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These Are Our Colours



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Leinster GAA Senior Hurling **Quarter Finals**

Áth Cliath v Aontroim 26th June, 3.00pm Pairc Tailteann Laois v Loch Garman

26th June, 6.00pm **Nowlan Park**

M Mac Raghall

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Saturday 26th June

Leinster Senior Hurling Championship Quarter Finals:



Ath Cliath v Aontroim Pairc Tailteann Navan (3.00)



These Are Our Colours

Match Officials

Ref: Stdby: Linesman: Sideline: Liam Gordon (Gaillimh) James Owens (Loch Garman) Shane Guinan (Uibh Fhaili) Adam Kinahan (Uibh Fhaili)





Laois v Loch Garman UPMC Nowlan Park Kilkenny (6.00)



Match Officials

Ref: Stdby: Linesman: Sideline: Thomas Walsh (Port Lairge) John Keenan (Cill Mhantain) Chris Mooney (Ath Cliath) Nicky O'Toole (Port Lairge)



WELCOME FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Normally my message would be one of welcome to our supporters, but as Covid continues to impact our lives and our games, the welcomes are largely on hold. It is however most welcome that our Championships can take place again this year and that we can welcome at least a limited number of people into our grounds to see them.

As the vaccination programme continues and the number of cases decrease, I am hopeful that with continued vigilance and care, consideration will be given to increased attendances as the season progresses.

Our Leinster Senior Hurling Championship gets underway this weekend with two interesting quarter finals. Dublin take on Antrim in Navan on Saturday while Wexford and Laois battle for a semi-final berth in UPMC Nowlan Park later in the day.

Dublin have had a mixed League campaign with wins over both Laois and Antrim while succumbing to Kilkenny, Clare and Wexford. They will obviously be hoping to repeat their League defeat of Antrim in Páirc Tailteann and advance to the semi-finals.

The Saffron's League campaign was encouraging. They opened with a fine win over Clare before losing to Kilkenny and Dublin before bouncing back to earn a thrilling draw with Wexford and finished with victory over Laois. They will be keen to build on this momentum as they make a welcome return to the Leinster Championship.

Wexford too enjoyed a good League campaign with wins over Laois, Clare and Dublin as well as the aforementioned draw with Antrim, suffering only a single defeat to Kilkenny. They will now have an eye on a semi-final place. Laois failed to register a win in the League but showed improvement as the season progressed. They will have a Division 1 relegation play-off in August against Westmeath but will no doubt be totally focussed on the Championship now and on lowering Wexford's colours.

I want to wish all players and managements well as our Championships commence and thank them for their continued co-operation during these challenging times. I also want to thank our referees Liam Gordon and Thomas Walsh and their officials for their commitment to our games.

Bord Gáis Energy, Centra and Littlewoods Ireland continue to sponsor the Senior Hurling Championship and I want to acknowledge their ongoing support during what is a difficult time for the Association. It is much appreciated.

After an unprecedented 2020 and an end of year that was unusually illuminated by Championship action, it is wonderful that after a trying start to 2021 we can once again look forward to our provincial competitions. As I said earlier if we continue to stay safe and vigilant then I look forward to meeting many more of our loyal supporters in our grounds as the Summer progresses.

Bí sábháilte.

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Ciaran Clarke

Age: 28

Club: McQuillan GAC Ballycastle

The Ballycastle man has rose to prominence during the Allianz League and arrives into today's encounter on the back of picking up the PWC GAA/ GPA Player of the Month award for May. This is due in no small part to his impressive display against Clare where he finished with an individual tally of 1-11. He is sure to have been one of the many to occupy Mattie Kenny's thoughts in the lead up to this game.

