

*Cumann Lúthchleas Gael*



# Coiste Thír Eoghain

## An Chomhdháil Bhliantúil 2008



Dé Mairt, 16 Nollaig 2008

## • ORDUITHE SEASAIMH DON CHOMHDHÁIL •

### *(Standing Orders For Convention)*

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

1. The Proposer of a Resolution or of an Amendment thereto may speak for five minutes, but not more than five minutes.
2. A Delegate speaking to a Resolution or an Amendment must not exceed three minutes.
3. The Proposer of a Resolution or of an Amendment may speak a second time for three minutes before a vote is taken, but no other Delegate may speak a second time to the same Resolution or Amendment.
4. The Chairman 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.
5. A Delegate may, with the consent of the Chairman, move 'that the question be now put', after which, when the Proposer has spoken, a vote must be taken.
6. Standing Orders shall not be suspended for the purpose of considering any matter not on the Clár, except by the consent of a majority equal to two-thirds of those present and voting.



Tyrone Senior Team - All-Ireland Champions 2008



• **CUMANN LÚTHCHLEAS GAEL** •  
*Coiste Thír Eoghain*

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**A Chara**

Tionólfár an Chomhdháil Bhliantúil de Chumann Lúthchleas Gael, Contae Thír Eoghain san Mhaigh (Cumann Tír na nÓg) ar an Máirt 16ú Nollaig 2008 ag tosnu ar 7.30 i.n.

Mise, le fíor-mheas

Damhnaic Mac Eochaidh

Rúnaí

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• **CLÁR** •

1. Amhrán na bhFiann.
2. Miontuairiscí na Chomhdhála deireadh (2007).
3. Ag éirí as na miontuairiscí.
4. Glacadh de hOrduithe Seasaimh.
5. Tuarascála na bPáirceanna - An Omaigh  
Oileán a'Ghuail  
Dún Geanainn
6. Tuarascáil an Rúnaí.
7. Tuarascála na Fo-Choisti.
8. An Cuntas Airgeadais.
9. Oráid an Chathaoirligh.
10. Na Rúin.
11. Toghchán an Choiste don bhliain 2009.
12. Dúnadh na Chomhdhála.





## • Miontuairiscí na Chomhdhála 2007 •

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1.0  
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An Chomhdháil Bhliantúil de Chumann Lúthchleas Gael, Contae Thír Eoghain took place in St Eugene's Parish Hall Newtownstewart on Tuesday 11th December 2007.

Pádraig Ó Dorchai (Cathaoirleach) presided with the following attendance:

Cuthbert Ó Donnaile, Dónal Mag Aoidh, Séamas Mac Domhnaill, Micheál Ó hAirmhí, Micheál Mac Gualraic, Diarmaid Mac Eochaidh, Liam Mac Niallais, Micheál Mac Eochaidh, Toirealach Mac Cana, Breandán Ó hEarcáin, Ciarán Mac Lochlainn, and Damhnaic Mac Eochaidh.

Apologies were noted from: John O'Hagan and Noel McGeary.

Club	Co. Committee Member	Delegate(s)
Achadh Lú	Mickey Muldoon	Shane McGee Joseph McCaughey
Achadh Uí Arain	Liam Lynch (proxy)	Patrick McSorley Patrick McSorley
Ard Bó	Kevin Teague	Hugh Joe Quinn Kieran Devlin
Eochar	Bernie McGirr (proxy)	Aloysius Hackett Brian McCaughey
Bearach	Pat McCartan	Barry Conroy Micheál Mac Cana
Bruach Áille	Sean Quinn (proxy)	Paddy Gervain Stephen McHugh
Brocach		Ciaran McCloskey Martin O'Neill
An Charraig Mhór	Sean Daly	Art McCallan Christina McElduff
Caisleán na Deirge	John Harper	Aiden Rushe Declan Devine
Clann na nGael	James O'Neill	Adrian Conway Mary Dooher
Clochiar	Sean McElroy	Seán Mac Eochaidh Louise McKenna
Cluain Eo	Joe McCabe	Mel Taggart Seamus Ó Treasaigh
Oileán a'Ghuail	Shane Dorrity	Gerard McStravick Oliver Corr
An Corra Chríochach	Adrian Scullin	Damian Harvey Adrian Gilmore
Doire Lochain	Joey McLernon	Aidan O'Hagan
Doire Treasc	Packie O'Neill	Brian Hughes Eamon O'Hagan
Domhnach Mór Deargais	Patsy Hetherington	Pauric Gallagher Brian O'Kane Tom O'Kane
An Droim Mór	Liam O'Neill	Seamus McNabb Paul McCaffrey
Droim Caoin	Seamus McGale	John O'Kane
Droim Ratha	Patrick Mullin (R.I.P.)	Michelle Cox
Dún Geanainn	Paul Doris	Oliver McHugh John Gill
Eadán na dTorc	Aidan Currie	Brendan Currie Peter O'Connor
Eaglais	Cathal Daly	Kieran McVeigh Sean Donaghy
E. R. Uí Néill	Joe Hegarty	Sarah-Jane Kelly Gerry Casey





Club	Co. Committee Member	Delegate(s)
Aireagal Chiaráin	Sean McKenna	Gerry McCann E Lynch
Eiscealach	Joe Marlow	Seamus Arkinson
Fionntamhnach		Alan Richardson Eamon McCann
Gallbhaile		Joe Cassidy
Gleann Eallaigh	Eunan Lindsay	Kellie McGaughey
Goirtín	Gabriel Treanor	Gerard Bradley Ciaran Kelly
An Caisleán Glas		Pat Clarke Martin McDermott
Cill Dreasa	Kieran Kelly	Mark Conway Barry Loughran
Cill Iseal	Milo Skeffington	Gerard Donaghy Dominic Donaghy
Coill an Chlochair	Donal Magee	John Coney A Connolly
Cill na mBán		
Loch Mhic Ruairí	Sabrina Kelly (proxy)	Martin Donaghy Sean Donaghy
Baile na Móna		Paul Quinn Conan Lavery
An Mhaigh		Colin Mackle Frankie Duffy
An Baile Nua	Aidan Maguire	Róisín Falconer Maureen McSorley
An Omaigh	Gerry McNamee	Seamus Hannigan Oliver O'Neill
Cabhán a'Chaortainn	Sean Hurson	John McNamee Jane Woods
An Charraig	Dominic Murphy	Darren Mullan Stephen Kolbohm
An Chraobh	Declan Laverty	Sean Gallagher
An Srath Ban	Aodhán Ó hEarcáin	Róisín McGillian Teresina Bonner
An Taite Riabhach	Gerry McGinn	Sean Darcy Mairtín Mac Artáin
Trí Leac	Martin McGrade	Patsy McCaughey Laurence Connolly
Urnaí	Pat Holland	Ryan O'Neill Gerard McGill
An Charraig Mhór (H)		Colm Grogan Peter Kerr
Dún Geanainn (H)		Tomás Colton Ciaran Coyle
Naomh Colmcille (H)		Joe O'Neill Seoirse Ó Bróin
Na Seamroga (H)	Tony Fawl	Paul Doherty Gary McGettigan
Gaeil Chameoghain (H)		Owen Roe O'Neill
Coiste na Liathróid Laimhe		

## 2.0

### • Amhrán na bhFiann •

Played by Brian McColgan, Aidrian Maguire and Brendan Kearney

### • Fáilte •

## 3.0

Words of welcome were extended to the Convention by Newtown Stewart Club President and Parish Priest, Fr S Kearney. He also referred to St Eugene and to the historical links between the Church and the GAA. A vote of thanks to Fr Kearney was proposed on behalf of Convention by P McCartan.





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**4.0**

The Minutes of the 2006 Convention were adopted on the proposal of J Marlow and seconded by K Devlin.

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**5.0****• Standing Orders •**

On the proposal of A Harkin, Standing Orders were adopted, and were seconded by M Cartin.

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**6.0****• County Grounds' Accounts and Balance Sheets •**

- 6.1 The Treasurer presented the Accounts for Healy Park Omagh; these indicated a total income of £32427 and an expenditure of £37056 providing a deficit of £4628 for the year.
- 6.2 The Accounts as presented for O'Neill Park Dungannon indicated an income of £3570 with an expenditure of £7235.
- 6.3 No Accounts were provided for Fr Campbell Park Coalisland.
- 6.4 Both sets of Accounts were adopted on the proposal of P O'Neill, seconded by A Scullin.
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**7.0****• Secretary's Report •**

- 7.1 J Treacy welcomed the comments made by the Secretary in his Report that referred to starting the County's adult leagues at a much earlier stage; he said there was a great appetite among Clubs for games at the start of the year and he hoped that the incoming CCC would consider the worthiness of an early commencement to the leagues.
- 7.2 Dermot McCaughey expressed total agreement with the notion of starting the adult leagues within the county as early as February; he said that many managers felt compelled to enter teams in the Ulster League where matches were often non-competitive and simply brought significant additional costs to a Club, with extensive travel and meal costs being incurred.
- 7.3 Speaking on the comments made by the County Secretary regarding Club hurling, G Byrne agreed that the fixtures programme within the county was a shambles with games being disrupted to accommodate others in the Armagh league; while he did not think there was evidence of harm to players' welfare, he suggested that the Armagh league should now be discontinued, particularly with the availability of a successful Ulster league.
- 7.4 P Doris was highly critical of the hurling Clubs within the county for their failure to promote the game, and sometimes their failure to participate in games. Evidence of major problems had been highlighted by the Secretary in his Report, by the Referees' Committee in its Report and by the Hurling Development Report, all included in the Convention booklet. He also pointed out that Clubs did not attend meetings as required and the malaise associated with the senior county team had now spread to the minor county team. He concluded by asking that a committee be set up to examine if the Clubs have failed hurling or has the County failed hurling.





- 7.5 T Colton agreed with the comment of the Secretary that some senior county players seemed to regard inter-county fixtures as social occasions; he also stated that many players had expressed concerns about the management of the senior team, and he thought that it could not be right that some players had been selected for the county team who were unable to secure a place on their club team.
- 7.6 On the Alcohol and Substance Abuse Programme (ASAP), C Donnelly thanked the 23 Clubs that attended the County Launch last week; he appealed to all Clubs to ensure that their nominations of ASAP Officers were notified to the County Office, as a matter of urgency.
- 7.7 Arising from the PR/Marketing Report, J Treacy took the opportunity to thank M Conway, who had resigned as secretary of the PR/Marketing sub-committee the previous week, for his enormous contribution to the successful work of the sub-committee. The Cathaoirleach concurred with this expression of gratitude to M Conway.
- 7.8 Outgoing PRO, B Harkin highlighted the difficulties in publishing a Handbook in 2007; in the early part of the year, the booklet could be produced in a couple of weeks if the information such as names of referees, and all fixtures were readily available.
- 7.9 P Darcy led tributes to three officers who were leaving their positions due to the implementation of the five-year rule: Coaching and Games Development Officer – Terry McCann, Development Officer – Dermot McCaughey, and PRO - Brendan Harkin; all three men being sincerely thanked for their excellent contributions to the Association within the county.
- 7.10 The Secretary's Report and the Sub-committee Reports were adopted on the proposal of A Gilmore and seconded by T Fawl.
- 7.11 P Doris offered congratulations to the Secretary on the compilation of the Report to Convention.

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## 8.0

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## • Treasurer's Report •

- 8.1 P McCartan complimented the Cisteoir on having the County's Accounts completed and issued to all Clubs one week prior to Convention.
- 8.2 M Harvey suggested that since delegates were in possession of the Accounts for a period of a week, there should not be a need for detailed explanation of their format. He then went on to provide detail in relation to queries raised.
- 8.3 He explained a loss of £10,000 on football Summer Camps and an unacceptable loss of £30,000 on the hurling Summer Camps. It was agreed that surplus gear could be exported Malawi.
- 8.4 Other expenses incurred by County teams in the amount of £24,000 included hire of grounds and facilities, 'bonding weekends' and membership of Leisure Centres.



- 8.5 Total income for the year amounted to £1,393,375 and the total expenditure was £1,118,910. The retained surplus for the year was £269,774 with net assets increasing to £2,165,239.
- 8.6 The Treasurer's Report was adopted on the proposal of A O'Neill seconded by P McCartan. A O'Neill expressed appreciation and thanks to the Treasurer and the Assistant Treasurer for all of the work and time that had been devoted to financial matters during the year.
- 8.7 P Doris thought that it was a credit to the people in Tyrone who had fund-raised to develop Healy Park, with the Accounts showing that only a retention fee of £42,000 remained outstanding.
- 8.8 In conclusion the Cisteoir, M Harvey requested that Club Tyrone should raise £500,000 pa and 'ring-fence' it for the new County Headquarters – a project that will cost £5 – 6 million. He expressed his gratitude to a number of individuals and sub-committees for their support towards his position and work during the year; particular gratitude was extended to the Finance Sub-Committee, the County Committee, the Accountants and the Assistant Treasurer, S McDonald for their assistance and advice.

## 9.0

### • Oraid an Chathaoirligh •

A common perception of the GAA is based on a picture of Croke Park filled to capacity on All Ireland championship occasions. A state of the art stadium, big crowds, media exposure, sponsorship, money and wealth.

The seductiveness of this picture is not lost on those who embrace a corporate ethos to maximise revenue. Neither is it lost on the players who feel they should be rewarded for their contribution. But pictures can be illusory. The Belgian surrealist Rene Magritte painted a series of pipes and entitled the series 'Ceci n'est pas une pipe' which means "This is not a pipe". Peter et al (1982) made a similar observation when looking at organisation he concluded "a picture of a thing is not a thing".

Gaels will know that Croke Park is not a real picture of the GAA. It is a magnificent facility owned by the GAA and run as a limited company. It is our national headquarters and an excellent shop window to promote our games but it also hosts events which have little to do with the GAA.

Member of the GAA know it takes much more than this to keep all aspects of the association vibrant and responsive to our games, culture and community. The problem for our members is the reality of being confused by an illusory picture. There is uncertainty and soul searching among members. There are views whereby the GAA is talked of in terms of corporate activity, elitism, modernism, traditionalism and grassroots. Reference is made to a chasm in the GAA with a gap between Croke Park and clubs. We also have the GPA and a proposed new GVA (Gaelic Volunteers Association). Where once there was unity we now see disunity. Implied in all of this is the notion of a "them" and "us" in the GAA.

Where and how did we arrive here?

The problem facing the GAA is of its own making. Recent decade has seen a resolution of problems based on compromise rather than adherence to values. We now need to reflect on our history and revisit the values which built the GAA into one of the greatest amateur movements of





our time. It has never been more timely to do so. Our history defines us. We know where we come from, we know who we are.

We need look no further than our clubs. Tonight we are in An Baile Nua as part of their centenary celebration. Several other clubs in Tyrone have clocked 100 years and many more are approaching the milestone.

Most of the clubs have compiled excellent histories. When we study club histories what do we see? We see a hundred years of effort in promoting Gaelic games and Irish culture, which have enriched the lives of Gaels in the parishes and communities. We see the legacy left to current generations by the labours of past generations. We see a long journey from humble beginnings to modern GAA clubs. A journey involving thousands of individuals, thousands of stories and thousand of memories to cherish. From great grandparents to grandchildren the torch was passed from generation to generation, each one leaving it in better shape. We see it in clubs across our county – from the shores of Lough Neagh to the foothills of the Sperrins, from the river Derg to the Blackwater and all places in between.

Our club journey was not an easy one. As a people they struggled through the most turbulent century mankind has experienced, including wars, civil unrest, recessions, unemployment, poverty and emigration. And what have they left us? Clubs with pride in their achievements, vibrant membership, strong volunteer base, and facilities second to none, all built from voluntary effort. This did not happen by chance. Each generation had men and women with a love of Gaelic games and Irish culture. This was their core value but other values stand out - Love of family, community ethos, volunteerism, self sufficiency, team work, loyalty, sacrifice, sense of identity, enjoyment from participation, looking after their own, lasting friendships, fair play, justice, respect for opponents and pride in the club.

There are other values which reveal the depth of the GAA. During the year we tragically lost two of our youth playing Gaelic footballers. Packie Breen from Micheal Cusacks and Patrick Devlin Ardboe. Those of you who attended their wakes and funerals would have been impressed by the support given to the bereaved families by the Micheal Cusacks, Dregish, Drumquin and Ardboe Clubs.

Leaders at all levels in the GAA must assert these values. I appeal to the wider CLCG family to uphold the values of amateurism, volunteerism, and sacrifice. These values underpin our strategic plan for developing the GAA in Tyrone over the next 5 years. I commend it to you.

Reflecting on history is one thing, learning lessons is something else. The GAA faces challenges from multi culturism, materialism, rural decline and the relentless march of urbanisation. The GAA is at its strongest in rural areas but it has much to offer urban communities. We were dismayed to learn of an urban community where many children did not attend school and children as young as six years old talked of committing violent acts. The values of the GAA have much to offer society. The GAA needs to invest in these communities with more Gaelic pitches, coaching and the formation of new clubs at youth level. Existing urban clubs should be supported to reach out to deprived communities in their catchment area.

Reflecting on club histories one cannot but be touched by the impact of emigration. Many emigrants took our games abroad and formed new clubs all over the world. It is to our eternal shame we did not embrace our emigrants by promoting meaningful international competitions in Gaelic Games. We offered All-Star Junket trips and compromise International Rules to people who never compromised their Gaelic roots. We need to promote Gaelic games worldwide through our clubs. Many emigrants maintain contact with their club roots and clubs host overseas units and vice versa. To facilitate this Croke Park must loosen its strings and grant more independence and autonomy to overseas units to promote Gaelic games for indigenous populations.



Clubs (schools and colleges) are in the forefront promoting Gaelic games but they have become marginalised. Instead of being at the heart of the association they are on the bottom rung. Club fixtures are compromised to a plethora of fixtures committees at national, provincial and county level. There are seventy-four fixtures bodies for men and women's Gaelic football, all following their own agenda. Club championships are second to county teams. Successful clubs have to play in provincial championships out of season during inclement weather. These club players have no closed season – then prepare and play from January to January.

I attended this year's Ulster Club Junior final between Rock and Aughnamulllen, on a grey end of November day. It was a delight to see the ardent supporters with their flags, banners and mascots. One club even brought their own pipe band to entertain the crowd and play Amhran na bhfiann. I witnessed more pride and passion in Clones than I experienced in Croke Park at this year's All Ireland football and hurling finals.

Fixtures congestion is at its most extreme when fixtures clash. Last year the Carrickmore club were scheduled to play three fixtures on the same day at the same time at the behest of three different fixtures committees involving hurling, ladies football and adult football. This year it was Errigal Ciaran and Galbally who had a clash. You can imagine the dilemma for families torn between watching a daughter or granddaughter, son or grandson. One of the GAA's values is a family ethos. This is neither family friendly or club friendly. If integration is to mean anything then it should be at fixtures level. The GAA needs to realise that the Rocks, Aughamullens, Carrickmores, Errigals and Galballys are as important to the association as the Kerry's and the Kilkenny's.

Croke Park has produced a master fixtures plan and a discussion paper on fixtures. A club forum is planned for next year. I attended the last club forum in Killarney. The problem was clubs were talking but no one was listening. We have to accept, no amount of tinkering with the fixtures status quo will improve the lot of club players. We need a seismic shift in our thinking to create a level playing field between club and county players. Club and inter-county championship should have parity of esteem.

We must enforce a championship-playing season from May to September during which all championship competitions are completed. Club and county cheek by jowl, we must do this! We can do this! If it means county players playing championship football for their club and county on alternate weekends, so be it. If it requires a single authoritative committee for enforcement, so be it. If it means provincial and county committees relaxing their role in championship fixtures scheduling, so be it. Whatever we do, we must stop treating club players as second-class footballers and hurlers.

There is a saying, 'You reap what you sow.' The GAA's failure to govern against a back cloth of core values and evolving context, leads us into cul de sacs where we have to compromise a way out. Grants are the latest compromise. We need to lead not be pushed. In the process we compromise our values and marginalise our clubs on the altar of populist perception, minority pressure groups and a media telling us what to do. It is the proverbial tail wagging the tail. It is no surprise a gap has developed between the generals and the foot soldiers.

However, all is not gloom and doom. There is a road forward we can all travel in unity. We need to renew and recommit to the values that informed the people who built our foundations. We need to revisit our history and learn lessons.

We are a relatively young association that has come a long way quickly. We are still evolving both nationally and internationally. The lesson we learn is that clubs are our foundation. Clubs are the gatekeepers to our vast membership and volunteer base. They produce our shop window in local parishes and communities. They promote our games, culture and build our infrastructure.



Everyone in the GAA from Uachtaran to tea lady starts with the club. There are no them and us. Clubs are the jewels in the GAA crown. We need to grow new clubs in urban areas. We must stop patronising clubs and reduce the burden on volunteers from growing bureaucracies at national and provincial level. We must re-balance the position of club and county to create a level playing field in terms of fixtures and player welfare.

The clubs' role as a representative body must be facilitated and strengthened within our governance and communication. We must consult our clubs on important issues and listen to their views. Motions from the club clar to congress clar must be facilitated not obstructed or binned. Communication pathways must be member friendly and club centred. In essence this will require a major shift in our governance and structures to create a club centred association. The clubs day has come. We need to begin a process which will lead to the club becoming a more dominant unit. This will take time but it is inevitable if the association is to grow into the future.

If we reassert our core values, update our rules and reposition our clubs, the GAA can go places it has not gone before. If we have the confidence and risk taking courage to drive this reality then the GAA'S future will be secured.

#### POSTSCRIPT

The Tyrone County Committee posed rational questions about the GPA earlier this year. In place of answers we were shouted down by a vitriolic and personal diatribe from the GPA.

Furthermore they connived a split between the county committee and our hurlers and footballers. The Mayo County Committee is now receiving the same treatment. The tactic seems to be create division, shoot the messenger and ignore the message.

In recent months, prominent GAA pundits who expressed a different view to the GPA were ridiculed in the most personal and derogatory terms imaginable. The latest group to come under the GPA cosh were several hundred life long Gaels who dared to meet in Antrim to question the grants issue. The GPA ridiculed them as a 'small rump of malcontents.'

Intimidation and intolerance is the GPA's cosh. Views and opinions which differ from their own are subjected to ridicule and confrontation. Freedom of speech is shouted down. Individuals and groups who hold different views are demonised. The message is if you disagree with us you'd better look out. County managers are called to meetings and told to keep their mouths shut.

There is a name for this – its called totalitarianism.

No association upholds the values of free speech and tolerance of others more than the GAA. Our association was founded because of a denial and intolerance of our Gaelic games and Irish culture. Against this background we should not give succour to people who have a problem with tolerance and free speech. The issue of players' welfare is a just and noble cause which is being tarnished by the GPA. I believe the GPA has become a divisive element within the GAA. This poses serious questions for both the GAA and GPA.



## • Motions •

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**10.0**  
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- 10.1.1 In proposing **Motion 1** on behalf of Pomeroy, M Harvey stated that its purpose was to reduce the number of Sanctioned players to the Canadian Board and to the NAB from a maximum of 24 to a maximum of 10. The penalty for breach of this section of the Rule by a Club would be to forfeit all Sanctions in the following year.
- 10.1.2 The motion was seconded by J McNamee.
- 10.1.3 **Decision: Motion was passed.**
- 10.2.1 **Motion 2** was proposed by C Daly on behalf of Eglis.
- 10.2.2 The motion was seconded by S Donaghy.
- 10.2.3 D McCaughey queried the intention of the motion as it conflicted, in part, with the 2007 O.G. version of Rule 43.
- 10.2.4 P McCartan spoke against the motion stating that it was out of order, as Rule 43 was amended at Congress 2007, but the Official Guide had not been updated.
- 10.2.5 C Daly then withdrew the motion due to the confusion with dates.
- 10.2.6 **Decision: Motion was withdrawn.**
- 10.3.1 On behalf of Beragh, P McCartan proposed Motion 3 stating that it did not seem right that a Special Congress with reduced representation, should be able to change decisions taken at a full Congress earlier in the year.
- 10.3.2 The motion was seconded by G Bradley.
- 10.3.3 **Decision: Motion was passed unanimously.**
- 10.4.1 In proposing **Motion 4**, B Harkin stated that any person who is employed in a fulltime position by the Association should be eligible to take on a role in a voluntary capacity, just as a person in any other fulltime employment outside of the Association could do. He recognized that the modern-day Association had a need for fulltime paid employees but there were concerns about the future; initially, many people were seconded to specific positions, and now they are running the Association.
- 10.4.2 The motion was seconded by J Coney.
- 10.4.3 P McCartan and G Bradley queried the purpose of the motion.
- 10.4.4 In conclusion B Harkin said that this was a motion which needed to be brought to Annual Congress.
- 10.4.5 **Decision: Motion was passed.**
- 10.5.1 **Motion 5** as proposed by J Treacy, on behalf of Clonoe, was seeking to revert to the larger Management Committee that existed several years ago. Being the most powerful sub-committee in the county it would be preferable to have broader opinion involved in its decision-making.
- 10.5.2 The motion was seconded by S McCaughey on behalf of Clogher.
- 10.5.3 P Doris informed Convention that he was County Chairman when the present Bye-law came into existence, but he now disagreed with it; he thought that it would be wrong if our Bye-law did not allow the PRO to sit on the Management Committee.
- 10.5.4 **Decision: Motion was passed.**
- 10.6.1 On behalf of Strabane, C McLaughlin proposed Motion 6. Its purpose was to introduce bi-monthly meetings of the CCC which would allow fixtures to be reviewed on a regular basis, and where the views of Clubs would be listened to.



- 10.6.2 The motion was seconded by A Harkin.
- 10.6.3 Speaking on the motion P McCartan wondered what the delegates would do when attending the CCC meetings.
- 10.6.4 M McCaughey opposed the motion on the basis that the County Committee would have its number of meetings reduced by half, being of the opinion that the more frequently it meets, the better.
- 10.6.5 **Decision: Motion was passed.**
- 10.7.1 **Motion 7** was proposed by C McLaughlin on behalf of Strabane, who suggested that a representative from the Referees' Administrative Sub-committee (RAC) was not necessary on the Coaching and Games Development Committee. The RAC properly looked after the coaching aspects of referees at its own level, and the current Bye-law was duplicating roles on two sub-committees.
- 10.7.2 The motion was seconded by A Harkin.
- 10.7.3 **Decision: Motion was passed.**
- 10.8.1 In proposing **Motion 8**, on behalf of Kildress, M Conway stated that he had previously held a different view on the Compromise Rules games, but he was entitled to change his mind.
- 10.8.2 The motion was seconded by D Magee.
- 10.8.3 **Decision: Motion was passed.**
- 10.9.1 **Motion 9** was proposed by M Conway on behalf of Kildress. He pointed out that the first lines of our Official Guide suggested that the Association has a presence in every corner of Ireland; that being so, then coverage of our games should be broadcast to every corner of Ireland by the Association. The national broadcaster RTE should recognize our games as the national games and ensure that they can be viewed in every corner of the country.
- 10.9.2 The motion was seconded by M Cartin.
- 10.9.3 **Decision: Motion was passed.**
- 10.10.1 M Conway proposed **Motion 10** on behalf of Kildress. He confirmed his opposition to any watering down of Rule 11 which relates to Amateur Status. He said that we put the Healy Park facilities in place and we paid for them; we should not now have to pay, or second removed pay people to go there and play our games. It was our intention to build a new County Headquarters and we would pay for it; again, we should not then have to pay people to go to it to play games.
- 10.10.2 In seconding the motion G Bradley wondered was the GPA grants issue decided 8 months ago by a unanimous decision. Now, if the Agreement between the GAA, the Government and the GPA was implemented, who was going to check on the players at training, who was going to pay the players' grants when the panel size exceeded 30, and, when the government decides to withdraw its funding who then will pay the grants to the players.
- 10.10.3 Speaking on the motion P McCartan thought it was a very broad motion which was dealing with more than just grants to county players and that it should mean that we are opposed to all payments to coaches, to managers and to players.
- 10.10.4 L Nelis spoke as one of the malcontents in attendance at the gathering in the Elk. He said that there should be no pay for play; players' welfare is important, but since his time as Chairman, players had been well-treated. The information on the Grants issue as presented at Ard Chomhairle should go out to every Club for their consideration.





