



An Dún

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EXTRA TIME

DOWN GAA NEWSLETTER

www.downgaa.net



Volume 1, Issue 2

EXTRA TIME DOWN GAA NEWSLETTER

March 2012



Paddy McFlynn
Down GAA President
attended the Ulster GAA
Convention, held in
St Mary's University College
Belfast on
Saturday 26th February.

Paddy attended
his first
Ulster Convention
in 1937—75
years ago.

A Coaching thought for February

John Wooden was an American College basketball coach who is much quoted in the world of sport. Look him up on You Tube etc but in the meantime here is one of John best known quotes.

"It's what you learn, after you know it all, that counts."

Club Officer Development Course

Ulster GAA will hold its club officer development course on Sat 3rd March in St Malachy's School Castlewellan from 9.30 am to 1pm. The course will concentrate on the following:

1. integration - one club model
2. developing a club plan
3. respect and discipline with a club

Workshops will also explore:

1. applying for club maith
2. club health matters
3. role of the designated officers in child protection.

Clubs are encouraged to attend this course and attendance at it will develop the skills and knowledge of club officers. All clubs are required under club maith to have representatives at this course and the recommended number is at least 4.

CLUB OFFICER ROLES WITHIN YOUR CLUB

As all new committees settle into their roles for 2012, it is imperative that each club officer is aware of their roles and responsibilities. Not only should they know their own role but they should be aware of the other club officer roles within their clubs. Club officer roles can be obtained from www.gaa.ie and www.ulstergaa.ie. Clubs may wish to include the roles of club officers on their club website for information purposes (see for example St.Peter's GAA club website under downloads).

Clubs need to be organised in the terms of administration, fundraising, coaching and games development etc. The club Chairman plays a key role in making sure the correct structures are in place for the club."



We're on the Web
www.downgaa.net



OfficialDownGAA



Upcoming U12 Activity Day in Croke Park

For the third year running Down GAA will be taking 96 U12 players to Croke Park on Wednesday 11th April 2012 for a Go Games Activity Day.

All Clubs in Down have been invited to forward the names of two U12 players (Final year U12 Children only to be considered) to participate in this unique event. The event is open to both boys and girls.

Down GAA will have access to the hallowed Croke Park Pitch from 9.30am – 11am during which time children representing every club in the county will participate in small sided games of Hurling and Gaelic Football. The day will also include a free tour of the famous Croke Park Stadium and Museum.

Buses will be provided to transport the children to and from Croke Park. This really is a fantastic opportunity for the young Gaels of Down. Lets ensure that every club in the county is represented at this event!!!

Further information
please contact:

Conor O Toole
Down GAA Games
Development Manager
developmentmanag-
er.down@gaa.ie
028 4377 0880 /
077 1899 1314



What are GAA Go Games?

GAA Go Games are small-sided games with modified rules in both Hurling (Go Hurling) and Gaelic Football (Go Gaelic). All Games in Under 12 and Younger Age Groups must be organised exclusively on the “Go Games” model with teams being a maximum of 11-a-side and structured to ensure that all participants get to play in the full game.

At Under-12 level, Competitions may also be organized on a mini-league format on the basis that the teams are a maximum of 11-a-side and that provision is made for all members of the team panel to participate in the game.'

What is the philosophy of Go Games?

The underlying philosophy where Go Games are concerned is one of full participation and fair play where each player gets to play the entire game (no subs where practical) and plays in a number of different playing positions during the course of each game. The games are small sided and the emphasis is on participation rather than the result. Go Games are not only about Fair Play in the sense that all participants should get the opportunity to participate fully in the games. They also revolve around the core values enshrined in the GAA Respect Initiative.

What are the advantages of Go Games?

There are a numerous advantages to this approach but the most obvious are:

- Games are small-sided and all participants get to play for the entire game
- Games are played in a fun environment with emphasis on improving skills



- Children are not subject to the win at all costs approach

This is the third year of Go Games in our County and the second full year since the adoption of Rule 6.27.

We have improved in our adherence to Rule and an awful lot of children and adults are getting terrific enjoyment from Blitz days and mini leagues.

But sadly there are some in our clubs who are insistent on treating children as mini adults; and there are regular reports of inappropriate behaviour from adults at U-10 and U-12 Go Games particularly at Tournaments both inside and outside the County.

Participation must never be sacrificed for competition, the success of the few must not be promoted over the opportunity for all children to take part, enjoy and develop to the best of their ability. We are all struggling to retain our adult players so we need more than ever to look after each and every one of our children. If you keep telling 12 year old boys and girls that they are not good enough to play on the team do you think they will still be there at 18 or 20 years of age, when you need them but when they have long since decided that you haven't anything to offer them.

Further Information
on Coaching and Games
please contact:

Coaching Officer
Seamus Ennis
coachingofficer.down@gaa.ie

Or

Games Development Manager:
Conor O Toole
developmentmanag-
er.down@gaa.ie

Hosting a Tournament



Many clubs are already making plans for their own Festival or Tournament days.

It is important that Clubs refer to and abide by the relevant guidance and in particular Rule 6.39 from the Official Guide.

All applications should be made in the first instance to Rúnaí Coiste Chontae.

The rule applies not only to adult teams but also applies to all Juvenile tournaments involving players at under 16 age group and younger. (See also Rule 6.27).

- If it involves just teams from Down—you need to apply to the County Secretary using the Down GAA Tournament Application form which can be downloaded from the Down GAA Website. Also note their is a fee of €20.
- If it involves clubs outside Down and within Ulster – You need to apply to Ulster with £20 fee included.
- If it involves any teams beyond Ulster — You apply to Croke Park and again make sure you include the fee.

The €20 fee cover's
Players' Injury Scheme.



www.downgaa.net

DOWN GAA

Is your Team and Players Registered and Insured?

Any clubs taking part in the ACPRL which begins in early March must have their team registration and insurance paid to Croke Park.

It is important that every club makes sure they are registered before they play.

The above also applies to any team playing in the Ulster Senior Football Club League and any Hurling teams that play in the Antrim League.

Just remember

- Team Registration and Insurance is now due. All teams must be registered in the GAA Injury Scheme.

The amount of team subscriptions is as follows:-

- A) Adult €1000 per team, B) U-21 €450 per team,
- C) Youth €200 per team to a maximum of €1200 per club

All registration must be done on-line and payment must be made to Croke Park directly.

Primary School GAA Day

Down GAA are hosting a GAA day in St Mary's PS Killyleagh on Friday 9th March, if you would like a GAA day in the Primary School in your area then in the first instance contact Conor O Toole or Sean Og at the County Office.

2012 Down GAA Kellogg's Cúl Camps

Cúl Camps offer children a fantastic opportunity to develop core GAA competencies in a SAFE and FUN



environment. Last year saw the highest ever number of children participating in Cúl Camps in County Down. Our attendance figures were the highest in Ulster and 5th highest in Ireland.

gestions for the continued improvement of our Cúl camps.

