

Cumann Lúthchleas Gael



# Church & General National Football League

QUARTER FINAL



Church & General  
National Leagues

**Páirc an  
Chrócaigh**  
31 Márta, 1996

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*Seamus Ó Maolmáiche*

Ard Stiúrthóir

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Cumann Lúthchleas Gael



## Church & General National Football League

ROINN 1 (Relegation play-off)

2.00

**Cill Dara v Laois**

Réiteoir: P. McEnaney (Muineachán)

Linesmen: Joe Woods (Baile Átha Cliath), Peter Fox (An Mhí)

QUARTER FINAL

3.30

**Cill Mhantáin v Dún na nGall**

Réiteoir: P. Russell (Tiobraid Árann)

Linesmen: P. O'Toole (Longfort), C. Buckley (Uibh Fhailí)

EXTRA TIME MUST BE PLAYED IN THE EVENT OF A DRAW AT FULL TIME.

**DBA**

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**D**há chontae álainn, sléibhtiúil le tránna fairsinge iad Dún na nGall (Tír Chonaill) agus Cill Mhantáin ('Gáirdín na hÉireann'). Cé go bhfuil cluichí eile coitianta go leor iontu tá an Cumann Lúthchleas Gael go láidir iontu araon. Cé nach bhfuil aon chraobh shinsir peile Uile-Éireann bainte ag Cill Mhantáin b'é an dála céanna é ag Dún na nGall go dtí an bhliain stairiúil dóibhsean, 1992. Bhun scéal na peile sinsearaí, i leith an dá chontae a chothromú bhain Baile Conglais craobh Uile-Éireann na gClub i 1990.

Níor bhuail siad in aghaidh a chéile ariamh i gcomortas sinsear náisiúnta go nuige seo. Ní raibh Dún na nGall sna cluichí leath-cheannais Léige go dtí an séasúr 1990/91 nuair a bhí an ceann is fearr ag Cill Dara orthu leis an scór 0-14 v. 0-10. Bhuaigh siad an chéad chluiche leathcheannais ina raibh siad páirteach 1992/93, nuair a chloigh siad An Clár (1-12 v. 1-7) ach theip orthu in athimirt in aghaidh Átha Cliath sa chluiche ceannais. Mar sin, sna blianta deireannacha seo tá na Conallaigh ag teacht chun barr an chairn i gcúrsaí peile na

## Fir na gCnoc ó Dheas agus ó Thuaidh i nGleic!

Léige dhe.

Ar an lámh eile dhe ní raibh Cill Mhantáin ariamh sna cluichí leathcheannais fiú. Tá feabhas mór ar fhoireann an chontae ón uair gur bhain siad Craobh na hÉireann (B) agus gur tháinig siad aníos ó Roinn 4 go dtí Roinn 2 sa Léig Church & General. Luadh an fhoireann íontach a bhí ag Baile Conghlais cúig bliana ó shoin nuair a bhaineadar craobh na hÉireann AIB na gClub; I mbliana thug An Tóchar curaidh an chontae taispeántais sár-éifeachtacha i ndhá chluiche in aghaidh Éire Óg Ceatharlach i gCraobhchluiche Laighean.

Bhí Brian Ó Muirí agus Aonton Ó Baoill ó Dhún na nGall ina mbaill den fhoireann bhreá ag Ulaidh i mbliana agus thar tréimhse de bhlianta bhí cuid mhaith Conallaigh ar na foirne Ultacha a rinne éacht thar seacht mbliana sa chéile

agus craobhacha Idir-Chuige á mbaint. Le tamall maith de bhlianta bhí ionadaí nó dhó ó fhoireann Chill Mhantáin ar fhoireann Laighean ag síneadh siad fhad leis an sár-pheileadóir Séamus Mac Ruairí (Jim Rogers)

Is breá an rud é mar sin foireann úr, óg ón 'Gáirdín' sa choimhlint ag an leibhéal seo; ní haon díspeagadh ar an Conallaigh a rá go mbeidh cuid mhaith 'neodraigh' i bhfách le bua do Chill Mhantáin. Ach tá stair an chomortais ina gcoinne — go hiondiúl is iad na foirne ó Roinn 1 a thagann chun cinn cé go raibh eisceachtaí ann agus bhain foirne ó Roinn 2 an chraobh.

Ón uair go bhfuil an cluiche i bPáirc An Chrócaigh beidh slua mór leantóirí ó Chill Mhantáin ann chun tacaíocht a léiriú dá laochra; beidh lucht leanta na gConallach ag fanacht go dtí an cluiche leathcheannais! Is dócha go bhfuil an ceart acu ach treálaítear le Cill Mhantáin agus a lucht stiúrtha as teacht an fhad seo sa chomortas. Agus tuigfidh Conallaigh go bhfuiltear mórálach as an dul chun cinn íontach atá déanta acu le blianta beaga anuas. Go maire siad araon.

## 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 sinsear feasta  
Ní fhágfar faoin tíorán ná faoin tráill.  
Anocht a théam sa bhearna baoil  
Le gearn ar Ghaeil chun báis nó saoil  
Le gunna scréach faoi lámhach na bpiléar,  
Seo libh canaig amhrán na bhFiann.**

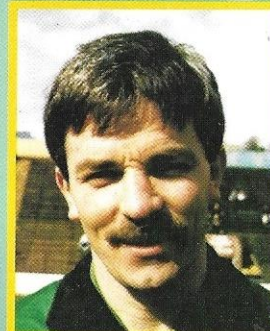
## Na Réitoirí



### Pat McEneaney (Muineacháin)

The Corduff clubman had a busy time last week-end. He had charge of the AIB All-Ireland club final on St. Patrick's Day and the MacRory Cup (Ulster Colleges' ) final the following afternoon at Coalisland.

Pat has been refereeing for around nine years and controlled last year's Bank of Ireland Dublin-Cork semi-final. As a player he won junior county championship medals and has already refereed a number of games in the current League.



### Paddy Russell (Tiobraid Árann)

A referee since 1975, Paddy had a very busy year in 1995. He took charge of the AIB All-Ireland club final, the Church and General National League decider and the Bank of Ireland All-Ireland senior final among other games.

The last Sam Maguire Cup tie was Russell's second time to take charge of an All-Ireland senior decider. His first was the 1990 decider. A much travelled referee, he has controlled games in Toronto and Glasgow as well as at many venues throughout the country.

## MEDICAL / LOST CHILDREN

### MEDICAL:

**Upper Hogan:** Medical Centre rear of Press Area.

**Lower Hogan:** Treatment and Cardiac Ambulance rear of Section G/L.

**New Stand Lower:** Medical Centre rear of Section 301.

Treatment and Cardiac Ambulance rear of Stand.

Medical Personnel on duty on Premium and Box Level.

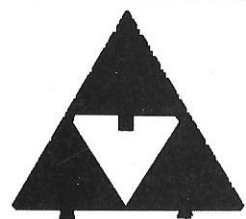
**Hill 16:** Treatment Ambulance beside Treatment Centre rear of Terrace.

**The Site Medical Officer** will be situated on the pitch in front of the Nally Stand.

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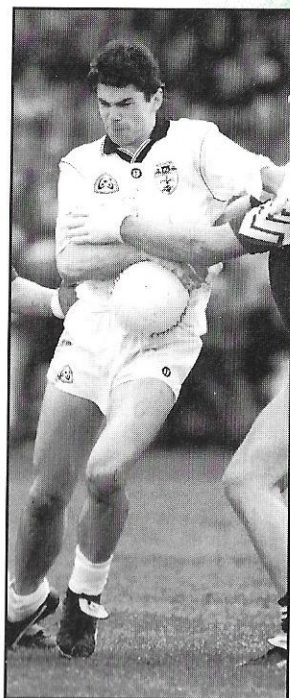
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# Kildare And Laois . . . Old Rivals, New Challenge

**T**he rivalry of neighbouring counties is a phenomenon that has enhanced the appeal of gaelic games more than any other factor over more than ten decades of competitive activity. The championship, of course, was the initial focus of this rivalry and Kildare and Laois were among the first counties to experience the exhilaration of engaging in friendly but fierce confrontation with ones neighbours.

The first meeting of these



• Martin Lynch (Cill Dara)

rivals was in 1891 when Mountrice (Kildare) and Moyanna (Laois) were opponents in the Leinster semi-final. At this remove it matters little who won that initial encounter, but from that moment a rivalry that was to enthrall generations of gaelic followers quickly developed. Even when logical assessment of respective resources suggested that the counties were at almost opposite ends of the ratings, a vital engagement involving the two could result in a desperately close-run encounter, as in the 1929 provincial final when All-Ireland champions Kildare were hard-pressed to survive with three points to spare.

The establishment of the National Leagues gave the rivalry a new dimension and they met for the first time in this competition in the 1928-29 campaign at Athy with victory going to the Lily Whites.

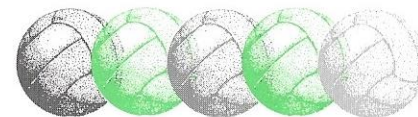
Even at that early stage there was a sharp contrast in their respective fortunes. In the championship Kildare were the masters with three All-Ireland titles to their credit, and the current holders, but Laois, with little to show from their years of effort in the premier competition, could already claim a National League title which they had annexed in the inaugural campaign in 1926. Kildare had

appeared in the 1928 league final only to go down to their great rivals Kerry by the minimum margin. That narrow defeat established a pattern that was to persist to the present day, as no later than 1991 the Lily Whites were on the losing end of a 1-9 to 0-10 scoreline in the final with Dublin. In between, there were other final defeats in 1929, 1958 and 1968, and these five National League final failures constitute an unwelcome record which gives Kildare the distinction of being the only county to have contested five national senior finals (football or hurling) and to be still without a title.

Laois, however, have enjoyed better luck in the 'secondary' competition and when they reached the final for the second time (1986), against all the odds they again emerged victorious.

But Laois's second title, and Kildare's near miss five years ago, all seem a long way in the past as they meet to decide who will 'take the drop' to Division Two. Although both counties have been regraded at various times over the years, a direct confrontation to decide the issue is a new experience - but one that should call forth all the commitment and vigour that has characterised their meetings in the past. For old rivals a new and exciting challenge.

## Top Scorers



**O**ver the past couple of seasons the leading scorer in the league campaign has tended to come from Division Four. This season is no exception, with Kevin O'Brien (Wicklow) assuming the mantle held by fellow Garden-county man Conan Daye last season. His total of 3-37 (46 points) saw him just edge out Longford's Dessie Barry with 4-33 (45). However, in average terms the accolades must go to Cavan's Ronan Carolan whose 6-26 (44) was amassed in seven games, leaving the Breffni man with the highest average per game of 6.28.