- 10.10.5 P Gervin said that we shouldn't, on the one hand discuss opposition to payment of grants to players, and on the other pay managers in all of our clubs.
- 10.10.6 T Colton was of the opinion that there was a lot of hypocrisy among our Clubs; if a Club's manager is being paid then the Club's delegates here are guilty by association of breaching the amateur status.
- 10.10.7 In response to an earlier query, B Harkin provided clarification of the decision of Ard Chomhairle on 17th February when he pointed out that there was unanimous agreement that the Association should enter negotiations with the Government on the Grants' issue and report to a later meeting of Ard Chomhairle. This was what subsequently happened in November. He went on to say that we all have to take a stand on issues of importance, but in the end there is only one Association. This decision on Grants is only about us; there is no us and them.
- 10.10.8 In summarizing M Conway agreed with the previous contributor, that there is only one Association, but complained that we did not get a chance to discuss the matter of Grants.
- 10.10.9 **Decision: Motion was passed.**
- 10.11.1 **Motion 11** was proposed by M Conway on behalf of Kildress, who said that our County Committee decides whether a Tyrone team goes on the field – not any other group, large or small.
- 10.11.2 The motion was seconded by K Devlin.
- 10.11.3 Speaking against the motion, B Harkin thought that there was no need for it, and passing the motion would not mean anything, since there was an existing Rule in the Official Guide indicating a course of action when a player selected to represent his county would not play; while the sanction probably would not be applied, it was there. However, if a manager picked a player, and he didn't want to play for the team, then he would be left and another would be selected.
- 10.11.4 **Decision: Motion was passed.**
- 10.12.1 **Motion 12** was formally proposed by S McCaughey and seconded by S McElroy.
- 10.12.2 The Rúnaí informed the meeting that this motion had been passed at the 2006 Convention but when submitted as a Bye-law to Croke Park it had been rejected.
- 10.12.3 **Decision: It was agreed that the Motion be resubmitted to Croke Park as a Bye-law.**

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## 11.0

### • Recommendations •

- 11.1 All Recommendations were deferred to the first meeting of the County Committee in 2008.

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## 12.0

### • Election of Officers •

- 12.1 The Cathaoirleach declared all positions vacant.
- 12.2 Terry McCann and Dominic McCaughey were proposed and seconded as Chairman and Secretary for the election of the new Committee.
- 12.3 Voting Strength was established as 143.





## 12.4 Results of the Election were as follows:

<b>Cathaoirleach:</b>	Pádraig Ó Dorchai	(Unopposed)
<b>Leas-Cathaoirleach:</b>	Ciarán Mac Lochlainn	(Elected – 69 votes)
	Micheál Mac Gualraic	(Eliminated – 33 votes)
	Diarmaid Mac Eochaidh	(Eliminated – 31 votes)
<b>Rúnaí Cúnta:</b>	Micheál Mac Eochaidh	(Unopposed)
<b>Cisteoir:</b>	Micheál Ó hAirmhí	(Unopposed)
<b>Cisteoir Cúnta:</b>	Séamas Mac Domhnaill	(Unopposed)
<b>Ball Árd Chomhairle:</b>	Breandán Ó hEarcáin	(Unopposed)
<b>Baill Chomhairle Uladh:</b>	Cuthbert Ó Donnaile	(Unopposed)
	Liam Mac Niallais	(Unopposed)
<b>Oifigeach Forbartha:</b>	Cathal Ó Dálaigh	(1st Count – 62 votes) (2nd Count; Elected – 77 votes)
	Nollaig Mac Gadhra	(1st Count – 40 votes) (2nd Count: Eliminated – 62 votes)
	Eoghan Mac Chonaill	(1st Count: Eliminated – 33 votes)
<b>Oifigeach na nÓg:</b>	Ciarán Mac Aodha	(Unopposed)
<b>Oifigeach Cultur &amp; Teanga:</b>	Dónal Mag Aoidh	(Unopposed)
<b>Oifigeach Oilúna:</b>		(All nominees withdrew)
<b>Oifigeach Caidreamh Poiblí:</b>	Damán Ó hAirmhí	(Unopposed)

## 12.5 Club Representatives on County Committee

Michael Muldoon (Achadh Lú), Liam Lynch (Achadh Uí Aráin), Kevin Teague (Ard Bó), Bernie McGirr (An Eochar), Michael McCann (An Bearach), Sean Quinn (Bruach Áille), Sean Donnelly (An Brocach), Sean Daly (An Charraig Mhór), Aiden Rushe (Caisleán na Deirge), James O'Neill (Clann na nGael), Sean McElroy (An Clochar), Mel Taggart (Cluain Eo), Shane Dorrity (Oileán a'Ghuail), Adrian Scullin (An Chorra Chríochach), \_\_\_\_\_ (Doire Lochain), Packie O'Neill (Doire Treasc), Patsy Hetherington (Domhnach Mór), Liam Strain (Deargais), Liam O'Neill (An Droim Mhór), Seamus McGale (Droim Caoin), Paddy Mullan (An Droim Ratha), Paul Doris (Dún Geanainn), Aiden Currie (Éadán na dTorc), Cathal Daly (Eaglais), Gerry Casey (E. R. Uí Néill), Sean McKenna (Aireagal Chiaráin), Joe Marlow (Eisceach), \_\_\_\_\_ (Fionntamhnach), Joe Cassidy (An Gallbhaile), Eunan Lindsay (Gleann Eallaigh), Gabriel Treanor (An Goirtín), Perry McCrory (An Caisleán Glas), Kieran Kelly (Cill Dreasa), Milo Skeffington (Cill Íseal), Donal Magee (Coill an Chlochair), John O'Hagan (Cill na mBan), Seamus Mullan (Loch Mhic Ruairí), Paul Quinn (Baile na Móna), Peter Duffy (An Mhaigh), Aidan Maguire (An Baile Nua), Gerry McNamee (An Omaigh), Sean Hurson (Cabhán a'Chaortainn), Dominic Murphy (An Charraig), Aodhán Harkin (An Srath Ban), Gerard McGinn (An Taite Riabhach), \_\_\_\_\_ (Trí Leac), \_\_\_\_\_ (Urnaí), Tony Fawl (Na Seamroga), Declan Bennett (Éire Óg), George Byrne (Naomh Colmcille), Owen Roe O'Neill (Gaeil Chameoghain), \_\_\_\_\_ (Eoghan Ruadh).



## • Tuarascáil an Rúnaí •

Is iomaí sin bliain rathúil i stair Chumann Lúthchleas Gael Thír Eoghain, sa chéad deich mbliana den chéad seo ach go háirithe. Shíl a lán nach mbeadh sárú 2003 le fail, an bhliain stairiúil sin ar bhain an contae Craobh Shinsearach Peile na hÉireann den cgéad uair riamh. Bhí 2005 rathúil ar an dóigh chéanna agus measadh go raibh an bónas breise seo tuillte go maith i ndiadh fheachtas deich gcluiche. Chomh dócha lena athrach, áfach, beidh cuimhne go ceann i bhfad ar 2008 mar an bhliain is fearr den iomlán, óir is ansin a bhain na sinsir agus na mionúir araon Craobh Peile na hÉireann – éacht a rinne contae Ultach den chéad uair riamh. Baineadh Léig agus Craobh ULadh ar an bhealach fosta.

D’fhan Corn Uí Ógáin i dTír Eoghain mar, i ndiadh do CBS na hÓmaí an corn uile-Éireannach seo a bhaint sa bhliain 2007, bhuaigh cuid peileadóirí Acadamh Naomh Pádraig, Dún Geanainn, ar Choláiste Naomh Breandán, Cill Áirne, sa chluiche ceannais i mbliana.

Maidir le cúrsaí cultúire, d’éirigh thar barr le dhá chlub a thug trí theideal uile-Éireannacha leo – Naomh Muire Choillidh Chlochair a bhí ag iomaíocht i rannóg an Nuachleas, agus Naomh Éanna na hÓmaí lena mbailéadghrúpa agus damhsóirí céilí.

While the achievements of both Club and County at provincial and national levels must always make the headlines, the same wide range of activities both on and off the field continued relentlessly at the grass-roots level within the Clubs.

All championships have been completed with the county’s representatives participating in the provincial competitions, and the leagues are now drawing to a conclusion.

Clonoe O’Rahilly’s reclaimed the O’Neill Cup and the senior football championship after a gap of seventeen years; the St Macartan’s Clubs in Trillick and Augher also bridged significant gaps since winning their last championships when they emerged successfully at Intermediate and Junior levels, respectively.

In hurling Naomh Colmcille retained the Junior championship while the Éire Óg Club from Carrickmore won their three-in-a-row of Senior titles, following a replayed final under floodlights at Healy Park Omagh.

Physical development may have eased somewhat at Club level due to the reduction of available grant funding, and because most Clubs have achieved facilities that now meet their requirements, but there were several noteworthy projects commenced in 2008 while others were successfully completed.

Regrettably, two of our Clubs suffered arson attacks at the beginning of November; St Malachy’s clubrooms at Edendork were totally destroyed in an early morning fire, and two days later a similar attack, with less devastating results was perpetrated on the clubrooms of the Fr Rocks’ Club in Cookstown. Such attacks on our Clubs, our Association and our communities can only be condemned, but we all know that the Clubs and their communities will emerge strengthened as a result of these.

The County completed the purchase of 40-acre site in the centre of Tyrone to be developed as its headquarters for administration, and training and coaching of teams. The Control Tower and Media Centre constructed at Healy Park in 2007 was recognised for its unique, imaginative and





innovative design by the Royal Ulster Architects Society last August, when it was awarded the prestigious first place, in the face of strong competition.

Details of all the achievements and successes at Club and County level are included in appropriate detail in the sub-committee reports within the later sections of this booklet.

## • Club Competitions •

### Football

#### Provincial Championships

At the time of drafting of last year's Secretary's Report the Ulster Club Championship had not concluded, for the Tyrone Junior champions. Having won the provincial title with a defeat of Aughnamullan (Monaghan), Rock defeated Clann na nGael of Meath in the All-Ireland semifinal on a scoreline of 1-11 to 1-08 at Newry. Regrettably, their good form and fortune did not continue into the All-Ireland final where the club lost out to the Cork and Munster champions Canovee.

#### County Championships

Tyrone's Championships sponsored by W J Dolan Construction commenced on Thursday 3rd July with eight fixtures completed by the Sunday evening; however, it ran into major difficulties due to Tyrone's draw with Down in the senior football championship, and did not resume until the weekend of 11th October. Then, it was necessary to seek the agreement of all Clubs to play extra time whenever the need would arise in all remaining games that had to be played over a three-week period. As ever, the co-operation of Clubs was provided and the three championships were completed in time for our champions to progress into the provincial stages. It is worth noting that the Fermanagh and Monaghan County Committees, with the co-operation of Comhairle Uladh, accommodated the Tyrone winners by postponing the Junior and Intermediate fixtures, respectively, for a period of one week.



Clonoe O'Rahilly's - Tyrone Senior Champions 2008



The condensed format of the Club championships, that became necessary due to the success of Tyrone's Senior and Minor teams, created significant difficulties for participating Clubs and their players and managers, for supporters, for hosting venues; it also imposed severe demands on match officials, gatemen and stewards and it led to a negative financial implication for the County.

All of these considerations and any other views on this issue should be channelled through the Management Committee for proper consideration by the CCC in preparation for the 2009 fixtures' programme, as we should expect to be involved in inter-county fixtures well into August.

This year the Senior championship, consisted of 16 Clubs and was opened by Donaghmore vs Killyclogher at Carrickmore, and concluded with Clonoe and Dromore competing in the county final in Omagh on 26th October. Dromore's first defence of the title, won for the first time in 2007, was against near neighbours Omagh; in their first meeting the sides finished level, but in the replay – 3 months later – the challenge was easily dismissed, to be followed by victories over Coalisland and Ardboe. Clonoe arrived in its first final since 1991 with a first-round defeat of Errigal Ciaran; this was followed up with three-point wins against Carrickmore and Donaghmore.

The final was a fairly tense encounter which was physically demanding on both teams due to soft underfoot conditions and one in which scores were quite difficult to come by. When the champions were reduced to fourteen players their task became more difficult, but nevertheless Dromore clung to their title and the challengers eventually forced the game into extra time. In the end Clonoe won the game on a scoreline of 0-10 to 0-09, and won their seventh Senior football championship after a gap of 17 years.

Congratulations is extended to the Clonoe O'Rahilly's, to its officers and committee and most importantly to its panel of players on this fine achievement in 2008.

The curtain-raiser in Healy Park was the County Minor final, sponsored by Teamtalk, featured the St Enda's Club Omagh against Ardboe's O'Donovan Rossa. Like the senior game, this match also ended up in a draw; there was no extra-time here and in the replay at Galbally the following Saturday, Ardboe fought back strongly to win the final by a single point.



Trillick St. Macartan's - Tyrone Intermediate Champions 2008



**Augher St. Macartan's - Tyrone Junior Champions 2008**

The 1983 senior championship-winning Trillick St Macartans' were also present on County Finals' day, with team members being introduced and presented with a special commemorative medal by the County Chairman.

Between the Senior and Minor finals there was a fine display of talent and skills by 56 of the top Primary Schools' young footballers, selected from the 3,500 boys and girls that attended Tyrone's Summer Camps during 2008. I thank Anne Daly, Football Development Officer for her organisation of the three mini-games in association with Coaching Committee.

Musical entertainment, organised by Cultural Officer Donal Magee, was provided during the afternoon in Healy Park by the Scór Sinsear balladgroup from Eglisish and Amhrán na bhFiann was sung by Caoileann McEnhill of the Omagh St Enda's Club.

We offer sincere gratitude to all of these contributors who put so much effort into making the County Finals a special occasion; we also pay tribute to the match officials, the stiles' and gate officials, the crowd control stewards and a range of officials from the St Enda's Club and the County Committee for their generous and significant contributions to the overall success of County Finals' day.

In the Ulster Championship Tyrone's representatives had mixed success; Augher were beaten by Coa (Fermanagh) in a preliminary round fixture, while Clonoe lost to Donegal champions Letterkenny, in Coalisland, the Sunday after winning the County championship. Intermediate Champions, Trillick enjoyed a break of three weeks before participating in the Provincial championship due to a player from Ballybay being involved with the International Rules series in Australia. They defeated the Monaghan champions by 0-13 to 0-08 at Healy Park and in the first round travelled to Breffni Park to meet Redhills.

## League Competitions

The adult football competitions commenced with the O'Neills International Sportswear All-County Leagues on Sunday 30th March and these have not yet been concluded at time of writing.

The U21 championship was successfully concluded with Brackaville overcoming Derrytresk in



the Grade 3 final, while Grades 1 and 2 have reached the semifinal stages.

Full details of the adult and youth games' programmes for 2008 which were organised by the Competitions Control Committee are included in its comprehensive report in a later section of this booklet. We thank the Competitions Control Committee (CCC), under the direction of Ciaran McLaughlin and Aodhán Harkin, for the enormous amount of work undertaken in providing, promoting and administering an extensive range of games' activities throughout the year, under very difficult circumstances.

Our thanks is also due to the linesmen, umpires and referees who officiated at this programme of games, and without whose services it could not have happened.

## Hurling

The hurling championship also sponsored by W J Dolan Construction consisted of nine round-robin fixtures involving Cappagh Gaels, Naomh Colmcille, Carrickmore Éire Óg A, Strabane Shamrocks and Dungannon Eoghan Ruadh. The top two teams qualified for the senior final and the lower three teams were joined by Carrickmore Éire Óg B in the Junior semifinals.

Both finals were played at Healy Park Omagh where Naomh Colmcille defeated Shamrocks in the Junior decider on a scoreline of 1-10 to 0-09 to retain its title, while the senior game between Carrickmore Éire Óg A and Dungannon Eoghan Ruadh ended in a draw.

The replay took place at the same venue and was played under floodlights. In the first game Carrickmore had struggled to earn the draw with their final pointed score coming in added time. Well, in their replay the reigning champions never looked in any real difficulty and easily swept aside the Dungannon challenge winning by 0-14 to 0-06 and retaining the Benburb Cup the third successive year, in a most sporting final.

In the Ulster championship Naomh Colmcille slumped to a heavy defeat against the Down champions, Ballela while Carrickmore opened their campaign with a comfortable 12-point victory against Derry's winners, Eoghan Rua of Coleraine.

The semifinal between Carrickmore and Gort na Mona (Antrim) became a rather protracted affair; at the end of the game, both Clubs and the referee indicated that the game was drawn, but as a result of the match video being examined by the referee he decided that Gort na Mona won by two points. This led to an objection to Ulster Council and then an appeal to the Central Appeals Committee at Croke Park. It decided that the original decision of the referee should stand and the match was immediately refixed; this time the Antrim champions secured their victory winning on a scoreline of 1-14 to 1-10.



Éire Óg - Tyrone Senior Hurling Champions 2008



## County Championships 2008

### Football

	<b>Winner</b>	<b>Runner-up</b>
Senior	Cluain Eo	An Droim Mór
Intermediate	Trí Leac	An Mhaigh
Junior	Eochar	Achadh Lú
U-21 (1)	Not completed	
Minor (1)	Ard Bó	An Omaigh
Minor (2)	Eochar	Cabhán a'Chaortainn
Minor (3)	An Chraobh	Doire Treasc
Juvenile (1)	An Omaigh	An Droim Mór
Juvenile (2)	Naomh Mhuire	Oilean a'Ghuail
Juvenile (3)	Trí Leac	Bruach Áille
Juvenile (4)	An Brocach	Achadh Uí Arainn
U-14 (1)	An Omaigh	An Chorra Chriochach
U-14 (2)	Trí Leac	An Gallbhaile
U-14 (3)	An Chraobh	Eaglais
U-14 (4)	Achadh Lú	Bruach Áille
Óg Spórt	Naomh Mhuire	
Feile na nÓg	Aireagal Chiaráin	An Chorra Chriochach

### Hurling

	<b>Winner</b>	<b>Runner-up</b>
Senior	An Charraig Mhór	Dún Geanainn
Intermediate	Naomh Colmcille	Na Seamroga
Minor	An Charraig Mhór	Dún Geanainn
Juvenile	Dún Geanainn	An Charraig Mhór
U14	Dún Geanainn	An Charraig Mhór

## All-Ireland Championship 2008

### Junior Football

Semifinal	Rock 1-11	Clann na nGael (Meath) 1-08	(AET) at Newry
Final	Rock 0-05	Canovee (Cork) 1-08	at Croke Park

## Ulster Championships 2008

### Football

Senior	Clonoe 1-08	Letterkenny 2-10	at Coalisland
Intermediate	Trillick 0-13	Ballybay 0-08	at Omagh
	Trillick 2-11	Redhills 0-11	at Cavan
	Trillick 0-12	Erne Gaels 0-6	at Enniskillen
Junior	Augher 0-07	Coa 2-11	at Enniskillen

### Hurling

Intermediate	Carrickmore 1-17	Coleraine 1-05	at Omagh
	Carrickmore 1-10	Gort na Mona 2-07	at Lurgan
	Carrickmore 1-10	Gort na Mona 1-14	at Ballinascreen
Junior	Naomh Colmcille 2-07	Ballela 6-13	at Ballela



## • COUNTY TEAMS •

### HURLING

The hurling season for Tyrone at inter-county level was similar in most respects to that of 2007 and any commentary that would be made, would be the same as that in last year's Report to Convention.

At Minor level there was a total of three games played in an Ulster League including one that had to be abandoned due to a serious injury to one of our players. Of the two games completed, both were defeats, to Donegal and Fermanagh.

Tyrone was not permitted to participate in any Championship due to its unsatisfactory record in 2007.

In the Ulster U21 Shield competition Tyrone reached the final having defeated Monaghan in the opening fixture by sixteen points. In the final there was a four-point loss to Donegal in Celtic Park.

#### *Members of the U21 panel were:*

Niall Gallagher (Na Seamróga), Daniel McCrudden (Eoghan Ruadh), Brian McGilloway (Eoghan Ruadh), Jason Patton (Na Seamróga), Mark McElroy (Eoghan Ruadh), Stephen Donnelly (Eoghan Ruadh), Conor Gallagher (Na Seamróga), John Connolly (Naomh Columcille), Seimi O'Hagan (Naomh Columcille), David Lavery (Eoghan Ruadh) (Capt.), Padraig McNally (Éire Óg), Padraig McHugh (Eoghan Ruadh), Mark Devine (Na Seamróga), Sean Óg Grogan (Éire Óg), Shea McKiver (Naomh Columcille), Paul Maguire (Naomh Columcille), Brian Taggart (Eoghan Ruadh), Collie Brady (Naomh Columcille), Barney O'Hagan (Naomh Columcille), Dara Hagan (Naomh Columcille), Chris Meenagh (Éire Óg), Aidan Kelly (Éire Óg), Conor McKillion (Éire Óg), Caolan McCallan (Éire Óg), Conor Grogan (Éire Óg), Gareth Fox (Eoghan Ruadh), Mark Kane (Na Seamróga), Mark Rafferty (Éire Óg).

The records for 2008 will show that the Senior hurling team enjoyed the same level of success as in the previous year; there were nine games played, of which four were victorious and five were not. In Division 3 of the National League there were wins against Sligo and Longford and reversals against Donegal and Louth.

In the Ulster Championship Tyrone defeated Fermanagh in the opening round at Lisnaskea, but lost at home to London by ten points

The final competition for participation in was the Nicky Rackard Cup. Again, Tyrone commenced well by defeating Donegal at Letterkenny, but failed against Monaghan and Sligo in the final two matches.

The main reason for Tyrone's lack of any success in the lowest level competitions this year again was due to the players' inability to train together as a panel. Because the number of Clubs within the County is so small, it is necessary to select a high number of players from each Club for the county panel; then, the Club cannot undertake practical training sessions with depleted panels. As a consequence the players must make a choice between training for the Club or training with the County panel, and the decision always goes in favour of the Club.



The only way in which this difficulty may be overcome is to arrange fixtures for Clubs and fixtures for counties at different periods in the calendar; at present, in the spring, there is an Ulster Club League played on a Saturday, an 'Armagh' Club League played on a Tuesday, this County's Club League played on a Monday and County competitions played on a Saturday or Sunday. Clearly, there cannot be a further 3 'County training' nights and another 3 'Club training' nights for any club player who is a member of a county panel.

The first obvious question requiring an answer is, why must there be an Ulster Club League and an 'Armagh' Club League organized at the same time on a weekly basis; this county does not have any control over the running of these two leagues, and this issue should be considered at a higher level. Where Tyrone does have the authority, and the responsibility, is in determining whether its Clubs should be granted permission to participate in both, or any of these two leagues – perhaps this is where the solution lies.

The second question for consideration is whether the Clubs in Tyrone are prepared to play the Tyrone League at a later stage in the year when the County competitions have been completed or are drawing towards a conclusion. The CCC is actively exploring this matter with the Clubs.

If a solution to this issue of an overcrowded fixture list in the springtime is not resolved we will continue to find that County team training sessions, organized for one night per week, will have attendances as low as 7 or 8 players. Consequently, Tyrone will underperform, will remain in the lowest division of the national league and will always fail to progress beyond the first or second round of the knock-out competitions.

***Members of the Tyrone senior hurling panel in 2008 were:***

Niall Gallagher (Na Seamróga), Mark Winters (Eoghan Ruadh), Sean Paul Begley (Éire Óg), Michael Kelly (Éire Óg), Conor Gallagher (Na Seamroga), Stephen Donnelly (Eoghan Ruadh), Leigh Moore (Éire Óg), Paul Hughes (Éire Óg), Noel Hurson (Éire Óg), David Lavery (Eoghan Ruadh), Rory O'Neill (Naomh Colmcille), Cormac McHugh (Eoghan Ruadh), Mark Devine (Na Seamroga), John Kerr (Éire Óg), Peter O'Connor (Na Seamróga), Kevin Connolly (Na Seamroga), Niall Clarke (Gael na Ceapeagh), John Connolly (Naomh Colmcille), Paddy Devine (Seán Ó Treasaigh), John Devlin (Eoghan Ruadh), Mark Kane (Na Seamroga), Justin Kelly (Éire Óg), Niall McDermott (Éire Óg), Mark McElroy (Eoghan Ruadh), Pdraig McHugh (Eoghan Ruadh), Shea McKiver (Naomh Colmcille), Niall O'Neill (Naomh Colmcille), Ryan O'Neill (Naomh Colmcille), Seanie O'Neill (Naomh Colmcille), Jimmy Treacy (Éire Óg)



**Tyrone Senior Hurling Team 2008**



Congratulations is extended to Paul Hughes who was selected for the Ulster panel participating in the Interprovincial series, last Autumn; also we congratulate Stephen Donnelly who was selected as an All-Star for the Nicky Rackard Cup competition.

Finally I express sincere gratitude to Kevin McNaughton for his management of the Senior team, and the U21 team, under fairly trying circumstances in 2008. Thanks is also due to his assistant Kieran Maloney and the liaison officer Tony Fawl for the important roles that each played with both teams on behalf of Tyrone GAA. Their work is much appreciated.

## SCÓR CLÁR - 2008

### Iomána

#### An Sraith Náisiúnta Roinn 3

Feabhra 10	Tír Eoghain	1-10	Dún na nGall	1-17	at Omagh
Feabhra 16	Tír Eoghain	1-20	Sligeach	3-10	at Sligo
Márta 16	Tír Eoghain	3-09	An Lú	3-11	at Dundalk
Márta 30	Tír Eoghain	1-12	Longfort	2-06	at Tattyreagh

#### An Chraobh

Bealtaine 11	Tír Eoghain	1-11	Fear Manach	2-07	at Lisnaskea
Bealtaine 18	Tír Eoghain	1-06	Lonndain	2-13	at Omagh

#### Corn N Raicaird

Meitheamh 28	Tír Eoghain	2-12	Dún na nGall	2-11	at Letterkenny
Iúil 05	Tír Eoghain	3-08	Muineachán	3-13	at Omagh
Iúil 19	Tír Eoghain	2-11	Sligeach	2-15	at Sligo (Qtr-final)

#### Faoi-21

Lúnasa 02	Tír Eoghain	1-23	Muineachán	2-04	at Tattyreagh
Lúnasa 09	Tír Eoghain	1-10	Dún na nGall	1-14	at Celtic Park (Shield Final)

#### Faoi-18 Lég

Feabhra 23	Tír Eoghain	1-09	Dún na nGall	2-07	at Ballybofey
Márta 01	Tír Eoghain	1-06	Fear Manach	3-07	at Tattyreagh
Márta 15	Tír Eoghain		Aontroim B		at Ahoghill
			(Postponed – Waterlogged pitch)		
Márta 22	Tír Eoghain		Ard Mhacha		at Keady
			(Abandoned – player injury)		
Márta 29	Tír Eoghain		An Dún B		at Tattyreagh
			(Postponed – Waterlogged pitch)		

Team	Played	Won	Drew	Lost
Minor	3	0	0	3
U-21	2	1	0	1
Senior	9	4	0	5
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>





## FOOTBALL

The football season at inter-county level commenced on Sunday 6th January at Healy Park Omagh, with the now customary Dr McKenna Cup, and finished on Saturday 27th September in Longford with the replay of the All-Ireland Minor championship final.

In this 38-week period the footballers of Tyrone played thirty-four matches in official competitions, winning twenty-three games and losing only seven in total.

Such bare statistics tell nothing of the roller-coaster year and mixed emotions enjoyed by the senior team, the outstanding record of a minor team that was undefeated in all competitions, the historic achievement of both teams winning All-Ireland Championships, and the minor team winning the Ulster League and Championship.

