

GREEN FLAG

The official magazine of Leinster GAA

ISSUE 3 • AUTUMN-2017



Cúl Camps Rock!



AWARD WINNERS

Sometimes the success of a GAA Club is judged solely on the number of cups in the trophy cabinet, and important work going on behind the scenes goes unnoticed.

But that's changed thanks to a new partnership between Leinster GAA and Beko, the domestic appliance and consumer electronics brand.

The Leinster GAA Beko 'Club Bua' Award is a club accreditation and health check initiative, which all clubs in the province are eligible to participate in.

Already this summer, 15 clubs have been honoured at Croke Park at half time in the two Leinster GAA finals, where representatives received a commemorative plaque, €1,500 worth of free playing equipment from O'Neill's. They are also in with a chance to win free appliances from Beko.

Clubs are encouraged to enter the scheme, as further draws will be held this year, and all the necessary information in relation to 'Club Bua' is on leinstergaa.ie.

The assessment form on the website is intended to promote best practice in areas such as coaching, administration and development in an effort to encourage and reward clubs that are striving for excellence on and off the field.

By participating in the Beko 'Club Bua' Award programme, clubs are encouraged to identify areas where they currently excel, but also recognise important areas they may need to address.

The first nine clubs to receive the award at the Leinster Senior Hurling Final were: Palatine (Carlow); St Anne's (Dublin); Clara (Kilkenny); Park/ Ratheniska (Laois); Glen Emmets GFC (Louth); St Colmcille's (Meath); Edenderry (Offaly); Mullingar Shamrocks (Westmeath) and An Tochar (Wicklow).

And the clubs who were honoured at the Leinster Senior Football Final were: Raheny (Dublin); Raharney (Westmeath); Dunsany (Meath); John Mitchels (Louth); Tubber (Offaly) and Mount Leinster Rangers (Carlow).



Shane Kelly (left), Head of Sales & Marketing, Beko Ireland and Pat Teehan, Vice Chairman, Leinster GAA presenting a Leinster GAA Beko 'Club Bua' award to Gary McGillicuddy and Oliver Byrne, An Tochar GAA Club, Co. Wicklow.



Shane Kelly (left), Head of Sales & Marketing, Beko Ireland and Jim Bolger, Chairman, Leinster GAA presenting a Beko 'Club Bua' award to Billy Boyle and Brendan Shaw, Raharney GAA Club, Co. Westmeath.



Shane Kelly (left), Head of Sales & Marketing, Beko Ireland and Pat Teehan, Vice Chairman, Leinster GAA presenting a Leinster GAA Beko 'Club Bua' award to Mary Fitzpatrick, Carmel Brennan and Jimmy Fitzpatrick, Clara GAA Club, Co. Kilkenny, at Croke Park.



Shane Kelly (left), Head of Sales & Marketing, Beko Ireland and Jim Bolger (right), Chairman, Leinster GAA, presenting a Beko 'Club Bua' Award to Freda Halpenny and James Halpenny, John Mitchels GAA Club, Co. Louth.



Pictured at the presentation of the inaugural Leinster GAA Beko 'Club Bua' awards at Croke Park at half time in the Leinster SHC final were (L-R): Tom Hunt and Pat Collins, Mullingar Shamrocks, Westmeath; Mary Fitzpatrick, Jimmy Fitzpatrick and Carmel Brennan, Clara, Kilkenny; Mary McCabe, Glen Emmets, Louth; Amanda West and Michael Sweeney, St. Anne's, Dublin; Oliver Byrne and Gary McGillicuddy, An Tochar, Wicklow; Shane Kelly, Head of Sales & Marketing, Beko Ireland; Pat Teehan, Vice Chairman, Leinster GAA; Damien O'Brien and Barbara O'Connell, St. Colmcille's, Meath; Colm Cummins and William Forde, Edenderry, Offaly; Brian Ramsbottom and John Kelly, Park/Ratheniska, Laois; Paud and Moya O'Dwyer, Palatine, Carlow.



Pictured at the presentation of the Beko 'Club Bua' awards at Croke Park at the Leinster SFC final at Croke Park were (L-R): Shane Kelly, Head of Sales & Marketing, Beko Ireland; Freda Halpenny and James Halpenny, John Mitchels, Louth; Ciara Flynn and Niall Flynn, Dunsany, Meath; Margaret Byrne and Hugh Byrne, Mount Leinster Rangers, Carlow; Chris Daly and John Moran, Tubber, Offaly; Billy Boyle and Brendan Shaw, Raharney, Westmeath; Cathal Baldwin and Siobhan Baldwin, Raheny, Dublin; and Jim Bolger, Chairman, Leinster GAA.

SEAN SENIOR STAR AT THE CARLOW COALFACE GANNON



Carlow Is Rising!

When a tweet with this catchphrase and a striking image of a clenched fist painted yellow, green and red went viral this summer, it epitomised the mood of a county on the move. Everyone involved with Carlow football had been crying out for a prolonged championship season and the manner in which Turlough O'Brien's team embraced their challenges won admirers across the country.

A morale-boosting victory over Wexford led to a Leinster SFC quarter-final against Dublin, where they went down with heads held high. Then came three outings in the qualifiers, giving the Barrowsiders five championship outings for the first time since 2001.

The hurlers, too, played their part with a Christy Ring Cup triumph at Croke Park, before narrowly succumbing to Laois in the preliminary round of the All-Ireland Qualifiers.

Now the task is to capitalise on the positivity and continue to build momentum in the coming years.