Only Carolan, top of Division Three last season, repeated a premier performance, and of the 33 players who graced this list last season, only eight have returned. In Division One only Niall Buckley and Damien Delaney have reappeared; in Division Two the two Colin's - Corkery and Kelly are present, as well as the aforementioned Carolan; Division Three saw John McManus again and Division Four witnessed consistent scoring from Damien Walsh and Johnny Nevin.

The list of top marksmen in the league section of the competition refers to the leading flag-raiser of each county and these 33 players are not necessarily the leading marksmen overall.

### DIVISION 1

Dara Ó Cinnéide (Kerry)	3-30 (39 points)
Gerard Cavlan (Tyrone)	2-27 (33)
Trevor Giles (Meath)	1-26 (29)
Niall Buckley (Kildare)	0-26
Tony Boyle (Donegal)	2-20 (26)
Francis McInerney (Clare)	0-21
Damien Delaney (Laois)	0-19
Joe Brolly (Derry)	1-16 (19)

### DIVISION 2

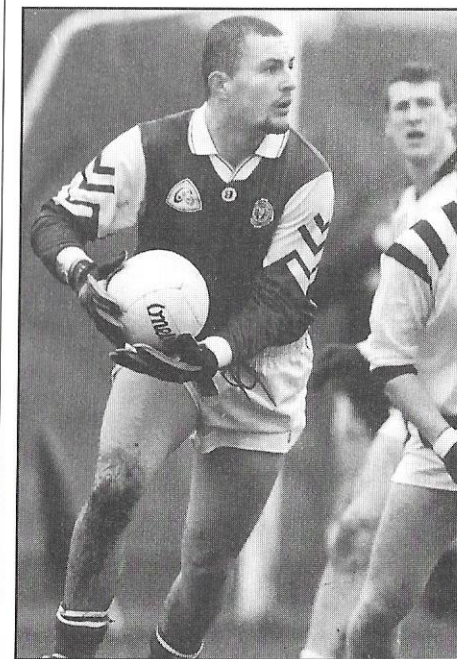
Ronan Carolan (Cavan)	6-26 (44 points)
Colin Kelly (Louth)	1-37 (40)
Colin Corkery (Cork)	1-35 (38)
Gene Bohan (Leitrim)	0-24
Cathal O'Rourke (Armagh)	0-20
Eddie Casey (Westmeath)	1-16 (19)
Micky Linden (Down)	2-9 (15)
Paul Clarke (Dublin)	0-13

### DIVISION 3

Declan Smyth (Monaghan)	3-31 (40 points)
John McManus (Antrim)	0-32
Luke Dolan (Roscommon)	2-23 (29)
Niall Finnegan (Galway)	2-20 (26)
Paul Taylor (Sligo)	0-24
Tollie McBride (Wexford)	2-17 (23)
Shane King (Fermanagh)	1-17 (20)
Maurice Sheridan (Mayo)	0-15

### DIVISION 4

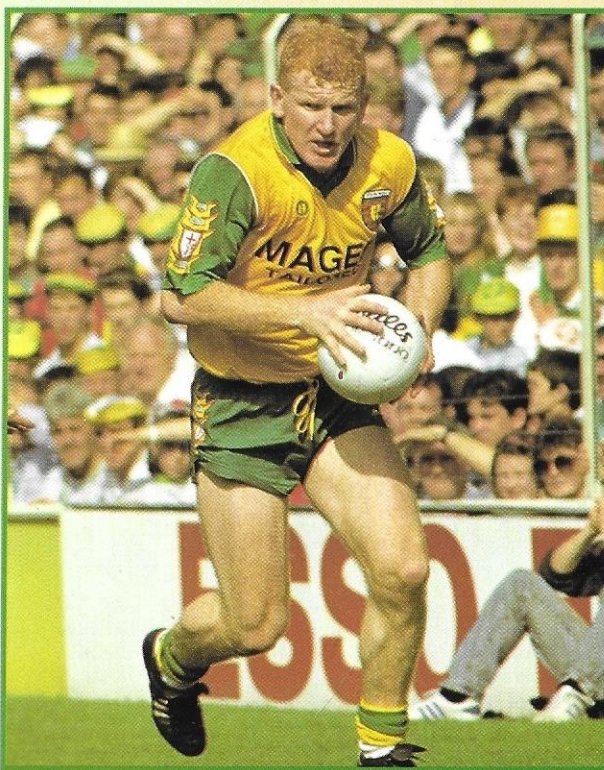
Kevin O'Brien (Wicklow)	3-37 (46 points)
Dessie Barry (Longford)	4-33 (45)
David Reynolds (Offaly)	1-29 (32)
Brendan Cummins (Tipperary)	0-26
Johnny Nevin (Carlow)	3-14 (23)
Timmy Cummins (Limerick)	0-18
Paul Coggins (London)	2-11 (17)
Tom Dooner (Waterford)	0-16
Damien Walsh (Kilkenny)	0-16



• Hugh Emerson (Laois)

# Many Highlights in Football League

**T**he programme of divisional games in the 1995-96 Church and General National Football League produced a generous quota of entertaining matches, many top class individual performances and some noteworthy scores. One of the most significant scores of all was recorded by Tony Boyle, Donegal's leading marksman in the series. He pointed a free deep into injury time to earn the North-West county a draw with Kildare at Ballyshannon in February in the concluding round in the divisional series.



• **AWESOME** — Declan Bonnar (Dún na nGall) bears on down on goal.

That point did more than earn Donegal a draw: it also gained the county the top spot in Division I on scoring averages. Donegal finished with nine points. Meath and defending champions Derry also finished in the group with nine points, but had to give best to the Donegalmen for the top of the table ranking.

Despite their rating, Donegal have remarkably not won a single League game so far this year. Drawn games are not all that common, but Donegal have still shared the points in each of their three games of 1996.

Meath, who were well beaten by Dublin in the Leinster-senior final last July, started the League programme with a flourish. They won their four pre-Christmas games, but were held to a draw by Donegal in their opening encounter of 1996 and lost their subsequent clashes with Kildare and Derry.

Trevor Giles, who won a Sigerson Cup (Universities' Championship) medal with U.C. Dublin earlier this month, has been a consistent campaigner with the Royal County and is their ace marksman in the series. He is also the only Meath forward to have scored in every game so far.

## BOUNCED BACK

Derry's prospects of retaining the League title looked far from bright following defeats by Tyrone and Kerry in the opening rounds, but under new manager Brian Mullins, the former Dublin midfield giant, they have bounced back really well.

Tony Scullion, the only footballer to play in every one of Ulster's twelve games on the way to an interprovincial record run of six titles in succession between 1989 and 1995, had a big say in the goal that really set the Oak Leaf on the road to a quarter-final ticket.

Derry entertained Meath at Celtic Park in the concluding round in Division I and midway through the first half Scullion quickly turned defence into attack to set in train a movement that ended with left half forward Gary McGill crashing the ball to the Meath net. The League champions went on for a 1-11 to 1-8 win. Meath's goal by Tommy Dowd came close to the end and was the perfect finish to a splendid four man movement.

Paudie Ó Sé had a disappointing start to his career as Kerry team manager when his charges were surprised by Kildare — and at Tralee — in the opening round, but started a good come-back with an away triumph over Derry.

Even so, they were given a fright by Clare, who were relegated at that stage, in the concluding round at Ennis when they had to battle gamely to hold out against a

Banner county rally and earn a draw. The point was good enough to put the Kingdom into the quarter-finals.

## SHOCK FOR CORK

Munster champions Cork looked poised for a good run in Division II but received a real shock on their visit to Cavan in Round One. The home county made a winning move by introducing Charles Clarke (Baileboro) to midfield for the second half and he did much to set the Breffni men on the way to their first win in many years over the Leesiders.

However, Cork did not look back after that and the sharpshooting of Colin Corkery, who missed the Cavan game, proved very influential in shaping six wins on the trot to clinch the divisional title.

Cavn lost Round Two to Leitrim, but three subsequent wins in three outings sent them in quietly confident mood for their February meeting with Dublin at "new look" Parnell Park.

The ground, which has been re-developed in impressive style, was packed and followers were entertained by a thrilling game. Cavan squandered many good scoring chances in the first half and paid the penalty as they lost by just two points.

However, a hard-earned win in their final game over Louth at Breffni Park, where Damien O'Reilly at full back and forward Ronan Carolan, who scored 1-4, shone. Allied to the defeat of Armagh by Cork this victory ensured Cavan of

the runners-up spot in Division II — and a quarter-final ticket.

## FULL POINTS

Mayo had to work really hard for a two point win over Fermanagh in their concluding game at Irvinestown to ensure that they kept intact the distinction of being the only county to gain full points in all four divisions.

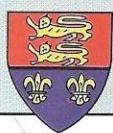
Late points from right full forward Kieran McDonald and substitute Ray Dempsey ensured an 0-9 to 0-7 win for Mayo as well as the Division III title and a place in the knockout stages.

Wicklow made most of the running from early on in Division IV. They dropped just a single point — to Longford — in an eight game series to win the title and their place in the quarter-finals. Add in the fact that earlier this year they won the O'Byrne Cup and the Garden County have certainly battled back impressively from their defeat by Meath in a Leinster semi-final last year.

Kevin O'Brien has been in sparkling form for Wicklow and is proving one of the most efficient scoregetters in the current League. He has also found the target on every appearance.

There were many highlights in the lead-in to the quarter-finals — and many games to come that should provide further exciting chapters in the story of the 1995-96 Church and General National Football League.





# Laois

Back row (l-r): Tony Maher, Brian Kirwan, Cyril Duggan, Emmet Burke, Tom Conroy, P.J. Dempsey, Leo Turley.  
Front row (l-r): Damien Delaney, Michael Lawlor, Michael O'Brien, Denis Lalor, Hughie Emerson, Damien Ryan, Ian Fitzgerald, Adrian Phelan.



## A Unique Achievement

If a 'short list' had been drawn up at the beginning of the 1985-86 National League campaign Laois most certainly were not included in it; and with good reason. Laois were competing in Division Three and, no team from that level had ever contested - let alone won, a league title. Though the Midlanders surged through the divisional campaign with wins over Carlow, Limerick, Tipperary, Clare, Wicklow, Waterford and Kilkenny, there was scarcely a suggestion in that performance of ultimate success.