Players, managers, officials and supporters all have their own special and precious memories of an historic year; these are etched in the mind; they do not need to be recorded elsewhere.

### U21 TEAM

Much had been expected from this year's U21 football team as they commenced trials and training at the start of the year; preparations continued well with a series of challenge games and tournament participation in the early spring. The first game in the Ulster Championship was played in Omagh against Cavan on 19th March and Tyrone emerged as clear winners with a 3-point margin of victory.

In the semifinal played in Casement Park, under floodlights also, the opposition was provided by Down. Tyrone settled well in the opening period and created some very good scores; however as the game wore on the Mourne men became more effective and Tyrone failed to adapt to the changing circumstances, and ended up losing the game by a single point on a scoreline of Tyrone 0-13 Down 0-14.

The team that represented Tyrone in the 2008 U21 Championship was:

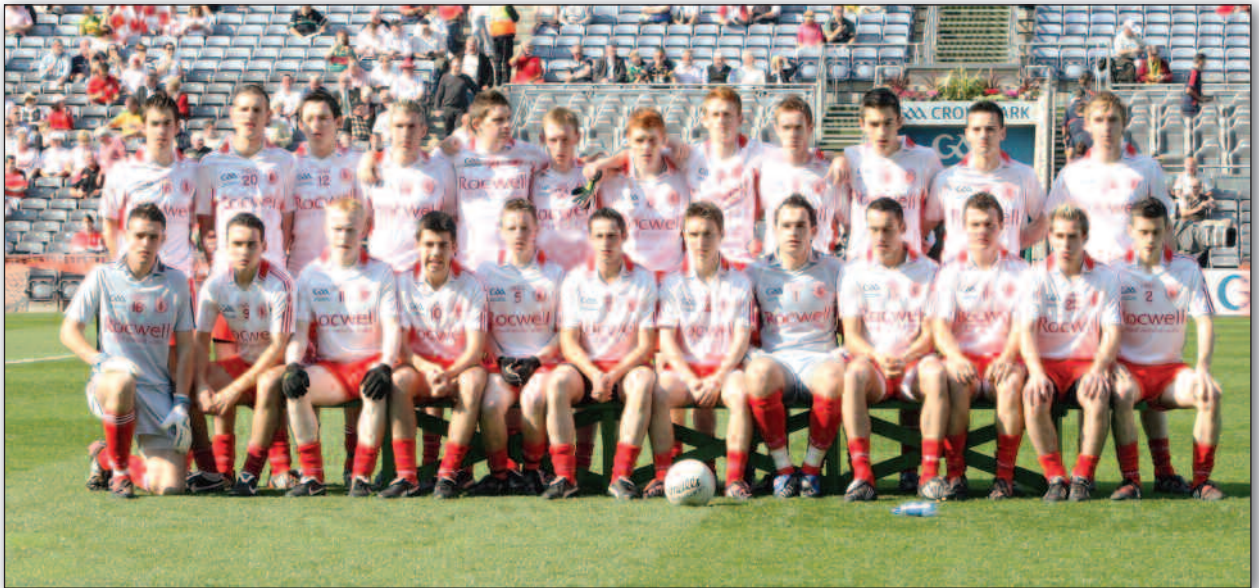
Greg Kelly, (Stewartstown), Niall McGinn (Eskra), Danny McBride (Strabane), Ciaran McGinley, (Errigal Ciaran), Niall Kerr (Coalisland), Shaun O'Neill (Dromore) (Capt.), Shane McMahan (Dromore), Aidan Cassidy, (Augher), Shane O'Hagan (Clonoe), Gareth Devlin (Stewartstown), Colm Cavanagh (Moy), Jason McAnulla (Omagh), Ronan McRory (Errigal Ciaran), Jonathan Lafferty (Urney), Cathal McCarron (Omagh), Michael O'Neill (Clonoe), Hugh Gallagher (Omagh), Peter Girvan (Rock), Danny McDermott (Greencastle), Shane Mulgrew (Donaghmore), Conor O'Donnell (Omagh), Michael O'Hagan (Moortown), Stephen Stewart (Owen Roes), Brian Toner (Coalisland) .

Thanks is extended to the U21 managers, Martin Coyle and Liam Donnelly for all of their work and effort, in identifying and bringing together a panel of players, in preparing, coaching and training them over a period of 16 weeks.

### MINOR TEAM

The Under-18 footballers' season began with a seven-match Ulster League in which Tyrone were undefeated. The team stormed through their section of the league with some facile victories despite being unable to field at full strength due to players' commitments with their second-level colleges in McRory and Hogan Cup competitions.





**Tyrone Minor Football Team - All-Ireland Champions 2008**

The first major test in the league was provided in the provincial decider against newcomers to Ulster – Meath. In the final, played in Cavan, both counties finished level after extra time with a scoreline of Tyrone 1-16 Meath 2-13. The replay took place at the same venue some three weeks later, and another absorbing contest was provided by two fine teams, with Tyrone emerging as clear winners with a 2-point margin.

The Ulster Championship opener against Down, at Healy Park, was a game that could easily have been decided by half-time if the visitors had converted all of their opportunities into scores; but for goalkeeper Tim Harney the game could have been lost. Tyrone played their best football in the second period and were ahead by two points when the final whistle sounded.

In the Ulster semifinal Tyrone played Cavan in a game where they never really looked threatened despite a late surge from the Breffni boys. Final scoreline Tyrone 1-11 Cavan 1-09.

Back in a second successive Ulster final Tyrone were defending their title against the home county in Clones. The sides were fairly evenly matched and although Tyrone went into an early lead they were unable to shrug off the attempts of a determined and well-prepared Monaghan side to keep in touch. While apparently playing well within themselves as a team there were several excellent individual performances from Tyrone players and at the finish they had done enough to retain their title by a 3-point winning margin.

Having won their 21st Ulster Championship and their 5th of this decade, Tyrone were wary of the All-Ireland quarter-final, the stage at which last year's team had tripped up. A visit to Longford to meet the beaten Connacht finalists, Roscommon, on 9th August was the first stop in the All-Ireland journey. On this occasion Tyrone played exceptionally well as a team and crushed the opposition with seven points to spare.

In the All-Ireland semifinal Tyrone improved yet again and had little difficulty in overcoming Leinster champions, Meath – the side that had proved so difficult in the Ulster League some four months earlier. At the end the Croke Park big screen flashed up the pleasing scoreline: Tyrone 1-21 Meath 2-07

Tyrone was now back in the All-Ireland final for the 10th time in its history and after a period of four years since its last victory. The opposition was the same as in the first final of 1947, Mayo, the Connacht champions.



This final was acknowledged by most commentators as probably the best of this decade, with two exceptionally good footballing teams providing an outstanding display of all the finest attributes of the game. In the initial period Mayo opened up a gap of two points before being hauled back to level, and then they surged into a four point lead; Tyrone responded in determined fashion and notched up some fine scores to lead at the interval 0-08 to 0-07. The second half of this All-Ireland final was even more absorbing than the first with the lead exchanging several times; both teams fought tenaciously and skillfully, as the determination to not lose, brought out the best in both. Going into added time at the end of the game Mayo came from a point behind to go one ahead, and still Tyrone did not give up. Kyle Coney delivered a pinpoint pass to Mattie Donnelly who scored an excellent point from thirty metres, and sent the game to a replay. Final score 0-14 each.

The replay took place in Longford on the following Saturday and again Mayo were quicker off the mark with the initial scores. Tyrone led 0-4 to 0-2 after fifteen minutes, Mayo led by a point after 25 minutes, and Tyrone headed for the dressing rooms with a favourable 2-point margin. The second half followed a similar pattern with leads being opened and closed down again. As the game entered stoppage time Tyrone seemed to have done enough, but this time Mayo scored the equalizing point as the final whistle sounded.

In the first period of extra time Tyrone opened up a 3-point lead and when Conor O'Neill scored the first goal of the game, at the start of the second period, Tyrone moved into a comfort zone. They went from strength to strength and could afford to tap a penalty kick over the bar before Mayo would grab an opportunistic goal in the dying moments. The final scoreline of Tyrone 1-20 Mayo 1-15 fairly reflected the superiority and strength of this fine Tyrone team in extra time. The Tom Markham Cup was on its way back to the O'Neill County for the 3rd time this decade and for the 6th time in Tyrone's history.

In 2008 Tyrone played 14 games at Minor level and were undefeated throughout the year; indeed it is noteworthy that the last defeat of a Tyrone Minor team in the Ulster Championship took place on 18th June 2006 at the semifinal stage.

Tyrone had many stars at U-18 level in this year's epic campaign, some shining occasionally and others consistently in all games such as the majestic midfielder Niall McKenna and the powerful Kyle Coney; we take this opportunity to wish Kyle every success in his trial with the Sydney Swans, playing Australian Rules football and still hope that he will, at some time again, don the Ardboe and Tyrone jerseys.

We must mention the remarkable achievement of Ryan Pickering who, in 2008 as captain of St Patrick's Academy Dungannon was presented with the McRory and Hogan Cups, and as captain of Tyrone accepted the Ulster Minor League and Championship Cups and the All-Ireland Tom Markham Cup. Well done Ryan.

The undefeated Tyrone Minor panel of 2008 was:

Tim Harney (Glenelly), Finbar McQuaid (Augher), Gavin Teague (Ardboe), Ryan Pickering (Cookstown) (Capt), Stephen McRory (Errigal Ciaran), Peter Harte (Errigal Ciaran), Ronan McNabb (Dromore), Niall McKenna (Donaghmore), Martin Rodgers (Beragh), Ciaran Girvan (Derrylaughan), Diarmaid McNulty (Gortin), Matthew Donnelly (Trillick), Kyle Coney (Ardboe), Paddy McNeice (Coalisland), Conor O'Neill (Dromore), Ronan McAnenly (Errigal Ciaran), Ronan Tierney (Errigal Ciaran), Kevin Mossey (Gortin), Sean Warnock Greencastle), Brian McGarvey (Gortin), Ruairi Keenan (Gortin), Michael Slane (Carrickmore), Brian Kelly





(Cookstown), Aidan Connolly (Aghyaran), Ryan McKenna (Eglisli), Shay McGuigan (Ardboe), Dermot Thornton (Coalisland), Danny Gorman (Killyclogher), Shane O'Neill (Omagh), Christopher Quinn (Donaghmore).

In paying tribute to this excellent panel of players we also extend congratulations to team manager Raymond Monroe and his assistants, Cathal McAnenly and Roger Keenan for all of their hard work, leadership and expertise. We thank them, their 'backroom team' and their medical/physio personnel for all of the time that they devoted to the Tyrone minor squads during the past three seasons.

## SENIOR TEAM

For Tyrone the Dr McKenna Cup competition was played in blitz-like fashion over a period of seven days. In the first game there was a three-point defeat inflicted by UUJ followed by a home victory over Down. In the deciding game of the section Tyrone suffered a second loss by the narrowest of margins to neighbours, Donegal, in Ballyshannon, thereby ending the four-year grip on the Dr McKenna Cup.

Tyrone continued their league football for 2008 in the first division with a somewhat mixed performance that gave very little indication of the forthcoming championship success. At home in the opening round, the Red Hands struggled with a newly-promoted Kildare team and finished up sharing the points.

This was followed by two successive defeats away to All-Ireland champions Kerry and Galway. A home victory against Laois secured the first brace of league points and this was quickly followed with a similar result against Donegal in a game which was switched at short notice to Edendork due to waterlogging of the Healy Park facilities.

Another defeat was the outcome in Celtic Park against Derry, followed by a final round victory over Mayo in Omagh. So, overall Tyrone were undefeated at home but failed to win any of the away fixtures and maintained a mid-table position for another year.

The Ulster Championship opened for Tyrone on Sunday 8th June with a home game against the new Dr McKenna Cup winners – Down. In the initial quarter there was some magnificent football played by Tyrone giving the impression that the game would be done and dusted by the half-time interval; however, the focus was lost as the first half progressed and the opposition began to claw their way back into contention. The second half was generally mediocre in standard, yet tense to watch, with the sides finishing level, each with a score of 2-08.

The replay of the following Saturday was described by many commentators as the best game played in the Ulster Championship. It ebbed and flowed throughout with numerous passages of fine football and many excellent scores from both sides; at the end of normal time the two counties were still locked together on the same scoreline. As extra time drew to a conclusion it appeared as if Tyrone were finishing the stronger and heading for victory until an uncharacteristic defensive error allowed the Mourne men to snatch a match-winning goal in the dying moments.

While this defeat, like all defeats, was difficult to come to terms with on the night, there was a widespread recognition among players and management that the team of 2008 should not have its obituary written just yet. The All-Ireland Qualifiers were looked forward to with optimism, rather than just hope.

In the Qualifiers' section of the All-Ireland Championship Tyrone enjoyed what could best be





described as a favourable draw against opponents of ever-increasing quality. Having made good use of the five-week break Tyrone travelled to Drogheda and defeated the home side by eight points on a scoreline of 1-17 to 1-09. Leinster opposition was again drawn in Round 2, in the form of Westmeath but this time there was the bonus of a home venue. This was expected to be a difficult and tough encounter and so it turned out with Tyrone being relieved to emerge as four-point winners.

Round 3 saw Tyrone make the first of its four visits to Croke Park in 2008. Again a physically demanding contest ensued with many players displaying true determination and spirit along with their usual high level of skills. At the final whistle Mayo had been defeated by a single point and Tyrone had successfully steered its way to the All-Ireland quarterfinal.

Dublin – Leinster champions for the fourth consecutive year - provided the obstacle to the semifinals; they were rated as overwhelming favourites and tipped by many to end their barren years without an All-Ireland title in 2008, while Tyrone was written off completely by all journalists, columnists and broadcasters. On the afternoon of the game weather conditions in the capital were atrocious – so poor that the Croke Park floodlights were required for illumination. While it would be wrong to say that the conditions did not affect the game, it could not be said that they impaired the performance of the Red Hands on this occasion. Dublin underperformed, but Tyrone were superb, clinical, professional, and better. After 55 minutes of this game Tyrone led by 3-10 to 1-06 with every score having come from play. Tyrone went on to inflict one of the heaviest defeats ever on the Leinster champions, winning by a massive 12 points; no Dublin team had experienced such a loss in Croke Park since Kerry had won the 1978 All-Ireland final by 17 points.

When it came to the All-Ireland semifinal against Wexford the roles of favourites and underdogs had been reversed compared with the previous game. Wexford had been destroyed by Dublin, in the Leinster final, but had their confidence restored following deserved victories against Down and Armagh in the Qualifiers. In this semifinal Tyrone lived up to their favourites' tag and easily accounted for their opponents in another relatively high-scoring game – Tyrone 0-23 Wexford 1-14.

Tyrone were now back in their third All-Ireland final during this decade against the defeated Munster finalists Kerry, who were endeavouring to win their third Championship in a row. Again, the experts, the pundits, the bookmakers, and in truth most fans expected Kerry to achieve their ambition for 2008. Tyrone were seen as being there on merit but, while expected to put on a good display, they were not serious contenders for another title; they were not as skilful, did not have as good a midfield pairing, had a defence that would be unable to cope with the aerial threat of the opposition, and had an attack that lacked the cutting edge of the 2005 team.

The match turned out to be a classic encounter between the two best teams of the current era. In the opening half there was never more than one point between the sides and despite kicking six wides to Tyrone's one, Kerry led at the interval with the scoreline reading 0-08 to 0-07.

Within 25 seconds of the re-start a goal, finished off by Tommy McGuigan, had edged Tyrone into the lead and although this margin was extended to three points, Kerry fought back to snatch a one-point lead once again. However in the final 13 minutes of normal time and a further 2 minutes of added time Tyrone scored five points while holding the Kingdom scoreless. Final scoreline Tyrone 1-15 Kerry 0-14. Tyrone were All-Ireland champions for the third time in six years.





In the lead-up to this year's All-Ireland final a lot of print space and much airtime was used in identifying this game as being the decider as to which county could be regarded as the team of the decade. While Tyrone had no time for such a meaningless title, it seemed somewhat odd that the topic was barely mentioned after Kerry had been defeated. Regrettably, there still appeared to remain a certain degree of begrudgery towards the new All-Ireland champions and their victorious campaign, but it was now evident to all who wanted to see, that both individually and collectively Tyrone are better footballers.

Their skill, their talent and their work displayed on the field were recognized a long time ago, within the county, when many of this squad won their first All-Ireland medals at minor levels; these attributes were even more evident when they annexed their U-21 All-Ireland titles, and they have now become apparent to all, as many of them hold aloft their 3 senior All-Ireland medals.

In reviewing the championship campaign there are many heroes that come to mind in different games and at different times within these games; while recognizing the massive contribution made by all members of the panel of players it would not be considered unfair to name two individuals that were immense for Tyrone in 2008 – Sean Cavanagh and team captain Brian Dooher.

At the year's end All-stars were awarded to Brian Dooher, Justin McMahon, Davy Harte, Philip Jordan, Conor Gormley, Enda McGinley and Sean Cavanagh and Sean was also selected as Player of the Year for 2008; indeed, such was the quality of his performances throughout the year, that it must have been one of the easiest decisions for the selectors to make in many years.

Sean Cavanagh, Enda McGinley and the two McMahon brothers were all selected for the Ireland team which travelled to Australia for the two-match International Rules Test Series. The team won both its games and the Series, and there was no prouder man to hold aloft the Cormac McAnallen Cup than Ireland captain, Sean Cavanagh.

While these players were enjoying sunshine and success in Perth and Melbourne another group of Tyrone players were representing Ulster in the Interprovincial Series; John Devine, Davy Harte, Conor Gormley, Brian Dooher and Stephen O'Neill played against Munster losing by three points, in wet and wintry weather conditions at Fermoy,

We congratulate these men on the special awards that they have won and on their respective selections for province and country. However the heartiest congratulations is due to the full panel of senior players that brought Tyrone its third All-Ireland title in 2008, and who brought so much joy and happiness to people of this county.

The complete panel of players for the 2008 championship was:

John Devine (Errigal Ciaran), Ryan McMenamin (Dromore), Justin McMahon (Omagh), Ciarán Gourley (Rock), Davy Harte (Errigal Ciaran), Conor Gormley (Carrickmore), Philip Jordan (Moy), Colin Holmes (Armagh Harps), Enda McGinley (Errigal Ciaran), Brian Dooher (Clann na nGael) (Capt), Brian McGuigan (Ardboe), Joseph McMahon (Omagh), Tommy McGuigan (Ardboe), Sean Cavanagh (Moy), Colm McCullagh (Dromore), Pascal McConnell (Newtownstewart), Dermot Carlin (Killyclogher), Colm Cavanagh (Moy), Peter Donnelly (Coalisland), Niall Gormley (Trillick), Kevin Hughes (Killeeshil), Cathal McCarron (Dromore), Damian McCaul (Donaghmore), Michael McGee (Loughmacrory), Ryan Mellon (Moy), Raymond Mulgrew (Cookstown), Owen Mulligan (Cookstown), Shaun O'Neill (Dromore),





Martin Penrose (Aghyaran), P J Quinn (Moortown), Stephen O'Neill (Clann na nGael), Paul Quinn (Errigal Ciaran), Jonathan Curran (Coalisland).

Finally, it is fitting that we pay tribute to the manager of this magnificent group of players on winning his third All-Ireland senior football championship – Mickey Harte. Just as Tyrone's players are now receiving their due recognition at national level, so also is Mickey Harte. We congratulate him and we thank him sincerely, once again, for what he has achieved for himself, for Tyrone and for this Association.

We thank the other members of the management team, Tony Donnelly and Fergal McCann, the medical and physiotherapy personnel for their work and their expertise, and all other members of the 'backroom team' who each play important roles individually and collectively in preparation for training sessions and for games.

Finally, at the conclusion of this section I offer thanks to those members of the Management Committee who undertook the very important liaison role with these three teams during the 2008 season, viz. Ciaran McLaughlin (Minors), Michael Harvey (U21s) and Michael McCaughey followed by Michael McGoldrick (Seniors).

## SCÓR CLÁR - 2008

### Peil

#### Corn Mhic Chionaoith

Eanáir 06	Tír Eoghain	0-09	UUJ	0-12	at Omagh
Eanáir 09	Tír Eoghain	3-05	An Dún	1-07	at Omagh
Eanáir 13	Tír Eoghain	0-11	Dún na nGall	0-12	at Ballyshannon

#### An Sraith Náisiúnta Roinn 1

Feabhra 02	Tír Eoghain	0-07	Cill Dara	1-04	at Omagh
Feabhra 16	Tír Eoghain	0-09	Ciarraí	0-12	at Killarney
Márta 02	Tír Eoghain	2-09	Galway	1-14	at Galway
Márta 15	Tír Eoghain	0-16	Laois	0-14	at Omagh
Márta 30	Tír Eoghain	0-11	Dún na nGall	0-09	at Edendork
Aibreán 05	Tír Eoghain	0-10	Doire	0-14	at Derry
Aibreán 13	Tír Eoghain	0-15	Maigh Eo	0-13	at Omagh

#### An Chraobh

Meitheamh 08	Tír Eoghain	2-08	An Dún	2-08	at Omagh
Meitheamh 14	Tír Eoghain	0-21	An Dún	1-19	at Newry (AET)
Iúil 19	Tír Eoghain	1-17	An Lú	1-09	at Drogheda
Iúil 26	Tír Eoghain	0-14	An Iar-Mhí	1-07	at Omagh
Lúnasa 02	Tír Eoghain	0-13	Maigh Eo	1-09	at Croke Park
Lúnasa 16	Tír Eoghain	3-14	Áth Cliath	1-08	at Croke Park
Lúnasa 31	Tír Eoghain	0-23	Loch Gorman	1-14	at Croke Park
Meán Fomhair	Tír Eoghain	1-15	Ciarraí	0-14	at Croke Park (Final)

#### Faoi-21

Márta 19	Tír Eoghain	2-10	An Cabhán	1-10	at Omagh
Márta 26	Tír Eoghain	0-13	An Dún	0-14	at Belfast



**Faoi-18 Léig**

Márta 22	Tír Eoghain	8-13	An Lú	0-04	at Pomeroy
Márta 26	Tír Eoghain	2-12	Doire	1-11	at Ardboe
Márta 29	Tír Eoghain	3-16	Dún na nGall	0-07	at Convoy
Aibreán 05	Tír Eoghain	1-11	Fear Manach	1-07	at Dromore
Aibreán 14	Tír Eoghain	5-14	Aontroim	1-08	at Belfast
Aibreán 24	Tír Eoghain	1-16	An Mhí	2-13	at Cavan (AET) Ulster Final
Bealtaine 17	Tír Eoghain	1-10	An Mhí	0-11	at Cavan (Replay)

**An Chraobh**

Meitheamh 08	Tír Eoghain	0-16	An Dún	0-14	at Omagh
Meitheamh 29	Tír Eoghain	1-11	An Cabhán	1-09	at Clones
Iúil 20	Tír Eoghain	0-13	Muineachán	0-10	at Clones
Lúnasa 09	Tír Eoghain	1-15	Ros Comain	1-08	at Longford
Lúnasa 31	Tír Eoghain	1-21	Meath	2-07	at Croke Park
Meán Fomhair 21	Tír Eoghain	0-14	Maigh Eo	0-14	at Croke Park (Final)
Meán Fomhair 27	Tír Eoghain	1-20	Maigh Eo	1-15	at Longford (AET)

Team	Played	Won	Drew	Lost
Minor	14	12	2	0
U-21	2	1	0	1
Senior	18	10	2	6
<b>Totals:</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>7</b>

**Schools' Teams**

The Tyrone Vocational Schools' team failed to retain their Ulster and All-Ireland titles on being eliminated in the opening encounter against Monaghan in disappointing fashion.

St Patrick's Academy Dungannon emulated the success of Omagh CBS in 2007 by winning the McRory and the Hogan Cups. In the McRory Cup Final at Healy Park, the Academy emerged victorious against St Michael's Enniskillen on a scoreline of 0-13 to 1-09. On their way to the Hogan Cup final they defeated Athlone Community College by two points, at Clontibret five days later.

In the All-Ireland final, in Portlaoise, there was another two-point victory for the Dungannon college team against St Brendan's Killarney on 5th April. With a final scoreline of 1-09 to 1-07 the Hogan Cup was presented to team captain Ryan Pickering and was on its way back to Tyrone for a second successive year.

Congratulations to the team managers and teachers, Ciaran Gourley and Patrick O'Farrell, and to all the young players of St Patrick's Academy on another magnificent success.

In the McCormack Cup final Omagh CBS enjoyed another good victory against St Michael's Enniskillen, again by a single point.







## • County Matters •

### Players' Injury Scheme

The Player's Injury Scheme continues to operate as a loss-making venture when the figures for Tyrone are analysed.

A quick but simple view makes it very apparent that the Scheme within the County lost a staggering €388,235, despite the subscription per adult team increasing to €1,000; Clubs' and County teams' subscriptions for 2008 amounted to €180,900 while claims for wages' losses, paid to injured players, and reimbursement of medical fees paid to physios, medical consultants and private clinics totalled €569,135. However, if the Scheme was based only a County's contributions it would have fallen apart many years ago; the Scheme is fully funded by the Association which draws from the counties, the provinces and from national level through percentages deducted from gate returns for League and Championship games.

A more detailed examination of the statistics indicates that, as last year, medical and dental fees accounted for 80% of the total payments which came to Tyrone. As one might expect from the physical nature of Gaelic games almost 50% of claims related to injuries sustained to feet, ankles, knees and legs.

In 2008, the number of adult and U21 teams remained the same as in the previous year while the number of Youth teams increased by 24 to 395. The number of claims processed this year increased by 32% to 240 while the number of claims that had been paid out at year's end had also increased to a total of 194.

Generally claims presented on behalf of players are submitted within a reasonable time following an injury, and accompanied by the necessary appropriate documentation, with the result that reimbursements are made within a couple of weeks. Where the required documentation is missing or incomplete, delays are introduced in the payments which can be quite frustrating for the administrators at all levels.

In an attempt to speed up the processing and finalisation of claims, the administrators have now decided that all claims must be submitted within a maximum period of 60 days of the claimant's injury; claims that are submitted outside this limit will not be processed, unless there are relevant extenuating circumstances. All Clubs have already been notified of this particular change in the administration process.

