

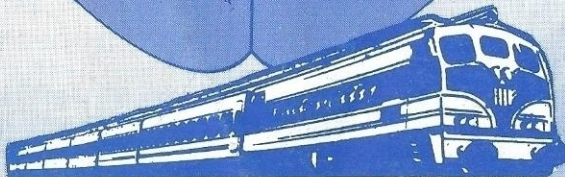
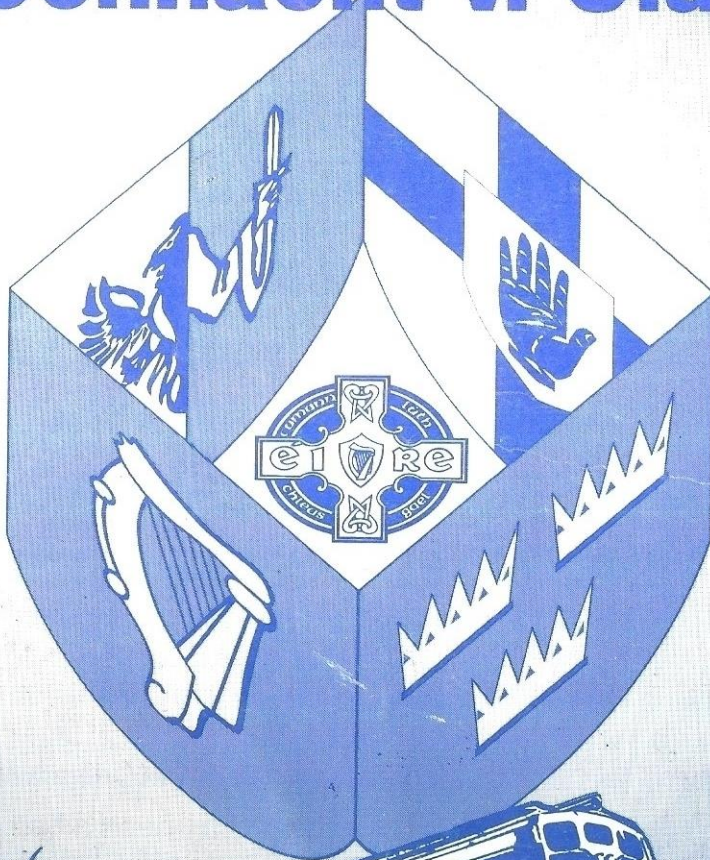
Cumann Lúthchleas Gael

CORN PEILE AN BHOTHAIR IARAINN

Iarnród Éireann Interprovincial Championship
(Railway Cup)

Semi-Final

Connacht v. Ulaidh



*P. Liam Ó
Machúil*

Páirc Seán Mac Cumhaill,
Bealach Féich

3.00 l.n. 24 Márta, 1991

Clár Oifigiúil

Luach 50p

New Sponsorship Announced

Cumann Lúthchleas Gael and Iarnród Éireann are pleased to announce the sponsorship of the G.A.A. Interprovincial Championships by Iarnród Éireann. The series will be called the “Iarnród Éireann Inter-Provincial Championship” (Railway Cup). Elements of the sponsorship include the selection of a “Team of the Series” from the participants from the four provinces in both football and hurling. This will be announced at a banquet on the evening of the finals where the media presentation will take place and a specially designed jersey will be presented to the “Team of the Series”. The Selectors of the teams of the Series are: Football: Mick O’Dwyer, Eugene McGee, Jim McDonnell, John Tobin and Frank Murphy. Hurling: Danny McNaughton, Rev. Fr. Iggy Clarke, Tony Doran, Donie Nealon and Paudge Mulhare. A specially commissioned “Man of the Match” award will be presented in both codes.

There will also be a special prize for patrons at the finals which will have an All-Ireland weekend as a prize. This competition will be based on the selection of a “team of the series” by patrons. The winners will be the teams submitted which relate closest to the ones chosen by the Selectors. Special family rates on Iarnród trains will be on offer to patrons attending the finals and children will be admitted to Croke Park for the games free.

Amhrán na bhFiann



Sinne Fianna Fáil,
Atá faoi gheall ag Éirinn,
Buíon dár slua
Thar toinn do ráining chugann
Faoi mhóid bheith saor,
Sean-tir ár sinsear feasta
Ní fhágfar faoin tiorán ná faoin tráil.
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.

