



QUARTER FINALS

7.11,2020 WESTMEATH V DUBLIN 6.15pm MW Hire O'Moore Park 8.11.2020 WICKLOW V MEATH 1.30pm Aughrim LONGFORD V LAOIS 1.30pm Glennon Brothers Pearse Park OFFALY V KILDARE 5.30pm MW Hire O'Moore Park

M. Mac Raghall RUNAÍ CLÁR OIFIGIÚIL



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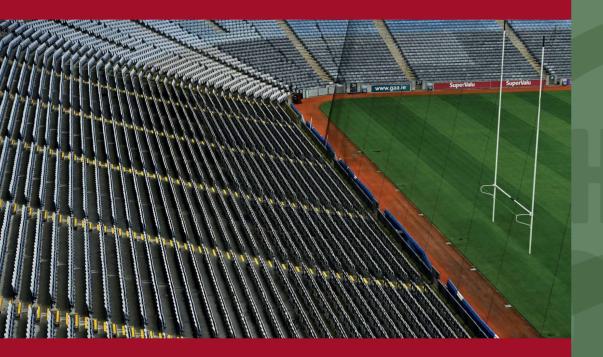






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WESTMEATH v DUBLIN 6.15pm MW Hire O'Moore Park



MATCH OFFICIALS Referee: Martin McNally (Muineachán) Std By: Joe McQuillan An Cabhán) Linesman: Brendan Cawley (Cill Dara) Sideline: James Molloy (Gaillimh) Umpires: Ben Woods, Dylan Finnegan, Mark Gilsenan, Anthony Marron



LONGFORD V LAOIS 1.30pm Glennon Brothers Pearse Park

MATCH OFFICIALS Referee: Sean Hurson (Tír Eoghan) Std By: Brendan Cawley (Cill Dara) Linesman: Sean Laverty (Antroim) Sideline: Fergal Smyth Uibh Fhailaí) Umpires: Martin Coney, Mel Taggart ,Cathal Forbes, Martin Conway



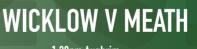
OFFALY V KILDARE

5.30pm MW Hire O'Moore Park

MATCH OFFICIALS

Referee: David Coldrick (An Mhí) Std By: Conor Lane (Corcaigh) Linesman: Anthony Nolan(Cill Mhaintáin) Sideline: Patrick Maguire (Longfort) Umpires: Padraig Coyle, Pat Darby, Stephen O'Hare, Ronan Garry





1.30pm Aughrim

MATCH OFFICIALS Referee: Ciaran Branagan (An Dún) Std By: Martin McNally (Muineachán) nan: John Hickey (Ceatharlach) Sideline: David Hickey(Ceatharlach) Umpires: Mickey Curran, Conor Curran, Marty Brady, Seamie O Hanlon







8:11:2020



8:11:2020



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FÁILTE ÓN GCATHAOIRLEACH

Fáilte Róimh Go Léir inniu.

With last weekend behind us we all look with anticpation to our Leinster GAA Senior Football Quarter Finals. Once again to all players, managers and team officials I would like to offer a warm welcome to each of you to our four venues this weekend.

This Championship was always going to be like nothing any of us have ever seen before. It was going to be a challenge for one and all, added to all the expected difficulties last weekend was another one, that of the weather conditions. To say that each of the players and officials who took the fields on Sunday were doing their Counties proud is an understatement. I want to take this opportunity to heartfully thank each and every one of you for your efforts, especially to those for who it proved to be the end of the road, you all have earned your winter rest.

That brings us to this weekend and our Quarter Final match ups. On Saturday night our reigning Leinster Champions Dublin begin their title defence in MW Hire O'Moore Park against Westmeath. While many will see this as a minor obstacle for The Dubs, en-route to another Delanev Cup success, Jack Cooney's side will take heart from their victory, when these two sides last met, in the 2019 O'Byrne Cup Final. On Sunday we have our three remaining fixtures.

Longford, Wicklow and Offaly will be buoyed by their opening Round victories and will be hoping that this it is more than enough to allow them to overcome Laois, Meath and Kildare respectively. I wish all those taking part good luck.

I would like to pay special mention to our officials for this weekend's fixtures. Martin McNally, Sean Hurson, Ciarán Branagan and David Coldrick are all well respected within our games and I trust the same will be aforded to all of their decisions over the two days. To them and their teams I wish them best of luck, without you all our games literally could not happen.

