

Cumann Luthchleas Gael  
Coiste Chontae Fear Manach  
An Chomhdháil Bhliantuil 2020



Láthair: Inis Ceithleann  
Nollaig 14th 2020

## **Clár**

- 1) Fáilte-Welcome to delegates – (Cathaoirleach)**
- 2) Adoption of Standing Orders**
- 3) Minutes of 2019 County Convention**
- 4) Matters Arising**
- 5) Chairpersons Address**
- 6) Secretary's Report**
- 7) Sub Committee Reports**
- 8) Treasurer's Report and Balance Sheets**
- 9) Club Eirne Presentation**
- 10) Election of Officers/Representatives/Delegates Congress/Ulster Convention**
- 11) Appointment of Children's Officer and Development Officer.**
- 12) Motions**
- 13) AOB- Notified**
- 14) Conclusion –Close of Convention.**

## Standing Orders for Convention

**In order that the proceedings of the Convention are carried out without delay, the following Standing Orders will be observed:**

- 1) The proposer of a motion may not speak for more than **five** minutes.
- 2) A delegate speaking on a motion may not speak for more than **three** minutes
- 3) The proposer of a motion may speak for a second time for **three** minutes before a vote is taken.
- 4) No delegate may speak a second time in the debate on the same motion.
- 5) The Chairperson may at any time he considers a matter has been sufficiently discussed, call on the proposer for a reply, and when that has been given a vote must be taken.
- 6) A delegate may, with the consent of the Chairperson, move 'that the question be now put', after which when the proposer has spoken, a vote must be taken.
- 7) When Convention considers it appropriate, a vote may be by secret ballot.
- 8) A speaker to the Secretary's Report/Sub Committee Reports or to any other general discussion shall not exceed **three** minutes on any one topic.
- 9) The Chairperson may consider any matter not on the Clar with the consent of the majority of the delegates present and voting.

### **Ainmiucháin (Nominations)**

<b>Cathaoirleach (Chairman)</b>	Greg Kelly (Outgoing)
<b>Leas Cathaoirleach (Vice Chairman)</b>	Phil Flanagan (Outgoing)
<b>Rúnaí Cúnta (Assistant Secretary)</b>	Brian Armitage (Outgoing)
<b>Cisteoir (Treasurer)</b>	Sean Burns (Outgoing)
<b>Cisteoir Cúnta (Assistant Treasurer)</b>	Barry Doherty (Outgoing)
<b>Oifigeach Oiliúna (Coaching Officer)</b>	Ferghal O'Connor (Outgoing)
<b>Oifigeach Cultúra &amp; Gaeilge (Officer Culture &amp; Irish Language)</b>	Ciaran Maguire (Outgoing)
<b>Oifigeach Caidreamh Poiblí (PRO)</b>	
<b>Ard Comhairle (Central Council)</b>	Tiernach Mahon(Outgoing)
<b>Comhairle Uladh (Ulster Council) (2)</b>	Peter Carty(Outgoing),Jim Tummon (Outgoing),
<b>Comhdháil Bhliantúil (Delegates to Congress) (2)</b>	Phil Flanagan, Brian Armitage
<b>Comhairle Uladh Comhdháil Bhliantúil (Delegates to Ulster Convention) (2)</b>	Brian Armitage Phil Flanagan,



## **Rúin-Motions-2020**

### **Motion 1**

Amendment to Bye-Law 4

A change of address is not required for a player to transfer within County if the following criteria are met,

The player has not represented their First Club at any level for a period of 96 weeks.

The Player can demonstrate that the relationship with their first Club has broken down.

The Player must demonstrate that they have a “relevant connection” or live within its existing catchment area to the proposed new club as defined in Rule 6.3 T.O 2019.

**St Patricks GAA.**

### **Motion 2**

Amendment to Bye-Law 4 (D)

(3) A change of address is not required in the case where both First Club and Proposed New Club have no objection to the Player’s transfer.

**St Patricks GAA.**

### **Motion 3**

Amendment to Rule 7.5 (c) “A walk-over shall not constitute the next game in a competition”.

In the event of a Club conceding a match, any players on the opponent team **only** due to serve a match suspension, will be deemed to have served their suspension, as if the match had gone ahead.

**St Patricks GAA.**

### **Motion 4**

Erne Cup & Reserve Cup Football should be played mid- week to reduce the pressure on referees and allow for adequate recovery time for panels who may have players playing at more one grade. The present system means that if a player gets injured playing Erne Cup & Reserve Cup football on Saturday they have less than 24 hours to recover and prepare to participate in intermediate or senior.

Approval of this motion would maximise participation and increases the competitiveness of the competition and within individual squads.

**Lisnaskea Emmetts GAA.-Referred to County Committee**

### **Motion 5**

If any club at Juvenile level has the capacity the field to more than one team at any age grade they will be permitted to do so, which will increase participation and engagement.

**Lisnaskea Emmetts GAA- Referred to County Committee**

### **Motion 6**

On the assumption that Covid 19 continues to be a factor in the coming year. It is proposed that relegation, promotion, and a championship a restored to the Erne Cup & Reserve Cup Football

**Lisnaskea Emmetts GAA- *Referred to County Committee***

## **Tuarasail na Rúnaí Choiste Chontae Fhearmanach 2020**

A chairde gaeil go léir,

Fellow Gaels, I welcome you all here today to our 2020 County Convention. Due to Covid 19 restrictions we are using Microsoft Teams to conduct convention. As the end of 2020 fast approaches, I wish to present my report for adoption at Annual Convention tonight detailing the activities that took place under the control of the Board during the year. A year which challenged us all due to Covid 19.

### **Covid 19 –Coronavirus.**

When we last meet at county convention in December 2019, no one would have foreseen the impact that the pandemic -Covid 19 (Coronavirus) has had on all our lives.

For the GAA it has meant adhering to Government & GAA lockdown restrictions which impacted on all aspect of our activity this year. Our inter county season was disrupted with the National Football Leagues not concluded until October and our Ulster Football Championship and Lory Meagher Cup games not played until November. At club level our Competition Control Committee had to review their plans resulting in some competitions not being played and those that were played had less games with some finals left over until 2021.

At the outset of the pandemic, society was called upon to provide support to our local communities impacted by Covid 19 restrictions, especially those living on their own. I want to commend our clubs in the way that they responded to requests for help from within their communities and in many areas; they were the first to volunteer to help. I know from feedback received that services such as delivery of essential shopping and medical supplies were much appreciated.

I want to take this opportunity to express our thanks to our officials at National and Provincial level, John Horan, Tom Ryan, Kieran McLoughlin and Brian McAvoy and express empathy with them in decision making in respect of Covid 19 issues. We must acknowledge that all involved in decision making at the higher level whether in GAA and Government were dealing with decisions that were ‘life and death decisions’-a heavy burden to carry.

The recent announcement of an approved vaccine provides us all with hope and a pathway out of this pandemic. However, it must be acknowledged that this will not be a quick fix and we must understand that restrictions will probably continue well into 2021. Therefore, it is important that going forward into 2021 we continue to adhere to the GAA and Government guidance.

### **Administration/Governance.**

Affiliations.

Twenty-three clubs affiliated to Fermanagh GAA in 2020, namely, Aghadrumsee St. MacCartans, Belcoo O’Rahillys, Bellanaleck Art Mc Murroughs, Brookeborough Heber MacMahons, Coa O’ Dwyer’s, Derrygonnelly Harps, Derrylin- O’ Connells, Devenish- St. Mary’s, Ederney- St. Joseph’s, Enniskillen- Gaels, Erne Gaels Belleek, Irvinestown St. Molaise, Kinawley Brian Boru/St Marys Killesher, Knocks Grattans, Lisbellaw St Patricks,

Lisnaskea Emmetts, Maguiresbridge St Marys, St Aidans Hurling Derrylin, Newtownbutler-First Fermanaghs, Roslea Shamrocks, St Patricks Donagh, Teemore Shamrocks, Tempo Maguires.

Our County Committee met on six occasions in 2020 - 13<sup>th</sup> January, 3rd February, 24th February (Congress Motions only), 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 11<sup>th</sup> May (via Conference Call), 22<sup>nd</sup> June, (via Conference Call). Thanks are again due to Enniskillen Gaels for hosting all the County Committee meetings during the period January to March.

Between County Committee meetings, Management Committee met on twelve occasions, with a number of meetings during the summer months taken up with the management of Covid 19 issues. Thanks to all the County Board Officers who put in so much time and effort on behalf of the Association in Fermanagh.

I want to acknowledge the work of each Committee and thank the Chairperson & Secretary of each Committee for their leadership as listed below.

**Finance:** Chairperson – Sean Burns, Secretary- Tom Boyle

**Competitions Control Committee:** Chairperson – Phil Flanagan, Secretary- Brian Armitage

**Hearings Committee:** Chairperson -Pat McGurn, Secretary- Martin McBrien

**Youth Committee:** Chairperson -Eoghan Cassidy, Secretary- Leanne Prior

**Coaching and Games Development Committee:** -Ferghal O'Connor, Teresa McNabb

**Hurling Committee:** Chairperson – Tom Boyle Secretary- Kieran Farmer

**Referees Administration Committee:** Chairperson - Fergal Cleary Secretary- Gerard McLaughlin

**County Planning and Physical Development Committee:** Chairperson - Tiernach Mahon Secretary-Leanne Maguire

**Cultural/ Irish Language and Heritage Committees:** Chairperson – Finola Owens Secretary-Ciaran Maguire

**Public Relations/Marketing/IT:** Chairperson - Pauric McGurn Secretary-Niall Cullen

**Health and Wellbeing:** Chairperson -Damian McHugh Secretary-Ann Curran

**Child Protection Issues-Children's Officer** – Anita Kehoe

All of our sub-committees present a report to County Committee meetings and bearing in mind that each sub- committee has its own report included, I will comment as briefly as possible on the work of each to highlight issues. For all sub-committees this was a challenging year for organising meetings and carrying out their activities.

### **Competitions Control Committee (CCC).**

This committee, chaired by Phil Flanagan and secretary Brian Armitage, Youth secretary Leanne Prior, this year ensured that our fixtures programme was constantly under review. The committee had to make the decision to postpone the final stages of the league competitions as well as curtail other activity due to Covid 19 restrictions. Unfortunately, the Junior Football championship was postponed due to a bereavement in the Derrylin club and hopefully it will be concluded in 2021. This year the Reserve Cup Competitions were not played but hopefully we will see their return in 2021.

## **Youth Committee.**

Our Youth Committee, under the leadership of Leanne Prior (Secretary) worked again this year in conjunction with the CCC to deliver a programme of meaningful games this year although limited due to Covid 19 restrictions.

I want to acknowledge Eoghan Cassidy (Derrygonnelly) for taking on the role of Chairperson of the Youth Committee this year.

## **County Hurling Committee**

The County Hurling Committee welcomed Kieran Farmer to the role of secretary this year. Kieran has been to the fore in organising competitions and representing Fermanagh at Ulster Council meetings. At club level competitions at U.11.5, U.13 and U.17 age groups were organised. It was a disappointing year for our county U-17 hurlers as the Celtic Challenge competition was cancelled due to Covid 19 concerns.

I want to thank, Kieran Farmer, Ferghal O'Connor, Teresa McNabb (GDM), Emmett Conlon (RHCO) and the representatives from the participating clubs for their contribution to the development of hurling during this difficult year.

## **Coaching and Games Development Committee.**

Our Coaching and Development Committee this year was led by our coaching officer Ferghal O'Connor and a number of new members were added to the committee. In his report to Convention Ferghal acknowledges that the committee were only able to meet face to face on one occasion. His report also sets out plans for a review of our academy work and we look forward to this being completed in early 2021.

Our Coaching and Development work is led by our Games Development Manager, Teresa McNabb assisted by Shaun Doherty (Football Development Manager), Eoin Bradley (Athletic Development Coach) and our schools/club coaches-Keith Reilly, Jonny Garrity & Fergal Shannon. I want to thank them for all their work, in a year which saw their employment interrupted due to Covid 19 restrictions when they were placed on furlough for a number of months.

## **Hearings Committee.**

It was a quiet year for the hearings committee and due to Covid 19 restrictions some outstanding hearing requests in respect of non urgent issues have been left over to next year. I want again to put on record our thanks to Chairman Pat McGurn, Secretary Martin McBrien and all the members of our Hearings Committee for their continued service to this important committee.

## **Referees Administration Committee.**

I thank Fergal Cleary (Chairperson) and Gerry McLaughlin (Secretary), and Dermot Love (Appointments Officer) for their work throughout the year.

Our referee's secretary in his report to tonight's convention states- our perennial problem of the shortage of referees. There were new additions to the referee's panel but this was offset by others taking a step back from refereeing due to Covid 19 issues.

Our inter-county referees officiated at many matches across the country and we thank them for their service with congratulations to 1- Niall Cullen (Erne Gaels) who refereed four games in the National Football League (Division 1& 2).

2-Aiden Ferguson (Erne Gaels) who refereed three games in the National Hurling league, and also took charge of the NHL Div. 3A final. He also refereed games in the Nicky Rackard Cup.

3-James Lewis (Newtownbutler) was appointed as referee for the U20 championship game between Antrim and Derry and officiated at a number of inter county club games.

4- John Murphy (Derrygonnelly) is also involved with the Ulster Referee Academy and has refereed games in the Ulster Minor Football league and he has been involved on match days in Ulster Club action this year.

## **County Planning and Physical Development Committee.**

This committee, under the Chairmanship of Tiernach Mahon and administered by Secretary Leanne Prior, has placed their efforts this year on supporting our clubs in respect of Club Officer training, Health & Safety issues, club development plans, Club Maith, Club Trustees and steward recruitment and training.

We are grateful to all those stewards who facilitate the safe and smooth running of our major fixtures throughout the playing season; a special word of thanks is due to Jim Tummon and Tiernach Mahon in their role as Event & Safety Managers at Brewster Park, and for their commitment to the organisation and leadership of the county's stewards. I want to also thank all club officers who take on this responsibility when their clubs are hosting championship games.

A number of our clubs are making excellent progress to deliver projects that will provide additional modern facilities to their existing grounds. I wish to complement the following clubs on their work to date-

Belnaleck –development of a new playing field-completed.

Ederney- spectator stand, changing rooms, gym and meeting rooms and playing field-completed

Irvinestown-new club rooms-completed

Newtownbutler- development of a new playing field-on-going

Roslea - new playing field and walking track -completed

St. Patricks Donagh-building of spectator stand-completed

Teemore –children's play area for community use-completed

Tempo- on the provision of a training field-completed and work on the car parking facilities is ongoing.

## **Facilities Committee**

This committee works in liaison with the county development committee to look after the management and development of county facilities. This includes the county office, county gyms and the Lissan Centre. Phil Flanagan has presented a report on behalf of the committee and I want to thank all members for their work to date.

During the year Prunty Contracts completed the work of restructuring the drainage systems and laying a sand carpet playing surface on both pitches at Lissan. I want to acknowledge and thank Joe Prunty and Gary McBride (Prunty Contracts) Eamon Monaghan and Tom McGrade (Keys & Monaghan) and Denis Rocks (Croke Park appointee) for their assistance.

## **County Planning-Strategy Document**

Our County plan was launched at last year's county convention. Tiernach Mahon (Development Officer) in his role as 'Planning Co-ordinator' issued implementation plans in May to the various stakeholders but due to meeting restrictions not much work was carried out. At a recent management committee, it was agreed to put timelines back one year.

## **Cultural/ Irish Language and Heritage Committees.**

Kieran Maguire in his first year as, our Cultural Officer details a considerable amount of activity in his report regarding promoting and learning the Irish language and Scor activity. Kieran also played a leading role with commentary of our games on television and radio and it was good to see this confident Gaeilgeoir add to the occasion with his comments.

## **Communication and Marketing & IT Committee**

Under the leadership of our Vice Chairperson and acting PRO Phil Flanagan, we continued to provide a service on our website and social media platforms and our twitter account has been used to provide reports on our club games, especially during the championship and county activity at National Leagues and Inter County Championships games.

During the National Football and Hurling league games in February and March match programmes were produced, using external services and the county office was used to produce the one-page programmes.

This year due to Covid 19 restrictions saw more use made streaming of a number of our games at club, county and college levels via television commentary service and I want to thank Phil Flanagan for taking the lead on this and all who provided support by way of technical assistance, camera work and commentary. There were some connectivity issues at a few of our games but overall, the streaming of our games has received a very positive response from the public in providing a service to many who could not attend our games.

I want to again acknowledge the work of our local papers - the Fermanagh Herald, the Impartial Reporter, and at provincial level by the Irish News for their continued coverage of our games and activities at all levels.

Regarding Information Technology, our thanks to Niall Cullen who continues to provide a support service to all clubs in respect of GAA IT systems.

### **Child Protection.**

Anita Kehoe in her role as the County Children's Officer ensures that everyone is fully aware of their roles and responsibilities in respect of the very important issue of child protection.

In her report to convention Anita states 'With the removal of face-to-face safeguarding training, the GAA have now moved to online courses which the county have made some use of. This is an area where I would encourage all clubs to actively engage in, as to date the uptake has been disappointing.'

I want to emphasise to clubs the importance of these courses and appeal to all to co-operate with our Children's Officer to help deliver this very important work in respect of child protection.

### **Health and Wellbeing.**

I thank Damian McHugh (Chairperson) and Ann Curran and other committee members for their work throughout the year.

The committee continues to deliver on their three year strategy, covering a wide range of important issues such as Continued development of the Health and wellbeing committee and structures, engage with new Critical Incident Response plan for the county and support clubs to adopt their own. They continued to support Phase 3 of the Healthy Clubs Project, promote the new gambling Awareness Resources and provided response in respect of Covid 19 issues. These are important issues and I ask all clubs to support the various initiatives, many of which are detailed in the Health & Wellbeing report.

Damian also took the lead as a presenter or facilitator in delivering a number of Health and Wellbeing webinars organised by Croke Park. I commend him for his role with this important work.

### **County Finance.**

A Finance Committee report from our Treasurer is included with the Accounts and Balance Sheet which will be presented to Convention by our accountant Des Crudden, to whom we are grateful for his continuing advice and support.

I want to thank our dedicated band of workers led by Sean who ensured that match day ticket sale operators and gate persons are in place to cover all our gate requirements at both county and club level.

This year, to comply with Covid 19 restrictions we had to provide pre match ticket sales from the county office for all our club championship games. I want to put on record my thanks to all those club officers who helped with the distribution and payment of tickets.



### **Club Eirne.**

Club Eirne under the leadership of Gerard Tracey (Chairperson) has worked hard at generating funds for the county. Club Eirne had ambitious events planned for this year but unfortunately their plans for a 'Raceday' and 'Golf Classic' events fell foul of Covid 19 restrictions. On a positive note the Club Eirne contributions held up well from their membership, gold members and brand partners.

Club Eirne will present a report to tonight's Convention and an information document detailing their activities in 2020.

### **Sponsors.**

In terms of financial support, we are grateful to all our sponsors and I appeal to all GAA people in the county to continue to support them. Thanks to Patsy Tracey of Tracey Concrete, for his continuing valued support to our County Senior Football Team and County U-21 and Minor football teams.

Our thanks also to O'Neills Irish International Sports Company Ltd for their valued sponsorship in respect of gear to all our county teams. I want to acknowledge and thank Kieran Kennedy and all his staff for their assistance throughout the year.

Our senior hurlers were sponsored by Keogh & Co and we thank Mick Keogh for his continuing support to the county.

Thanks, this year again to Monaghan Bros Lisnaskea who provided a kit van for our senior football team and to our coaching staff for use during the summer camps.

Thanks to the Quinn Building Products (Mannok) for the sponsorship of the Senior Football Championship and Kevin Courtney Car Sales for the sponsorship of the Intermediate Championship. The Junior Football Championship was sponsored by Peter Carty Funeral Director, and our Senior Leagues were sponsored by ETC Biomed.

A number of other businesses provided sponsorship to support our competitions and these are highlighted throughout the year during our competition activity.

### ***DfC Sports Stability Fund 2020***

I welcome the announcement on the 3<sup>rd</sup> December from the Department of Communities of a £25M Sports Sustainability Fund. The fund, which will be administered by Sport NI, is designed to help those clubs and governing bodies who have been impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic.

For GAA, applications shall be coordinated to Ulster Council via Fermanagh GAA and is open to the county board and all our affiliated clubs. The time for returns is 4<sup>th</sup> January and I

ask all clubs to cooperate with our county coordinator Tiernach Mahon (Development Officer) regarding the administration of applications.

### **Insurance Issues.**

I welcome the recent announcement from Croke Park of the GAA club and International Unit Support Package' which includes a club insurance credit/grant- 'To mitigate the insurance cost in 2021 for all our GAA clubs, it is proposed to use €4.7m of the €8.7m support package to award every club a 5/6 payment / credit note based on their actual 2020 Insurance premium paid. This will be applied against each club's 2021 insurance premium charge, subject to the completion of a Covid-19 financial impact grant application form. On demonstrating a Clubs appropriate financial need and being subsequently approved for the grant, a club will only be requested to pay 1/6 approx. of their Insurance premium charge for 2021. Normal insurance charges will apply again from 2022 and 2023 onwards.

### **County Teams.**

#### **Senior Football.**

##### ***Dr. McKenna Cup.***

In December and January prior to the commencement of the Allianz National League, Fermanagh participated in the McKenna Cup, with no University teams taking part. The opening game against Down in Brewster Park on the 15<sup>th</sup> December ended in a defeat and this was followed by a defeat to Antrim in Ahoghill.

##### ***National Football League Division 2.***

Fermanagh began the National Football League in Newbridge to play their opening game against Kildare. In closely contested game, two good goal chances were not put away and Kildare ran out winners by four points. This was followed up by an excellent performance where we dominated the game against Roscommon in Brewster Park resulting in our first win of the competition. Following this win we travelled to Mullingar to play Westmeath where again a failure to convert scoring chances cost us a two-point defeat. This was followed up with two home games against Ulster opposition, Cavan and Armagh. The Cavan game was a competitive affair and at the half time break we went in leading on a score line of 1-05 to 0-07. Two goals by Cavan in the space of five minutes as well as some wasteful shooting were, we hit twelve wides was the difference and Cavan ran out winners by three points. Our final game before lockdown was home to Armagh. We did not reach the competitive heights of the Cavan game and Armagh finished convincing winners by ten points.

On the resumption of the NFL we travelled to Ennis to play Clare on the 18<sup>th</sup> October. Leading up to this game we had requested a postponement to allow time for players to recover from Covid 19 infection and isolating issues, but this was not granted. Despite the long break the game turned out to be a competitive entertaining affair where again we had

scoring chances not put away that made the difference in the end resulting in a two-point win for Clare. Our last game was a home fixture against Laois on the 24<sup>th</sup> October. Going into the final three minutes of normal time we were well placed for a win leading by 1.11 to 0.9 but a Laois scoring spree of 3.03 saw them finish with a seven-point win.

### ***Ulster Championship.***

In the Ulster Championship we were drawn a first-round game at home to Down, played on the 8<sup>th</sup> November. The first half was a closely contested affair where scores were hard to come by and at the 17<sup>th</sup> minute, we led by two points to nil and with both teams increasing their effort in the last quarter, Down went in at half time leading on a score line of six points to five.