Conal Cunning

Age: 22

Club: Na Fianna

Over the last two seasons in particular Burke has established himself as Dublin's most potent scoring threat. On the back of a whopping 1-16 against Laois in their opening Leinster Championship game last season the Na Fianna man shows no sign of slowing down. He finished the Allianz National League as top scorer in Division 1 with 1-55 to his name. Dublin will be hopping that he brings that type of form



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Karl is on the Mark as

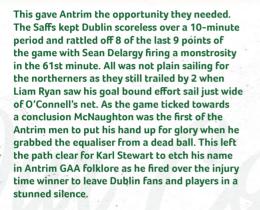
Antrim pip Dublin

In phase 3 of the 2010 Senior Hurling All Ireland Qualifier series Antrim travelled to Croke Park to lock horns with Dublin. Few gave the Saffron men much chance, as Dublin dispatched of them with relative ease in the previous year's Leinster Championship. Allied to this was the fact that Anthony Daly's charges arrived into the contest on the back of an impressive performance against his native Clare just 7 days previous.

These forewarnings about the Northerners chances were not laid to rest when after just 20 seconds of the start Joey Boland fired over an impressive but all too easy score. However, from here Antrim settled nicely to their task, as both sides traded scores in the sunshine to leave them two apiece. In the eight-minute alarm bells would have begun to ring in Dublin supporter's minds as PJ O'Connell got the better of two Dublin defenders to lash the ball home from close range. This was quickly followed by a point from the ever-accurate Liam Watson to push Dinny Cahill's charges into 1-03 to 0-2 lead.

This served to wake Dublin from a seemingly momentary slumber as Alan McCrabbe saw a chance of a goal thwarted only to fire over from the resulting confusion. He would go onto score five points in the opening half, with that point leading Dublin to a period of dominance which saw them level matters in the 24th minute.

Following the halftime break Dublin raised their tempo. McCrabbe again off the mark in the early stages. The capital side were really beginning to hit top gear and the game looked like it might be put to bed when Paul Ryan launched a goal bound effort only to see it expertly saved by Antrim shot stopper O'Connell. Despite this Antrim still saw themselves trailing by 5 points in the 47th minute. Dublin continued to have chances and but for some aimless shooting may well have been out of sight.



Scorers: Dublin: A McCrabbe 0-9 (0-6f, 0-1 '65'), S Lambert (0-2f), P Carton 0-3 each, J Boland, L Rushe, D O'Callaghan, P Ryan 0-1 each

Antrim: N McNaughton 0-8 (0-8f), PJ O'Connell 1-1, S McNaughton (0-1f), L Watson (0-1f), K McKeegan 0-2 each, S Delargy, K Stewart 0-1 each

DUBLIN: G Maguire; N Corcoran, T Brady, O Gough; S Hiney, J Boland, M O'Brien; S Lambert, S Durkin; P Kelly, L Rushe, D O'Dwyer; P Carton, D O'Callaghan, A McCrabbe.

Subs used: P Ryan for Durkin (half-time), M Carton for Kelly (51 mins), D Treacy for O'Callaghan (54), L Ryan for Rushe (56), K Flynn for O'Brien (64). ANTRIM: C O'Connell; K McGourty, C Donnelly, S Delargy; P Shiels, J Campbell, C Herron; S McNaughton, K Stewart; S McCrory, N McManus, T McCann; PJ O'Connell, L Watson, K McKeegan.

Subs used: B McFall for Shiels (46 mins), E McCloskeyfor McCann (53), M Herron for McKeegan (69).

Referee: Diarmuid Kirwan (Cork)



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PLAYER



Age: 23

To Dublin ONES TO WATCH

Club: Na Fianna

Over the last two seasons in particular Burke has established himself as Dublin's most potent scoring threat. On the back of a whopping 1-16 against Laois in their opening Leinster Championship game last season the Na Fianna man shows no sign of slowing down. He finished the Allianz National League as top scorer in Division 1 with 1-55 to his name. Dublin will be hoping that he brings that type of form through to Championship.

Daire Gray

Age: 23

Club: Whitehall Colmcille

The 23-year-old has firmly put himself into the frame on the back of some fine League displays. The rampaging half back has contributed not only to play but also on the score board, slotting over 5 points throughout the campaign. Having made his debut in 2019 against Galway, he will be looking to become a mainstay of Mattie Kenny's defense for the year ahead.