But it was in the quarter-final that Laois demonstrated

their real worth in beating highly-rated Down by 1-15 to 0-15 after extra time. Dublin, the reigning Leinster champions barred their path in the semi-final; Laois, however, continued to excel and record another sensational victory. Monaghan, Ulster champions and the holders of the league title presented the final hurdle, but in a heart-stopping encounter, Laois made history (2-6 to 2-5) as the first Division Three team to win the league.

The subsequent first-round championship defeat by Wicklow at embattled Aughrim was a shattering blow to Laois morale - but

great as the setback was it could not entirely dim the lustre of a wonderful year for Laois football.

The team that recorded this unique achievement was: Martin Conroy (Ballyroan), Pat Dunne (Ballyroan), Martin Dempsey (St. Joseph's), Eddie Kelly (O'Dempseys), Michael Ahern (O'Dempseys), Pat Brophy (Emo), Colm Browne captain (Portlaoise), John Costelloe (Portlaoise), Liam Irwin (Ballyroan), Gerry Browne (Portlaoise), Willie Brennan (Graiguecullen), Tom Prendergast (Portlaoise), Michael Dempsey (St. Joseph's), Eamon Whelan (Portlaoise), Christy Maguire (Graiguecullen).

## Memories of last year's dramatic Laois win over Kildare

Memories of one of the late, late and dramatic wins of 1995 in football are revived by the meeting of Laois and Kildare in the Church and General National League Division I relegation play-off.

These counties drew an attendance of 9,000 for their Division I second round clash at Droichead Nua in the current National League late last October. Kildare went into the game buoyed up by a first round win over Kerry at Tralee and at the end of a keenly contested first half they led by 0-5 to 0-3.

The exchanges continued to be very keen throughout the second half and the teams were level coming up to the closing stages. However, Laois put the home defence under strong pressure as they attacked strongly.

Then left half forward Michael Lawlor won possession for Laois and found midfielder David Sweeney, who sent over the bar ten seconds from the final whistle to earn Laois a 0-8 to 0-7 win.

Full back Cyril Duggan, centre half Denis Lalor, Michael Lalor and Damien

Delaney, who scored four points, were best for Laois.

Kildare had a chance to snatch an equaliser from a free by Niall Buckley, but his kick was collected by Hugh Emerson and the final whistle went.

Glenn Ryan had an outstanding game at full back for the Lily Whites and Fergus Aspell at right half back, Buckley and forward Noel Donlon were the home team's leading players.

The teams were:

Laois: E. Burke, T. Conroy, C. Duggan, A. Whelan, E. Delaney, D. Lalor, B. Kirwan, P.J. Dempsey, D. Sweeney, B. Larkin, H. Emerson, M. Lawlor, T. Bone, D. Delaney, J. Murphy.  
Substitutes: E. Byrne for Larkin, M. O'Brien for Murphy.

Kildare: C. Byrne, S. O'Rourke, G. Ryan, M. Ryan, F. Aspell, M. Murray, C. Dunne, N. Buckley, B. Walsh, P. Anderson, N. Donlon, T. Brennan, D. Earley, A. Harris, E. Freaney.  
Substitutes: T. Harris for Murray, J. Whelan for Walsh, K. Fagan for Anderson.

## Kildare ... First Double Seekers

It is probably true to say that the many achievements of Kildare football have crystallised in popular memory around the fact that Bill Gannon was the first man to receive the Sam Maguire Cup, which he did after the Lily Whites had beaten Cavan in the 1928 All-Ireland Final.

But 1928 had another significance for football - and especially for Kildare, as in that year they became the first county to contest the National League and All-Ireland finals. They had, however, to settle for a division of the spoils in that historic season - winning the championship but losing the league decider to Kerry by 1-6 to 2-4 at Croke Park. The same fifteen players took part in both finals and they were:

Bill Gannon (capt.), Martin Walsh, Matt Goff, Mick Buckley, Gus Fitzpatrick, Jack Higgins, Frank Malone, John Hayes, Joe Loughlin, Joe Curtis, Paul Doyle, Paddy Martin, Bill Mangan, Tom Keogh, Paddy Loughlin.



# Cill Dara

Dathanna: Bán

## Fir Ionaid

- (16) Enda Murphy  
E. Ó Murchú  
(Leixlip)
- (17) Christy Dunne  
C. Ó Doinn  
(Athy)
- (18) Pat Dunne  
P. Ó Doinn  
(Caragh)
- (19) John Whelan  
S. Ó Faoláin  
(Sarsfields)
- (20) Denis O'Connell  
D. Ó Conaill  
(Clane)
- (21) Willie McCreery  
L. Mac Ruairí  
(Clane)
- (22) Seán Ó Rourke  
S. Ó Ruairc  
(Kilcock)
- (23) John Finn  
S. Ó Finn  
(Clane)
- (24) Alan Harris  
A. Ó hEarchaí  
(Rheban)

**Roghnóirí:**  
Dermot Earley (Sarsfields) Manager,  
J. J. Walsh (St. Laurences),  
Christy Howard (Kilcullen),  
John Blessing (Clane).

**1**  
CHRISTY BYRNE  
C. Ó Broin  
(Castlemitchell)

**2**  
MARTIN RYAN  
M. Ó Riain  
(Moorfield)

**5**  
FERGUS ASPELL  
F. Aiseabóid  
(Kilcullen)

**8**  
NIALL BUCKLEY  
N. Ó Buachalla  
(Sarsfields)

**10**  
EDDIE McCORMACK  
E. Mac Cormaic  
(Clane)

**13**  
PAUL McCORMACK  
P. Mac Cormaic  
(Clane)

**3**  
DAVY DALTON  
D. Daltún  
(Kilcock)

**6**  
GLEN RYAN  
G. Ó Riain (Capt.)  
(Round Towers)

**11**  
JOHNNY McDONALD  
S. Mac Dónaill  
(Naas)

**14**  
MARTIN LYNCH  
M. Ó Loingsigh  
(Clane)

**4**  
SEAMUS DOWLING  
S. Ó Dúllaing  
(Moorefield)

**7**  
KEN DOYLE  
C. Ó Dúghaill  
(Allenwood)

**12**  
BRENDAN WALSH  
B. Breatnach  
(Ballyleague)

**15**  
NOEL DONLON  
N. Ó Dónalláin  
(Round Towers)

**9**  
MARTIN MURRAY  
M. Ó Múirí  
(Moorefield)

# Laois

Dathanna: Gorm is Bán



## Fir Ionaid

- (16) Fergal Byron  
F. Ó Beirn  
(Courtwood)
- (17) David Sweeney  
D. Mac Suibhne  
(Portarlinton)
- (18) P.J. Dempsey  
P.S. Ó Diompsaigh  
(St. Joseph's)
- (19) Brian Keville  
B. Ó Cibhíl  
(Courtwood)
- (20) Eamon Delaney  
E. Ó Dubhsláine  
(Stradbally)
- (21) Derek O'Connell  
D. Ó Congaile  
(Kilcavan)
- (22) Donal O'Mahoney  
D. Ó Mathúna  
(Mountmellick)
- (23) Jacko Murphy  
S. Ó Murchú  
(Crettyard)
- (24) Wayne Scully  
U. Ó Scoláí  
(Ballyroan)

**Roghnóirí:**  
Colm Browne (Portlaoise), Manager,  
Dessie Brennan (St. Joseph's),  
Ger Lawlor (Emo).

**1**  
EMMET BURKE  
E. de Búrca  
(St. Joseph's)

**2**  
JEREMY KAVANAGH  
G. Ó Caomhánach  
(Stradbally)

**5**  
BRIAN KIRWAN  
B. Ó Ciarubháin  
(Emo)

**8**  
DENIS LALOR  
D. Ó Loathlobhair  
(The Heath)

**10**  
IAN FITZGERALD  
E. Mac Gearailt  
(Portlaoise)

**13**  
TOM BOWE  
T. Ó Buaigh  
(Stradbally)

**3**  
CYRIL DUGGAN  
C. Ó Duagáin  
(Portlaoise)

**6**  
ADRIAN PHELAN  
A. Ó Faoileán  
(Portarlinton)

**11**  
HUGH EMERSON  
A. Mac Emira (Capt.)  
(Portarlinton)

**14**  
DAMIAN DELANEY  
D. Ó Dubhláine  
(Stradbally)

**4**  
TOM CONROY  
T. Ó Conraí  
(Portlaoise)

**7**  
DAMIAN RYAN  
D. Ó Riain  
(Portarlinton)

**9**  
TONY MAHER  
A. Ó Meachair  
(Stradbally)

**12**  
MICHAEL LAWLOR  
M. Ó Leathlobhair  
(Emo)

**15**  
LEO TURLEY  
L. Mac Toirealaigh  
(O'Dempsey's)

## CILL DARA

1adh Leath

2adh Leath

IOMLÁN

Cúil

Cúilíní

Seachái

45m

Saor Ciceanna

## LAOIS

1adh Leath

2adh Leath

IOMLÁN

Cúil

Cúilíní

Seachái

45m

Saor Ciceanna



## Previous Meetings

Having met 25 times in championship football, Laois and Kildare are no strangers either as far as the league is concerned with today being the 21st occasion on which their paths have crossed in the secondary competition. The initial joust held at Athy in the 1928-29 season saw the Lily Whites win comfortably, but having won three of the first four meetings, Kildare lost the next three. However, it proved to be a false dawn for the O'Moore county as Kildare won ten and drew two of the next dozen encounters. Indeed, it was only last October that Laois recorded their first for more

than half a century over the opposition. Of the 20 meetings to date Kildare have won 13 and Laois 5, with two games drawn, the details of which are:

1928-29 Athy:	
<b>Kildare 5-4; Laois 0-5.</b>	
1930-31 Portlaoise:	
<b>Kildare 2-6; Laois 3-2.</b>	
1931-32 Athy:	
<b>Laois 0-10; Kildare 0-5.</b>	
1933-34 Portlaoise:	
<b>Kildare 1-7; Laois 1-3.</b>	
1934-35 Portlaoise:	
<b>Laois 1-6; Kildare 0-5.</b>	
1935-36 Athy:	
<b>Laois 2-4; Kildare 0-9.</b>	
1940-41 Athy:	
<b>Laois 3-6; Kildare 2-7.</b>	
1945-46 Naas:	
<b>Kildare 1-8; Laois 1-5.</b>	

1947-48 Portlaoise:	
<b>Kildare 2-4; Laois 0-6.</b>	
1948-49 Kildare:	
<b>Kildare 0-9; Laois 1-6.</b>	
1965-66 Portlaoise:	
<b>Kildare 0-12; Laois 0-4.</b>	
1966-67 Athy:	
<b>Kildare 1-12; Laois 1-5.</b>	
1967-68 Carlow — Play-Off:	
<b>Kildare 0-8; Laois 0-4.</b>	
1968-69 — Play-Off:	
<b>Kildare 0-13; Laois 2-7.</b>	
Carlow — replay:	
<b>Kildare 1-17; Laois 1-6.</b>	
1978-79 Newbridge:	
<b>Kildare 6-11; Laois 0-15.</b>	
1986-87 Portlaoise:	
<b>Kildare 1-7; Laois 0-8.</b>	
1987-88 Newbridge:	
<b>Kildare 0-9; Laois 0-5.</b>	
1994-95 Newbridge:	
<b>Kildare 2-7; Laois 0-7.</b>	
1995-96 Newbridge:	
<b>Laois 0-8; Kildare 0-7.</b>	

## The Play-Off Routes

### KILDARE

**Round 1 at Tralee: Beat Kerry by 0-11 to 0-8.**

Scorers - Niall Buckley 0-7, Noel Donlon 0-2, Anthony Harris 0-1, E.Freaney 0-1.