This competitive trend continued for the second half and by the sixtieth minute the game was poised at eleven points to eight in favour of Down. However, a late surge by the visitors which included three points in injury time saw them close out the game with the final result Fermanagh 0-11, Down 1.15.

I want to thank Ryan McMenamin in his first year as manager and his backroom team for their commitment and effort in managing the Senior football panel during this very difficult year where Covid 19 presented unprecedented challenges in the management of the county team.

### ***All Ireland Championship.***

No All Ireland Qualifiers played in 2020

### **U-20 Football.**

Our Under 20 team this year under the management of Ollie Fay assisted by Charlie Kane and Kevin O'Rourke competed in the - U-20 Development league (Philly McGuinness Cup). For all the games in this competition we were fielding with a depleted panel due to commitments to college and county senior football games. We recorded a good win over Leitrim in their first game at Tempo, but this was followed by two-point defeat to Sligo and we played out a draw in our final game away to Longford.

In the Ulster U-20 Championship we played Derry in Celtic Park, and in a very competitive game played in atrocious weather conditions, we came from behind to draw the game at full time. In the first period of extra time Derry hit an early goal, we failed to recover from that and Derry went on to win by five points.

In October Ollie Fay informed us that he was stepping down from the role of our U-20 Football Team Manager. I want to thank Ollie, and his backroom team for their commitment and efforts over the last two years.

## **Minor Football-U-17.**

We were placed in Group B of the Ulster Minor League (Jim McGuigan Cup), but due to the Covid 19 restriction we only got to play one game against Sligo, where we lost by two points.

The U-17 Ulster Minor Championship was postponed due to Covid 19 and is now due to be played on the 20<sup>th</sup> December. I want to thank Maurice McLaughlin and his backroom team for their commitment and effort in managing the U-17 panel during this very difficult year when training and games were cancelled and then having to wait on the decisions on return to play which was a challenge to keep all the panel on board during periods of uncertainty.

## **Senior Hurling.**

### ***Conor McGurk Cup***

Our senior hurlers under new manager Joe Baldwin started the year with two games in the Ulster Council organised preseason competition 'The Conor McGurk Cup', where we played two games against Down and Queens University.

### ***National Hurling League Div 3B.***

We again competed in National Hurling League Div-3B, grouped with Cavan, Leitrim Lancashire and Sligo. In the opening game against Leitrim at home we recorded a fine two-point win. This was followed up by defeat in our two away games to Cavan and Lancashire respectively. In our last league game, we suffered a heavy defeat in our home game against Sligo.

### ***Lory Meagher Cup.***

We opened our Lory Meagher campaign with a fine one-point win over Louth at Darvar. This was followed up by an excellent draw result with Cavan in Brewster Park. Due to Covid 19 restrictions Lancashire could not take part in competition therefore this result placed us in the Lory Meagher Cup final, played on Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> November.

The first quarter we had the upper hand in possession, but we failed to convert this possession into scores. An excellent taken penalty by John Duffy saw us in the lead at the water break. However, during the second quarter we lost our full forward Sean Corrigan due to a broken finger injury. Louth gained the upper hand and went in at half time leading on a score line 1.06 to 1.03

We were back in contention early in the second half when Barry McPhillips scored a goal following an excellent run and pass by Ciaran Corrigan. Conor McShea followed this up by a well taken long range point and we lead by one after ten minutes. This was as good as it got as Louth responded with a number of well taken frees and a late goal to see out the game, winning on a score line of 2.19 to 2.08.

I want to thank Joe Baldwin, assisted by Rory O'Donnell and Ollie McShea and the backroom team for their commitment and effort in managing the senior hurling panel during this very difficult year.

### **Training facilities for our county teams.**

Our training centre at Lissan was not available this year due to on-going work and we had to request the use of club facilities to cater for a number of our teams. I want to put on record my thanks to clubs who readily made their facilities available for training.

### **County Team Results.**

The following is a record of the performances of our various teams in official competitions during the past twelve months:

#### **Dr McKenna Cup- Group C**

Fermanagh 0.07 Down 1.11 Brewster Park, Enniskillen

Antrim 2.08 Fermanagh 0.13 Ahoghill GAA, Co Antrim

#### **McKenna Cup-Group –Section B**

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	F	A	Points
1	Down	2	2	0	0	37	23	4
2	Antrim	2	1	0	1	30	36	2
3	Fermanagh	2	0	0	2	20	28	0

#### **National Football League-Division 2**

Kildare	2.12	Fermanagh	0-14	Newbridge
Fermanagh	0.13	Fermanagh	0.12	Brewster Park, Enniskillen
Westmeath	0.10	Fermanagh	0-08	Cusack Park, Mullingar
Fermanagh	1-11	Fermanagh	2.11	Brewster Park, Enniskillen
Fermanagh	0-10	Armagh	2-14	Brewster Park, Enniskillen
Clare	1-11	Fermanagh	1-09	Cusack Park, Ennis
Fermanagh	1.11	Laois	3.12	Brewster Park, Enniskillen

**National Football League Div. 2**

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	F	A	Points
1	Roscommon	7	5	1	1	113	90	11
2	Armagh	7	4	1	2	130	103	9
3	Kildare	7	4	0	3	106	99	8
4	Westmeath	7	3	1	3	106	111	7
5	Laois	7	3	1	3	104	113	7
6	Clare	7	3	0	4	90	99	6
7	Cavan	7	3	0	4	115	119	6
8	Fermanagh	7	1	0	6	85	115	2

**Ulster Senior Football Championship**

Fermanagh 0.11                      Down 1.15                      Brewster Park

**U-20 Development League-Philly McGuinness Cup**

Fermanagh 2.16                      Leitrim 0.11                      Tempo GAA  
 Sligo 1.09                      Fermanagh 0.10                      Sligo  
 Longford 2.08                      Fermanagh 2.08                      Pearse Park, Longford

Ulster U20 Football

Ulster U-20 championship quarter-final

Derry 1.13                      Fermanagh 1.08                      Celtic Park, Derry

**Minor Football-U-17**

Ulster MFL (Jim McGuigan Cup) Section B

Fermanagh 0.09                      Sligo 1.08                      Bawnacre, Irvinestown

**Competition cancelled following round 2, due to Covid 19**

**Ulster Minor-U-17 Football Leagues-Group -B**

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	F	A	Points
1	Sligo	2	1	1	0	19	17	3
2	Cavan	1	1	0	0	16	4	2
3	Tyrone	2	1	0	1	17	27	2
4	Donegal	2	0	1	1	50	68	1
5	Fermanagh	1	0	0	1	9	11	0

**Ulster MFC-U-17****Round 1\***

Fermanagh -----                      Down -----                      Brewster Park, Enniskillen

\*Not played at time of writing report

### Conor McGurk Cup Group A-Senior Hurling

Ulster University 5.31                      Fermanagh 2.13                      Queens University (The Dub)  
Down 0.32                                      Fermanagh 0.05                      Ulster University Jordanstown

### Conor McGurk Cup-Group A

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	F	A	Points
1	Down	2	2	0	0	60	25	4
2	Ulster Unv	1	1	0	1	66	47	2
3	Fermanagh	2	0	0	2	24	78	0

### National Hurling League

Fermanagh 2.12                      Leitrim 1.13                      Brewster Park  
Cavan 0.17                      Fermanagh 0.12                      Breffni Park  
Lancashire 1.12                      Fermanagh 0.06                      Abbotstown, Dublin  
Fermanagh 0.14                      Sligo 3.21                      Brewster Park

### National Hurling League Div. 3 B

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	F	A	Points
1	Sligo	4	4	0	0	112	69	8
2	Leitrim	4	2	0	2	66	60	4
3	Lancashire	4	2	0	2	62	60	4
4	Cavan	4	1	0	3	49	72	2
5	Fermanagh	4	1	0	3	64	80	2

### Lory Meagher Cup

Louth 1.15                      Fermanagh 3.10                      Darver Park, Louth  
  
Fermanagh 0.16                      Cavan 1.13                      Brewster, Park.  
Final  
Fermanagh 2.08                      Louth 2.19                      Croke Park

### Lory Meagher Cup

Position	Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	F	A	Points
1	Fermanagh	2	1	1	0	35	34	3
2	Louth	2	1	0	1	35	35	2
3	Cavan	2	0	1	1	32	33	1
4	Lancashire	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

### Celtic Challenge –U-17 Hurling

Competition cancelled due to Covid 19.

### Games Activity - Club Competitions.

2020 was a difficult year for the organising of club fixtures across all levels due to the interruptions presented by Covid19 restrictions. However, our Competition Control

Committee, Youth Committee and Hurling Committee did their utmost to deliver as many games as possible during this challenging year.

Also, to note there were no provincial and All Ireland club competitions this year but hopefully we will see a return to these in 2021.

In our Senior Championship final, Ederney St Joseph's overcame Derrygonnelly Harps to win their second championship title, spanning 52 years since their first in 1968 on a score line of Ederney St Joseph's 2.08, Derrygonnelly 1.06.

In the Intermediate Championship, Enniskillen Gaels overcame the challenge of Maguiresbridge St Marys in a high scoring game to win the IFC title on a score line of Enniskillen Gaels 5.17, Maguiresbridge St Marys 4.07.

In the Junior Football Championship, the competition was completed to the final stage with Derrylin O'Connells and Coa O'Dwyers reaching the final. Unfortunately, due to bereavement in the Derrylin club the final was cancelled on the scheduled date and following the further introduction of Covid 19 restrictions the decision was made to leave this game over to 2021.

There were no Tain leagues or Provincial Hurling club championship competitions organised this year. I was informed that there were only six Ulster clubs interested in the Tain Leagues, which Lisbellaw was one but due to the spread of clubs across counties, the competition did not proceed due to Covid 19 restrictions. The result of this was that Lisbellaw adult players did not have any competitive games this year.

A shortened Senior Football league and Erne Cup League programme was scheduled this year, but the competitions were not completed due to Covid 19 restrictions. A decision will be made on the completion of these in early 2021.

There were no Reserve Cup competitions organised in 2020 due to Covid 19 restrictions but hopefully these valued competitions will return in 2021.

**Note - All club competition winners and 2020 League tables are detailed in the CCC, Youth and Hurling committee reports to Convention.**

### **Inter County Transfers/Sanctions.**

Inter-county transfer activity recorded this year with 25 players transferred into our clubs in the county in 2020 (38 in 2019) and 54 players transferring out of our clubs (42 in 2019). No players applied for sanctions to play overseas in USA, Canada and Australia in 2020 (5 in 2019).



## **Our Schools.**

### ***Primary Schools***

Due to Covid 19 all Primary schools' competition were cancelled this year and hopefully 2021 will see this important activity return

### ***Second Level Schools/ Erne Integrated College/ St Michael's College***

Due to Covid 19 all school's competition were cancelled this year and currently the Ulster Schools Committee are looking at playing some of outstanding competitions in January.

During 2020 we provided financial support to St Michaels College to upgrade their gym facility and this will help provide extra support to players on our academy teams and county minors.

### ***South West College***

Early in 2020 we signed an agreement with the College in respect of promotion and support to Gaelic games. We also presented them with a set of jerseys and had coaching support plans in place. Unfortunately, due to Covid 19 all plans fell by the wayside. Hopefully 2021 will provide another opportunity for both parties to meet and continue the development of Gaelic Games in the College.

### **Teemore GAA - Fermanagh GAA Club All Stars Awards.**

Thanks again to Teemore GAA- as part of their club fundraising for 2020, for organising the 'Fermanagh GAA Club Players All Star Awards'. This included several awards to club volunteers in recognition of their contribution to the GAA. Due to Covid 19 restrictions there was no function held this year, therefore the event was reimagined, and the streamed recording was played out on the 8<sup>th</sup> October for all to watch online.

### **Fermanagh LGFA.**

I want to take this opportunity to congratulate our County Ladies Senior team, Management and County Board on their excellent win in the All Ireland Junior Football Championship Final which was played on 5<sup>th</sup> December. This was the second All Ireland Junior title to come to the county so well done to all involved.

### **National- Updated Report of the Fixtures Calendar Review Task Force.**

The updated report which was circulated in October- the background and context to this document being 'Arising from the debate and feedback on specific Fixture Task Force related motions on the floor at Congress 2020 and at the Fixture Calendar Review Workshop, held as part of Congress, it was agreed that the Task Force should revisit outstanding proposals ahead of a Special Congress, which was originally scheduled to take place in September 2020.

The review is looking at four specific areas, namely 1-Split playing season, 2-Football championship proposals, 3-Inter county age grades, 4-Status of remainder of Original Proposals.

The areas which have provoked much debate are the ‘Split Season’ and the Football championship proposals. The football championship proposals are looking at two options namely option 1 – 8 Team Provincial Football Championships, option 2- League structure for the All Ireland Championship only, with the playing of Provincial Competitions in the February/March period.

This year at both county and club level all counties had experience of a ‘split season’ and the report does state that ‘the positive experience for clubs of the ‘split season’ foisted on the GAA during 2020 has meant that this needed to be re-evaluated’.

From our own discussions within our county management committee none of the options to reform the football championship were met with any enthusiasm or favourable response from members.

The next stage of the process is for final recommendations to be made to Central Council in December on which proposals should be progressed at Congress 2021 or elsewhere within the Association, therefore we will all have an opportunity to debate the final motions going before Congress.

### **Casement Park Development.**

I welcome the announcement of the 13<sup>th</sup> October Infrastructure Minister Nichola Mallon to recommend planning approval for the redevelopment of Casement Park stadium in Belfast. Hopefully at last this announcement will see groundwork starting soon to construct a new Casement Park in Belfast.

Over the last number of years I have stated in my annual report ‘Throughout this process, we in Fermanagh GAA have expressed our support and it is important at this stage that we steadfastly continue our support for this project which will deliver a modern GAA stadium in Belfast’.

### **Tributes**

Sadly, since our last county convention, a number of our GAA families experienced the loss of loved ones, called to their eternal reward. At local club level we all know someone from our communities who passed away this year who in some way made a valuable contribution to GAA life and our thoughts and prayers are with them at this time of year.

I want to especially mention the following; -we were saddened to learn of the death of Canon Patrick Lonergan (Garrison) former vice chairperson Fermanagh County Board and Ulster Council, James O’Keefe (former Newtownbutler player and a member of the Fermanagh 1959 All Ireland winning team), Brendan McManus Enniskillen Gaels, former Assistant Secretary Fermanagh County Board, Malachy McRoe Enniskillen Gaels, hurling enthusiast and former member of the county hurling committee/PRO.

## **Acknowledgements and Conclusion**

I want to thank my fellow Officers on County Management Committee for their support during 2020.

Our County Chairperson Greg Kelly has competently directed us through this difficult year, and I am appreciative to him for his support. I have also worked closely with County Treasurer Sean Burns across a number of areas regarding finance, and I thank them for their co-operation and hard work in 2020.

I also appreciate the co-operation I have received from all other County Officers, Sub Committee Officers, and our representatives to National and Provincial Committees.

I thank all club representatives on County Committee for their co-operation and contribution to the running of meetings and as ever, I wish to express my grateful appreciation to the Officers of all the clubs in Fermanagh for their support and co-operation in dealing with the Association's affairs during 2020.

At this year's Convention we will be appointing a new person to the post of Development Officer replacing the present Officer, Tiernach Mahon who has now completed his five-year term. I thank Tiernach for his commitment and work in this role over these past five years.

Again, this year I have worked closely on a daily basis with Comhairle Uladh and Croke Park. I thank Brian McAvoy and all the Ulster Council staff for their help throughout 2020.

I take this opportunity to thank Tom Ryan Ard Stiurthoir and Ger Mulryan GAA Finance Director and also to the staff at Croke Park for their continued expert advice and assistance.

Finally, I wish all of you here today season's greetings and express the wish that we can work with all our communities to help bring an end to Covid 19 so that normality can return in 2021.

Nollag Shona daoibh.

Tomás Ó Báoihill (Rúnaí na gContae)

## **Sub-Committee Reports-2020**

### **TUARASCÁIL BHLIANTÚIL AN CHOISTE CHEANNAIS NA gCOMÓRTAISÍ FHEAR MANACH DON COMHDHÁIL 2020**

Is mór an onóir dom an tuairisc seo a a fhoilsiú ar son Choiste Cheannais na gComórtaisí Fhear Manach.

#### **Ballraíocht an Choiste - Committee Members**

- Cathaoirleach – Phil Flanagan (An t-Iompú Mag Uidhir)
- Runaí – Brian Armitage (Eiméid Líos na Sceithe)
- Comhairle Uladh – Peter Carty (Naomh Mhuire Daimhinis)
- Comhairle Uladh – Jim Tummon (Gaeil Inis Ceithlinn)
- Ard Chomhairle – Tiernach Mahon (Naomh Molaise Na Cearna)
- Coiste Riaracháin Réiteoir – Gerard McLaughlin (Naomh Iósaf, Eadarnaigh)
- Fixture Analyst - Hugh Kelly (Cláirseacha Dhoire Ó gConaíle)
- Coiste na nÓg – Leanne Maguire (Uí Chonaill Doire Loin)
- Oifigeach Oiliúna - Ferghal O'Connor (Gaeil na hÉirne)
- Michael Duffy (Naomh Molaise Na Cearna)
- Francis Gormley (Naomh Iósaf, Eadarnaigh)
- Eugene Hueston (An Chead Cumann Fhear Manach, Achadh Gé)
- Gareth Melanaphy (Briain Bhóramha, Cill Náile)

#### **Responsibilities**

In accordance with Riail 3.20 (ii) An Treoir Oifigiúil 2020 and Riail 3.2 Coiste Chontae Fhear Manach Fo-Dhlithe 2020, An Coiste Cheannais na gComórtaisí Fhear Manach shall:

- Be responsible for all arrangements, including the appointment of Referees, for and control of any matters arising from Games under the jurisdiction of the County Committee, including disciplinary matters other than those functions reserved to the County Hearings Committee.
- Process and make recommendations to the County Committee on the Grading of Clubs.
- Investigate and process matters relating to the Enforcement of Rules, including hearing Objections and Counter-Objections.
- Be responsible, in the first instance, for making decisions on applications for Transfer Within the County and the Grading of Players.
- Consist of a minimum of five members, who shall be appointed from members of the County Committee and/or other suitable personnel, together with the County Referees' Administrator who shall be entitled to vote only on the appointment of referees.
- Have plenary powers.

#### **Introduction**

I am extremely grateful for the commitment, input and support of each member of the Competitions Control Committee, in what is a challenging role in a busy sub-committee of Coiste Chontae Fhear Manach in what has been a particularly challenging year for everyone. I want to offer a since word of thanks to the members of the committee for all they have done during the last year.

On behalf of the Fermanagh Competitions Control Committee, I want to express my gratitude to all those within the county who helped facilitate our competitions and who worked to promote and advance our national games.

As a committee, we have an extremely challenging role in making decisions, which, at times, we know will not be universally popular, but someone has to do it.

We are all members of clubs ourselves and we are all involved at various levels of our clubs and we are very cognisant of the impact that our decisions have on our clubs and our members.

However, we put in place key principles to guide us in our decision-making process, which forced us to be consistent and strategic in our thinking and hopefully allow all stakeholders of the association to understand why we have arrived at the decisions we have, regardless of whether there is universal agreement with the outcome.

These principles were:

1. Players, along with all our stakeholders, deserve and require fixture certainty.
2. Having a season with a definite completion date for all internal competitions.
3. Clubs support a regular flow of games for senior club players through the summer months, including 'Games for Club Players'.
4. That there are 'safety net' and 'reclaiming lost ground' opportunities within the end of season league formats.
5. All rounds of the league competitions shall be completed before any of the championship starts.
6. Sustain a season long interest in club training, with championships, as the climax of the season and offering the best preparation possible for going into the end of league formats.
7. Organising adult competitions where games are competitively important and meaningful throughout the season.
8. Consistently, fairly and strictly enforcing all competition regulations, particularly with regards to postponements and accurate First 13 lists.
9. Meeting the welfare needs of all players, club and county, by recognising that there are club player needs and county player needs, and they are both equally important within the amateur ethos of the GAA.
10. The need for those who have a 'say' in club fixtures (County Committee, Inter-County Management team, CCC and Club Management groups) to respect the desire and need for players to play regular games for their clubs.
11. Giving the club and county teams that are acting as ambassadors for our county the best possible chance to prepare for and compete in Provincial and National Competitions.