A preference document is already with club secretaries and while we will facilitate requests for specific weeks where possible this cannot be absolutely guaranteed. Obviously the sooner the club comes back to us the better the chance of the preference being met.

We are now starting to plan for Cúl Camps 2012 which will take place during July and August:

- Wk 1: Mon 2nd – Fri 6th July
 - Wk 2: Mon 9th - Fri 13th July
 - Wk 3: Mon 16th – Fri 20th July
 - Wk 4: Mon 23rd – Fri 27th July
 - Wk 5: Mon 30th July - Fri 3rd Aug
 - Wk 6: Mon 6th – Fri 10th Aug
 - Wk 7: Mon 13th – Fri 17th Aug
 - Wk 8: Mon 20th – Fri 24th Aug
- A one hour meeting is taking place in the Burrendale Hotel Newcastle on Tuesday 6th March at 7.30pm to review last year's camps and to take sug-

Further Information please contact:

Conor O Toole
Games Development
Manager:
developmentmanag-
er.down@gaa.ie

Vouchers for Allianz League Games for YOUR Club



Clubs should be aware that the County Committee can offer vouchers that give the opportunity to Clubs to take under age teams to our Allianz League games in Paire Esler in Football and Hurling.

Clubs wishing to take up this offer just need to contact Sean Og McAteer the Runai who will issue them with a Voucher. The Voucher is based on a ratio of admitting 1 Adult with 10 Children as in compliance with Official Guidelines.

Vouchers should be requested by the Wednesday of the week of the game you wish to attend.

CHALLENGE GAMES

Challenge Games

We are now in the season of Clubs arranging Challenge Games and I wish to emphasise that there are strict guidelines to be adhered to:

- Clubs must all complete the form as on the Down GAA Website or on the Ulster Council Website
- Clubs must give 48 hours notice of any Challenge Game
- Clubs must have their GAA Players Insurance paid before permission will be given for Challenge Games, if you are not registered online with the GAA Insurance and have made arrangements re payment with Sinead Quinn in Croke Park, then you are not covered.

EASTER CAMP

Down GAA Easter Camps

Down GAA is running two Easter Camps on Tue 10th, Wed 11th, and Thurs 12th April 2012.

Venue 1: Abbey GS Newry

Venue 2: St Patrick's GS Downpatrick

These camps are open to children who are currently enrolled in 1st - 4th Year in Secondary Schools / Colleges.

The camps are open to both boys and girls.

The Camps will run from 10am - 2pm and coaching will be delivered by Down GAA Coaching Staff along with Current Down Senior Footballers.

The cost of the attending the course is £20 per child. Closing date for applications will be Fri 23rd March.

DOWN GAA SCHOOL DRAW

The Down GAA Schools draw was launched on Thursday 26th January 2012.

Have you seen any tickets yet?

Have you spoken to your local school about selling the tickets?

Remember that your local Primary school receives £1 from every ticket they sell.



The draw will take place on Friday 4th May 2012.

All-County Football Fixtures

Down GAA Fixtures

By now all Clubs will have their All-County Football League fixtures and the Calendar of nights for the Incoming Season. Hopefully all run according to schedule.

The U-16 and Minor All-County Football league entries are now all submitted and will be formatted to allow for competitive Leagues this year at both 15 and 13-a-side. There are seven amalgamations among various Clubs for these Competitions and this ensures that no one is left out when it comes to everyone getting a chance to play our games.

Hurling League fixtures will be out soon after consultation with the Hurling Board and this year sees a re-vamped Junior Hurling Championship for all the non-Ards Clubs and hopefully this will make our eventual winner more competitive in the Provincial Championship at this level.



In the CCC there has been a trickle of transfers submitted and it is important that Clubs remember the deadline of March 31st for any applications.

Seachtain Na Gaeilge

Increasing and Enhancing the Irish Language in GAA Programmes.

Beidh Seachtain na Gaeilge ag tosú ar 5 Márta. Beidh imeachtaí ar fud na tíre agus ar fud an domhain chun ceiliúradh a dhéanamh ar ár dteanga agus ár gcultúr. Tugann sé an deis do dhaoine cúpla focail a chleachtadh. Tá súil againn go mbainfidh ár mbaill ar fad an-taitneamh astu.

The Seachtain na Gaeilge festival has built up incredible momentum in recent years, becoming the largest celebration of native language and culture held in Ireland each year. This now presents an opportunity for GAA members, clubs and counties to engage and enjoy with this unique festival. There are a range of activities taking place across the country.

An Coiste Gaeilge agus Oidhreacht (Comhairle Uladh)



would like to encourage our counties and Clubs in Ulster to enhance and increase the use of Irish in their official match programmes for their home games of the National Football and Hurling Leagues as a means of promoting our language in a visible way.

We would also ask all our Clubs within Down to increase the use of Irish in any official Club publications including match programmes which you may produce for this year's club league games.

Further information and Assistance please contact :

Ulster Council Delegate:
John Devaney
ulstercouncilde-
gate2.down@gaa.ie

Féile Peil na nÓg 2012

Down GAA Feile will be held on Monday the 9th April (Easter Monday). It is planned to use three venues in Newry – St Colman's, Abbey CBS and Paire Esler, with the semi-finals and finals of the various sections all being hosted in Paire Esler. **ALL** teams competing in South Down and East Down U14 League competitions are expected to take part in this year's Down GAA Feile.

The competition will be organized into sections suitable for the level that each club plays, however it should be noted that only the winner of the top section will qualify for the National Féile Peil na nÓg, which is being hosted by Laois and Offaly GAA on 22nd, 23rd, and 24th June 2012.

For More Details contact:
Diarmuid Cahill
ulstercouncilde-
gate1.down@gaa.ie

RITH 2012



Is féile náisiúnta nua d'Éirinn é Rith 2012 a bheidh ar siúl ón 8 -17 Márta 2012 mar cheann de phríomhimeachtaí Sheachtain na Gaeilge. Tá cúrsa 700km leagtha amach chun ollrith sealaíochta a dhéanamh, ag rith ó mhaidin go hoíche, ó Gaoth Dóhair go Inis Mór, Áran thar 10 lá leis na mílte duine ag glacadh páirte ann thar 75 baile.

Má tá grúpa/scoil/cumann ag iarraidh páirt a ghlacadh sa Rith, seilbh a ghlacadh ar an mbaitín, agus rith chun toaigh iarraidimid orthu teacht i dteagmháil linn chun cili-méadar a cheannach.

Rith 2012 is a national festival that will take place between 8th and 17th March 2012 as one of the main events of Seachtain na Gaeilge (Irish language week). A 1000km

course has been laid out for a massive relay-race run, running from morning to night, from Gaoth Dobhair (Gweedore, Donegal) to Inis Mór (Aran Islands, Galway) over 10 days with thousands of people taking part in over 200 towns and villages.

