Ryan Mullan/Gary McCrory) 21-5, 21-4
14. SMAD Offaly (Conor O'Brien/Sean Ryan) defeated Tyrone (Chris Curran/Finbar Fullen) 21-11, 21-17
15. DMAD Wexford (Michael Rossiter/Benny Doyle) defeated Antrim (Thomas Maguire/Tony Caddell) 21-15, 19-21, 21-17
16. RMD Carlow (Sean Ryan/John Rossiter) defeated Galway (Bert Kelehan/Michael O'Malley) 21-0, 21-6
17. LMD Kildare (Leah Doyle/Abby Tarrant) defeated Mayo (Claire Reynolds/Cuileann Burke) 21-18, 21-8

2019 Leinster GAA Handball Juvenile 4 Wall Championship.

The Leinster GAA Handball Juvenile 4 Wall Championship has just been completed with Kilkenny capturing 20 of 24 Titles available. More worrying is the number counties that had no entries, notably Wicklow, Westmeath, Louth, Dublin, Kildare and Wicklow.

Boys.

Boys Under 12S:

Kilkenny Anthony Clifford defeated Wexford Conor Fanning

Boys Under 12D:

Kilkenny Bobby Brennan/James Kenny defeated Wexford Rory Goff / Sean Fitzharris

Boys Under 13S:

Kilkenny Conor Doyle defeated Wexford Jamie Barnes

Boys Under 13D:

Kilkenny Noah Manogue /Ross O'Neill defeated Wexford Rory Gilbert / Joshua Roche

Boys Under 14S:

Kilkenny Joe Prendergast defeated Wexford Eoin Roche

Boys Under 14D:

Kilkenny Michael Brennan/James Purcell defeated Wexford Bobby Doyle / Conor Horan

Boys Under 15S:

Kilkenny Conor Holden defeated Wexford Michael Connors

Boys Under 15D:

Kilkenny Harry Delaney/David Sherman defeated Wexford Miley Connors / Ryan Moran

Boys Under 16S:

Kilkenny Billy Drennan defeated Wexford Mark Doyle

Boys Under 16D:

Kilkenny Gearoid Phelan/John Doheny defeated Wexford Ben Keeling / Conor Murphy

Boys Under 17S:

Kilkenny Sean Purcell defeated Wexford Dean O'Neill

Boys Under 17D:

Wexford Joe Devereux / David Doyle Kilkenny defeated Eoin O'Brien/Ciaran O'Neill



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Girls.

Girls Under 12S:

Kilkenny Katie Jordan defeated Laois Orla Brophy

Girls Under 12D:

Kilkenny Mia O'Connell/ Emily Shorall defeated Laois Catherine Kirby / Aoife Kirby.

Girls Under 13S:

Kilkenny Aoibhe Ryan defeated Carlow Leah Ryan

Girls Under 13D:

Kilkenny Emma Kelly/Ellen Doherty defeated Laois Eadaoin Whyte / Orla Holland

Girls Under 14S:

Kilkenny Emer Barron defeated Wexford Jodie Keeling

Girls Under 14D:

Carlow Farrah Ryan/Holly Wall defeated Laois Lisa Kirby / Emma Delahunty.

Girls Under 15S:

Laois Una Brophy defeated Wexford Elizabeth Walsh

Girls Under 15D:

Kilkenny Lauren Power/Nathaina Jackson defeated Wexford Alannah Wogans / Rachel Goff

Girls Under 16S:

Kilkenny Amy Brennan defeated Wexford Danielle Kinsella

Girls Under 16D:

Kilkenny Sontae Jackson/Aine Duggan w/o Wexford April Moran /Emily Moran

Girls Under 17S:

Wexford Niamh Miller defeated Carlow Katie Barrett.

Girls Under 17D:

Kilkenny Oliva Mahony/Ciara Walsh defeated Laois Aoife Dunne / Roisin Fitzpatrick



Leinster GAA

Comhdháil Cinn Bliana

2019 GAA Handball Juvenile 4 Wall Championship.

Leinster GAA Handball played Munster in the semi-final winning 8, losing 7 and 1 walk over as Munster did not have Girls U17 Doubles representatives.

Leinster Winners of the Leinster-Munster 4 Wall Semi-final.

GU14S Wexford:
(Jodie Keeling) defeated Cork (Carmel Kelleher)

GU16S Kilkenny:
(Amy Brennan) defeated Cork (Muireann O'Brien)

BU14D Kilkenny:
(Michael Brennan/James Purcell) defeated Cork (Ben Sullivan/Darragh Murphy)

BU15S Kilkenny:
(Conor Holden) defeated Clare (Tony Leyden)

BU15D Kilkenny:
(Harry Delaney/David Shermar) defeated Waterford (Charlie Treen/Sean Callaghan)

BU16S Kilkenny:
(Billy Drennan) defeated Tipperary (Rory Grace) 21-5, 21-6

BU17S Wexford:
(Dean O'Neill) defeated Waterford (Jamie Moylan)

BU17D Wexford:
(Joe Devereux/David Doyle) defeated Cork (Darragh Ducey/Donal Jones)

Munster Winners of the Leinster-Munster 4 Wall Semi-final.

GU14D Tipperary:
(Hannah Grace/Leanne Gold) defeated Carlow (Farragh Ryan/Holly Wall)

GU15S Clare:
(Eimear Murphy) defeated Laois (Una Brophy)

GU15D Clare:
(Jennifer Nicholas/Aoife Dooley) defeated Kilkenny (Lauren Power/Nathaina Jackson)

GU16D Clare:
(Chloe Philpott/Leah Minogue) defeated Kilkenny (Sontae Jackson/Aine Duggan)

GU17S Cork:
(Sarah O'Malley) defeated Carlow (Katie Barrett)

BU14S Cork:
(Hayden Supple) defeated Kilkenny (Joseph Prendergast)

BU16D Kerry:
(Darragh Lynch/Sean Quirke) defeated Kilkenny (Gearoid Phelan/John Doheny)

Therefore, Leinster had 9 representatives in the GAA Handball All-Ireland finals in Kingscourt on Sunday 24th March 2019. Leinster won 6 Titles and losing 3 finals.