Sean Gannon is better placed than most to comment on the current state of play in Carlow GAA – a key member of the senior football panel for the past decade, he's also employed as a Games Development Administrator in the county.

Needless to say, he was buoyed by their progress and the knock-on effects it created.

"There was a lot of work going on in Carlow already, we have a good team together and it has been going well

for the last number of years," he said. "But we've had our highest ever number of boys and girls at the Cúl Camps this year. And when the hurlers and footballers come to the camps now, the kids know their names and want jerseys signed."

The feel-good factor was long overdue. "I'm playing ten years and we've had some good times, but it has been a struggle for the majority of it," he said. "So to get the bit of a run this year and to have the support behind us was really nice and showed there is huge interest in Carlow. To have hundreds of children out on the field congratulating you was just surreal and that happened a few times."

The management set-up and organisation this year gave the squad a renewed confidence, he stated. "Approaching the Wexford game, we were very confident. There is no reason for Carlow to be underdogs unless against the top teams. Only we conceded two goals from high balls, we would have been very comfortable in that game."

The reward was a quarter-final against Dublin, the most daunting prospect in Gaelic football at present. "Realistically, we were taking on one of the greatest teams of all time, certainly of my generation. We were on a high after the Wexford game and took the Dublin game as an added bonus. Really, we wanted a performance to keep the momentum going for the qualifiers, and I think we got that."

And some of the individual displays from the likes of Sean Murphy – man of the match versus Dublin – and Paul Broderick – GAA/ GPA Player of the Month for May – brought their talents to a national audience.

"Before the qualifiers, we were ready to take on anyone but we got a favourable draw and it was important to take advantage of it," Sean stated. "To come out of London with a win was excellent and then to bring Leitrim here to Carlow with a huge crowd present was something we relished. The buzz around the camp was amazing. We were also in contention against Monaghan to the very end."

He agreed that promotion from Division 4 has to be their main focus for 2018. "That was a top priority this year as well to be honest. Ironically, we slipped up against London and Leitrim, who we actually beat later in the year. But it's going to be even more difficult to get promoted next year, with Laois and Antrim coming down. All the teams can beat each other on any given day."

A winner of three Carlow SFC medals with Eire Óg, Sean captained the team to their most recent success in 2012 and leads the side out again this season, as they bid to thwart Palatine's three-in-a-row ambitions. And he'd like to add another IHC medal with Carlow Town to his collection.

Sean's dual commitment on the field is replicated in his employment where he and the other full time GDA in Carlow, Brendan Hayden, cater for both codes.

In the position for 2 ½ years, he holds a Sports Management & Coaching Degree, and a Masters Degree in Business Management, both from Carlow I.T. and the 28 year old combines work with studying for further qualifications through the Jim Madden GPA Leadership Programme.

"My main roles include focussing on participation numbers in primary schools and at Go Games level, and I'd also be heavily involved in Development Squads, Cúl Camps and Coach Education," he explained.

"We're also undertaking a 'Coach Observation Tour' at the minute. We go to clubs and watch coaches at a training session and give them feedback. It's different to coaching courses, where we bring them in to watch us. We feel it's helpful to give them one-to-one feedback in their own environment, where they are comfortable, and it's good too for developing relationships around the county," he concluded.





LEINSTER

RECORDS BROKEN DURING ACTION-PACKED SEASON OF LEINSTER GAA ACTION

Don't be surprised if two milestones reached at this season's Leinster Senior Hurling and Football Championship finals crop up as answers at GAA quizzes in the coming years.

Six marks if you remember the exact attendance at the hurling final on the first Sunday in July, as the last few fans who purchased tickets that morning ensured the 60,000 mark was exceeded for the first time ever.

It was known leading up to the game that nearly no-one was staying behind in Wexford and Galway supporters were travelling in force to cheer on the Allianz League champions.

Official confirmation of a record crowd came when the figure of 60,032 flashed up on the big screen at half time. Previously, the biggest attendance at a Leinster hurling decider was 55,492 in 1997, but the norm in recent years was in or around 30,000.

Two weeks later, a different type of record was set when Dublin went one better than the stars of the '70s by lifting the Delaney Cup for the seventh year in a row. The Dubs have dominated the Leinster Senior Football Championship since 2011 and despite the best efforts of an emerging Kildare side, Jim Gavin's all-conquering side had nine points to spare at the final whistle.

Dublin also won the Under 21 and Minor football titles, while Kilkenny showed there is still plenty of emerging talent in the county by claiming the corresponding hurling crowns.

Special Under 17 competitions were organised this season to cater for players who will miss out on Minor action in 2018, when the age limit is reduced, with Meath (football) and Dublin (hurling) lifting the trophies.

The remaining inter-county championships in Leinster brought further glory for Kilkenny (intermediate hurling) and a valued title for Meath (junior football).

Leinster GAA also continued to expand the number of fixtures available for clubs in 2017, ranging from inaugural cross-county leagues at underage grades to the always popular adult club hurling leagues for senior, intermediate and junior teams.

This year, 56 teams from 11 of the 12 Leinster counties participated in the Leinster Adult Club Hurling League, split into four divisions and just shy of 100 games were played.



Captain Stephen Cluxton raises the Delaney Cup as Dublin clinch their seventh Leinster Senior Football title in succession.



Proud Tribesmen David Burke and Uachtarán na hÉireann, Michael D. Higgins, lift the O'Keefe Cup as Galway win the Leinster Senior Hurling Championship in front of a huge attendance at Croke Park.