Anyone can run on any part of the course. You don't need to pre-register but if you want to be involved you can buy your own kilometre on www.rith.ie and for that part of the run, you and your group will lead the run and carry the baton!

Rith 2012 is a new way to celebrate the Irish language and culture in a way that is visual, fun, community based and can be celebrated throughout the island of Ireland.

Rith 2012 also aims to raise money to create a new fund for the promotion of the Irish language in the community.

Rith 2012 will raise the profile of the Irish language and the aim is to sell a kilometre to individuals, Irish language organisations, schools, sports clubs and businesses etc, which that person or team can run before passing on the baton. Each km costs €100. The website is www.rith.ie and contains full details of the course for the run.



CCC Report

A very positive meeting was held in the Down County office on Tuesday 14th February with representatives from South and East Down divisional boards, Hurling board, ladies football, and Camogie boards.

Discussions took place and the following nights were agreed.

PROGRAMME OF NIGHTS 2012

Sunday

U-12 Football, U14/16 Ladies Football (on alternate weeks), U16 Hurling Premier Reserve Football and Divisional Reserve Football Sunday evening.

Monday

Division 1 & 2 Hurling, Division 2 Camogie, Occasional Adult Football League. U14 Football

Tuesday

Minor Male Football, U14/16 Camogie (on alternate weeks)

Wednesday

Adult Hurling Leagues (Antrim), Minor Hurling and Division I & 3 Camogie.

Thursday

Men's Football, U-16 Football and U12 Hurling.

Friday

Adult Men's Football, U-14 Hurling and Minor Camogie.

Saturday

U-8 & U-10 Hurling Blitz on 1st, 3rd, (5th) Sat's, U-8 & U-10 Football on 2nd & 4th Sat's. Adult Ladies Football (7.00 p.m.), U-12 Camogie, U-12 Ladies TBC

A Meeting with senior officers, leas Rúnai, out going leas Runai, and representatives from clubs in each division including dual clubs will meet Week beginning 27th February to discuss the proposals already received from various clubs.



Feis Sevens

Senior and Junior football Feis sevens will take place on Sunday 27th May at two venues TBC with the finals being played at St Malachys park Castlewellan. CCC will be sending out correspondence to clubs re entries. The minor Football sevens will be organised by the East and South Down divisional boards with CCC hosting the final between the two divisional winners on feis Sunday.

Leagues

All clubs have now received the leagues fixtures and dates. ACPRL starting on Sunday 4th March, Division 3 & 4 starting 25th March, Division 1 & 2 starting 13th April and All County Hurling league starting Monday 9th April.

For Further Information
on CCC matters please contact: **William Smith**
Vice Chairperson Down GAA County Board
vicechairperson.down@gaa.ie

Line Marking Paints and Line Marking Machines

Bowcom Line marking paints, currently supply quite a few GAA Clubs with our Line marking paints and line marking machines. Some of the clubs include



Sean Mac Cumhailis GAA, Owen Beg GAA, Strabane Sigersons GAA, and Fin Valley GAA.

Clubs have been finding the cost extremely high from local distributors, and this is where Bowcom may be able to help your club by supplying you directly from Cardiff South Wales. Also one way of reducing cost is for clubs to place orders together to minimize shipping costs.

Mark Collier from Bowcom is visiting Down in March – so if your club would like a quote or to meet with Bowcom for a demonstration of their paints please contact Mark on 079 7701 0647.

You can also get more information on Bowcom products by visiting www.bowcom.com

Club Visit

It is the intention once again of the Members of Coiste Banisti to undertake Club Visits in 2012 and we will be

giving priority in the first instance to those Clubs who were not visited in 2011.

The visits are a useful opportunity to have a healthy exchange of views between Clubs and County Officers and allow for everyone to hear at first hand how our County is working and allow us as senior officers the opportunity to hear directly from our Clubs.

If you would like to be included in the first phase of Club Visits then please contact Sean Og NOW to arrange a suitable date and time.

To book your Club Visit
please contact:

Sean Og McAteer
Secretary, Down GAA County Board
secretary.down@gaa.ie

WANTED LOCAL HEROES

Do you have any volunteers at your club that regularly dedicate their time to helping out?

Would you like to reward them for their time and effort?

Now you can!

Hughes Insurance are running an initiative called the 'sports volunteer awards', to reward the unsung heroes of local sport—the ones who selflessly

give their time to coach the team, drive a minibus, wash kit, tend the playing field etc.

The winner will receive a trophy, £200 prize and £500 for equipment for their local club or society.

Simply nominate online at: www.hughessportvolunteers.com



WANTED: LOCAL HEROES
Who are the unsung heroes of local sport? Get your nominations in now.

SPORTS VOLUNTEER AWARDS

South Down Notes

**All Clubs please note
South Down
Open Meeting
Wednesday 14th March
@ 7.30pm in Mayobridge.**

Excluded Player
Lists and South Down Fees
are to be presented
at this meeting.

South Down Fixture Plan 2012

Márta (March) –

Sunday 25th
South Down U12 Blitz Rd 1
Aibreán (April) –
Sunday 1st
South Down U12 Blitz Rd 2
Saturday 14th
South Down U10 Blitz Rd 1
Sunday 15th
South Down U12 Blitz Rd 3
Sunday 15th
South Down Reserve League Rd 1
Monday 16th
South Down U14 League Rd 1
Sunday 22nd
South Down U12 Blitz Rd 4
Sunday 22nd
South Down Reserve League Rd 2
Monday 23rd
South Down U14 League Rd 2
Saturday 28th
South Down U8 Blitz Rd 1
Sunday 29th
South Down U12 Blitz Rd 5
Sunday 29th
South Down Reserve League R3
Monday 30th
South Down U14 League Rd 3
Bealtaine (May)