As we move towards the business end of our Championship it is important to note the happiness that our games have brought to so many. To this end we look forward to the next few weeks and the crowning of our 2020 Champions in a year like no other.

Go n-éirí an bóthar libh.



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EXTRA TIME AND WINNER ON THE DAY REGULATIONS

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

Phase 1

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

Phase 2 (Penalty Kicks/Pucks)

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

- The relevant rules in T.O. Cuid II shall apply in relation to Penalty Kicks/Pucks, unless otherwise stated.
- Penalties will be taken for goals only.
- The Referee shall choose the end at which the penalty kicks/pucks will be taken. The end may be changed by the
 referee if it becomes unplayable during the course of the penalties.
- The Referee will ensure two goal umpires are in place at the end in which the penalty kicks/pucks are to be taken

- Both umpires shall position themselves on the end line at opposite side of the goals facing inwards

- If a penalty is scored, the goal umpire, will wave the green flag once the referee has signalled

If the penalty is saved or missed the point umpire will signal a wide once the referee has signalled

- Each team shall register five penalty takers, a goal keeper & a substitute goal keeper with the referee and indicate in
 which order the penalty takers will take their penalties. (A penalty taker can also be a goalkeeper or a substitute goalkeeper.)
- The Referee shall toss a coin in the presence of the two captains to see which team will have the option of going first.
- Only players who are on the field of play at the end of Phase 1 (i.e. end of Extra Time), shall be allowed to be registered as a
 penalty taker or goalkeeper. Exception: The substitute goalkeeper can come from the team panel.
- A goalkeeper who is injured while the penalty kicks/pucks are being taken and is unable to continue as a goalkeeper may be replaced* by the substitute goalkeeper who has been nominated in advance, provided the referee is notified. If in the event the substitute goalkeeper also gets injured, one of the registered penalty takers may replace* the substitute goalkeeper, provided the referee is notified. (*Once replaced, the goalkeeper/ substitute goalkeeper cannot be reintroduced as a goalkeeper at a later stage)
- Subject to the conditions below both teams will take five penalty kicks/pucks which are taken alternately by the teams. The game is awarded
 to whichever team scores more of their five penalty kicks/pucks

-If, before both teams have taken five penalty kicks/pucks, one team has scored more goals that the other team could score, even if they were to complete their five penalty kicks/pucks, no more penalty kicks/pucks shall be taken

-If, after both teams have taken five penalty kicks/pucks and both teams have scored the same number of goals, the penalty competition will continue but in sudden death format using the same five registered players until one team has scored a goal more than the other from the same number of kicks/pucks.

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

- Each penalty kick/puck is taken by a different player. All registered players must take a penalty kick/puck before any player can take an additional
 penalty kick/puck.
- The referee shall signal for the penalty to be taken. The penalty kick/puck is completed when the ball stops moving, goes out of play (including over the crossbar) or a goal is scored.
- Only the players involved in the penalty taking competition, as well as the Referee, Linesmen and Umpires are permitted on the pitch.
 With the registered penalty takers located between the 45m & 65m lines closest to the end selected by the referee. Goalkeepers to be located 20m from the goals.
- All other players (including substitute goalkeepers), managers, officials, backroom personnel etc should be at their designated sideline area, and off the field of play when the penalty-taking competition is taking place.





READY FOR LIFT OFF

MW Hire O'Moore Park was the setting on a balmy Saturday evening. The destination for one side was history as Jim Gavin and his Dublin charges began a journey towards 5 All Irelands titles in a row. A feat that had not previously been achieved in the history of either code. It was a journey however, that ended in a way very few could have considered, the parting of ways and the breakup of a dynasty.

Having led his side to a place hitherto untraveled by any team ever, Jim Gavin and his aides-de-camp decided to step down from their roles. It was a move which shook the GAA world to its very core. The decision maybe not so much, but more so the timing with which it had arrived. Many felt that once the seemingly unachievable had been achieved, that it was then while basking in the glory of uncharted territory Gavin might make an announcement. However, if there is one thing that we have learned about Messer's Gavin and Co over their tenure, it is that they do not cow tow to external pressures around what may be accepted norms. No, instead in his usual inimitable style Jim allowed all of the focus be on his exceptional group of players. He could not contemplate allowing news around his departure to distract from what they had achieved, as ever with the Clondalkin native it was a player first approach.