Dublin - Electric Ireland Leinster Minor Football Champions 2017



Leas-Cathaoirleach Laighean, Pat Teehan, presents the cup to Kilkenny Captain Adrian Mullen as Electric Ireland Leinster Minor Hurling Champions for 2017



Cathaoirleach Laighean, Jim Bolger, presents the shield to Dublin Captain Mark Grogan as winners of the Leinster U17 Hurling Competition for 2017



Leinster P.R.O., Martin O'Halloran, proudly presents the shield to his county-man, Meath Captain Liam Byrne, as winners of the Leinster U17 Football Competition for 2017

LEINSTER GAA FINALS 2017

Leinster Senior Hurling Championship Final
Galway 0-29 • Wexford 1-17

Leinster Senior Football Championship Final
Dublin 2-23 • Kildare 1-17

Electric Ireland
Leinster Minor Hurling Championship Final
Kilkenny 3-15 • Dublin 1-17

Electric Ireland
Leinster Minor Football Championship Final
Dublin 2-19 • Louth 0-12

EirGrid
Leinster Under 21 Football Championship Final
Dublin 2-14 • Offaly 0-08

Bord Gais Energy
Leinster Under 21 Football Championship Final
Kilkenny 0-30 • Wexford 1-14

Leinster Under 17 Hurling Competition Final
Dublin 3-17 • Kilkenny 2-10

Leinster Under 17 Football Competition Final
Meath 3-12 • Dublin 1-13

Leinster Intermediate Hurling Championship Final
Kilkenny 1-26 • Wexford 1-08

Leinster Junior Football Championship Final
Meath 0-19 • Louth 0-10

Bord na Móna
Walsh Cup Senior Hurling Final
Kilkenny 0-20 • Galway 0-18

Bord na Móna
O'Byrne Cup Senior Football Final
Dublin 2-16 8 Louth 1-10

Bord na Móna
Kehoe Cup Senior Hurling Final
Maynooth University 1-23 • Wicklow 2-11

Leinster Minor Hurling League Final
Kildare 3-16 • Dublin 1-20 (aet)

Leinster Adult Club Hurling League Division 1 Final
Buffers Alley 2-18 • Kilcormac/ Killoughey 1-16

Leinster Adult Club Hurling League Division 3 Final
Windgap 1-10 • Shanahoe 0-07

Leinster Adult Club Hurling League Division 4 Final
St Patrick's, WW 3-13 • Ballyboden St Enda's 2-10

The promotion of Wheelchair Hurling facilitates those with disabilities to fully participate in GAA games, regardless of their age and ability. Indeed, this ethos is part of the GAA's wider inclusion strategy which states that disability is not a barrier to sport

'Games For All' Committee promoting Wheelchair Hurling

by Brian Ó Chairbre (Runai)

The promotion of wheelchair hurling facilitates those with disabilities to fully participate in GAA games, regardless of their age and ability. Indeed, this ethos is part of the GAA's wider inclusion strategy which states that disability is not a barrier to sport.

Wheelchair hurling was the brainchild of Timmy Maher way back in 1998. Tim, a teacher in a special school for children with physical disabilities, introduced 'a small hurley' after observing the children playing a wheelchair game with a ball and tennis rackets. Thus began an innovative direction of inclusion in GAA games - something special was unleashed.

Teams in wheelchair hurling teams are made up of six players and four substitutes. The rules have been revised and adopted to a similar standard of our field games. Men and women of all ages can and do participate on the same team.

Training Hubs rather than Clubs are evolving within the provinces, with a steady uptake of players and involvement of volunteers.

In Leinster, wheelchair hurling really got a kick start with the appointment of a 'Games for All' committee three years ago by then Provincial Council Chairman, John Horan. John threw the full backing of the council into supporting the committee with finance and resources.

Following a number of meetings with Local Sports Partnerships and the Irish Wheelchair Association and in consultation with then Leinster GAA Coaching committee Chairman (and current Leinster Council Chairman) Jim Bolger, a training hub was set up in Kilkenny with Tony Watene and David Herrity as coaches in the first year. This opened the door for numerous players from the south of the province to become involved.

Then Leinster's current coach, Jeff Phelan was recruited and is presently coaching and training the team in Vicarstown, Co Laois (the new hub) along with Tom Sheehy and Gerry Pierce.

This has paid dividends already with a number of Leinster players gaining All Star recognition and Leinster winning the Martin Donnelly Interprovincial Championship for the first time in 2016. Leinster's players continued this form into 2017, with early wins in the league helping to build momentum.

David Herrity is the Ambassador for Wheelchair Hurling in Leinster and he strives to attend as many games and presentations as possible.

The Leinster GAA 'Games For All' committee are endeavouring to maximise the player base through ongoing meetings with Local Sports Partnerships, Sport Ireland, Irish Wheelchair Association and Leinster Coaching staff. The committee are keen to have an active data base of wheelchair users (male and female) who may be potential players.

To this effect, coaching at summer camps is being provided for children aged between four and 14 through the Occupational Therapy section of the Louth/Meath branch of the HSE in Drogheda and the Local Sports partnership and Irish Wheelchair Association in Dundalk. Other initiatives are also taking place or in the pipeline.

It is hoped to have a provincial-wide representation on the Leinster panel and possibly, in time, a second Leinster team. The committee wish to thank Martin Donnelly for his ongoing support and sponsorship of our games, and are grateful to Athlone IT, Carlow IT, Dundalk IT and Blanchardstown IT for hosting interprovincial tournaments over the last few years.

Committee chairman Pat Lynagh (also Treasurer of Comhairle Laighean) is always available and supportive in spite of his workload, and the national committee always provide encouragement and guidance.