The highlight of the finals from a Leinster point of view is Billy Drennan (Kilkenny) beating Mikey Kelly (Galway) in the BU16S final. Overall Kilkenny won 4 Titles with Wexford winning 2 titles.

Well done to all players and coaches who took part,

GAA Handball All-Ireland Juvenile 4 Wall -Leinster Winners.

Girls.

GU16S Kilkenny:
(Amy Brennan) defeated Tyrone (Clodagh Munroe) 21-14, 21-7

Boys.

BU15S Kilkenny:
(Conor Holden) defeated Sligo (Cormac Finn) 15-5, 15-12

BU15D Kilkenny:
(Harry Delaney/David Sherman) defeated Galway (Cathal & Dara Ó Laoire) 15-1, 15-4

BU16S Kilkenny:
(Billy Drennan) defeated Galway (Mikey Kelly) 21-13, 21-6

BU17S Wexford:
(Dean O'Neill) defeated Monaghan (Deveidas Kaklauskas) 21-8, 21-19

BU17D Wexford:
(Joe Devereux/David Doyle) defeated Cavan (Niall McMahon/Daryl McGurren) 21-18, 21-16



GAA Handball All-Ireland Juvenile 4 Wall -Leinster Runners-up

GU14S Galway:
(Emma Kinane) defeated Wexford (Jodie Keeling) 15-10, 15-2

GU17D Tyrone:
(Dervla Farley/Bronagh McWilliam) defeated Laois (Roisin Fitzpatrick/Rosa Dooley(sub)) 21-3, 21-11

BU14D Cavan:
(Oliver McCrystal/Adam McKenna) defeated Kilkenny (Michael Brennan/James Purcell) 15-3, 15-8

2019 Leinster GAA Handball 4 Wall B Championship

The next competition for Juvenile was the leinster 2019 GAA Handball juvenile 4 Wall B Championship with entries from all counties. Kilkenny won 4 titles, Laois 4 Titles, Westmeath and Meath 2 titles each.

Well done to all players and coaches who took part

2019 Leinster GAA Handball 4 Wall B Championship

The next competition for Juvenile was the leinster 2019 GAA Handball juvenile 4 Wall B Championship with entries from all counties. Kilkenny won 4 titles, Laois 4 Titles, Westmeath and Meath 2 titles each.

Well done to all players and coaches who took part

2019 Leinster GAA Handball 4 Wall B Championship Results

Boys.		Girls.	
Under 12	Kilkenny (Jack Dollard)	Under 12	Laois (Catherine Kirby)
Under 13	Kilkenny (Michael Stynes)	Under 13	Laois (Orla Brophy) v
Under 14	Laois (Martin Drennan)	Under 14	Kilkenny (Aine Shakey)
Under 15	Westmeath (Shane Whyte)	Under 15	Laois (Emma Delahunty)
Under 16	Meath (Luke Ronan)	Under 16	Westmeath (Johanna Naughton)
Under 17	Meath (Fionn O'Hanlon)	Under 17	Kilkenny (Hannah Clifford)

2019 Leinster GAA Handball Juvenile 4 Wall Team Championship.

There were 10 Juvenile 4 Wall Teams in the Leinster championship. 3 from Kilkenny and Wexford, and 2 each from Meath and Laois

Under 12/13.
Kilkenny - Niall Drennan. Seam Morrissey. Cathal. Buckley Bobby Brennan. Conor Doyle Anthony Clifford. John Hayes James Kenny

Under 14/15.
Wexford - Bobby Doyle. Miley Connors. Michael Connors Ryan Moran. Conor Horan Eoin Roche Sub John Connors.

Under 16/17
Wexford - Ben Keeling. Tommy Connors, Michael Sheils, Gavin Lacey, Conor Dobbs.

2019 GAA Handball Juvenile 4 Wall Team Championship.

The 2019 4 Wall Juvenile Boys Team of 6/4 competitions took place yesterday in Kilkenny and Wexford venues. In total six different counties took part with Kilkenny, Clare and Cork counties taking home the gold medals.

In the U12/13 competition Kilkenny overcame Cork in the second semi-final 90-27 while Tyrone received a walkover from Mayo in the first. In the final the home side proved too strong for the Tyrone team and Kilkenny took the title 90-22.

No doubt we will see these players many times in the future, displaying their high level of handball skills that was on display today.

In the U14/15 competition Clare had a tight seven ace win over a strong Wexford team. In the other semi-final Galway received a bye from Tyrone. While in the final the Clare team won the title when they overcame Galway 80-41.



GAA Handball All-Ireland Juvenile 4 Wall -Leinster Runners-up

Westmeath's Robbie McCarthy is the 2019 Hardball Senior Singles Champion after overcoming Limerick's CJ Fitzpatrick on a 21-5, 21-10 score line in Thurles. This is McCarthy second Hardball Senior Singles title with him winning his previous one in 2011.

McCarthy started the first at a blistering pace to lead 6-2 which he stretched to 11-4 and then 17-5. Fitzpatrick going for his third Hardball Senior Singles title tired his hardest during this period but could not get any aces on the score board. McCarthy finished strongly to take the first 21-5.

The second game started in similar fashion with McCarthy into an early 8-1 lead before extending it to 16-6. Fitzpatrick did bring it back to trial 10-16 to the crowds delight but McCarthy once again raised his game to take the second and the match 21-5, 21-10.

