

Cumann Lúthchleas Gael



Church & General  
National Leagues

1994/95 Church & General

# National Football League

Div. 1 Play-off

## Ciarraí v. Dún na nGall

Réiteoir: Pat Casserley (An Iar Mhí)

Tuaim

3.30i.n. 26 Márta, 1995

Clár Oifiaiúil

Luach 50p



Árd Stiúrthóir

Kevin Ó Maolúichéil

## Amhrán na bhFiann

Sinne Fianna Fáil,  
Atá faoi gheall ag Éirinn,  
Buíon dár slua  
Thar toinn do ráinig chugainn  
Faoi mhóid bheith saor,  
Sean-tír ár rísear feasta  
Ní fhágfar faoin tiorán ná faoin tráill.  
Anocht a théam sa bhearna baoil  
Le gean ar Ghaeil chun báis nó saoil  
Le gunna scréach faoi lámhach na bpiléar,  
Seo libh canaig amhrán na bhFiann.

Ciarraí agus Dún na nGall

# A Sparse Rivalry

By no stretch of the imagination will Kerry and Donegal be described as great rivals in the football arena. Apart from a confrontation at under-21 level in the early eighties the championship records are devoid of meetings between these counties, and it took almost 40 years of National League activity to produce their first clash in that competition. The explanation is simple: for decades after the introduction of the leagues in the mid-Twenties Kerry and Donegal "lived" in two different worlds.

For years Kerry, in Munster and beyond, in championship and league were the county to beat. But for most counties beating Kerry was no more than a heady aspiration as titles flowed South in an apparently endless stream. By the end of the 1920's Kerry bestrode the scene like the colossus they truly were as men

like John Joe Sheehy, Joe Barrett, Jack Walsh, the Landers, Paul Russell and a host of others were almost unbeatable. And indeed for years they were unbeaten as both league and championship honours rested side by side in beauty's home for three glorious years during which not one defeat blemished what was arguably the greatest record in the history of gaelic football.

### DONEGAL TOILED

But, while Kerry thrived, Donegal toiled and even in the less than demanding grind of the special Ulster division from which the only creditable contenders (Cavan) were excluded, Donegal could be scarcely said to have prospered though they did win out their group in 1931 - a modest return for much effort. Donegal did qualify for the Division Two final in 1937 only

to lose to an up-and-coming Longford team at Ardara.

The re-arranged league groupings, on the resumption of activity after the War, made a meeting of Donegal and Kerry most unlikely as the system ensured that they could only meet at the knock-out stage. Eventually, however, paths did cross - in 1965 when they were in semi-final opposition at Croke Park; and while it was undoubtedly a momentous occasion for the Ulstermen - their first appearance in a senior competitive game in Dublin - the outcome was an eight-point win for the favourites Kerry.

Paths diverged immediately and, though Donegal contrived a more impressive profile in both league and championship subsequently, it wasn't until the 1988-89 campaign, after Donegal had gained promotion from Division Two, that they met again. This third-round meeting at Tralee saw Donegal perform a rare feat - beating Kerry on a first-ever visit to the "Kingdom", which they did by a margin of two points.

The years since then have witnessed a shift in the balance of football power. Kerry, who have been somewhat overshadowed by Cork, have not reached the league final since 1987 and only one semi-final while Donegal were involved in a replayed decider as recently as 1993.

As noted above, Kerry and Donegal in opposition do not represent one of football's great traditional rivalries, but the fact that the mystique of the "Kingdom" still survives and Donegal's present position as one of the North's leading contenders ensures that today's clash is somewhat out of the ordinary.

## Past Meetings

The first of the six Kerry-Donegal meetings in the National League was in the 1964-65 semi-final at Croke Park in which the "Kingdom" recorded a 3-10 to 1-8 victory. When the counties next met it was in the 1988-89 third-round tie at Tralee where Donegal emerged winners by 1-10 to 0-11.

The following season saw Kerry make the long trip to Ballyshannon, but the home-sters held on to win a thrilling encounter (also in the third-round) by 0-11 to 0-10. By now it appeared that the third-round was a Donegal-Kerry preserve and in the 1990-91 campaign, at that stage of the league, the verdict again went to the Ulstermen who finished the hour at Ballyshannon with a goal in hand, 1-12 to 0-12.

For three years the groupings kept them apart and though both counties, on occasions, qualified for the knock-out stages, the luck of the draw kept them apart.