Sunday 6th
South Down Minor 7's (Venue:-St.
Marks School Warrenpoint)
Sunday 6th
South Down U12 league Rd 1
Sunday 6th
South Down Reserve League Rd 4
Monday 7th
South Down U14 League Rd 4
Saturday 12th
South Down U10 Blitz Rd 2
Sunday 13th
South Down U12 league Rd 2
Sunday 13th
South Down Reserve League Rd 5
Monday 14th
South Down U14 League Rd 5
Sunday 20th
South Down U12 league Rd 3
Sunday 20th
South Down Reserve League R6
Monday 21st
South Down U14 League Rd 6
Saturday 26th
South Down U8 Blitz Rd 2
Sunday 27th
South Down U12 league Rd 4
Sunday 27th
South Down Reserve League Rd 7
Monday 28th
South Down U14 League Rd 7
Meitheamh (June)
Monday 4th
South Down U14 League Rd 8
Saturday 9th
South Down U10 Blitz Rd 3
Sunday 10th
South Down U12 league Rd 5
Sunday 10th
South Down Reserve League Rd 8
Monday 11th
South Down U14 League Rd 9
Monday 18th
South Down U14 League Rd 10
Saturday 23rd
South Down U8 Blitz Rd 3
Sunday 17th
South Down U12 league Rd 6
Sunday 17th
South Down Reserve League R9
Sunday 24th
South Down U12 league Rd 7
Sunday 24th
South Down Reserve League Rd 10
Monday 25th
South Down U14 League Rd 11
Iúil (July) –
Sunday 1st
South Down U12 league Rd 8
Sunday 1st
South Down Reserve League Rd 11
Monday 2nd
South Down U14 League Rd 12
Sunday 29th
South Down U12 league Rd 9
Sunday 29th
South Down Reserve League Rd 12
Monday 23rd
South Down U14 Champ' Rd 1
Saturday 28th
South Down U8 Blitz Rd 4
Monday 30th
South Down U14 Champ' Rd 2
Lúnasa (August) –
Sunday 5th
South Down U12 league Rd 10
Sunday 5th
South Down Reserve League Rd 13
Monday 6th
South Down U14 Champ' Rd 3
Saturday 11th
South Down U10 Blitz Rd 3
Sunday 12th
South Down U12 league Rd 11
Sunday 12th
South Down Reserve League Rd 14
Monday 13th
South Down U14 Champ' Rd 4

Sunday 19th
South Down U12 league Rd 12
Sunday 19th
South Down Reserve League
Refixtures
Monday 20th
South Down U14 Champ Rd 5
Saturday 25th
South Down U8 Blitz Rd 5
Sunday 26th
South Down Reserve League
Semi Finals
Monday 27th
South Down U14 Champ' SF
Meán Fómhair (September) –
Saturday 1st
South Down U14 Inter County
Blitz.
Sunday 2nd
South Down U12 league R13
Sunday 2nd
South Down Reserve League Final
Saturday 8th
South Down U10 Blitz Rd 5
Saturday 8th
South Down U14 Championship
Finals
Sunday 9th South Down U12
league Rd 14

Further Information
on South Down please contact:

South Down Chairperson
Michael McArdle
chairperson.south.down
@gaa.ie

Or

South Down Secretary
Damien Brady
secretary.south.down@gaa.ie

Coiste Iomana, An Duin 2012

Coiste Iomana, An Duin, in late 2011 was in a state of limbo due to a proposed change in Formation of the Board at the Annual County Convention in December 2011! Delegates after consideration at the Convention, voted to keep the status quo for 2012.

As the term of office for former Cathaoirleach; Michael Keenan, was up due to the 5 Year Rule and Runai, Gerard Mc Shane deciding to retire from the position at the Hurling Convention there were no personnel to fill the positions of Cathaoirleach or Runai.

A reconvened Hurling Convention was scheduled for Monday 23rd January 2012,

where Gerard Mc Shane was formally adopted as Cathaoirleach; whilst some Management positions were filled at the meeting, the position of Runai was not filled.

As no nominations were submitted, Ms Jennifer Cultra, Killelief, was approached and accepted to act in the position of Runai, Coiste Iomana; Jennifer has a long association with Down Camogie at all levels, including former Cathaoirleach. Already she has been active in carrying out the duties of Runai and will in the near future be known to all Clubs participating in Hurling in the County.

Kieran Rice, Warrenpoint, and Arthur Mc Guinness, Newry

Shamrocks, both volunteered and were appointed as Leas – Runai and Cisteoir respectively, at the reconvened Convention. Kieran at the 1st Committee Meeting on 1st February 2012 showed his potential as Fixture Secretary with his detailed presentation of Juvenile Competitions for 2012.

One important date in the Down Juvenile Hurling Calendar is Feile Na nGael; which has been fixed for Friday 20th and Saturday 21st April 2012 in Castletwellan.

Ulster Feile is being held on Saturday 28th April, Finals on 5th May and National Feile in Dublin on 5th -7th July 2012 inclusive.



Further information and details of remaining Committee Members will be issued in the next edition, along with the Strategy, fixture summary etc, of Coiste Iomana for 2012.

Further Information
on the Hurling Board
please contact:

Hurling Chairperson
Gerard McShane
chairperson.hurling.down
@gaa.ie

21st March Closing date Grant Application Forms

Clubs are reminded to submit their grant application forms to Down GAA Development Officer Maureen O'Higgins by 21st March 2012.

Grant application forms can be downloaded from www.ulster.gaa.ie. Click on club and community and then resources to obtain access to the forms and scale rates.

All forms must be submitted along with the following:

- Covering letter from club requesting grant
- Deed of trust (3 copies)
- latest audited financial accounts or club treasurer's report verified by County Officers
- all supporting invoices

As soon as the forms are checked, signed by County



secretary they will be forwarded to Ulster Council. Clubs who fail to follow this procedure will find that their application will be rejected.

In the case of an application for a purchase grant where it is not possible to have the declaration of trust completed at the time the application is made, approval may be given on the following condition:

- 1) that the club's solicitor submits a "letter of undertaking" to the effect that the declaration of trust will be furnished as a matter of urgency;
- 2) that the undertaking will be honoured not later than 6 months from the date on which the "letter of undertaking" is

submitted to the Provincial Council. If you have completed your grant application please forward it to me immediately in order to prevent a large number arriving at the one time and to allow me time to check them.

Further Information please contact:

Development Officer
Maureen O'Higgins
developmentof-
ficer.down@gaa.ie

Home address is:
51 Bryansford Avenue,
Newcastle, BT33 0LG.

If you need any assistance contact me on 07748518994.

SHOW RESPECT TO OUR GATE MEN

Could Patrons who are attending the National League Football and Hurling matches show respect to our Gate men

These men work hard on a voluntarily basis

NOTICE FOR PATRONS ATTENDING GAMES IN PAIRC ESLER

Patrons attending games in Pairc Esler are asked to co operate with Stewards in relation to Parking Regulations.

There will be no parking permitted on the hard shoulder of the dual carriageway.

We ask everyone to respect the Residents of the area--- Would you park across your own driveway?

Ulster win Football Interprovincial

Ulster claimed their 30th Interprovincial title when they defeated Munster in the final by a single point 3-11 to 1-15.

Four Down men were part of the Ulster winning team. Brendan McVeigh, Dan Gordan, Mark Poland and Benny Coulter.

Well done lads!!!



Mandatory for ALL Hurling Players to wear a helmet

Rule 4.2 (i), Rules of Specification, in the 2011 edition of Part 2 of the GAA Official Guide which reads "In all Hurling Games and Hurling Practice Sessions, it is mandatory for all players to wear a helmet with a facial guard that meets the standard set out in IS: 355 or other replacement standard as determined by the National Standards Authority of Ireland (NSAI)".

Players are asked to ensure that their helmets meet the requirements of Rule 4.2 (i), as above.