Earlier in the day in Thurles, Kilkenny's Shane Dunne completed the double in the Intermediate grade as he added the Singles title to the Doubles title, he won last weekend with victory over Mayo's Patrick Murphy.

The first game was a tight affair with Dunne showing the greater composure to take it on a 21-9 score line. The second game was as close, Dunne started well and was always a few aces up and he led 18-13 at one stage, but Murphy fought back to take the second 21-18. Again, in the third Dunne started brightly and led well but Murphy never give up and push him all the way before Dunne clinched the match on a 21-9, 18-21, 21-16 score line to the delight of the large Clogh support.

In the Minor final, Meath's Daniel Farrelly started brightly and went into an early lead over Billy O'Neill of Kilkenny. Farrelly extended this to 13-8 before O'Neill got into his stride and level the game at 14 all. O'Neill pushed ahead to lead 17-14 before taking the first 21-14. In the second O'Neill dominated from the start to go into an early 6-0 lead before extended it to 11-5 before he finished strongly to win 21-14, 21-5.

GAA Handball All Ireland Hardball Championships

Senior Singles

Westmeath (Robbie McCarthy) defeated Limerick (CJ Fitzpatrick) 21-5, 21-10

Minor Singles

Kilkenny (Billy O'Neill) defeated Meath (Daniel Farrelly) 21-14, 21-5

Intermediate Singles.

Kilkenny (Shane Dunne) defeated Mayo (Patrick Murphy) 21-9, 18-21, 21-16 Intermediate Doubles.

Intermediate Doubles title went to Kilkenny's William Love and Shane Dunne as they defeated Dublin's Ian Griffin and Michael Carrie. The Kilkenny pairing lost the first but took the second and the tie-break to capture the title on a 13-21, 21-7, 21-7 score line.

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William Love and Shane Dunne (Kilkenny) 2019 Intermediate Doubles Hardball Champions. Shane Dunne is the 2010 Intermediate S Hardball Singles Champion.

2019 Leinster GAA Handball Inter Club Soft Ball Championship.

2019 Leinster GAA handball Soft Ball Inter club championship with a total of Thirteen Entries. Eight Junior, Three Junior B and 2Two Open Teams Wexford had 4 Teams, Meath had 3 Teams, Kilkenny had two teams and one each from Carlow, Kildare, Offaly and Westmeath.

Kells (Meath) captured the Open Ball Title for the 12th Time in a row. Ballymore Eustace captured the Junior title with Ballmitty Wexford taking the junior B Title. Well done to all clubs who took part.

In the U14/15 competition Clare had a tight seven ace win over a strong Wexford team. In the other semi-final Galway received a bye from Tyrone. While in the final the Clare team won the title when they overcame Galway 80-41.

2019 Soft Ball Inter Club All-Ireland Results

Kells handball Club (Meath) are Softball Club Kingpins once again

Kells HC, Meath have captured the GAA Handball All Ireland Softball Senior Club title for an incredible EIGHT time in as many seasons when they defeated Ballina, Tipperary in a close contest. Ballina led by 3 aces' going into the final match 50-47 before the 2018 Softball Doubles winner Brian Carroll sealed the match to secure the title for the thirteen time in total for the Meath club 77-56 at Crinkle on Saturday. The Junior title was won by the Ballymore Eustace club Kildare as they overcame Moycullen of Galway 73-35.

Leinster GAA

Comhdháil Cinn Bliana



Finally, in the Junior B competition Williamstown (Galway) defeated Virginia (Cavan) in the first semi-final while Friary/Abbeyside (Waterford) overcame Ballymitty (Wexford) 62-36 in the second semi-final. In the final the Munster champions Friary/Abbeyside were conformable winners against Galway on a 60-27 score-line.



2019 Leinster GAA Handball Wall Ball.

Leinster GAA handball ran a Wall Ball tournament on 25th and 26th May 2019 in Clough – Ballcolla and Mullinavat. Forty-Three men and ten ladies took part.

Men's winners are as follows

Grade	Player	County
Mens B	Ben Devlin	Louth
Mens C	Billy Caddell	Louth
Masters	Kevin Brennan	Laois
Emerald Masters	Robbie McCarthy Sr	Westmeath

Ladies winners are as follows

Grade	Player	County
Ladies Open	Noelle Dowling	Kilkenny
Ladies B	Jenny Mahon	Longford
Ladies C	Christina Donoghue	Offaly
Ladies 035	Michelle Cahill	Offaly

2019 Leinster GAA Handball Adult Soft Ball Championship

As the Men's and ladies' Senior grades are poorly supported it was decided to run a singles tournament on 29th June at 2 venues.

Senior Singles Tournament in Baltinglass on 29th June 2019.



A very positive development in Leinster is the availability of Baltinglass Soft Ball Court. I wish to compliment Baltinglass and particularly Seamus Kelly. The facilities are second and, on the 29th June Leinster, GAA Handball ran a Senior Softball tournament with six players taking part. All six players were very complimentary about the court facilities. It is now hoped that GAA handball Office will use the venue as a venue for open games. John Molloy and Seamus Kelly are the contacts for access to the court.

Players	County	Club
Michael Gregan	Wicklow	Coolboy
Carl Browne	Dublin	St. Brigids
David Hope	Offaly	Fahy Cross
Brian Mahon	Kilkenny	Clogh
Ciaran Neary	Kilkenny	Talbots Inch
Chris Doyle	Wicklow	Coolboy

Each player played 2 games to set-up the semi-finals pairings below.

Semi-finals: -
David Hope (Offaly) beat Brian. Mahon (Kilkenny) 12 - 11
Michael Gregan (Wicklow) beat Carl Browne (Dublin) 15 - 7.

Final. David Hope (Offaly) beat Michael Gregan (Wicklow)

Plate
Chris Doyle (Wicklow) beat Ciaran Neary (Kilkenny) 12 - 11.