When this announcement did arrive the inevitable questions followed, one looming larger than any other, who now? The hunt to replace the seemingly irreplaceable was well and truly on. Names hovered over airwaves and print pages waiting like dust mites on a mattress to see where best to settle. It was not long before one particle appeared larger on the horizon than any other. In a fitting way it was another who can immediately be recognised by a single name. It is a signal, if only a small one, of your standing in the microcosm that is the GAA universe. When one thinks of the others who have garnered this honor you begin to grasp the level of person you are dealing with Jim, Henry, DJ, Páidí an exalted few. These hero's can count amongst their ranks the most recent Dublin incumbent, step into the light young Dessie.

When finished carrying the hopes of the capital on the pitch, Dublins new man then began to make a name for himself away from the sod. Becoming a core part of the founding of



the GPA and beginning to nurture the next wave of sky blue wearing soldiers, to name but a few. Dessie had proved well and truly that he was ready for the call whenever it came.

This leads us to today, another Saturday evening in Portlaoise. Due to the strangest of years this one decidedly less balmy. Another historic journey begins. This one has had bumpier starts than the Parnell Park powers might have liked. A loss to Longford in the O'Byrne cup followed by a disjointed National League campaign which ended in the capital missing out on the first major silverware of the year. The name prowling the sideline is not the only the change either. Personnel too has naturally been shifted, as father time and circumstance mean we look for the first time at a Dublin team-sheet without the likes of Brogan, McCaffrey or Connolly.

Waiting with bathed breath to welcome the successor to Senior Inter County action are Jack Cooney and Westmeath. The Lake County are making considerable strides under the Cooney and emerged victorious against the Dubs on the previous competitive meeting that of the 2019 O'Byrne Cup Final. With the considerable talents of John Heslin and Kieran Martin at his disposal Cooney will be hoping that Saturday evening in Portlaoise proves historic in more than one way. With it being straight knockout the Midlander's will have absolutely nothing to lose. A position which in the past has seen them produce some of their best performances. A second half turn around, of astonishing proportions against their greatest rival's spring to mind. As they move towards the business end of Cooney's plan, a fitter, stronger and more tactically nuanced Westmeath await the reigning Champions.

Will the setting see the historic start of another journey towards unprecedented success or will it bear witness to another Lakeland upset? Either way it is safe to say, both sides are ready for lift off.







WESTMEATH V DUBLIN

RECENT MEETINGS



The overall picture of the Dublin-Westmeath relationship in the Leinster Senior Football Championship is one of Dublin dominance; of the eighteen meetings to date Dublin have won fifteen to Westmeath's three – Westmeath's greatest day came on June 6th 2004 when they defeated The Dubs by two points at Croke Pk in the quarter-final, en-route to winning their first and to-date only Leinster Senior title.

The details of previous meetings are:-

1890- 1ST RD DUBLIN 6-11 WESTMEATH 0-1 1930- 1ST RD DUBLIN 2-8 WESTMEATH 0-4 1931- S/F WESTMEATH 2-4 DUBLIN 1-4 1932- S/F DUBLIN 3-7 WESTMEATH 2-5 1934- 1ST RD DUBLIN 2-10 WESTMEATH 0-4 1967- 1ST RD DUBLIN 2-10 WESTMEATH 0-8 1972- 1ST RD DUBLIN 2-8 WESTMEATH 0-8 1987- 1ST RD DUBLIN 2-8 WESTMEATH 0-8 1987- 1ST RD DUBLIN 2-11 WESTMEATH 0-5 1993 Q/F DUBLIN 2-11 WESTMEATH 0-11 2000 S/F DUƏLIN 1-14 WESTMEATH 0-11 2004 Q/F WESTMEATH 0-14 DUƏLIN 0-12 2008 S/F DUƏLIN 0-13 WESTMEATH 1-8 2009 S/F DUƏLIN 4-26 WESTMEATH 0-11 2013 Q/F DUƏLIN 1-22 WESTMEATH 0-9 2015 FINAL DUƏLIN 2-13 WESTMEATH 0-6 2016 FINAL DUƏLIN 2-19 WESTMEATH 0-10 2017 S/F DUƏLIN 4-29 WESTMEATH 0-10 AIG