## Competition Overview

### OUTCOME OF COMPETITIONS FERMANAGH ADULT FOOTBALL FINALS 2020

COMPETITION	WINNERS	SCORE	RUNNERS UP	SCORE
<b>SFC</b>	CLG NAOMH SEOSAMH, EADARNAIGH	2-08	CLG CHLÁIRSEACHA DHOIRE Ó GCONAÍLE	1-06
<b>IFC</b>	CLG GHAEL INIS CEITHLEANN	5-17	CLG NAOMH MUIRE, DROICHEAD MHIG UIDHIR	4-07
<b>JFC</b>	NOT COMPLETED DUE TO COVID 19 RESTRICTIONS FINAL WILL BE PLAYED AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE IN 2021			
<b>SFL 1</b>	NOT COMPLETED DUE TO COVID 19 RESTRICTIONS			
<b>SFL 2</b>	NOT COMPLETED DUE TO COVID 19 RESTRICTIONS			
<b>ERNE CUP 1</b>	NOT COMPLETED DUE TO COVID 19 RESTRICTIONS			
<b>ERNE CUP 2</b>	NOT COMPLETED DUE TO COVID 19 RESTRICTIONS			

### QUINN BUILDING PRODUCTS SENIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS

	Date	Round
Ederney St Joseph's 2-08 v Derrygonnelly Harps 1-06	27/09/2020	FINAL
Ederney St Joseph's 2-16 v Teemore Shamrocks 3-07	13/09/2020	SF2
Derrygonnelly Harps 2-07 v Kinawley Brian Borus 1-02	11/09/2020	SF1
Belnaleck Art McMurrroughs 3-10 v Erne Gaels Belleek 1-10	27/09/2020	Relegation FINAL
Erne Gaels Belleek 2-06 v Tempo Maguires 1-12	13/09/2020	Relegation SF2
Belnaleck Art McMurrroughs 0-05 v Roslea Shamrocks 0-07	13/09/2020	Relegation SF1
Derrygonnelly Harps 0-10 v Roslea Shamrocks 0-06	30/08/2020	QF4
Tempo Maguires 0-13 v Teemore Shamrocks 2-08	30/08/2020	QF3
Kinawley Brian Borus 2-08 v Erne Gaels Belleek 1-09	29/08/2020	QF2
Ederney St Joseph's 1-11 v Belnaleck Art McMurrroughs 2-02	28/08/2020	QF1

**EDERNEY ST JOSEPH'S WERE THE 2020 SENIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS FOR 2020.**

**ERNE GAELS BELLEEK WERE RELEGATED TO THE INTERMEDIATE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP FOR 2021.**

**KEVIN COURTNEY GARAGE & CAR SALES  
INTERMEDIATE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS**

	Date	Round
Enniskillen Gaels 5-17 v Maguiresbridge St Mary's 4-07	26/09/2020	FINAL
Maguiresbridge St Mary's 3-11 v Belcoo O'Rahilly's 3-08	20/09/2020	SF2 REPLAY
Belcoo O'Rahilly's 2-11 v Maguiresbridge St Mary's 1-14	13/09/2020	SF 2
Aghadrumsee St Macartans 0-04 v Enniskillen Gaels 1-12	12/09/2020	SF 1
Irvinestown St Molaise 5-11 v St Patrick's Donagh 2-10	26/09/2020	Relegation FINAL
Lisnaskea Emmetts 1-11 v St Patrick's Donagh 1-10	12/09/2020	Relegation SF2
Devenish St. Mary's 3-13 v Irvinestown St Molaise 2-09	12/09/2020	Relegation SF1
Devenish St. Mary's 2-04 v Aghadrumsee St Macartans 1-10	30/08/2020	QF4
St Patrick's Donagh 3-10 v Maguiresbridge St Mary's 2-16	29/08/2020	QF2
Lisnaskea Emmetts 2-04 v Belcoo O'Rahilly's 1-08	29/08/2020	QF3
Irvinestown St Molaise 2-10 v Enniskillen Gaels 1-19	29/08/2020	QF1

**ENNISKILLEN GAELS WERE THE 2020 INTERMEDIATE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS FOR 2020  
ST PATRICK'S DONAGH WERE RELEGATED TO THE JUNIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP FOR 2021.**



**PETER CARTY FUNERAL DIRECTOR  
JUNIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS**

	<b>Date</b>	<b>Round</b>
Coa O'Dwyer's 0-20 v Newtownbutler First Fermanaghs 0-13	26/09/2020	SF2
Newtownbutler First Fermanaghs 0-14 v Derrylin O'Connells 0-17	20/09/2020	SF1
Newtownbutler First Fermanaghs v Derrylin O'Connells ***ABANDONED DUE TO A SERIOUS JURY***	12/09/2020	SF 1
Coa O'Dwyer's 1-11 v Brookeborough Heber McMahons 0-10	12/09/2020	QF 3
Derrylin O'Connells 0-16 v Brookeborough Heber McMahons 1-09	05/09/2020	QF2 Replay
Brookeborough Heber McMahons 0-11 v Derrylin O'Connells 1-08	30/08/2020	QF2

**THE PLANNED FINAL BETWEEN COA O'DWYERS AND DERRYLIN O'CONNELLS WAS POSTPONED OWING TO A DEATH WITHIN THE DERRYLIN O'CONNELLS CLUB AND A DATE TO PLAY IT COULD NOT BE FOUND AS RESTRICTIONS RELATING TO COVID-19 WERE TIGHTENED AT THAT TIME. IT WILL BE PLAYED AS EARLY IN 2021 AS POSSIBLE.**

2020 was a very strange year and it does not warrant the usual length of a report from the Competitions Control Committee as has been produced in the last few years. We did not get to play the number of games and competitions that we would have liked but we got to play much more than we had anticipated at one stage.

At a national and provincial level, the GAA has provided first class leadership and hope to communities through this most difficult of years and I believe that in Fermanagh, the efforts made by the GAA membership across the county in delivering goods to vulnerable people during the initial lockdown period and the joy and entertainment offered during our league and championship games meant the world to so many people.

The behaviour of our members throughout the course of the ongoing public health emergency is something that I am immensely proud of.

I want to briefly thank a number of people who have assisted the Competitions Control Committee and I in carrying out our various tasks.

Firstly, my sincere thanks to all members of the committee who gave up their time to help organise competitions within Fermanagh.

I want to thank our County Chairman Greg Kelly for always providing support and advice to me and to the Committee and for being on hand to present trophies to successful teams. Our County Secretary Tom Boyle was always on hand to lend a hand where required and I am particularly grateful for him for the help he provided with the timely processing of referees' reports. The County Treasurer Sean Burns, along with his team of gatemen and gatwoman make matchdays run much smoother and a massive thanks to all of them for their thankless task of collecting money from people.

My thanks too to the local media who provide our games with excellent coverage each and every week in both the Fermanagh Herald and the Impartial Reporter. These are invaluable resources for us and the team of sports reporters and photographers that produce content on the GAA on a regular basis are extremely helpful and accommodating to us as we try to promote our games to the widest possible audience.



2020 was a hugely successful year for Fermanagh GAA TV and Radio and I want to thank all of those who made a contribution to the success of that venture. It provided access to our games to a much larger audience than normal and generated considerable revenue for the County. I have provided more detail on this in the PR & Marketing Committee's report.

I am extremely grateful to Leanne Prior for administering underage football fixtures in the county on behalf of the Competitions Control Committee in what was a very busy year for her on a personal level. My warmest congratulations to Leanne and Jarlath on their new arrivals in July.

I want to offer sincere thanks to all of our club secretaries and team managers/mentors for their help, support and understanding with this year's competitions, along with the other club officials who helped out in anyway.

The list of people to be thanked really is endless but a huge thanks to Dermott Love who took charge of all aspects of refereeing appointments and was hugely supportive over the course of 2020 by providing referees, often at short notice. Thanks to all those who volunteered as referees, linesmen, sideline officials or umpires over the course of the year in what is a difficult but necessary role.

My thanks to all the members of club executives in the county for all the work they do to ensure our competitions run smoothly with considerable unseen and unrecognised efforts.

A special word of thanks to our very many stewards, groundsmen and groundswomen, team managers and spectators.

To all clubs for providing their facilities to host matches without any fuss, particularly Enniskillen Gaels for their continuing use of Brewster Park for big occasions.

A massive thanks to all of our players for their commitment and dedication in 2020, making the limited number of competitions played hugely enjoyable.

I want to extend a special thanks to all the sponsors of Fermanagh GAA and on behalf of CCC a particular thanks to those who sponsored our competitions; Quinn Building Products (SFC), Kevin Courtney Garage and Car Sales (IFC), Peter Carty Funeral Director & Headstones (JFC), ETC Biomed (SFL), B McCaffrey & Sons (Erne Cup).

If I have missed anything in this report or if I have negated to thank anyone individually, I apologise.

Plans for 2021 are at a very early stage. We are waiting to see what window we may have available to us to play games. Whatever plans are approved will be very fluid and will have to be responsive to the public health guidelines and regulations in place throughout 2021.

**IS MISE LE MEAS**



**PILIB Ó FLANNAGÁIN**

**CATHAOIRLEACH**

**COISTE CHEANNAIS NA GCOMÓRTAISÍ FHEAR MANACH**

A chairde gaeil go léir,

The Youth Board and CCC strive to provide fixtures and competitions that maximise our player's abilities, set achievable goals that can be accomplished, enabling players to fulfil their ambitions, maintain motivation and build confidence. Players and coaches desire success, but it is important to remember that success is not just about winning trophies and medals. You are achieving success by putting on your club gear / club jersey, stepping out on to that field and coaching / playing alongside your team mates and participating to your maximum potential in every game, continuously trying to develop and progress for the betterment of yourself, your team and your club. That is the true measure of success! And I think this year, more so than any other, has truly shown us that it is those small things we need to appreciate and value more. This has most definitely been a year like no other.

This year did however give me the great pleasure of being able to welcome our new Chairperson to the Youth Board early in the season, Derrygonnelly's Eoghan Cassidy. An important position that unfortunately had been vacant for a number of years, it was brilliant to have somebody of Eoghan's calibre, knowledge and experience, take to the top table. Unfortunately he didn't get his feet under the table for too long with the onset of Covid-19, but was an invaluable listening ear and level head upon our seasons return and we look forward to delivering the work of the Youth Board with Eoghan spear heading it, in the year ahead.

The Youth Board had embraced the changes within the association to our youth structures over the last number of years and had finally bedded in the changes to the odd age grades of U11½, U13, U15, U17 and U19. It was hoped that 2020 would boast a competitive elongated season with alternating all age grades each week. However, logistically it simply wasn't feasible with competing disciplines and inter-county games.

The County Board owes a tremendous debt to all of those clubs who organize their own mini tournaments, blitzes and competitions throughout the years in addition to the scheduled league, championship and Féile fixtures and no more than this year was it evident how vital and important these competitions are. A particular mention this season goes to Lisnaskea Emmetts for organizing their U10½ Tommy Durnien competition, despite all of the additional work Covid-19 regulations and restrictions placed upon them. A number of other clubs took the initiative to run their own internal camps and tournaments and hopefully this is something clubs can build upon and we look forward to the return of the well established and excellently run tournaments in Derrygonnelly, Kinawley and Tempo in 2021.

Building upon the developments of 2019, albeit at exceptionally short notice, an U19 league competition was organised which seen an increase in team participation this season. The majority of clubs have expressed a keen interest in the establishment of this league competition, but given the short notice, player availability and competing GAA commitments, were unable to participate. This is a crucial age group and despite a number of approaches in the last few years, it still requires dedicated consideration and a targeted approach to provide enjoyable activity, development and meaningful games for players we will loss from the association, who feel the jump from U17 to Senior/Reserve football is simply too great. As a competition which usually takes place in the early part of the playing season, unfortunately its future development in 2021 is already uncertain with the current restrictions and regulations that are in place.

An excellent job of work in the masterplan presented at the start of the 2020 season, illustrated the new initiative of providing a longer playing season for everyone but alternating weeks between underage football activity and hurling activity. The benefits for player development, reducing the burdens and stresses on facilities and officials, the increased time between games for player recovery and the opportunity for an increased number of players to become dual players, were all enabled in this season's masterplan. However, when a global pandemic reached our shores, it wasn't long putting a 'spanner in the works' and derailing this 'all singing all dancing' 2020 masterplan, so to speak!

After a number of years of the position being vacant, the addition of Ferghal O'Connor as the Coaching & Games Development Officer was most welcome. With the rapid decline in player numbers at underage levels, predicted to reduce even further, it has become more evident that the usual club league and championship structures simply are not providing the best opportunities for advancement, enjoyment and development. This can be attributed to teams having to pull out of competitions, not fielding on a regular basis or constantly reducing the numbers aside in fixtures.

This season the Youth Board in conjunction with Coaching and Games Development provide space in the masterplan for regional competitions to occur, on the back of the success of the U13 Regional Competition in 2019. It invited club coaches to actively participate with county coaches in the delivery of this strategy, in an effort to develop all players to a higher level across the county by playing against players of their same age and ability, whilst also aiding in the improvement of the standard of coaching clubs could then provide through access to a multitude of different styles and variety of coaching.

When the regional competitions become more established and are successfully up and running, it is hoped that other age groups can mirror this competition providing an important model of identification and pathway of development for players to advance to academy squads and eventually U20 county football. Once again, this initiative did not come to fruition, but we look forward in anticipation to its development in 2021.

It is with great thanks and appreciation to every club, coach, volunteer and player in our county, especially in this peculiar year, that we were able to fulfill the number of fixtures we did. However, it was disappointing and regrettable that the season for other age groups was unable to commence as a consequence of the implementation of additional lockdowns, with only three age grades receiving competitive football. Their league table results are available in appendix 2. Comhghairdeas to all of this seasons winners at U19, U17 and U13 and our commiserations to the runners up (Appendix 1).

Whilst this season eventually saw a huge reduction in the number of fixtures that was originally offered at the start of the year and again in July, of the league competitions that were played, approximately 90% of those fixtures were fulfilled. By not stretch of the imagination the season of fixtures we had wished or hoped for.

Competition	No. of Games	Conceded / Unplayed	Percentage played
U19 League	28	5	~ 82%
U17 League	43	3	~ 93%
U13 League	46	4	~ 91%
Féile	Covid Cancellation		

U15 League	Covid Cancellation		
U11½ League	Covid Cancellation		
<b>Season Totals</b>	<b>117</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>~ 90%</b>

I wish to express my sincere gratitude to County Chairperson Greg Kelly, County Secretary Tom Boyle and County Treasurer Sean Burns for their continued help, guidance and encouragement throughout this rather unorthodox season.

I would like to acknowledge the tremendous work done by the Fermanagh Competitions and Controls Committee headed up by Chairperson Phil Flanagan and CCC Secretary Brian Armitage. Phil and all the CCC members have an exceptionally difficult task orchestrating the annual masterplan and trying to accommodate competing activities. It is an impossible task to accommodate everybody all of the time, but Phil and the CCC members do a tremendous job in the delivery of achievable masterplans and the masterplan booklet publications were highly commended this year.

Phil especially really drives the CCC committee to achieve the visions he has for the future of the Fermanagh GAA and more often than not, he does not receive the credit or praise he deserves for the incredible (and thankless) job he does. Unfortunately however, this year called for the original masterplan to be shelved and additional meetings to be held to produce a whole new set of fixtures, when lockdown restrictions were lifted. By no means the season anybody had hoped for at any level in our association, but hopefully people are grateful to this committee's efforts in ensuring that our clubs and communities were able to return to our club grounds and the field of play, even if only for a short while.

To the Youth Grading Committee, Ciarán Carey, John Prunty and Thomas McElroy, tasked with considering several year's worth of underage gradings and results, in an effort to produce a fair, accurate and competitive grading of teams for the upcoming season. I thank you for your commitment, experience and expertise in what is always a complicated and arduous task and hope to see you all return to this committee in 2021.

A special word of thanks must go to Teresa McNabb, Games Development Manager and our exceptional county coaches Shaun Doherty, Eóin Bradley, Jonny Garrity, Keith Reilly and Fergal Shannon in addition to Emmett Conlon delivering hurling throughout the county at primary and post-primary level. This coaching is invaluable to our youth and their development and much credit must go to our county coaches' commitment to continue delivering this service in a safe and socially distanced manner despite Covid-19 restrictions.

Sincere thanks to Teresa for her valued contribution and attendance at Youth Board, delivering thorough and detailed reports on the mammoth amount of work being delivered and we look forward to all of these academies, competitions and camps resuming in the new year.

To our Children's Officer, Anita Kehoe, whom co-ordinates with club Children's officers and Designated Officers, keeps on top of our vetting processes, provides safe guarding training and training updates, ensuring that we in Fermanagh GAA are creating and maintaining the safest possible service and environment for our young people. Her duties also include delivering awareness on a number of issues such as bullying, autism and the ever changing forum of social media, all delivered most efficiently and diligently reported to delegates each month. Anita is a GAA stalwart and a valued voice on our County Youth Board.

I wish to commend Dermott Love, Referee Appointment Officer and Gerard McLoughlin, Referee's Administrator for the difficult job in appointing referee's to officiate our games,

often under challenging and strenuous circumstances. Our thanks and gratitude extends also to all of the referee's, who do an incredible and thankless job. Thanks for all of their commitment, dedication and assistance in ensuring that our youth fixtures we could provide ran efficiently and it was also heartening to see the number of new faces officiating.

After the introduction of the Young Whistler initiative at U11½ level in 2019, we had hoped to build upon its foundations and develop it further in 2020 enabling it to become a valuable asset. However, not one single person turned up for the training night provided at the start of the season which was most disappointing and disheartening, given the importance of the initiative. We would hope clubs revisit this request in 2021 and commit to the provision of their clubs young whistler for the upcoming season.

I wish to thank all of those delegates who gave up their valuable time to attend the Youth Board meetings at the start of 2020, which are always the longest and most difficult of the season's meetings, debating and deliberating the masterplan and any implementation of new rules. Looking forward to our new season in 2021, it is envisaged that our monthly Youth Board meetings should be able to resume and proceed regardless of the format they take, which will mirror that of the main County Board meetings to ensure a constant stream of up to date information to youth delegates and clubs in this era of 'new norms'.

In conclusion, I would like to thank everyone for your patience, understanding, cooperation and respect throughout the year. Having now established great working relationships throughout the county, it truly eases the burden of this challenging but hugely rewarding role and in a year that saw the addition of two new babies to my own household, co-ordinating fixtures from my hospital bed in Maternity Ward did not seem all that bad as a consequence of those friendships and bonds that have now been created!

I wish everyone continued good health in the months ahead and offer my sincere condolences to those families, whom have lost loved ones over the course of the season. May they rest in peace! I look forward to once again working with new and returning officers within the county and I am sure I am not alone in looking forward in anticipation to a New Year, full of fixtures, spectators on our sidelines and the hustle and bustle of activity around our grounds.

Nollaig Shona agus Athbhliain faoi mhaise agus sláintiúil daoibh so léir We wish you all a very happy, prosperous and healthy Christmas and new year.

***Leáine Nic an Phríora - Runaí Bord na n-Og Counte Fhear Manach***

#### Appendix 1 – Competition winners 2020

<b>Competition</b>	<b>Winners</b>		<b>Runners Up</b>	
<b>U19 FL1</b>	Derrygonnelly	0-17	Kinawley	0-10
<b>U19 FL2</b>	Teemore	2-12	Devenish	1-13
<b>U19 FL3</b>	Derrylin	5-17	Aghadrumsea	3-10
<b>U19 FL4</b>	St. Marys	2-11	St. Pats	2-9
<b>U17FL 1</b>	Newtownbutler	1-18	Kinawley	1-9
<b>U17FL 2</b>	Belcoo	2-12	Devenish	3-6
<b>U17FL 3</b>	Ederney	5-15	St.Patricks Donagh	1-9
<b>U13FL 1</b>	Newtownbutler	0-0	St.Patricks Donagh	0-0
<b>U13FL 2</b>	Enniskillen	0-7	Teemore	0-5

<b>U13FL 3</b>	St. Marys	4-10	Devenish	1-7
<b>U13FL 4</b>	Belcoo	4-8	Derrylin	1-9
<b>Feile na nÓg 1</b>	Cancelled due to Covid			
<b>Feile na nÓg 2</b>	Cancelled due to Covid			
<b>U15 FL 1</b>	Cancelled due to Covid			
<b>U15 FL 2</b>	Cancelled due to Covid			
<b>U15 FL 3</b>	Cancelled due to Covid			
<b>U15 FL 4</b>	Cancelled due to Covid			
<b>U11.5 FL 1</b>	Cancelled due to Covid			
<b>U11.5 FL 2</b>	Cancelled due to Covid			
<b>U11.5 FL 3</b>	Cancelled due to Covid			
<b>U11.5 FL 4</b>	Cancelled due to Covid			

## Appendix 2 – Final League Tables 2020

### U19 Division 1

Rank	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
1	Derrygonnelly Harps	4	4	0	0	34	25	12
2	Kinawley Brian Borus	4	1	1	2	25	34	5
3	Tempo Maguires	3	1	0	2	0	0	3
4	Enniskillen Gaels	3	0	1	2	0	0	0

### U19 Division 2

Rank	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
1	Teemore Shamrocks	4	4	0	0	41	21	12
2	Devenish St. Mary's	4	2	0	2	10	13	8
3	Newtownbutler	3	1	0	2	11	28	4
4	Erne Gaels Belleek	3	0	0	3	0	0	0

### U19 Division 3

Rank	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
1	Derrylin O'Connells	4	4	0	0	73	37	12
2	Aghadrumsee	4	1	0	3	39	74	6
3	Ederney St Joseph's	3	1	0	2	0	0	4
4	Belcoo O'Rahilly's	3	1	0	2	17	18	4

**U19 Division 4**

Rank	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
1	St Mary's	5	4	0	1	69	48	13
2	St Patrick's Donagh	5	3	0	2	45	39	11
3	Coa O'Dwyer's	4	0	0	4	35	62	4

**U17 Division 1**

Rank	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
1	Newtownbutler	5	4	0	1	131	84	13
2	Kinawley Brian Borus	5	3	0	2	82	75	11
3	Irvinestown St Molaise	4	2	0	2	58	78	8
4	Derrygonnelly Harps	4	2	0	2	67	73	8
5	Derrylin O'Connells	4	0	0	4	64	92	4

**U17 Division 2**

Rank	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
1	Belcoo O'Rahilly's	6	6	0	0	116	51	18
2	Devenish St. Mary's	6	3	0	3	68	77	12
3	Teemore Shamrocks	5	3	0	2	97	91	11
4	Roslea Shamrocks	5	2	0	3	78	95	9
5	Enniskillen Gaels	5	2	0	3	77	100	9
6	Lisnaskea Emmetts	5	0	0	5	55	77	4

**U17 Division 3**

Rank	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
1	Ederney St Joseph's	7	6	1	0	186	91	20
2	St Patrick's Donagh	7	4	2	1	130	114	17
3	Tempo Maguires	6	4	1	1	97	91	15
4	Belnaleck	6	3	0	3	60	84	12
5	Aghadrumsee	6	2	0	4	69	124	10
6	St Mary's	6	1	0	5	47	85	6
7	Erne Gaels Belleek	6	0	0	6	0	0	0

**U13 Division 1**

Rank	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	PTS
1	St Patrick's Donagh	4	3	0	1	107	58	10
2	Newtownbutler	4	3	0	1	76	69	10
3	Kinawley Brian Borus	4	2	0	2	88	83	8
4	Derrygonnelly Harps	4	2	0	2	77	80	8
5	Belnaleck	4	0	0	4	29	87	3

**U13 Division 2**

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Team</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>PTS</b>
<b>1</b>	Enniskillen Gaels	5	4	0	1	74	51	13
<b>2</b>	Teemore Shamrocks	5	3	0	2	109	63	11
<b>3</b>	Lisnaskea Emmetts	4	2	0	2	84	104	8
<b>4</b>	Irvinestown St Molaise	4	2	0	2	51	62	8
<b>5</b>	Aghadrumsee	4	0	0	4	38	76	2

**U13 Division 3**

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Team</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>PTS</b>
<b>1</b>	St Mary's	5	4	0	1	128	52	13
<b>2</b>	Devenish St. Mary's	5	4	0	1	110	63	13
<b>3</b>	Tempo Maguires	4	2	0	2	59	88	8
<b>4</b>	Coa O`Dwyer's	4	1	0	3	68	86	6
<b>5</b>	Roslea Shamrocks	4	0	0	4	39	115	4

**U13 Division 4**

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Team</b>	<b>P</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>D</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>PTS</b>
<b>1</b>	St Mary's	5	4	0	1	128	52	13
<b>2</b>	Devenish St. Mary's	5	4	0	1	110	63	13
<b>3</b>	Tempo Maguires	4	2	0	2	59	88	8
<b>4</b>	Coa O`Dwyer's	4	1	0	3	68	86	6
<b>5</b>	Roslea Shamrocks	4	0	0	4	39	115	4



**Senior Intercounty team**

Our county hurlers started the season under the new management of Joe Baldwin, Ollie Mc Shea and Rory O'Donnell and competed strongly in Division 3B. After the enforced break on Covid 19 the team come back even stronger and have reached the Lory Meagher final in Croke Park where they will play a Louth team that they beat in the leagues stages of the competition, it's a great honour to be playing before the senior All Ireland Semi Final. Unfortunately Saturday was not to be the day for our seniors, but we must remember that we still played in an All-Ireland final and it will be a brilliant experience for a very young team with massive potential to move onward and upward. I think we should also record our congratulations to Louth on their clinical performance.