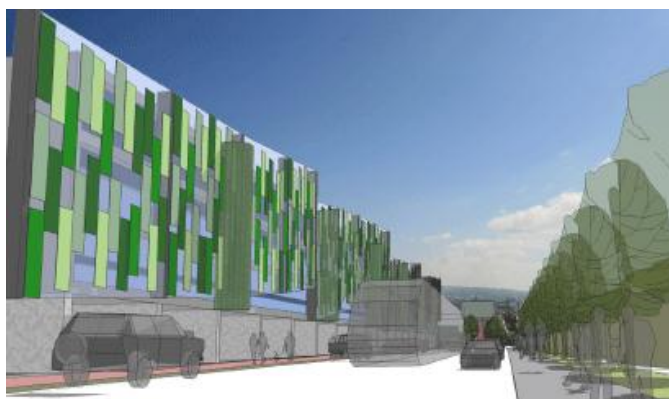


Ulster Council rubber-stamp Casement Park Stadium move

The re-development of Casement Park has taken a significant step forward with the news that the GAA has accepted the letter of offer of £61.4m from the Northern Ireland Executive.

The GAA's National Management Committee met at Croke Park on Wednesday 15th February and the Ulster Council met at its Armagh headquarters on Thursday the 16th February.

All Ulster Counties were represented at the Ulster meeting with John Devaney and Sean Rooney representing Down GAA.



The move means that a new 40,000-seater stadium is now a step closer.

Croke Park's agreed contribution is believed to be around the £15m mark. The work on

the stadium is expected to last for 21 months and is expected to be completed by September 2015.

The total budget for the project is in the region of £76.4m.

East Down Competition starting dates

U-8 Go Games Blitz
Saturday 28th April 2012

U-10 Go Games Blitz
Saturday 21st April 2012

U-12 Go Games Blitz
Sunday 15th April 2012

U-14 15 a-side Section A
Wed 18th April 2012

U-14 13 A-Side Section B
Wed 18th April 2012

EDRL Section A
Sunday 15th April 2012

EDRL Section B
Sunday 15th April 2012

East Down League Cup
Sunday 17th June 2012

East Down League Shield
Sunday 17th June 2012

Championships
Year 9 Round Robin
Sunday 19th August 2012

Year 9 Round Robin Finals
Sunday 30th August 2012

U-14 Round Robin
Monday 2nd July 2012

U-14 Round Robin A, B & C
Finals
Sat 8th September 2012

East Down Minor Feis Stevens
Sunday 6th May 2012

ALL DATES ARE
SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Committee

Chairman:

Sean Mac Caisin
(Baile Chionnleora)

Vice Chairman:

Patrick Morgan
(Cill Chua)

Secretary: Brian Kennedy
(Droim an Easa)

Assistant Secretary:
Ger Connery
(Ceathru Aodha Dhuibh)

Treasurer:
Columban Fitzsimmons
(Sabhall Na Padriag)

Registrar:
Matt Fitzpatrick
(Ceathru Aodha Dhuibh)

PRO: James Magennis
(Baile Chionnleora)

Committee:
Al Dillon (RGU Dun Padriag), Bro Christopher (RGU Dun Padriag), Gerard Murnin (Ti Chonachta), Martin Fitzsimons (Saul), Micheal Laverty (Drumaness) and John Nugent (Loughinisland)

Oifigeach Coiste Oirthear An Dúin 2012

Scor

East Down Scor na Sinsear final was held in St Micheal's Hall Finnis, which a large turnout witnessed tremendous entertainment for the duration of the competitions.

Special Guests where County Chairman Seamus Walsh, Vice Chairman William Smith and Cultural Officer Paula Magee. Please see page 10 for full list of East Down Winners.

East Down Awards Night

The biggest and best East Down Social night of the year took place in Liatroim Fontenoys GAA Social Centre on Friday night 24th February at the Annual Awards Presentation Dinner. The only people who missed out were those clubs who failed to attend this most enjoyable occasion.

A brilliant 4 course meal prepared and served by the Fontenoys Ladies Committee under the guidance of club chairman Dan Morgan had all 150 guests in raptures at not only the food but the presentation as well.

County Chairman Seamus Walsh addressing those present praised the club for the excellent presentation. He thanked the clubs of East Down for playing a major part in the affairs of the county during the past year and wished all the winners hearty congratulations. Awards such as those given by the East Down Board are a healthy part of the GAA Activities and allows the different club members to meet in a social atmosphere and enjoy each other's company.

Former Central Council Delegate Dan McCartan was also full of praise for the manner in which to Board year after year brings the clubs together for this most enjoyable social evening. The setting in 'Lovely Liatroim is ideal for such an event and he always looks forward to meeting old friends and making new ones on such an occasion.

Bredagh GAC, Loughinisland GAC, Saul GAC, St Paul's GAC, Kilcoo GAC, Teconnaught GAC, Drumaness GAC, St John's GAC, Dundrum GAC, Dromara GAC, Carryduff GAC, Liatroim Fontenoys GAC, Ballykinlar GAC, Bryansford GAC, Castlewellan GAC and Kilcoo Football Club all took part in this year's competition.

Other special guests included South Down chairman Michael McArdle, Sean Rooney assistant secretary of last year's Activities Committee and new Central Council delegate, Kevin Bell former Central Council delegate, Michael Keenan chairman of the county Hurling Board as well as secretary Gerard McShane. A special welcome was extended to former GAA President and Down County President Paddy McFlynn who was a former chairman of the Board. Also welcomed were the surviving Hall of Fame members with best wishes being sent to Davie McCoy (St Paul's), Johnny Smith (Drumaness) and Derek King who were unable to be present.

Current East Down chairman Sean McCashin welcomed all to the night and paid tribute to the Liatroim Club who down the years have provided such a brilliant meal. He welcomed the special guests and all those present and hoped that they would enjoy another brilliant social occasion.

As these were the 2011 Awards the chairman of last year Paul Blaney made Chairman Awards to Saul Scor na nOg Ballad Group who won the all Ireland title last year, Sean McKay (Dromara) and Roger Morgan (Kilcoo) for their service to their clubs, the Board and the county don the years. He also made a special presentation to the Bredagh Quiz team of Jack Devaney, Paul Doran and Frank Costello who reached the All Ireland

Many thanks to Teconnaught GAC and Dundrum GAC for the use of the halls, and Patsy Russell who acted as Fear an Ti.

The Question Master was Harry McEvoy (Carryduff) with Patsy Russell (Loughinisland) and Paddy McCrickard (Kilcoo) as score keepers and Columban Fitzsimons (Saul) as time keeper.

final last year. The highlight of the night of course was the awards to the various winners which resulted as follows....

Senior player Conor Laverty (Kilcoo); Reserve Player Jerome McCrickard (Liatroim), senior referee Gabriel Tumelty (Bright); Junior Referee Martin Brady (RGU Downpatrick) Club of the Year Kilclief; Scor Achievement Award Saul, and the highlight of the awards was the Hall of Fame which was won by Martin Fitzsimons (Saul).