**Round 2 at Droichead Nua: Lost to Laois 0-7 to 0-8.**

Scorers - Niall Buckley 0-3, Noel Donlon 0-2, Tom Brennan 0-1, P.Anderson 0-1.

**Round 3 at Dungannon: Lost to Tyrone 1-14 to 2-13.**

Scorers - Noel Donlon 0-4, Eddie McCormack 0-3, Brendan Walsh 1-0, Anthony Harris 0-2, Paul McCormack 0-2, Dave Fennin 0-2, E.Freaney 0-1.

**Round 4 at Droichead Nua: Drew with Clare 0-10 all.**

Scorers - Niall Buckley 0-4, Eddie McCormack 0-2, John Whelan 0-2, Paul McCormack 0-1, Anthony Harris 0-1.

**Round 5 at Celtic Park: Lost to Derry 0-7 to 1-6.**

Scorers - Niall Buckley 0-2, Noel Donlon 0-2, Eddie McCormack 0-1, Glen Ryan 0-1, Johnny McDonald 0-1.

**Round 6 at Droichead Nua: Beat Meath by 0-16 to 1-9.**

Scorers - Niall Buckley 0-6, Noel Donlon 0-2, Paul McCormack 0-2, Tom Brennan 0-1, Eddie McCormack 0-1, Glen Ryan 0-1, Johnny McDonald 0-1, Martin Murray 0-1, Fergus Aspell 0-1.

**Round 7 at Ballyshannon: Drew with Donegal 0-11 to 1-8.**

Scorers - Niall Buckley 0-4, Johnny McDonald 0-3, Glen Ryan 0-2, Noel Donlon 0-1, Fergus Aspell 0-1.

**Total Scored 1-76 (79 points); Total Conceded 5-62 (77).**

Scorers - Niall Buckley 0-26, Noel Donlon 0-13, Eddie McCormack 0-7, Paul McCormack 0-5, Johnny McDonald 0-5, Glen Ryan 0-4, Anthony Harris 0-4, Brendan Walsh 1-0, Dave Fennin 0-2, Fergus Aspell 0-2, John Whelan 0-2, E.Freaney 0-2, Tom Brennan 0-2, P.Anderson 0-1, Martin Murray 0-1.

### LAOIS

**Round 1 at Portlaoise: Lost to Meath 0-8 to 0-12.**

Scorers - Tom Bowe 0-3, Ian Fitzgerald 0-2, Michael Lalwor 0-1, Jacko Murphy 0-1, Tony Dunne 0-1.

**Round 2 at Droichead Nua: Beat Kildare by 0-8 to 0-7.**

Scorers - Damien Delaney 0-4, David Sweeney 0-2, Mark O'Brien 0-1, P.J.Dempsey 0-1.

**Round 3 at Portlaoise: Lost to Donegal 0-8 to 1-10.**

Scorers - Hugh Emerson 0-2, Michael Lawlor 0-2, Damien Delaney 0-2, Tom Bowe 0-1, Tony Maher 0-1.

**Round 4 at Ballinascreen: Lost to Derry 0-9 to 2-7.**

Scorers - Jacko Murphy 0-3, Damien Delaney 0-2, Michael Lawlor 0-2, David Sweeney 0-1, Mark O'Brien 0-1.

**Round 5 at Portlaoise: Beat Clare by 0-10 to 0-6.**

Scorers - Damien Delaney 0-4, Ian Fitzgerald 0-2, Michael Lawlor 0-2, Tony Maher 0-1, E.Lalor 0-1.

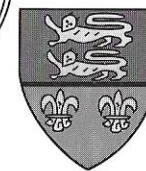
**Round 6 at Killarney: Lost to Kerry 0-6 to 2-13.**

Scorers - Damien Delaney 0-2, Ian Fitzgerald 0-2, Leo Turley 0-2.

**Round 7 at Portlaoise: Beat Tyrone 1-10 to 1-8.**

Scorers - Damien Delaney 0-5, Ian Fitzgerald 1-2, Michael Lawlor 0-2, Leo Turley 0-1.

Total Scored 1-59 (62 points); Total Conceded 6-63 (81).  
Scorers - Damien Delaney 0-19, Ian Fitzgerald 1-8, Michael Lawlor 0-9, Jacko Murphy 0-4, Tom Bowe 0-4, Leo Turley 0-3, David Sweeney 0-3, Mark O'Brien 0-2, Tony Maher 0-2, Hugh Emerson 0-2, Tony Dunne 0-1, P.J.Dempsey 0-1, E.Lalor 0-1.





# Cill Mhantáin

Dathanna: Gorm is Ór

## Fir Ionaid

- (16) Liam Cullen  
L. Ó Cuilinn  
(An Tochar)
- (17) Kevin Toomey  
C. Ó Tuama  
(Donard/Glen)
- (18) Shane O'Neill  
S. Ó Néill  
(Donard/Glen)
- (19) Mick Fitzpatrick  
M. Mac Giolla Phádraig  
(St. Anne's)
- (20) Murt Davis  
M. Ó Dáibhis  
(An Tochar)
- (21) Jonathan Behan  
S. Ó Beacháin  
(Blessington)
- (22) Shay Nolan  
S. Ó Nualláin  
(An Tochar)
- (23) Darren Behan  
D. Ó Beacháin  
(Blessington)
- (24) David Whelan  
D. Ó Faoláin  
(Baltinglass)

**Roghnóirí:**  
David Foran (Manager),  
Pat Lawless,  
Tommy Kehoe,  
Seamus Kelly,  
Peter Clarke.

**1**  
**KEN QUIRKE**  
C. Ó Colrc  
(Baltinglass)

**2**  
**SEAMUS MILEY**  
S. Ó Maolaoideh  
(Dunlavin)

**5**  
**MICK McDONALD**  
M. Mac Dónaill  
(Ashford)

**8**  
**FERGUS DALY**  
F. Ó Dálaigh  
(Blessington)

**10**  
**KEITH BYRNE**  
C. Ó Broin  
(Shilelagh)

**13**  
**SHAY CULLEN**  
S. Ó Cuilinn  
(An Tochar)

**3**  
**HUGH KENNY**  
A. Ó Cionaoith  
(Baltinglass)

**6**  
**PHILIP McGILLICUDDY**  
P. Mac Giolla Chuda (Capt.)  
(An Tochar)

**11**  
**DONAL McGILLICUDDY**  
D. Mac Giolla Chuda  
(An Tochar)

**14**  
**KEVIN O'BRIEN**  
C. Ó Briain  
(Baltinglass)

**4**  
**DAMIEN McMAHON**  
D. Mac Mathúna  
(Baltinglass)

**7**  
**BARRY O'DONOVAN**  
B. Ó Donnabháin  
(Blessington)

**9**  
**RAYMOND DANNE**  
R. Ó Déin  
(Baltinglass)

**12**  
**NICKY MURPHY**  
N. Ó Murchú  
(Tinahely)

**15**  
**FERGAL MULLIGAN**  
F. Ó Maolagáin  
(An Tochar)

# Dún na nGall

Dathanna: Uaithne, Ór is Bán



## Fir Ionaid

- (16) Paul Callaghan  
P. Ó Ceallcháin  
(Beart)
- (17) Sean McEwen  
S. Mac Eoin  
(Naomh Adhamháin)
- (18) John Bán Gallagher  
S. Bán Ó Gallchoir  
(Na Cealla Beaga)
- (19) Dessie MacNamara  
D. Mac Conmara  
(Bundoran)
- (20) Seamus McGinty  
S. Mag Fhinneachta  
(Mac Cumhalls)
- (21) Paddy Cunningham  
P. Mac Cuinneagáin  
(Naomh Columba)
- (22) Eamon MacMenamin  
E. Mac Menamin  
(Mac Cumhalls)
- (23) Niall McCready  
N. Mac Riada  
(Aodh Ruadh, Ballyshannon)
- (24) Noel Hegarty  
N. Ó hEigearthaigh  
(Naomh Columba)

**Roghnóirí:**  
P.S. McGowan (Manager),  
Patsy McGonigle (Trainer),  
Tom Cormack,  
Seamus Gallagher.

**1**  
**GARY WALSH**  
G. Breatnach  
(Burren)

**3**  
**MATT GALLAGHER**  
M. Ó Gallchoir  
(Naomh Bríd)

**6**  
**MARK CROSSAN**  
M. Mac Chrossáin  
(Naomh Adhamháin)

**4**  
**JOHN CUNNINGHAM**  
S. Mac Cuinneagáin  
(Na Cealla Beaga)

**7**  
**MARTIN SHOVLIN**  
M. Ó Seibhleain  
(Naomh Ultan)

**9**  
**BRIAN MURRAY**  
B. Ó Muirí  
(An Stait Sheirbhis)

**12**  
**DECLAN BONNER**  
D. Ó Cnaimhí  
(Na Rossa)

**15**  
**MANUS BOYLE**  
M. Ó Baoil  
(Na Cealla Beaga)

**2**  
**JOHN JOE DOHERTY**  
S. S. Ó Dochartaigh  
(Naomh Columba)

**5**  
**BARRY McGOWAN**  
B. Mac Gabhainn  
(Na Cealla Beaga)

**8**  
**JAMES RUANE**  
S. Mac Ruain  
(Bundoran)

**10**  
**PADDY HEGARTY**  
P. Ó hEigearthaigh  
(Naomh Columba)

**13**  
**BRIAN ROPER**  
B. Ó Roper  
(Aodh Ruadh, Ballyshannon)

**11**  
**JAMES McHUGH**  
S. Mac Aoidh  
(Cill Chartha)

**14**  
**TONY BOYLE**  
A. Ó Baoill  
(An Clochán Liath)

## CILL MHANTÁIN

1adh Leath

2adh Leath

IOMLÁN

Cúil Cúilíní Seachai 45m Saor Ciceanna


## DUN NA nGALL

1adh Leath

2adh Leath

IOMLÁN

Cúil Cúilíní Seachai 45m Saor Ciceanna


## Fluctuating Fortunes and Consistent Performances

**F**ew competitions demonstrate the uncertainty of team sports to quite the same extent as the National Football League which from year to year sees remarkable changes in the fortunes of many counties. Conversely, where some counties experience wild swings of fortune, others display a quite remarkable consistency. The campaign now reaching its climax maintains these well-established trends.