2019 Leinster GAA handball has received 226 adult soft Ball championship entries. The singles championship is due to be completed. on Sunday 11th August and the doubles are due to be completed by Saturday 31st August 2019. Kilkenny and Wexford had the majority of entries but encouragingly eleven of the twelve counties had entries with Longford being the odd one out.

Leinster GAA

Comhdháil Cinn Bliana

2019 Leinster GAA Handball Soft Ball Championship.

GRADE	WINNER	COUNTY	RUNNER UP	COUNTY
DMAD	Kilkenny	Johnny Brennan/Joe Hennessy (Kilkenny)	Meath	Jimmy Reilly/Anthony McConnell (Meath)
DMBD	Kilkenny	Gerry Murphy / Jerry Maguire (Kilkenny)	Dublin	Jim Connolly/ Jim Dunlea (Dublin)
EMAD	Westmeath	Robbie McCarthy Snr / Liam Cassidy (Westmeath)	Kilkenny	Eamonn Purcell / Philly Parsons (Kilkenny)
EMAS	Westmeath	Robbie McCarthy Snr (Westmeath)	Kildare	Mickey Dowling (Kildare)
EMBD	Westmeath	Peter McCabe / Philip Clarke (Westmeath)	Wexford	James Mythen / Nicky Casey* (Wexford)
EMBS	Wexford	James Mythem (Wexford)	Wexford	Nickey Casey (Wexford)
GMAD	Meath	Tom Sheridan*/ John Leahy (Meath)	Wexford	Tommy Armstrong/ Mick Armstrong (Wexford)
GMAS	Meath	Tom Sheridan* (Meath)	Carlow	John Ryan* (Carlow)
GMBD	Kildare	Jamie Travers/PJ Tobin (Kildare)		
GMBS	Kildare	Gary Bolger (Kildare)	Kilkenny	David Bourke (Kilkenny)
ID	Kilkenny	Keith Bourke/Shane Dunne (Kilkenny)	Wexford	Malachy Whelan /Darren O'Toole* (Wexford)
IS	Kilkenny	Shane Dunne (Kilkenny)	Wicklow	Chris Doyle* (Wicklow)
JBD	Wexford	Shane Birney / Tommy Moore (Wexford)	Kildare	Ivan Carroll /Garry Bolger (Kildare)
JBS	Carlow	Martin Mullins (Carlow)	Kilkenny	Diarmuid Brennan (Kilkenny)
JCD	Offaly	Cathal McNamee /Declan Kilmurry (Offaly)	Westmeath	Alan O'Mara / David Nolan (Westmeath)
JCS	Offaly	Cathal McNamee (Offaly)	Meath	Keith Blackburn* (Meath)
JD	Dublin	Michael Carrie /Adrian Benson (Dublin)	Wexford	David Kenny / Eugene Kelly* (Wexford)
JS	Kilkenny	Brendan Burke* (Kilkenny)	Kildare	Myles Carroll (Kildare)
LID		No Entry		No Entry
LIS	Westmeath	Aoife McCarthy (Westmeath)	Dublin	Sabrina Hughes (Dublin)
LJBD	Kilkenny	Margaret Purcell/Caoimhe O'Shea (Kilkenny)	Offaly	Sian Cooke / Christina Donoghue (Offaly)
LJBS	Wexford	Cora Doyle* (Wexford)	Kilkenny	Margaret Purcell (Kilkenny)
LJD	Dublin	Maedbh Ní Dhalaigh / Lisa McKenna * (Dublin)	Kilkenny	Dearbhail O'Keeffe/Deirdre Purcell (Kilkenny)
LJS	Kilkenny	Deirdre Purcell (Kilkenny)	Kilkenny	Dearbhail O'Keeffe (Kilkenny)
LMD	Kildare	Leah Doyle / Mollie Dagg (Kildare)	Kilkenny	Roisin O'Keeffe / Noelle Dowling (Kilkenny)
LMS	Kildare	Leah Doyle* (Kildare)	Kildare	Mollie Dagg* (Kildare)
MAD	Wexford	David Stanners/ Robert Byrne (Wexford) *	Carlow	John Ryan/Ollie Ryan * (Carlow)
MAS	Wexford	Barry Goff (Wexford)	Westmeath	Colm Jordan (Westmeath)
MBD	Wexford	David Stanners/ Robert Byrne (Wexford) *	Kilkenny	John Morrissey/William Murphy (Kilkenny)*
MBS	Wexford	James Stanners* (Wexford)	Wexford	Robert Byrne*(Wexford)
MD	Kilkenny	Billy O'Neill / Kyle Dunne (Kilkenny)	Meath	Daniel Farrelly/Jack Renick's (Meath)
MS	Kilkenny	Kyle Dunne (Kilkenny)	Kilkenny	Billy O'Neill (Kilkenny)
O35AD	Dublin	Carl Browne / Conor Maxwell* (Dublin)	Offaly	David Hope* / Noel Murphy (Offaly)
O35AS	Wexford	Gavin Buggy (Wexford)	Offaly	David Hope (Offaly)*
O35BD	Wexford	Noel Holohan / J, R, Finn* (Wexford)	Wexford	Shane Terry / Conor Keeling* (Wexford)

Leinster GAA

Comhdháil Cinn Bliana



GRADE	WINNER	COUNTY
035BS	Wexford	Noel Holohan* (Wexford)
070D		No Entry
070S	Dublin	Eugene Kennedy (Dublin)
RMD	Carlow	Sean Ryan/John Rossiter (Carlow)
RMS	Carlow	John Rossiter* (Carlow)
SMAD	Dublin	Egin Jensen/ Christie Donnelly (Dublin)
SMAS	Wexford	Tommy Hynes * (Wexford)
SMBD	Kildare	Gavin Grace* /PJ McGrath* (Kildare)
SMBS	Meath	Michael Sheridan (Meath)
U21D	Kilkenny	Eoin Brennan / Conor Murphy (Kilkenny)
U21S	Louth	Ben Devlin (Louth)

2019 Men' Open Soft Ball Singles.

Dublin's Eoin Kennedy rolled back the years on an emotional night at Handball HQ tonight as he captured his tenth Myclubshop.ie Senior Singles title in what surely must rank as one of, if not his sweetest ever victory.