FERGAL DE FUITLÉIGH/FERGAL WHITELY KILMACUD CROKES

MARCAS Ó CUANA

- 22. 23.
- PERGAL DE FOITERGH/FERGAL WHITELY REPARED ERO DAIBHÉID MAC EOCHAIDH/DAVY KEOGH THOMAS DAVIS SEÁN HETHERTON/JOHN HETHERTON ST. VINCENT'S OISÍN Ó RUAIRC/OISÍN O'RORKE KILMACUD CROKES PÓL Ó CROMTHA /PAUL CRUMMEY LUCAN SARSFIELDS 24.
- 25.
- DAIBHÉID Ó TREASAIGH /DAVID TREACY CUALA 26.

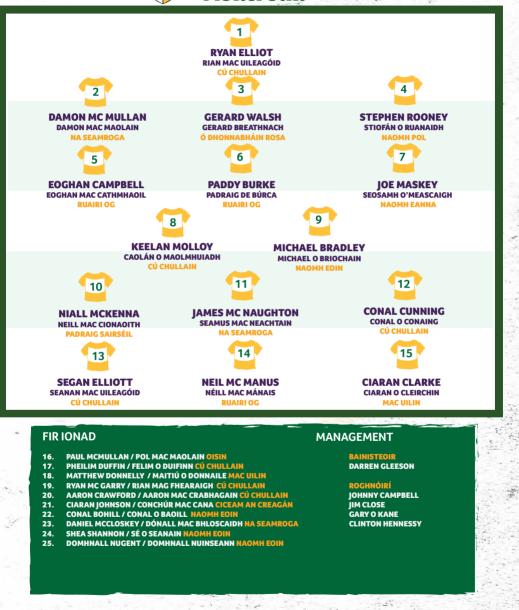
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- 16. PAUL SIMMS/POL SIMMS BALLINAKILL
- MATTHEW WHELAN/MAITIÚ Ó FAOLÁIN BORRIS IN OSSORY KILCOTTON 17.
- FRANK FLANAGAN/PRIONSIAS O'FLANAGÁÍN PORTLAOISE PODGE DELANEY/PADRÁIC Ó DÚLÁINNE THE HARPS CONOR PHELAN/CONCHUBHAR O FAOLAIN CASTLETOWN 18.
- 19.
- 20.
- JAMES KEYES/SEAMUS MACAODHA COLT SHANAHOE 21.
- 22.
- JAMES RET LEVICENNOS O RIAIN RATHDOWNEY-ERRILL AARON DUNPHY/ÁRÓN Ó DONNCHAIDH BORRIS IN OSSORY KILCOTTON CIARAN COMERFORD/CIARÁN COMARTÚN THE HARPS 23.
- 24.
- 25. EANNA LYONS/EANNA O LAIGHIN BAILE FHIONN
- EOIN GAUGHAN/EOIN Ó GACHÁIN CAMROSS 26.