One of the more obvious changes of fortune relates to last year's beaten semi-finalists Laois, who topped Division One in the league section. This season has seen the O'Moore county struggle in the top flight and today they are involved in a play-off with Kildare in order to avoid relegation to Division Two.

Last season Clare topped Division Two and qualified for the quarter-finals in which they gave eventual runners-up Donegal a run for their money. However, this season the Banner county has struggled and two draws and relegation to Division Two are all there is to show for their endeavours.

Westmeath tell a similar story to Clare and after two years of promotion, one win from seven outings saw the Midlanders make a quick return to the third division. Sligo, promoted from the lowest division last season,

struggled to make an impact in the third, and finished bottom of the table ensuring a swift return to Division Four.

However, not all the fluctuations in fortunes were adverse. Having been relegated from the top Division the previous year, Mayo struggled badly in Division Two last

season and in their seven outings, the Westerners managed just a single draw. This season has seen a dramatic change in fortunes, as Mayo compiled the only 100% record in the league in qualifying for the knock-out stages and promotion back to the second division. Likewise, Longford, relegated to Division Four last season, have bounced back, finishing second in Division Four to gain promotion back to the higher division.

### LEAGUE TABLES

DIVISION 1	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	Diff
Donegal	7	3	3	1	5-68	3-59	9	+15
Meath	7	4	1	2	9-70	3-73	9	+15
Derry	7	4	1	2	6-62	6-64	9	-2
Kerry	7	3	2	2	8-73	2-62	8	+29
Tyrone	7	3	1	3	5-63	5-69	7	-6
Kildare	7	2	2	3	1-76	5-62	6	+2
Laois	7	3	0	4	1-59	6-63	6	-19
Clare	7	0	2	5	2-61	7-80	2	-34
DIVISION 2	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	Diff
Cork	7	6	0	1	12-75	5-65	12	+31
Cavan	7	5	0	2	10-62	3-71	10	+12
Leitrim	7	4	0	3	5-82	7-61	8	+15
Dublin	7	4	0	3	4-69	6-55	8	+8
Armagh	7	4	0	3	5-68	10-56	8	-3
Louth	7	3	0	4	3-62	5-65	6	-9
Down	7	1	0	6	6-46	4-69	2	-17
Westmeath	7	1	0	6	3-53	8-75	2	-37
DIVISION 3	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	Diff
Mayo	7	7	0	0	5-57	1-45	14	+24
Monaghan	7	6	0	1	6-72	2-54	12	+30
Roscommon	7	4	1	2	9-87	6-77	9	+19
Wexford	7	2	1	4	10-59	6-72	5	-1
Galway	7	2	1	4	3-70	5-70	5	-6
Fermanagh	7	2	0	5	3-60	6-67	4	-16
Antrim	7	2	0	5	1-67	5-76	4	-21
Sligo	7	1	1	5	3-59	9-70	3	-29
DIVISION 4	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	Diff
Wicklow	8	7	1	0	9-107	4-60	15	+62
Longford	8	6	1	1	15-90	5-64	13	+56
Offaly	8	5	1	2	10-92	8-48	11	+50
Carlow	8	4	1	3	13-86	11-85	9	+7
Limerick	8	4	0	4	3-77	5-70	8	+1
Tipperary	8	4	0	4	12-70	11-86	8	-13
Waterford	8	2	0	6	6-62	13-90	4	-49
Kilkenny	8	1	0	7	7-63	12-100	2	-52
London	8	1	0	7	7-55	13-99	2	-62

### CONSISTENCY

A number of counties could be said to have maintained their form. Derry, the reigning league champions, last season won four and drew one of their seven outings, a performance they repeated exactly this year. Donegal, having acquired eight points in the divisional section for the past two seasons, went one better this time with nine to make the 'cut'. Kerry were even more consistent as they gained eight points from seven matches for the third year in a row. Other counties to score the exact same number of points as last year were Antrim, Carlow and London.

Some counties maintained consistency even though they were operating in higher divisions. Two counties, Cavan and Monaghan, having gained promotion last season, repeated the performance in the higher divisions. Cavan with ten points (12 last year) will be operating in Division One next season, and Monaghan twelve points (14 last year) jump from three to two. Conversely, Down, having been relegated to Division Two with just two points last year, were relegated to the third division, again having gained only two points from seven outings.

Roscommon, third in Division Three for the last two seasons, can be numbered among the consistent teams, along with Leitrim and Armagh, whose residence in mid-table Division Two continues.

As the foregoing facts indicate life is never easy and always unpredictable in the National League.

## Caighdeán na Peile i gCúige Laighean Titithe go Mór

**L**asmuigh de Bhaile Átha Cliath agus An Mhí níl caighdeán peile Chúige Laighean thar moladh beirte. Féach mar atá Uíbh Fháilí, curaidh Uile-Éireann 1982, i Roinn 4 den Léig Church & General le trí bhliana agus inniu feictear dhá chontae iomraiteacha, Cill Dara agus Laois, san iomaíocht féachaint cé acu díobh a imreoidh i Roinn 2 an bhliain seo chugainn.

Ceapadh cúpla bliain ó shoin nuair a socraíodh ar bhainisteoireacht úr a chur i mbun na bpeileadóirí sinsir sa dá chontae go raibh ré nua foirfeachta i ndán don dá chontae. Is trua le rá nár tharla sé cé go raibh na Laoisigh ag cruthú go maith sna craobhchlúichí; anuas ar sin bhí foirne mionúir agus ógánaigh den chéad scoth acu le cúpla bliain anuas agus b'fhéidir nach bhfuil rudaí chomh holc is a ceaptar. Má bhuann siad inniu beidh ardú meanman acu don chraobh i mbliana.

Níl an scéal chomh maith i gCill Dara; chaill siad an chéad chluiche i gcraobh Laighean in aghaidh Lú annraidh; ní raibh na foirne mionúir agus ógánaigh ag déanamh go maith ach an oiread.

Is peileadóirí den scoth iad go haonánach ach ar bhealach contrártha éigin ní féidir leo fedhmiú mar fhoireann éifeachtach ach corr uair. Is trua go bhfuil sé amhlaidh mar b'iad, in éineacht le Ciarraí fadó, ríthe na peile a thug isteach caighdeán agus clisteacht sa chluiche.

Is féidir, ar an lámh eile dhe, amharc ar Roinn 2 mar roinn as a dtáinig buaiteoirí na Léige ar chúpla ócáid. Chomh maith, níl difríocht ro-mhór idir an caighdeán Roinn I agus II agus bíonn deis ag an dá fhoireann ag barr na Roinne dul isteach sna clúichí ceathrú-cheannais.

Ní deireadh an tsaoil é, máisea, ach ba mhaith leis an lucht féachana go ndéanfaidh an dá fhoireann iarracht mhór inniu chur 'an titim' a sheachaint. Nach fada go mbeidh an fhoireann a chailleann inniu ar ais arís san áit is dual dóibh.

# A Slender Connection

**T**oday's quarter-final pairing of Donegal and Wicklow is unlikely to be dubbed the clash of old rivals. In league or championship their paths have rarely crossed; indeed, in the 'premier' competition these counties have never met at any level, while in the league three meetings over almost 70 years paints a stark picture of the most slender of connections. Admittedly, those three meetings have taken place during the last 14 years, but that fact hardly diminishes the image of Donegal and Wicklow as relative strangers in the football arena.

Of the three games Wicklow have won two, and the details of these are:

## 1981-82 - Wicklow 1-7; Donegal 0-7.

In the early stages of this final round Division Three tie at Aughrim the visitors made the early running, but scores were difficult to come by as a scoreline of two points to one after ten minutes indicates. When Wicklow steadied it was point for point though Donegal continued to enjoy a slight edge on the board to the halfway stage and beyond.

As the game entered the last quarter the Northerners held a two-point lead but then

Wicklow made their big effort with Pat Baker doing the scoring honours. It was Baker's 53rd minute point that pushed the home team ahead for the first time only to see Pádraig Gallagher level up with three minutes remaining. A draw looked the most likely and most equitable outcome at this stage but in 'lost time' Gerry Hurley stabbed home the goal that decided it - a score that was hotly disputed by the Donegal defenders. But the green flag was eventually confirmed and Wicklow took the points.

Wicklow scorers: P.Baker 0-5, G.Hurley 1-0, P.O'Toole 0-2.

Donegal: P.Gallagher 0-5, P.Carr 0-1, M.Gallagher 0-1.

Wicklow - J.Kavanagh, P.Morris, J.Lyons, J.Dooley, D.Doyle, P.O'Toole, K.Ryan, P.O'Byrne, P.Byrne, P.Baker, T.Murphy, G.Hurley, J.Ronan, M.Coffey, K.Baker.

Subs - J.Lynch for Ronan, L.Byrne for K.Baker.

Donegal - N.McCoole, E.McIntyre, D.McGettigan, Matt Gallagher, M.Carr, M.Lafferty, C.Mulgrew, P.McCrea, P.Carr, J.McMullan, P.Gallagher, Michael Gallagher, S.Meehan, S.Marley, S.Gallagher.

Subs - K.Keaney for McMullan, B.Dunleavy for Lafferty, McMullan for Mulgrew.

## 1983-84 - Donegal 0-13; Wicklow 0-4.

For this second-round tie Wicklow made their first-ever visit to the North-West, but it was less than a happy occasion for the visitors, as at Ballybofey, after an opening flourish, they were always struggling.

Donegal's sluggish opening provided a number of Wicklow chances, but after two white flags fluttered, the pendulum swung in the opposite direction and Paul McGettigan and Declan Bonnar were to the fore as an interval lead of 0-6 to 0-2 was established.

Through most of the second half Wicklow toiled industriously though with little reward and succeeded in doing no more than doubling their meagre tally of the opening period, and drifted further into arrears. In the end it was as easy for the winners as suggested by the full-time scoreline.