However, they were again in the one group for the 1993-94 campaign and they were seventh-round opponents at Tralee where Kerry needed the points more than did the opposition - and it showed. Facing the strong wind in the first-half, Kerry opened the scoring with a Maurice Fitzgerald point after two minutes, and though they spent most of the first-half defending desperately, they were in a happy

enough position at the break when they trailed by only three points - 0-2 to 0-5. By the 41st minute the sides were level, but Donegal steadied and entering the closing stages were still in contention thanks to the marksmanship of Manus Boyle who accounted for seven of his sides scores. Kerry, however, finished strongly and late points from Seam McElligott, Fitzgerald and Eamonn Breen gave them the verdict - 0-11 to 0-9 and a play-off place. Incidentally, both counties faced Down in the play-offs. In a thrilling game at Breffni Park Donegal edged out the Mournemen by 1-8 to 0-10, but Kerry did not profit from this example, as the following Sunday at Croke Park they failed to Down by 0-11 to 2-12.

This was the background to last Sunday's vital clash at Ballyshannon where Kerry, again in need of the points, won on an 0-14 to 0-10 scoreline.

## WELL MATCHED

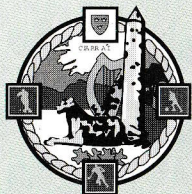
Statistics may not always be a reliable guide, but in relation to Donegal and Kerry over the past seven years they suggest a rivalry of rare equality despite the fact that Donegal hold the edge in the overall picture - three wins to two. In the five meetings since 1988 Kerry have scored a total of 58 points while Donegal have notched 2-51, 57 points - they don't come more closely matched than that. Another item worthy of note is that in those five meetings Donegal have not conceded a single goal, a claim that few counties can make in their relations with the "Kingdom". Incidentally, in the matter of goals scored or conceded, since the winter break Donegal have failed to score or concede a goal while Kerry have also failed to raise a green flag although they did concede a major against Laois in the sixth round.

### LAST YEAR'S DIVISION ONE TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	(Diff)
Derry	7	6	0	1	11-81	2-60	12	+48
Dublin	7	4	2	1	4-75	5-55	10	+17
Kerry	7	4	0	3	6-75	5-63	8	+15
Down	7	3	2	2	3-60	2-65	8	-2
Donegal	7	4	0	3	4-66	5-70	8	-7
Kildare	7	2	1	4	3-60	4-60	5	-3
Clare	7	1	1	5	5-42	6-70	3	-31
Mayo	7	1	0	6	3-60	10-76	2	-37



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ar son CHUMANN LÚTHCHLEAS GAEL.. Cló: Primeprint.



# 1-10 Ciarraí

Dathanna: Uaithne, Ór is Bán

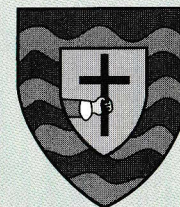
## Fir Ionaid

- (16) **Gene Farrell**  
G. Ó Fearail  
(Annascaul)
- (17) **Conor Kearney**  
C. MacCearnaigh  
(Laune Rangers)
- (18) **Conor O'Donnell**  
C. Ó Dónaill  
(Dingle)
- (19) **Kieran Scanlon**  
C. Ó Scannláin  
(Carrow)
- (20) **Ken Savage**  
C. Sabhaois  
(Kerin's O'Rahillys)
- (21) **Peter O'Leary**  
P. Ó Laoire  
(Legion)
- (22) **Gerard Murphy**  
G. Ó Murchú  
(Laune Rangers)
- (23) **Roland Neher**  
R. Neher  
(Dr. Crokes)
- (24) **Donal Daly**  
D. Ó Dálaigh  
(Fries)

- 1**  
**PETER O'BRIEN**  
P. Ó Broin  
(Dr. Crokes)
- 2**  
**EAMONN BREEN**  
E. Ó Braoin  
(Finuge)
- 3**  
**ANTHONY GLEESON**  
A. Ó Glasáin  
(Civil Service, Dublin)
- 4**  
**MORGAN NIX**  
M. MacNiocais  
(Kerins O'Rahillys)
- 5**  
**SEAMUS MOYNIHAN**  
S. Ó Muineacháin  
(Glenflesk)
- 6**  
**SEAN BURKE**  
S. de Búrca  
(Bishopstown, Cork)
- 7**  
**MICHAEL HASSETT**  
M. Ó hAisi  
(Laune Rangers)
- 8**  
**LIAM FLAHERTY**  
L. Ó Flaitheartaigh  
(Ballydonoughue)
- 9**  
**DARA O'SHEA**  
D. Ó Sé  
(Gaeltacht)
- 10**  
**JOHN CROWLEY**  
S. Ó Crualaoidh  
(Glenflesk)
- 11**  
**CONNIE MURPHY**  
C. Ó Murchú  
(Dr. Crokes)
- 12**  
**DARA Ó CINNÉIDE**  
D. Ó Cinnéide  
(Gaeltacht)
- 13**  
**BILLY O'SHEA**  
B. Ó Sé  
(Laune Rangers)
- 14**  
**CORMAC KENNEDY**  
C. Ó Cinnéide (Capt.)  
(Austin Stacks)
- 15**  
**BINGO DRISCOLL**  
B. Ó Drisceoil  
(Annascaul)