MANAGEMENT

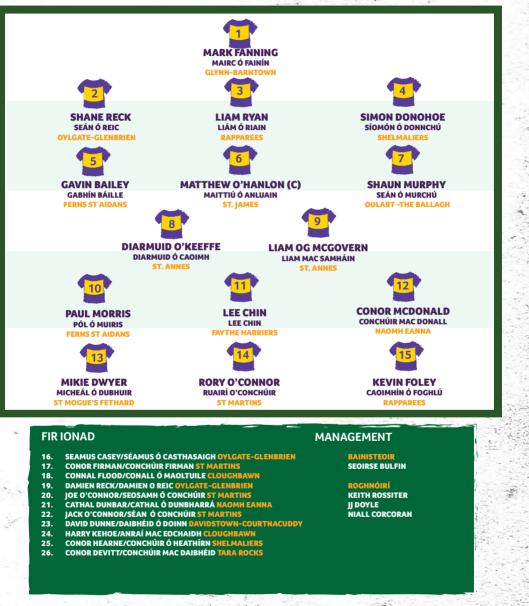
BAINISTEOIR SEAMAS PLUNKETT

ROGHNÓIRÍ

DONNACH O'DONNELL FRANCIS FORDE MICHAEL WALSH **LEO TIERNAN**

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Jaois ONES TO WATCH

Charles Dwyer

Age: 27

Club: Ballinakill

Dwyer will be looking to firmly establish himself in the Laois attack this year. The Ballinakill man has shown promise since his early days of playing school hurling in Kilkenny. A deferred year out has seen a resurgence in form that saw him score the likes of 1-03 against Dublin during the league.



CLG LAOISE

Fiachra C-Fennel

Age: 23

Club: Rosenallis

Fiachra is the youngest of three C-Fennell brothers who play both Hurling and Football for Rosenallis, while his sister Liandan is a current member of the Laois Camogie team. He made his Allianz Hurling League Debut in 2020 and has since made the midfield spot his own. He is a proven competitor on both the football and hurling field and to succeed today Laois will require the energy, skill and intelligence he brings to every team he plays for.

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Gavin Bailey

Club: Ferns

Age: 26

The Ferns man has emerged as a real find for Davy Fitzgerald over the League. Having been on the panel since 2019 Bailey looks set to nail down the half back position previously held by Paudie Foley. Watch out for his rampaging runs as the north Wexford man likes to attack from deep.



Club: St Martins

Age: 24

O'Connor has been around the panel for several years andis starting to establish himself as a real utility player. Having made appearances right across the back line look for the St Martins man to feature in any number of positions.

One last hoorah or the start of a second chapter

As the day's countdown to Wexford and Laois first bow in this year's Leinster Championship the air around each camp is becoming thick with dread and expectation in equal measure. UPMC Nowlan Park plays host to two teams on opposing stages of their journey. However, the consequences of the result for both may well be just the same.

For Wexford it could well signal the end of a relationship that promised and delivered so much. A partnership that saw the glory days return to the sunny southeast. A Leinster Championship crown for the first time in 15 years saw a releasing of emotion that could be scarcely rivaled. Despite the joy this victory also brought with a weight of expectation the yellow bellies have not felt since the heady days of the 1990's. This expectation means that the result today will put immense pressure not only on a setup but also on the direction in which the model county is headed. Davy Fitzgerald and his management team returned this year after some persuasion from several players. This act in and of itself would lead you to believe that this season has entered the last roll of the dice territory. Two years ago Fitzgerald and his charges looked on the verge of returning to Septembers biggest stage. A Tipperary come back, and a season blighted by the pandemic has meant that barring a big performance over the next couple of weeks it could well be an episode in history that is on the verge of petering out.

While we are on the topic of relationships, the cardinal rule in all relationships is that you never go back. However, come the full time whistle Cheddar and his Laois team may put that myth well and truly to bed. The mercurial manager has returned to the hot seat he vacated in 2016.



During his initial stint in charge the Portlaoise native turned the O'Moore men's fortunes around. He solidified them with a common purpose, tales circulated of them visiting historical sites around the country for training as a pride of place was returned to Laois hurling. Since then, the last few years saw this upward trend continue under the guidance of Eddie Brennan, culminating in a loe McDonagh win and that famous summer day against Dublin. Like their opponents this surge in performance has seen expectations rise simultaneously. A sluggish start throughout the league stages has given this fixture a serious weight toward the second chapter of this relationship. What is slightly different to their opponents is that performance may be more important than the result. A big display of passion skill and structure will leave Plunkett and his managerial team feeling like they can take momentum into the qualifier stages of the championship. A loss allied to an abject performance and the task of that qualifier run will grow more onerous by the day.