Donegal scorers: P.McGettigan 0-3, D.Bonnar 0-3, M.Lafferty 0-3, M.Carr 0-2, J.McMullan 0-1, B.Dunleavy 0-1.

Wicklow: J.Lynch 0-1, P.Baker 0-1, D.Doran 0-1, P.O'Toole 0-1.

Donegal - N.McCoole, T.McDermott, M.Griffin, D.Newton, B.Dunleavy, D.Reid, M.Gallagher,

P.McCrea, M.Lafferty, P.McGettigan, M.Carr, J.McMullan, D.Bonnar, A.Molloy, K.Keaney.

Subs - N.McGarvey for McMullan, F.Lynch for McGettigan.

Wicklow - J.Kavanagh, C.Murphy, S.Morris, J.Dooley, D.Doyle, P.Byrne, B.Kilcoyne, P.O'Byrne, P.O'Toole, T.Murphy, C.Murphy, J.Lynch, D.Doran, P.Baker, A.Zeller.

Subs - K.Ryan for Kilcoyne, M.Shannon for Dooley, G.Hurley for Baker.

## 1991-92 - Wicklow 2-6; Donegal 1-6.

Much had changed in the fortunes of these counties since the second meeting eight years earlier. For Donegal the highest peaks were beckoning irresistibly while Wicklow's sights were set on much more modest goals.

But when the issue was joined at Aughrim it was the home side that looked the more purposeful side as against the breeze they shot into a four-point lead after only seven minutes and they deservedly led by 2-3 to 1-4 at the break thanks to Kevin O'Brien's converted penalty seven minutes earlier. The crucial moment came midway through the second half when with Wicklow leading by three points John Walsh the Wicklow 'keeper saved a well-struck penalty by Manus Boyle. That save inspired the home side who held on for a merited win.

Wicklow scorers: K.O'Brien 1-2, C.Daye 1-0, R.Coffey 0-2, P.Baker 0-1, T.Allen 0-1.

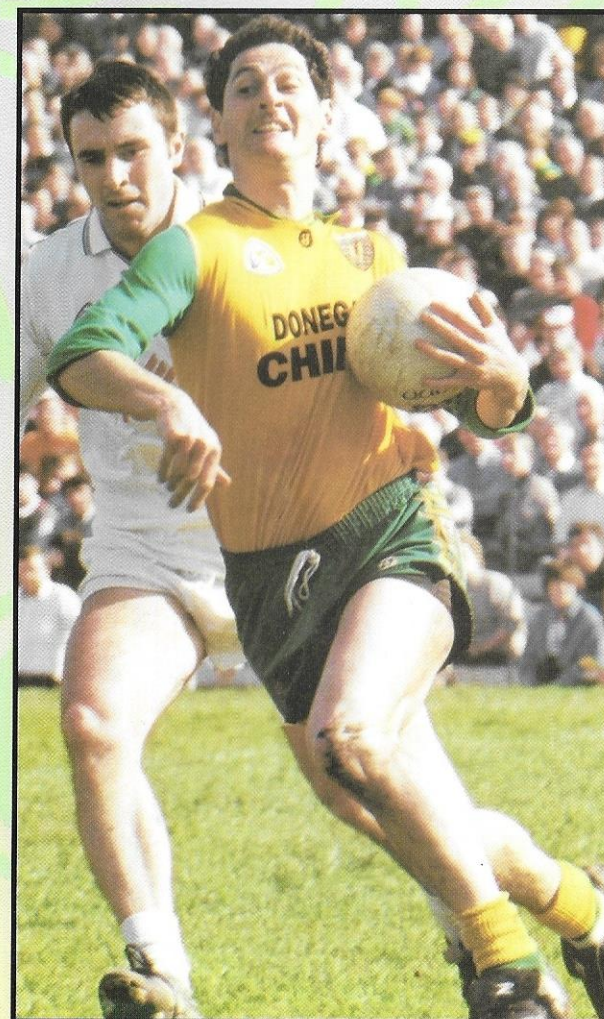
Donegal: M.Boyle 1-2, P.Brogan 0-1, S.Maguire 0-1, T.Boyle 0-1, B.McGowan 0-1.

Wicklow - J.Walsh, L.Carey, H.Kenny, B.Kenny, D.Lenihan, P.Healy, P.Allen, F.Daly, P.O'Byrne, M.Murtagh, T.Allen, R.Coffey, C.Daye, P.Baker, K.O'Brien.

Sub - A.O'Sullivan for T.Allen.

Donegal - G.Walsh, Matt Gallagher, P.Carr, B.Touhey, M.Shovlin, A.Molloy, P.Brogan, M.McShane, C.Mulgrew, B.McGowan, S.Maguire, Michael Gallagher, M.Gavigan, T.Boyle, M.Boyle.

Subs - D.Reid for Touhey, E.Gallagher for S.Maguire.



• Paddy Hegarty (Dún na nGall)

# How the counties have fared over the past year — April 1995 - March 1996

## DONEGAL

### 2nd April - League Play-Off:

Donegal 1-16; Kildare 0-11.

### 9th April - McKenna Cup:

Monaghan 1-13; Donegal 0-8.

### 16th April - League Quarter-Final:

Donegal 2-11; Clare 3-7.

### 30th April - League Semi-Final:

Donegal 1-14; Laois 2-8.

### 6th May - Challenge:

Donegal 4-15; Leitrim 2-13.

### 14th May - League Final:

Derry 0-12; Donegal 0-8.

### 21st May - Championship:

Donegal 1-12; Down 0-9.

### 18th June - Championship:

Monaghan 1-14; Donegal 0-8.

### 15th October - League:

Donegal 3-8; Clare 0-8.

### 29th October - League:

Donegal 0-16; Tyrone 0-7.

### 12th November - League:

Donegal 1-10; Laois 0-8.

### 26th November - League:

Kerry 1-11; Donegal 0-6.

### 20th January - Challenge:

Cavan 3-13; Donegal 1-17.

### 4th February - League:

Donegal 0-10; Meath 2-4.

### 11th February - League:

Donegal 0-10; Derry 0-10.

### 25th February - League:

Donegal 1-8; Kildare 0-11.

### 10th March - Manchester Festival:

Galway 0-17; Donegal 0-11.

### 17th March - McKenna Cup:

Fermanagh 0-8; Donegal 0-7.

Played 18; Won 8; Drew 3; Lost 7.

## WICKLOW

### 23rd April - Challenge:

Laois 0-15; Wicklow 0-4.

### 30th April - Challenge:

Wicklow 1-19; Carlow 1-9.

### 27th May - Challenge:

Antrim 0-14; Wicklow 0-12.

### 28th May - Challenge:

Cavan 4-14; Wicklow 3-6.

### 11th June - Championship:

Wicklow 0-9; Westmeath 0-3.

### 2nd July - Championship:

Meath 3-14; Wicklow 0-9.

### 15th October - League :

Wicklow 3-13; London 0-8.

### 29th October - League :

Wicklow 0-12; Longford 1-9.

### 26th November - League:

Wicklow 1-14; Tipperary 1-8.

### 7th January - O'Byrne Cup:

Wicklow 1-6; Louth 0-8.

### 14th January - O'Byrne Cup:

Wicklow 4-6; Kildare 1-8.

### 21st January - League:

Wicklow 1-15; Limerick 0-5.

### 4th February - League:

Wicklow 1-13; Kilkenny 1-9.

### 11th February - League:

Wicklow 1-7; Offaly 0-8.

### 17th February - O'Byrne Cup:

Wicklow 2-7; Westmeath 2-6.

### 25th February - League:

Wicklow 1-16; Carlow 0-5.

### 3rd March - O'Byrne Cup Final:

Wicklow 0-12; Wexford 1-7.

### 10th March - League:

Wicklow 1-17; Waterford 1-8.

Played 18; Won 13; Drew 1;

Lost 4.

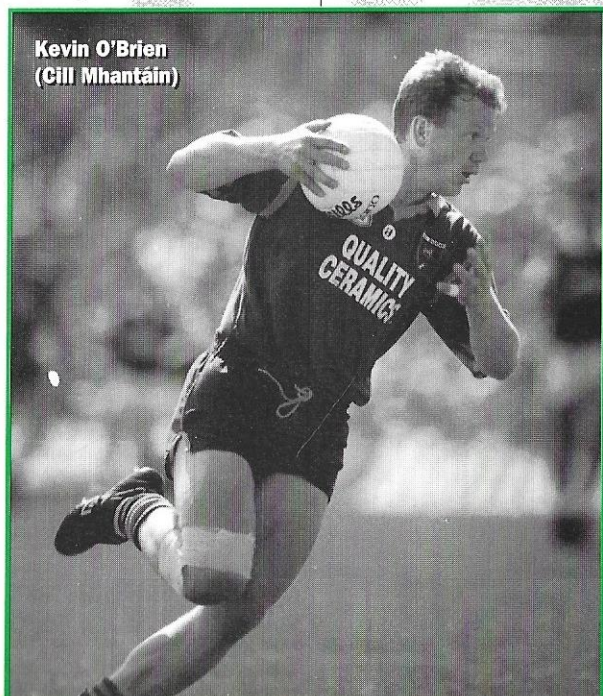


Back row (l-r): John Duffy, Barry McGowan, Brian Murray, Paul Callaghan, Manus Boyle, Eamon McMenamin, John Bán Gallagher, Matt Gallagher.  
Front row (l-r): James McHugh, Gerard Kelly, Tony Boyle, Martin Shovlin, Noel Hegarty, John Gildea, Sean McEwen.

Dún na nGall



Kevin O'Brien  
(Cill Mhantáin)



# Paths To The Quarter-Final

## DONEGAL

### Round 1 at Ennis: Beat Clare by 3-8 to 0-8.

Scorers - Tony Boyle 1-1, Eamonn McMenamin 1-1, Manus Boyle 0-3, Brian Murray 1-0, James McHugh 0-1, John Duffy 0-1, Niall McCready 0-1.

### Round 2 at Ballybofey: Beat Tyrone by 0-16 to 0-7.

Scorers - Manus Boyle 0-6, James McHugh 0-4, Tony Boyle 0-2, John Ban Gallagher 0-2, Eamonn McMenamin 0-1, John Gildea 0-1.

### Round 3 at Portlaoise: Beat Laois by 1-10 to 0-8.

Scorers - Manus Boyle 0-4, Eamonn McMenamin 1-1, Tony Boyle 0-2, James Ruane 0-2, John Gildea 0-1.

### Round 4 at Ballyshannon: Lost to Kerry 0-6 to 1-11.

Scorers - John Gildea 0-2, Tony Boyle 0-1, Manus Boyle 0-1, John Duffy 0-1, Barry McGowan 0-1.