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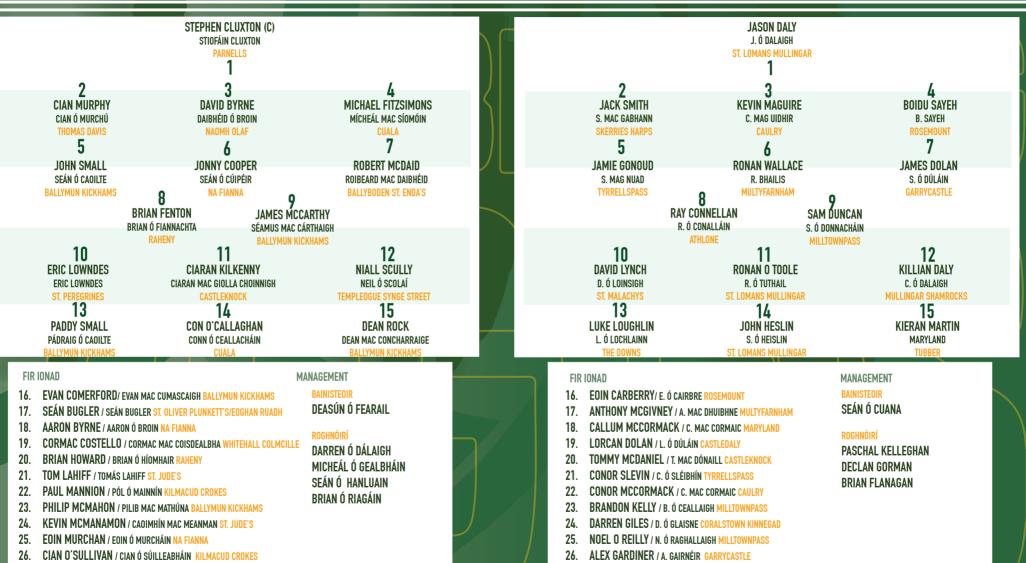
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In Leinster we have Been consistently ImBedding our TURAS coaching principles into everything we do over the last three years. This is something we will continue to do, as we believe they are Fundamental to the Delivery of Quality coaching.

As part of our offering to coaches in Leinster, we are now providing the additional support of coaching clinics. The coaching clinic is designed to focus on your reality, what are the challenges, issues, problems that you currently experience when coaching your team.

Coaching is not always black and white and context is always key. This program is about giving you the coach options to try out to help improve your coaching based on your needs and circumstances

To avail of the coaching clinic, we ask you the Coach to submit a query or issue you are looking to address using the online form on our website. The questions should be based around a specific area of coaching that you are looking to develop. They can be based on the activity's you coach, how you coach or trying to better understand who you are coaching. Here are some sample questions to illustrate this;

WHAT YOU COACH – A lot of the players take a play of the ball as soon as they gain possession, what can I do to encourage them to utilise their steps before taking a play of the ball?

How you coach – I want to involve my players more in debriefing activities but I cannot seem to get them to engage, what can I do to improve this?

Who you coach – I have two players in particular that when they are playing against perceived stronger players, they withdraw from the games and do not perform to the level that I know they can play at. Is there anything I can do to help them?

When questions are submitted, they will be allocated to our team of professional and experienced coach developers who will work with coaches on providing the best options available to help address the coach's needs. We aim to provide an offering, throughout team of provincial coach developers, to all coaches' questions, either in a video format or a bespoke one to one online mentoring session.









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RECENT MEETINGS

LONGFORD V LAOIS



Laois and Longford are today meeting for the 15th time in the Leinster Senior Football Championship. Their first meeting was at O'Connor Pk in 1951 and Laois were victorious on that occasion. Longford won the next clash 3 years later at Mullingar and in the interim Laois have been victorious nine times to Longford's four. The most recent meeting was at O'Moore Pk on May 21st 2017 when the Kingston brothers Paul and Donie kicked 3–5 of Laois' total as they ran out convincing 11 point winners. Robbie Smyth kicked 11 points for the losers on that occasion.