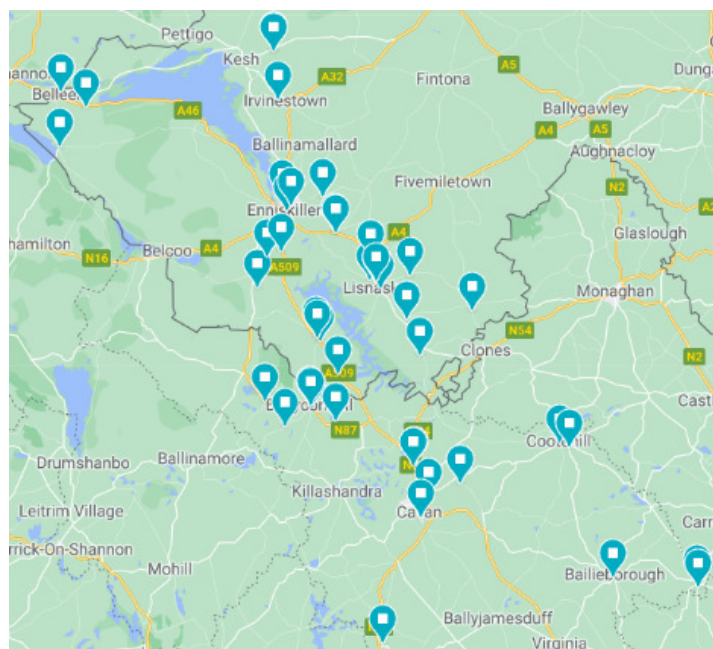
I would like to thank all the players and team management for the fantastic hard work put in by our senior players. I also wanted to take time to thanks the senior players and management who presented the trophies at the end of underage finals. I would also like to record my thanks to Mick Keogh from Keogh and Co for his continued unwavering sponsorship of the senior team.

**Hurling Development squads.**

The year started with a very strong turnout for the (Under 17)Celtic challenge team with 34 training on a regular basis, sadly this was one of the first competitions to fall victim of the global pandemic, I would like to take this time to thank Cyril Dunne, Michael Sheridan, Paul Daly and Emmett Conlon for the fantastic work time and effort they put into the team. It is disappointing that players in their last year at under 17 will miss out on their chance to represent their county

**Hurling schools coaching**

The map below shows schools who received coaching from Ulster GAA regional Hurling development officer Emmett Conlon. All 8 underage Hurling clubs received at least 4 week coaching from Emmett focusing on school / club link.



With current Covid restrictions in place, Emmett is currently working only 3 days a week. This is split between Fermanagh / Cavan and provincial work. Schools coaching will be reduced dramatically in this current environment.

**Club games programme****Fermanagh GAA Under 11.5****Hurling development League**

After the torrid time of lockdown, the go ahead was given to resume training and ultimately playing in

July and we have a very successful under 11.5 competition. The teams were split into two groups of 4 and they played each team in the group once with everyone then advancing to a final the 2020 winners and runners up are as follows;

- a. Division 1 winners – Knocks and runners up Belnaleck

- b. Division 2 winners – N Aodhan and runners up Ederney
- c. Division 3 Winners – Lisnaskea and runners up Erne Gaels
- d. Division 4 Winners – Enniskillen and runners up Lisbellaw.

In the Under 11.5 competition 100 percent of fixtures were fulfilled

#### Tain Og youth Hurling league

Over the last couple of years a national youth Hurling competition has been played (Tain Og youth Hurling league) which has resulted in an increase in games opportunities for Fermanagh clubs, unfortunately Tain Og was cancelled from Croke Park due to Covid 19 leaving a massive gap in games programme. In 2020 Tain Og was to run at under 13 and under 15 level with each team getting at least 6 games of Hurling at each age level.

#### Under 13 Fermanagh League

The next competition played was the under 13. We had 5 teams in the competition and each team played each other once with 3 finals scheduled.

- a. Division 1 winners – Belnaleck and runners up Erne Gaels
- b. Division 2 winners – Knocks and runners up N Aodhan
- c. Division 3 final could not be completed due to a COVID 19 cluster.

#### Under 17 County Final

The next competition and sadly what was to be the last due to circumstances beyond our control was the flagship minor final. This year was special because after his passing Keogh and Co managing director Mick Keogh sponsored a trophy to be named 'The Malachy Mc Roe Memorial cup' this was a straight final played under lights in Brewster Park with Lisbellaw beating Erne Gaels. Under 17 age grade continues to get lack of games which is disappointing, Tain Og youth hurling league will include Under 17 for the first time in 2021, which is of massive importance for Fermanagh clubs to have a clear pathway of games.

#### Under 15 Fermanagh League

Sadly no games were played in the under 15 competition due to the government and GAA introducing restriction on underage games, while bitterly disappointing this was a decision supported by the 4 teams that had entered the competition.

In total 22 games were played at youth level in Fermanagh in 2020 and although the number is a lot lower than we hoped it should be said that I cannot commend all the clubs and their coaches enough for the can-do attitude and the speed at which they got hurling up and running again after a long break.

### **Planning for Hurling development for 2021**

#### Monday night Hurling –

County board continues to keep Monday night available for youth Hurling, Phil Flannagan and the CCC have been fantastic in keeping this initiative. Most of the clubs in Fermanagh respect this initiative, this is one of the reasons Hurling is able to grow. It is positive to see non-Hurling clubs encourage their players to take up Hurling and I commend these clubs for that.

Some clubs continue to organise trainings and challenge games on Monday's which is disappointing, and we hope that continued requests from this committee will bear fruition and allow children to play hurling and football.

#### Games Programme

It is hoped that all national competitions will take place this includes

#### Inter county competitions

-Hibernia Cup (Under 15 Development squad) – 5 Games

- Celtic Challenge (Under 17) (6 games)
- Senior County team – National Hurling League and Championship

*Club games programme – Youth*

- Under 13 Tain Og – (At least 6 games)
- Under 15 Tain Og – (At least 6 games)
- Hurling Feile (U15) TBC
- Under 17 Tain Og – (At least 6 games)

*Adult - Lisbellaw and Erne Gaels only*

- Ulster Club Championship

The Cu Chulainn league at senior club level. (At least 4 games)

*Erne Gaels will need support from county board and clubs in Fermanagh to ensure smooth transition into Adult Hurling. Ulster GAA RHDO to support club in establishing adult team.*

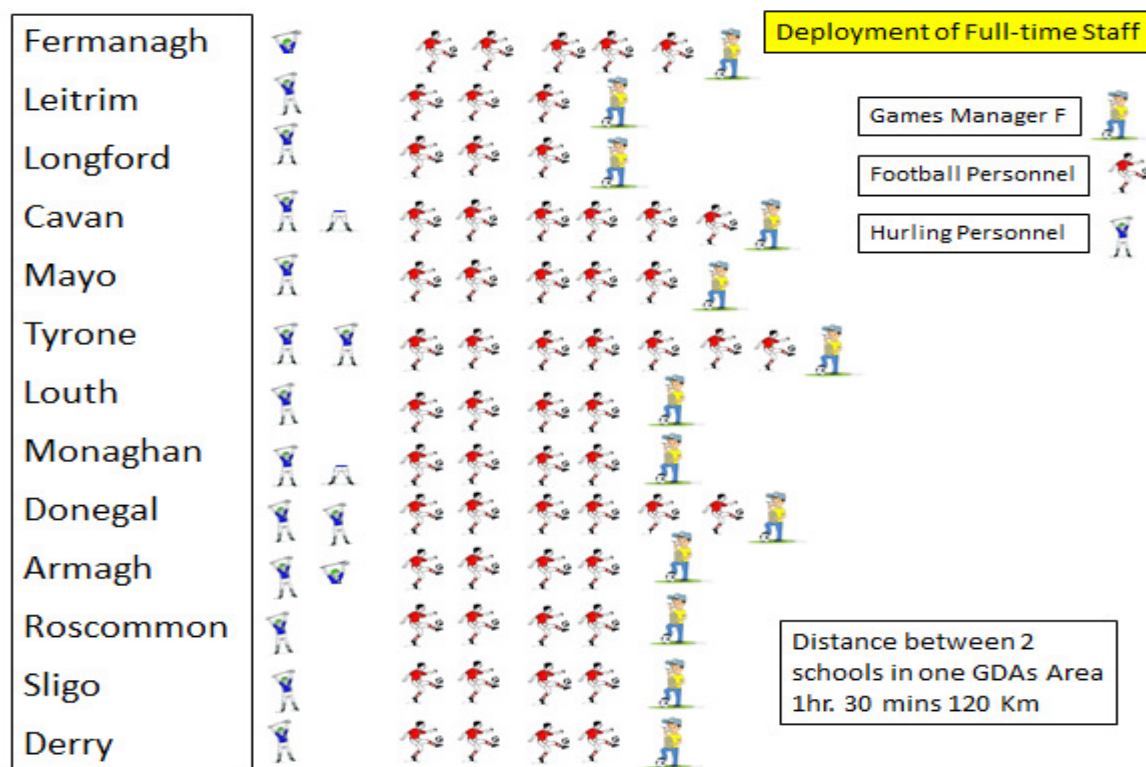
*Internal competitions*

Possibility of starting the year with an under 16 competition to make up for no under 15 in 2020.

Within the county we will hope to complete all club competitions at under 11.5, Under 13, Under 15 and Minor and I would ask clubs to start considering moving to the next age level if they can, we would ideally like 8 clubs playing at each age level and this will take time but the push for this must come collectively. If Tain Og is postponed it is vital that the county board in conjunction with the hurling committee has a backup plan to ensure games for children, this might include inviting teams from outside the county in to ensure more games (South Donegal / Cavan)

A continued problem in Fermanagh is the lack of a full time dedicate hurling coach and it something that this committee feel needs to be urgently addressed I have attached a graphic used by Martin Fogarty which shows the amount of deployed staff in each of the ‘weaker’ counties and as you can see we are lagging badly behind, as the graphic shows we are the only one of the 12 named counties without full time hurling personnel, to continue with our current growth rate with 8 clubs we need to move the hurling focused coaching at the

speed.



### **Thank you**

Now for the long list of thank you's to the people who made 2020 happen and in no particular order

- The sponsors of the 9 new trophies for our underage competitions Southferry (New York)
- Keogh and Co for the minor trophy and the continued support of the senior team.
- To the Shane Mulholland foundation and in particular Vanessa Mulholland for sourcing and sponsoring the player of the match award for all our underage finals as well as their continued support for all things hurling in Fermanagh.
- The county board and club Eirne for the continued financial backing and support, in particular the Chair of this Committee and County Secretary Tom Boyle, as well as GDM Teresa Mc Nabb who is always on the end of the phone for help and advice.
- To the clubs in Fermanagh who allowed us to use their facilities especially for the county teams with Lissan being closed this year the support was vital.
- To all the clubs who support and participate in hurling.
- Emmett Conlon was furloughed in April and did not return to work until November, however just like the rest of us throughout this time he wanted to see hurling and was a fantastic help to myself when sorting fixtures.
- Gerry McLaughlin and his team of referees who covered matches and any changes at the drop of a hat.
- Mary Mc Elroy who took the unofficial role as PRO and ensured that there were photographers from the local papers at all our finals as well as outstanding work on the hurling Facebook page which has seen membership increase by nearly 100% this year.
- Finally to you the coaches/players/managers/cone collectors and first aiders hurling in Fermanagh is going from strength to strength and it is down to the unreal effort you put in whether at club level or at county level, the way you work toward the common goal of hurling in Fermanagh makes me extremely proud to be a hurling man in our wee county.

Ciaran Mac Scoiloige-Runai

#### 4 Tuarascáil an Choiste Oiliúna & Forbairt na gCluichí - Coaching & Games Development

A chairde,

It gives me great pleasure to present my first Coaching Officer's report to tonight's 2020 County Convention. We have all been deeply affected by Covid-19 this season and I would like to extend my deepest sympathies to any of members who have may have lost a loved one, may they rest in peace. Our Coaching and Games sub-committee were only able to meet face to face once this year and we have had to resort to more novel ways to communicate in this new "normal" that we are in. I would like to express my sincere thanks and appreciation to this group of people namely;

- Teresa McNabb (GDM) – Tempo Maguires
- Anita Kehoe (Children's Officer) – Derrygonnelly Harps
- Barry Owens – Teemore Shamrocks
- Ciaran Smith – Erne Gaels
- Declan Deazley – Ederney St.Josephs
- John McGovern – Derrygonnelly Harps
- John Prunty ([Cumann na mBunscol](#)) – Lisnakea Emmetts
- Leanne Maguire (Youth Committee) – Derrylin O'Connells
- Simon Bradley (Secondary Schools) – Enniskillen Gaels

I look forward to working with them all in 2021.

The Official Guide sets out the roles and responsibility of the Coaching and Games Development Committee

- 3.20 (vii) It shall be responsible for the implementation of Games Development activities at Club, Schools and County levels.

To help us in this regard we needed to understand what was happening at grass root level and through the excellent work of our GDM, Teresa McNabb, regional reviews were held in Derrylin, Devenish, Donagh & Irvinestown with the results of these detailed below;

#### **Derrylin Region**

What is <u>working well</u>	What are the <u>bad things</u> we need to stop doing?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• U11.5 &amp; U15 competition timings</li> <li>• U11.5 competition has been good</li> <li>• U13 Regional Coaching &amp; Games activity very positive</li> <li>• U17 competition time of year works well</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3 Games in 10 days – rushing fixtures</li> <li>• Season too rushed</li> <li>• U17 competitions could be started later – Summer fixtures impacts on work/holidays (9 league games were played in July)</li> <li>• U13 Competition too early – July holidays could impact on up to 6 matches for some players</li> </ul>
What could we <u>do more of?</u>	What <u>barriers</u> do clubs face?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• U13 Competition in 2<sup>nd</sup> half of year in preparation for Feile</li> <li>• 1 game per week to give opportunity for coaching and player development</li> <li>• U13 Regional activity needs to dates in master plan to ensure competition is completed</li> <li>• More regional activity at various ages</li> <li>• Potential Regional activity pilot ages group could be offered planned activity as a trial U13-U17</li> <li>• Regional Activity could take place in July/Aug when holiday can impact on leagues</li> <li>• Extend U17 Competition into Oct</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Drop-off from players at U17 – transitioning players into senior football</li> <li>• Not enough games for 17/18/19/20 year old players to develop</li> <li>• Non- St Michaels / U20 / University players do not have a sufficient pathway to develop.</li> <li>• Clubs facing low numbers</li> <li>• Level of current competitions not developing players enough.</li> </ul>

## Devenish Region

What is <u>working well</u> ?	What are the <u>bad things</u> we need to stop doing?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• U11.5 competition was positive</li> <li>• Go Games Blitz's</li> <li>• Some good competition at u15</li> <li>• Feile Competition positive</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth Board Admin/Governance – lack of timely nonfictions / adhering to policy</li> <li>• Running of U13 competitions – clashes with adult c'ship</li> <li>• U17 was better in sections then divisions – more competitive.</li> <li>• 1 game per week – coaching and developing players needs to take place between matches</li> <li>• No flexibility with fixtures</li> <li>• Allowing coaches not qualified to be active with teams</li> </ul>
What could we <u>do more of</u> ?	What <u>barriers</u> do clubs face?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• More Regional U8 / U10 Blitz's</li> <li>• U11.5 – not enough games</li> <li>• Regional Activity – develop the concept</li> <li>• Co Coaches in more contact with Clubs</li> <li>• Clubs to host more blitz / Tournaments to meet their game needs and find blitz competitions outside of the County.</li> <li>• Clubs linking more with their primary schools</li> <li>• Club Buy-in to coaching qualifications &amp; regional/bespoke workshops</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not enough games/development for U17-U20 players - Too large of gap between U-17 and senior football</li> <li>• Low numbers – the real possibility of amalgamations for some clubs</li> <li>• Club identity must be retained – worth in-depth research into the Kerry Club Competition model</li> </ul>

## Donagh Region

What is <u>working well</u> ?	What are the <u>bad things</u> we need to stop doing?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Go Games</li> <li>• U11.5 Competition</li> <li>• Young Whistler's</li> <li>• Club Run Tournaments</li> <li>• 2-Touch Rule</li> <li>• Development Camps</li> <li>• Culs Camps</li> <li>• U15 League fixed at good time</li> <li>• Enough games for U13 age</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stick to master plan / 3day rule</li> <li>• Not buying-in to U19 competition</li> <li>• Clear holiday window set out at start of year and properly PR</li> <li>• 1 game per week – to be on a set day or is a refixture is required it must be before the original fixture date not after.</li> <li>• Planning for long distance fixtures where possible</li> <li>• Mis-matches – once a team gets to 5 goals, other team take a player off.</li> <li>• Scrap U21 competition</li> </ul>
What could we <u>do more of</u> ?	What <u>barriers</u> do clubs face?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incentivise Young whistlers - £10</li> <li>• Recruit more referees</li> <li>• Referees to be clear on the variations of youth regulations / rules within different competitions</li> <li>• U19/U21 Regional Teams / Amalgamations –</li> <li>• Clubs to host more blitz / Tournaments to meet their game needs and find blitz competitions outside of the County.</li> <li>• Clubs linking more with their primary schools</li> <li>• Club Buy-in to coaching qualifications &amp; regional/bespoke workshops</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not enough games/development for 17-20year old players</li> <li>• Low numbers – amalgamations options needed for some age groups/clubs</li> <li>• Time of competitions</li> <li>• Club identity must be retained</li> <li>• Lack of meaningful Competitions for players</li> <li>• One-sided games – no one develops</li> <li>• Recruitment of Referees</li> </ul>



## Irvinestown Region

What is <u>working well</u> ?	What are the <u>bad things</u> we need to stop doing?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sustained effort from all clubs</li> <li>• More numbers and enjoyment from children</li> <li>• Going into schools/ areas that we haven't before</li> <li>• U-11.5 has been a positive change as children get to play with their classmates</li> <li>• Condensed seasons has helped attract new coaches/ returning coaches</li> <li>• Feile was a great day- kids loved it- excellent facilities and atmosphere</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• U-11/U-13 results being publicised in local papers can have negative effects on children's morale</li> <li>• Gradings may need adjustment, an amalgamated team should not be in bottom grade</li> <li>• 3 games in 10 days give little opportunity for coaching</li> <li>• Also allows for no window to reschedule cancelled games</li> <li>• Coach education poorly attended by some clubs</li> </ul>
What could we <u>do more of</u> ?	What <u>barriers</u> do clubs face?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Youth clubs/ winter programmes</li> <li>• Benefits of looking at regional teams but only to complement, not replace, the club league and championship</li> <li>• It would need 'buy-in' from clubs</li> <li>• Suggestion of trying it on a 3year pilot project</li> <li>• Encourage children to shot for points more- a point worth 2-points maybe?</li> <li>• Clubs may need to show initiative and source games/ blitzes outside of the county to help aid the development of children/ provide games.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• U-14 Feile: Due to the weekend being during the holidays, some players were missing</li> <li>• Drop-off from players at U-17 and over. Pathway into senior football is not good enough</li> <li>• Not enough games for U-17/ U- 20 age groups. Too large of gap between U-17 and senior football</li> <li>• Soccer calendar seems to be much longer- overlaps and provides competition for clubs</li> <li>• Add in rugby and there are lot of distractions for our young players</li> </ul>

We can see from the clubs feedback that certain areas are working well but in other areas we all need to strive to do more. We need to ensure that we put pathways in place that help Fermanagh GAA retain as many players as possible throughout the age groups and ensure there are meaningful competitive games particularly at those age groups where we see an alarming drop out of players. This may mean more clubs having to amalgamate or regionalise at U15, U17 and U20 levels to provide these competitive games for our players. Running in tandem to this we also need to develop a really progressive coach education pathway to provide opportunities for our own Fermanagh coaches to coach our regional teams, academy teams and county teams. This shall allow them progress, fulfil their potential and help ensure they can be retained to enhance the GAA within our own county. We also need to have a really novel approach to a club education programme as one size does not fit all in this scenario. With that in mind we conducted a club survey in July 2020 to really understand where clubs were at and what help we as a County can provide. I sincerely thank the eighteen clubs who took time to respond and the following is a breakdown of these responses;

Do you have established links to local schools in place?

[More Details](#)



Does your club have suitably qualified coaches in accordance with governing body guidelines and support coaches to engage in continuous learning?

[More Details](#)



Does your club have an annual reviewable coaching plan in place?

[More Details](#)



Does your club provide a structured coaching programme for children and young people, as determined by the governing body, with progressive and inclusive sessions?

[More Details](#)



Did your club fulfil all fixtures for all age groups in 2019?

[More Details](#)



Do all codes and age groups have equal access to club facilities for coaching and games?

[More Details](#)





Does the club use a coaching session template that all coaches use?

[More Details](#)



Does your club have representation at annual Ulster GAA and County CDP events / workshops?

[More Details](#)



Finally, from the following services that our County Coaches can provide please indicate by way of "Yes" or "No" if your club wishes to avail of any of these?

[More Details](#)

■ Yes ■ No



From these responses it was obvious that our clubs needed help. Following this our County Coaching staff have been assigned clubs which our GDM, Teresa shall elaborate more on this in her report.

However, this is only the start, we all need to ensure that what we provide is added value for the clubs. This then needs to be continuously reviewed with each club. With measurements put in place to accurately capture the improvements and to see what is working and what needs to get better. In addition these responses have helped us formulate a draft club benchmarking standard which we shall share with clubs for feedback before we finally agree and put in place as a structure going forward.

With this in mind we also need to ensure that our players who enter the academy structures realise their true potential with quality structures, coaching and support throughout their development. This has to be a three way process with clubs, schools and county working closely together to improve our players and the quality of our games in the county. I am acutely aware that this shall not happen overnight but with a comprehensive academy review planned for early 2021 this shall allow us enhance and improve what we are currently doing for everyone.

I would also like to publicly thank our coaching staff as this year has been extremely tough regarding how they were able to coach and provide support to our schools, clubs and county. Our aim at County Management was to retain their jobs as best we could with the support from governments (north and south), Club Eirne, Ulster Council and Croke Park. I would like to express my sincere thanks to our Chairman Greg Kelly, Secretary Tom Boyle, Treasurer Sean Burns and GDM Teresa McNabb whose expertise continues to ensure that we have jobs for our Games Promotion Officers, Ferghal Shannon, Jonny McGarrity and Keith Reilly; for our Football Development Manager Shaun Doherty and our Athletic Development Coach Eoin Bradley. A special word of thanks also goes to our primary and secondary schools in the county who are more than appreciative of the work our coaching staff do. These schools welcomed our staff back to work with their pupils and Fermanagh were the first county in Ulster to get back to coaching in our schools with other counties following the template that we designed to allow this to happen. Thanks also to our clubs who continue to utilise the expertise that we have within our coaching staff and I would appeal to you all to keep asking for assistance as we are more than happy to help you all.

In closing my first Coaching Officers report, 2021 will not be the same as what we knew as normal, no doubt there shall be more hurdles for us all to get across. With this in mind Coaching and Games will have four areas to focus on;

1. Enhance and improve the structures across clubs, schools and county
2. Developing a novel coach education pathway
3. A comprehensive academy review
4. Club benchmarking standards

As Coaching Officer I am really looking forward to commencing work on these in early 2021 with all stakeholders and seeing where this vision and journey shall take us.

Finally, I would like to wish each and every one of you a happy and peaceful Christmas and a sporting, healthy 2021.