#### PLAYERS' INJURY SCHEME - 2008 (Nov. '07 - Oct. '08)

CLUB	Adult Teams	U-21 Teams	Youth Teams	Subscription Due (€)	No. of Claims	Claims Paid	Amount Paid (€)
County Teams	2	2	3	3500	23	26	58158.34
Achadh Lú	2	0	5	3000	2	0	
Achadh Uí Arain	2	1	8	3650	2	0	
Árd Bó	2	1	8	3650	6	8	77568.25
Eochar	2	1	8	3650	8	2	453.57
Bearach	2	0	12	3200	4	3	1153.94
Bruach Áille	2	1	8	3650	3	1	3041.09
Brocach	2	0	8	3200	3	5	11896.79
An Charraig Mhór	2	1	7	3650	4	0	
Caisleán na Deirge	2	1	7	3650	4	4	10373.52
Clann na nGael	2	0	7	3200	4	3	2753.04
Clochár	2	0	7	3200	4	7	13363.27
Cluain Eo	2	1	8	3650	6	3	1492.83
Oileán a'Ghuail	2	1	6	3650	6	8	7964.65
An Chorra Chríochach	2	1	8	3650	2	3	15529.83
Doire Lochain	2	1	8	3650	4	4	7396.17
Doire Treasc	2	1	6	3650	7	6	26903.40





Domhnach Mór	2	1	5	3450	3	4	8295.66
Deargais	1	0	0	1000	0	0	
An Droim Mór	2	1	8	3650	9	6	12896.91
Droim Caoin	2	0	0	2000	0	0	
Droim Ratha	2	0	7	3200	4	3	8384.06
Dún Geanainn	2	1	8	3650	4	4	13628.10
Éadan na dTorc	2	0	0	2000	7	5	9477.74
Eaglais	2	1	8	3650	4	3	7022.05
Eoghain Rua Uí Néill	2	0	8	3200	1	1	400.00
Aireagal Chiarán	4	1	8	5650	15	11	17247.52
Eisceach	2	1	8	3650	8	6	4925.24
Fionntamhnach	2	1	7	3650	5	2	1111.54
Gallbhaile	2	1	8	3650	8	2	23794.89
Gleann Eallaigh	2	1	8	3650	2	1	4611.68
An Goirtín	2	0	8	3200	7	3	3707.60
An Caisleán Glas	2	1	8	3650	0	0	
Cill Dreasa	2	1	8	3650	7	7	26536.06
Cill Íseal	2	0	8	3200	6	4	45509.40
Coill an Chlochair	2	1	14	3650	1	1	1034.15
Cill na mBán	2	0	0	2000	12	6	14079.40
Loch Mhic Ruairí	2	1	8	3650	4	4	1106.04
Baile na Móna	2	1	8	3650	4	3	13637.51
An Mhaigh	2	0	8	3200	5	4	6514.97
An Baile Nua	2	1	8	3650	1	0	
An Omaigh	2	1	11	3650	2	1	3932.09
Cabhán a'Chaorthainn	2	1	8	3650	1	0	
An Charraig	2	1	8	3650	8	8	31675.92
An Chraobh	2	0	5	3000	3	3	10309.75
An Srath Bán	2	0	13	3200	1	1	5000.00
Taite Riabhach	2	1	7	3650	0	0	
Trí Leac	2	1	8	3650	2	2	3432.48
Urnaí	2	0	6	3200	0	0	
An Charraig Mhór (H)	2	0	6	3000	6	4	12752.15
Dún Geanainn (H)	1	0	6	2200	3	6	8002.98
Na Seamróga (H)	1	0	5	2000	2	2	2598.22
Naomh Colmcille (H)	1	0	6	2200	0	1	2275.86
Cappagh Gaels (H)	1	0	0	1000	2	2	2186.76
Naomh Eoin (H)	0	0	2	400	0	0	
Setanta (H)	0	0	3	600	0	0	
Michael Cusack's (Y)	0	0	8	1200	1	1	25000.00
Ceapach (Y)	0	0	0		0	0	
Naomh Mhuire (Y)	0	1	8	1650	0	0	
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>180900</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>194</b>	<b>569135.42</b>

## County Strategy

Ag Ardú na Láimhe Deirge (Raising the Red Hand), the County's five-year strategy was launched by Uachtarán CLG, Nioclás Ó Braonáin towards the end of last year (18th December 2007), in the presence of the Officers of Comhairle Uladh, the Officers of Coiste Thír Eoghain and the Clubs of the County.

The strategy consists of ten inter-linked themes covering all aspects of the Association within the County and indeed a few that extend somewhat beyond Tyrone's boundaries. Within each theme a range of 'targets' has been set together with the associated 'desired outcomes' and an indication of who, or which unit, is responsible for ensuring delivery.

We are most grateful to the workgroup responsible for drafting this excellent publication for the CLG in Tyrone, including Pat Darcy, Michael McGoldrick, Cuthbert Donnelly, Terry McCann, Dermot McCaughey, Michael Harvey and Brendan Harkin, and we acknowledge the assistance provided by Comhairle Uladh through Ryan Feeney and Mark Conway.





While all units of the Association have a role to play in the implementation of the strategy, our sub-committees and work-groups are expected to base their work-programmes on the contents of the ten themes contained within the strategy. It is pleasing to report that, even after less than a year from its launch, many of the targets identified have been successfully reached by our sub-committees; of course many more will be achieved over the next four years and then there will be some that, due to changing circumstances and changes in policies within the Association, will be superseded before the five-year term has been reached.

Our strategy is not set in stone and we must be prepared to, and we will make amendments as is fitting for the well-being of the Association in Tyrone.

The County Committee appointed an Oversight Group under the direction of Dermot McCaughey whose task is to maintain an overview of the Strategic Plan's implementation; I express appreciation to Dermot and his Group for the diligent manner in which it has fulfilled the role specified and for the comprehensive and detailed report included in a later section of this booklet.

## Physical Development

The scale of physical development across the county was relatively low in 2008 for two main reasons: (a) most Clubs now have the facilities in place that are adequate to meet their playing needs, and their financial needs, and (b) the level of financial funding from outside bodies has diminished significantly.

Important development on differing scales was planned or completed by the following Clubs during the year: Ardboe, Dromore, Drumquin, Loughmacrory and Owen Roes; all of these are complimented on their continuing work.

At County level the main concentration of developmental work during the past three years was at Healy Park Omagh and we can all be proud of the facilities now available to the county at the St Enda's Club. Now, in order to ensure that the fullest use may be made of the excellent floodlighting and spectator facilities, it will be necessary to undertake a major replacement of the playing surface; this has been a cause of concern to the Club Committee over a number of years and was particularly highlighted during the wet summer of 2008. It is anticipated that the appropriate work on the playing surface can commence in the immediate future when the necessary funding has been secured in place.



**Ardboe O'Donovan Rossa's - Tyrone Minor Champions 2008**



From a games viewpoint 2008 was an historic year; it was also historic for Tyrone in that the County purchased, and is now the proud owner of, its first property – for the first time in 124 years. The purchase of approximately 40 acres from four landowners in Garvaghey was completed in April and the land has now been vested in the Association. It is the intention of the County Committee to develop this property as a Headquarters for Tyrone GAA with the construction of an Administrative Centre together with six playing pitches including one third-generation (3G) artificial surface. Outline planning permission has been secured for this venture and currently full planning approval is being sought.

In order to realise this physical development, a massive fund-raising programme will need to be implemented during the next five years; this will be a big challenge for our Association, but Tyrone is now widely-recognised as always rising to the challenge, wherever it appears.

## Coaching Staffing

In 2008 Coiste Thír Eoghain employed two Schools' Coaches for hurling and four for football for the delivery of its work programme, mainly in the Primary schools across the County, but also making an important contribution in some Secondary Schools and Special Schools. Their programme was designed by the Coaching Committee and the Football Development Manager (FDM), Anne Daly and Michael McCullough, the Hurling Development Manager (HDM) were responsible for ensuring its satisfactory implementation.

The Department of Education's novel scheme for the provision of Gaelic Games coaching at Keystage 1 in the Primary Schools was a notable success in the academic year 2007/08, despite the initial problems that it created for Tyrone's coaching employees. Now, for the current academic year, this scheme has been expanded so that Tyrone now has five coaches in its five major urban areas. While there is no guarantee that this scheme will become fully established and continue well into the future we welcome the initiative by the Minister for Education and would encourage her to secure funding for it in the longer term.

While this funding became available in 2007 and has continued into 2008, it is a matter of disappointment that funding from SportNI to Ulster Council towards its 'modernisation programme' was discontinued in June of this year. This has had an immediate impact within Tyrone where the funding in question was used to support the posts of FDM and HDM; however, due to contractual obligations, the Ulster Council stepped in to meet the financial reduction imposed, and thereby secured the postholders' employment. This position will hold until the end of February 2009, when the posts of FDM and HDM will no longer exist, and will be replaced by a single post of Games Development Manager in each county.

## Membership Registration

At the end of 2007 Tyrone was selected as one of a small group of counties across Ireland for the trialling of yet another electronic membership registration system. Designed and maintained by Servasport for Croke Park this system proved to be much more user-friendly by comparison with that which had been in place heretofore. Following a single training session in April, facilitated by Kieran Leddy (Croke Park) and Gerard Bradley, to which all Clubs were invited, the system was found to be easy to use and it incorporated a wide range of useful functions for organising Clubs' players, adult members, youth members and officials into the usual groups identified by age, by gender, etc.

By the official deadline for completion of registrations, almost all Clubs had successfully used the system and had acknowledged its simplicity and its functionality. This system will now be made available to all other counties, with some amendments or improvements based on the feedback provided by the users in Tyrone, for the registration of the Association's membership.



## Membership 2008

CLUB	Members
Aghaloo	158
Aghyaran	330
Ardboe	127
Augher	275
Beragh	178
Brackaville	236
Brockagh	138
Carrickmore	446
Castlederg	237
Clann na nGael	190
Clogher	135
Clonoe	206
Coalisland	222
Cookstown	242
Derrylaughan	265
Derrytresk	166
Donaghmore	198
Dregish	136
Dromore	459
Drumquin	157
Drumragh	129
Dungannon	155
E.R. Uí Néill	313
Edendork	261
EGLISH	298
Errigal Ciaran	527
Eskra	267
Fintona	196
Galbally	591
Glenelly	298
Gortin	308
Greencastle	296
Kildress	228
Killeeshil	201
Killiclogher	309
Killyman	154
Loughmacrory	118
Moortown	180
Moy	278
Newtownstewart	162
Omagh	380
Pomeroy	358
Rock	265
Stewartstown	207
Strabane	313
Tattyreagh	219
Trillick	407





<b>CLUB</b>	<b>Members</b>
Urney	166
Carrickmore (H)	78
Dungannon (H)	108
Cappagh Gaels (H)	25
Naomh Colm Cille (H)	40
Setanta (H)	4
Shamrocks (H)	27
Naomh Eoin	13
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>12,380</b>

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## • Buíochas •

At the conclusion of yet another historic year for the Association in Tír Eoghian I express my thanks to all the members of An Coiste Bainistí for their assistance and co-operation in the wide spectrum of work that was undertaken. I am particularly grateful to the Cisteoir, Michael Harvey for the vast volume of work that he was involved with – working fulltime in a voluntary capacity - and for his diligent control of the massive financial affairs associated with our County. I thank the Assistant Secretary Michael McCaughey for all of his work and his accurate recording of the minutes of all meetings of the County and Management Committees, during a quite hectic year. Also, I pay tribute to Cathaoirleach, Pat Darcy who has now headed the Association in the county for the past four years; in addition to chairing all meetings of the County and Management Committees, Pat is also in charge of the PR/Marketing sub-committee and, additionally, is always ready and available to attend meetings and functions on behalf of the County, irrespective of their location.

I appreciate the work attended to by my fellow officers in charge of the sub-committees that ensure the Association functions effectively. Thanks to Ciaran McLaughlin and Aodhán Harkin (CCC), Michael Kerr and Margaret Keenan (Hearings Committee), Johnny Dooher and Michael Hughes (Referees Administration), Kieran McHugh (Youth), Michael McGoldrick (Coaching), Donal Magee (Culture), Pat Darcy and Damian Harvey (PR/Marketing), Cathal Daly (Development), Damian Harvey (Communications and IT), Oliver McHugh (Stewards), Michael Harvey and Seamus McDonald (Finance), Brendan Harkin (Hurling Development).

Liam Nelis and Cuthbert Donnelly continue to represent, admirably, the county on the Ulster Council as well as being members of important provincial sub-committees. Liam also finds the time to sit on the National Infrastructure and Development Committee where his expertise and knowledge are greatly respected.

I thank Brendan Harkin for his representation of Tír Eoghain on the Ard Chomhairle and Gerard Bradley who is a valued member of the provincial and national IT Committees. I acknowledge the contribution made to the Association by Jimmy Treacy who continues to chair the national Bye-laws Committee, where he has strong support provided by Pat McCartan, and that of Michael McGoldrick who is in charge of the national Féile committee.

I thank the officers of Comhairle Uladh, Tomás Ó Dálaigh and Dónall Ó Murchú, together with the office staff, for their advice and assistance during a very busy year.





Grateful appreciation is extended to Nioclás Ó Braonáin (Uachtarán) and new Árd Stiúrthóir, Páraic Ó Dufaigh for their support and helpfulness on a range of matters throughout 2008; similar appreciation is due to the many officials and staff in Pairc an Chrócaigh with whom we have contact and do business on a regular basis.

Belatedly, we sincerely congratulate Páraic Ó Dufaigh on his appointment to the position of Árd Stiúrthóir on 1st February 2008; he is clearly recognised as a capable and talented leader with a reputation for hard work and we will be pleased to support his leadership of this Association in whatever way is possible.

At this stage we must also say farewell to two long-serving officials from the Croke Park staff, Danny Lynch and Seán Ó Laoire and we acknowledge the significant contribution made by both men to CLG over several decades. We wish both many years of happy retirement.

As indicated earlier, due to the historic achievement of our minor and senior football teams, 2008 was probably one of the busiest years that we have encountered particularly during the summer months. One aspect of the success that required a major amount of time devoted to it was the provision of tickets for all-ticket games, and this was enjoyed or endured from the opening match against Down on 8th June until the minor final replay on 27th September. I wish to offer a special word of thanks to Frank Campbell for all of the exceptional work that he undertook during the summer months in the allocation, printing and distribution of tickets; he took time off from his own work on a regular basis and made an immeasurable contribution to ensure that tickets were provided to all units within the county by the agreed deadlines. I also thank Michael Harvey who managed the finances associated with the summer of tickets and established a ticket delivery service via Pomeroy to the east of the county. Finally I acknowledge the management of the increased workload in the County Office during this time by Mary Denton in her quiet and patient manner.

We were pleased to be in the happy position of hosting a post-All-Ireland Finals' banquet to celebrate the achievements of our minor and senior teams at the Citywest Hotel in Dublin. In relation to the organisation of this function I express grateful appreciation to Cuthbert Donnelly and Michael Harvey for the time and work devoted to this, ensuring that the 1700 guests were all appropriately facilitated. I am grateful also to Roisin Jordan and Cliodhna Kerr for their massive contribution of time and energy to the detailed preparation of an event that was acknowledged as a major success from all perspectives.

With the Tom Markham and Sam Maguire Cups residing together in Tyrone for the first time, and indeed for the first time ever in Ulster, Cuthbert Donnelly at once opened a diary to accommodate all of the requests that started immediately for their appearances at functions in all parts of the county and further afield. We sincerely thank Cuthbert for taking on this very important role of bringing the Cups out to the people, in the Clubs, at the functions, at the events, in the hospitals, in the schools and even to the individuals' homes. Also, we appreciate the generous sponsorship provided to the County by the Donnelly Group in the form of 'Sam's Car' decorated and branded in the Tyrone colours, and driven by Cuthbert. Thanks to Terence Donnelly for all of his support.

Finally, on the matter of sponsorship I am particularly grateful to the major sponsors of Tyrone GAA for 2008.

I thank **Rocwell** through Managing Director, Brian Quinn for its generous support of all the County teams; also, Kieran Kennedy, Managing Director of **O'Neills International Sportswear** for its provision of all playing and leisure gear to the County teams in addition to financial sponsorship. O'Neills International Sportswear is also a generous sponsor of Tyrone's adult



league competitions. Our gratitude is expressed to Willie John and Margaret Dolan of **WJ Dolan Construction** for its continued sponsorship of the adult championships in football and hurling.

In 2008 we were pleased to welcome new sponsors to the County's Youth games in both football and hurling; I thank **Teamtalk** through Chris Curran for its financial support of the underage competitions.

Also, I welcome and thank **Pat Fahy & Co Solicitors** for its sponsorship of our match programmes. Finally, I am grateful to **Club Energise** who joined Tyrone's sponsorship list during 2008 with the provision of a generous supply of sports drinks for all teams, in addition to its financial contribution; for this package I offer our appreciation to Carla Quinn.

As ever, we are extremely grateful to the membership of Club Tyrone who continue to dig deep to financially support the County Committee and its County teams, year after year. We thank the PR/Marketing Committee for its management of Club Tyrone and for its organisation of the celebratory Presentation Banquet in the Hillgrove Hotel in November.

We extend thanks to the Mallaghan family for the provision of their facilities at Carton House, Maynooth for the sixth Annual Golf Classic held last May; appreciation goes to Tomás McCaughey and Peter Loughran for their organisation of this very successful event, once again. In concluding this section I wish to pay tribute to the Officers of all the Clubs in the county with whom I have worked throughout the 2008 season; I thank all for their patience, co-operation and understanding during another very busy and highly successful year.

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## • Combhrón •

Finally we recall those who died during the year 2008. We offer sincere sympathy to all members of the Association that have suffered bereavements, to their Clubs and especially to their families.

In particular, sympathy is expressed to the family of Paddy Mullin who represented the Drumragh Club on the County Committee and who died suddenly following the County finals at Healy Park, where he had been fulfilling stewarding duties, as he did for all our major games. Similarly, we extend sympathy to the family of the late Gerald O'Doherty (Omagh) who officiated as a dance adjudicator at our Scór competitions, having given many years loyal service to his Club as one of its top dancers with many County, Provincial and National awards having been achieved.

At this time we remember Darren McAnenly (Errigal Ciaran) tragically killed in a road accident who was brother-in-law of Fergal McCann, Primary School Coach and trainer of the senior football team; John Devine, father of John, goalkeeper on the senior football team who died on the eve of the All-Ireland finals, and Jimmy Quinlivan, brother of Peter, video analyst for the senior football team.

We sympathise with Cormac McAleer (Carrickmore) on the death of his mother Shiela, with the Trillick Club on the death of former referee John Kelly, and with the Castlederg Club on the tragic death of former long-serving Secretary, Charlie McHugh.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-anamacha.





## AFFILIATED CLUBS - 2008

### Hurling (7)

Cappagh Gaels, Carrickmore, Dungannon, Naomh Colmcille, Naomh Eoin, Setanta and Shamrocks

### Football

#### Senior (Division 1) (16)

Aghyaran, Ardboe, Carrickmore, Clonoe, Coalisland, Cookstown, Donaghmore, Dromore, Eglishe, Errigal Ciaran, Galbally, Kildress, Killyman, Killyclogher, Loughmacrory, Omagh

#### Intermediate (Division 2) (16)

Clann na nGael, Derrylaughan, Dungannon, Edendork, Eskra, Gortin, Greencastle, Killeeshil, Moortown, Moy, Pomeroy, Rock, Stewartstown, Tattyreagh, Trillick, Urney

#### Junior (Division 3) (17)

Aghaloo, Augher, Beragh, Brackville, Brockagh, Castlederg, Clogher, Derrytresk, Dregish, Drumquin, Drumragh, Errigal Ciaran III, E.R.Uí Néill, Fintona, Glenelly, Newtownstewart, Strabane.



Tyrone players celebrate at the final whistle of the 2008 All-Ireland senior final





# • TUARASCÁLA NA FOCHOISTI •

## (SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS)

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1. Coiste Cultúir & Teanga
2. Integration Committee
3. Coiste na nÓg
4. Grúpa Oibre Comhfhreagrais
5. Coiste um Forfheidhmiú Straitéiseach
6. Coiste Faisnéis Teicneolaíochta
7. Alcohol & Substance Abuse Programme
8. Coiste Riaracháin Réiteoirí
9. Coiste Éisteachta
10. Coiste Forbartha Iomána
11. Coiste Pleanála & Forbartha Fisiciúla
12. Coiste Ceannais na gComórtaisí
13. Coiste Traenála & Forbartha na gCluichí
14. Bainisteoir Forbartha Peile
15. Bainisteoir Forbartha Iomána
16. Coiste Caidrimh Phoiblí & Margaíochta



## • COISTE CULTÚIR & TEANGA •

### Cathoirleach: Dónal Mac Aoidh

Committee members: Runaí - Cliodhna Kerr (An Charraig Mhór), Oliver Corr (Oilean a' Ghuail), Cormac McAleer (An Charraig Mhór), Eamonn Campbell (N Colmcille Hurling Club), Seamus Kilpatrick (Cabán an Chaorthainn), Caroline McHugh (Aghyaran), Steven Hughes (Dungannon)

### SCÓR

By far the most successful aspect of the fo-coiste is the promotion and development of our culture through the Scór programme.

Alongside the conventional Scór activities it was agreed that the cultural aspect of our association would reach a wider audience if it was coupled with the field sports. When the National League campaign started in 2008 permission was granted to the fo coiste to organise match entertainment by showcasing aspects of the 8 disciplines in the Scór programme. Due to the nature of the 'venue' certain disciplines promoted themselves albeit rince foirne & seit, ceol uirlise and bailéad ghrúpa. Having a wide variety of clubs and competitors to pick from meant that the standard on those days was extremely high and enlightened some of those spectators who would be less than familiar with this dimension of Cumann Luth-chleas Gael.

The culture and language sub-committee has now taken on this new and enlarged programme during the course of the past year within Cumann Luth-Chleas Gael in Tyrone. It is no longer a committee which is operational only in the closed season but practically all the year round, right from the beginning of January until the week before Christmas.



All-Ireland Champions, Nuachleas: Killyclogher St Mary's



This year saw Cultural performances at a McKenna Cup game in Omagh on 9th January 2008 when Kileeshil Ballad group and Augher Instrumental Group played for the crowd. The stage at this event was shared with professional entertainers and thankfully this was the last occasion when this was to happen.

Entertainment was further provided at National League games against Kildare and Donegal respectively in February and March. The entertainment on these occasions was provided by Edendork Ceol Uirlise, Drumragh Ballad, Eglishe Ceol Uirlise and Donaghmore Ballad groups.

While the match entertainment is a welcome new aspect of our function this did not detract in any way from the fiercely competitive aspect of Scór competition. The clubs at Scór na nÓg continued with their progress through the Ulster Championship with Cill Íseal N Mhuire reaching the All Ireland Finals in Athlone. Unfortunately they were not successful but acquitted themselves with distinction. Full results for both age groups are published at the end of this report.

Scór Sinsear had begun at this stage of the year and Tyrone excelled themselves with three disciplines reaching the All Ireland Finals in Killarney in April. It was a terrific effort by Omagh St Enda's Rince Foirne and Bailéad Ghrúpa teams and Killyclogher St Mary's Nuacleas group winning their respective All Ireland Finals. These three wins moved Tyrone to the top of the National Roll of Honour in the most All Ireland titles won at Senior level. This feat was recognised by a civic reception hosted by Omagh District Council.

Scór participation did not finish here as it normally would. For the first time Comhairle Uladh allowed Drumragh Ceol Uirlise, (Ulster Finalists) and Omagh St Enda's Ballad Group (All Ireland Champions) to provide entertainment for the huge crowd at Healy park for the first round of the Ulster Championship in what was to be another whirlwind year for Tyrone teams. The importance of this was that genuine recognition was at last being offered to another amateur branch of Cumann Luth-Chleas Gael. Scór groups further became involved in Tyrone's run up to the All Ireland Football final in September when Drumragh and Donaghmore groups performed at the Press Night in Carrickmore. TG4 also recorded a programme called 'Feilte' about the build up to the All Ireland Final. This programme was recorded at Dun Uladh and featured Tyrone Scór na nÓg county champion, Niamh McElduff from An Charraig Mhór and the Derrylaughan Ceol Uirlise group. It was screened on TG4 on the Saturday night following the All Ireland final. This was to be followed by appearance at the Official Homecoming for the Senior Football team at Healy Park on the Monday night after the All Ireland Final. Ceolteoirí Tír Eoghain, Omagh Rince Foirne and Ballad groups (All Ireland Champions welcoming All Ireland Champions) Donaghmore Ceol Uirlise and Drumragh Instrumental/Ballad Group providing entertainment for the huge crowd.

During the course of the summer Drumragh Ceol Uirlise and Killyclogher Nuachleas provided entertainment for the Seamus de Faolte concert at the Comhairle Uladh Irish language course in Downings. Also the Omagh Rince Foirne and Killyclogher Nuacleas teams were invited to perform at the centenary celebration of the famed Cornafean club in Cavan on the night following Tyrone's memorable victory over Dublin in Croke Park.

Entertainment on the County Final day was provided by Eglishe St Patrick's Ceol Uirlise while Drumragh Ceol Uirlise and James Cook from Donaghmore St Patrick's provided entertainment for the guests at the Tyrone Gala Banquet which celebrated the double success of Tyrone football teams in this year's All Ireland series.



The opportunity to perform on occasions such as these has given many of our clubs the incentives to attain a standard at which they can perform in front of such big crowds. And obviously with this opportunity to show case culture comes additional work to the fo-choiste meeting the clubs going through rehearsals and ensuring that everything is organised for their performance.

At time of going to press with this report the fo-choiste has noted a marked increase in participation in Scór competition this year. A total of forty three clubs took part in the preliminary round of Scór na nÓg in October this year and of these twenty four have survived as far as the County final held at Killeeshil Community Centre on 23rd November 2008. The Ulster Semi Finals were held in Aghyaran St Davog's on 13th December and by the time of this convention we will know how many Tyrone clubs will be represented at the Ulster finals to be held at Silverbridge in Armagh in January 2009.

In addition to the usual promotion work done at Scór every participant in the Scór programme was awarded a certificate in recognition of their efforts.

Aside also from this Coiste Cultúir was actively involved in meeting with the finance committee to help gain financial assistance for clubs travelling to All Ireland Finals in Killarney and Athlone. This is being further pursued by making representations to Comhairle Uladh and Ard Comhairle in an attempt to redress the apparent disadvantage Ulster Clubs are suffering due to their distance from the All Ireland venues.

Coiste Cultúir anus Teanga also met the strategic implementation committee to outline the programme of work undertaken by the fo-choiste and to discuss aspects of 'Ag Ardú na Laimhe Dearg' which had relevance for Coiste Cultúir and to request the removal of some duties outlined which were not relevant to the sub committee.

A further important aspect of our work is the provision of Club Clusters for clubs to be made aware of all aspects of promoting and developing Scór with in the club. Five of these have been held to date and this scheme should finish next year when the remaining clubs in the County will have the opportunity to attend one such course. By then all of the clubs in the county will have either attended or been offered the opportunity to attend one of these courses.

May I take this opportunity to thank all the clubs who hosted or offered to host Scór events this year. I thank them for the use of their facilities and assistance with preparations before and on the night as well as the clean up they did after our events. There was always a ready cup of tea for workers and adjudicators on the night, which was deeply appreciated.

The fo-choiste recognises that clubs put a terrific effort into promoting our culture. The current season saw 43 clubs participated in Scór na nÓg and hopefully the Scór Sinsear clubs will equal the participation levels in this the fortieth year of the Scór programme.

## AN TEANGA

The other aim is to promote and develop the language within the county. Currently this is achieved chiefly by administering Gaeltacht scholarships to young people to encourage them to attend courses in the Irish speaking districts of Donegal. The total money spent on scholarships this year was £720 given out as £30 to applicants. We encourage clubs to make use of signage in Irish and in many club meetings which take place on a regular basis round the county. An annual



Irish language course at Downings in Donegal is organised by Comhairle Uladh supported and promoted by the fo-choiste. Unfortunately only 20 Gaels from Tyrone undertook this fee free course. I being one found it most helpful and would recommend it to anyone.

The biggest problem with promoting and developing the Irish language in Tyrone is the fact that no one knows exactly what levels of Irish are used in the clubs of the county. To address this problem Coiste Cultúir decided to organise an audit of Irish with in Tyrone. Unfortunately the initial response was poor so we appealed to the clubs a second time for a more positive response and currently a total of twenty seven clubs responded to the questionnaire. This is about half of the clubs in the county. It is hoped that the results of the audit will be ready for the convention. The strategy for the promotion of the Irish language would be best left to the incoming Culture and Language committee.

With the ever increasing work load in clubs it proved difficult on occasion to make contact with one person who was involved with the promotion of Scór and / a Cultural/Language officer. As an area of development we decided to compile a database of current cultural officers and make direct contact with them through the newly established email address - culture@tyrone.gaa.ie (for those of you who don't know and may need it!). Each club, men's, ladies and hurling clubs, were circulated with questionnaires asking for details of cultural officers so that a proper data base could be set up. This will also improve the line of communication between the culture committee and the clubs in general but unfortunately to date we currently have just over 30 names. We urge clubs at AGMs to please make an effort to appoint one or two individuals who are interested in promotion of cultural and language activities. It will add a new dimension to the club and make your club accessible to those who are not currently involved.