The 40-year-old legend rolled back the years with a sensational performance to defeat the 5 in a row chasing Robbie McCarthy 21-20, 21-18 to win his 10th Singles All-Ireland, and the last to be played in the historic Croke Park HC. It was an enthralling game that had the capacity crowd on the edge of their seats throughout. Buoyed on by a raucous home crowd Kennedy was in inspired form throughout in what was one of the greatest finals seen in the old centre and a fitting way to close out the end of an era.



Eoin Kennedy -2019 GAA Handball Open Softball Singles Champion.



RUNNER UP	COUNTY
Kildare	Stephen Smullen*(Kildare)
	No Entry
Kildare	Dermot Howard (Kildare)
Wexford	Tony Breen* (Wexford)
Kilkenny	Noel Holden / William Holden (Kilkenny)
Dublin	Conor Maxwell (Dublin)*
Kilkenny	David Bourke / Brian Bourke (Kilkenny)*
Kilkenny	John Morrissey (Kilkenny)
Wexford	Adam Walsh * (Wexford)

Meanwhile Kilkenny's Kyle Dunne captured the Minor Singles title following a thrilling tie break victory over Monaghan's Eoghan McGinnity in a 14-21, 21-13, 21-18.



Kyle Dunne (Kilkenny) 2019 Minor Singles and Doubles Softball Champion with Billy O'Neill minor doubles partner.

2019 Adult Soft Ball Finals.

Wexford were the form county of the weekend taking home four titles while Kilkenny and Tipperary were next in line with three each followed by Kildare, Mayo and Westmeath on two titles apiece while Armagh, Carlow, Clare, Kerry, Limerick, Meath and Sligo all shared one title each.

There was an eye-catching win for Kildare's Leah Doyle as she took the Ladies Minor Singles title for the 3rd year in a row with a good win over Mayo's Cuileann Burke while Westmeath's Aoife McCarthy went one better than last year when she overcame Tipperary's Sinead Meagher to win the Ladies Intermediate grade.

Leinster GAA

Comhdháil Cinn Bliana

In the Men's Intermediate Doubles, Kilkenny's Keith Bourke and Shane Dunne had a tight tie-break victory over Galway's Diarmuid Mulkerrins and Cian Ó Conghaile.

In the Over 35's A final Wexford's Gavin Buggy overcame Galway's Ollie Conway.



Shane Dunne (Kilkenny) 2019 Soft Ball Intermediate Singles and Doubles Champions partnered by Keith Bourke (Kilkenny) in the Intermediate doubles.



Brian Carroll and Gary McConnell (Meath) 2019 Open Soft Ball Doubles champions.

Leinster GAA

Comhdháil Cinn Bliana

2019 GAA Handball Soft Ball Leinster All-Ireland Winners.

Leinster captured a record 28 Soft Ball All-Ireland Titles. Eoin Kennedy (Dublin)

1. MSS Dublin (Eoin Kennedy) defeated Westmeath (Robbie McCarthy Jnr.) 21-20, 21-18
2. MSD Meath (Brian Carroll/Gary McConnell) defeated Westmeath (Robbie McCarthy/Colm Jordan) 21-11, 21-8
3. MS Kilkenny (Kyle Dunne) defeated Monaghan (Eoghan McGinnity) 14-21, 21-13, 21-19
4. MD Kilkenny (Kyle Dunne/Billy O'Neill) defeated Monaghan (Eoghan McGinnity/Tiernan O'Rourke) 21-15, 21-10
5. IS Kilkenny (Shane Dunne) defeated Tyrone (Ryan Mullan) 21-12, 21-7
6. O35AD Mayo (Joe McCann/Joe Dowling) defeated Dublin (Carl Browne/Conor Maxwell) 14-21, 21-10, 21-14
7. MAD Wexford (Barry Goff/Tommy Hynes) defeated Mayo (Vinnie Moran/Paul Flynn) 21-15, 21-14
8. MBD Wexford (David Stanners/ Robert Byrne) defeated Tyrone (Chris Curran/Conal Curran) 8-21, 21-7, 21-10
9. SMBD Kildare (Gavin Grace/PJ McGrath) defeated Mayo (Seamus Grier/John Cunningham) 21-3, 21-4
10. GMAD Meath (Tom Sheridan/John Leahy) defeated Tipperary (Kevin Mullins/Adrian Johnson) 21-7, 21-2



11. EMAD Westmeath (Robbie McCarthy Snr/ Liam Cassidy) defeated Monaghan (Conor McDonnell/Peter Larkin) 21-1, 21-3
12. EMBD Westmeath (Peter McCabe/Philip Clarke) defeated Galway (Brendan McNeela/Pierce Lalor) 21-16, 21-3
13. DMBD Kilkenny (Gerry Murphy/Jerry Maguire) defeated Monaghan (Peter Owen Fealy/James Fealy) 21-5, 20-21, 21-3
14. RMD Carlow (Sean Ryan/John Rossiter) defeated Mayo (Martin Cronin/Pat Hayes) 21-5, 21-6
15. LJD Dublin (Maedbh Ní Dhalaigh/Lisa McKenna) defeated Sligo (Laura Finn/ Sarah Coleman) 15-21, 21-11, 21-5
16. MS Kilkenny (Kyle Dunne) defeated Monaghan (Eoghan McGinnity) 14-21, 21-13, 21-19
17. ID Kilkenny (Keith Bourke/Shane Dunne) defeated Galway (Diarmuid Mulkerrins/ Cian Ó Conghaille) 21-18, 8-21, 21-15
18. O35AS Wexford (Gavin Buggy) defeated Galway (Ollie Conway) 21-7, 21-6
19. MBS Wexford (James Stanners) defeated Galway (Matt Kenny) 21-3, 21-6
20. SMAS Wexford (Tommy Hynes) defeated Mayo (Tom Sweeney) 21-3, 21-9
21. GMAS Meath (Tom Sheridan) defeated Tipperary (Pat O' Flaherty)
22. GMBS Kildare (Gary Bolger) defeated Tyrone (Finbarr Fullen) 15-21, 21-9, 21-14