# 1-8 Dún na nGall

Dathanna: Uaithne is Ór



## Fir Ionaid

- 1**  
**GARY WALSH**  
G. Breathnach  
(Burren)
- 2**  
**GERARD KELLY**  
G. Ó Ceallaigh  
(Aodh Ruadh, Killybegs)
- 3**  
**MATT GALLAGHER**  
M. Ó Gallchóir  
(Naomh Buid)
- 4**  
**JOHN JOE DOHERTY**  
S. S. Ó Dochartaigh  
(Naomh Columba)
- 5**  
**MARK CROSSAN**  
M. MacChrossáin  
(Naomh Adhamháin)
- 6**  
**JOHN CUNNINGHAM**  
S. MacCuinneagáin  
(Na Cealla Beaga)
- 7**  
**BARRY MCGOWAN**  
B. MacGabhainn  
(Na Cealla Beaga)
- 8**  
**MARK McSHANE**  
M. MacSeáin  
(Cill Chartha)
- 9**  
**BRIAN MURRAY**  
B. Ó Muirí  
(An Stát Sheirbhis)
- 10**  
**DECLAN BONNER**  
D. Ó Cnaimhsí  
(Na Rossa)
- 11**  
**NOEL HEGARTY**  
N. Ó hEigeartaigh  
(Naomh Columba)
- 12**  
**EAMON McMENAMIN**  
E. MacMenainn  
(MacComháills)
- 13**  
**JOHN DUFFY**  
S. Ó Dufaigh  
(Aodh Ruadh Ballyshannon)
- 14**  
**TONY BOYLE**  
A. Ó Baoill  
(An Clochan Liath)
- 15**  
**MANUS BOYLE**  
M. Ó Baoill  
(Na Cealla Beaga)
- (16) **Paul Callaghan**  
P. Ó Ceallcháin  
(Bear)
- (17) **Sean Boyle**  
S. Ó Baoill  
(Cloch Ceann Fhaola)
- (18) **Damien Diver**  
D. Ó Duibhir  
(Ard an Ratha)
- (19) **Oliver Reid**  
O. Ó Maolbhride  
(Aodh Ruadh Killybegs)
- (20) **Eugene McMenamin**  
E. MacMenainn  
(Naomh Adhamháin)
- (21) **Tommy Ryan**  
T. Ó Riann  
(An Tearmain)
- (22) **Martin Gavigan**  
M. Ó Gaibeaghaigh  
(Ard an Ratha)
- (23) **James McHugh**  
S. MacAoidh  
(Cill Chartha)
- (24) **John Bán Gallagher**  
S. B. Ó Gallchóir  
(Na Cealla Beaga)

Extra time must be played in the event of a draw at the end of normal time

CIARRAÍ	Cúil	Cúilíní	Seacháí	45m	Saor Ciceanna
1adh Leath					
2adh Leath					
IOMLAN					

DÚN na nGALL	Cúil	Cúilíní	Seacháí	45m	Saor Ciceanna
1adh Leath					
2adh Leath					
IOMLAN					

## Details to Date

**B**oth of today's protagonists made impressive starts to their National Football League campaigns. Donegal won their first three games (albeit two by the minimum margin) before suffering a surprise home defeat to Kildare. Three of Kerry's four games before the Christmas break were on home soil and they took full advantage, winning all three.

However, since the New Year both have struggled, especially the Kerry forwards whose scoring average has dropped from 15.5 to 9.6. It was the Kingdom's surprise victory in Ballyshannon last weekend that has brought them to today's encounter.

The full details of both team's seven league outings are as follows:

### Donegal

#### First Round at Newry:

Beat Down by 0-8 to 0-7.

*Scorers:* Declan Bonner 0-3, John Duffy 0-2, Manus Boyle 0-2, Brian Murray 0-1.

#### Second Round at Ballybofey:

Beat Derry by 0-15 to 2-6.

*Scorers:* Manus Boyle 0-4, John Duffy 0-3, John Gildea 0-3, Tony Boyle 0-2, Declan Bonner 0-2, Mark McShane 0-1.