Leinster Wheelchair Hurling Team

Will O'Meara, Conor Nolan, Alex Hennebry, Jonathan Ellis, Gary Reilly, Garret Culliton, Shauna Morgan, Tom Carey, Paul Tobin and Lorcan Madden.

Leinster Wheelchair Hurling Committee

Pat Lynagh, Chairman; Brian Carberry, Secretary; Tim Maher; Elaine Banville; Gerry Harrington; Dermot Howlin; Val Malone.



BRIAN WHELAHAN'S ROLL OF HONOUR

2 x All-Ireland SHC medals	1994 • 1998
4 x Leinster SHC medals	1989 • 1990 • 1994 • 1995
1 x National Hurling League medal	1991
3 x Walsh Cup medals	1990 • 1993 • 1994
1 x Oireachtas medal	1995
2 x Railway Cup medals	1998 • 1903
3 x Leinster U-21 HC medals	1989 • 1991 • 1992
2 x All-Ireland & Leinster MHC medals	1987 • 1989
1 x All-Ireland Colleges SHC medal	1986
1 x An Post/GAA Hurling Team of the Millennium	2000
2 x Texaco Hurler of the Year awards	1994 • 1998
4 x All Star awards	1992 • 1995 • 1998 • 1999
1 x Players' Player of the Year	1994
1 x GAA Writers' Player of the Year	1998
2 x All-Ireland SH Final Man of the Match awards	1994 • 1998
3 x All-Ireland Club SH Final Man of the Match awards	1995
	1998 • 2002
4 x All-Ireland Club medals	1995 • 1998 • 2002 • 2003
7 x Leinster Club medals	1991 • 1994 • 1997 • 1999 • 2001
	2002 • 2007
12 x Offaly SHC medals	1991 • 1994 • 1997 • 1999 • 2000
	2001 • 2002 • 2003 • 2005 • 2006 • 2007 • 2008
3 x Offaly U-21 HC medals	1988 • 1990 • 1991
4 x Offaly MHC medals	1985 • 1987 • 1988 • 1989
5 x Offaly U-16 HC medals	1983 • 1984 • 1985 • 1986 • 1987
3 x Offaly U-14 HC medals	1982 • 1983 • 1985
1 x All-Ireland Feile na nGael Div 2 medal	1985
1 x All-Ireland Community Games Hurling gold	1984
1 x All-Ireland Community Games Hurling silver	1983
2 x Offaly JFC medals	1992 • 2001
1 x Óg Sport Offaly U-15 F medal	1983
2 x Offaly U-14 'A' FC medals	1982 • 1984
1 x All-Ireland Community Games Football bronze	1982



DES DOLAN'S ROLL OF HONOUR

1 x Leinster SFC	2004
1 x All-Star Award	2004
1 x All-Ireland U21 FC	1999
2 x Leinster U21 FC	1999 • 2000
1 x Sigerson Cup (NUIG)	2003
3 x Railway Cups with Leinster	2001 • 2002 • 2005
5 x International Rules tours with Ireland	
3 x Allianz League Div 2 medals	2001 • 2003 • 2008
1 x Leinster Club SFC medal	2011
7 x Westmeath SFC medals	2001 • 2002 • 2004 • 2009
	2010 • 2011 • 2014
5 x Westmeath SFL Div 1	2001 • 2002 • 2003 • 2008 • 2009
Westmeath Championships	U12 • U14 • U16 • Minor • U21



COMHAIRLE LAIGHEAN HALL OF FAME AWARD

One of the greatest hurlers of all time and a footballer who inspired his county to their only provincial title were honoured by Leinster GAA this summer.

Offaly legend Brian Whelahan and former Westmeath star Dessie Dolan were inducted into the Leinster GAA Hall of Fame recently.

One award in each code is presented annually by Comhairle Laighean and this year's recipients were honoured at championship games in the province.

Brian Whelahan is the only player of the modern era to be selected on the Hurling Team of the Millennium, and won almost every accolade in the game, including All-Ireland SHC medals in 1994 and 1998. He was twice chosen as Texaco Hurler of the Year and received four All-Star awards.

The bigger the occasion, the better he performed, exemplified by the fact he was chosen as man of the match in two All-Ireland SHC finals, and in three of the All-Ireland Club finals he won with Birr.

Brian's senior inter-county career with Offaly spanned 18 seasons from 1989, when he made his debut against Antrim as a sub during the All-Ireland semi-final, to Saturday, July 8th, 2006 when he played his final game against Clare in the All-Ireland qualifiers at Cusack Park, Ennis.

During that time, he starred in 55 senior inter-county championship games (and 52 NHL games), scoring a championship total of 3 goals and 44 points. He captained the side in 1999, and missed only five championship games due to injury.

Westmeath hero Dessie Dolan is regarded as one of the most inspirational and talented players ever to emerge from the county.

Dolan, who enjoyed a glittering 16-year inter-county senior career with Westmeath, was the star forward on their 1999 All-Ireland U21 winning team, and later their breakthrough

Leinster senior football championship winning team of 2004.

He represented Leinster for three inter-provincial cup campaigns, and in 2005 he scored 0-11 when Leinster defeated Ulster by 0-20 to 0-18 after extra time to capture the title in Parnell Park.

He was also picked for five tours of duty with the Ireland International Rules team – which illustrates his ability to perform with the very best of Gaelic football's attacking talents.

Dolan also helped Garrycastle to become the dominant force in Westmeath during his playing days, winning seven senior county titles between 2001 and 2014, and in 2011 won the Leinster SFC Club Championship.