### Acknowledgement

Coiste Cultúir agus Teanga would like to pay tribute to the contribution made to cultural affairs in this county by Anna McCaughey. Anna McCaughey took the decision, at the start of this year, to step back from her involvement in the Culture committee. Anna was part of the first committee promoting cultural affairs in the county and her contribution can only be described as immense. Equally our thanks goes to Anna for the statistics produced here today of all the Scór winners at local level from Scór was started in Tyrone. But for her foresight records like these would have been lost for ever. Thank you Anna.

### Scór na nÓg County Champions 2008

Rince Foirne	An Charraig Mhór, N Colmcille
Amhránaíocht	Niamh Nic Giolla Dubh, An Charraig Mhór, N Colmcille
Ceol Uirlise	Eochair, N Mhic Artain
Aithriseoireacht	Seamus Curran, Eadan na dTorc
Baileád Ghrúpa	Cill Íseal, N Mhuire
Nuachleas	Eaglais, St Pádraig
Rince Seit	An Charraig Mhór, N Colmcille
Trath na gCeist	Cill Dreasa, Uilf Tón

### Scór Sinsear County Champions 2008

Rince Foirne	Omagh St Enda's
Amhránaíocht	Andrea Begley, Pomeroy



Anna McCaughey



Ceol Uirlise	Drumragh Sarsfields
Aithriseoireacht	Catherine O'Hagan, Moortown
Baileád Ghrúpa	Omagh St Enda's
Nuachleas	Killiclogher St Mary's
Rince Seit	Killiclogher St Mary's
Trath na gCeist	Eaglais St Pádraig

The sub committee had 10 formal meetings, several informal, 3 club clusters, a variety of meetings with clubs and other relevant committees and the minutes of these meetings are kept and forward to the CAM in accordance with the guidelines issued to all at the start of the year.

It only remains for us to continue to encourage and help the clubs and individuals in Tyrone to promote and develop the national language and culture to the best of our ability.

## • Integration Committee •

### Cathaoirleach: Ciaran MacLochlain

In Tyrone 29 of our 36 Ladies clubs are already integrated with their men's GAA clubs. The Integration Committee Cathaoirleach Ciaran McLaughlin and Rúnaí Anne Marie Meehan offered to assist the other clubs with integration as necessary. The Committee also organised several fixtures involving a club playing men / ladies matches; most notably when Donaghmore ladies played Drumquin prior to the Donaghmore men playing Kildress in the SFC.

However, it must be pointed out, whilst we in Tyrone will integrate where we can, until the National and Provincial Councils for both codes come together to deal with the issues of integration, starting with fixtures setting nationally, very little progress will be made.

However, to finish on a positive note, in our clubs we must note Ladies Gaelic Football is the biggest female sport in Ireland in terms of active participants and is impacting on the lives of young women and the communities they live in. Thus our priority in our clubs must be to sustain our clubs for these young peoples collective good.

## • Coiste Na nÓg •

### Cathaoirleach: Kieran McHugh

Committee: Seamus Hannigan (An Omaigh), Rúnaí: Sean McConnell (Glean Eallaigh), Pat Clarke (An Caisleán Glas); Patrick Kelly (Baile na Móna); Adrian Gilmore (An Chorra Chríochach); Patrick Gervin (Doire Lochain); Anne Gervin (Bruachaile); Desmond O'Doherty (An Omaigh); Paul Coney (Ard Bó); Paddy O'Brien (Loch Mhic Ruairí); John Coney (Coill an Chlochair); Anne Dooher (Clann Na nGael); Matt McDermott (Setanta).

### Membership

In 2008 John Coney collected youth registration details from all clubs. In 2009 all club membership including Youth will be completed on the new Croke Park online system. Thanks to John for his work on memberships for the past few years.



## Go Games

Go Games continue to go from strength to strength and the regular blitzes have again proved very enjoyable for young players in 2008.

I am delighted to report that in 2008 the vast majority of clubs, coaches, parents and young players bought into the key objectives of Go Games. These objectives are providing the opportunity for all children to participate and promoting fair play. Hopefully the relatively few clubs that have yet to fully embrace Go Games will do so in 2009 and all young players in the county can enjoy the benefits of participation, increased enjoyment, increased number of touches on the ball, increased physical work rate and increased perception of competence.

At the beginning of 2008 Patrick Kelly took up the challenge of overall Go Games coordinator with great enthusiasm and energy. Patrick together with rest of the Youth Committee undertook a full review of Go Games numbers, groups and structures and this proved very beneficial. Many thanks to Patrick and to the Go Games coordinators for their enthusiasm and hard work throughout the year: Coordinators were: Adrian Gilmore, Patrick Gervin, Anne Gervin, Desmond O'Doherty, Paul Coney, Paddy O'Brien, Anne Dooher & Sean McConnell.

### CCC

In 2008 there was again an extensive programme of games at U-13, U-14, Feile, Og Sport, U-16 & U-18. Organising these games involved a huge volume of work. Thanks are extended to John Coney (Youth Fixtures Secretary) and Seamus McGirr & Paddy O'Brien (Youth Referee's Appointments) for their hard work throughout the year.

Unfortunately in 2008 the planned Minor football programme was disrupted and delayed by the success of college and county teams. Hopefully the successes of 2008 are repeated in the future but structures and plans can be put in place to ensure games at all levels can proceed without the disruption experienced in 2008.

The Youth Committee and CCC introduced some changes to the U-13 FL for 2008 on a trial basis. The aim of these changes was to build on the success of Go Games in recent seasons and to help young players bridge the gap between Go Games football rules at U-10 & U-12 and 'full rules'. The main change was the implementation of the 'Two Touch' Rule. The coaching aim, of this modified possession rule, is to promote better team-play and decision-making rather than a few players dominating possession. Feedback from clubs and coaches on this trial has been very positive and serious consideration must be given to introducing this two touch rule at U-14 level in 2009. It is vital that we continue to review and improve on our youth structures if Tyrone is to remain as a top football county in the future.



Omagh ST. Enda's - Tyrone Under 16 Champions 2008





## Communication

Many thanks to County PRO Damian Harvey and his committee for their work in producing programmes for finals as well as maintaining the excellent Tyrone GAA website.

## Thanks

I would like to extend my thanks to all clubs for their help and assistance throughout the year, particularly those clubs that made their pitches available for games.

Thanks to Teamtalk for their sponsorship of Youth Competitions in 2008.

Thanks also to all the members of the Youth Committee, An Coiste Bainisti and to the CCC for their help and assistance.

Finally I would like to pay particular thanks to CCC Chairman Ciaran McLaughlin for all his help and support, the amount of work Ciaran does is staggering and his energy it seems is endless.

## Attendance at Meetings 2008

Seamus Hannigan (3), Sean McConnell (3), Pat Clarke (3), Patrick Kelly (3), Adrian Gilmore (3), Patrick Gervin (3), Anne Gervin (3), Desmond O'Doherty (3), Paul Coney (3), Paddy O'Brien (3), John Coney (3), Anne Dooher (3) Matt McDermott (1).

# • Grúpa Oibre Comhfhreagrais •

## Cathaoirleach: Damán Ó hAirmhí

The Communications Committee met on seven occasions during the past year. Membership and attendance at the meetings was as follows.

Damian Harvey An Chorra Chriochach (7), Eugene McConnell (7), Kenny Curran, Loch Mhic Ruairi (6), Brendan Harkin, Coill an Chlochair (6), Paddy Hunter, An Omaigh (7), Alan Rodgers An Bearach (7), Ger Treacy An Bearach (6), Gerry McGinn Taite Riabhach (3)

## Programmes

Red Hand View - I am delighted to report to delegates that the Communications Committee reassumed the role of producing the National League Programmes in 2008 for all seven football and hurling home games. 'The Red Hand View' concept created by the PR/Marketing committee was maintained and improved upon this year and I want to pay tribute to Eugene McConnell, Brendan Harkin, Kenny Curran, Alan Rodgers, Ger Treacy, Paddy Hunter and Gerry McGinn who all put significant effort into the production of these very high quality programmes. Credit must also go to Chris Curran who did a wonderful job in designing many of the programmes produced by the committee in 2008.

Youth Final Programmes - At a meeting early in the year I stressed the need for clubs to co-operate with the communications committee in order to provide us with information as early as possible in the week prior to league and championship finals. On only two occasions in 2008 were we unable to produce programmes due to a lack of information. I want to take this opportunity to thank the clubs and in particular those involved in forwarding the information. Quite often I received emails from clubs many days in advance of the deadlines and I really appreciate their cooperation.





Senior Programmes - At the beginning of the year the communications committee committed to produce a match programme for all adult championship games. In order to cut down on the cost of these programmes we decided to run with one programme to cover multiple games over a weekend. The clubs were excellent in returning squad lists for these programmes however those attending the games were reluctant to purchase. I would recommend that the communications committee in 2009 take a serious look at the whether or not we can afford to produce club championship programmes prior to the semi finals of our adult championship games.

Programme Sales - I would like to take this opportunity to thank a number of people who were involved in helping us sell our programmes throughout 2008. Firstly Eugene McConnell who co-ordinated the sale of programmes for all National League and Club Championship games. I would also like to pay tribute to John McElholm from Omagh who ran a very efficient band of young helpers throughout the National League and Club Championship Finals. I also thank Michael Harvey, Cuthbert Donnelly, Donal Magee, Dermot McCaughey, and Pat Nugent, all of whom co-ordinated programme sales at various grounds throughout the year.

### **Tyrone Handbook**

The Tyrone Handbook returned to print in 2008 and continues to prove popular with all committee members, managers and administrators here in Tyrone. As the booklet is now held electronically I am now in a position to ensure that clubs will now only need to amend their changes to club contacts in 2009. It is hoped that this will speed up the process and allow the 2009 Communication Committee to produce the booklet much earlier in the new year.

### **Press Night**

The run up to the 21st September was a busy period for all of us and the All Ireland Final Press night as always continues to prove to be a huge success. Forty-two journalists from as far away as Cork, made their way to Carrickmore in the first week of September and the event was organised and ran smoothly due to the support of the committee and stewards of An Charraig Mhór. In particular I would like to thank Mick Daly, Pat Nugent, Sean Daly, Sean Kerr, Cliodhna Kerr and Michael Kerr. One of the things that continues to impress many journalists from outside of Tyrone is the willingness of our managers and players to make themselves available for interviews. In conversation with many reporters throughout the year they are always very grateful that this is the case. Numerous other counties do not see the point in engaging with the media at any level. I would like to thank senior link officer Michael McGoldrick and minor link officer Ciaran McLaughlin who kept me up to date with team news throughout the year.

### **Print Media**

We are fortunate in Tyrone to have a very strong core group of diehard GAA men from the print media who do an excellent job in promoting our games. These people attend games in all sorts of inclement weather and work hard to provide a link between those games and the many thousands of people in parishes around the county and beyond. The print media are entitled to an opinion about any facet of our organisation our games provided they are balanced opinions. We should however be quick to challenge those individuals who offer examples of poor research and unwarranted written assaults on individuals who do their best to coach, manage and administer our organisation.





## Photography

Throughout the course of the last twelve months I have had many wonderful action photos from club and county games emailed to me from photographers from around the country. I would like to take this opportunity however to thank Jim Dunne who continues to provide free of charge the majority of the images for the Tyrone GAA website.

## TV & Radio

Over the last couple of years we have been fortunate to have an increased presence on the airwaves of our local radio stations. This has been largely due to the work of Paddy Hunter who does a tremendous job in promoting our games through Q101 and Six FM. I have no doubt that the people confined to their homes and those unable to make the games really enjoy the coverage that is provided. I want to congratulate Communications Committee member Paddy on his recent success in winning the Micheál Ó Muirheartaigh National Sports Commentator of the Year Award for 2008. I have also been fortunate to have worked with a number of other TV and radio broadcasters this year. I would like to thank the BBC's Ger Treacy, Austin O'Callaghan, Aileen Moynagh and Jerome Quinn as well as RTÉ's Kevin Eagan for their assistance in getting our message out there and helping to promote what we do here in Tyrone.

At this point I would like to make it clear to delegates that there are serious issues that need to be addressed at a senior level within the BBC. It is my opinion that their coverage of Gaelic games is sporadic at best. The Monday after the Ulster Club quarter finals no mention were made of them on BBC Newslive. In a recent telephone conversation with a senior person involved in managing BBC Sports coverage I was told that he "could not justify providing live coverage of the All Ireland Minor final replay", as it would mean that he would have to drop Irish League coverage. This same gentleman had the option to split FM and MW coverage and put the All Ireland Minor Final replay on live but he refused to do so. In an age when Radio and TV is increasingly moving to digital, the Radio Ulster GAA commentary team find themselves marooned on MW. In 2009 the BBC will provide FM quality broadcasting for soccer and rugby on a Saturday. On a Sunday the National League will be broadcast on MW with no plans to cover any game played on a Saturday night. This can no longer be acceptable and I would appeal to the many thousand GAA people who are forced to pay their licence to make their thoughts known.

## Raising the Red Hand

In December 2008 the Raising the Red Hand initiative was launched and since then the Communication committee has been working to address many of the objectives highlighted in the report. I have outlined below just four of the ten objectives that we have achieved so far...

Pg 34 Theme 8 Sustaining & Cherishing the Volunteer

Continue to acknowledge the Volunteer - A series of features on club volunteers in all Red Hand View Programmes were covered during the National league

Pg 36 Marketing, Communications & PR

Publish the Tyrone GAA fixtures and information booklet - Published in March 2008

Pg 36 Marketing, Communications & PR - Produce the Red Hand View match programmes for all Tyrone home games - All Hurling and Football National League home games had a high quality programme in 2008





Pg 37 Marketing, Communications & PR - Host an annual seminar / workshop / briefing for Club PRO's - Held in February 2008

## The Role of County PRO

When I took over as PRO from Brendan Harkin in December last year I had no idea of the rollercoaster twelve months that lay ahead of me. I would like to thank Brendan who immediately offered his support on the committee after stepping down from the post in 2007. Hundreds and hundreds of phone calls and over a thousand emails later I come to the end of 2008. The media attention on Tyrone in later part of the summer was incredible. In the three weeks prior to the All Ireland Final in September I was fielding some ten to twenty phone calls a day from journalists from all parts of the country. I want to state at this point that the vast majority of the journalists that contacted me did so with courtesy and a great respect for the way that we do things here in Tyrone. I have enjoyed the banter with them all. It has been a great privilege to have been PRO in Tyrone over the last twelve months and to have been part of such an historic year for the county. I would like to finish by thanking all the clubs and my fellow county officers for their support and advice this year.

*Síne é agus fo raibh míle maith agaibh go léir*

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## • Coiste um Forfheidhmiú Straitéiseach •

### Cathaiorleach: Diarmaid Mac Eochaidh

#### Introduction

##### What is 'Raising the Red Hand'?

It is a strategy for the GAA in Tír Eoghain. It has been adopted unanimously by Coiste Thír Eoghain in 2007. There are ten themes that cover all aspects of GAA activity in Tír Eoghain. Each theme has targets and outcomes for the next four years (one year of the strategy has passed). It is an operating manual for Cumann Lúthchleas Thír Eoghain, as voiced by CLG Thír Eoghain. 'Raising the Red Hand' is meant to be a living document that will evolve.

##### Why implement 'Raising the Red Hand'?

It is not simply a question of 'why'. All workers for CLG Thír Eoghain have been mandated, indeed ordered, to work in accordance with 'Raising the Red Hand'. If one is not working for it one is acting against it. It is a key part of our modernisation package and investors will, rightly, check on its progress and implementation. Delivery is practically entirely in our own hands, there is nothing to fear and everything to embrace. Above all else, it is the right thing to do.

##### What we have done

Our active committee members during the year have been Alan Rodgers (Rúnaí), Sarah Jane Kelly, Aidan Maguire, Eugene McConnell, Séamus McDonald, Gary McKiver, Ciarán McBride and Cliodhna Kerr. Mark Conway has helped in a consultative capacity. Go raibh maith agaibh go léir. Our committee has met on 10 occasions. We have a fervent meas for 'Raising the Red Hand' and have studied it inside out. We have met with CLG committees (listened, talked and thought), written to and sought responses from committees, consulted with others and reported in writing to all Coiste Thír Eoghain meetings.





## Implementation Progress

Some targets have been met, some practices adopted. We acknowledge and praise these efforts. However, there have been too many missed chances. Earnest effort needs to be harnessed and firmly focussed to avoid unnecessary overlapping with associated tensions. Demarcation is necessary. Nailing outcomes to the correct fingers on right or left hand is crucial to ensure that nothing is neglected. The strategy is quite new but time is moving on. The ball or sliothar have been thrown in, the céilí dancing is over, it is time for a few point-winning aces. Ar aghaidh linn. Most of our team are volunteers. If one is concerned by any aspect of 'Raising the Red hand', please refer back to the 'why'. We are all part of the same team, we must implement our themes and forget about too many solo runs. They use energy and achieve little.

## What we are going to do

Coiste Thír Eoghain accepted the necessity to draw up job descriptions for County Executive officer posts and job plans for County committees with reference to 'Raising the Red Hand'. This is fundamental work. It has been accepted that we do this work, it has already started with results in Eanáir 2009, le cúnamh Dé. This is the starting point for next year's work. There will be an element of catch-up initially but let's see what happens.

## I ndeire na dála

It has been an excellent year for CLG Thír Eoghain. Tá orainn go léir a fhéacaint chuige go bhfeicimid a leithéid arís agus arís eile as seo amach. Never take it for granted! I wish to thank all volunteers and my friends on this committee for their dedication, gp mbeirimid beo ag an am seo arís. Nollaig shona daoibh, a chairde uilig.

# • Grúpa Faisnéis Teicneolaíochta •

## Cathaoirleach: Damán Ó hAirmhí

Committee Members : Dominic McCaughey (Trí Leac), Ciaran McLaughlin (An Strath Ban), Ciaran McHugh (Achadh Uí Arain)

## Website

Since its inception in November 2006 the TyroneGAA.ie website has had in excess of 1.3 million visitors. In 2008 over 400 stories were added to the website and the bulk of this work has been done by all four members of the group. I would like at this point to acknowledge the support of Dominic, Ciaran McLaughlin and Kieran McHugh in helping to maintain the website.

The business of updating scores and tables this year has been made much easier through the use of the eSports Manager suite and I would like to thank Seamus Kyne from 21st Century Sport for the support in 2008.

## Digital Images

As I mentioned earlier in the communications report we are fortunate to have images provided for the website by one of the finest photographers in the country, Jim Dunne. Throughout the long playing year Jim has taken and forwarded some wonderful action shots which continue to enhance the popularity of our website.





## Future ICT Infrastructure

In last years convention book I mentioned the fact that we need to think carefully about how we fit out our new Training Centre in Garvaghey. Over the next twelve months there will be a need to source technology which will enhance the usefulness of the building. The types of technology that need to be included in this building need to be carefully planned now.

## • Alcohol & Substance Abuse Prevention (ASAP) •

### Cathaoirleach: Cuthbert Ó Donnaile

The ASAP continues to grow in profile both at Provincial and National level. The launch of the ASAP resources at National level has added great value to the programme, with a website ([www.gaa.ie/asap](http://www.gaa.ie/asap)), Club Manual and DVD all available to support Clubs and Counties going through the programme. There are currently 26 County officers appointed across the Country. In Ulster, eight of the nine Counties have appointed officers and are in the process of forming their committees. Tyrone is at the forefront in Ulster with a Committee formed and having already met. Information nights have been held in Tyrone to raise the profile of the programme and to encourage clubs to appoint their own officers to drive the programme locally. All clubs have embraced this programme and are to be congratulated on their exceptional response in ensuring Tyrone once again have led the way enthusiastically in implementing the ASAP.

Most Tyrone members will be aware that Congress this year voted in support of a motion to ban Cups being filled with alcohol; again in Tyrone we were ahead of that vote and had implemented this motion several years ago.

All clubs are encouraged to keep ASAP on their Clár, particularly as we are at AGM time of the year and clubs should use their AGM to re-appoint their ASAP for 2009, when our County's ASAP Committee will once again be taking the ASAP across the county.

Committee Membership & Meeting Attendance

Cuthbert Donnelly (1), Ciaran McLaughlin (1), Paul Mallon (1), Mary Connolly (1), Pat McGivern (1), Roisin Falconer (1)

## • Coiste Riaracháin Réiteoirí •

### Rúnaí: Micheal O'hAodha

#### Committee Work 2008

It would be remiss of this Committee not to start this report with congratulations to the players, management teams and support personnel of both the Tyrone Seniors and Minors who brought great honour, excitement and joy to our County in 2008.

During the year the Committee held twenty-nine different meetings which included Committee Meetings, referee's seminars, assessors seminars, fitness and rules testing and strategy development. This report highlights the work under-taken by the Committee as a result of its specific responsibilities.

**Recruitment:** From over 50 clubs in Tyrone only ten nominations were received by the Committee for referee training. It should be noted that once again all nominations were for





football with no response from any of the hurling clubs although indications for the 2009 season are at this stage are very encouraging. Whilst all ten completed the taught element of the training only five finally completed the course by taking both the written and physical tests. This return whilst encouraging for referee numbers represents poor value for money given the huge investment in time, manpower and financial resources that is required to complete the training schedule. Clubs nominating personnel for referee training need to be aware of the commitment required from their nominees and should take all steps necessary to ensure that full completion of the course is a rule rather than the exception.

**Training:** Training during the year was somewhat disjointed given the nature of the fixture programme. Our championship seminars were fewer than before and in some cases poorly attended. One of these required attendance from the umpires of the referee's involved in the championship. This was disappointing and given some of the poor umpire performances in our 2008 championship something that needs to be addressed as a matter of urgency.

On a positive note the Committee with the co-operation of our championship referees and assessors broke new ground at the latter part of the season when actual assessments were analysed by referees within the seminar/training setting. This was a brave step to take and one which can only be built upon in the coming years. Sincere thanks to the referees and assessors who allowed this analysis to take place and to other referees and assessors for the constructive approach to this venture.

**Assessment:** Assessments continue to be a key area for development by the Committee. This year after some months of preparation the Committee introduced a new assessment form with accompanying guidance notes for completion. Like all new processes there have been teething problems mainly in the area of score interpretation. However a good start has been made but there is no doubt that further fine tuning is required in the years to come and much more emphasis on assessor training will be needed if we are to establish uniformity of interpretation of the guidance notes which will ultimately lead to consistency of assessment reports.

One area which also needs attention is the assessment of new referees many of whom will start at youth level. To make the assessment programme work requires full co-operation of the various appointment secretaries with ample notification of games and the details of who has been appointed to them. Having to go chasing this information does little for quality planning.

Given the changes to our assessment procedures all the assessors must be acknowledged for their efforts during 2008.

**Counselling:** The number of formal counselling sessions held during the year has been significantly reduced. The trend of more informal conversations continued during the season. Whilst this may seem positive there was no doubt that some referees may have benefited from more structured counselling sessions. This is another area where the Committee need to be more pro-active rather than re-active during the 2009 season.

**Classification:** Notification of grading of referees still requires attention. Yet again testing was completed later than is required to allow referees to know their grades and for the appointments process from the outset of the season to make relevant appointments. To make this classification work requires a number of structural changes to the overall testing process.

Firstly by the beginning of March all referees should have completed both the written and



physical tests. To achieve this seminars and fitness sessions to be started no later than mid January. This is difficult given that the Referee's Committee may only be known around this time.

Secondly to allow for checks and balances within this process further testing must be done in June. This will enhance both the knowledge and fitness factors of referees especially those placed on the main Championship panel. Whilst many referees may not like the idea of two tests the idea of one test at the start of the season with the possibility of no further engagement in at least rules sessions should no longer be an option for serving referees.

**Strategic Development:** At the time of writing this report the final draft of the Referee Development Strategic Plan has been prepared for one further analysis by clubs and referees. This will then be presented to Coiste Banisti through the Strategic Development team in time for the 2008 County Convention.

The development of the strategy presented the Committee with an enormous challenge but with the assistance mainly of referees and the support of the Development team a very wide ranging and hugely challenging Referee's Strategy has been developed. What has been disappointing has been the support and interest shown at club level highlighted in full by the fact that at a special strategy meeting for clubs only four thought it worth their while to turn up.

The important part of the strategy is still to some, the implementation of the wide number of actions which require co-operation, support and input across the Association. Given the extent of the strategy and the County's commitment to excellence and leading the way the time has come to consider the appointment of a paid referee development officer who as a fully qualified tutor could develop outreach programmes to new audiences.

**Appointments:** Whilst outside the responsibility of the Committee the thorny issue of appointments or in many cases apparently non-appointments are an issue which the Committee deal with on an ongoing basis. It must be acknowledged that there was a great improvement in the use of various sub-committees to make appointments during the 2008 season.

Whilst these improvements are welcomed the job of the appointment's secretaries was not helped by the high level of pullouts especially at youth level. It was disappointing to note the number of referees who through their registration forms indicated availability for the various competitions but who then on a consistent basis pulled out of games some of these being at a very late stage. What is now required is a large dose of honesty from our referees around this availability issue. There is no doubt that the appointment's committees would rather work with a smaller number of referees who will fulfil appointments on a regular basis than with a large panel where over half really are not interested in officiating, and really who can blame them.

**Duty of Care:** Referees are required to implement the rules of the Association each time they officiate at a game. In meeting their responsibilities they should be able to expect a high level of support from other parts of the Association particularly around the issue of discipline. At this point it is important to thank members of the CCC who took their duties very seriously and did not duck out of using the rulebook to administer appropriate disciplinary sanctions against players and mentors. However for many referees in this County when appeals went to the various Hearing Committees there was a very strong feeling of why bother with consistent watering down of sentences and interpretations of referee reports which undermined both the authority and integrity of the match official.





Perhaps the Hearings Committee could actually talk to the referee when some one puts in an appeal. The referee in most cases was at the coalface of the incident and should be afforded the opportunity to present his/her side of the story. Something must give in this situation and at present it is the referee's patience and understanding of a process which from their side of the fence is not protecting them.

**Intercounty:** The County has been represented at national and provincial level throughout the 2008 season. At national level M. Sludden was honoured with his appointment to the All Ireland Junior Final and national league games. The appointment to the final adds more weight to the question of his non-appointment to games in the championship.

M. Hughes had the honour of being the first referee to throw the ball in for the 2008 championship and also took charge of the Dr. McKenna cup final. S. McNamee made the breakthrough at national level with his first appointment to a league game and also officiated at various competitions within the province.

This provincial representation from Tyrone referees was also supplemented through appointments for E. McConnell, E. McHugh and F. Daly. It should also be noted the huge contribution made by Tyrone referees during the Ulster league many of them travelling long distances to fulfil appointments.

On the hurling front Tyrone were again well served by J. Devlin who officiated at National league and provincial championship levels which culminated in the National League Division 4 Final.

**Buichas:** On behalf of the of the Referee's Administration Committee I wish to thank Coiste Banisti for all their support throughout the year. Much of this support was invisible to most referees with one very notable exception. There can be no doubt that the allocation to referees for the All Ireland Final was a superb show of acknowledgment from Coiste Banisti for the referees and this was recognised by all referees present on the night of ticket allocation. Particular thanks to the County PRO Damien Harvey for his assistance with press notification. Thanks must also go to the members of the CCC for their continued support with a special mention to Roisin Jordan for her work in looking after the referee returns in a way that made ticket and expenses tabulation very much easier than in previous years.

Thanks to all the staff of the various venues we used during the year, Kelly's Inn, County Offices and Youth Sport Omagh.

To the members of the committee who got through a huge amount of work during the year in so many different ways a special word of thanks. A special tribute to the new Co-ordinator Sean Ruddy who in his own quiet but efficient manner, has yet again demonstrated the calibre of officials that we have in this county.

Thanks to all our referees and your families for your continued dedication and contribution to the Association.