The full list of meetings is:

1951 LAOIS 1-12 LONGFORD 2-3 1954 LONGFORD 1-6 LAOIS 0-7 1956 LONGFORD 1-8 LAOIS 1-6 1959 LAOIS 2-9 LONGFORD 0-8 1963 LAOIS 2-11 LONGFORD 1-9 1965 LONGFORD 1-9 LAOIS 0-8 1968 LONGFORD 3-9 LAOIS 1-4 1975 LAOIS 3-13 LONGFORD 1-8 1980 LAOIS 5-12 LONGFORD 1-10 1994 LAOIS 4-15 LONGFORD 2-4 2007 LAOIS 0-14 LONGFORD 0-9 2011 LAOIS 0-10 LONGFORD 0-9 2012 LONGFORD 1-10 LAOIS 0-12 2017 LAOIS 4-15 LONGFORD 0-16





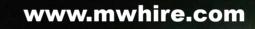
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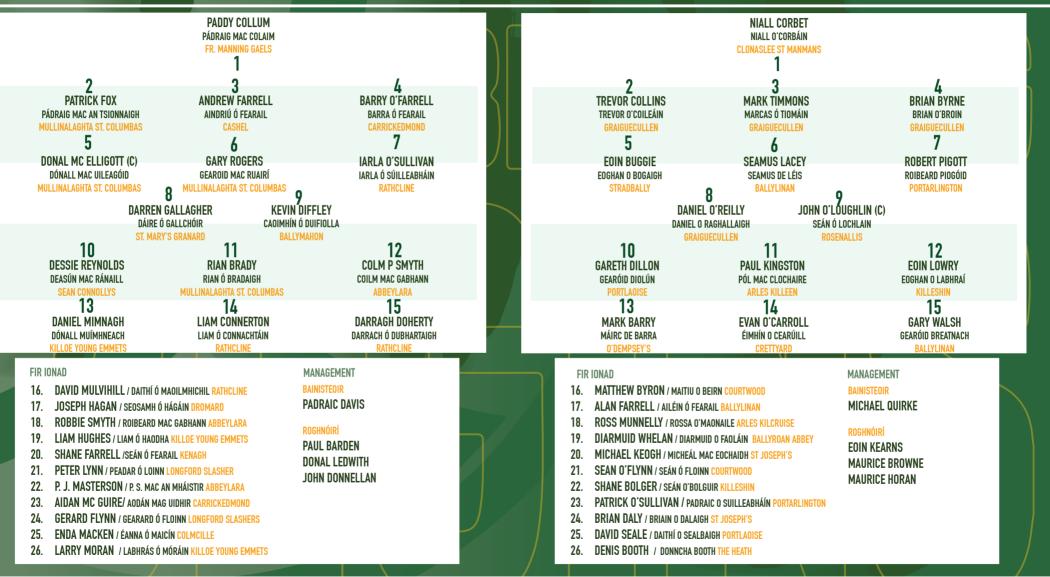




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THE AGE OLD DEBATE, WHAT PREPARATION IS BEST?



What preparation is best? That is the age-old debate, when the serious competitive games get up and running. It is one that will be very much to the fore this weekend as three out of the four Quarter Finals face this dilemma. For Wicklow, Longford and Offaly this weekend will be their second taste of what is our most unusual Championship to date. Will those who have had the benefit of an extra week's preparation fare better, or will the hindsight experts come night time on Sunday be espousing the benefits of championship action and the fact that you can't "buy match practice".

This debate will ever rage, especially while there exists the need for bye's and the uneven nature of any sporting competition. Many will claim to have an answer as they pontificate from the glorious height of 20/20 vision. However, the reality is that there is just no way of telling. For some the extra weeks preparation and the chance to watch their opponents the week previous will have been a god send. For more it will have all the appearance of a 14 day week. Sitting at home watching last weeks games like a coiled spring of energy, chomping at the bit ravenous for action. On the other side of the equation you will have three sides with the experience of the 2020 Championship and all that it offers. What did it offer last weekend? weather akin to that of a biblical nature and a nervousness that had all games coming down to the wire. Will this venture into the previously unknown stand them in good stead or will it lead to a hesitancy that can often be linked with knowing the path ahead.

LEINSTER GAA SENIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP 2020

For years this argument was focused on the Kilkenny hurlers who on their run to four in a row were often met with a five to six week break following the Leinster Championship. Whereas during this time Munster Final winners were seemingly struggling to reproduce the form that had seen them claim the Munster Cup.

People began to look at this and wonder what could be giving the cats such an edge. Was there a different mentality Nore side that kept the sharpness there? was there a method of training hitherto untried that left them primed for September action? or was it simply something in the water? The fact that their club championships kicked into action in the intervening period was held up as another guiding reference for the ability to navigate the gap. However, the reality is all of these were the case and yet none of them. It was simply down to a team operating at the peak of their powers in an environment which sought to make them better at every possible opportunity. Soon they too began to lose and the arguments would pendulum back towards benefiting those who were coming off the immediacy of competitive action.