Offaly hurling legend Brian Whelahan receives his Leinster GAA Hall Of Fame Award from Leinster GAA Chairman, Jim Bolger, at O'Moore Park before the Offaly v Galway SHC game this summer.



Former Westmeath star, Dessie Dolan receives his Leinster GAA Hall Of Fame Award from Leinster GAA Chairman, Jim Bolger, at Croke Park before the Westmeath v Dublin SFC game this summer.

Leinster Fixtures 2017

AIB Leinster Club Senior Football Championship 2017

	HOME	AWAY	DATE
1.	Louth	v Wicklow	29.10.2017
2. Q-F	1	v Dublin	12.11.2017
3.	Offaly	v Laois	29.10.2017
4. Q-F	3	v Kildare	12.11.2017
5.	Longford	v Carlow	29.10.2017
6. Q-F	5	v Westmeath	12.11.2017
7.	Wexford	v Meath	29.10.2017
Semi-Finals			
8.	2	v 4	26.11.2017
9.	6	v 7	26.11.2017
FINAL	8	v 9	10.12.2017

AIB Leinster Club Intermediate Football Championship 2017

Senior Champions – Kilkenny
Senior Football "B" Champions – Offaly
Intermediate Champions – Remaining 10 Counties

	HOME	AWAY	DATE
1.	Longford	v Wexford	21.10.2017
2. Q-F	1	v Kildare	4.11.2017
3.	Offaly	v Kilkenny	21.10.2017
4. Q-F	3	v Westmeath	4.11.2017
5.	Wicklow	v Laois	21.10.2017
6. Q-F	5	v Dublin	4.11.2017
7.	Louth	v Carlow	21.10.2017
8. Q-F	7	v Meath	4.11.2017
Semi-Finals			
9.	2	v 4	11.11.2017
10.	6	v 8	11.11.2017
FINAL	9	v 10	25.11.2017



AIB Leinster Club Junior Football Championship 2017

Intermediate Champions – Kilkenny & Offaly
Intermediate Runners Up – Longford
Intermediate "A" Champions – Wexford
Junior Champions – Remaining Counties

	HOME	AWAY	DATE
1.	Wexford	v Carlow	7.10.2017
2. Q-F	1	v Dublin	21.10.2017
3.	Wicklow	v Laois	7.10.2017
4. Q-F	3	v Westmeath	21.10.2017
5.	Offaly	v Longford	7.10.2017
6. Q-F	5	v Kildare	21.10.2017
7.	Kilkenny	v Louth	7.10.2017
8. Q-F	7	v Meath	21.10.2017
Semi-Finals			
9.	2	v 4	4.11.2017
10.	6	v 8	4.11.2017
FINAL	9	v 10	18.11.2017



With fixtures in full swing across all counties, clubs have their eye on a championship title in September or October.

There's also the added prize of a place in the AIB Leinster Club Championships, which offer clubs across all grades an opportunity to compete against successful teams from other counties.

Cuala and St Vincent's are the reigning Leinster Senior Club Champions in hurling and football, respectively, but there will be equal, if not greater, excitement at the Intermediate and Junior grades. So here's all the fixtures for the provincial campaigns later in the year.

AIB Leinster Club Senior Hurling Championship 2017

	HOME	AWAY	DATE
1.	Offaly	v Westmeath	5.11.2017
2.	Laois	v Carlow	5.11.2017
3.	Dublin	v Kilkenny	5.11.2017
4.	Wexford	Bye	
Semi-Finals			
5.	1	v 2	19.11.2017
6.	3	v Wexford	19.11.2017
FINAL	5	v 6	3.12.2017

AIB Leinster Club Intermediate Hurling Championship 2017

Intermediate Champions – Wexford & Kilkenny
Senior Champions – Wicklow, Kildare & Meath
Senior "B" Champions – Laois
Intermediate/Senior "B" Champions – Dublin

	HOME	AWAY	DATE
Quarter-Finals			
1.	Meath	v Laois	4.11.2017
2.	Kildare	v Kilkenny	4.11.2017
3.	Dublin	v Wicklow	4.11.2017
4.	Wexford	Bye	
Semi-Finals			
5.	1	v 2	18.11.2017
6.	3	v 4	18.11.2017
FINAL	5	v 6	2.12.2017

AIB Leinster Club Junior Hurling Championship 2017

Senior Champions – Louth & Longford
Intermediate Champions – Laois, Offaly, Wicklow, Westmeath, Kildare, Meath, Carlow
Intermediate "A" Champions – Wexford
Junior Champions – Dublin & Kilkenny

	HOME	AWAY	DATE
1.	Dublin	v Kildare	14.10.2017
2. Q-F	1	v Laois	21.10.2017
3.	Carlow	v Wicklow	14.10.2017
4. Q-F	3	v Wexford	21.10.2017
5.	Westmeath	v Louth	14.10.2017
6. Q-F	5	v Offaly	21.10.2017
7.	Longford	v Meath	14.10.2017
8. Q-F	7	v Kilkenny	21.10.2017
Semi-Finals			
9.	2	v 4	28.10.2017
10.	6	v 8	28.10.2017
FINAL	9	v 10	11.11.2017



CLUB NEWS

CLUB LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

After another successful period of rolling out the GAA's Club Leadership Development Programme (CLDP), feedback would suggest that the Programme is not only providing excellent support to our Club Officers, but it is also only highlighting the desire of Officers to access additional training and supports.