Finally to those referees who in any way suffered bereavement during the past year on behalf of the Committee I extend sincere condolences.

#### **Committee 2008:**

County Co-ordinator – Sean Ruddy

Members: Johnny Dooher, Michael Hughes, Shane Corr, Paddy O'Brien, Patsy Taggart, P. Joe McDermott



## • Coiste Éisteachta •

### Cathaoirleach: Micheál Mac Giolla Cheara

The County Hearings Committee (CHC) held 13 meetings during 2007 to deal with matters arising from disciplinary penalties proposed by the Competitions Control Committee (CCC) for alleged infractions occurring in games.

The number of applicants who sought a Hearing and who did not accept the penalty imposed by the Competitions Control Committee (CCC) for alleged infractions was 41, of which 5 decided not to attend, when afforded an opportunity to do so.

Of the 36 cases considered by the Hearings Committee, there were suspensions imposed in 30 cases (83%), and in the other 6 cases it was considered that no action should be taken against the individuals concerned.

As a result of a Rule change introduced at Congress, which was implemented in mid-July, the CCC may not include its proposed disciplinary penalty on any communication submitted to the Hearings Committee; indeed, such proposed penalty may not be communicated to anyone other than the individual or unit that it is applicable to.

As a consequence, the Hearings Committee are not in a position to make any comparative analysis of the decisions taken by it and the proposed penalties of the CCC, with the exception of those cases where the decision was to take no disciplinary action.

This year, again, it is noted that no individual or Club was successful in appealing a decision of the CHC to its provincial counterpart.

I wish to express my gratitude to all the members of the Hearings Committee for their work during 2008 particularly Margaret Keenan who acted as Minutes Secretary.

Membership of the Committee and attendance at meetings in 2008 was:

Michael Kerr (12), Paul Doris (8), Margaret Keenan (13), James O'Neill (11), Owen Roe O'Neill (10), Packie O'Neill (6), Adrian Scullin (9) and Sean McElroy (12)

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## • Coiste Forbartha Iomána •

### Cathaoirleach: Breandán Ó hEarcáin

**Ulster Feile:** Tyrone very successfully hosted the Feile in 2008 with, in particular, An Charrig Mhór superbly organising the day's events. The parade truly was a spectacle of colour and youthful enthusiasm. A few minor glitches will need sorted before Tyrone host Feile 2009, as part of the 125th anniversary celebrations whilst camogie was incorporated into and should be incorporated again into Feile 2009.

**Tyrone Feile:** In 2008, the Feile was disappointing as an event. To counter this, in 2009 the Hurling Development Committee will organise Feile and the Tyrone CCC will assume responsibility for scheduling into fixtures calendar.



**County Teams:** The County's Senior team played and competed reasonably in National League and Nicky Rackard. The primary aim of any Tyrone team must be to compete strongly. There can be no doubt, should our hurlers decide to do so, they would be strong contenders in the NHL and the Lorey Maher in 2009.

U14 Development and U15 Development squads have been well attended. U15 Squad had 2 wins at Ulster Blitzes and St Pat's Academy must be praised for winning a first Ulster Colleges Blitz for Tyrone with 13 of this panel. The U16 squad attended a very successful day in Croke Park in early October, playing two games and once again proving that Tyrone Youth can compete with our Ulster counterparts when we put our minds to it. Overall, the structure from U16 - U14 is an encouraging outcome to all the investment put into Hurling Development. However, to ensure this is carried through into 2009 we must assist the Coaches with the equipment they need and the support from the Hurling Development Committee and especially the Hurling Development Officer must be increased further. This will help provide a team at U18 level (with a management structure to be put in place early in 2009) with the aim to compete in the Ulster League and the Ulster Championship.

**Summer Camps:** Overall, the success of the camps 2008 in Tyrone in Football and Hurling was not as high as previous years. The time has come for the Camps to be revamped and thus to maintain the high level of interest previously achieved. The Hurling Development Committee considers (i) Coaching needs to improve still further (ii) Host clubs could assist further at the Camps with equipment; and (iii) Co-ordination at the camps needs to be improved. Also, perhaps the children need an incentive other than the VHI kit; the Coaching Committee for 2009 will no doubt look at that.

**Schools Coaching:** Strabane Shamrocks suffered from September of 2008 with no coach being available in their catchment area. That cannot be allowed to happen again in any of the County's hurling "strongholds" and the Hurling Development Officer must ensure that it does not reoccur.

Finally, all clubs should note they can apply for grants for assisting their local Primary Schools through the Ulster Council. This is recommended.

## • Coiste Pleanála & Forbartha Fisiciúla •

**Cathaoirleach:** Cathal Ó Dálaigh

**Baill choiste:** Dermot McCaughey, Donal Magee, Matt Tracey, Greg McMullan, Perry McRory, and Eunan Lindsay.

### Officer Development

An Evening for officer development was organised in January. This was an evening of workshops organised through the Comhairle programme. The workshops helped the Key officers of clubs share ideas and solutions to problems that affect all clubs. 88 people attended from 30 clubs. The workshops were held for Chairmen, Secretary, Treasurer and PRO. All issues that affect clubs were discussed. Some of the key points and issues were.

- Recruitment of volunteers, sharing the workload wide and light
- The need for good administrative structures, this helps relieve the workload on key officers and helps more people feel valued and involved.



- Liaise closely with schools, helping get the message to the youth of the area.
  - Get the message out into all the community, all the good work the club is doing.
- Hopefully all the officers who attended these workshops picked up a few pointers and brought them back to their own club.

### Facilities

As we are all aware the standard of facilities in Tyrone is very high. The basic of a pitch, two changing rooms and spectator accommodation has been achieved, with very few exceptions. Most Clubs have a lot more, four changing rooms and covered stands is becoming the norm. An increasing number of clubs in recent years have acquired a second field or land for development of a second field.

As the capital assets held by clubs are increasing it is very important that declarations of trust are kept in order. In June a survey was issued by the Ulster council to collect the details of club trustees. To date just over half the clubs have returned this survey. A number of clubs found out when they reviewed their declarations of trust several of their trustees had passed away. From a Club viewpoint policy should be put in place were this is reviewed on an annual basis, possibly on the clár of the first committee meeting each year.

As with all major investment projects' planning is important. Before commencement several key factors should be established.

Need, do what your club needs, consult with members and constituent partners.

Cost, how will the club fund the programme, have you the permissions for borrowing.

When these factors are in place it makes the project a lot easier to manage and the result will be more successful.

### Funding

Funding Evening was held on 30th September. This was attended by about 80 Delegates from over 30 clubs. Topics covered were the new grant schemes from SportNI, Ulster Council grants and how Clubs can best use CASC. The Speakers were Ryan Feeney and Liam Nelis.

The first round of Allocations SportNI Grants was made in early November. One Tyrone was successful in this round. The next round will be in the spring of 2009.

To date clubs have been awarded a total of €80,000 in grant aid from Ulster Council and Central Council in 2008. The final meeting of the Ulster Council Parks Committee will be held in late November. These Grants are available to all clubs upon the completion of any type of development, large or small.

Take up of the CASC scheme has been very low by clubs in Tyrone, only twelve clubs have registered. As a lot of clubs have started or are thinking of starting a "Club Tyrone" like fundraising programme this is a missed opportunity. Income from these schemes can be increased by 25% by simply registering and making a claim. Other benefits include an exemption from Stamp Duty on land purchase. Other benefits in the pipeline will include rates relief.

### Conclusion

I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincerest thanks to all those who helped me throughout the year, the members of the development committee and the management committee. Most importantly thanks to the officers and members who run the clubs and do the legwork that build and develop the association in the county. Congratulations to all the clubs who completed projects in the current year and best of luck to the clubs who have started on new projects. Remember development does not start or stop but is a continuous process of evolution.



## • Coiste Ceannais na gComórtaisí •

### Cathaoirleach: Ciarán Mac Lochlainn

Hopefully, by the time of Convention, the playing season will be over in Tir Eoghain! The duration of the playing season, the timing of Competitions (especially U21 Football) and the need to have regular games for our clubs still remain to be properly addressed in 2009. The new proposed format for our Adult Leagues passed on 17 November will aim to do so. Certainly, whilst this was an exceptional year, to be playing football into December is not the way forward and a situation that cannot continue.

The Adult Championship were all clubs played at least eight games played in their respective Leagues prior to the commencement of the Adult Championships proved successful for the club's own season. However from Rd1 on, the run by Tyrone in winning both All-Ireland's, impacted greatly resulting in our FC's being compacted into 3 weeks. Also, the CCC planning for Reserve FC's was thrown off schedule also. Our Leagues were also parked and for the months of July August and September virtually no football was played.

Thankfully, all clubs are to be congratulated for their co-operation in the playing of our Championships. I wish to extend Comhghairdeas to the various Football and Hurling Championship Winners in 2008 Clonoe (Senior Football), Trillick (Intermediate Football), Augher (Junior Football), An Charrraig Mhór, Cumann Éire Óg (Senior Hurling), Naomh Colum Cille (Junior Hurling) (Annex 1). The downside was the playing of extra-time in our County Final only to find that a week later other Counties had Ulster Club matches postponed due to playing of Compromise Rules! Surely, that situation cannot be allowed to happen again within Ulster Council.

All of these clubs represented Tyrone in the Ulster Club Championships. At the time of writing this report Trillick were preparing for an Ulster Final clash with Derry champions Greenlough. At Reserve Championship level, Maith Thú to Clonoe (Senior) Trillick (Intermediate) and Errigal Ciaran III's (Junior) on winning their respective titles and Comhghairdeas is extended to the various league winners Dromore / An Charrig Mhór (Division 1), Clann na nGael / Moy / Trillick (Division 2), Strabane Sigersons (Division 3), An Charrig Mhor (Division 1 Reserve), Trillick (Division 2 Reserve) and Strabane Sigersons Division 3 (Reserve).

At Youth level, there was an extensive programme of games played (Annex 2) and I wish to pay tribute to Kieran McHugh in particular for his work in successfully completing all Youth competitions, especially with the very major disruption to our Minor Competitions due to the County's successful All-Ireland campaign. A special word of thanks is extended to Kenny and Chris Curran of Teamtalk for their continued kind sponsorship of the Tyrone Youth Championships and Leagues.

2008 saw all Hurling competitions (annex 3) completed as per programme, although the schedule was severely disrupted by a critical shortage of match officials. Hurling fixtures were played on most dates a referee was available. The continued dedication and high standard of service by our small group of hurling referees is gratefully acknowledged. The provision of match facilities during the year by various clubs is much appreciated, as is the assistance of many individual members of these clubs in organisation on match days. Go raibh maith agat to Matt McDermott (Hurling Secretary) for his diligent work, time, effort and commitment in completing this programme.

A special word of thanks is extended to WJ Dolan and O'Neill's Sportswear for their continued kind sponsorship of the Tyrone Championships and Leagues. Willie John Dolan and Kieran Kennedy have continually supported and promoted the G.A.A. in Tyrone over many years. Buíochas are extended to all the referees in the county (annex 4), they perform thankless roles





but without them we wouldn't be able to play our games. Into 2009, too many of our 'A' grade championship referees are moving on in years. Whilst not doubting their ability to continue performing at the highest level, the CCC aim to progress our younger referees in 2009. Go raibh maith agaibh to Alan Richardson, Seamus McGirr, Paddy O'Brien and Sean Ruddy of the C.C.C. for their time, effort and commitment to refereeing duties over the past season.

Roisin Jordan took over as CCC Disciplinary Secretary this season. At annex 5 Roisin has noted the proposed disciplinary notices issued by the CCC in 2008. What is very apparent from these is that all clubs should be particularly aware of Discipline within Youth teams and Management structures and in the new season set a Code of Conduct for all to comply with. Go raibh maith agat Roisin for all the diligent work in 2008.

During the season the CCC undertook to review the state of trophies awarded for various competitions in the county. The main championship trophies have now either undergone major refurbishment or have been replaced. The policy of replacing trophies with shields for youth competition is continuing at an acceptable level (currently three cups remain at youth level). The CCC will continue with the policy of controlling the engraving and repair of trophies thus complying with the Official Guide. The CCC place on record our thanks to all clubs and their officials for their co-operation. Go raibh maith agat to Donal Magee for looking after trophies so meticulously.

Finally, go raibh maith agaibh Barry Conroy (Adult Fixtures) and John Coney (Youth Fixtures) for all their time, effort and commitment in 2008.

A warm thank you to all the media for their continued promotion of our games, we appreciate all the promotion we can get and overall the coverage we receive is very welcome and constructive. Also, the Tyrone website continues to be an excellent addition to our overall promotion; many thanks Damian Harvey and Kieran McHugh.

Hearty "go raibh maith agaibh" to all the clubs in Tyrone, to their officers especially the Chairpersons and Secretaries whom work so closely with the CCC. The CCC are indebted to the clubs for very generously assisting with the competition schedule and with hosting matches.

Thanks also to the members of the County Committee and the County Board for all their help, time and assistance over the course of the past season.

Finally, Go raibh maith agat to C.C.C. rúnaí Aodhan o'hearcaín for his time effort and commitment over the last 3 years. He carried out the duties to the very highest levels over those 3 years. Many thanks Aodhan, your help was very appreciated and you will be sorely missed.



## W J Dolan Football Championship results

### WJ Dolan Senior Football Championship 2008

<b>Round 1</b>	Killyman	0-11	Coalisland	3-15	4 Jul 2008	
	Eglis	3-6	Cookstown	2-7	6 Jul 2008	
	Dromore	0-10	Omagh	0-10	4 Jul 2008	
	Kildress	2-9	Galbally	0-9	6 Jul 2008	
	Clonoe	0-11	Errigal Ciarán	1-5	3 Jul 2008	
	Donaghmore	2-11	Killyclogher	0-6	3 Jul 2008	
	Aghyaran	0-8	Ardboe	1-11	6 Jul 2008	
	Loughmacrory	0-2	An Charraig Mhór	1-14	6 Jul 2008	
	<b>Replay</b>	Dromore	2-9	Omagh	0-5	5 Oct 2008
	<b>Quarter-Finals</b>	Ardboe	2-16	Eglis	2-6	12 Oct 2008
Dromore		0-12	Coalisland	0-6	12 Oct 2008	
Clonoe		0-11	An Charraig Mhór	0-8	11 Oct 2008	
Kildress		0-8	Donaghmore	1-12	11 Oct 2008	
<b>Semi-Finals</b>	Ardboe	0-8	Dromore	2-11	19 Oct 2008	
	Clonoe	1-9	Donaghmore	2-3	18 Oct 2008	
<b>Final</b>	Dromore	0-9	Clonoe	0-10(AET)	26 Oct 2008	

### WJ Dolan Intermediate Football Championship 2008

<b>Round 1</b>	Clann na nGael	0-6	Stewartstown	0-9	26 Sep 2008
	Tattyreagh	1-11	Urney	0-6	1 Aug 2008
	Rock	0-7	Trillick	1-16	1 Oct 2008
	Moy	0-15	Moortown	2-6	4 July 2008
	Greencastle	2-11	Edendork	0-10	27 Jul 2008
	Gortin	1-4	Eskra	1-7	25 Jul 2008
	Derrylaughan	1-13	Killeeshil	2-9	1 Oct 2008
	Pomeroy	0-10	Dungannon	0-9	27 Jul 2008
	<b>Quarter-Finals</b>	Pomeroy	0-8	Greencastle	0-10
Stewartstown		1-10	Trillick	0-18	5 Oct 2008
Eskra		1-6	Moy	0-12	4 Oct 2008
Derrylaughan		1-14	Tattyreagh	2-7	5 Oct 2008
<b>Semi-Finals</b>	Moy	0-15	Derrylaughan	1-7	12 Oct 2008
	Trillick	1-11	Greencastle	0-11	12 Oct 2008
<b>Final</b>	Moy	0-5	Trillick	0-7	19 Oct 2008

### WJ Dolan Junior Football Championship 2008

<b>Prelim. Round</b>	Clogher	0-12	Beragh	0-8	1 Jul 2008
<b>Round 1</b>	Drumragh	0-9	Dregish	1-4	1 Aug 2008
	Drumquin	1-16	Brockagh	1-7	3 Aug 2008
	Castlederg	1-8	Aghaloo	1-10	27 Jul 2008
	Augher	0-11	Strabane	0-11	27 Jul 2008
	Fintona	0-12	Newtownstewart	1-13	7 Sep 2008
	Errigal Ciarán 111	1-8	ER O'Neills	1-10	25 Jul 2008
	Brackaville	0-9	Glenelly	0-11	22 Jul 2008
	Derrytresk	0-9	Clogher	0-8	3 Aug 2008
	<b>Replay</b>	Augher	1-11	Strabane	0-13
<b>Quarter-Finals</b>	Derrytresk	0-8	Glenelly	0-9	4 Oct 2008
	Augher	0-12	ER O'Neills	0-8	5 Oct 2008
	Drumquin	0-6	Aghaloo	1-13	28 Sep 2008
	Drumragh	1-7	Newtownstewart	1-11	28 Sep 2008
<b>Semi-Finals</b>	Aghaloo	1-10	Newtownstewart	2-6	12 Oct 2008
	Glenelly	0-9	Augher	0-12	12 Oct 2008
<b>Final</b>	Aghaloo	0-9	Augher	1-9	19 Oct 2008





## O'Neill's Sportswear All County League Divisional tables 2008 (to 23 November)

O'Neills ACL Division 1	Played	Win	Draw	Lose	Points
An Charraig Mhór	15	12	3	0	27
Dromore	14	12	2	0	26
Errigal Ciarán	15	11	1	3	23
Clonoe	15	7	1	7	15
Omagh	12	6	2	4	14
Ardboe	14	6	2	6	14
Kildress	15	6	2	7	14
Coalisland	14	6	1	7	13
Loughmacrory	14	5	2	7	12
Eglis	15	4	4	7	12
Killyclogher	14	5	2	7	12
Galbally	15	6	0	9	12
Aghyaran	15	5	2	8	12
Donaghmore	15	4	3	8	11
Cookstown	15	4	3	8	11
Killyman	14	0	2	12	2

O'Neills ACL Division 1 Reserve	Played	Win	Draw	Lose	Points
An Charraig Mhór	14	13	0	1	26
Errigal Ciarán	15	12	1	2	25
Clonoe	14	11	1	2	23
Ardboe	14	11	0	3	22
Coalisland	13	7	2	4	16
Dromore	13	7	0	6	14
Omagh	13	7	0	6	14
Loughmacrory	14	6	3	5	14
Kildress	14	6	0	8	12
Donaghmore	14	4	4	6	12
Eglis	14	3	3	8	9
Killyclogher	14	4	1	9	9
Aghyaran	14	4	1	9	9
Cookstown	14	3	2	9	8
Galbally	13	2	1	10	5
Killyman	13	1	0	12	2

O'Neills ACL Division 2	Played	Win	Draw	Lose	Points
Clann na nGael	14	11	1	2	23
Moy	13	11	0	2	22
Trillick	11	8	2	1	18
Gortin	13	8	1	4	17
Stewartstown*	14	7	2	5	16*
Rock	14	7	1	6	15
Urney	13	6	1	6	13
Pomeroy	15	6	1	8	13
Killeeshil	13	5	2	6	12
Moortown	14	5	2	7	12
Derrylaughan	15	5	2	8	12
Eskra	14	5	1	9	11
Greencastle	14	5	1	8	11
Tattyreagh*	15	4	2	9	10*
Edendork	15	5	0	10	10
Dungannon	14	2	1	11	5

O'Neills ACL Division 2 Reserve	Played	Win	Draw	Lose	Points
Trillick	14	13	1	0	27
Gortin	15	12	2	1	26
Edendork	14	10	0	4	20
Greencastle	13	9	1	3	19
Moortown	14	8	2	4	18
Clann na nGael	14	8	1	5	17
Pomeroy	15	7	1	7	15
Moy	11	7	0	4	14
Eskra	14	5	1	8	11
Stewartstown	15	5	1	9	11
Tattyreagh	14	4	1	9	9
Derrylaughan	12	4	0	8	8
Dungannon	14	4	0	10	8
Killeeshil	14	4	0	10	8
Rock	14	2	2	10	6
Urney	15	2	1	12	5







O'Neills ACL Division 3	Played	Win	Draw	Lose	Points
Strabane	14	13	0	1	26
Drumquin	15	11	0	4	22
Glenelly	14	9	2	3	20
Brockagh	14	9	2	3	20
Fintona	14	10	0	4	20
Augher	13	8	2	3	18
Newtownstewart	12	7	1	4	15
Aghaloo	13	7	1	5	15
Derrytresk	14	7	1	6	15
Brackaville	14	7	0	7	14
Errigal Ciarán III	13	6	1	6	13
Clogher	14	5	0	9	10
Castledearg	14	4	0	10	8
Drumragh	13	2	2	9	6
Dregish	14	2	0	12	4
Beragh	14	1	2	11	4
ER O'Neills	13	1	0	12	2

O'Neills ACL Division 3 Reserve	Played	Win	Draw	Lose	Points
Strabane	14	13	1	0	27
Errigal Ciarán III	13	11	0	2	22
Brackaville	14	8	2	4	18
Augher	13	8	1	4	17
Newtownstewart	13	8	1	4	17
Fintona	14	8	1	5	17
Beragh	13	7	1	5	15
Clogher	14	6	2	6	14
Drumquin	13	6	0	7	12
Glenelly	14	5	0	9	10
Aghaloo	13	5	1	7	11
Drumragh	13	4	1	8	9
Brockagh	14	4	1	9	9
ER O'Neills	13	4	1	8	9
Castledearg	13	3	0	10	6
Derrytresk	14	1	1	12	3

### O'Neill's Sportswear Tyrone U21 Competition (@ 23 November)

#### Grade 1

**Q/F's:** Dromore dnf Clonoe wo Ardboe 2-13 Omagh 0-9  
Coalisland 3-14 Killyclogher 1-8 Errigal Ciaran 0-16 An Charrig Mhor 0-4

**S/F's:** Clonoe 0-7 Ardboe 0-12 Coalisland 3-6 Errigal Ciaran 0-5

**Final:** Ardboe v Coalisland

#### Grade 2

**Q/F's:** Loughmacrory 2-9 Derrylaughan 3-8 Elish 1-13 Moortown 2-11  
Rock bye to s/f Greencastle 2-7 Augher 0-9

**S/F's:** Derrylaughan v Moortown Rock v Greencastle

#### Grade 3

**S/F's:** Newtownstewart 0-8 Brackaville 0-10 Derrytresk 0-12 Castledearg 1-4

**Final:** Brackaville 0-10 Derrytresk 0-9

#### League Cups

##### Jim Devlin Division 1 Final

An Charrig Mhor v Clonoe (to be confirmed)

##### Reserve Shield Final

An Charrig Mhor v Clonoe (to be confirmed)

##### Frank O'Neill Division 2 Final

Clann na nGael 1-13 Moortown 0-12

##### Reserve Shield Final

Moortown 1-10 Gortin 1-14

##### Joe McGarrity Division 3 Final

Aghaloo 1-11 Strabane 0-11

##### Reserve Shield Final

Fintona 1-16 Strabane 1-12 (aet)





## Youth Football Roll of Honour 2008

## Minor

Grade 1 Championship	Winners – Ardboe;	Runners Up – Omagh
Grade 1 League	Winners – Errigal Ciaran/ Omagh/ Dromore;	Runners Up – Errigal Ciaran/ Omagh/ Dromore
Grade 2 Championship	Winners – Augher;	Runners Up – Pomeroy
Grade 2 League	Winners – Eglis;h;	Runners Up – Naomh Mhuire
Grade 3 Championship	Winners – Stewartstown;	Runners Up – Derrytresk
Grade 3 League	Winners – Glenelly;	Runners Up – Stewartstown

## U-16

Grade 1 Championship	Winners – Omagh;	Runners Up – Dromore
Grade 1 League	Winners – Omagh;	Runners Up – Dromore
Grade 2 Championship	Winners – Naomh Mhuire;	Runners Up – Coalisland
Grade 2 League	Winners – Naomh Mhuire;	Runners Up – Kildress
Grade 3 Championship	Winners – Greencastle;	Runners Up – Clann Na nGael
Grade 3 League	Winners – Trillick;	Runners Up – Brackville
Grade 4 Championship	Winners – Brocagh;	Runners Up – Aghyaran
Grade 4 League	Winners – Urney;	Runners Up – Brocagh

## Tir Eoghain Óg Sport

Grade 1 Winners -	Naomh Mhuire (Naomh Mhuire won Ulster Óg Sport competition)
Grade 2 Winners -	Eglis;h

## U-14

## Tir Eoghain Feile Peile Na nOg 2008

Grade 1 Feile	winner 2008 - Errigal Ciaran	
Grade 2 Feile	winner 2008 - Eglis;h	
Grade 1 Championship	Winners – Omagh; R	Runners Up – Cookstown
Grade 1 League	Winners – Omagh;	Runners Up – Donaghmore
Grade 2 Championship	Winners – Trillick;	Runners Up – Galbally
Grade 2 League	Winners – Galbally;	Runners Up – Pomeroy
Grade 3 Championship	Winners – Stewartstown;	Runners Up – Eglis;h
Grade 3 League	Winners – Stewartstown;	Runners Up – Ardboe
Grade 4 Championship	Winners – Aghaloo;	Runners Up – Brackville
Grade 4 League	Winners – Aghaloo;	Runners Up – Brackville

## U-13

Grade 1	Winners – Cappagh;	Runners Up – Omagh
Grade 2	Winners – Ardboe;	Runners Up – Trillick
Grade 3	Winners – Loughmacrory;	Runners Up – Stewartstown
Grade 4	Winners – Gortin;	Runners Up – Brackville

## Hurling 2008 Competition results

U14 HL and HC:	Winners: Eoghan Ruadh
U16 HL and HC:	Winners: Eoghan Ruadh
Minor HL and HC:	Winners: Éire Óg
Senior HL:	Winners: Éire Óg
Senior HC:	Winners: Éire Óg - advanced to Ulster Intermediate Championship
Junior HC:	Winners: Naomh ColumCille - advanced to Ulster Junior Championship

## Senior Hurling League table 2008

	P	W	D	L	Pts.
Éire Óg A	5	4	0	1	8
Éire Óg B	4	0	0	4	0
Eoghan Ruadh	5	3	0	2	6
Na Seamrógaí	6	4	0	2	8
Naomh ColumCille	5	3	0	2	6
Gaeil Ceapach	5	1	0	4	2





## REFEREES

Annex 4

To date (23/11/08) nearly 900 games have taken place in adult football from U21 up. At commencement of the season Saturday April 1st 70 referees indicated their intention to referee at adult level. Four referees did not commence refereeing at adult level and one further referee defected to a rival county in mid April.

### New Referees.

Of the remaining 65 referees 5 were new referees. The 5 new referees between them refereed 51 Adult Reserve League games. All 5 progressed up the ladder from Division 3 Reserve to Division 1. New referees pulled out of appointments on 6 occasions in total representing an 88% success rate.

### Established Referees.

Of our established referees numbering 65 the number of pull outs for the season (League Football) totals 72 representing a 91% success rate, a 1% drop on last season. The average pull out per round of League Fixtures from April to end of June was 4 per week, this figure rose to 6 during July and August. Non availability of referees for varying reasons was on average 5 for April to end of June and 8 during July and August.

Referees failing to turn up to appointments decreased from 8 last season to 4 this season. An improvement but still not a healthy statistic.

### Future Action Points.

A big responsibility lies with those the clubs who did not supply a referee at Adult Level this season to tackle this problem. We can only hope that all 48 clubs will have referee at Adult Level in 2009. In Hurling we are relying on the same referees to pull us through year in year out. Again the clubs must accept their responsibilities and as in football we can only hope that all the hurling Clubs will be represented next season

### Conclusion

Thank you to all the Referees who refereed this season – thank you for your commitment and also a big thank you to your immediate families who had to miss out on quality time with you all while you were attending to refereeing duties. Thank you to those referees who answered the call when their colleagues withdrew from an appointment. Very rarely was it necessary to make a second call for a replacement.