Is mise le meas,

**Fearghail Ó Conchubhair**  
**Oifigeach Traenála**  
**Comórtais Chonate Fhear Manach**

## **Tuarascáil an Choiste Oiliúna & Forbairt na gCluichí – Coaching & Games Report-GDM**

It is a pleasure as part of my role as Games Development Manager to be able to report to Clubs and members the successes and challenges which 2020 brought us in an extremely limited window.

2020 has been a challenging one for everyone; Clubs, volunteers, and players alike - a lot of disruption to game time and planned activities however I believe we tried to make the best of the time once restrictions were lifted. All Coaching staff were furloughed for 6months until their return at the start of October.

I endeavour to outline the activities that took place during 2020 from a Coaching & Games viewpoint.

### **Schools Programme**

#### **Primary Schools**

Ours Primary Schools Programme continues to be a positive experience for pupils, teachers, and schools – especially during these testing times, our coaches continual to work professionally with School staff to deliver a safe and fun programme for pupils.

We have delivered coaching support to 26 Primary schools through our 3 dedicated County Coaches namely Keith Reilly, Jonny Garrity and Fergal Shannon, who operate a block coaching system with schools across the county. Presently the Programme is having to be delivered differently to be able to support Schools within current restrictions and School guidelines while continuing to keep everyone safe in the process, we appreciate and recognise the flexibility being shown by everyone involved.

We continue to encourage Clubs to identify a key person who can liaise with their local school and build a strong Club-School link, these may seem like small things however the connection with the Primary School can prove to be beneficial for both Club and School.

Ulster GAA Continue to support our Primary schools through the provision of a DENI Coach, this role is being carried out by Eimear Keenan of Enniskillen and we thank her for her commitment and expertise.

Ulster Regional Hurling Development Officer (RHDO) Emmett Conlon is also delivering coaching in schools to the hurling feeder schools and is working hard with clubs/academies which is a great boost.

One of National levels initiatives is the development of the 5 Star Centre programme for Primary School which encourages each school to become a 5 Star Centre through organising and participating in a range of Gaelic Games activities for 60 minutes per week within the school environment – this programme is currently paused; however, it is an initiative that we feel could benefit Clubs greatly and again can be promoted within the Club-School links. 2019/2020 academic years was obviously cut short however we are hoping the schools that had signed up to the programme will get recognised for the effort and delivery over that period.

Coaching & Games continue to work with Fermanagh Cumann na mBunscol and as the year unfolds, we will link in to support where possible - Cumann na mBunscol activity is an important part of Primary School life and the memories/experiences for the pupils.

Thanks to Liam Magee, John Prunty, Fergal McCann and Brian Treacy for their continued promotion of Gaelic Games in Primary Schools.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all Primary Schools in Fermanagh, their principals and staff who are working in extremely difficult times, for continuing to support the promotion of Gaelic Games within the County and working closely with our Coaching & Games team.

## **Post-Primary Schools**

Coaching & Games continues to work very closely with our Post-Primary.

Our programme offers support such skill development, athletic development, testing, team preparation which supports up to 1400+ Boys.

Schools are currently waiting on an update surrounding competitions from Ulster Schools, the hope is there will be competitions fixed in the new year for schools to enter. If this is not possible Coaching & Games will consult with the Fermanagh Schools to see if there is a interest/possibility of offering an internal competition and ensuring it's safe to do so.

Within all our schools great work is being carried out by a small number of school staff.

Special mention must go to, Malachy O Rourke St Joseph's, Tony Collins and Raymie Johnston St Kevin's, Conal Sheridan St Mary's Irvinestown, Cathair Shannon, Sean Bradley and Pat McTeggart St Aidan's, Simon Bradley St Mary's Brollagh, Dominic Corrigan, Brendan Rasdale, Mark Henry and a good number of others St Michael's College staff. It is important we continue to support these key people and schools in their promotion and development.

2020 has seen the fruition of a much need upgrade to St Michaels school gym, this has been achieved through Fermanagh GAA and the financial support of Club Eirne. The gym will benefit greatly players on school teams, along with academy players/Co. Minor as well as Club players. Eoin Bradley Fermanagh Athletic Development Coach and Shaun Doherty Football Development Manager has worked closely with St Michaels to ensure the best use of space and equipment was achieved. Eoin will work closely with all the players to educate and provide programmes to aid their development. Fermanagh support St Michaels MacRory players with an online strength and conditioning app where Eoin can monitor their progress and provide individual programmes for all the players on an ongoing basis.

Coach Education opportunities continues to be offered to Post Primary Schools; St Aidan's Derrylin are currently running an online Foundation Award with Shaun Doherty delivering the practical elements.

## **Coach Education**

Coach Education plays a vital part in Player and Coach development, it is important there is a culture of Coaches continuously learning and looking to improve, this is something Clubs should be promoting but also Coaches individually should be striving to improve by attending workshops, courses, watching others take coaching sessions, attending conferences, webinars, getting involved in networking groups, looking at various sports etc – Better Coaches makes Better Players.

Within the County in 2020 Coaching & Games delivered the following courses with 85 Coaches.

- Football Foundation Course in Irvinestown Club
- Dual Foundation Course in Cavanacarragh Hall
- Online Foundation Course for participants across the County.

Our County Children's Officer Anita Kehoe Coordinates and records all Safeguarding Courses within the county – it is still **mandatory** for all participants looking to complete their Foundation Coaching Award that they complete a GAA Safeguarding Course.

## **Workshops delivered:**

- Planning a Club Season – SWC
- Fundamental Movements – Castlepark
- Recovery Strategies – SWC
- Movement & Skill Development - Integrated College

- Game based Coaching for all ages - Integrated College
  - Coach the Coaches Workshops – Roslea, Kinawley
  - Club U15 session – Devenish
  - Athletic Coach Development – Kinawley
- 200+ Club Coaches have benefited from these workshops.

#### **Online Webinars delivered:**

- Planning a Better session with Steven Poacher
- Coaching Children – Behaviours, Environments, Knowledge & Understanding with Owen Mooney
- Implementing Performance Analysis in a Club setting with Stephen Jackson & Niall Smyth
- Developing Club Players with Marty O'Brien, Shaun Doherty & Eoin Bradley

Thank you to Ger Tracey for his MC role, Phil Flanagan for Technical support and all the presenters for their contribution. The response has been positive to these with 1300+ views.

Our Coaching & Games team launched a dedicated Twitter and YouTube channels online at the end of October. These platforms allow us to create direct communication channels for all things coaching and games in Fermanagh. The resources and information available to club coaches will prove to be invaluable. Initial home workout video sessions proved popular with close to 1700 view.

We are currently building this resource and will continue to add to it over the coming months and years.



@FermanaghGames



Fermanagh GAA Coaching and Games

In October our Coaching and Games Team launched a Club Support Programme, which allocated each Club one of our County Coaches who will work directly with but not necessarily exclusively with their allocated Clubs.

Our aim is to build up a close relationship with each Clubs, hence Clubs can access support in a variety of areas, have direct contact with one of our coaches who is there to assist your Club where possible.

This Club Support Programme is a result of feedback received from a Club Survey issued by the County Coaching Committee in August.

It is essential that we identify each Clubs needs and work with them to develop and upskill. Each Club will have bespoke needs to which we can support and deliver internally, Clubs will also have similar needs where we may be able to deliver workshops/training regionally or centrally.

Work currently happening with Clubs are Review meetings/SWOT analyses, Club-School Links, Coach Education needs, Athletic Development Pilot Programme – Our County Coaches have developed LTPD (Long Term Player Development Pathway) and LTAD (Long Term Athletic Development Pathway) resources which are accessible to all clubs and can be tailored to meet Clubs aims and needs.

It is vital that Clubs avail of this support that is on offer from our Coaching & Games team, it is a key element for clubs being progressive and looking toward the future, we need to review structures within our setup and strive to improve and develop on a continuous basis. We can not stand still and wait for someone else to ask the questions. A Player and Coach pathway is key to develop our most valuable asset our coaches and players, as stated early Better Coaches makes Better Players!

<b>ASSIGNED COACH</b>	<b>KEITH REILLY</b>	<b>JONNY GARRITY</b>	<b>FERGAL SHANNON</b>	<b>EOIN BRADLEY</b>	<b>SHAUN DOHERTY</b>
<b>CLUBS</b>	<b>Aughadrumsee</b>	<b>Ederney</b>	<b>Belcoo</b>	<b>Brookeborough</b>	<b>Derrygonnelly</b>
	<b>Donagh</b>	<b>Erne Gaels</b>	<b>Belnaleck</b>	<b>Coa</b>	<b>Derrylin</b>
	<b>Newtownbutler</b>	<b>Irvinestown</b>	<b>Lisnaskea</b>	<b>Enniskillen</b>	<b>Garrison</b>
	<b>Roslea</b>	<b>Tempo</b>	<b>Teemore</b>	<b>Maguiresbridge</b>	<b>Kinawley</b>
	<b>Hurling Support: Emmett Conlon &amp; Teresa McNabb</b>				

### **Cul Camps**

2020 Cul Camps unfortunately did not run due to Covid requirements, demands on clubs and staff being furloughed. We are currently planning for 2021 camps already; in the hope we will have manageable camps for club members.

### **Go Games**

Well done to Lisnaskea Emmett's who managed to host their Annual Tommy Durnien Tournament this year in a slightly revised format which was a great boost to the 10 participating clubs.

2021 season will also experience some disruptions, it is imperative that clubs start thinking about what can be offered to their players when there are no games – can clubs organise an internal games programme, play challenge games, organise a tournament to continue their player's development and give players much needed game time experience across the different youth age grades - we need to be creative and try new things where possible.

### **Hurling**

Fermanagh Hurling has been growing over the last 6+ years with clubs working extremely hard to promote the game. Fermanagh GAA aim is to provide a strong games programme which will support and grow the development of hurling within the County. It is important that Clubs avail of the different games programmes that are available and strive to move up the age grades.

I would like to thank our RHDO Emmett Conlon for his ongoing work with Clubs, Schools and Academies teams and I would also like to thank Kieran Farmer Secretary of the Hurling workgroup who works tirelessly behind the scenes. Thanks to Mary McElroy Kinawley who promotes hurling development on the Fermanagh Hurling Facebook page for both Clubs and County, this has proved a great boost to raising awareness and highlighting the great work which is happening on the ground around the County.

The RHDO will give a report of the year's activities and outline what 2021 plans are.

### **Academies**

Our U16 & U15 Academies teams were making good progress before lockdown closed all activities down unfortunately. We are currently looking at Academy windows for development in 2021 this is very much depending on various factors; however, we will work closely with CCC to outline key dates in the fixtures calendar. It is imperative that Clubs continue to support their players and give them every opportunity to avail of the Academy Programme. We ask Clubs not to arrange challenge matches or rearrange fixtures for dates/weekends that Academy players have activities planned – we endeavour to communicate clearly to Clubs these plans.

Fermanagh Academy Gym continues to be a particularly important resource for developing all our players in the County, availing of the Fermanagh Academy gym are our Academy players, County Seniors footballers, U20's and Co. Minors – Eoin Bradley continues to

oversee and provide programmes for most of our players and when not able to do face to face sessions he can monitor them via an app which tracks and shows their progression.

### **County Minor**

The County Minors football Ulster Championship has thankfully been given the green light for these young players to represent their County at their final year in youth competition, albeit proper preparation has not been possible in the way management would like it is positive for these players to be able to take on Down in Brewster Park on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> December.

Thanks to the Minor Management team lead by Maurice McLaughlin who has been trying to support and keep engaged these young players over this turbulent time.

Thank you to the County Minor sponsor Tracey Concrete and Patsy for their ongoing support to the County Minors.

### **Acknowledgements**

Thank you to County Secretary Tom Boyle for his continuous support and assistance over the course of this very difficult year.

Thanks to County Chairman Greg Kelly, Treasurer Sean Burns, Brian Armitage for all their advice and support. Thank you to Ferghal O'Connor in his Coaching Officer role, for his support and proactive approach to Coaching & Games and thank you to the County Coaching Committee for their input and support (Co. Coaching Committee; Simon Bradley, Declan Deazley, John Prunty, Anita Kehoe, Leanne Maguire, John McGovern, Barry Owens and Ciaran Smith, chaired by Ferghal O'Connor)

This has been a very difficult year for everyone, I would like to acknowledge that Fermanagh GAA has shown great leadership when it came to communicating and supporting of Coaching Staff during furlough and the early return before any of our northern counterparts to try to get staff back, thank you especially to the Steering committee and executive.

Great appreciation and thanks to the continued progressive work of Club Eirne, its members and Ger Treacy to ensure the development of our Youth within the County has the best opportunities.

Thank you to Phil Flanagan on his PRO role support.

Thanks to Youth Board Secretary Leanne Prior and CCC Chair Phil Flanagan for their support and flexibility where it was possible with various requests from Coaching & Games. Thank you to Dermott Love, Gerry McLaughlin & all their referees, for facilitating any refereeing requests where it's possible. Thanks to Children Officer Anita Kehoe for all her hard work and support in relation to Safeguarding issues and Tiernach Mahon for his advice and information.

I would also like to thank all the Club Youth Officers and Coaching Officers for all their support and help with various requests, these are very busy people and I appreciate all they do in relation to supporting their Clubs along the way and communicating with Coaching and Games staff.

Thank you to all Clubs for making their facilities available over the course of the year and especially to Enniskillen Gaels for making Brewster Park available for numerous half-time games, finals, and other activities, this is greatly appreciated as we know the demands that are there.

Finally, to thank Fermanagh Coaching and Games Team Jonny Garrity, Fergal Shannon, Keith Reilly, Shaun Doherty and Eoin Bradley for their dedication and tirelessly work

Coaching and supporting players and coaches on the ground, this has been a difficult year for everyone none less than the Coaching team with the uncertainty of everything, but they are an extremely enthusiastic teams and it is a pleasure to work along sides them all.

To all our Club Coaches, Academy coaches, Schools Coaches, and management teams for their efforts over this testing year in trying to best develop players while also trying to be there to support them.

We don't know what 2021 has instore for Gaelic Games across the County, we need to be willing to adapt with these changing times, be in a ready position to maximise our opportunities for games Programmes for all players to ensure their development continues – we can't wait to see what happens, we all need to be proactive.

Condolences to anyone who has lost a loved one in 2020.

I would like to wish you all a safe and peaceful Christmas and look forward to working with you all in 2021.

Is mise le meas,

***Teresa McNabb***

***Fermanagh Games Development Manager***



**Introduction**

The year 2020 will live long in the memories of people for various reasons, (As a proud Ederney man, 2020 will be remembered as the year we ended 52 years waiting for Fermanagh Senior Championship success returning to Ederney).

Unfortunately due to Covid 19, we lost several referees from our referee panel for the 2020 season, hopefully in 2021 we can get most of them back participating again.

The 2020 Club season was a much reduced season, when it did eventually get started up. However throughout the country, where Club action was filling the void left by no Inter County games, our Club scene flourished. Something for the powers that be may well take note of.

With many established referees stepping back from action this year, some of our Foundation Referees were thrown in at the deep end to cover games during this hectic Club period. We in the Referees Committee have been greatly impressed with the enthusiasm and ability shown throughout the year by them all. Without this influx of new referees this year, we would have been in serious difficulty. It goes to show that each year, a number of new officials is a basic requirement if we are to be in a position to cover all games, within our county.

***Table 1: Active Football Referees by Club 2020***

<b>Club</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Name</b>
<b>Aghdrumsee</b>	James Carey		
<b>Belcoo</b>	Nigel Sweeney		
<b>Belnaleck</b>			
<b>Brookeboro</b>			
<b>Coa</b>	Paul Mc Carney	Ryan Tummon	
<b>Derrygonnelly</b>	John Murphy	Paul Mc Goldrick	
<b>Derrylin</b>	Eoin Murphy	Eoin Maguire	
<b>Devenish</b>	Michael Keown	Gerard Gallagher	
<b>Ederney</b>	Gerard Mc Laughlin		
<b>Enniskillen</b>	Ollie Mc Shea	Shane Connolly	Dermott Love
<b>Erne Gaels</b>	Niall Cullen	Aiden Ferguson	
<b>Irvinestown</b>	Barry Monaghan	Niall Mc Cann	
<b>Kinawley</b>	Fergal Cleary	Sean Allen	
<b>Lisnaskea</b>	Peter Donaghy		
<b>Maguiresbridge</b>	Shane Mc Goldrick		
<b>Newtownbutler</b>	James Lewis		
<b>Roslea</b>	Mark Curry	Turlough Faux	
<b>St Patricks</b>	Karol Bradshaw		
<b>Teemore</b>	Padraig Sheridan		
<b>Tempo</b>	Hugh Breen		

## Existing Referees

In 2020, all referees had to attend the In-Service Referee Course at the beginning of the season. The planned fitness test and rules discussion didn't take place at the start of the Club season due to Covid 19. Referees had further online training to complete after lockdown was ended, prior to matches restarting. Like players all referees had to complete health questionnaires prior to each match.

Prior to Adult club Championship action our Championship fitness test was held in August at Lisnaskea's Castle Park, with a second test held at Brewster Park, and only referees who attended and passed the level required, were selected onto our Championship panel.

There are a few general principles our referees are expected to adhere to;

- Referees are expected to keep themselves in good physical condition.
- Match reports are expected to be filled out properly and sent to Co Board Office promptly.
- Referees should have a good level of knowledge of the rules of our games.
- Referees should be at venues in good time.
- Referees should take pride in their appearance, all referees have been given sufficient gear.

Unfortunately some of our referees are still not filling out the Match reports promptly and at times sending multiple reports to the Co Office. Some of which are weeks and even months late. This can have consequences in two ways; Firstly where injuries occur, late reports could lead to injury claims being ruled out of order. Secondly in cases where CCC are involved, prompt reports are essential so that sanctions are dealt with properly.

This Year Niall Cullen refereed his second County Senior Final, only fitting that our premier Inter County official gets this exposure. Gerard Gallagher refereed the Intermediate Championship final, congratulations to him. John Murphy was appointed to the Junior Championship final, however due to the premature ending of the Club season, this game didn't take place, hopefully early in 2021, this can be fitted in.. It is this committees aim that as many referees as possible, get the chance to showcase their abilities on Championship final days.

Barry Monaghan was voted best Referee during the Championship season, in the Fermanagh All Star awards, a very worthy recipient.

## Hurling Referees

Hurling in Fermanagh at Youth level continues to grow, even in this condensed year. 8 clubs active at U11.5 ages. Similar to football, 'Young Whistlers' were trained by Emmett Conlan from the Celtic Challenge squad, to referee these group games, while the four finals were all refereed by Hurling Referees. U13 and U17 grades were also played out to a conclusion, while the U15 grade never got started.

A special word of thanks to Emmett Conlan and Kieran Farmer who both do sterling work behind the scenes. Also a big thanks to the Clubs and their coaches in helping out here too; Belnaleck, Ederney, Enniskillen, Erne Gaels, Knocks, Lisbellaw, Lisnaskea and St Aidans. As the number of games increases, so to do the number of referees needed to cover these games. I would encourage more of our football referees to be willing to train as dual referees. While I also encourage all clubs to be mindful that we as Referees are learning as we go too.

*Table 2: Active Hurling Referees by Club 2020*

Club	Name	Name	Name
Ederney	Gerard Mc Laughlin		

<b>Enniskillen</b>	Ollie Mc Shea	Shane Connolly	Paul Teague
<b>Erne Gaels</b>	Aiden Ferguson		
<b>Lisnaskea</b>	Paul Mc Goldrick		
<b>Roslea</b>	Mark Curry		
	Emmett Conlan		

### Recruitment of New Referees

In 2019, Clubs were constantly reminded of the need to increase the number of Referees within the county.

As a result we proposed setting a limit that each club should meet, during the peak period from May- August, each club were expected to referee a minimum of 3.5% of games in that month. When these statistics are brought together each month, all clubs not reaching this minimum standard were asked to give mitigating reasons why this minimum standard was not reached.

Taking reasons into account, the Referees Administration Committee had the power to recommend sanctions to CCC, on those clubs that fell below the 3.5% target.

Despite the Referee Administration Committee proposing a number of clubs receive sanctions, only Derrylin actually got penalized.

The ‘Carrot approach’ didn’t work too well as new recruits were slow in coming, so the ‘stick approach’ (sanctions) was employed. In 2019 our efforts led to a very limited number of new recruits until clubs were sanctioned. This led to an increase in 2020, with 9 attending our Foundation training. (Sean Allen, Kinawley; Hugh Breen, Tempo; Paul Mc Goldrick, Derrygonnelly; Simon Kilgannon, Eoin Maguire, Eoin Murphy and Barry Murray, all Derrylin; Paul Mc Carney and Ryan Tummon, both Coa).

Some clubs still need to take a long, hard look at who and how many they contribute to our pool of referees and **Table 3** graphically illustrates that these clubs are simply not pulling their weight.

2021 should see a return to the quota system, so every Club should be aiming to have a minimum of 2 referees active during the season. Early next year we will be holding our annual Foundation Course, so clubs should be actively looking for potential referees even at this early stage.

**Table 3: All Games Officiated by Club 2020**

	<b>Referee</b>	<b>Standby</b>	<b>Line</b>	<b>Sideline</b>	<b>Advisor</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Derrygonnelly</b>	22	2	4	3	0	31
<b>Enniskillen</b>	17	3	5	5	1	31
<b>Devenish</b>	20	4	0	3	0	27
<b>Kinawley</b>	14	3	5	2	3	27
<b>Irvinestown</b>	21	3	0	2	0	26
<b>Roslea</b>	13	2	3	4	0	22
<b>Belcoo</b>	18	2	1	0	0	21
<b>Erne Gaels</b>	16	3	0	1	0	20
<b>Newtownbutler</b>	15	3	0	1	0	19
<b>Lisnaskea</b>	5	0	0	2	10	17
<b>Ederney</b>	14	3	0	0	0	17
<b>Maguiresbridge</b>	12	0	0	2	0	14
<b>Aghdrumsee</b>	9	0	0	0	4	13

<b>St Patrick's</b>	10	0	1	1	0	12
<b>Coa</b>	9	0	2	1	0	12
<b>Derrylin</b>	7	0	3	2	0	12
<b>Tempo</b>	7	0	3	0	0	10
<b>Non Club</b>	4	0	0	0	0	4
<b>Teemore</b>	3	0	0	0	0	3
<b>Belnaleck</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Brookeboro</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0

### **Inter-County Referees**

Our Inter-County Referees have again served their Clubs and County with Distinction.

Niall Cullen (Erne Gaels) refereed 4 NFL games in Divisions 1 & 2, with Mayo v Tyrone the pick of them, a game which was televised live on TG4. Unfortunately Niall could not commit his time during the leadup to the Championship season, and therefore was not selected for the Championship panel in 2020. I'm sure 2021 will see Niall re-establish himself at the very top of our national officials.

Aidan Ferguson (Erne Gaels) officiated in 3 National Hurling League games this year and Standby Referee in 2 further games. He was appointed as referee in the Division 3A NHL final, Donegal v Armagh. He also was appointed Standby Referee in the Division 3B NHL final, Sligo v Leitrim. Aidan is currently refereeing games in the Nicky Rackard Cup. Aidan has provided superb dedication to the National Referees Panel for a number of years now.