#### Third Round at Croke Park:

Beat Dublin by 0-12 to 1-8.

*Scorers:* Manus Boyle 0-5, Tony Boyle 0-3, John Duffy 0-2, Declan Bonner 0-2.

#### Fourth Round at Ballybofey:

Lost to Kildare by 1-8 to 1-11.

*Scorers:* Declan Bonner 1-2, Manus Boyle 0-3, Mark McShane 0-2, Tony Boyle 0-1.

#### Fifth Round at Portlaoise:

Lost to Laois by 0-8 to 0-10.

*Scorers:* Manus Boyle 0-3, John Duffy 0-2, Declan Bonner 0-1, Brian Murray 0-1, John Gildea 0-1.

#### Sixth Round at Navan:

Beat Meath by 0-13 to 0-11.

*Scorers:* Manus Boyle 0-5, Tony Boyle 0-3, Declan Bonner 0-2, John Duffy 0-1, Mark McShane 0-1, Paddy Hegarty 0-1.

#### Seventh Round at Ballyshannon:

Lost to Kerry by 0-10 to 0-14.

*Scorers:* Manus Boyle 0-4, Declan Bonner 0-2, Brian Murray 0-2, John Duffy 0-1, Mark McShane 0-1.

**Total Scored 1-74(77);**

**Total Conceded 4-67(79).**

Only eight players contributed to Donegal's total and they are: Manus Boyle 0-26, Declan Bonner 1-14, John Duffy 0-11, Tony Boyle 0-9, Mark McShane 0-5, John Gildea 0-4, Brian Murray 0-4, Paddy Hegarty 0-1.

### Kerry

#### First Round at Austin Stacks Park:

Beat Kildare by 2-12 to 0-8.

*Scorers:* Sean Geaney 0-7, Gene Farrell 1-1, Conor O'Donnell 1-0, John Crowley 0-2, Eamonn Breen 0-1, Seamus Moynihan 0-1.

#### Second Round at Killarney:

Beat Dublin by 1-12 to 1-11.

*Scorers:* Conor O'Donnell 1-4, John Crowley 0-3, Seamus Moynihan 0-2, Gene Farrell 0-1, Donal McEvoy 0-1, D.Kennedy 0-1.

#### Third Round at Ballinascreen:

Lost to Derry by 2-6 to 1-11.

*Scorers:* Dara O'Shea 1-2, Gene Farrell 1-0, John Crowley 0-1, Conor O'Donnell 0-1, Seamus Moynihan 0-1, Billy O'Shea 0-1.

#### Fourth Round at Austin Stacks Park:

Beat Down by 0-17 to 1-8.

*Scorers:* Sean Geaney 0-5, Pa Laide 0-3, Gene Farrell 0-3, Conor O'Donnell 0-2, John Crowley 0-2, Billy O'Shea 0-1, Seamus Moynihan 0-1.

#### Fifth Round at Navan:

Lost to Meath by 0-7 to 0-13.

*Scorers:* Dara O'Connell 0-3, Conor O'Donnell 0-2, John Crowley 0-1, Gene Farrell 0-1.

#### Sixth Round at Killarney:

Lost to Laois 0-8 to 1-9.

*Scorers:* Dara O'Connell 0-3, Liam Flaherty 0-1, Connie Murphy 0-1, Conor O'Donnell 0-1, Billy O'Shea 0-1, B.O'Driscoll 0-1.

#### Seventh Round at Ballyshannon:

Beat Donegal by 0-14 to 0-10.

*Scorers:* Liam Flaherty 0-4, Billy O'Shea 0-4, Dara O'Connell 0-3, Seamus Moynihan 0-2, Gene Farrell 0-1.

**Total Scored 5-76(91);**

**Total Conceded 4-70(82).**

*Fifteen players contributed to the Kingdom's total and they are as follows: Conor O'Donnell 2-10, Gene Farrell 2-7, Sean Geaney 0-12, John Crowley 0-9, Dara O'Connell 0-9, Billy O'Shea 0-7, Seamus Moynihan 0-7, Liam Flaherty 0-5, Dara O'Shea 1-2, Pa Laide 0-3, Eamonn Breen 0-1, Donal McEvoy 0-1, Connie Murphy 0-1, D.Kennedy 0-1, B.O'Driscoll 0-1.*

## Ciarraí ar a mBealach ar ais, ceaptar!

Is fada an lá ó bhí Tír Chonaill ar cheann de na contaethe 'laga', i dtaca le cúrsaí peile dhe, agus Ciarraí ríoga go honduil ar bharr an chairn. Sa lá atá inniu ann is beag atá eatarthu maidir le héifeacht agus scil an chluiche.