## DISCIPLINE

Annex 5

<b>ADULT</b>	<b>Total Red Cards --163</b>	<b>Total Double Yellow Cards 116</b>
Category 1	Remainder of the game	116
Category 2	4 weeks:	144
Category 3	8 weeks:	14
Category 4	12 weeks:	5
<b>YOUTH</b>	<b>Total Red Cards – 80</b>	<b>Total Double Yellow Cards - 76</b>
Category 1	Remainder of the game:	76
Category 2	4 weeks:	72
Category 3	8 weeks:	5
Category 4	12 weeks:	2
Category 5	48 weeks:	1
<b>OFFICIALS</b>	<b>Total Officials Reported - 32</b>	
Category 1a	4 weeks:	19
Category 2a	8 weeks:	5
Category 3a	12 weeks:	7
Category 4a	48 weeks and more	1
	16 Youth and 16 Adult Officials	





## • Coiste Traenála & Forbartha na gCluichí •

### **Cathairleach: Micheál Mac Gualraic**

The coaching and games committee was made up of six members and was chaired by the Coaching Officer Michael McGoldrick. The Committee included Anne Daly (FDO), Michael McCullough (HDO), Roger Keenan and Pat McGivern. Its tasks were to organise the following

School Coaching  
Summer Camps  
Implementation of coach education programmes  
Promotion of mini games  
Supervision of Development squads

### **Development Squads**

At present there are squads at Under 14, Under 15, Under 16 and Under 17 in football and Under 14 and Under 16 in Hurling.

The Development Squad programme was set up by the Ulster Council with the emphasis on the development of our young players rather than just playing competitive games. There were a maximum of eight sessions which included two blitzes. Each player was given a detailed training programme to follow.

I would like to thank the managers of these squads for all their hard work and dedication.

### **Games Promotion Officers (G.P.O.s)**

I would also like to thank all the Schools' Football and Hurling coaches who have worked so diligently throughout the year. Feedback from the schools has been very positive.

As in previous years a boy and girl from each of the primary schools was nominated to play in the mini games at half time during our N.F.L games. Thanks to Pat McGivern for his assistance in organising these games.

The Ulster Council also employs coaches to work in the schools in our larger towns.

### **Summer Camps**

In the summer of 2008 Club Tyrone Summer Camps were held in all our Clubs. Despite the inclement weather these proved to be an outstanding success and were thoroughly enjoyed by all those in attendance.

Once again we are indebted to Club Tyrone who are constantly promoting and developing Gaelic Games at all levels within the County.

I would like to thank O'Neills and in particular Kieran Kennedy for supplying gear for the summer camps.

Many thanks to our National Sponsor, VHI who sponsored the Hurling Camps.

I would like to thank the host Clubs and the Coaches for all their hard work. It is very much appreciated.





Many thanks to Club Energise who sponsored two three-day camps for our 13–15 year olds. Although the numbers were low, hopefully these will improve in 2009.

As Coaching Officer, I would like to thank the Clubs, the Schools and all the parents and voluntary helpers without whom it would not be possible for our young people to participate in Gaelic games. A special word of thanks to Anne Daly and Michael McCullough for all their help and guidance in 2008.

## • Report on Football Development •

### Bainisteoir Forbartha Peil: Áine Ní Dhuchair

#### Primary School Coaching

The primary school coaching commenced in early September. Currently there are four football coaches working along myself in the schools on a weekly basis. Tyrone also has 5 Primary School coaches employed through Comhairle Uladh. I urge all clubs to strengthen the link they have with their local primary school(s). All children should be provided with the opportunity to further develop their athletic and personal skills in a club environment. In areas of the County a large percentage of children are not involved in club activities, this is an issue that we need to address in an attempt to get more children into the club environment.

#### Summer Camps

The summer of 2008 saw 45 Club Tyrone summer camps held within Tyrone. Two new clubs came on board in hosting their first Club Tyrone summer camp: Brackaville and Newtownstewart. In total, 3405 children attended the football camps, this was a significant drop (559) on last years figure. A number of factors may have contributed to this drop; declining numbers within the 7-12 year old age bracket in clubs, the summer camp novelty is beginning to wear off and the credit crunch was beginning to hit families.

In 2009 we will be faced with the challenge of how we can go about revitalising our camps and will possibly need to look at changing the structure of the camps and reduce the number of camps being hosted within the County.

The valuable support provided by Club Tyrone once again proved to be of utmost importance in the running of our annual summer camps.

2008 saw us run three development camps for children in the 12-15 year old age bracket. Despite the camps being poorly attended this will be something that we will be looking to expand upon for next year.

#### Coach Education

During the year seven foundation level football coaching courses were held within the County, with 164 coaches having completed the course. Two level one courses took place, with 41 coaches in attendance. The coach education programme is currently being restructured by Croke Park; to date details of these changes are unknown but it is hoped that they will be available to all clubs as soon as possible. All coach education courses run in 2009 will be delivered under the new structure. Clubs should encourage their coaches to progress up the coaching ladder to ensure the future of our games within the County.





Ulster Council has recently launched its Continuous Professional Development (CPD) calendar for the year ahead. Club coaches should be encouraged to avail of these courses which are run free of charge and many of which take place within the County on a weekly basis. This year Tyrone also organised a number of CPD courses for club coaches within the County, this will be continued in 2009 in the hope that more coaches will come out and support the courses put on offer by the Tyrone coaching committee.

### **Coaching Children With Special Needs**

During 2008 a number of coaching sessions were organised for children with disabilities and special needs within Tyrone. Unfortunately we were unable to run as many as sessions as we would have liked but this is something that we will be looking to improve upon for next year. The highlight for the kids in attendance was meeting the Tyrone senior team at a training session prior to the All Ireland Final where they were given the opportunity to get photos taken and have autographs signed.

We look forward to expanding the coaching programme in 2009, in the hope that we can get more children and parents involved. We require the help of you the club officers in spreading the word so as to encourage more parents to bring their child/ren along to our sessions and experience the fun of participating in Gaelic games.

### **Development Squads**

2008 saw the restructuring of all development squads under the guidance of Comhairle Uladh. Tyrone fielded development squad teams at under 15, 16 & 17 levels. This year also saw the formation of an under 14 squad. At all levels, apart from under 14, each squad competed in Ulster Council blitzes and played a number of friendly matches during the year. The highlight of the year for many of the players involved in the under 16 development squad was their day to Croke Park, where they had the opportunity to play two matches against Donegal and Derry. Hopefully for many of these lads this will have given them the taste and hunger to return to Croke Park in the Tyrone colours in the not too distant future.

### **GO Games**

2008 was another successful year for the GO games blitzes and leagues within Tyrone. We must remember that the emphasis placed on GO games should be development and participation. All coaches and parents must remember that they are role models on which children look to and hence their behaviour should reflect this. We as coaches, parents, friends and club officers must continue to praise all children who participate in our games. The greater a child's confidence in their own ability, the greater the level of enjoyment that they will derive from participating in our games.

### **Mini Games**

During the year we organised mini games at each of our home NFL fixtures and during the County senior final. Unfortunately the weather played havoc this year on two occasions resulting in the scheduled mini games having to be cancelled. Many thanks to Seamus Gallagher, the Omagh club and the school coaches who helped out in the smooth running of these mini games, along with the cooperation which was received from our primary schools.

Finally I would like to take this opportunity to thank all clubs who gave of their facilities throughout the year and for the support and assistance which they provided.





## • Report on Hurling Development •

### **Bainisteoir Forbartha Iomána: Micheál Mac Cú Uladh**

#### **Primary School Coaching,**

This is ongoing. We have brought it into a tighter area over the last year, servicing the existing Hurling clubs. The coaches are of an exceptionally high standard and are more than helpful in other areas too.

We have now started to run our own Cumann Na mBunscoil competitions that the majority of the schools are taking part in along with our indoor competitions.

Many of the schools are also now taking advantage of the Ulster Councils hurling packs for schools, that sees them receiving sticks, balls & helmets free of charge.

#### **Secondary schools**

Again coaching is ongoing and this year saw the first Tyrone school win at Ulster Colleges level. Congratulations must go to Joan McIlroy and her Academy team, who are backed by our development squad lads.

#### **Summer Camps**

Numbers slightly down on last year, the price rise and/or credit crunch could have been the cause of this. VHI pulled in a bit behind us and we were able to bring a few big names up, such as Lar Corbett; that went down very well with the camps that were running that week; we will look at doing something bigger next year if we have good notice someone is coming.

Kids thoroughly enjoyed it as did the coaches, though getting male hurling coaches in the county is extremely difficult.

The clubs however are backing them more, with more club people than ever helping out at their relevant camp.

#### **Development Squads**

This was another great year in our building process of the Hurling development squads.

The under 14's trained hard all year and got their rewards at the Tony Forristal. We also managed to find a few more coaches with this squad and a special thanks to Paul Lavery, Sinead O'Neill and Stevie Mullan for their time and dedication.

The Under 15s just went from strength to strength. After last year's Waterford competition they have continued on their development curve, indeed romping their Ulster Council blitz which has now seen them being moved up with the so called big boys for next year, (Antrim, etc.) and this will only further drive them on. Again a lot of thanks to Cathal McErlean who has worked extremely well with this group as did Ciaren Coyle and Niall McDermott.

The under 16s this year received a fantastic opportunity to play at Croke Park, though we didn't have an under 16 development squad in operation; thanks to the clubs, we managed to use the under 15s with any relevant under 16s that were out there. Again Cathal took on the mantle to look after them and they gave a great showing in Croke, where more than 30 young hurlers in





Tyrone can now say they played there.

### **CPD courses**

We ran 3 hurling specific courses within the county this year, all very poorly attended. We brought both Paudiey Butler and Eoin Kelly up and on each occasion there would have been no more than 10 coaches in attendance.

The Development squads absolutely loved the sessions but at the end of the day it is the coaches we were aiming for with these sessions.

### **Special Needs**

Special needs coaching was on going and very rewarding; we managed to get a lot of help from schools coaches, development squad coaches and summer camp coaches. Possibly look to expand this area in the coming year.

### **Minors**

The minors were a constant cause of concern during the early part of the year; clubs didn't seem to be pushing it, players could take it or leave it, the manager wasn't getting the turn outs and so he left.

Though coming to the championship time of year things took a turn for the better. Declan Bennett got involved and everything picked up from there. The team was made up mainly of Carrickmore lads and they did themselves proud; in fact if it hadn't been for the senior management needing a few minors for a match one day, they may well have won the 'C' All Ireland. Hopefully Declan remains interested and you never know what next year may hold for them.

### **Tony Forristal**

This was our second year entering the marquee under age tournament and if it is possible we were even more successful this year; in fact it was only a Wicklow team, who won our division last year but opted not to go up, stopped us from winning it this year.

A big win against Cavan was expected, but this was followed by a great win in an extremely exciting game against Armagh, that had both sets of mentors pulling their hair out at the end. Then in the final game we lost out by 2 points to the eventual Champions Wicklow; that again showcased the talent we have in this county.







## • NA RÚIN •

### (Motions)

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**1**  
 .....

1. Amend Rules 104, 105 and 106 of An Treoraí Oifigiúil 2008, to read as follows:

104. “The Central Council shall award to All-Ireland winning players 9-carat gold medals, depicting the design of the Association, of the following weights: Senior Tier 1: 10 dwt; Senior Tiers 2 and 3, Intermediate, Junior and Under 21, 8 dwt; and Minor 6 dwt. **The officially named Manager of the winning team shall also be awarded a medal.**

As the design of the Championship medals is the registered property of the Association, the distribution of such trophies beyond the number officially awarded is not permitted. Trophies shall be awarded to All-Ireland Championship runners-up in all grades. A miniature replica of the All-Ireland Cup shall be awarded to captains of teams winning All-Ireland Inter-County Senior Championships.

The number of medals/trophies to be awarded **to players** shall be: Senior – up to thirty; Junior, Under 21 and Minor – twenty-four.”

105. “The Central Council shall award to Senior Inter-Provincial (Hurling and Football) winning players up to twenty four 9 carat gold medals, weighing 8 dwt and depicting the crests of the four Provinces in enamel, with a gold centre. **The officially named Manager of the winning team shall also be awarded a medal.**”

106. “Provincial Councils shall award up to thirty gold medals to the winning players of the Senior Provincial Hurling and Football Championships, and twenty for all other Championship winning players. **The officially named Manager of the winning team shall also be awarded a medal.** County Committees shall have discretion as to the nature of the prizes to be awarded to County Championship winners.”

**Eaglais**

.....  
**2**  
 .....

2. That Rule 146 be amended as follows, with amendments shown in bold italics:

#### **R146 Infractions**

The following shall constitute Infractions to which the Disciplinary Jurisdiction of the Association applies:

(a) Any breach of the Rules and Bye-Laws including Codes, Regulations, Guidelines and Directives made under them.

#### **Penalty**

As provided for in the relevant Rules and Bye Laws including Codes, Regulations, Guidelines and Directives made under them.

(b) **Misconduct at Games by Players**, which consists of five Categories of Infractions which occur on or in the vicinity of the Field of Play, and which occur immediately before, during or after a Game:

#### **Category I**

Being ordered off on foot of a second Cautionable Infraction.

#### **Penalty:**

(i) Fixed Penalty: Debarment from playing for the remainder of the Game, to include any extra-time

(ii) Fixed Penalty on Repeat Infraction: 2 weeks Suspension in the same Code and at the same Level,

**inclusive of a minimum of one Game in the same Competition, either of that Competition Year or the following Competition year, even if that Game falls outside the Suspension time period.**



## Category II

Abusive language towards a Referee, Umpire, Linesman, or Sideline Official; Striking or attempting to strike with hurley, with minimal force; Kicking or attempting to kick, with minimal force; Striking or attempting to strike with arm, elbow, hand or knee; Behaving in any way which is dangerous to an opponent; Spitting at an opponent; Contributing to a melee.

### Penalty:

(i) Minimum: 4 weeks Suspension in the same Code and at the same Level, **inclusive of a minimum of two Games in the same Competition, either of that Competition Year or the following Competition year, even if those Games fall outside the Suspension time period.**

(ii) Minimum on Repeat Infraction: 8 weeks Suspension in the same Code and at the same Level as that at which the Infractions were committed, **inclusive of a minimum of four Games in the same Competition, either of that Competition Year or the following Competition year, even if those Games fall outside the Suspension time period.**

## Category III

Striking with hurley, either with force or causing injury; Attempting to strike with hurley, with force; Kicking, either with force or causing injury; Attempting to Kick, with force; Stamping; Striking or attempting to strike with the head; Inflicting injury recklessly by means other than those stated above; Any type of assault on an Opposing Team Official.

### Penalty:

(i) Minimum: 8 weeks Suspension in the same Code and at the same Level, **inclusive of a minimum of four Games in the same Competition, either of that Competition Year or the following Competition year, even if those Games fall outside the Suspension time period.**

(ii) Minimum on Repeat Infraction: 16 weeks Suspension in the same Code and at the same Level as that at which the Infractions were committed, **inclusive of a minimum of eight Games in the same Competition, either of that Competition Year or the following Competition year, even if those Games fall outside the Suspension time period.**

## Category IV

Minor physical interference with (e.g. laying a hand on, pushing, pulling or jostling), threatening or abusive conduct towards, or threatening language to, a Referee, Umpire, Linesman or Sideline Official.

### Penalty:

(i) Minimum: 12 weeks Suspension in all Codes and at all Levels, **inclusive of a minimum of six Games across all codes and all levels,, either of that Competition Year or the following Competition year, even if those Games fall outside the Suspension time period.**

(ii) Minimum on Repeat Infraction: 24 weeks Suspension in all Codes and at all Levels, **inclusive of a minimum of twelve Games across all codes and all levels,, either of that Competition Year or the following Competition year, even if those Games fall outside the Suspension time period.**

## Category V

Any type of assault on a Referee, Umpire, Linesman or Sideline Official.

### Penalty:

(i) Minimum: 48 weeks Suspension in all Codes and at all Levels, **inclusive of a minimum of twenty four Games across all codes and all levels, either of that Competition Year or the following Competition year, even if those Games fall outside the Suspension time period,** with offender's Team liable to Disqualification, where appropriate.

(ii) Repeat Infraction within 96 weeks: 96 weeks Suspension in all Codes and at all Levels, **inclusive of a**



**minimum of forty eight Games across all codes and all levels,, either of that Competition Year or the following Competition year, even if those Games fall outside the Suspension time period, with offender's Team liable to Disqualification, where appropriate.**

#### **Definition of "Repeat Infraction"**

"Repeat Infraction" in the Section of Rule above means a second or subsequent occurrence of any Misconduct at Games by Players Infraction in the same Category within a 48-week period (or 96 week period in the case of a Category V Infraction). In relation to Categories I, II and III, only an Infraction committed in the same Code and at the same Level as the previous occurrence shall constitute a Repeat Infraction. In relation to Categories IV and V, a second occurrence shall constitute a Repeat Infraction irrespective of the Code or Level of the previous occurrence.

(c) **Misconduct at Games by Team Officials**, which consists of four Categories of Infractions by Team Officials which occur on or in the vicinity of the Field of Play, and which occur immediately before, during or after a Game:

#### **Category Ia**

Abusive language towards a Referee, Umpire, Linesman or Sideline Official.

#### **Penalty:**

(i) Minimum: 4 weeks Suspension, **inclusive of a minimum of two Games across all codes and all levels,, either of that Competition Year or the following Competition year, even if those Games fall outside the Suspension time period.**

(ii) Minimum on Repeat Infraction: 8 weeks Suspension, **inclusive of a minimum of four Games across all codes and all levels, either of that Competition Year or the following Competition year, even if those Games fall outside the Suspension time period.**

#### **Category IIa**

Any type of physical interference with an Opposing Player or Team Official.

#### **Penalty:**

(i) Minimum: 8 weeks Suspension, **inclusive of a minimum of four Games across all codes and all levels, either of that Competition Year or the following Competition year, even if those Games fall outside the Suspension time period.**

(ii) Minimum on Repeat Infraction: 16 weeks Suspension, **inclusive of a minimum of eight Games across all codes and all levels, either of that Competition Year or the following Competition year, even if those Games fall outside the Suspension time period.**

#### **Category IIIa**

Minor physical interference with (e.g. laying a hand on, pushing, pulling or jostling), threatening or abusive conduct towards, or threatening language to, a Referee, Umpire, Linesman or Sideline Official.

#### **Penalty:**

(i) Minimum: 12 weeks Suspension, **inclusive of a minimum of six Games across all codes and all levels, either of that Competition Year or the following Competition year, even if those Games fall outside the Suspension time period.**

(ii) Minimum on Repeat Infraction: 24 weeks Suspension, **inclusive of a minimum of twelve Games across all codes and all levels, either of that Competition Year or the following Competition year, even if those Games fall outside the Suspension time period.**





### Category IVa

Any type of assault on a Referee, Umpire, Linesman or Sideline Official.

#### Penalty:

(i) Minimum: 48 weeks Suspension, **inclusive of a minimum of twenty four Games across all codes and all levels, either of that Competition Year or the following Competition year, even if those Games fall outside the Suspension time period**, with offender's Team liable to Disqualification, where appropriate.

(ii) Minimum on Repeat Infraction: 96 weeks Suspension, **inclusive of a minimum of forty eight Games across all codes and all levels, either of that Competition Year or the following Competition year, even if those Games fall outside the Suspension time period**, with offender's Team liable to Disqualification, where appropriate.

Suspensions in all four Categories above shall be applicable in all Codes and at all Levels.

#### Definition of "Repeat Infraction"

"Repeat Infraction" in the Section of Rule above means a second or subsequent occurrence of any Misconduct at Games by Team Officials Infraction in the same Category within a 48 week period (or 96 week period in the case of a Category IVa Infraction), irrespective of the Code or Level of the previous occurrence.

(d) **Disruptive Conduct at Games by Players, Team Officials or Supporters**, which occur on or in the vicinity of the Field of Play and which occur immediately before, during or after a Game:

(1) Premature Termination of a Game- By reason of Serious Disruption by Players, Officials or Supporters of a Team;

#### Penalty

Team – Forfeiture of the Game and Award to the Opposing Team (unless both Teams are responsible), save where there are exceptional mitigating factors involved. Other Penalties – at the discretion of the Council or the Committee-in-Charge.

(2) Premature Termination of a Game – By reason of-

(i) A Player(s) refusing to leave the Field when ordered off, or rejoining the Game having been ordered off.

(ii) A Team or Player(s) leaving the Field without the Referee's Permission or Refusing to continue Playing.

#### Penalties

Team and other Penalties – as in (1) above Player(s) who caused Termination – 24 weeks suspension, **inclusive of a minimum of twelve Games across all codes and all levels,, either of that Competition Year or the following Competition year, even if those Games fall outside the Suspension time period**, in addition to any suspension for an Infraction committed in the Game.

(3) Disruptive Conduct by Players, Team Officials or Supporters (not causing the Premature Termination of a Game).

**Penalties** shall be at the discretion of Council or Committee-in-Charge.

(4) The Council or Committee-in-Charge may direct that Units refuse admittance to the Property owned or controlled by the Association to any person, whether or not a member of the Association, if that person is considered to be guilty of Disruptive Conduct at Games.

(e) **Misconduct Considered to have Discredited the Association.**



**Penalty:**

Minimum: 8 weeks Suspension, together with such other Penalties as may be appropriate, including Fines, Disqualification, Debarment and Expulsion from the Association.

**An Clochar****3**

3. Amend Rule 81, T.O. 2008, to read as follows:

"A Committee **consisting of the past Presidents** shall, prior to Congress, examine motions submitted and decide whether these are in order. **No current member of the Central Council shall sit on this committee.** The Committee may put a motion in order where there is a failure to quote the numbers of the Rules affected, or where there are minor clerical errors. In the case of Motions submitted by the Counties being not in order, Counties shall be advised in writing of the reason for a motion not being in order, and subject to a time-limit Determined by Central Council, shall be afforded an opportunity to resubmit an appropriately corrected motion for the consideration of the Motions Committee. The President shall have the authority at Congress to rule a motion out of order."

**An Eaglais****4**

4. County By-Law 4.2 be amended to read

"To consist of a chairman, ..... concluding with 1 assistant secretary for adult referees appointments and 2 assistant secretaries for youth referees appointments and the County Referee's Administrator"

**An Srath Ban****5**

5. County By-Law 4.13 be amended to read

"to consist of a chairman, The chairperson of the CCC, the Coaching Officer and 1 representative of each Hurling Club. The HDO....."

**An Srath Ban****6**

6. A new bye-law be introduced as follows:

**4.14 ASAP (6 Members)**

To consist of a Chairman (the County ASAP officer), a secretary and 4 members.

**An Srath Ban****7**

7. A new bye-law be introduced as follows:

Teams coming together to compete as an independent team have the status of an independent team, not an independent club.

**An Srath Ban****8**

8. That Rule 122a be amended to include the paragraph:

'These competitions should take place over a 13-week period commencing on the first weekend in June with the All-Ireland Final to take place not later than the first Sunday in September.'

**Aireagal Chiaráin****9**

9. That Rule 42 (T.O. 2008) be amended to read as follows:

**42. Non Affiliated Bodies**

A member or any unit of the Association shall not participate in games of Gaelic Football, Hurling or Handball promoted by a body not affiliated to Central Council, without the prior sanction of Central Council. A Club or other unit shall only participate, as such, in games controlled by the Association and against a Club or other unit of the Association, unless the prior sanction of Central Council has been given. A member or any unit of the Association shall not participate in games organised or controlled by any unit of the Association in which players are remunerated for playing in the match or competition.

Penalty: 48 weeks suspension

**An Goirtín**

## • Na Moltaí •

### (Recommendations)

- .....  
**1**  
.....
1. That where feasible Scór participation in football and hurling county, provincial and All-Ireland finals should be facilitated as an integral part of the programme of events.  
**Coill an Chlochair**
- .....  
**2**  
.....
2. In all adult competitions next year the home team should provide all footballs for matches after team warm-up has been completed. This is to stop Clubs from losing balls at away venues which can be expensive for Clubs concerned.  
**Baile na Móna**
- .....  
**3**  
.....
3. Referees for adult football should not be appointed to officiate at a game involving teams from the same division as their Club.  
**Clann na nGael**
- .....  
**4**  
.....
4. Where Reserve League games cannot be scheduled alongside senior games they should be fixed as stand alone fixtures on Saturday evenings.  
**Clann na nGael**
- .....  
**5**  
.....
5. Unless clearance has been obtained from the appropriate authorities a player who has played a specified number of senior games (10) in the previous season shall be deemed ineligible to play Reserve football in the following season.  
**Clann na nGael**
- .....  
**6**  
.....
6. That the competitions control committee and the competitions hearings committee provide a report on all disciplinary matters brought before them since the previous county committee meeting at the subsequent county committee meeting.  
**An Taite Riabhach**
- .....  
**7**  
.....
7. That the county committee establish a working group to monitor and evaluate all decisions in relation to disciplinary matters taken by the competitions control committee and provide feedback to the said committee. The county committee shall decide the size and make up of the working group but at least one member shall be an existing referee.  
**An Taite Riabhach**
- .....  
**8**  
.....
8. That this County Convention believes the formal connection between the GAA and Australian Rules Football, and the development of the International Rules game, has out-lived any usefulness it might have had; is making no contribution to the development of gaelic games but is instead damaging them; and should be formally ended immediately and the planned 2009 International Rules series cancelled.  
**Cill Dhreasa**
- .....  
**9**  
.....
9. That the Compromise Rules games with Australia be discontinued immediately.  
**Coill an Chlochair**
- .....  
**10**  
.....
10. Given that Rule 20, Allegiance, of the Official Guide 2008 states: ‘Clubs and Counties shall insist that the first allegiance of their members is to the Association and its Games, and may impose disciplinary measures for breaches of this Rule’, this County Convention believes there



should be no formal recognition by the GAA of any external body or organisation purporting to represent any group of members within GAA.

## Cill Dhreasa

# • AINMNIÚCHAIN •

## (Nominations)

**Cathaoirleach:** Pat Darcy (An Taite Riabhach) (outgoing).

**Leas-Cathaoirleach:** Ciaran McLaughlin (An Srath Ban) (outgoing).

**Rúnaí Cúnta:** Dermot McCaughey (Trí Leac), Michael McCaughey (Trí Leac) (outgoing), Michael McGoldrick (Eisceach).

**Cisteoir:** Michael Harvey (Cabhán a'Chaortainn) (outgoing).

**Cisteoir Cúnta:** Dermot McCaughey, Seamus McDonald (Coill an Chlochair) (outgoing).

**Ball Árd Chomhairle:** Mark Conway (Cill Dhreasa), Brendan Harkin (Coill an Chlochair) (outgoing), Mickey Harte (Aireagal Chiaráin), Liam Nelis (Éadán na dTorc).

**Baill Chomhairle Uladh:** Gerard Bradley (An Goirtín), Cuthbert Donnelly (Achadh Lú) (outgoing), Dermot McCaughey, Liam Nelis (outgoing).

**Oifigeach Caidreamh Poiblí:** Damian Harvey (An Chorra Chríochach) (outgoing).

**Oifigeach Forbartha:** Cathal Daly (Eaglais) (outgoing).

**Oifigeach Oilúna:** Enda Kilpatrick (Cabhán a'Chaortainn), Michael McGoldrick (outgoing).

**Oifigeach na nÓg:** Kieran McHugh (Achadh Uí Aráin) (outgoing).

**Oifigeach Cultúr & Teanga:** Donal Magee (Coill an Chlochair) (outgoing).

**Baill an Choiste:** Michael McCann (An Bearach), James O'Neill (Clann na nGael), Sean McElroy (An Clochar), Mel Taggart (Cluain Eo), Adrian Scullin (An Chorra Chríochach), Patsy Hetherington (An Domhnach Mór), Barry Campbell (An Droim Mhór), Cathal McLaughlin (An Droim Ratha), Cathal Daly (Eaglais), Sean McKenna (Aireagal Chiaráin), Eunan Lindsay (Gleann Eallaigh), Gabriel Treanor (An Goirtín), Kieran Kelly (Cill Dreasa), Milo Skeffington (Cill Íseal), Donal Magee (Coill an Chlochair), Paul Quinn (Baile na Móna), Aidan Maguire (An Baile Nua), Gerard McGinn (An Taite Riabhach), Dermot McCaughey (Trí Leac), Thomas Colton (Eoghan Ruadh).