### Round 5 at Navan: Drew with Meath 0-10 to 2-4.

Scorers - Tony Boyle 0-4, John Duffy 0-3, Eamonn McMenamin 0-1, John Ban Gallagher 0-1, James Ruane 0-1.

### Round 6 at Ballybofey: Drew with Derry 0-10 all.

Scorers - Tony Boyle 0-5, John Duffy 0-3, Eamonn McMenamin 0-1, Noel Hegarty 0-1.

### Round 7 at Ballyshannon: Drew with Kildare 1-8 to 0-11.

Scorers - Tony Boyle 1-5, James Ruane 0-1, Barry McGowan 0-1, Barry Roper 0-1.

### Total Scored 5-68 (83 points); Total Conceded 3-59 (68).

Scorers - Tony Boyle 2-20, Manus Boyle 0-14, Eamonn McMenamin 2-5, John Duffy 0-8, James McHugh 0-5, John Gildea 0-4, James Ruane 0-4, John Ban Gallagher 0-3, Brian Murray 1-0, Barry McGowan 0-2, Noel Hegarty 0-1, Niall McCready 0-1, Barry Roper 0-1.

## WICKLOW

### Round 1 at Aughrim: Beat London by 3-13 to 0-8.

Scorers - Kevin O'Brien 1-4, Fergus Daly 2-0, D.McMahon 0-3, Donal McGillicuddy 0-2, Philip McGillicuddy 0-1, M.Davis 0-1, J.Clancy 0-1, Keith Byrne 0-1.

### Round 2 at Longford: Drew with Longford 0-12 to 1-9.

Scorers - Keith Byrne 0-5, Kevin O'Brien 0-4, D.McMahon 0-2, Philip McGillicuddy 0-1.

### Round 3 at Thurles: Beat Tipperary by 1-14 to 1-8.

Scorers - Kevin O'Brien 1-7, Nicky Murphy 0-2, Fergus Daly 0-1, Philip McGillicuddy 0-1, M.Davis 0-1, J.Clancy 0-1, D.Whehan 0-1.

### Round 4 at Baltinglass: Beat Limerick by 1-15 to 0-5.

Scorers - Kevin O'Brien 0-5, Donal McGillicuddy 0-3, Fergal Mulligan 0-3, Keith Byrne 1-0, J.Behan 0-2, Nicky Murphy 0-1, S.O'Neill 0-1.

### Round 5 at Ballyragget: Beat Kilkenny by 1-13 to 1-9.

Scorers - Kevin O'Brien 0-5, Fergal Mulligan 1-1, Keith Byrne 0-3, Donal McGillicuddy 0-3, Nicky Murphy 0-1.

### Round 6 at Baltinglass: Beat Offaly by 1-7 to 0-8.

Scorers - Seamus Cullen 0-4, Kevin O'Brien 0-2, Donal McGillicuddy 0-1, John Ryan (Offaly) 1-0 og.

### Round 7 at Dr.Cullen Park: Beat Carlow by 1-16 to 0-5.

Scorers - Kevin O'Brien 0-7, Seamus Cullen 0-6, Fergal Mulligan 1-1, Donal McGillicuddy 0-1, Philip McGillicuddy 0-1.

### Round 8 at Aughrim: Beat Waterford by 1-17 to 1-8.

Scorers - Kevin O'Brien 1-3, Seamus Cullen 0-5, Fergal Mulligan 0-3, Keith Byrne 0-2, Donal McGillicuddy 0-1, Nicky Murphy 0-1, Mick McDonald 0-1, D.McMahon 0-1.

### Total Scored 9-107 (134 points); Total Conceded 4-60 (72).

Scorers - Kevin O'Brien 3-37, Seamus Cullen 0-15, Keith Byrne 1-11, Fergal Mulligan 2-8, Donal McGillicuddy 0-11, Fergus Daly 2-1, D.McMahon 0-6, Nicky Murphy 0-5, Philip McGillicuddy 0-4, M.Davis 0-2, J.Clancy 0-2, J.Behan 0-2, S.O'Neill 0-1, Mick McDonald 0-1, D.Whehan 0-1. John Ryan (Offaly) 1-0 og.



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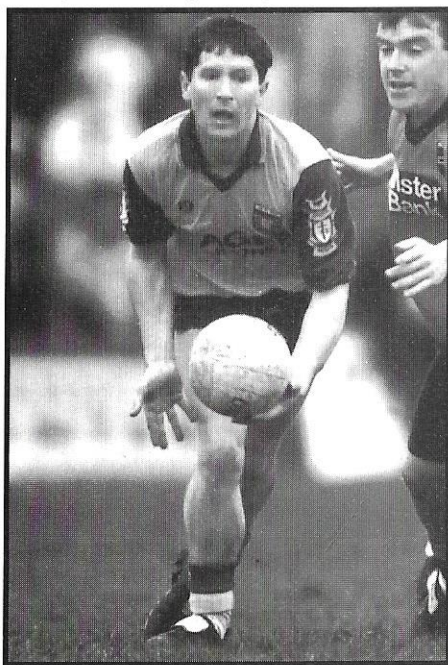


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# Aggregate Report

Longford, although failing to qualify for the quarter-finals, topped the list of aggregate scores at the end of the divisional section with 15-90 (135 points). In second place (the same spot as last year) are quarter-finalists Wicklow, just a single point behind with a 134-point total (9-107). Four of the other quarter-finalists - Cork, Meath, Kerry and Cavan are all in the top dozen, but Donegal and Derry repeat last year's performances in qualifying for the knock-out stages of the competition with relatively modest totals. Amazingly, Mayo, placed 25th in the chart, have qualified for the quarter-finals, and in fact, are the only team to do so with a 100% record.

In the matter of average per game, Longford and Wicklow lead the way, with only Roscommon able to better the sixteen-point average achieved by the top two. Last season,



• James McHugh (Dún na nGall)

ten teams failed to average ten points per game, and this season saw seven counties fail to reach this mark, but only Down (All-Ireland Champions two years ago) gain the unwanted distinction of featuring in this group on both occasions.

	Score	Total	Games	Average
Longford	15-90	135	8	16.87
<b>Wicklow</b>	<b>9-107</b>	<b>134</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>16.75</b>
Carlow	13-86	125	8	15.62
Offaly	10-92	122	8	15.25
Roscommon	9-87	114	7	16.28
<b>Cork</b>	<b>12-75</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>15.85</b>
Tipperary	12-70	106	8	13.25
<b>Meath</b>	<b>9-70</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>13.85</b>
<b>Kerry</b>	<b>8-73</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>13.85</b>
Leitrim	5-82	97	7	13.85
<b>Cavan</b>	<b>10-62</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>13.14</b>
Monaghan	6-72	90	7	12.85
Wexford	10-59	89	7	12.71
Limerick	3-77	86	8	10.75
Kilkenny	7-63	84	8	10.5
<b>Donegal</b>	<b>5-68</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>11.8</b>
Armagh	5-68	83	7	11.85
Dublin	4-69	81	7	11.57
<b>Derry</b>	<b>6-62</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>11.42</b>
Waterford	6-62	80	8	10
Kildare	1-76	79	7	11.28
Galway	3-70	79	7	11.28
Tyrone	5-63	78	7	11.14
London	7-55	76	8	9.5
<b>Mayo</b>	<b>5-57</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>10.28</b>
Louth	3-62	71	7	10.14
Antrim	1-67	70	7	10
Fermanagh	3-60	69	7	9.85
Sligo	3-59	68	7	9.71
Clare	2-61	67	7	9.57
Down	6-46	64	7	9.14
Laois	1-59	62	7	8.85
Westmeath	3-53	62	7	8.85

## Cill Mhantáin

The Wicklow team that defeated Carlow at Dr. Cullen Park last month to clinch promotion.  
Back row (l-r): Donal McGillicuddy, Mick McDonald, Keith Byrne, Raymond Danne, Ken Quirke, Hugh Kenny, Barry Donovan, Fergus Daly. Front row (l-r): Mick Fitzpatrick, Kevin O'Brien, Shay Cullen, Damien McMahon, Fergus Mulligan, Brendan Barry, Philip McGillicuddy.

[PIC: WICKLOW PEOPLE]



# Round By Round

## ROUND 1

**Top Score:** Carlow 4-19 v Waterford at Dr.Cullen Park  
**Biggest Winning Margin:** 18 pts - Carlow 4-19 Waterford 2-7  
**Highest Aggregate:** 44 pts - Carlow 4-19 Waterford 2-7  
**Lowest Aggregate:** 15 pts - Mayo 1-6 Galway 0-6  
**Goalless Games:** Three  
**Home Wins:** Nine  
**Away Wins:** Six  
**Draws:** One

## ROUND 2

**Top Score:** Meath 1-19 v Clare at An Uaimh  
**Biggest Winning Margin:** 14 pts - Kerry 2-15 Derry 0-7  
**Highest Aggregate:** 33 pts - Meath 1-19 Clare 0-11  
**Lowest Aggregate:** 13 pts - Mayo 0-7 Monaghan 0-6  
**Goalless Games:** Four  
**Home Wins:** Ten  
**Away Wins:** Five  
**Draws:** One

## ROUND 3

**Top Score:** Longford 4-14 v Kilkenny at Ballyragget  
**Biggest Winning Margin:** 15 pts — Longford 4-14 Kilkenny 2-5  
**Highest Aggregate:** 37 pts - Longford 4-14 Kilkenny 2-5  
**Lowest Aggregate:** 13 pts - Monaghan 0-10 Fermanagh 0-3  
**Goalless Games:** Three  
**Home Wins:** Seven  
**Away Wins:** Eight  
**Draws:** One

## ROUND 4

**Top Score:** Cork 2-12 v Louth at Páirc Uí Rinn  
Roscommon 1-15 v Wexford at Roscommon  
**Biggest Winning Margin:** 8 pts - Kerry 1-11 Donegal 0-6  
Cork 2-12 Louth 1-7  
**Highest Aggregate:** 30 pts - Roscommon 1-15 Wexford 0-12  
**Lowest Aggregate:** 15 pts - Limerick 0-11 Kilkenny 0-4  
**Goalless Games:** Three  
**Home Wins:** Eight  
**Away Wins:** Seven  
**Draws:** One

## ROUND 5

**Top Score:** Roscommon 3-15 v Antrim at Dr.Hyde Park  
**Biggest Winning Margin:** 15 pts - Roscommon 3-15 Antrim 0-9  
**Highest Aggregate:** 33 pts - Roscommon 3-15 Antrim 0-9  
**Lowest Aggregate:** 14 pts - Mayo 0-8 Wexford 0-6  
**Goalless Games:** Two  
**Home Wins:** Ten  
**Away Wins:** Two  
**Draws:** Three