Tá aistear fada rompu sa Léig reatha chun an chraobh áirithe sin a bhaint. Cé gur bun-táiste den Chumann é an oiread sin 'play-offs' a bheith i gceist agus go mbainfidh na contaethe i gceist tairbhe airgid as ag deireadh thiar tá sé dian ar imreoirí; is é an deacracht is mó ná go bhfuil an líon Domhnaigh anghann.

Don bhuaiteoir inniu tá dhá 'dhuais' le baint, eadhon, ní bheidh orthu cluiche in aghaidh Chill Dara a imirt agus áirmheofar iad sa tríú háit i Roinn I agus, mar sin, caoi dul isteach sna cluichí ceathrúcheannais sa sraith. A chontrártha sin don chailteoir — i gceann seachtaine beidh aistear fad rompu (go Durlas más Ciarraí atá i gceist agus go Cluain Eois más Dún na nGall a chailleann) an tseachtain dar gcionn; ach is ionann sin agus caoi eile acu a bheith páirteach sna cluichí ceathrúcheannais ach Cill Dara a chloí!

De réir cosúlachta tá foireann mhaith curtha le chéile ag Donall 'Óg' Ó Móráin anois agus floc air Ciarraí a thabhairt ar ais san áit is dual dóibh. Mar chruthúnas ar sin chloigh siad na céilí comhraic céanna, Dún na nGall, An Domhnach seo caite ar a dtáirseach féin. Mar sin féin beidh na Conallaigh mórtasach go ieor chun a chruthú go bhfuilid fós ina n-ábhair churaidh Uile-Éireann gan trácht ar an Léig! Tá bonn eile ar a mbeidh siad ag dúil le bua — má chailleann siad beidh cluiche eile sa bhreis le himirt acu agus craobh Uladh ag druidim leo.

Mar sin féin ceaptar go mbeidh an bua ag Ciarraí agus turas fada eile roimh na Conallaigh chróga an tseachtain seo chugainn.

# NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE TABLES

DIVISION ONE	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	(DIFF)
Laois	7	5	0	2	6-77	2-64	10	+25
Derry	7	4	1	2	5-63	5-71	9	-8
Kerry	7	4	0	3	5-76	4-70	8	+9
Kildare	7	4	0	3	5-61	3-63	8	+4
Donegal	7	4	0	3	1-74	4-67	8	-2
Meath	7	3	0	4	1-63	1-63	6	—
Dublin	7	2	1	4	4-65	4-60	5	+5
Down	7	1	0	6	2-48	6-69	2	-33

DIVISION TWO	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	(DIFF)
Clare	7	5	1	1	7-64	6-47	11	+20
Tyrone	7	5	0	2	7-71	3-50	10	+33
Louth	7	5	0	2	5-63	4-54	10	+12
Cork	7	3	2	2	5-63	4-56	8	+10
Leitrim	7	3	1	3	2-53	7-54	7	-16
Armagh	7	2	2	3	8-59	4-63	6	+8
Galway	7	1	1	5	2-56	6-76	3	-32
Mayo	7	0	1	6	5-49	7-78	1	-35

DIVISION THREE	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	(DIFF)
Cavan	7	6	0	1	6-65	6-51	12	+14
Westmeath	7	5	1	1	10-51	3-59	11	+13
Roscommon	7	5	0	2	2-78	3-60	10	+15
Wexford	7	3	1	3	6-56	7-52	7	+1
Fermanagh	7	3	0	4	4-64	4-59	6	+5
Antrim	7	2	0	5	2-71	3-64	4	+4
Longford	7	1	2	4	4-57	6-79	4	-28
Tipperary	7	0	0	7	5-51	7-69	0	-24

DIVISION FOUR	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	(DIFF)
Monaghan	8	7	0	1	10-95	7-53	14	+51
Sligo	8	6	1	1	10-69	3-65	13	+25
Wicklow	7	5	0	2	8-79	2-50	10	+47
Offaly	8	5	0	3	7-76	8-60	10	+13
Carlow	8	4	1	3	7-79	10-63	9	+7
Waterford	8	3	0	5	6-63	8-70	6	-13
Limerick	7	1	1	5	3-53	5-64	3	-17
Kilkenny	8	1	1	6	4-53	10-91	3	-56
London	8	0	2	6	5-48	7-99	2	-57

*Note: At the time of going to press the Wicklow v Limerick Division Four game has still to be played. The outcome of this game can have no bearing on the matter of promotion as Monaghan and Sligo are already promoted.*