## • Appendix 1 •

### An Coiste Bainistí

The Management Committee met on a total of 13 occasions since last year's County Convention. Membership and attendance at meetings was as follows:

Pat Darcy (12), Cathal Daly (13), Cuthbert Donnelly (12), Damian Harvey (12), Michael Harvey (13), Donal Magee (13), Michael McGoldrick (8), Brendan Harkin (13), Dominic McCaughey (13), Michael McCaughey (13), Seamus McDonald (9), Kieran McHugh (6), Ciaran McLaughlin (11), Liam Nelis (12),

### County Committee 2008

Club	Member	Number of Meetings Attended
Achadh Lu	Michael Muldoon	5
Achadh Uí Arain	Liam Lynch	5
Ard Bo	Kevin Teague	6
Eochar	Bernie McGirr	5
Berach	Michael McCann	3
Bruach Aille	Sean Quinn	4
Brocach	Sean Donnelly	5
An Charraig Mhor	Sean Daly	5
Caislean na Deirge	Aidan Rushe	4
Clann na nGael	James O'Neill	5
Clochar	Sean Mc Elroy	5
Cluain Eo	Mel Taggart	5
Oileann a'Ghuail	Shane Dorrity	5
An Chorra Crioachach	Aidrian Scullin	5
Doire Lochain	Joey Mc Leron	5
Doire Treasc	Packie O'Neill	5
Domhnach Mor	Patsy Hetherington	5
Deargais	Liam Strain	0
An Droir Mhor	Barry Campbell	5
Droim Caoin	Seamus Mc Gale	5
Droim Ratha	Paddy Mullan (RIP)	5
Dun Geanainn	Paul Doris	6
Eadan na dTorc	Aidan Currie	5
Eaglais	Sean Donaghy	3
Eoghan Roe O'Neill	Gerry Casey	4
Aireagal Chiarain	Sean Mc Kenna	6
Eiscreach	Joe Marlow	6
Fionntamhnach	Gregory McMullan	4
Gallbhaile	Joe Cassidy	6
Gleann Eallaigh	Eunan Lindsay	6
Gortin	Gabriel Treanor	6
An Chaislean Ghlas	Perry Mc Crory	4
Cill Dreasa	Kieran Kelly	6
Cill Iseal	Milo Skeffington	5
Coill an Chlochair		0
Cill na mBan	John O'Hagan	2







<b>Club</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Number of Meetings Attended</b>
Loch Mhic Ruairi	Seamus Mullan	6
Baile na Mona	Paul Quinn	5
An Mhaigh	Peter Duffy	5
An Baile Nua	Aidan Maguire	6
An Omaigh	Gerry Mc Namee	6
Cabhan an Chaortainn	Sean Hurson	6
An Charraig	Dominic Murphy	5
An Chraobh	Declan Laverty	5
An Strath Ban	Aidan Harkin	3
Taite Riabhach	Gerry McGinn	4
Tri Leac	Dermot McCaughey	5
Urnai	Tom Bogle	1
<b>Hurling</b>		
An Charraig Mhór	Declan Bennett	2
Dun Geanainn	Thomas Colton	3
Naomh Colmcille	George Byrne	1
Na Seamrogaí	Tony Fawl	0
Gaeil an Ceapach	Owen Roe O'Neill	1
Cumman na mBunscoileanna	Brian McGurk	3
Cumman na nGairmscoileanna		0
Coiste Liathroid Laimhe	Martin Mullan	1
<b>Na Oifigigh</b>		
Cathaoirleach	Pat Darcy	6
Leas Cathaoirleach	Ciaran Mc Laughlin	4
Runai	Dominic Mc Caughey	5
Runai Cunta	Michael Mc Caughey	6
Cisteoir	Michael Harvey	6
Cisteair Cunta	Seamus Mc Donald	5
Ard Chomhairle	Brendan Harkin	4
OCP	Damian Harvey	3
Oifigeach Cultur & Teanga	Donal Magee	6
Oifigeach na nÓg	Kieran McHugh	4
Oifigeach Forbartha	Cathal Daly	6
Oifigeach Oiluna	Michael Mc Goldrick	5
Comhairle Uladh 1	Liam Nelis	6
Comhairle Uladh 2	Cuthbert Donnelly	6



## • APPENDIX 2 •

### Ticket Allocations

A summary of the distribution of All-Ireland tickets for the football and hurling finals is provided in the following tables:

	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Football Clubs	170	40.0
Hurling Clubs	112	26.4
Sub-Committees	81	19.0
Sponsors	22	5.2
Players & Managers	22	5.2
Former Officials	10	2.3
Others	8	1.9
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Table 1 Distribution of All-Ireland Hurling Finals' Tickets**

	<b>Number</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Clubs	14731	84.1
Teams & Managers	1397	8.0
Sub-Committees	683	3.9
Sponsors	570	3.2
Former Officials	101	0.6
Others	38	0.2
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>17520</b>	<b>100.0</b>

**Table 2 Distribution of All-Ireland Football Tickets.**

With two teams participating in the All-Ireland football finals Tír Eoghain was provided with its largest ever allocation of tickets and for this we are especially grateful to the Ard Stiúrthóir Páraic Ó Dufaigh and the Ticketing Manager at Croke Park, Ronan Murphy.

This county was involved in all-ticket games for each round of the Ulster Championship, for the Qualifiers and for the All-Ireland championship, from the 8th June until 27th October. All of this created a massive and relentless workload for the officers in Clubs and also for the staff in the County Office, but when the double All-Ireland success was achieved at the end of the season there were very few people complaining.



## • Appendix 3 •

### Transfers Approved by Ard Chomhairle - 2008

Name		Present Club	New Club	Date
Paul	Tierney	St Brendan's, London	Omagh	18/01/2008
Ciaran	Conroy	Dunedin Connolly's	Moy	02/03/2008
Mark	Donnelly	Cormac McAnallen's	Carrickmore	08/03/2008
Darragh	McGale	Omagh	Kilmacud Crokes	06/03/2008
Mark	Darcy	Kevin Barry's, Philadelphia	Tattyreagh	15/03/2008
Colin	McKenna	Cormac McAnallen's	Augher	15/03/2008
Brian	McCallan	Cormac McAnallen's	Carrickmore	15/03/2008
Aidan	McCann	Cormac McAnallen's	Trillick	28/03/2008
Dermot	Cullen	Eskra	Moycullen, Galway	25/03/2008
Paul	Hughes	An Chlagthí, Dublin	Carrickmore	04/04/2008
Conor	McGirr	Omagh	St Benedict's, Yorkshire	23/03/2008
Paul	Sweetman	Omagh	Hugh O'Neill's, Yorkshire	23/03/2008
Terry	Gallagher	Omagh	Cu Chulainn's, Yorkshire	23/03/2008
Mark	Lennon	Kildress	Cu Chulainn's, Yorkshire	23/03/2008
Martin	Timoney	E R Uí Néill	Rhumsaa, Isle of Man	23/03/2008
John	McShane	St Brendan's, London	Killyman	03/04/2008
Michael	McGinley	Eskra	St Brendan's, London	28/03/2008
John	Cassidy	Ogonnelloe, Clare	Carrickmore (H)	05/04/2008
Paul	Gallagher	Donaghmore	Loughrea, Galway	04/04/2008
Leo	Conway	Glenelly	Cormac McAnallen's, Sydney	17/04/2008
Martin	Hughes	Killeeshil	London	04/04/2008
Barry	Daly	Four Provinces, New York	Donaghmore	06/04/2008
Desmond	Conway	Greencastle	John Mitchells, Lancs	13/04/2008
Colin	McMenamin	Drumquin	John Mitchells, Lancs	13/04/2008
Barry	McCaffrey	Augher	Fulham Irish	17/04/2008
Kevin	McElroy	Augher	Fulham Irish	17/04/2008
Pearse	Cunningham	Cormac McAnallen's	An Charraig Mhór	30/04/2008
Pearse	Cunningham	Sydney Shamrocks	Carrickmore (H)	30/04/2008
Paul	Devine	John Mitchells, Lancs	Aghyaran	05/06/2008
James	McKenna	Augher	Four Provinces, New York	19/04/2008
Jonathan	Hughes	Clonoe	Oisin's, Lancs	19/04/2008
Joe	McCarroll	Eskra	Young Ireland's, Yorkshire	24/04/2008
Ryan	McCrossan	John Mitchells, Lancs	Killyclogher	24/04/2008
Sean	Marlow	Fintona	Ellan Vannin Gaels, Lancs	27/04/2008
Gerard	Gallagher	Drumragh	Ellan Vannin Gaels, Lancs	27/04/2008
Sean	Gallagher	Omagh	Kilmacud Crokes	27/04/2008
Patrick	Walsh	Killyclogher	Colmcille's, Longford	02/05/2008
Niall	Porter	Omagh	John Mitchells, Lancs	30/04/2008
Aidan	Hughes	Sinn Fein, Melbourne	Carrickmore	11/05/2008
Cathal	Skeffington	Killeeshil	Tyrone, New York	02/05/2008
Sean	Conway	Pomeroy	Tyrone, New York	02/05/2008
Ruairi	Keenan	Gortin	Tyrone, New York	02/05/2008
Gerard	McCullagh	Greencastle	Tyrone, New York	02/05/2008
Barry	Trainor	Éire Óg, Philadelphia	Clonoe	20/05/2008
Niall	McKenna	Omagh	Young Ireland's, Yorkshire	06/05/2008
Damian	Loughran	Donaghmore	Oisin's, Lancs	06/05/2008
Michael	Grimes	Kildress	Four Provinces, New York	09/05/2008
Camillus	Donnelly	Dromore	Garryowen, London	18/05/2008
Shane	McCann	John Mitchells, Lancs	Clonoe	22/05/2008
Aidan	Garry	Trillick	Tyrone, New York	28/05/2008
Gary	Keenan	Trillick	Tyrone, New York	28/05/2008
Gavin	Wylie	Ardboe	Fulham Irish, London	28/05/2008
Patrick	Bell	Ardboe	John Mitchells, Lancs	28/05/2008
Scott	Grey	Oldastle, Meath	Fintona	08/06/2008
Aloysius	Connolly	Augher	St Joseph's, Dublin	06/06/2008
Kevin	Connolly	Magh Cromtha, Cork	Shamrock's	18/06/2008
Tyrone	Butler	Mount Sion, Waterford	Shamrock's	13/06/2008
Ryan	Small	Stewartstown	St Benedict's, Yorkshire	12/06/2008
Sean	McMahon	Omagh	St Benedict's, Yorkshire	12/06/2008
Christopher	Eastwood	Cookstown	Cu Chulainn's, London	14/06/2008
Francis	McCullagh	Gortin	John Mitchells, Lancs	18/06/2008
Niall	Hoines	Cromane, Kerry	Galbally	19/06/2008
Ciaran	Mullan	Dungannon	Oisin's, Lancs	22/06/2008
Emmett	McGarvey	Castlederg	McCurtain's, London	03/07/2008
Marc	Cunningham	Killeeshil	Fulham Irish, London	03/07/2008
James	Donaghy	Moy	McCurtain's, London	03/07/2008
Conor	McNabb	Dromore	Tyrone, New York	03/07/2008
Seamus	Skeffington	Killeeshil	Tyrone, New York	03/07/2008



**Transfers Approved by Ard Chomhairle - 2008**

Name	Present Club	New Club	Date	
Eunan	Meyler	Omagh	Tyrone, New York	03/07/2008
Barry	Daly	Brocach	Four Provinces, New York	16/07/2008
Fintan	McCarney	Dromore	Tyrone, New York	16/07/2008
Gareth	McCroy	Omagh	Tyrone, New York	16/07/2008
Damian	Kelly	Drumragh	St Brendan's, London	16/07/2008
Stephen	Jordan	Eglis	Cuchulainn's, London	16/07/2008
John	Gallagher	Castledearg	St Brendan's, London	24/07/2008
David	O'Reilly	Killyclogher	St Claret's, London	27/08/2008
Liam	McIlvenna	Naomh Colmcile	Thomas McCurtain's, London	25/07/2008
Paddy	Morris	Milford, Carlow	Killeeshil	14/08/2008
Daniel	Lynch	Clonoe	Oisin's, Lancs	14/08/2008
Martin	Hughes	Cormac McAnallen's	Clonoe	14/08/2008
Martin	Swift	Killyclogher	Four Provinces, New York	05/09/2008
Gerry	Duffin	Pomeroy	Hugh O'Neill's, Yorkshire	16/08/2008
Shane	McCann	Clonoe	John Mitchells, Lancs	12/09/2008
Dennis	Duffy	Tattyreagh	John Mitchells, Lancs	12/09/2008
David	Quinn	Omagh	Cuchulainn's, Yorkshire	17/09/2008
Paul	Quinn	Drumragh	Cuchulainn's, Yorkshire	17/09/2008
Ciaran	Donnelly	Four Provinces, New York	Brocach	21/09/2008
Barry	Daly	Four Provinces, New York	Brocach	21/09/2008
Gavin	Wylie	Fulham Irish, London	Ardboe	17/09/2008
Barry	McGuigan	Moortown	St Joseph's, London	04/10/2008
Michael	McGinley	St Brendan's, London	Eskra	09/10/2008

**Transfers Approved by Comhairle Uladh - 2008**

Name	Present Club	New Club	Date	
Brian	McGuckin	Edendork	Ballinderry	15/01/2008
Cathal	McKeever	Dungiven	An Charraig Mhór	13/03/2008
Shane	McElroy	Clogher	Donaghmoyné	13/03/2008
Brendan	McDevitt	Newtownstewart	Downpatrick	
Dean	Burns McCaul	Armagh Harps	Augher	
Ross	Burns McCaul	Armagh Harps	Augher	
Seamus	McLoughney	Bredagh	Éire Óg	
Aidan	Christy	E R Uí Néill	Naomh Bríd, Antrim	
Patrick	Daly	Bundoran	Drumragh	13/03/2008
Damien	Crawford	Naomh Pádraig Lifford	E R Uí Néill	
Peter	Campbell	Coalisland	Bredagh	
Eamon	O'Neill	Carryduff	Aghaloo	
Michael	Rea	Glenavy	Derrytresk	
Mark	Foley	E R Uí Néill	Lifford	
Adrian	McHugh	Strabane	Convoy	
Declan	McNally	Moortown	Ballinderry	
James	Rafferty	Ballymaguigan	Brackville	
Jonathan	Cuddy	Emyvale	Aghaloo	
Cathal	McKeever	Dungiven	An Charraig Mhór (H)	
James	Gallagher	Castledearg	Maguiresbridge	
Brendan	McAnespy	Bredagh	Trillick	
Stephen	Cleary	Cookstown	Ogra Colmcille	
Noel	Slane	Carrickmore	Éire Óg, Armagh	
Adrian	Mullan	St Gall's, Antrim	Cookstown	
Mark	Trainor	Aghaloo	Pearse Og, Armagh	
Martin	Cummings	Cookstown	Ogra Colmcille	
Shane	Tracey	Killyclogher	Éire Óg, Armagh	
Sean	Mulvaney	Warrenpoint	Drumragh	

**Transfers Approved by Coiste Thír Eoghain - 2008**

Name	Present Club	New Club	Date	
Stephen	Heatherington	Moy	Killyman	04/03/2008
Barry	McGuigan	Ardboe	Moortown	04/03/2008
Kevin	Scullion	Brocach	Derrylaughan	04/03/2008
Michael	Ferron	Coalisland	Derrytresk	04/03/2008
Gary	Burns	Coalisland	Derrytresk	04/03/2008
Kevin	Doris	Clonoe	Derrytresk	04/03/2008
Vivian	Teague	Coalisland	Derrytresk	04/03/2008
Gareth	Coye	Coalisland	Derrytresk	04/03/2008
Eunan	Kelly	Beragh	Drumragh	04/03/2008
Shane	McDonald	Coalisland	Brackville	04/03/2008
Conor	Loughran	Edendork	Brackville	04/03/2008
Stephen	Colton	Drumquin	Eglis	04/03/2008
Ciaran	McCrudden	Dungannon	Edendork	04/03/2008





Shaun Holden	Drumragh	Tattyreagh	04/03/2008
Gareth Wilson	Fintona	Tattyreagh	03/04/2008
Aiden Hurley	Tattyreagh	Drumragh	04/03/2008
Aloysius Connolly	Dromore	Augher	04/03/2008
Conor Loughrey	Dumragh	Newtownstewart	04/03/2008
Philip McGovern	Camowen Gaels	Shamrocks	04/03/2008
Paul McKenna	Clogher	Augher	04/03/2008
Simon Cummings	Rock	Cookstown	04/03/2008
Emmet Quinn	Omagh	Newtownstewart	03/04/2008
Shane Fox	Brackaville	Coalisland	04/03/2008
Niall Bell	Derrylaughan	Brockagh	04/03/2008
Donal Carberry	Aghaloo	Augher	04/03/2008
Orlando Lagan	Pomeroy	Drumragh	04/03/2008
Peter Loughran	Errigal Ciaran	Moy	04/03/2008
Gerard Moore	Carrickmore	Drumragh	04/03/2008

### SANCTIONS TO NORTH AMERICAN BOARD - 2008

Name	Club	US Club	Date Received
Darragh O'Neill	Dromore	Ulster, San Francisco	26/04/2008
Patrick McCarron	Dromore	Ulster, San Francisco	26/04/2008
Jonathan Lafferty	Urney	McAnespie's, Boston	16/05/2008
Thomas John Duffy	Urney	McAnespie's, Boston	16/05/2008
Shane O'Hagan	Clonoe	Ulster, San Francisco	22/05/2008
Daniel McBride	Strabane	McAnespie's, Boston	28/05/2008
Martin Casey	Strabane	McAnespie's, Boston	28/05/2008
Paul Meegan	Eskra	McAnespie's, Boston	28/05/2008
Brendan Quinn	Derrylaughan	Armagh Notre Dame	28/05/2008
Owen Coyle	Stewartstown	Ulster, San Francisco	04/06/2008
Eoghan Kerr	Strabane	Kevin Barry's, Philadelphia	04/06/2008
Damian McCaughey	Aghaloo	Ulster, San Francisco	06/06/2008
Niall McGinn	Eskra	Kevin Barry's, Philadelphia	11/06/2008
Michael Corr	Galbally	Donegal, Boston	11/06/2008
Declan Murphy	Galbally	Donegal, Boston	11/06/2008
Aidan O'Hagan	Galbally	Donegal, Boston	11/06/2008
Terence Tracey	Greencastle	Ulster, San Francisco	12/06/2008
Blaine Nugent	Galbally	Sean Treacy's	13/06/2008
Niall Cassidy	Errigal Ciaran	Shamrocks, Philadelphia	13/06/2008
Niall Kerr	Coalisland	McAnespie's, Boston	16/06/2008
Kevin O'Neill	Donaghmore	Shamrocks, Philadelphia	17/06/2008
John McConville	Ardboe	Kevin Barry's, Philadelphia	17/06/2008
Martin Doherty	Coalisland	McAnespie's, Boston	17/06/2008
Seamus McGlinchey	Coalisland	McAnespie's, Boston	17/06/2008
Paul Tierney	Clogher	Kevin Barry's, Philadelphia	18/06/2008
Malachy Hughes	Clonoe	Sean Treacy's, San Francisco	19/06/2008
Seamus O'Neill	Derrytresk	Young Irelanders, Philadelphia	20/06/2008
Anton Coyle	Stewartstown	Kevin Barry's, Philadelphia	23/06/2008
Martin Swift	Killyclogher	Connemara Gaels, Boston	25/06/2008
Darren Canavan	Errigal Ciaran	McAnespie's, Boston	24/06/2008
Christopher Donnelly	Augher	McAnespie's, Boston	24/06/2008
Christopher Devenney	Urney	McAnespie's, Boston	24/06/2008
Michael O'Hagan	Moortown	Kevin Barry's, Philadelphia	26/06/2008
Martin Harkin	Tattyreagh	St Michael's, Toronto	30/06/2008
Darren Hughes	Brackaville	Kevin Barry's, Philadelphia	30/06/2008

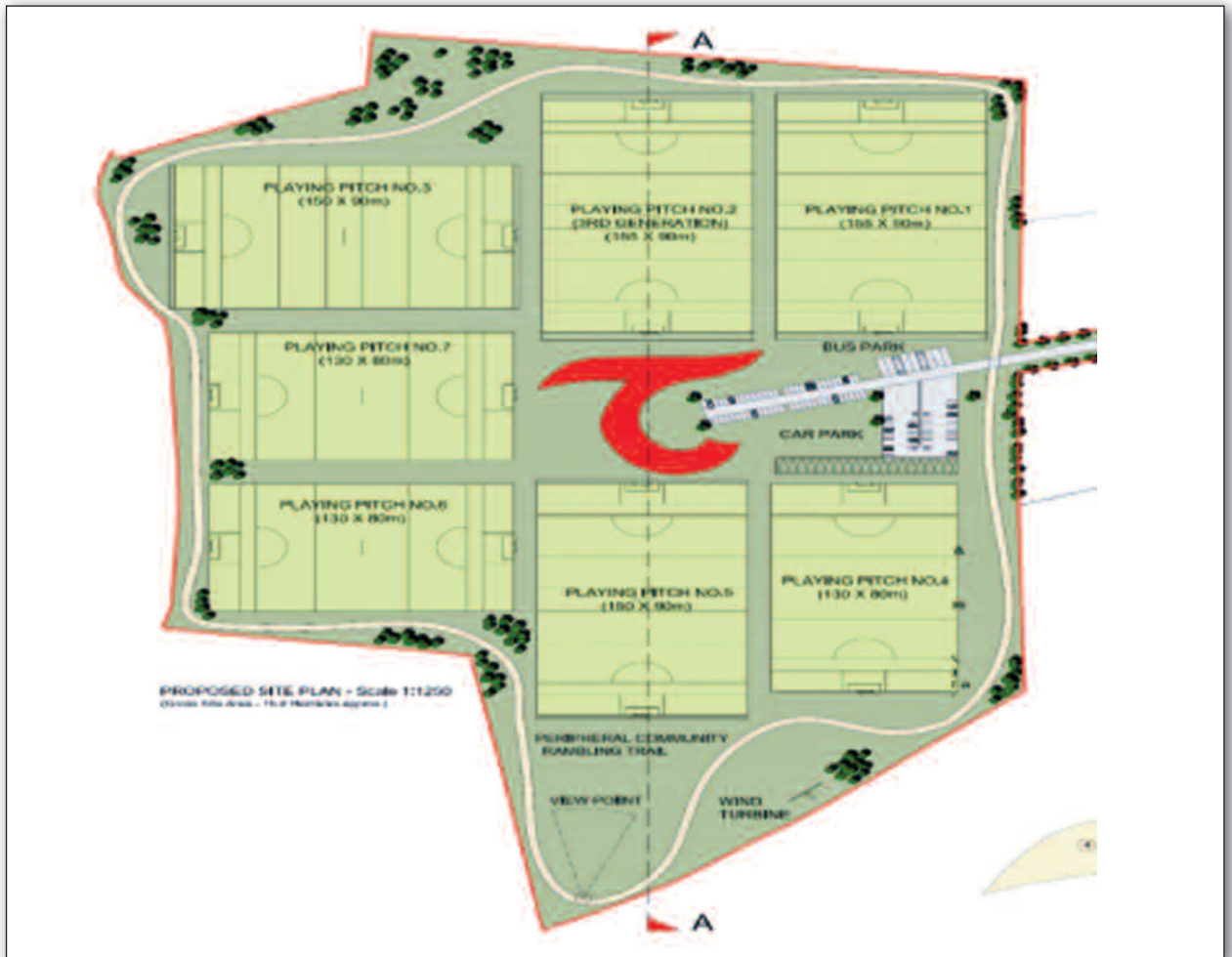
### SANCTIONS TO NEW YORK - 2008

Name	Club	US Club	Date Received
Cathal Skeffington	Killeeshil	Tyrone	14/03/2008
Kevin McSorley	Newtownstewart	Armagh	15/05/2008
Martin Hamill	Killeeshil	Tyrone	23/05/2008
Gary Reilly	Killeeshil	Tyrone	23/05/2008
John McMullan	Killeeshil	Tyrone	23/05/2008
Patrick McMullan	Killeeshil	Tyrone	23/05/2008
Ciaran Donnelly	Brocach	Four Provinces	12/06/2008
Michael Murphy	Galbally	Tyrone	20/06/2008
Padraig Gormley	Clann na nGael	Shamrocks	27/06/2008
Caolan Tierney	Errigal Ciaran	Tyrone	15/07/2008
John Kelly	Errigal Ciaran	Tyrone	15/07/2008
Finbarr Daly	Augher	Cavan	18/07/2008



**SANCTIONS TO AUSTRALASIA - 2007**

Name	Club	US Club	Date Received
Damian McVeigh	Naomh Colmcille	Shamrock's, Melbourne	17/01/2008
Neil Donnelly	Carrickmore	Sinn Féin, Melbourne	14/03/2008
Niall McKearney	Edendork	Sinn Féin, Melbourne	14/03/2008
Stephen McNeice	Coalisland	Sinn Féin, Melbourne	14/03/2008
Stephen McGonnell	Killeeshil	Shamrock's, Melbourne	14/03/2008
Damian Meenagh	Beragh	Wolfe Tone's, Melbourne	19/03/2008
John Gallagher	Loughmacrory	Wolfe Tone's, Melbourne	19/03/2008
Emmett Monaghan	Clogher	McAnallen's, Sydney	28/03/2008
Damian Maguire	Carrickmore (H)	Shamrock's, Sydney	28/03/2008
John McGuigan	Cookstown	Penrith Gaels, Sydney	28/03/2008
Shane Treanor	Dungannon	McAnallen's, Sydney	28/03/2008
Gerard McLoughlin	Eglish	McAnallen's, Sydney	28/03/2008
Niall Campbell	Errigal Ciaran	McAnallen's, Sydney	28/03/2008
Bryan McGuire	Galbally	McAnallen's, Sydney	28/03/2008
Damien McAleer	Loughmacrory	McAnallen's, Sydney	28/03/2008
Michael Gallagher	Carrickmore	Shamrocks, Brisbane	30/05/2008
Damian Hoines	Galbally	Harps, Brisbane	30/05/2008
Damian Quinn	Eskra	Wolfe Tone's, Melbourne	02/06/2008
James McNamee	Eskra	Wolfe Tone's, Melbourne	02/06/2008
Sean McDonnell	Dromore	McAnallen's, Sydney	04/06/2008
Michael Gallagher	Carrickmore	Shamrocks, Brisbane	18/06/2008
Matthew Turbitt	Eskra	McAnallen's, Sydney	18/07/2008
Brian McAloon	Eskra	McAnallen's, Sydney	18/07/2008
Declan Quinn	Errigal Ciaran	McAnallen's, Sydney	18/07/2008
Michael Gallagher	Carrickmore	McAnallen's, Sydney	18/07/2008
Niall Donnelly	Carrickmore	St Finbarr's, Perth	18/07/2008
Aidan O'Gara	Carrickmore	St Finbarr's, Perth	18/07/2008
David Eccles	Omagh	McAnallen's, Sydney	18/07/2008



The proposed new development at Garvaghey





# **Coiste Thír Eoghain**

*An Chomhdháil Bhliantúil*

## **2008**