23. EMAS Westmeath (Robbie McCarthy Snr) defeated Sligo (Francis McCann) 21-2, 21-15
24. EMBS Wexford (James Mythen) defeated Galway (Brendan McNeela) 21-14, 21-6
25. DMBS Kilkenny (Gerry Murphy) defeated Monaghan (James Fealy) 21-6, 21-13
26. RMS Carlow (John Rossiter) defeated Mayo (Martin Cronin) 21-3, 21-5
27. LMS Kildare (Leah Doyle) defeated Mayo (Cuileann Burke) 21-14, 21-3
28. LIS Westmeath (Aoife McCarthy) defeated Tipperary (Sinead Meagher) 21-7,

2019 John West Feile Handball.



The John West sponsored national Féile na nGael Handball competition has once again proved to be an exceptional day of Handball as the county's top young Under 14 Handballers displayed great skills for everyone to enjoy. Thanks to all the clubs who travelled in their droves to all the venues across Cork & Limerick yesterday.

It was one of the largest Handball Féile of all time with 78 teams taking part, almost 400 Boys and Girls involved, and 350 games played in the 4-Wall and 1-Wall grades with team numbers well up on the last few years. Whilst the main aim of this weekend is enjoyment and participation Saturday's evening finals provided a fitting climax to the day.

Leinster GAA

Comhdháil Cinn Bliana

Loughmacrory (Tyrone) are celebrating this morning after almost ten hours of play they emerged victorious in the Boys 4-Wall Div. 1 Final in Fermoy. They overcame Kingscourt (Cavan) by the slimmest of margins. In fact, there was very little between all 5 clubs in the division with only a few points separating all the teams. In the final Kingscourt had a commanding lead after the first game but Loughmacrory completed a remarkable comeback to take the title. It was a fitting final between two great teams following a fantastic day of Handball as they won 27-25.

In the Girls 4-Wall Div. 1 Final Lahorna (Tipperary) had a tight two game victory over Kilkishen (Clare) on a final score-line 37-23. This win was partly as a result of the excellent display of the Girls 4-Wall Div. 1 skills winner Hannah Grace who put in a stela performance on the day.



In the 1-Wall Boys Div. 1 competition, this was won by the Clogh Ballacolla (Laois) for the second year in a row as they overcame Oughterard (Galway) 36-11 in the final after an action-packed long day in Conna.

While in the 1-Wall Girls Div. 1 Final Galway's Oughterard are the champions following an exciting final win against Mayobridge of Down yesterday evening. The girls from the west won out on a 37-23 score-line. Congratulations to all 7 Girls teams that took part in this event.

Leinster GAA

Comhdháil Cinn Bliana

GAA Handball would like to thank all the Cork and Limerick venues for their hospitality and especially all the volunteers at each venue who ran everything so smoothly on the day. We also thank all the coaches, parents, the National and Local Féile organising committee's, but most important of all, we would like to congratulate all the players for contributing to such a brilliant day of Handball that will live long in their memories.

4-Wall Boys Final

Div. 1: Loughmacrory (Tyrone) defeated Kingscourt (Cavan) 27-25

Div. 1 (Plate): Kells (Kilkenny) defeated Abbyknockmoy (Galway) 32-29

Div. 2: Windgap (Kilkenny) defeated Clogh (Kilkenny) 34-18

Div. 2 (Plate): Boherbue (Cork) defeated Breacach (Tyrone) 31-25

Div. 3: Moycullen 1 (Galway) defeated Friary/ Abbeyside/Ballinacourty 1 (Waterford) 34-14

Div. 3 (Plate): Galmoy (Kilkenny) defeated Conna (Cork) 34-28

Div. 4: Annaghdown (Galway) defeated Carrick on Suir (Tipperary) 34-20

Div. 4 (Plate): St. Joseph's (Wexford) defeated Castlebridge (Wexford) 29-20

Div. 5: Newmarket on Fergus (Clare) defeated Moycullen 2 (Galway) 28-26

Div. 5 (Plate): Cullohill 1 (Laois) defeated Friary/Abbeyside/Ballinacourty 2 (Waterford) 38-29

Div. 6: O'Loughlin's (Kilkenny) defeated Cullohill 2 (Laois) 42-11

Div. 6 (Plate): Mullinavat (Kilkenny) defeated Templeudigan (Wexford) 37-29

4-Wall Girls Finals

Div. 1: Lahorna (Tipperary) defeated Kilkishen (Clare) 37-23

Div. 1 (Plate): Garryhill (Carlow) defeated Cullohill (Laois) 42-8

Div. 2: Galmoy (Kilkenny) defeated Kilfane (Kilkenny) 42-13

Div. 2 (Plate): Windgap (Kilkenny) defeated Friary/Abbeyside/Ballinacourty (Waterford) 28-27

Div. 3: Lahornal (Tipperary) defeated Glenmore (Kilkenny) 42-18

Div. 3 (Plate): Annaghdown (Galway) defeated Cullohill (Laois) 37-29

1-Wall Boys Finals

Div. 1: Clough Ballacolla (Laois) defeated Oughterard (Galway) 36-11

Div. 2: Kilmallock 3 (Limerick) defeated Laochra Láimhe 3 (Limerick) 29-28

1-Wall Girls Finals

Div. 1: Oughterard (Galway) defeated Mayo-bridge (Down) 37-23

GAA Handball's inaugural Softball Féile sponsored by John West



GAA Handball's inaugural Softball Féile sponsored by John West has proved a tremendous success with 26 teams and 130 of the country's top young Under 14 Handballers displaying great skills for everyone to enjoy. Thanks to all the clubs who travelled in their droves to the venues in Wexford today. Whilst the main aim of this weekend is enjoyment and participation, Sunday's evening/nights finals provided a fitting climax to the day.