It can safely be said that aim of the Programme, to provide the principal GAA Club Officers - Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, PRO - with the basic knowledge and core leadership skills required to fulfil their roles effectively, has been met. However, it also highlights the need for continued development of the Programme in terms of content. Throughout the summer months, this development has been ongoing, with structure and content undergoing a review, based on feedback from participants and Leadership Associates, and amendments made.

It is envisioned that training will begin to be rolled out again in some counties from October, with a view to all Counties hosting a CLDP event before April 2018.



ONLINE MODULE ON EFFECTIVE MEETINGS

The GAA has developed an online module to help all Officers meetings run more effectively.

About the Module

Meetings are an essential part of running a GAA Club Executive, County Management Committee or Provincial Council. Running meetings so that they run smoothly and achieve what they are supposed to is not as easy as it sounds but it is a skill that can be developed.

A well-managed meeting can encourage cooperation between members because people can be made aware of developments across their area of interest in the Association and contribute to them. Meetings also play an important role in developing team spirit, as volunteers feel a part of changes and plans that they have helped shape. They are especially useful for problem solving. On the other hand, meetings that are not well run can be a source of frustration for members and slow down progress with developments.

Considering this, the GAA has developed an online module to support officers at club, county and provincial levels to run more effective meetings. It is a time-saving guide to planning and running meetings from start to finish which covers preparation, keeping the meeting on track, complying

with the GAA Constitution & Rules, and follow-up on actions. It includes best practice advice for dealing with challenging individuals, as well as downloadable templates for creating effective meeting agendas and meeting minutes.

What you'll learn

1. Approaches, rules and tips for running effective meetings
2. How to prepare and organise a Club Annual General Meeting
3. Tools and templates to organise and run effective meetings

Accessing the Module

1. To access the module, complete these steps:
2. Open an internet browser on your laptop or PC – (Our preferred browser is Google Chrome. Please note that the module is not compatible with a phone or tablet device)
3. Ensure that pop-ups are enabled on your computer – Click here for guidance on unblocking pop-ups
4. Click on this link: http://learning.gaa.ie/courses/Effective_Meetings/

More Information

For more information, visit: <https://sway.com/1LMvqc1RpCld7yN>

CLUB PLANNING PROGRAMME

What is the Club Planning Programme?

Originally launched in 2008, the Club Planning Programme (CPP) is designed to support Clubs in the development, implementation and review of Club Plans. Under the current GAA Strategic Plan, covering the period 2015 – 2017, the Club Planning Programme is undergoing a period of review and update to ensure it continues to meet the needs of Clubs developing Plans. Some of the key features of the updated Programme are:

- Club Planning Facilitators working within each County.
- Updated resources including the Club Planning Pack and online supports.
- Updated Club Planning Workshop.
- Improved implementation, monitoring and evaluation supports.

How Does the Club Planning Programme work?

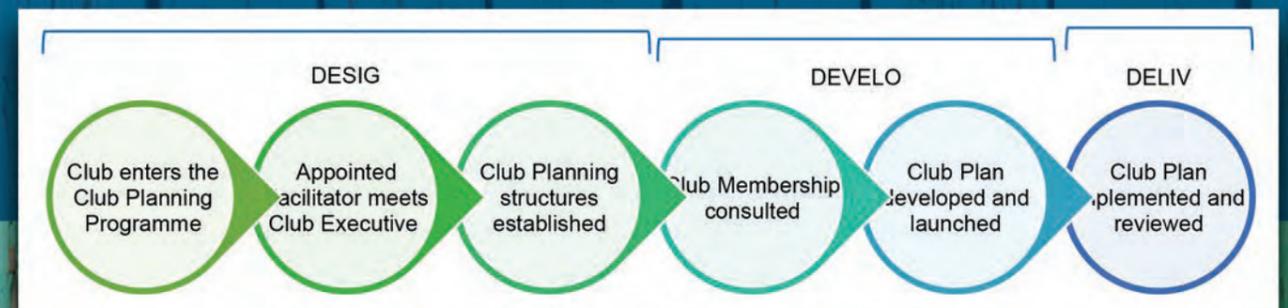
Throughout the Autumn of 2017, the updated Club Planning Programme will be in a pilot phase that will see 15 Clubs enter the updated Programme. Each of the Clubs will go through the following process.

The duration of this process will largely be at the discretion of the Club; however, the design and development phase should take between two to three months and the recommended Club Plan duration will be from one to three years.

How can a Club get involved?

Getting involved in the Club Planning Programme in 2017 is very straight forward. Your County Development Officer is currently seeking interest from Clubs, therefore any Club interested in being a part of the Club Planning Programme should contact its County Development Officer at:

[developmentofficer.\[COUNTYNAME\]@gaa.ie](mailto:developmentofficer.[COUNTYNAME]@gaa.ie)





Cúl Camps set new records for Leinster



Star of Wexford camogie Kate Kelly surprised youngsters taking part in one of the county's most popular Kellogg's GAA Cúl Camps with a visit to Glynn Barntown GAA Club, Killurin. Kate joined in what was an action-packed morning of activity and fun, teaching the children GAA skills, sharing great insider tips and promoting the importance of active play. More than 127,000 children took part in Kellogg's GAA Cúl Camps last year. The camps are for children aged 6 – 13 years who can enjoy a week of on-the-pitch action learning new skills, making new friends, being active and having fun during the school holidays in July and August. Kellogg's involvement with Cúl Camps stems from its commitment to promoting and encouraging physical activity. Educating children on the importance of nutrition to support active play is a key component of Cúl Camps and Kellogg's believes in the power of breakfast to fuel activity both on and off the pitch.