Thus, we are ready for what should be an enthralling encounter. A Championship game in every sense of the word. The league meeting of these sides saw Wexford emerge victorious by 19 points. However, as anyone present on the day can attest to it does not necessarily tell the true story of the game. Laois were very much in the race for long periods of the game, but some aimless shooting left them with an unmountable challenge heading into the closing stages. This combined with goals in injury time gave the score line an extremely one-sided complexion and looking like the model county had enjoyed a walk in the park. This can make tonight's clash a potential banana skin for Wexford, take Laois for granted based on that performance and it could be goodbye Bob O'Keefe. Whatever the case it is sure to be a must watch affair.

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EXTRA TIME AND WINNER ON THE DAY REGULATIONS

Regulations approved Ard Chomhairle on the 19th January 2019 and in accordance with Rules of Specification 3.4 & 3.6 T.O. Part 2 2019, that relevant games that finish level after normal playing times should be completed as follows:

Phase 1

Proceed to Extra time as provided for in T.O Cuid II (two periods of ten minutes each way)

Phase 2 (Penalty Kicks/Pucks)

If still level, a "penalty competition" to decide the outcome:

- The relevant rules in T.O. Cuid II shall apply in relation to Penalty Kicks/Pucks, unless otherwise stated.
- Penalties will be taken for goals only.
- The Referee shall choose the end at which the penalty kicks/pucks will be taken. The end may be changed by the
 referee if it becomes unplayable during the course of the penalties.
- The Referee will ensure two goal umpires are in place at the end in which the penalty kicks/pucks are to be taken
 - Both umpires shall position themselves on the end line at opposite side of the goals facing inwards
 - If a penalty is scored, the goal umpire, will wave the green flag once the referee has signalled
 - If the penalty is saved or missed the point umpire will signal a wide once the referee has signalled
- Each team shall register five penalty takers, a goal keeper & a substitute goal keeper with the referee and indicate in which order the penalty takers will take their penalties. (A penalty taker can also be a goalkeeper or a substitute goalkeeper.)
 - The Referee shall toss a coin in the presence of the two captains to see which team will have the option of going first.

Only players who are on the field of play at the end of Phase 1 (i.e. end of Extra Time), shall be allowed to be registered as a penalty taker or goalkeeper. Exception: The substitute goalkeeper can come from the team panel.

- A goalkeeper who is injured while the penalty kicks/pucks are being taken and is unable to continue as a goalkeeper may be replaced[®]
- by the substitute goalkeeper who has been nominated in advance, provided the referee is notified. If in the event the substitute goalkeeper
- also gets injured, one of the registered penalty takers may replace[®] the substitute goalkeeper, provided the referee is notified. (*Once replaced, the goalkeeper/ substitute goalkeeper cannot be reintroduced as a goalkeeper at a later stage)
- Subject to the conditions below both teams will take five penalty kicks/pucks which are taken alternately by the teams. The game is awarded

to whichever team scores more of their five penalty kicks/pucks

-If, before both teams have taken five penalty kicks/pucks, one team has scored more goals that the other team could score, even if they

were to complete their five penalty kicks/pucks, no more penalty kicks/pucks shall be taken

-IF, after both teams have taken five penalty kicks/pucks and both teams have scored the same number of goals, the penalty competition

will continue but in sudden death format using the same five registered players until one team has scored a goal more than the other from the

same number of kicks/pucks.

-In sudden death, the same sequence of penalty takers does not have to be followed as in the first round of penalty kicks/pucks.

- Each penalty kick/puck is taken by a different player. All registered players must take a penalty kick/puck before any player can take an additional
- penalty kick/puck.

The referee shall signal for the penalty to be taken. The penalty kick/puck is completed when the ball stops moving, goes out of play

- (including over the crossbar) or a goal is scored.
- Only the players involved in the penalty taking competition, as well as the Referee, Linesmen and Umpires are permitted on the pitch.

With the registered penalty takers located between the 45m & 65m lines closest to the end selected by the referee. Goalkeepers to be located

20m from the goals.

All other players (including substitute goalkeepers), managers, officials, backroom personnel etc should be at their designated sideline area,

and off the field of play when the penalty-taking competition is taking place.

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