James Lewis (Newtownbutler) has continued to make progress with him being appointed as Referee for the U20 Championship Quarter final between Antrim and Derry. James also was referee in Ulster Club league games involving Kilcar v Ballinderry and the semi final, Ardboe v Killyclogher. It is hoped that with a complete season in 2021, James will make further progress, hopefully breaking into the National level.

John Murphy (Derrygonnelly) graduated from the Ulster Academy this year, his highlight was refereeing the Minor league game between Donegal v Tyrone in Letterkenny. John has been involved on match days in NFL, Ulster Club and at Ulster U20 grade this year and come 2021, we would hope to see John make further progress through the ranks.

No-one should under estimate the ability of our Inter County Referees as they have proved that they are at Elite Level on merit. Neither should anyone doubt their commitment as the number of seminars, fitness sessions etc appears to be constantly increasing year on year.

### **Referee Advisors**

In 2020, we had Martin Higgins, John Mohan, Donnacha O'Cathain, Dermott Love and Kieran Quigley as Referee Advisors and as a result, Advisor Reports were issued where possible.

We had the majority of our Championship games assessed but were a little limited here due to no double headers which meant that our target of having all Championship games assessed was not achieved.

Martin Higgins also agreed to carry out advisory reports on our New Referees in 2020, this is a great addition giving our new referees access to Martins wealth of experience. However with the curtailed year not all of the new referees benefitted from this.

We need to continue this work and add another few Referee Advisors to our Panel in 2021 so that we can extend this feedback to more referees going forward. Advisor reports are a very useful way of advising referees of where they can improve their performance, and maybe more importantly areas where they are performing well.

We would like to put on record our thanks to Tiernach Mahon and John Mohan who continue to act as Referee Advisor to National and Ulster Panel respectively.

### **Young Whistlers Initiative**

Like 2019, it was our intention that the U11.5 age group would be refereed by 'Young Whistlers', with the exception of Divisional finals. We were asked to provide a Young Whistlers course for the benefit of all clubs. Training was provided by Brian Crowe, however only 3 Young Whistlers turned up (representing Teemore and Coa). Due to Covid 19, the U11.5 season never commenced.

The Young Whistlers Initiative is something we hope to build on for our 2021 season. However a better uptake from all clubs is necessary.

### **Respect Initiative**

I see the Abuse directed at our Match Officials as one of the biggest obstacles to recruiting new referees. While our referees are certainly not perfect, we hope that everytime we take to the field, we are doing so, hoping to have as little to do with how a game pans out as possible. If referees do receive abuse from whatever source this should be notified to CCC through their match reports. Referee Match Reports, should be submitted detailing any and all abuse received.

If there are particular deficiencies in referee match reports submitted, then it would be helpful if these were communicated back to the Referees Administration Committee so that we can highlight to our referees.

This situation is only going to change when those reported are dealt with according to the Official Guide and the suspensions set down are actually served.

### **Suspensions**

As touched on above, when referees complete their Match Reports following disciplinary action, and take the time to fill these reports out promptly and correctly. CCC then follow their guidelines for suspensions. It is then when hearings are requested by Clubs or Players. This seems to be a lottery at present, where depending on your Club or maybe profile of the next game that's coming up, suspensions can be overturned by asking opposition players to speak on the suspended player's part.

There is nothing more disheartening for a referee than catching a player commit serious foul play, reporting as per rule, then in a blink of an eye, all is thrown out following a player saying what 'actually happened' in a hearing. Surely the word of our Referees are worth more than that!

### **Conclusion**

I would like to put on record my gratitude and appreciation to our diligent Appointments Officer, Dermott Love for his excellent work during 2020. Dermott was keen to spread the games out as fairly as possible while trying to marry the conflicting interests of appointing the 'safe pair of hands' or 'giving the new referee the opportunity'. This is a difficult balance to strike but one that I feel he has handled particularly well over the past year.

Our Referees Chairman, Fergal Cleary has always offered valued and well considered opinions on matters, often things which the rest of us overlook. Niall Cullen has also been a valuable member of our committee over the past few years despite being very busy refereeing himself and other GAA related commitments.

Thanks also to Niall Cullen and James Lewis for their help in delivering our New Rules seminar early in the year in the Westville hotel.

Thanks also to Jim O'Rourke and all in the Ulster Referees Advisory Committee for advice and assistance, in relation to referee matters. To Brian Crowe and Anthony Campbell who took our Foundation and In Service training. Thanks also to Brian Armitage for his assistance both at fitness tests and on Matchdays where his expertise is second to none, and a great help to our Sideline officials.

I would also like to put on record our appreciation of the work of our Competitions Control Committee in often trying circumstances. Phil Flanagan and Fearghal O'Connor deserve high praise for their sterling work in 2020. Our Youth board especially Leeanne Prior, who had a double addition to her household during 2020, also deserve our thanks and appreciation. To our county Officers, Greg Kelly, Tom Boyle and Sean Burns, and all the rest of our County Committees, we continue to value your assistance and support in our efforts to continue to develop our Referees.

To our refereeing colleagues who lost loved ones in 2020, I would offer my condolences in these difficult times. Finally I would like to wish all our Referees and wider Fermanagh GAA members a happy Christmas and hopefully in 2021 we can get back to life as we used to know it.

Is mise le meas  
Gearoid Mac Lochlainn

## 6 **Tuarascáil an Coiste um Fhorbairt Pleanála -Physical Planning And Development**

A Chairde,

2020 has been a strange year for planning and physical development within Fermanagh and but many positive steps have been made in many ways in a lot of areas.

### **Fermanagh GAA Centre of Excellence**

The work group set up and charged with bringing forward improvements to Lissan, consisting of Co. Chairman Greg Kelly, Co. Vice Chairman Phil Flanagan, Co. Secretary Tom Boyle, Coaching Officer Fergal O'Connor, Sean Donnelly St. Joseph's and Keys & Monaghan Architect have been diligently working away. The needs of the County have been considered and evaluated, and work well commenced.

It is hoped that work will see two excellent playing surfaces available to County Teams in the late spring. Further works are planned in the future.







### **Trustees**

Fermanagh GAA agreed two years ago to adopt the corporate trustee model for its property and assets. Fermanagh opted for option 2, incorporating existing trustees and availing of the advantages presented by using a corporate Trustee also. The GAA is not demanding that Clubs change but there are advantages in the areas of cost savings and governance by adopting such a model.

I would ask that Clubs consider these options at their earliest convenience and if any assistance is required, they should contact either the Co. Secretary or Development Officer. We already have some Clubs that have gone down the corporate model path and I would hope that many more would do so over the next year.

### **Club Trustee Models**

- |                    |  |
|--------------------|--|
| <b>1. Option 1</b> | <b>5 Personal Trustees</b>                       |
| <b>2. Option 2</b> | <b>3 Club Trustees &amp; 1 Corporate Trustee</b> |
| <b>3. Option 3</b> | <b>1 Corporate Trustee</b>                       |

### **Health & Safety**

This continues to be a topic which attracts an unacceptable **lack** of interest in too many Clubs. Regularly we have heard discussions about the unacceptable level of insurance payments, but actions speak louder than words and the efforts to ensure our grounds are safe for our patrons are abysmal.

I would now pose a question to all Clubs....what have you done about it? How many Clubs have seriously looked at the risks in their Club Grounds and then actually done something to improve it? We can all talk about the cost of the premium but if we do nothing about our own grounds, we only feed into the claims system, maybe not immediately but it will come soon.



The bother, the ill will, the hassle etc. is just not worth it and as the old saying goes....” a stitch in time, saves nine”.

Clubs have been provided with Checklists, Insurance Templates and Club Management Manuals. If these have not been passed on to the correct person in your Club, please do so immediately, and if you require them sent again, this can be easily accommodated.

Once again, I appeal to all Clubs, especially in these quieter times, get a group together, go round your Grounds and your facilities and take a good, open minded, look and see what needs to be done. It is better to get it sorted now than to be sitting in a Court further down the line dealing with a serious claim against the Association and your Club.

### **Club Maith**

Fermanagh Clubs continue to make great strides to achieve Club Maith status. A Club Maith award makes a clear, proven statement about the quality of a club right across five core areas of GAA club business: Governance; Duty of Care; Community Enhancement; Culture and Heritage; and Coaching and Games Development.



#### COUNTY PROFILE

Fermanagh | 25 November 2020

#### OVERVIEW

Total Number of Clubs in Fermanagh: **23**

Number of Engaged Clubs in Fermanagh: **19**

% of Engaged Clubs in Fermanagh: **83%**

#### ENGAGED CLUBS

Club Name	Level	Status	Renewal	Facilitator
Newtownbutler First Fermanagh's	Bronze	Accredited	No	Brian Armitage
Kinawley Brian Boru's	Gold	Accredited	No	Fionntán O'Dowd
Devenish St. Mary's	Bronze	Accredited*	No	Brian Armitage
Belcoo O'Rahillys	Bronze	Registered	No	
Aghadrumsee St Macartans	Bronze	Uploading Documentation	No	
Belnaleck Art MacMurrough's	Bronze	Uploading Documentation	No	
Brookeborough Heber McMahon's	Bronze	Uploading Documentation	No	
Coa O'Dwyers	Bronze	Uploading Documentation	No	
Derrylin O Connell's	Bronze	Uploading Documentation	No	
Enniskillen Gaels	Bronze	Uploading Documentation	No	
Erne Gaels	Bronze	Uploading Documentation	No	
St Patrick's, Donagh	Bronze	Uploading Documentation	No	
St. Mary's, Maguiresbridge	Bronze	Uploading Documentation	No	
St. Molaise's, Irvinestown	Bronze	Uploading Documentation	No	
Teemore Shamrocks	Bronze	Uploading Documentation	No	
Tempo Maguires	Bronze	Uploading Documentation	Yes	
Derrygonnelly Harps	Gold	Uploading Documentation	Yes	
Roslea Shamrocks	Gold	Uploading Documentation	Yes	
Naomh Aodhan	Bronze	Uploading Documentation	No	

#### EXPIRED ACCREDITATION

\*Club currently uploading to next level in the pathway

Club Name	Level	Date of Expiry
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The assessment process involves the submission of an online club portfolio to the Club Maith assessors at the Ulster Council. This demonstrates how the club matches up to the governance standards set out in the Club Maith framework.

There are many benefits to going through Club Maith for a club. Feedback from clubs who have gone through the process say they have been able to make huge improvements in their club without having to spend a lot of money, or having to completely over-haul how they conduct their business. Clubs have reported that they have recruited new volunteers into the club as a result, and the club has also become a more relevant place for members of their community who would have stayed away from the club.

Ulster GAA supports clubs through the process but ultimately a club's application should be developed by the Club to be relevant to the club's needs.

### **Club Officer Training**

The Club Leadership Development Programme (CLDP) aims to provide the principal officers in each Club - namely the Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and PRO - with an opportunity to gain the key knowledge and skills to fulfil their roles effectively. Officers who complete the programme will:

- *Gain a better understanding of what their role involves.*
- *Develop basic leadership, management and communication skills.*
- *Experience increased role satisfaction.*
- *Have an awareness of where to access resources and supports.*
- *Be able to share ideas and solve problems with fellow officers.*
- *Be better prepared for future roles in the Association.*



Previously Ulster GAA and Croke Park worked separately on this programme but have now come together to bring the benefits of both their respective programmes to all Clubs. Earlier this year Fermanagh was well represented at the Provincial role specific training. Please see below the training undertaken and the participating clubs.

#### ***Club Officer Training: Role Specific***

Chairperson	8
Secretary	9

Treasurer	5
PRO	3
Coaching Officer	6
Irish Language and Cultural Officer	2
Development Officer	6
Total	39

#### Clubs Represented:

Aghadrumsee St Macartan's
Belcoo O'Rahillys
Belnaleck
Derrygonnelly Harps
Derrylin O'Connells
Devenish St. Mary's
Erne Gaels
Kinawley
Lisbellaw
Lisnaskea Emmetts
Newtownbutler First Fermanagh's
Roslea Shamrocks
St Molaise Irvinestown
St Patrick's Donagh

Several seminars have been organised for the new year. I would appeal to all clubs to avail of this new training in January. Attendance is very important for those clubs working towards Club Maith accreditation, but all clubs would benefit from attending.

- 🚩 Chairperson: 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021
- 🚩 Secretary: 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021
- 🚩 Treasurer: 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021 & 12<sup>th</sup> January 2021 (2 parts)
- 🚩 PRO: 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021 & 12<sup>th</sup> January 2021 (2 parts)
- 🚩 Irish Lang. Off.: 7<sup>th</sup> January 2021
- 🚩 Coaching Off.: 7<sup>th</sup> January 2021
- 🚩 Children's Off.: 7<sup>th</sup> January 2021

Further courses on the GAA membership system, Health & Wellbeing, creating a safe club and the GAA disciplinary system will be held towards the end of January/start of February. Once again I would say that those who have undertaken such courses found that you always learn something and with the high standard of speakers in attendance everyone found it most advantageous to both themselves and their club, as the comments below show:

- *"It was great to gain knowledge on my role and learn from officers with greater experience."*

- *“I enjoyed learning about the available resources and the huge amount of information that is available when you know where to go.”*
- *“Our tutor engaged everyone very well in a relaxed manner while delivering key information clearly. It was very helpful to hear from an experienced officer who was able to back up points with personal stories”*
- *“The programme opened my mind to other people’s views and ways of dealing with problems.”*

Fermanagh organised a seminar in preparation for forthcoming online AGM’s. This was a very well attended event with over 40 joining in with extremely positive feedback being provided.

Among topics discussed were preparations for AGM, running the AGM, Financial reporting and actions after the AGM as well as how one deals with the new methods of delivering online. Hopefully, all in attendance can now look forward to successful and fruitful AGM’s this year.

Further information was forwarded, though very late in the day I would say, by Croke Park on using Microsoft Teams etc.

### **Club funding**

In 2019, 14 of our Clubs were successful in their funding applications to Ulster Council for funding which was supported by Croke Park. Most of the moneys were for verti-draining but a growing number of capital works were covered also. This year, due to the implications of Covid, grants were not paid out and now it is extremely unlikely that there will be any either in 2021.

Several Clubs have been successful in funding applications to DAERA, Sport NI, DfC and Dept. of Finance for Covid related funding. I would ask Clubs to be aware of the funding opportunities that are out there and if assistance is needed, ask for it. Too often our Clubs invest in their infrastructure but fail to claim what is rightly theirs. If your Club has invested in its facilities, please do not hesitate to contact your Development Officer to see if there are any avenues of funding available, if you don’t put the application in, then you won’t get the funding!

### **Club capital development**

Capital development has dropped off slightly, due to obvious reasons, this year, but I am happy to report that a number of Clubs are already at an advanced stage of planning to carry out major improvements to their facilities.

With regards to our County Grounds, St. Molaise Park, Irvinestown continues to be in line for major secondary grounds funding which until March of this looked like a distinct possibility but unfortunately the major grants of SportNI were diverted towards Covid related funding. However, they were in receipt of funding for a CCTV and PA system which is now installed. It is unlikely that the secondary grounds funding will be forthcoming in the very near future due to financial restrictions that will become the new normal.

With regards to Brewster Park Enniskillen, negotiations are at an advanced stage with statutory bodies for a major redevelopment of their grounds. The meeting of regulatory requirements continues to be an onerous but necessary task, and one which the Enniskillen Gaels Club readily takes on and carries out to the very highest standard.

I would appeal to all Clubs countenancing any future development, small or big to contact either the Co. Secretary or Development Officer. as soon as possible. There are hoops to jump through to get the necessary permissions and better to get them all sorted early on in any development.

### **Club Constitution**

The Club Constitution is the single most important document in the club and every club must adopt this in accordance with rule 3.5 of the GAA's Official Guide (Treoraí Oifigiúil). The club constitution provides a means whereby the GAA Club can be operated and managed by the Executive Committee of the club. The Constitution provides for control of the assets of the Club and the operation of activities within the Club regarding, membership, management structure, sub-committee structure, club property, AGM etc. Unfortunately, I have noted that quite a few of our Clubs have not adopted their own bespoke Constitution. I would ask that all Clubs prior to the commencement of activities in the New Year ensure that they are up to date with all their records.

### **Stewarding**

There is a diminishing band of brothers, and sisters, who help you to your seats, direct you to the exits and ensure your safety at our grounds. This group of Stewards are always first there and last away at our games and without them we could not successfully hold our games. I wish to thank them for their enduring service throughout the year.

For this year, their task was particularly difficult, dealing with ever changing regulations, but I must say, they stood up and were counted, delivering a top-class service for all our patrons during the year.

A word of thanks must be given to our clubs also in the way they worked with our stewards and I genuinely would say that the service delivery by our stewards was second to no other county within Ulster. The leadership shown by Gaby McHugh and Ciaran Farmer was laudable throughout the year.

I would also like to extend my thanks to Deirdre Donnelly who was exceptional all year on the PA system in Brewster Park, with her clear and concise instruction ensuring full adherence to statutory regulations. Jim Tummon also, in his role as Event Controller, always led from the front and ensured the smooth running of all our major fixtures throughout the year.



This year one of our great stalwarts passed on to his eternal reward, Tommy Maguire. Tommy was well-known all-over Fermanagh and Ireland for the big smile and courteous manner he had for absolutely everyone he met. It was a massive shock to us all on hearing of



his passing, but Tommy will always be remembered by each and everyone of us in stewarding.

### **Strategic Plan**

This night last year we launched our new strategic plan with National Chairman of the GAA Club & County Planning Committee, Ciaran McLaughlin, in attendance. This was the third strategic plan to be rolled out by Fermanagh GAA. Previous strategies have helped us to carefully map the way forward. This strategy was no different in that it provides the blueprint until 2023. However, 2020 was a year like no other we have witnessed and due to the restrictions placed upon the County by Covid, it was decided that implementation be deferred until 2021. The environment is changing in Fermanagh for our clubs and for our volunteers. They have been the bedrock of our Association and both are coming under increasing pressure. Adherence to and implementation of legislation, financial pressure to fund development and recruitment and retention of volunteers are constant challenges. “*Ar aghaidhagus os a Chionn Fhear Manach*” has emphasised the need to focus on our clubs. This support is central to the development of our strategy. The key strategic themes around volunteers, leadership, stewardship, integration and inclusiveness are there to celebrate and support our sporting and cultural heritage. Our GAA sports and cultural activities engage families and encourage a healthy and active lifestyle. We all look forward to the engagement with all our Clubs moving forward now to 2024 and through this strategy, we will strive to support activities on the ground, within our clubs and communities.

### **Ulster Development Network**

Fermanagh plays an integral part in the Ulster GAA Development Network, bringing best practice to each of the nine Counties of Ulster. This Committee, under the tutelage of Fionntan O’Dowd and Paul Sanders brings the new ideas to the table, gives support and provides advice to Development Committees around the province of Ulster to ensure that our Planning and Physical development structures are of the very highest calibre and in turn that are Clubs are strong and robust going into the future.

### **GAA Club Development Fund**

The GAA Club Development Fund has been a useful source of relatively cheap funding to a number of our clubs over the past year. Clubs can either draw down funding or deposit their funds into this. The Criteria requires that all applications be guaranteed by the County Board and a recommendation provided by Ulster GAA. Loans are only available for Core GAA activities i.e. the purchase of property or for the necessary development of property. Development of bar facilities and other facilities for renting to other organisations will not be funded. The funding is only available to vested GAA properties and the loan will be made available only upon receipt of a viable business plan with cash flow projections for the term of the loan. Accounts for the previous two years will be reviewed when assessing the loan. The term of the loan available is for a maximum of ten years with the interest rate applicable is, a variable interest rate, currently 1.9%. This interest rate is set by the GAA Financial Management Committee. The maximum amount available to any one Club is €100,000/£100,000 stg.

Clubs who have deposited money in the Fund will be given priority in the event of insufficient funds being available. Application forms are available on request.

### **Buíochas**

The role of County Planning & Physical Development Officer is an extremely varied post, and rewarding, but without the assistance of several people it would be impossible to carry out. I wish to thank County Secretary, Tom Boyle, for all his assistance throughout the year. I also wish to thank Fionntan O’Dowd and Paul Sanders in Ulster GAA, Ruairi Harvey and Jack McCarney in Croke Park for their help, and answers to my queries, during the past year. Finally, thank you to all Clubs for their cooperation in all things over my past five years. We all want one thing, a stronger association and by working together we can achieve this.

To whoever follows me, I can assure you of my assistance at any time and I would ask that clubs make whoever that is as welcome as you all made me.

Táim ag súil le do chomhoibriú leanúnach sa todhchaí.....ar aghaidh agus os a chionn, go raibh maith agat

*Tiarnach O'Mathuna*

## **7 FACILITIES SUB-COMMITTEE-REPORT TO COUNTY CONVENTION 2020**

Ballraíocht an Choiste - Committee Members

- Greg Kelly
- Phil Flanagan
- Tom Boyle
- Brian Armitage
- Ferghal O'Connor
- Sean Burns
- Sean Donnelly
- Lauri McCusker

Responsibilities

In accordance with Riail 3.20 (ii) An Treoir Oifigiúil 2020 and Riail 3.2 Coiste Chontae Fhear Manach Fo-Dhlithe 2020, the Facilities Sub-Committee shall be responsible for overseeing the development and maintenance of all facilities under the control of the County Committee.

Lissan

2019 was a year of great progress for this sub-committee as plans advanced for the redevelopment of Lissan with a financial commitment from the GAA to help bring these improvements to fruition.

Progress was much slower in 2020, mainly as a result of the public health emergency taking priority. However, we are delighted that work is well advanced on the re-laying of the two pitches at Lissan and growth is well underway. Prunty Contracts have installed new drains and put down new surfaces on both pitches as can be seen in the photos below.



Sand ready for laying on the new pitches.











Lissan's lower pitch lit up to mark the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Bloody Sunday.

In other developments at Lissan, work is continuing to secure planning permission for an extension to the existing building to include:

- additional changing rooms and the refurbishment of the two already there
- upgrade waste area for additional training space
- improved fencing, stop-nets and dugouts.

We hope to advance this during the early part of 2021 and have a planning application submitted in the first quarter of the year.

Attention will then turn to the Phase 2 of the project, which includes improvements to the roadway access, the provision of additional parking, surfacing the car park, provision of a gym and upgrading the external lighting and floodlighting.

The Facilities Sub-Committee is working with the National Infrastructure Committee on these aspects of the development and are in the process of getting final costing for the work, but it is expected that in total, it could cost in the region of €1.3 million.

A commitment to provide €158,000 towards this project has been given by Fermanagh GAA and it is hoped that the balance can be secured from the GAA centrally, although the current availability of central finance is uncertain due to the impact of Covid-19.

Bawnacre/Necarne

Members of the Facilities Sub-Committee have worked extremely hard since it was revealed at last year's County Convention that we were aiming to secure an agreement from Fermanagh & Omagh District Council for a parcel of land to be set aside at Necarne for the development of a multi-sports facility.

Since then, considerable progress has been made, but there remains much more to do if this is going to materialise. We have developed positive working relationships with other sporting bodies and with officers and councillors within Fermanagh & Omagh District Council who are supportive of this ambitious project.