County	2017	2016	Difference	% Change
Wexford	4381	3756	625	17%
Kildare	4237	3568	669	19%
Meath	4087	3151	936	30%
Wicklow	3231	2483	748	30%
Offaly	2919	2413	506	21%
Dublin North	2663	1837	826	45%
Louth	2417	1981	436	22%
Westmeath	2139	1502	637	42%
Kilkenny	2106	1950	156	8%
Laois	1855	1317	538	41%
Dublin West	1610	1082	528	49%
Dublin South	1565	1194	371	31%
Longford	1546	1196	350	29%
Carlow	1420	1085	335	31%
Total	36176	28515	7661	27%

The phenomenon that is the Kellogg's GAA Cúl Camp continues with records again being set in 2017.

Leinster continues to show a strong area of growth with every one of our 12 counties showing an increase. Before the summer was out and all camps had been staged, at the time of going to print the numbers for Leinster were recording an increase of 27 per cent on 2016 with 36,176 signed up on line.

This does not take into account walk ups at all of these camps and when the summer is over, the final figures for Leinster GAA Cúl Camp participation will be even higher again.

Not surprisingly given the population base, the biggest increases were recorded across Dublin. There were 5,838 children in Dublin who attended a camp by the start of August. But elsewhere in Leinster there are other significant numbers to note.

Westmeath GAA recorded the biggest increase outside of the Capital – the Lake County soaring by 42 per cent in participation.

Laois GAA had a great summer of camps with the O'Moore County seeing an increase of 41 per cent.

Carlow GAA numbers, no doubt inspired by the heroics of the county footballers, are up by 31 per cent.

Both Meath and Wicklow are celebrating 30 per cent increases.

More than 4,000 children in both Wexford and Kildare have taken part in Cúl Camps this summer.

Offaly is just short of the 3,000 mark and enjoying a 21 per cent increase.

Figures in Louth are up 22 per cent and in Kilkenny there were 2,106 children who had attended a GAA Cúl Camp by the start of August.

When you factor in home grown camps run by GAA Clubs themselves outside of this, it represents a really good news story. All across the country Gaelic Games have never been stronger, never been more popular with participation rates never higher.

The Kellogg's GAA Cúl Camp model caters for children aged between six and 13 and has grown year on year with attractive and easily identifiable kit given out to the participating kids clearly visible in villages, towns and cities everywhere.

Charlie Harrison, the GAA's National Cúl Camps co-ordinator says: "it is a positive story with participation increase in every county in Leinster and shows that the hard work that games personnel and club members are putting in is paying off."

From Stateside to Pitchside...

History was made this summer when the first ever New York Minor Hurlers competed at the Connacht GAA Hurling Club Féile on June 30th. During their stay, they visited Croke Park for the Leinster SHC Final. Following a parade during half-time in the Minor Final, the delegation were presented with a commemorative hurl by Shane Flanagan, Games Development Operations Manager, Comhairle Laighean.



There are many ways to generate power from nature. We're inspired by all of them.



At Bord na Móna we're powering 150,000 homes with renewable energy.

By 2020, it will be close to 250,000. Already we generate renewable energy from wind power and by converting household waste into electricity, as well as from biomass (organic material). Just some of the ways we're leading the change to secure a sustainable future for everyone.

Search **Bord na Móna Change**

BORD NA MÓNA
Naturally Driven

Big Step Forward for Gaelic Football Coaching in Spain

The first ever Award One course organised by the Leinster GAA European County Board and the Galician Gaelic Football Association was held recently and, significantly, it was attended entirely by Spanish coaches.

Leinster G.A.A, in partnership with Gaelic Games Europe, is committed to implementing an integrated coach education program across the region and place a lot of emphasis on planning for the needs of clubs and coaches.

In preparation for the course, an online needs analysis was conducted, with over 40 coaches providing valuable information. Arising from this, concrete information was gathered which informed how the training activities would be planned to best effect.

It had been decided to run both the Foundation and Award One Programmes concurrently in an effort to maximize the impact of the visiting tutors, and 47 coaches from 11 clubs took part.

Beforehand, a considerable amount of time was also devoted to creating 4 webinars for the Award One Programme, covering the following modules: "Introduction", "Communications", "Role of the Coach" and the "OTú Model". Progress checks for these webinars were designed to help the coaches test their understanding of the material. These webinars and progress checks are an essential part of the learning experience. In addition all of the webinars and progress checks were completed prior to coaches attending the practical workshops.

All of the class based course content and tasks were translated from English to Spanish.

All who attended the coaching courses were very enthusiastic and open to sharing and learning from each other. As a result of this workshop the coaches suggested creating an online environment to share and exchange best practice. A group Facebook page has now been created called "Galicia Gaelic Football coaches" with over 45 members adding and sharing practical tips and ideas around coaching.



GREENFLAG 

Handball Tournament

in memory of

Michael 'Ducksy' Walsh

The famed Talbot's Inch Handball Club situated on the fringes of Kilkenny city hosted a day of top class handball in memory of the late Michael Walsh, who sadly passed away last year.

The Kilkenny native was more commonly known as 'Ducksy', a name that is synonymous with handball enthusiasts across the globe. He progressed through the playing ranks from a young age and went on to accumulate an unprecedented number of titles throughout his playing career, winning an incredible 38 Senior All-Ireland titles, including a record 16 Senior Softball titles.

All the games took place on Saturday, 29th July, with round robin matches played that morning in four courts around the county: Talbot's Inch, Mullinavat, Clogh and Kilfane. The action finished up in Talbot's Inch that afternoon with the final, where the pairings of Meath's Tom Sheridan and Brian Carroll defeated Robbie McCarthy of Westmeath and Wexford's Tommy Hynes in a thrilling match.