Loughmacrory (Tyrone) are celebrating after almost twelve hours of play when they emerged victorious in the Boys Div. 1 Final in Taghmon. They overcame Kells (Kilkenny) in the final on a 39-12 score line to add the Softball Féile title to the 4-Wall Féile title they won back in June. Loughmacrory were the standout team in this event but there was very little between the other 5 clubs in Div. 1 with only a few points separating all the other teams.

In the Girls Div. 1 Final Lahorna (Tipperary) had a two-game victory over Kilkishen (Clare) on a final score-line 42-14. There was some excellent play throughout the day in St. Mary's and Castlebridge but at the end of a long day's play Lahorna captured the title to add to the 4-Wall Div. 1 title they won earlier in the year.



In the Boys Div. 2 competition, this was won by the St. Mary's club Wexford when they overcame near neighbours Castlebridge 42-14 in the final after an action-packed day in Coolgreany. The home team took the plate final when they defeated Kilfane by two aces to claim the Bronze medals to the home crowd delight.

While the Girls Div. 2 Final was won by Windgap (Kilkenny), when they accounted for the Lahorna second team 42-25.

Finally, the Boys Div. 3 Final, this was won by the famous Talbot's Inch club Kilkenny when they overcame the host club Ballymitty in a very tight final to win 26-22.

Hopefully this new initiative will bring a bright future to the many Soft Ball clubs that exists throughout the country and that in future years we welcome even more of these clubs back that will make this event even bigger and better.

GAA Handball would like to thank all the Wexford clubs for their hospitality and especially all the volunteers at each of these venues that ran everything so smoothly on the day.

We also thank all the coaches, parents, the National and Local Féile organising committee's, but most important of all we would like to congratulate all the players for contributing to such a brilliant day of Handball that will live long in their memories.

GAA Handball Softball Féile na nGael 2019 Results

Softball Boys Finals

Div. 1: Loughmacrory (Tyrone) defeated Kells (Kilkenny) 39-12

Div. 1 (Plate): Moycullen (Galway) defeated Friary/Abbeyside/Ballinacourty (Waterford) 28-27

Div. 2: St. Mary's (Wexford) defeated Castlebridge (Wexford) 42-14

Div. 2 (Plate): Coolgreany (Wexford) defeated Kilfane (Kilkenny) 27-25

Div. 3: Talbots Inch (Kilkenny) defeated Ballymitty (Wexford) 26-22

Div. 3 (Plate): Kilkishen (Clare) defeated St. Joseph's

Softball Girls Finals

Div. 1: Lahorna 1 (Tipperary) defeated Kilkishen (Clare) 42-14

Div. 2: Windgap (Kilkenny) defeated Lahorna 2 (Tipperary) 41-25





Softball Boys Div. 2

- 1st – David Holden (Kilfane)
- 2nd – Rory Glynn (O'Loughlins)
- 3rd – Conor Horan (Coolgreany)

Softball Boys Div. 3

- 1st – Michael Stynes (Talbots Inch)
- 2nd – Sean Fitzharris (Templeudigan)
- 3rd – Shane Cleary (Ballymitty)



2019 Leinster GAA Handball Juvenile Soft Ball Championship.

Only five counties (Carlow, Kilkenny, Kildare, Laois and Wexford) had entries in the 2019 Leinster GAA Handball Juvenile Soft Ball Championship. No entries from soft ball strongholds of Meath, Offaly, Westmeath, Wicklow or Dublin. Kilkenny won 12 of the 19 finals played with Wexford taking 6 and Laois 1. 5 Others grades all from Kilkenny are nominated champions.

Leinster 2019 Soft Ball Juvenile Finals Results

1. GU12S Kilkenny Katie Jordan Defeated Laois Orla Brophy
2. GU15S Laois Una Brophy Defeated Kilkenny Aoife Woods
3. BU15S Kilkenny Conor Holden W/O Offaly Michael Cullothy
4. GU17S Kilkenny Hannah Clifford Defeated Carlow (Katie Barrett)
5. BU13D Kilkenny Michael Stynes/Niall Drennan Defeated Wexford Rory Gilbert & Alec Moran
6. GU15D Kilkenny Lauren Power/Nathania Jackson Defeated Wexford Ellie Murphy O'Gorman & Rachel Goff
7. BU12S Kilkenny Anthony Clifford Defeated Wexford Rory Goff
8. BU12D Wexford Sean Fitzharris/Conor Fanning Defeated Kilkenny Bobby Brennan/James Kenny retired inj
9. BU14S Wexford Conor Creane W/O Kilkenny Michael Brennan Injured
10. BU14D Wexford Bobby Doyle & Conor Horan Defeated Kilkenny Rory Glynn/Joseph Prendergast
11. BU16S Kilkenny Billy Drennan Defeated Wexford Mark Doyle
12. BU17S Kilkenny Tom Carroll Defeated Wexford Gavin Lacey
13. GU13S Kilkenny Una Duggan Defeated Carlow Leah Ryan
14. GU14S v Wexford Jodie Keeling Defeated Kilkenny Katie Brennan
15. GU16S Kilkenny Amy Brennan w/o Wexford Danielle Kinsella
16. GU16D Wexford Emily Moran/April Moran Defeated Kilkenny Aine Duggan/Doireen Knox
17. BU13S Kilkenny Noah Manogue Defeated Wexford Jamie Barnes
18. BU17D Wexford Joe Devereux & David Doyle Defeated Kilkenny Niall O'Brien/ Sean Barron
19. BU16D Kilkenny Kyle Jordan/Sean O Keeffe Defeated Wexford Conor Murphy & Conor Dobbs

Tuesday, 27th Aug 2019

The John West GAA Handball Féile na nGael Softball Skills event took place in each of the venues on Sunday evening. Each team got to select one player from their team to perform a set of skills with both hands.