The Council has recently agreed a long-term lease for the future of the Necarne Estate, but one of the clauses within the lease includes the right of the Council to take back a portion of the land should planning permission for a sports facility be granted.

The lease "also proposes that provision is made for the potential development of a multi-sports centre and the Council has commissioned a feasibility study into the development of such a facility."

The Council have committed resources and personnel to drive this project forward and we are working closely with them on this basis and we have demonstrated to the Council that there is a need for additional pitches within the County.

The Committee intends to continue working towards that objective and the securing of substantial funds to develop this ambitious project.



A chairde Gaeil go léir,

Is cúis áthais agus bróid go gcuirim an tuarascáil seo os bhur gcomhair tar éis bliain a chaitheamh mar Oifigeach Gaeilge & Cultúra. Bliain na hainnise agus bliain an anró a bhí in 2020. Caithfidh mé a rá nuair a fiafríodh díom an mbeadh spéis agam sa ról seo dá ndearfaí liom ansin cad a bhí romham sa chéad sé mhí, d'imeoinn láithreach liom.

Anois, ba mhaith liom mo bhuíochas croíúil a thabhairt don chuid eile den Choiste Bainistíochta as ucht mé a threorú fríd na luathlaethe agus ba mhaith liom focail buíochais a ghabháil le Máire Uí Chléirigh a rinne obair na gcapall sna blianta romhainn. Comhghairdeas ó chroí a Mháire agus guím gach rath ort sna míonna amach romhat. Tá buíochas tuillte fosta ag baill fhochoiste Gaeilge, Cultúra & Oidhreachta as an tacaíocht agus an léargas a chuir siad ar fáil. Ba phléisiúr dom bheith ag comhoibriú libh agus tá mé ag súil go mór leis na dúshlán eile atá amach romhainn. Níl amhras orm ach go rachaidh muid i ngleic leo mar atá déanta againn le 12 mhí anuas. Faoi dheireadh na hoifigigh Ghaeilge & Cultúra a rinne an obair ar an talamh ina gceantracha, ba mhaith liom mo bhuíochas a ghabháil libh. Ar aghaidh linn go 2021.

#### Scór Sinsir Craobh Fhear Manach 2020

Ar chlár na n-imeachtaí is cóir toiseacht leis an chomórtas Scór. Cúis áthais domsa go raibh an Comórtas Scór ar ais ar chlár na n-imeachtaí in 2020 nuair nár tharla sé in 2019.

Réachtáladh an comórtas ar 29 Feabhra 2020 in Halla an Phobail, An Cuach. Mo bhuíochas le Finola Owens a d'eagraigh sin i gcompháirtíocht le Coiste an Halla. 4 chomórtas a raibh ar an chlár an oíche sin, Amhránaíocht Aonair, Aithriseoireacht, Ceol Uirlise & Nuachleas. 3 amhránaithe a chuaigh ar an ardán agus ba í Eleanor Farry (An Cuach) a thug léi an craobh. Sa chomórtas Aithriseoireacht as 3 iomatheoirí, tháinig Seamus Carolan (Ros Liath) amach leis an bhua. Sna comórtaisí Ceol Uirlise & Nuachleas níorbh ann ach club amháin a chuir isteach Ceol Uirlise - Cumann Uí Chonaill, Doire Uí Loinn agus Nuachleas – Na hÉiméid Lios na Scéithe.

An chéad uair eile a mbeidh Craobh Scór Sinsir ann sa chontae is é an rún atá agam ná go mbeidh níos mó clubanna ag cur isteach ar na comórtaisí seo. Is dul chun cinn atá ann ach tá neart le déanamh go fóill féin.

Mo bhuíochas le Jean Monaghan & John Conlon a bhí mar mholtóirí ar an oíche, Seán Burns as bheith ar an doras, Gary Fitzpatrick a bhí i mbun fuaime agus Coiste Halla an Phobail An Cuach.



### Tráth na gCeist Scór Sinsir

13 chlub a d'fhreastail ar imeacht den chéad scoth a tharla i gClubtheach Gaeil Inis Ceithleann ar 3 Márta 2020. Léiriú maith ar an spéis atá sa chontae i dtaca leis an imeacht seo. Tar éis na coimhlinte bai ad Seamróga Thigh Mhór, Cumann Bhriain Bhóramha Cill Náile & Cumann Naomh Muire Daimhínis a chuaigh ar aghaidh go dtí an babhta ceannais. Cumann Naomh Muire Daimhínis a thug leo an bua. Léirigh siad cumas, cruinneas agus eolas chun an bua seo a fháil.

Mo bhuíochas leis an Cheallach a bhí mar fhear an tí ar an oíche chomh maith leis na Gaeil in Inis Ceithleann a lig dúinn an spás a úsáid.



### Babhtaí leathcheannais Scór Sinsir Craobh Uladh

Chuaigh curaidh s'againne ar aghaidh go babhtaí leathcheannais Scór Sinsir Craobh Uladh. Ar dtús, Cumann Naomh Muire Daimhínis i gClubtheach Gaeil Triúcha. Rinne siad ionadaíocht thar cionn ar son an chontae ach ní raibh an lá leo. Léiriú ab ea é gan dabht ar an chaighdeán atá amuigh ansin i dtaca leis an Scór de. Beidh ar chlubanna an chontae cleachtadh a fháil ar na cinéalacha ceisteanna a chuirtear nuair a bhaintear an chéim sin amach sa Chraobh.

Satharn 7 Márta i mBaile Ragnall a bhí babhta leathcheannais dár n-iomaitheoirí eile. Arís, rinne siad a seacht ndícheall ar son an chondae. Cinneadh chonspóideach ab ea é gan Na hÉiméid a chur ar aghaidh chuig an chéad bhabhta eile ach is muidinne a mbeidh níos eolaí ar an chleasaíocht a mbíonn i gceist ag moltóirí. Sin ráite, lá dár saol nuair a fograíodh gur chláraigh an grúpa Ceol Uirlise as Cumann Uí Chonaill Doire Uí Loinn don babhta ceannais. Moladh mór tuilte ag an fhoireann agus ag a múinteoirí is tuismitheoirí. Ó mo chroí istigh comhghairdeas leo. Tá muid ag fanacht ar dheimhniú ar chás an Scór maidir le cúrsaí Covid ach an uair a dhéanfar cinneadh ba chóir iomlán an chontae teacht taobh thiar dár n-ionadaithe.





Domhnach 8 Márta Halla an Phobail Glean an Iolair. Rinne John Conlon ionadaíocht ar an chontae mar mholtóir sa darna babhta leathcheannais. Tá mé an-bhuíoch de John as sin a dhéanamh agus guím rath air agus é ag dul ar aghaidh mar mholtóir amach as seo. Sin a bhfuil dtaobh cúrsaí Scór don tuairisc seo, ach sula bhrisfinn isteach go dtí an gné eile den phost ba mhaith liom cupla rud a lua maidir leis na pleananna atá againn do 2021:

- Nuair a thioctas an t-am go mbeidh na comórtaisí ar ais caithfidh muid amharc ar tuilleadh iontrálacha ó chlubanna fud fad an chondae.
- Ní haon mian in aisce é go mbeadh GACH club páirteach in Tráth na gCeist. Comórtas sultmhar atá ann níl di dhíth ach 4!
- Caithfidh clubanna teagmháil a dhéanamh leis na heagraíochtaí eile a chuireann cúrsaí cultúrtha chun cinn sa cheantar chun iomaitheoirí a aithint. Ba chóir don Scór bheith ag tacú leis na chomórtaisí eile ar nós Fleadh Cheoil na hÉireann.
- Beidh orainn cur le liosta na moltóirí mar sin is ar na clubanna a bheith sé chun daoine cuí a aithint leis na rólanna seo a chomhlíonadh
- Caithfidh muid amharc i dtreo an na comórtaisí a thaifead leis an teicneolaíocht atá amuigh ansin agus chun bunachar ábhair a bheith réidh le húsáid le linn dúilíocht an gheimhridh.
- Ba mhaith linn úsáid a bhaint as an Scór chun oiliúint a chur ar dhaoine bheith ag ceol Amhrán na bhFiann ag cluiche craoibhe s'againne.
- B'fhiú do chlubanna smaoineamh faoi Oícheanta Airneáil a chur ar siúl sula dtosóidh an Scór mar thraenáil is mar chleachtadh do na hiomaitheoirí

Anois, cúrsaí Gaeilge. Mar is eol do neart daoine sa chontae tá mo chroí istigh i gcur chun cinn na Gaeilge. Is í an Ghaeilge teanga dhúchasach na tíre seo agus is orainne atá sé chun an teanga a shlánú, a athréimiú agus a úsáid ar bhonn laethiúl. Tá stádas na Gaeilge slán go maith sa chontae dar liom. Tá dornán beag daoine in rólanna lárnacha a bhfuil Gaeilge ar a dtail acu. Molaim an cruinneas atá ag Deidre a dhéanann job iontach ag na cluiche craoibhe. Tá sé tábhachtach go bhfeicfidh daoine go bhfuil Gaeilge ag réimse leathan daoine mar sin gur rud nadúrtha é an teanga a bheith á spalpadh i ngnathchaint.

Tá obair mhór mhaith ar siúl ag roinnt do na clubanna mar sin déanfar cíorú air sin sa chéad alt eile.

#### Fonndúireacht Sheosaimh Mhic Dhonnacha

A bhuí le Máire Uí Chléirigh bhí glacadh maith leis an scéim seo de chuid Ghlór na nGael.

Tá bonn cré umha ag:

- Cumann Naomh Pádraig An Domhnach
- Na hÉiméid Líos na Scéithe
- Eadarnaigh Naomh Seosamh
- Cumann Bhriain Bhóramha Cill Náile
- Cumann Uí Chonaill Doire Uí Loinn.

I mbliana, d'éirigh le Seamróga Ros Liath an bonn cré umha a bhaint amach. Comhghairdeas leo.

Eagraíodh cruinniú do na hoifigigh Ghaeilge le Glór na nGael agus mo bhuíochas le Sinéad as Glór na nGael a bhí istigh don chruinniú sin.

Is minic a chuirtear ceist orm cad é an ról atá ag an Oifigeach Gaeilge agus i ndáiríre is deacair cur síos a dhéanamh ar an ról tóisc go bhfuil an oiread féidirtheachtaí leis. An chomhairle a thabharfainn do na hoifigigh ná bhur seacht ndícheall an teanga a bheith feiceálach, in úsáid agus ar eolas ag daoine a oiread agus is féidir.

De dheasca na paindéime, b'amhlaidh gur cuireadh neart imeachtaí ar ceal a bhfuil baint ag an gné seo mar shampla na cúrsaí Gaeltachta, mar sin ní dearnadh na bailiúcháin airgid mar sin níor tugadh aon scoláireacht amach. San athbhliain ba mhaith liom sin a athrú agus feiceál an bealach is fear chun plé leis an ghné seo.

Seo a leanas na spriocanna atá ann don Ghaeilge:

- Cruinniú go luath in 2021 a eagrú leis na hoifigigh agus traenáil a dhéanamh leo ar na cineálacha rudaí gur chóir a chur i bhfeidhm ina gclubanna.
- Leanúint ar na postálacha ar na meáin shóisialta a rinneadh chun ardú feasachta a dhéanamh sa chontae.
- Leanúint leis an dea-chaidreamh atá ag Oifigeach Cultúra & Gaeilge sa chontae leis an Oifigeach atá ag Comhairle Fhear Manach agus na hÓmaí.
- Leanúint leis an dea-chaidreamh atá ag Oifigeach Cultúra & Gaeilge sa chontae leis an Oifigeach Gaeilge atá an Comhairle Uladh
- Tógra úr a thioseacht ag brath ar airgead ó Chomhairle Cheantair Fhear Manach, ranganna Gaeilge a bheidh ag clúdach an tsáintearmaíocht a bhaineann le cúrsaí CLG.
- Leanúint leis an ardán atá tugtha don Ghaeilge tríd an obair atá déanta le FermanaghGAA TV.
- Tráchtairacht Ghaeilge a chur ar fáil ag ócáidí áirithe sa bhliain.
- Ábhar Gaeilge a phostáil go FermanaghGAA TV le go mbeidh deis ag daoine coimhead ar ábhar Gaeilge ar líne.

Leis seo, sin an turascáil atá agam i leith cúrsaí Scór & Gaeilge don bhliain 2020. Tá mé ag súil go mór leis an deis tógáil ar an obair seo agus forbairtí a thabhairt chun críche. Fágaim seo faoi bhráid an chruinnithe.

Ciarán Mag Uidhir  
Oifigeach Cultúra & Gaeilge  
2020 CLG Fhear Manach.



## 9 Tuarascáil an An Coiste Margaíochta Caidreamh Poiblí-Public Relation & Marketing

### PUBLIC RELATIONS/MARKETING COMMITTEE

#### Responsibilities

In accordance with Riail 3.20 (ii) An Treoir Oifigiúil 2020, the PR/Marketing Committee shall be responsible for Publicity, Marketing and Publications.

2020 was a very challenging year for obvious reasons. But we also failed to elect a PRO at last year's County Convention and we have been unable to get anyone willing to step forward to fill the role. For that reason, I have been filling in as best I can over the last 12 months.

#### Fermanagh GAA TV & Radio

Just prior to Christmas last year, we launched a season pass with ambitious plans to provide substantial coverage from county and club games. There was a good take up from this scheme and we provided live radio coverage from the following games as part of this initiative:

#### Dr McKenna Cup



**2020 Fermanagh GAA Radio Season Pass**

**Exclusive Access to Live Commentary to almost 50 Fermanagh Games - Club & County**

**Just £50 - The Perfect Gift for Christmas**

**[www.fermanaghgaa.ie/FermanaghGAATV](http://www.fermanaghgaa.ie/FermanaghGAATV)**

FEAR MANACH ÉIRNE CLUB BE THE BEST THAT WE CAN BE TRACEY CONCRETE

29<sup>th</sup> December – Fear Manach v An Dún

5<sup>th</sup> January – Aontroim v Fear Manach

#### National Football League

2<sup>nd</sup> February – Fear Manach v Ros Comáin

9<sup>th</sup> February – An Iarmhí v Fear Manach

22<sup>nd</sup> February – Fear Manach v An Cabhán

The NFL game against Armagh on 7<sup>th</sup> March was the last game before we entered the lockdown and this put an end to all on-field activity and restricted access for those Season Pass holders, but they all got access to the second Season Pass we launched later in the year.

However, during this period of restricted movement, we provided a full programme of online broadcasts to entertain people during this difficult time, including a live quiz every Tuesday from 28<sup>th</sup> April to the end of May and broadcasting old games on Sundays and Thursdays during May and June (and Tuesdays during June). Thanks to Ciarán Mag Uidhir for presenting the quizzes and to those who helped by compiling questions and who provided copies of old games to be shown.

With the return of on-field activity, at the end of July, we began provided live TV coverage from Senior Football League games and the following were broadcast live for free on our YouTube Channel:

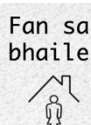
Friday 24th July @ 8:00pm - Enniskillen Gaels v Irvinestown St Molaise

Sunday 26th July @ 1:00pm - St Patrick's Donagh v Aghadrumsee St Macartans

Sunday 2nd August @ 3:30pm - Derrygonnelly Harps v Erne Gaels

Wednesday 5th August @ 7:30pm - Ederney St Joseph's v Derrygonnelly Harps

Sunday 9th August @ 1:00pm - Enniskillen Gaels v Devenish St Mary's



## May 2020 Broadcast Schedule

[fermanagh.gaa.ie/fermanaghGAATV](http://fermanagh.gaa.ie/fermanaghGAATV)

### Week 1

#### Sunday 3rd May (on GAA.ie)

2004 All Ireland Quarter Final - Armagh v Fermanagh  
LIVE chat with Ger Treacy, Tom Brewster & Sid Mulrone on 2004 @ 8:00pm.

#### Tuesday 5th May @ 8:00pm

Tráth na gCeist - LIVE

#### Thursday 7th May @ 8:00pm

1996 All Ireland Vocational Schools 'A' Final - Fermanagh College v Rathmore (Kerry)

### Week 2

#### Sunday 10th May @ 2:00pm

2019 Fermanagh SFC Final - Derrygonnelly Harps v Roslea Shamrocks

#### Tuesday 12th May @ 8:00pm

Tráth na gCeist - LIVE

#### Thursday 14th May @ 8:00pm

2019 Fermanagh IFC Final - Belcoo O'Rahilly's v Kinawley Brian Borus

### Week 3

#### Sunday 17th May @ 2:00pm

2002 Fermanagh SFC Final Replay- Enniskillen Gaels v Devenish St Mary's

#### Tuesday 19th May @ 8:00pm

Tráth na gCeist - LIVE

#### Thursday 21st May @ 8:00pm

2019 Senior Football League Division 1 Final - Derrygonnelly Harps v Ederney St Joseph's

### Week 4

#### Sunday 24th May @ 2:00pm

2008 Fermanagh SFC Final - Derrygonnelly Harps v St Patrick's Donagh

#### Tuesday 26th May @ 8:00pm

Tráth na gCeist - LIVE

#### Thursday 28th May @ 8:00pm

1904 - 2004 Fermanagh GAA Centenary Celebrations

#### Sunday 31st May @ 2:00pm

2019 Hogan Cup Final - St Michael's Enniskillen v Naas CBS



## June 2020 Broadcast Schedule

[fermanagh.gaa.ie/fermanaghGAATV](http://fermanagh.gaa.ie/fermanaghGAATV)

#### Wednesday 3rd June @ 8:00pm

Coaching Webinar - Impementing Performance Analysis in a Club Setting

#### Thursday 4th June @ 8:00pm

2012 Senior Football Championship Semi Final  
Devenish St Mary's v Lisnaskea Emmetts

#### Sunday 7th June @ 2:00pm

2012 MacRory Cup Final  
St Michael's College, Enniskillen v St Patrick's College, Maghera

#### Tuesday 9th June @ 8:00pm

2007 Senior Football League Final  
Belcoo O'Rahilly's v Teemore Shamrocks

#### Wednesday 10th June @ 8:00pm

Coaching Webinar - Developing the Club Player

#### Thursday 11th June @ 8:00pm

2011 U16 Football Championship Final  
Lisnaskea Emmetts v St Patrick's Donagh

#### Sunday 14th June @ 2:00pm

2010 SFL Final (played March 2011)  
Devenish St Mary's v Lisnaskea Emmetts

#### Tuesday 16th June @ 8:00pm

1996 Ulster Vocational Schools 'A' Final  
Castlewellan H.S. v Fermanagh College

#### Thursday 18th June @ 8:00pm

2014 Senior Football League Final  
Derrygonnelly Harps v Roslea Shamrocks

#### Sunday 21st June @ 2:00pm

1991 Senior Football Championship Final  
Lisnaskea Emmetts v Newtownbutler First Fermanaghs

#### Tuesday 23rd June @ 8:00pm

2014 Senior Football Championship Final  
Roslea Shamrocks v Teemore Shamrocks

#### Thursday 25th June @ 8:00pm

2016 Intermediate Football Championship Final  
Kinawley Brian Borus v Tempo Maguire's

#### Sunday 28th June @ 2:00pm

2013 Senior Football Championship Final  
Belcoo O'Rahilly's v Roslea Shamrocks

Friday 14th August @ 7:30pm - Kinawley Brian Borus v Belnaleck Art McMurroughs



Sunday 16th August 3:30pm - Erne Gaels v Ederney St Joseph's

There were over 22,500 views of these games on YouTube, which demonstrated the interest that we had in showing live games and that there was a considerable market for it.

We also provided live coverage of the Fermanagh Club Championship Draw on 29<sup>th</sup> June, which was watched by over 1,000 people.

A live preview of the Club Championship was broadcast with over 2,200 people tuning in to watch that show with Ger Treacy, Raymond Gallagher and Gareth Cauldwell.

Also on YouTube, we broadcast live coverage of the Lory Meagher Cup Round 2 game against Cavan and deferred coverage of the Fermanagh Ladies Senior Final between Derrygonnelly and Kinawley. We were also delighted to show the 2020 Fermanagh Club All-Stars in full on 3<sup>rd</sup> November and the annual Club Éirne Championship preview on 6<sup>th</sup> November.

Throughout all of this coverage, we amassed just under 70,000 views with a total watch time of 11,000 hours on our YouTube Channel. We now have 980 subscribers, which is very positive, given that we had just 45 this time last year and shows the progress we are making. Given the substantial restrictions that were in place on attendances at championship games, we decided to broadcast the maximum number of games across all three levels.

This was a serious undertaking, and I am confident in saying that no other county in Ireland was able to do so much with everything but run in-house and without the need to bring in external production companies, thereby retaining the maximum amount of revenue for the GAA as our broadcasts were all produced, videoed and commentated on by a team of dedicated volunteers.

We launched a £30 Season Pass for access to all live and deferred championship games or individual games could be viewed for £5 each.

Over the course of the year, Fermanagh GAA TV & Radio generated over £18,000 in surplus for Fermanagh GAA. This will go some way to making up some of the lost money from reduced attendances at games. This includes a small amount of sponsorship but I think that based on the figures above, we should be in a very strong position to attract significant sponsorship going forward. My thanks to those businesses who supported this initiative through sponsorship.

#### Match Day Programmes

We produced programmes for the following inter-county games:

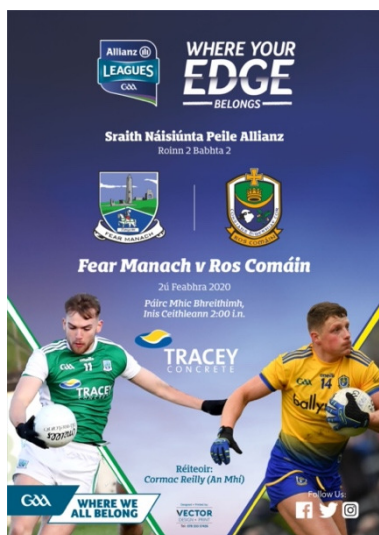
NFL Round 2 v Ros Comáin (32 pages)

NFL Round 4 v An Cabhán (32 pages)

NFL Round 5 v Ard Mhacha (56 pages)

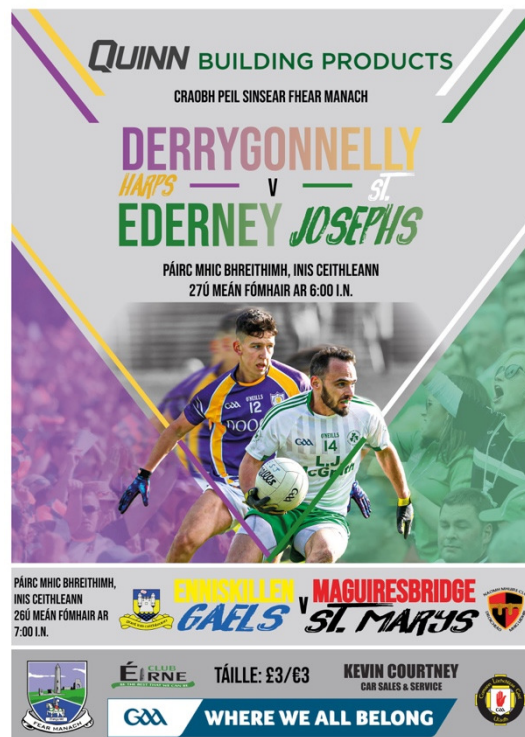
NFL Round 7 v Laois (digital only) (26 pages)

Lory Meagher Cup Round 2 v An Cabhán (digital only) (17 pages)



One-page programmes were also produced for the NHL games against Leitrim and Sligo. Each of these publications is a significant effort and I want to thank all those who contributed content and all those who provided sponsorship to make them possible. A special word of thanks to those who bought programmes and the team of volunteers who sell them at the gate. We have a small number of programmes left and if anyone wants to purchase one, please get in contact.