## ROUND 6

**Top Score:** Carlow 2-14 v Kilkenny at Ballyragget  
**Biggest Winning Margin:** 13 pts - Kerry 2-13 Laois 0-6  
**Highest Aggregate:** 36 pts — Carlow 2-14 Kilkenny 2-10  
**Lowest Aggregate:** 14 pts - Mayo 0-10 Sligo 0-4  
**Goalless Games:** Four

**Home Wins:** Five  
**Away Wins:** Ten  
**Draws:** One

## ROUND 7

**Top Score:** Wexford 4-11 v Sligo at Markievicz Park  
**Biggest Winning Margin:** 14 pts - Wicklow 1-16 Carlow 0-5  
**Highest Aggregate:** 34 pts - Wexford 4-11 Sligo 1-8  
**Lowest Aggregate:** 16 pts - Mayo 0-9 Fermanagh 0-7  
**Goalless Games:** Two  
**Home Wins:** Six  
**Away Wins:** Eight  
**Draws:** Two

## SUMMARY

**Top Score:** Carlow 4-19 v Waterford (Round 1)  
**Biggest Winning Margin:** Carlow's 18 points v Waterford (Round 1)  
**Highest Aggregate:** 44 pts - Carlow 4-19 Waterford 2-7 (Round 1)  
**Lowest Aggregate:** 13 pts - Mayo 0-7; Monaghan 0-6 (Round 2)  
Monaghan 0-10 Fermanagh 0-3 (Round 3)  
**Goalless Games:** 21 (30 Last Season)  
**Home Wins:** 55 (63 Last Season)  
**Away Wins:** 47 (39 Last Season)  
**Draws:** 10 (10 Last Season)



# A first Donegal-Wicklow meeting in just over four years

Donegal, who contest their seventh successive quarter-final, and Wicklow, appearing at this stage for the first time in five years, present a sharp contrast in winning form starting this Church and General National League game.

Donegal, Division I winners on scoring averages, have not won a game in the series since November, while the Garden County are striving for their seventh successive victory since drawing away with Longford in round two of Division IV.

The Ulster county beat Laois at Portlaoise in mid November when a second half goal by left half forward Eamonn McMenamin steered them to their third successive win of the League on a 1-10 to 1-8 scoreline.

The North-West men lost next time out to Kerry and have played three draws this year. Their only goal since the Portlaoise game was from a penalty kick after eleven minutes by Tony Boyle against Kildare last time out.

Wicklow have not lost a game in the League so far. They have also scored at least one goal in every outing, other than in their second round draw with Longford at Pearse Park.

The Garden County has also given some good displays on the

way to the O'Byrne Cup, the all-Leinster knockout competition, earlier this year.

The counties last met in the National League in February 1992 at Aghrim where Wicklow ended a Division I "B" unbeaten run by Donegal.

Conan Daye gave the home side a dream start with a goal after only seven minutes, but Donegal, playing with the wind, battled back and at the end of the first quarter a penalty goal by Manus Boyle gave the visitors the lead for the only time — 1-2 to 1-1.

However, Wicklow rallied again and a penalty goal by left full forward Kevin O'Brien earned them a two points advantage. Donegal scored only two points in the second half and had another penalty by Manus Boyle saved by Wicklow goalkeeper John Walsh to finish in arrears by 2-6 to 1-6.

Wicklow: J. Walsh, L. Carey, H. Kenny, B. Kenny, D. Lenihan, P. Healy, P. Allen, F. Daly, P. O'Byrne, M. Murtagh, T. Allen, R. Coffey, C. Daye, P. Baker, K. O'Brien.

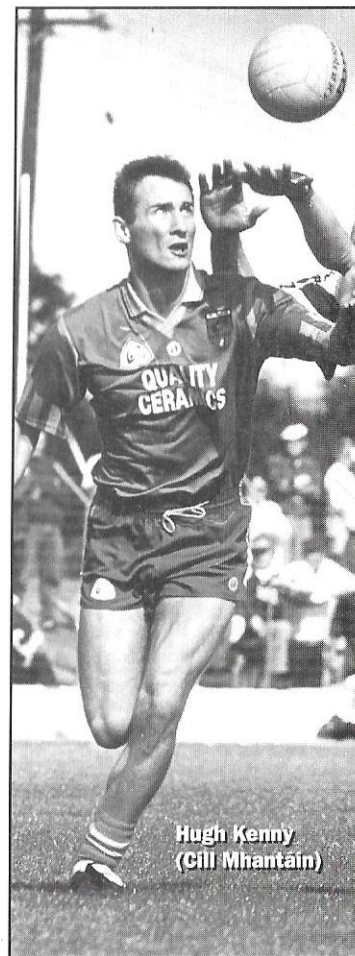
Substitute: A. O'Sullivan for T. Allen.

Donegal: G. Walsh, Matt Gallagher, P. Carr, B. Tuohy, M. Gavigan, Michael Gallagher, M. Shovlin, A. Molloy, P. Brogan, M. McShane, C. Mulgrew, B. McGowan, S. Maguire, Tony

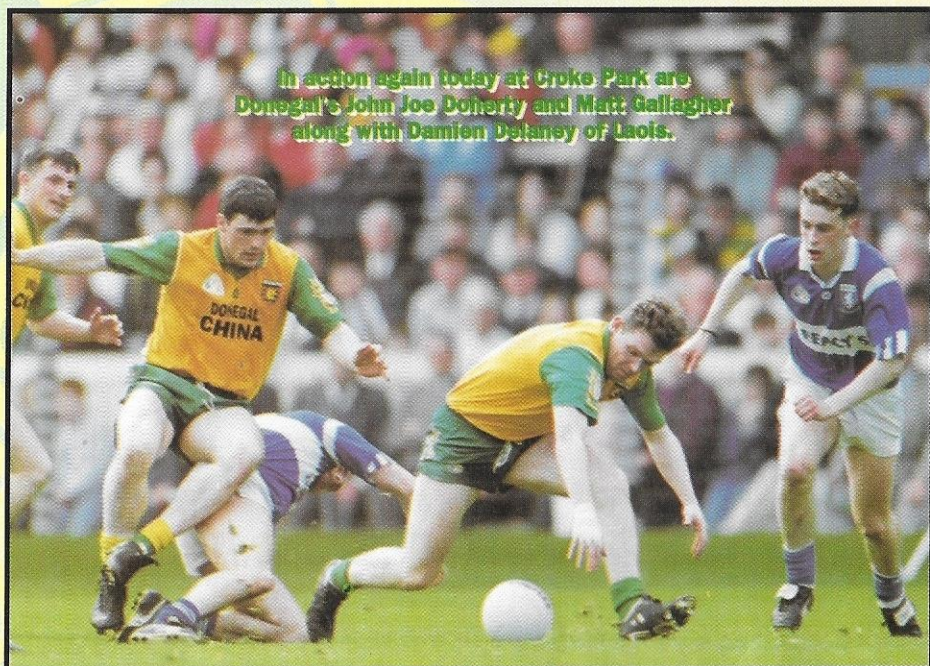
Boyle, Manus Boyle.

Substitutes: D. Reid for Tuohy. E. Gallagher for Maguire.

Later in the year, of course, Donegal won the All-Ireland senior football championship for the only time so far.



Hugh Kenny  
(Cill Mhantáin)



In action again today at Croke Park are Donegal's John Joe Doherty and Matt Gallagher, along with Damien Delaney of Laois.

## Wicklow Supporters No. 1 in Ireland?

**W**hile Wicklow hurlers and particularly their footballers have been hitting the high spots lately it is their recently reformed Supporters' Club which must take the accolade for the brightest idea in a long time.

The Club, now known as "The Garden County G.A.A. Supporters' Club", has forged an unique link with Wicklow County Tourism. A scheme has been devised which has the potential to remove any financial constraints on the preparation of County teams, while providing incredible value for money to the members. In return for their membership fee of £25, members receive a membership card, a car sticker and, most interestingly, a package of

discount vouchers for various tourist-related establishments in Wicklow. The initial pack of vouchers had an estimated value of £100 but the Supporters' Club people are quick to point out they fully realise the difficulty for any one member in using all of the vouchers, which apply to restaurants, hotels and golf clubs spread throughout the county. There will be other benefits for members, says Tim Healy, the P.R.O. for the Supporters' Club. "In April we will begin to distribute a further pack of vouchers for businesses not covered on the initial package. We estimate the value of these to be in the order of a further £100. At the recent league game against Waterford the Supporters' Club bought

admission tickets and handed them out to members on presentation of their membership cards". In the event of an all-ticket game in this year's Leinster Championship, at a venue like Newbridge, with restricted capacity, Healy says it is the Supporters' Club Members who will have priority when it comes to ticket allocation.

The Club has two objectives: to raise money for the county teams in 1996 and to make every paid-up member so happy that getting them to renew next year will not be a problem. The fact that the teams have done so well in recent months is a bonus but the organisers are realistic enough to know that sustained success will take time and, of course, money.

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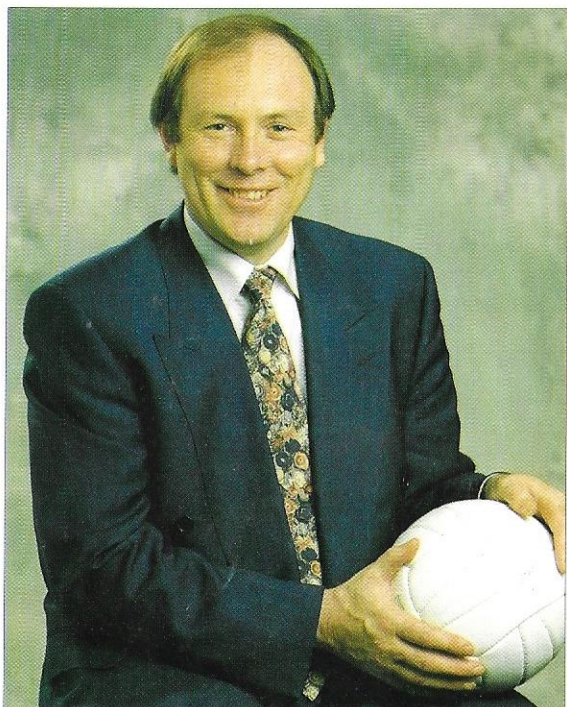
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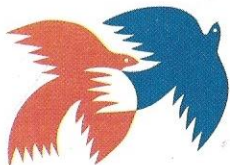
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