The skill level displayed was very high at all venues with little separating the players as reported by the skills adjudicators. We congratulate all the Winners.

We would like to thank all the adjudicators for their help on the day.

The full results from the skills are as follows.

Skills Results

Softball Boys Div. 1

- 1st – Gary McAleer (Loughmacrory)
- 2nd – Michael Brennan (Clogh)
- 3rd – Bobby Doyle (Taghmon)

Softball Girls Div. 1

- 1st – Hannah Grace (Lahorna)
- 2nd – Una Duggan (Galmoy)
- 3rd – Emer Barron (Windgap)

Champions

Munster claimed the 2019 Girls Softball Interprovincial Team of Six in Broadford today. In the final Munster overcame Leinster after a very tight contest that went down to the very last match before they won on the score-line 84-61.

Pride, passion, skill and intense competition were all in abundance in Broadford as the girls from Munster and Leinster proudly represented their Provinces at the Girls Softball Interprovincial Team of 6 event.

This event hugely entertaining and competitive saw three doubles pairings, aged between 13 & 17 compete on aggregate scoring, with some of the young girls competing at national level for the first time.

First to play in U13 were Cork's Carmel Kelleher and Tipperary's Christine Percy against Kilkenny's Katie Brennan and Holly Byrne. In two tightly fought games the Munster girls won 15-6, 15-14.

Next up were the U15 doubles of Cork's Sarah Walsh and Cliona Dunning against Kilkenny's Lauren Power and Doireann Knox. In a high tempo game Munster took the first game 15-13 and Leinster won the second 15-9.

The U17's were last to play. With 6 points between the teams the title was up for grabs by both teams, but Clare's Chloe Philpott and Leah Minogue started well and won the first game 15-8 against the Kilkenny duo of Noelle Dowling and Hannah Clifford. They went on to take the second and the match 15-5 for the Munster team to win the title on a final score-line Munster 84, Leinster 61.

Congratulations to all the players, coaches and a special word of thanks to the Broadford club for their hospitality and referring on the day.

And so, the Softball season draws to a close with the final titles decided and the Softball Roll of Honour for 2019 complete.

Girls Softball Interprovincial Team of Six



2019 Leinster GAA H-B 4-Wall Inter-club Championships.

2019 4-Wall Inter-club Championships had 13 Teams entered. 3 Open, 5 Junior and 5 junior B.

COUNTY	TEAMS
Carlow	1
Kildare	2
Kilkenny	3
Meath	2
Westmeath	1
Wexford	2
Wicklow	2
GRAND TOTAL	13

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Kells (Meath) Beat Coolboy (Wicklow) in the Open Final. on a score of 72 – 64

Coolboy (Wicklow) beat O'Loughlins Gaels (Kilkenny) in the Junior Final on a score of 69 – 65.

Kells (Meath) beat Ballymore (Kildare) in the Junior B Final on a score of 69 – 47.



Kells (Meath) Open Team: Brian Carroll, Tom Sheridan, Michael Sheridan, Gary McConnell, Robert Sheridan



Coolboy (Wicklow) Junior Team: Chris Doyle, Willie Quaille, Wayne Kinsella, Dan Curry, James Gregan)



Kells (Meath) Junior B Team: Keith Blackburn, Daniel Farrelly, Troy Flanagan, Anthony McConnell, James Reilly)

Leinster GAA

Comhdháil Cinn Bliana

GAA Handball 4 – Wall Inter Club

The 2019 GAA Handball season came to a close at the end of November and for the first time many years Leinster failed to any of the 3 Titles on offer. Kells (Meath) Open Team and Kells (Junior B) Junior B team were both beaten in exciting finals.

In the 4-Wall Inter-club All Ireland Championships Open grade Moycullen (Galway) took the premier title for the first time when they defeated Kells (Meath) in the final on a 66-57 score-line.

In the Junior B competition which was played in Curraghboy and St. Comans Roscommon. In the first semi-final Kells (Meath) defeated Liscarroll (Cork) while in the second semi-final Breacach (Tyrone) overcame Bofield (Mayo). In the final the Ulster champions just shaded their Leinster opponents with Breacach defeating Kells 71-62.

The Junior competition was played in Ballymore Eustace. In the semi-final Broadford (Limerick) overcame Coolboy (Wicklow) 75-38. In the final the Munster champions were just too strong for their Ulster opponents with Broadford defeating Carrickmore 60-42.

I wish to thank Leinster GAA for all their help and support throughout 2019 and wish them the best of good luck in 2020.

I want to compliment the GAA Club in Baltinglass for their excellent refurbishment the Soft Ball Court in Baltinglass. The venue is a very welcome addition to Soft ball courts in Leinster. A special word of thanks to Seamus Kelly and Martin Coleman for their dedication to the project. John Molloy (Dublin) was a big driver in getting this facility going and he volunteered to referee all games at the venue.

Padraig O'Riain.

Runáí
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Handball



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COMHAIRLE LAIGHEAN C.L.G.

**Comhdáil Cinn Bliana
2019**