For our club championship games, we produced 3 programmes for the 4 weekends of games, with the Quarter Finals (60 pages), Semi Finals (48 pages) and Semi Final Replays (12 pages) available only to download and physical copies being made available for the Finals (80 pages).



## Social Media & Website

2020 was a successful year on the Social Media front.

On Twitter, we now have 26,900 followers and 12,167 likes on our Facebook Page. Our recently launched Instagram account has reached 1,660 followers in a short period of time.

As stated above, we have 980 subscribers on YouTube.

Traffic to our website has grown steadily with just under 85,000 unique visitors since 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020. The most visited pages are the fixtures and results section and the Fermanagh GAA TV page, with both of those accounting for over 50% of all visits.

Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Fear Manach

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News

**Club Éirne make donation to Fermanagh LGFA**

Fermanagh LGFA received a boost ahead of their All-Ireland Junior Championship semi-final against Limerick this weekend with the presentation of

COUNTY 21/11/2020

**Upcoming Hurling Workshops / Coach education**

National Hurling Workshops These will be delivered through the Microsoft Teams Meeting forum. Thursday Nov. 19th. At 7.00pm: Coaching Children

COUNTY 21/11/2020

**B100dy Sunday – A Candle at Dusk and other commemorative events**

This Saturday marks 100 years since the killings in Croke Park on Bloody Sunday. We have a schedule of commemorative

COUNTY 21/11/2020

**Drawing Competition – Lory Meagher Final**

To celebrate the Fermanagh Senior Hurlers reaching the Lory Meagher Final against Louth which is due to be played in

COACHING COUNTY FEATURED 16/11/2020

**Foundation Award Course Online Now**

Online Foundation Course now live for interested Fermanagh Clubs Coaches. Participants

Archives

Select category

We started to promote club lottos on our website and this has resulted in over 600 people following links to purchase online club lotto tickets.

In terms of how people are finding our website, 1 in 4 comes via a search engine such as Google, 1 in 11 from Facebook and 1 in 17 from Twitter.

## Thanks & Conclusion

I want to thank a large number of people for the help and support throughout 2020, without whom much of what we achieved would not have been possible. I am reluctant to list everyone (I stopped counting at 60 people) as someone will be missed but I cannot go without thanking Jonny Stewart, Ger Treacy, Ciarán Mag Uidhir, Sean Connolly, Paul McElroy, Stephen Kettyles, Sean Crudden, Sean Stewart, Pauric McGurn, Anita Kehoe, Eimear Keenan, Sid Mulrone, Gareth Cauldwell, Ray Sanderson, Donnie Phair, Martin Brady, Mary McElroy, Anton Tracey and Cathal McErlane. We also had a massive group of people who helped us out as commentators, co-commentators, analysts and a whole host of other roles related to Fermanagh GAA TV and Radio and a sincere word of thanks to each of them and we look forward to expanding on what we do for 2021.

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I also want to thank all those clubs and volunteers who helped to host games and went above and beyond the call of duty to facilitate coverage of our games and to all members of the County Management Committee for their help. A special word of thanks to those clubs that hosted games on TV and the efforts they made to make things as smooth as possible by providing electricity, broadband and elevated platforms for cameras. All of those things made a huge difference.

In closing, I just want to say that 2020 has been enjoyable from a PR/Marketing perspective and the unique nature of the year meant that it gave me an outlet when activities were heavily restricted, but it is not sustainable for us to operate without a dedicated PRO and that has to be an immediate priority for the County Committee in 2021.

**IS MISE LE MEAS**



***PILIB Ó FLANNAGÁIN***

**LEAS CHATHAOIRLEACH  
COISTE CHONTAE FHEAR MANACH  
NOLLAIG 2020**



Is íontach an dul chun cinn atá déanta ag Cumann Lúthchleas Gael í gcúrsaí teicneolaíochta le blianta beaga anuas. Is cúis onóra domhsa an tuairisc seo ón obair Eolas Teicneolaíochta a chur ós bhur gcómhair ag an “Crinniú Cinn Bliana 2020” anocht.

2020 will be remembered as the year of the pandemic and our Association has responded on and off the field to the unique challenges presented by Covid. Information Technology was at the forefront of the Associations response and while we all crave for a return to normality that is not to say that we should return to all of the pre covid methods of conducting our business.

**Email/Ríomhphost**

Once again there was a marked increase in email account queries. This is great to see as it shows the increased level of usage by officers throughout the year. Please feel free to contact the itofficer email account with any password reset requests and your new password should be available within hours.

The pandemic undoubtedly increased email traffic and may have led to some opportunists taking advantage of the situation. A number of clubs alerted me to phishing emails and it is important to be aware of these activities throughout the year. Further advice is contained below on IT security.

As usual if anyone has queries in relation to club or county officer accounts I can be contacted at any time.

**Website/Suíomh Greasáin**

Vice Chairperson Phil Flanagan has also been acting as PRO this year and has taken responsibility to update the official Fermanagh GAA website. Phil has kept the site updated regularly and I commend him on a highly impressive job.

**Social Media/ Na Meáin Shóisialta**

Again this is a duty that fell to the capable hands of Phil Flanagan this year and I congratulate him on his efforts in this regard and commend him on increasing the social media followers of our official Twitter and Facebook pages.

**Security/Slándáil**

It is important to point out the dangers of IT, there are a range of resources available to promote internet security and as always I am available if you have any concerns on internet security. Two good websites that provide advice in this field are <https://www.webwise.ie/> and <http://www.justice.ie/en/JELR/Pages/Cybercrime>

**Clarú/Registration 2020**

I am pleased to report that 2020 had minimal issues for clubs in the county during the registration process.

Weekly registration figures are available each Monday and can be checked with me at any time if a club officer has a query. Again Tom Boyle sends this information out to clubs as he receives it. Clubs considering amalgamation at certain age groups should note that they have additional registration responsibilities and I can be contacted if any amalgamations are competing next year.



## Clarú/Registrations 2021

The GAA Games Management System will be replaced by Foireann for 2021. More information on this will follow in the coming weeks but it is hoped to transfer as much data as possible from the older system to the new system.

A list of those with access to the registration system is not held within the county so it is good practice for clubs that appoint new registrars to inform me if they want to remove access from the outgoing registrar or not. The same applies to office holders and an email to me can rectify this quickly.

## GDPR

From 25 May 2018 we have been subject to EU regulations on Data Protection known as GDPR. The GAA like all other data controllers and processors have put in place systems to monitor this and ease the burden on club officers.

The Irish Data Protection Commissioner is the regulator for all compliance matters and data breaches should be reported to the GAA Data Protection Officer immediately and they will advise on necessary further actions.

Registrars, and clubs generally must be cognisant of GDPR in performing their role. GDPR will also affect other areas of club administration and I would encourage all club and county officers to avail of the supports put in place centrally. The GAA club newsletter has run a number of articles on this topic this year and a webpage giving club level advice is available at <http://www.gaa.ie/my-gaa/administrators/gdpr-support>.

## GAA App

A GAA membership App is now available and this allows individuals register and pay membership fees online. This is an effort to remove the administrative burden from clubs but may require an initial input of time at the set up stage for clubs wanting to participate in this. A number of clubs have set this up and I am available if any further clubs wish to begin taking online membership in this manner.

The app also allows clubs/counties send messages to members and can be set up to send club results to signed up members as soon as a referee texts in the score of a particular game. Clubs and County committees could also use the app to send group messages and thus reduce administration costs.

## Fixture Planning/Riarachan na gCluichí

My thanks to all those involved in the continued use of the new system especially the referee appointments officers Dermott Love, Gerard Mc Laughlin, Youth Committee Secretary Leanne Maguire, and CCC Chairperson Phil Flanagan.

## MS Forms/MS Teams

Microsoft is the IT partner of the GAA and MS Teams is available for use at club AGM's. A webinar took place recently on this topic and a recorded version of the webinar is available [HERE](#)



### GAA App communication



### Sample result from the GAA App

## **E Learning/E Foghlaim**

Tha GAA makes many resources available online, these resources are available from <https://learning.gaa.ie/administrator> previously recorded webinars can be viewed from the GAA Learning YouTube channel which can be accessed here - <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCulyy46ph4519t573fa2Aww> Or alternatively there are also webinars available to view here - <https://learning.gaa.ie/administratorwebinars>

Please feel free to share these resources amongst your Club.

## **Buíochas/Thanks**

I would like to put on record my personal thanks to a number of people who ensure I.T issues are to the fore in the county. Phil Flanagan has driven IT issues in his various roles, Tom Boyle is a wealth of information on all issues and is always willing to offer support when needed while Greg Kelly continues to support IT usage in his role as Cathaoirleach. I want to thank Tiernach Mahon for his support and advice on a number of matters throughout the year and his continued promotion of IT usage in Fermanagh. My thanks to all others who have contributed to the I.T related work during the year and a special word of thanks to the Officers and Club Secretaries who had queries during the year for their patience and courtesy at all times.

## **To Conclude/Le Críochnú**

Finally can I take this opportunity to wish all incoming Committee's and County Management Officers success next year. May I also sympathise with those members bereaved during the year and wish all officers, delegates and club members a peaceful Christmas and a happy healthy 2021.

Ar deireadh bá mhaith liom an deis seo a ghlacadh chun gach ráth a ghuí ar an Coiste agus ar Oifigí Bainistíocha na Condae don bhliain seo chugainn. Bá mhaith liom fosta mo chomhbhrón a chur in iúl leis na baill a chaill gaolta le linn na bliana. Guím Nollaig Shíochánta agus athbhliain Shlántiúil ar na hOififí, toscairí agus baill na gClubanna ar fud na Contae.

*Go raibh Maith agaibh*

**Niall O'Cuilinn**

**Oifigeach Eolais Teicnoliachta C.I.g Co. Fhear Manach**

## **11 Tuarascáil an Choiste Sláinte & Foilláine-Health & Wellbeing Committee Report.**

Fermanagh Health and Wellbeing Committee have not met several times over the year most of these meetings were virtual meetings via Microsoft teams and Zoom. Due to the pandemic our plans for the year were unable to be completed. The following is what we have managed to achieve during 2020.

**1. Continued development of the Health and wellbeing committee and structures.**

Structures in place and we continue to reassess regularly to improve these and we continue to meet on a regular basis.

**2. Facilitate Training for Healthy Club Officers.**

Healthy Club Officer Training was planned for April /May but had to be postponed. National Office carried out healthy club officer training during the year and Healthy Club Officers were welcome to take part in this and some did so.

**3. Engage with new Critical Incident Response plan for the county and support clubs to adopt their own.**

We encourage all clubs to adopt a critical incident response plan and forward a copy to the county some clubs have done this

**4. Support Phase 3 of the Healthy Clubs Project.**

We will continue to support the four clubs in the county in phase 3 and congratulate them on the work they have done so far.

**5. Promote the new gambling Awareness resources.**

This is now available to be delivered to clubs anyone interested should contact Damien via email at [Chair.hwc.fermanagh@gaa.ie](mailto:Chair.hwc.fermanagh@gaa.ie) This can be done virtually should any club wish to avail. We plan to do a session online early next year.

**6. Fermanagh All Star Awards**

A health and wellbeing award has been included in this year's awards. We were pleased that we had 6 entries from 5 clubs and wish to congratulate joint winners Eadoin Love and Michelle McCauley from Derrygonnelly Harps

**7. COVID Response**

At the start of the pandemic clubs in Fermanagh Stepped up to the mark and worked with their communities offering delivery and collection of shopping and medicines as well as promotion of health and wellbeing messages. Throughout this pandemic clubs have shown how important it is to see the GAA as not just a sporting organisation but also a community organisation. As a county committee we supported the clubs with advice and developed a guideline for volunteers to ensure that we followed the PHA advice and kept everyone safe.

During the year we continued to put out health and well being messages through social media including mental health awareness on world mental health day.

## **8. Other Activities**

During the year many clubs took part in webinars organised by croke park and the chairman of the county Health and Wellbeing committee also participated as a presenter or facilitator in a number of these webinars.

As we move forward into 2021 we hope to meet early in the year to plan for the year we will be organising healthy club officer training and planning. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the committee for the help during the year and also would like to thank the county board executive

## 12 Tuarascáil an Oifigeach na Páiste -County Children's Officer Report

The year 2020 was a most difficult one for all sectors of our association. With the limited time allowed playing our games, it gave clubs the opportunity to get some 'housekeeping' completed with vetting at the top of club Children's Officers list of jobs. This is a vital part of Children's Officers work, but club executives must support and actively encourage all those within clubs who are working with young people to get the vetting process done.

With the removal of face-to-face safeguarding training, the GAA have now moved to online courses which the county have made some use of. This is an area where I would encourage all clubs to actively engage in, as to date the uptake has been disappointing. Again this is mandatory for anyone working with young people in our clubs.

Please see the following details that have taken place in 2020;

- All clubs have a Children's Officer in place
- All clubs now have a Designated Officer in place
- Training night organised for DLPs to provide help and assistance with their role, certified by Ulster Council. This was a well-attended night with 13 clubs represented. This is the second time we have ran this and all clubs bar 2 now have a trained DLP in place.
- Unfortunately our Children's Officer training organised by Ulster Council was an early Covid casualty but we hope to reschedule this for March
- Distribution of gaa.ie Children's Officers email addresses through clubs, meaning that information that needs to go directly to club Children's Officers can do so via designated email addresses.
- We are waiting for the Ulster Council audits to be distributed – due to Covid and furlough of staff this is running behind schedule but are anticipated to be available in January. These will need to be carefully analysed to identify coaches or club volunteers who need to re-do their training.

**Please be mindful that those within our clubs who are selected to work with Children must have mandatory requirements:**

**1. The must complete the Gaelic Games Child Safeguarding Workshop (now online) every three years**

**2. They must be vetted through Access NI every three years.**

**3. They must possess a minimum foundation coaching qualification from the GAA.**

Vetting and knowledge of the code is of upmost importance. Vetting is vital in ensuring that we provide the best safeguarding services for children in the GAA.

Our underage coaches, Children's Officers and our Child Safeguarding Tutors all have roles to play in the delivery of the code. Our daily practices will continue to remain our priority focus, and we must continue to legally implement our comprehensive Code of Best Practice.

2021 shall be a year to rebuild and refocus our efforts. I will be working alongside all clubs to ensure the following work is done;

- Clubs appointing Children's Officers as per club constitutions
- Clubs appointing Designated Officers as per club constitutions.
- Information nights & courses for Children's Officers & new Designated Officers
- Ensure that vetting is ongoing in all clubs throughout 2021

- Running of online Safeguarding Level 1 courses in the early part of 2021

In closing, a sincere ‘thank you’ to our County Chairman Greg Kelly, County Secretary Tom Boyle, Vice Chairman Phil Flanagan, Youth Secretary Leanne Prior, GDM Teresa McGirr and the county coaching team, for their strong support in what we want to achieve. To the Clubs of Fermanagh and their Children’s Officers. At Ulster Council, Bernie Fox and Shane McNabb, and at National level Gearóid Ó Maoilmhichil continue to provide support and advice. Go raibh maith agat.

This year highlighted the central role the GAA plays within small communities. The kindness and pastoral care within these clubs can have a lasting impact on the lives of young people. Vetting and safeguarding take a few hours to complete. But by doing it annually, you’re sending out a clear message that our clubs are both a welcoming and safe environment for young people to participate in our games. Thank you all for your continued efforts.

I hope everyone has a safe and Happy Christmas, and a Peaceful and Sporting 2021  
Is mise le meas,

*Anita Mhic Eochaidh*

Oifigeach na Páiste Chontae Fhearmanach

## **Tuarascáil an Cisteoir -Treasurers report**

A Chairde Go leir

I am pleased to present to you my treasurers report for year ended 31/10/20.

When the first effects of Covid 19 arrived in March 2020 the GAA like everyone else was severely impacted both operationally and financially. Much of my effort this year has been concentrated on mitigating any negative financial consequences for the county and this has been achieved with the co-operation county management committee, clubs, management, players and supporters.

We can be rightly proud of the contributions made by our volunteers both in terms of time, expertise and financially to the most vulnerable in our community.

### **LISSAN**

County Committee took the decision in early 2020 to close Lissan to allow for relaying of the 2 pitches (Phase one of our redevelopment plan). Whilst this presented some difficulties due to County teams having to relocate training elsewhere, this work has now been completed using our own funds and substantial assistance from Croke Park. Whilst development grants have been temporarily suspended due to the obvious reduced income centrally, our facilities committee are pressing ahead with plans for phase 2 so that we are in a state of readiness to avail of financial support when it becomes available again.

### **AUDIT AND RISK COMMITTEE**

2021 will see the establishment of an audit risk committee with the objective of supporting the treasurer and county committee in all financial matters. Its role will be one of oversight and remit will include the promotion and monitoring of good corporate governance by the committee and its subsidiaries.

My thanks to Des, Katie and Kevin from Crudden and Dolan accountants for their work in preparing and auditing our accounts which will be presented to you tonight.

### **GATES**

The restrictions imposed on attendances at our games presented us with some difficult decisions earlier in the year and the possibility of online ticketing for our championships was explored with a number of providers. Some counties went down that road with varying degrees of success. Fermanagh went down the route of issuing our own tickets through the clubs. This required tremendous cooperation from all our club volunteers and sincere thanks to all the club officers involved in ensuring our matches were attended safely and within statutory guidelines.

Once again I am grateful to all the dedicated gate people and stewards. Special mention to Brain Armitage for liaising with Ulster Council for use of ticket van and Tom Boyle for his organisational skills and attention to detail.

### **SPONSORS**

The strong working relationship which we have forged with our main sponsors over the years was evident again this year and I thank Tracey Concrete, O Neills, Mannok, Monaghan Bros, Etc Biomed, Kevin Courtney, Mick Keogh and B Mc Caffrey and Sons for maintaining their support of Fermanagh in 2020 despite the difficult trading conditions for businesses.

## CLUB EIRNE

Club Eirne through their members, patrons and brand partners have had a vital role to play in supporting us financially 2020 and I implore all Fermanagh Gaels to get behind their continued and renewed efforts in 2021.

## CONCLUSION

The subject of county funding has been much to the forefront in recent days with the spotlight being shone on Dublin's share of Coaching & Games monies from national funds. However, I believe the future of Fermanagh GAA is firmly in the hands of our own Fermanagh Gaels. We have within our County and beyond people of the highest calibre with the vision and foresight to ensure adequate structures are in place to allow our young people to be the best that they can be.

I wish all our teams, members, delegates, sponsors and supporters a very happy Christmas and I am confident that if we all continue to maintain the unity of purpose which has become our strength in Fermanagh we will reach our goals next year and in future years.

Sean O Bhriain  
Cisteoir



## Oifigigh Choiste Chontae Fearmanach 1904-2020

### CATHAOIRLEACH

1904-	Robert A Whyte	Enniskillen O'Neills
1905-1908	Cahir Healy	Enniskillen O'Neills
1909-1915	Philip McElgunn	Donagh Sons Of Erin
1916-	Peter Clarke	Teemore Shamrocks
1917-1921	Philip McElgunn	Donagh Sons Of Erin
1922-1923		
1924-1926	Tommy Clarke	Teemore Shamrocks
1927-	Thomas Corrigan	Belnaleck Art Mac Murroughs
1928-1930	Tommy Clarke	Teemore Shamrocks
1931-1932	Fr B Lappin	Irvinestown St Molaise
1933-	Fr James Cleary	Maguiresbridge St Marys
1934-1937	Fr B Lappin	Irvinestown St Molaise
1938-1942	J.P Dunne	Teemore Shamrocks
1943-1947	Fr J Duffy	Derrygonnelly Harps
1948-1950	Gerry Magee	Irvinestown St Molaise
1951-1954	Tommy Campbell	Belleek Young Emmetts
1955-1957	Gerry Magee	Irvinestown St Molaise
1958-1984	John McElholm	Irvinestown St Molaise
1985-1992	John Vesey	Enniskillen Gaels
1993-2006	Joe McGurn	Enniskillen Gaels
2007-2011	Peter Carty	Devenish St Marys
2012-2016	Patsy Dolan	Lisbellaw St Patricks
2017-	Greg Kelly	Enniskillen Gaels

### RUNAI

1904-1913	Richard Corrigan	Belnaleck Art Mac Murroughs
1914-1919	Tom Sweeney	Teemore Shamrocks
1920-1923	Joseph Brennan	Enniskillen
1924-1927	Charles Smith	Enniskillen Gaels
1928-1936	Tommy Cox	Enniskillen Gaels
1937-1938	Jack Maguire	Maguiresbridge St Marys
1939-1949	Seamus Kelly	Enniskillen Gaels
1950-1968	Tom Fee	Derrygonnelly Harps
1969-1975	Malachy Mahon	Irvinestown St Molaise
1976-2001	Paddy Donnelly	Coa o'Dwyers/Derrylin O'Connell
2002-2003	Eugene Hueston	Newtownbutler First Fermanagh
2004-2005	Tom Boyle	Brookeborough Heber McMahon
2006-2009 (Feb)	Greg Kelly	Enniskillen Gaels
2009-	Tom Boyle	Brookeborough Heber McMahon

## CISTEOIR

1904-	Joseph Hackett	Enniskillen O'Neills
1905-1907	Tommy Clarke	Teemore Shamrocks
1908-1912	Peter Clarke	Teemore Shamrocks
1913-1919	Tom Sweeney	Teemore Shamrocks
1920-1923	Joseph Brennan	Enniskillen
1924-1926		
1927-1931	F Matthews	
1932-1934	Eamon McDonnell	Knockninny Harps
1935-1939	Bob Packenham	Belnaleck Art McMorroughs
1940-1945	Brendan Murray	Enniskillen Gaels
1946-1957	Johnny Monaghan	St Josephs Ederney
1958-	Ignatius O'Neill	Lisnaskea Emmetts
1959-1966	Alphie McCaffrey	Tempo Maguires
1967-1968	Tommy McDermott	Roslea Shamrocks
1969-1971	Alphie McCaffrey	Tempo Maguires
1972-	Jim Bartley	Belnaleck Art McMurroughs
1973-2001	Eddie Traynor	Maguiresbridge St Marys
2001-2004	Marius Mulligan	Roslea Shamrocks
2005-2009	Vincent Martin	Derrylin O'Connells
2010-2013	Hugh Crudden	Aghdrumsee St MacCartans
2014-2017	Patricia Durnien	Maguiresbridge St Marys
2018-	Sean Burns	Belcoo O'Rahillys