For the teams this weekend it will come down to one thing and one thing only, the performance on the day. For each of the victors the preparations will have been the key to success. Their work done in the lead up the real difference between winning and losing. The management team will have nailed every check point on the way to victory. This will be the narrative in the immediate aftermath. However, how much of it rings true? The staunch truth of the matter is not a lot. Should one side lose out by the narrowest margins, and in the most agonising way, will their preparations have been futile? Will the last minute missed kick or conceded score have been the fault of that Tuesday morning session? The answer is a resounding no! In a society that is increasingly infatuated with results this will be the black and white world facing the winners and losers come Sunday evening.

It is, however, debates such as this that keep us going. So, while the preparations may not have the significant baring on the results that we would like, discussions around them will keep us going long into the nights of the festive season. And I for one welcome them with open arms in all of their futility.



GAMES DEVELOPMENT



Across the Province Leinster GAA Games Development Coaches have been having a major imapct. Since the return to activity in the summer the have began re egnaging with schools and clubs with renewed vigure. Below is a snapshop of some of the ongoing hard work.

We are extremely grateful to everyone that has made this Return To Activity possible. Teachers, Coaches, Clubs and Staff have all gone above and beyond to ensure our Games continue to be developed.

TURAS

WORKSHOPS

TURAS CLUB VISITS

209

269





TURAS WORKSHOP ATTENDANCE 2822 TURAS CLUB VISIT ATTENDANCE

889



NUMBER OF PRIMARY SCHOOLS RECEIVING COACHING WEEKLY 616



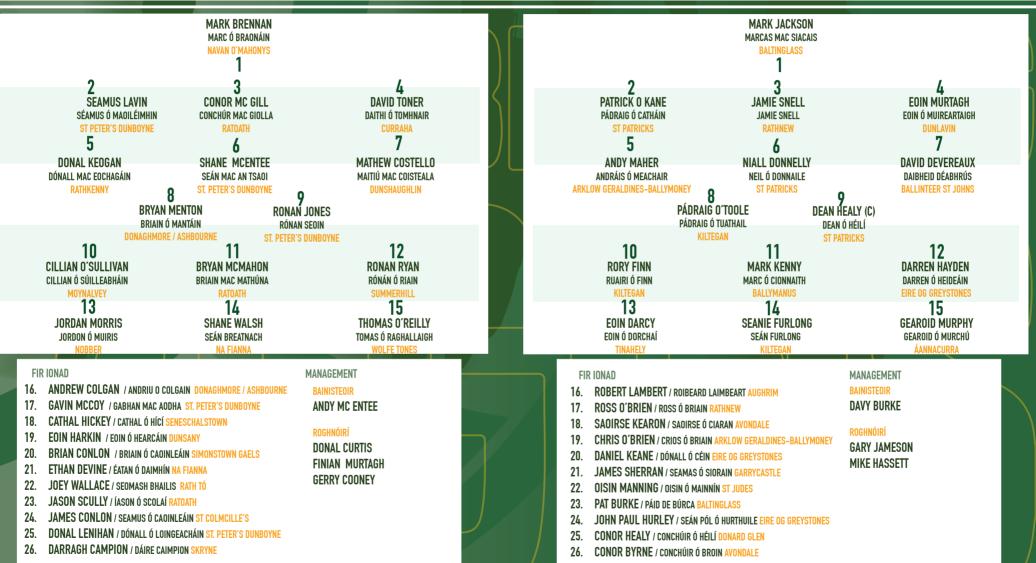
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RECENT MEETINGS



Meath and Wicklow are today meeting for the 14th time in the Leinster Senior Football Championship. The results to-date are very much in Meath's favour having won 11 encounters to-date. Wicklow's only victory came on 26th May 1957 when they defeated The Royal's 3-7 to 1-11 at Geraldine Pk, Athy. The sides drew on one occasion and that was on 14th July 1991 at Croke Pk, at that stage Meath had already been involved in a 4 match saga with Dublin and won the replay by three points. The list of previous meetings reads:

1947 MEATH 5-7 WICKLOW 2-3 1954 MEATH 1-9 WICKLOW 1-8 1957 WICKLOW 3-7 MEATH 1-11 1976 MEATH 2-13 WICKLOW 1-10 1986 MEATH 1-17 WICKLOW 0-11 1991 MEATH 1-9 WICKLOW 0-12 REPLAY MEATH 1-12 WICKLOW 1-9 1995 MEATH 3-14 WICKLOW 0-9 1999 MEATH 2-10 WICKLOW 0-6 2004 MEATH 2-13 WICKLOW 1-8 2012 MEATH 0-16 WICKLOW 0-11 2013 MEATH 1-17 WICKLOW 1-12

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KILDARE V OFFALY

RECENT MEETINGS



Today Offaly and Kildare are meeting for the 40th time, including replay's, in the Leinster Senior Football Championship. Their first encounter was at Geashill in 1905, Kildare won that game, and went on to win the next five meetings of the sides. In fact Offaly's first success against The LilyWhites didn't come until 1940. To-date Kildare have won 19 games to Offaly's 15 with 5 drawn. The result of the 10 most recent meetings are as follows-

1993 S/F PORTLADISE KILDARE 2-14 OFFALY 0-9 1999 Q/F CROKE PARK OFFALY 0-11 KILDARE 0-7 2000 S/F CROKE PK KILDARE 1-8 OFFALY 0-11 REPLAY CROKE PK KILDARE 0-17 OFFALY 2-8 2002 S/F NOLAN PK KILDARE 0-19 OFFALY 1-9 REPLAY NOLAN PK KILDARE 1-9 OFFALY 1-14 2006 Q/F CROKE PK OFFALY 3-9 KILDARE 0-15 2009 Q/F PORTLADISE KILDARE 1-16 OFFALY 1-10 2012 Q/F PORTLADISE KILDARE 0-19 OFFALY 0-6 2013 Q/F CROKE PK KILDARE 0-19 OFFALY 1-12

THE SIDES HAVE ALSO MET ON 3 OCCASIONS IN The All-ireland qualifiers the results of Which are

2004 NEWBRIDGE OFFALY 2-17 KILDARE 1-16 2015 TULLAMORE KILDARE 1-15 OFFALY 1-13 2016 NEWBRIDGE KILDARE 1-22 OFFALY 2-14



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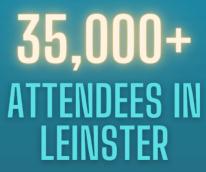


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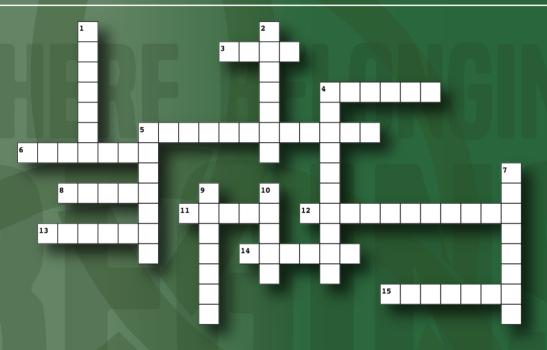


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Ná scaip na frídíní a dhéanann daoine tinn

CROSSWORD



Across

- 3. Major 3 needed to raise the green
- 4. Sturdy Parent to Dublin Sharp Shooter
- 5. Elder statesman of Laois attack
- 6. The team to whitewash the 2000 Leinster Championship
- 8. The cats Leinster tally might surprise you
- 11. Kildares first and famous Kerryman
- 12. Top scorer of all time in the Leinster Championship
- 13. This popular figure has big shoes to fill
- 14. Longford helmsman and former cork great share this surname
- 15. This shot stoppers namesake is an infamous US show stopper

Down

- 1. A Model for the first 4 in a row
- 2. When not scoring frees this lake-man talisman can be most likely find doing this
- 4. This club launched a royal managers career
- 5. These will be trying to please all and none from the middle this weekend
- 7. Some will be hoping this single is enough
- 9. This garden will be hopeful of a royal upset
- 10. Bloody Sunday hero who played for Tipperary that faithful day

Clúdaigh do shrón agus do bhéal le naipcín nuair a dhéanann tú casacht nó sraothartach



Déan casacht nó lig sraoth isteach i d'uillinn, ní i do lámha.

Caith uait do naipcín!

Glan do lámha tar éis duit casacht nó sraothartach. Go raibh maith 20



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Brendan Lowry, All-Ireland winner, 1982.

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