The music during the meal was provided by St Paul's Hollywood Scor na nOg Instrumental Group while the Saul All Ireland winning Ballad Group entertained the guests for the duration of the evening. A memorable and enjoyable night was had by all.

Further Information
on East Down please contact:

East Down Chairperson
Sean McCashin
chairperson.east.down
@gaa.ie

Or

East Down Secretary
Brian Kennedy
secretary.east.down@gaa.ie



www.downgaa.net

DOWN GAA

Treasurers Notes

With the draw now behind us both clubs and county continue to look at ways of raising funds. It is essential for both clubs and county to maximise their revenue streams as there is a constant demand for money to run the club and county. It is only by building a strong financial base that the county or the club can move forward.

At the last county board meeting the budget for the year was presented. In it we set targets for income and expenditure for the year to 31st October 2012. Every club should sit down at the start of the year and carry out a similar exercise. The planning of fund raising activities is essential for club and county.

Clubs can learn from each other about successful fund raising ideas. The success of an event in one club can be

repeated throughout many clubs. It is necessary to strike a balance between raising necessary funds and disenchanting your support base by constantly asking the same people.

Fight nights, jigs and reels, strictly come dancing and take me out can provide both entertainment for club members and lucrative fund raising for clubs.

In these difficult economic times clubs have to be innovative in their fundraising. A club recently ran a £100 raffle with the prize for the winner been their name on the senior team jersey for year.



County Fundraising

The county plan to run a golf classic on the May in Spa golf club.

Following on from the success of last years race day a similar event will be held during the inter-county championship.

Support for these events from clubs and supporters is important to make them a both a social and financial success.

There are many ways open to supporters to give financial assistance to the county.

1. You can support events such as a golf classic or race day.
2. Join the supporters club at £10 and help at matches or join in the craic of travelling to an away match.
3. Club Down offers its members options of paying £10, £40, or £100 per

month with a range of benefits depending on the level of contribution. (See www.clubdown.com).

4. Club Down monies support a wide range of activities within the county including cul camps and development squads.
5. The Down Senior Football Team training fund offers people the opportunity to contribute directly to the cost of training the senior county football team. Packages are tailored to meet the individual contributor's needs. Anyone wishing to contribute can contact the chairman of the training fund, James Mc Grath, on 07717203269.
6. One off donations are also acceptable and anyone

Further information
please contact
County Treasurer:
Seamus Ryan
treasurer.down@gaa.ie

Registration of Players and Members - 2012

Registration of players and members for 2012 on the online registration system is well underway. To date, almost 200,000 members have been registered and it is expected that the weeks in the lead up to the March 31 deadline will be particularly busy.

Please note that all full and youth members and all players must be registered in accordance with rule 2.1, 2.2 and 2.3 of the Official Guide. Name and address is mandatory for all members, along with the date of birth in the case of all players and youth members. If clubs have any queries, please contact the support helpline at gaasupport@servasport.com or call 04890313845.

Support is available until 10pm each night, Monday to Saturday.

Skyline Croke Park – Dublin sightseeing has reached new heights

Dublin's newest and most exciting attraction, SKY-



LINE CROKE PARK is launching at the start of June 2012 combining adventure, stunning views and extreme highs in an unforgettable tour. You will soon be able to experience Dublin from 17 storeys high on the roof of one of the

world's most impressive stadiums.

This guided multi-lingual audio tour will offer insights into key landmarks and top visitor attractions from five viewing platforms. Be brave and take in a spectacular view of Croke Park from a suspended walkway over the pitch.

Further updates to follow at www.skylinecrokepark.ie.

Clubs Database – GAA Museum

Why not update your club details in the special "Clubs Database" section in the GAA Museum at Croke Park. Every club secretary should have received a log-in and password which allows clubs to upload photographs and information on history, players, titles won (all grades), new facilities, blitzes/street leagues, fundraising – The GAA Museum wants to hear it all!



To ensure that your club is represented on the database, please log on to www.gaamuseumclubs.ie and update your club information.

The GAA Museum also welcomes group bookings for a minimum of 20 persons. There is a special discount rate of 25% for all GAA clubs so why not book for a great day out. Contact Maria at tours@crokepark.ie to book your visit.

All Ireland Scór na nÓg Final

Caisleán Ruairi narrowly miss out at All Ireland Scór na nÓg Final.

The young competitors from Caisleán Ruairi travelled to Castlebar Co Mayo on Saturday past 18h February to participate in the All Ireland Final in the Nuachleas section. A large number of Down supporters made the journey to cheer on this young group. Having been crowned Down and Ulster champions in the past few months hopes were high of adding the All Ireland crown, but when Fear a i announced the winners Rostrevor were not on the list.

This young group, the youngest only 5 years old have had many great achievements in the 2012 season and brought many great memories to their families, club and County. Even though on this occasion the result was not as we would have liked it to be, we have no doubt that an All Ireland title will come to this club in the future. Well done Michael, James, Eoin, Eileen and Christina your performance in the Final was truly A CLASS ACT.

Scór Sinsir 2012

East Down Final Results:

Solo singing

Bredagh (Brian Mc Alea), Loughinisland (Joan Noade)

Instrumental Music

Saul, St Pauls

Recitation

Saul (Roisin Sloan), Kilcoo (Aileen Mc Loughlin)

Ballad Group

Saul, St Pauls

Novelty Act

Kilcoo, Teconnaught

Set Dancing

Kilcoo

Quiz

Bredagh, Drumanness

South Down Final Results:

Ceili Dancing

Cumann Peadar Naofa, Clonduff, Saval

Solo Singing

Saval (Emma Lennon), Rostrevor (James Brennan)

Instrumental Music

Glenn, Tullylish

Recitation

Glenn (Declan Mc Conaghy), Atticall (Claire Mc Cartan)

Ballad Group

Rostrevor, Newry Shamrocks

Novelty Act

Saval, Atticall

Set Dancing

Clonduff, Cumann Peadar Naofa

Quiz

Mayobridge, Clonduff

The Abbey Grammar School in Newry was the venue for the Final of the Down Scór Sinsir on Sunday past (26th).

Céili Dancing was the first full competition to get under way and Cumann Peadar Naofa came away as County Champions and were presented the INF Hilltown Shield by County Chairman Seamus Walsh.

Ulster's Scór Chairman Michéal Ó Grianáin and Secretary Fergus Mag Aoidh were in attendance and were duly impressed with the standard of competition that County Down had to offer. The second competition of the evening witnessed Emma Lennon (Saval) win the Solo Singing title and with it the Peter Maginn Shield with her rendition of Always remember.