The organising committee at Talbot's Inch Handball Club provided a great day of entertainment in handball, which was a fitting tribute to a true legend.

Members of the Talbot's Inch Handball Club Organising Committee pictured at the tournament



Call your local Top Oil Depot for the best value in Home Heating Oil

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND

Carlow

Top Oil Carlow
059 9140777

Cavan

Top Oil Cavan
049 4338295

Clare

Top Oil Ennis
065 6828469

Cork

Top Oil Cork
021 4352929

Donegal

Top Oil Donegal
1800 369200

Dublin

Top Oil Dublin
1800 2222 62

Dublin

Top Oil Access Oil
01 8828236

Galway

Top Oil Clifden
095 21777

Galway

Top Oil Galway
1800 200308

Kerry

Top Oil Killarney Oil
064 6632007

Kildare

Top Oil Kildare
045 521095

Kilkenny

Top Oil Kilkenny
056 7770255

Louth

Top Oil Drogheda
041 9834088

Limerick

Top Oil Regional Oil
061 353248

Mayo

Top Oil Ballina
096 21108

Mayo

Top Oil Castlebar
094 9028282

Meath

Top Oil Ashbourne Oi
01 8350264

Monaghan

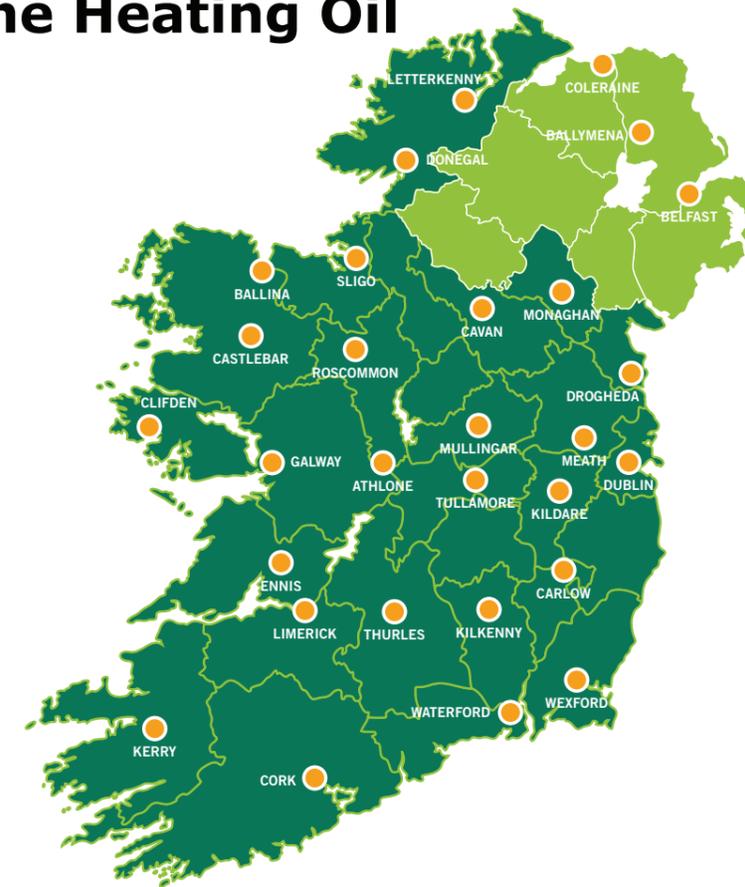
Top Oil Monaghan
042 9745908

Offaly

Top Oil Lambe's Oil
057 9321000

Athlone

Top Oil Athlone
090 6437000



Tipperary

Top Oil Thurles
0504 21333

Roscommon

Top Oil Roscommon
094 9870069

Sligo

Top Oil Sligo
071 9162238

Wexford

Top Oil Wexford
053 9155455

Westmeath

Top Oil Mullingar
044 9343632

Waterford

Top Oil Waterford
051 590100



For the early mornings, the late nights, the miles travelled, the hard yards and heroics. Thank you for playing your part...



Teacher Summer Courses



www.learning.gaa.ie/TeacherSummerCourses

Primary school teachers have always been to the forefront of promoting Gaelic games and judging by the interest shown in summer coaching courses, children have plenty to look forward to in September.

Courses were held recently in six Leinster counties with almost 140 teachers participating.

This 'GAA Teacher Summer Course' is a new blended course, using the Association's new Learning and Development Community Portal. The face-to-face element runs over three days and there are eight online modules covering all relevant areas of coaching.

All GAA codes are included in the course – football, hurling, camogie, rounders and handball. Courses are organised by Local Education Centres under the remit of the Department of Education and Skills and are delivered by GAA Games Development staff and tutors.

Teachers who complete all modules and attend the three practical days receive a GAA Foundation Certificate award, and also get an attendance cert from the Dept. of Education through the local education centre, in addition to 3 EPV days.



County	Venue	Number of Teachers
Wexford	St Joseph's Community Hall	18
Offaly	O'Connor Park, Tullamore	21
Carlow	IT Carlow	24
Louth	Darver	24
Dublin	Trinity College	24
Kildare	Maynooth Post Primary	24



GAA members can now enjoy partner discounts, special offers and earn points for going to games with the grma programme.

To start benefiting, register now at gaa.ie/grma



Official
partner of
the
everyday

A true partner is not just a sponsor.

A true partner stands by you.



beko.ie

In homes in Ireland for over 25 years.

beko



FC BARCELONA PREMIUM PARTNER