The Instrumental Music title was lifted by Glenn and they collected their County title and the Peter Keenan Memorial Shield from Down County Vice Chairman William Smith. County Chairman Seamus Walsh was again on hand to present more trophies and medals as Aileen Mc Loughlin Kilcoo was crowned 2012 Down Scór Sinsir Champion in the Recitation category taking with her

the Brain and Josie Kennedy Shield. Down County Cultural Officer Póilín Bn Mhig Aoidh presented Rostrevor with the Gerard Catney Memorial Shield as they collected the Ballad Group title.

After the interval the crowd enjoyed some hilarious Novelty Acts but alas there was only one winner to be had and Kilcoo collected their second County title of the evening and lifted the Newry Shamrocks Shield as County Champions from Ryan Doyle. In the penultimate competition of the evening, three clubs battled it out to be Set Dancing Champions. The County Title and the Kearney Family Shield went to raining champions Clonduff.

Four very talented and knowledgeable Quiz teams took part in the Tráth na gCeist final, and Maistir na gCeist Brain McAvoy had a hard task finding a winner to lift the Martin Goss Shield, however Mayo-bridge came out on top and go forward to represent Down at Ulster level in two weeks time.

Down champions will be competing in the Ulster semi final against Antrim and Derry County Champions in Parish centre Banbridge on Saturday 10th March starting at 7.30pm.

FUNDRAISING

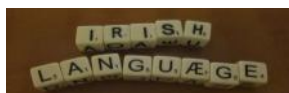
Beidh Coiste Chontae an Dúin ag bailiú airgid ag an chluiche sraithe idir An Dún agus Baile Átha Cliath ar an Domhnach 18ú Márta in Iúr Cinn Trá. Beidh buicéidí ag bailiú airgid taobh amuigh de na seastáin i bPáirc Esler ar an lá, agus rachaidh an t-airgead ar son na scolaireachtaí Gaeltachta i measc imeachtaí chultúrtha eile.

On Sunday 18th March the Down County Chultúrtha committee have been giving a wonderful chance of collecting much needed funds for promotion of our language through a bucket collection in Paric Esler at the Down V Dublin National league game. I would encourage all Gaels to support us and any volunteers who wish to help on the day please contact me to make arrangements. 1 hour of your time would be very much appreciated.

An Ghaeilge - Irish Language

Guímid gach rath ar fhoireann Tráth na gCeist Brédach a bheas ag glacadh páirte sa Tráth na gCeist Gaeilge Náisiúnta ar lá Fhéile Phádraig i bPáirc an Chrócaigh. Ádh mór ar an fhoireann de Pól Ó Deoráin, Seán Ó Duibheannaigh, Michéal Ó Flannagáin agus Donnacha Ó hAnranáin.

Best wishes to Bredagh who will compete in the All Ireland Final of Tráth na gCeist Bord. The final will be held in Croke Park on St Patrick's day. Good Luck to Paul Doran, John Devaney, Michael Flannagan, and Donnacha Hanrahan.



Gaeltacht Scholarships

Beidh Coiste Chontae an Dúin ag ofráil Scolaireachtaí Gaeltachta arís i mbliana do dhaltai scoile atá ag freastal ar Choláiste Gaeltachta sa Samhradh. Cuirfear na foirmeacha ar fáil ag tús Mí Aibreáin ag is é an dáta dhruidim ná 30ú Aibreáin. Is féidir leat an fhoirm a ioslodáil ó shuíomh an Dúin n ó ceann a fháil ó Rúnaí do chlub. Ní mór duit a bheith i do bhall den CLG chun scolaireacht a fháil. Cuirfear na daltaí tríd agallamh ghairid i Mí Bealtaine agus bronnfar na Scolaireachtaí ag tús Mí Meithimh.

The Down County board will be awarding scholarships to children attending summer school in Donegal this sum-



mer. The scholarship will be made available to all club members who wish to apply. All applicants must be GAA members. The application forms will be made available through the Down GAA website and club secretaries at the end of March, Interview process will take place in the Down County office in April, with successful applicants will be awarded their scholarships at the beginning of June.

Further Information
on Scór, Culture and Irish
please contact:

Irish and Cultural Officer
Paula Magee
irishcultur-
alofficer.down@gaa.ie

Role of an Oifigeach Caidreamh Poiblí Public Relations Officer (PRO)

Communications is one of the most important activities in the Association. The success of all units depends to some degree on the national and local image of the Association. Everyone in the GAA who has a role in their Club, no matter how small, has a part to play in effective communication.

There is always a need for a proper flow of information in the Club so that everyone understands how the Club operates.

The main function of the Club PRO is to communicate with the general public on behalf of the Club, presenting a positive image of the Club and Cumann Lúthchleas Gael in the local community and beyond. Therefore, the PRO holds one of the most important officer positions in the Club.

Remember:

1. Public Relations is the practice of managing the flow of information between the Club and the public.
2. No longer is it good enough for a Club to do good work:



- people must be told about it!
3. The biggest mistake that a PRO can make is to assume that people know!

Main Duties:

The main duties of the PRO are summarised as follows:

- Work as part of a team along with the other Club officers, team mentors and the various sub committees in the Club
- Promote the Club to the local community and beyond using all available methods of communication
- Provide team lists, match results and all relevant information to the County PRO on time
- Keep records for historical purposes
- Make sure the Club is well presented

As outlined, the PRO plays a major role in promoting the Club to the local community

and projecting a positive image of the Club. This is a key role, because encouraging new volunteers, successful fundraising etc., depends on the Club having a good image in the locality. It is important to note that a Club does not have to be winning championships every year to be seen as an 'active' Club.

There are many examples of positive stories in the Club including:

- Anniversary of past glories
- Fundraising success
- Club social nights
- Pitch and clubhouse development
- Juvenile blitzes in the Club
- County player visiting the Club
- Club player making a county panel

Further Information please contact:

Public Relations Officer
Paul Rooney
pro.down@gaa.ie

Down GAA Club Draw

February Winners

- 1st £2,000
Kieran Rice (Warrenpoint)
2nd £1,000
Paul McGiver (Annaclone
(Clann na Banna)
3rd £1,000 Gene Fitzpatrick
(Clann na Banna)
4th £1,000 St Micheals (St
Michaels GAC)

Clubs Draw

- £200 Ballycran (Ballycran
GAC)
£200 Burren (Colum, Niamh
& Ronan McGrath
£200 St Pauls (Ryan Tumelty)
£200 Kilclief (MJ & RA
Conway)

Payments

Over £170,000 has already been paid to clubs and more to follow in the months ahead. All Payments to Clubs for the first two months are been paid directly into all Club Nominated Bank Accounts and this should be a welcome boost to all our Clubs at the start of the playing Season.

Monthly payments will be made again on 26th March and on the 26th of each month thereafter.

If your Club would like to host the Club Draw at a function in your Club then contact the County Office to book a suitable date.

Upcoming Down GAA Ulster Fixtures

Ulster Senior Football Championship

Sun 3rd June
(b) 4. Fear Manach v 5. An
Dún at Brewster Park
(3.30pm) (Replay 9th June)

Sun 24th June
First Semi Final: (b) v (c)
(Replay 8th July) (2.00pm)

Sun 22nd July
Senior Football Final (2.00pm)
*Live on TV3 & BBC
(Replay 29th July)

Ulster Minor Football Championship

Sun 3rd June
(b) 4. Fear Manach v 5. An
Dún at Brewster Park
(Replay 9th June)

Sun 24th June
First Semi Final: (b) v (c)
(Replay 8th July)

Sun 22nd July
Minor Football Final (Replay
29th July)

Ulster Senior Hurling Championship

1st July Semi Final: (b) 3. An
Dún v (a) Ard Mhacha / Doire
8th July Final: Antrim v (b)

Ulster Minor Hurling Championship

TBC Quarter Final: (b) 3. An
Dún v 4. Dún na nGall

1st July Semi Final (c) An
Dún/Dún na nGall v
(a) Ard Mhacha / Doire

8th July Final: Antrim v (c)

Cadbury's Under 21 Foot- ball Championship

8.00p.m 21st March:
Quarter Finals: (d) 8. An Dún
v 9. Aontroim at Pairc Esler

4th April:
Semi Finals: (b) v (c); (d) v
(e):

11th April: Final: (Replay 18th
April)

Under 21 Hurling Championship

18th July (Wed) Semi Finals:
b) Down v Derry

25th July (Wed) Final:

Minor Hurling League (All games at 12.00 p.m.)

Sat 10th March Roinn 1:
Armagh v Down at Morgan
Athletic Grounds

Sat 17th March Roinn 2:
Down v Antrim at Pairc Esler

Sat 24th March Roinn 3:
Donegal v Down (Letterkenny)

Sat 31st March: Down Bye

Sat 7th April:
Down v Derry at Pairc Esler

Sat 14th April Division 1 Final

Minor Football League

(All games at 12.00 p.m, un-
less otherwise stated)
24th March (Sat) Roinn 2
Monaghan v Down at Clones
(2.00pm)

31st March (Sat) Roinn 3
Down v Cavan at Pairc Esler

7th April (Sat) Roinn 4
Armagh v Down at Morgan
Athletic Grounds (2.00pm)

21st April (Sat) Semi
Finals in Both League &
Shield (Extra time to be
played if required)

28th April (Sat) Finals in
Both League & Shield (Extra
time to be played if required)

www.downgaa.net

CLG An Duin



An Dún

www.downgaa.net

DOWN GAA

County Management Committee 2012 Contact Information

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chairperson.down@gaa.ie

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chairman.southdown.
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HURLING CHAIRMAN:
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chairman.hurling.down@gaa.ie

@ Down GAA 2012
Edited and produced by
Diarmuid Cahill
Sean Og McAteer

Business Tagline or Motto

Using Social Media

The guidelines —when using social media personally

As a member, player or official of the GAA, you are not always speaking for the Association when you're on social media. The GAA respects your right to use these media platforms in a personal capacity, but we would ask that you remember the implications of referring to the GAA when you do.

Recognise when the GAA might be held responsible for your behaviour online, and follow these principles when you are using social media channels as a private individual.

1. Adhere to the GAA's Official Guide and Club Constitution, as well as other applicable documents. All GAA members are subject to the GAA Code of Behaviour when online, even when they are not acting on behalf of the GAA.
2. You are responsible for your actions but remember that those actions may have consequences for the GAA. You have a responsibility when using social media platforms to not do anything online that

might tarnish the GAA's image and reputation or bring the Association into disrepute.

3. Look out for compliments and criticism. Even if you're not online as a spokesperson for the GAA, if you spot positive or negative remarks about the GAA that look important, forward them to your local PRO.
4. Leave it to the experts. If you see negative posts about the GAA, or see non-members trying to spark a negative conversation, avoid the temptation to react, unless you are an official GAA spokesperson. Again, forward the post to your local PRO to address such com-

ments.

5. Do not mix your official GAA role with your personal life online. Not everyone will be able to make the distinction between the two. While the GAA respects Freedom of speech, remember that all online users can see everything you post. Use your judgement and common sense.
6. Never disclose non-public information regarding the GAA, including confidential information.
7. Remember that it may cause conflict if you take a position online that is counter to the GAA's interests, policies and regulations.

Social Media	Social media is content created and shared by individuals on the web using freely available websites that allow users to create and post their own images, video and text information and then share that with either the entire internet or just a select group of friends.	Facebook	A social utility / website that connects people with friends and others who work, study and live around them.
Social Network	The grouping of individuals into specific groups, like small rural communities or a GAA Club. It is most popular online as some form of website where individuals are connected by one or more specific types of interdependency, such as friendship, common interest, dislikes or relationships. Examples of social networks include Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn.	Twitter	A social networking and microblogging service that allows you to send short text messages 140 characters in length, called "tweets", to your friends, or "followers."
Digital Media	Online and electronic communication channels beyond social media including e-zines / online newsletters, banner advertising, search engines, online directories and mobile communications.	Google Plus	Google+ does many of the same general things as Facebook but the big difference is that with Google+ you can choose who you want to share things with. Often you don't want to share everything with everyone. Google+ allows you to choose which people you want in what Circle. You then use those Circles for all of your Google+ activity.
Moderation	The act of reviewing, approving and editing online content to ensure it conforms to guideline standards.	LinkedIn	A professional network connecting users to their contacts. It helps you exchange knowledge, ideas, and opportunities with a broader network of professionals.
		Spammer	People who illegally post commercial or inappropriate content.
		Troll	Someone who, without a valid reason, adds disruptive or offensive posts or content to a forum.

GAA Property Insurance

The GAA Property insurance has performed poorly over the past 2 years where losses paid by Insurers are in excess of €4million against a premium paid of €2million. Against this background renewal was extremely difficult to secure this year without premium increase and increase in policy excess.

The majority of losses over the past 2 years arose from burst pipes/escape of water with many units failing to take adequate precautions to protect their property during adverse weather and/or periods of unoccupancy such as the closed winter season.

The excess in respect of losses arising from burst pipes/escape of water has increased as follows;

- Excess for first burst pipes/escape of water loss is increased from €4,000 to €15,000
- Excess for units who have had a burst pipe/escape of water claim since Jan 2010 is increased from €4,000 to €25,000

In recognition of the hardship this increase in excess will place on clubs and affiliated units Central Council has made funding available for units who suffer a first loss to offset the increase in excess.

Where an affiliated unit puts in the place insurers recommended freeze prevention guidelines



and/or best practice weather risk management procedure as attached and can produce evidence to document these controls were put in place Central Council will fund €11,000 towards the increased excess in respect of burst pipes / escape of water and the excess to the club will remain at €4000.

Units who do not take precautions to protect their properties will incur the increased excess of €15,000.

The excess in respect of all other losses remains unchanged at €4,000 all losses increased to €25,000 in respect of flood losses.