Gradam agus Aitheantas

Táthar ann adeir gur cheart deireadh a chur leis na Comortais idir-chuigí, ar a dtugtar ‘Corn an Bhóthar Iarainn’. Is iad na fáthana a luaitear ná nach bhfuil dátaí ar fáil chucu agus go bhfuil spéis an phobail iontu cailte.

Is díol spéise d’imeoirí iad, go háirthe iad súid sna contaethe ‘laga’ a bhfuil cumas iontu atá inchurtha leis na daoine is fearr sna contaethe a bhíonn de gnáth os comhair an phobail. Is bealach é le ‘Gradaim’ a bhronnadh ar an sár-imreoir nach mbeadh deis aige ariamh bíonn Chúige a ghnóthú gan trácht ar bhonn Uile-Éireann.

In éagmais na gcomortas seo ní bheadh eaolas ar bith faoi scoth imreoirí ar nós Jim Rogers nó Gerry O’Reilly (Cill Mhantáin), Nace O’Dowd (Sligeadh), Packie McGearty (Liatroim), Tom McEvoy (Uíbh Fháilí), Noel Crowley agus Paddy Begley (an Clár) nó ‘Sticky’ Maguire (Fearmanach) sa pheil, agus go leor eile.

Is mar a cheile é san iomáint. Cé go raibh ainm in airde air sa pheil, ní h-eol do mhórán daoine go mbíodh áit ag Gerry O’Malley (Roscomáin) ar fhoireann iomána Chonnachta. An ndéanfar dearmad ariamh ar “Jobber” McGrath (Iarmhí), Paddy Molloy (Uíbh Fháilí) nó Paddy Dunny (Cill Dara) ar fhoirne ionána Laighean?

Os rud é go bhfuil Iarnród Éireann chun urraíocht a dhéanamh ar na comortais seo beidh leanúnachas ann, ceaptar. Is dea-scéal é seo agus tá súil againn go gcúmfar teideal nua dona comortais a bheidh níos tarraingtí ná an sean-cheann.

Agus cad faoi na cluichí inniu? Tamall ó shin ní bheadh tuairim ag mórán daoine go mbeadh foireann iomána den chaighdeán ceart ag Ulaidh. Tá an lá sin thart agus rachaidh sé rite at Connachtaigh, inniu, an lámh in uachtar a fhaíl orthu. Ar ndoigh, ní ró-fhada siar sna blianta nuair a cheap “eolaithe” na hiománaíochta nach mbaifeadh foireann

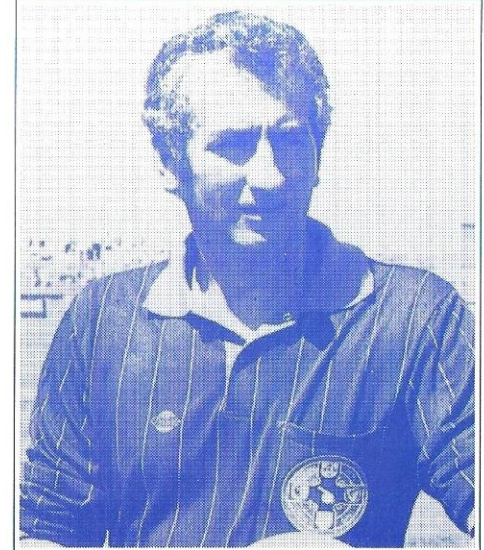
Chonnachta (Gallilimh) craobh de chineál ar bith leo — ach féach anois iad!

I gcás an chluiche eile is deacair a rá; is amhlaidh go bhfuil an oiread sin de rogha ag na Muimhnigh agus ag na Laighnigh go mbraitheann cuid mhaith ar an gcaoi a thiteann imreoirí isteach le chéile. Ach ón uair gur curáí na hÉireann iad Corcaigh agus iar-churaí iad Tiobraid Árann bheifí ag súil go bhfaigheadh an Mhumha an ceann is fearr ar Laighin.

Pé’r bith é is ceart do gach imreoir a bheith lán-dáiríre faoi na comortais seo agus taitneamh a bhaint as an gradam agus as an aitheantas a tugtar dóibh. Ba mhór againn dá mbeadh bealach aimsithe chun go roghnófaí oll-realtaí (All-Stars) na bliana as measc na gceithre foirne a imríonn ar son a gcuigí — chuirfeadh sé le stad an chomortais agus bheadh tuilleadh spéise ag na himreoirí iontu.

Ach leantar leo pé scéal é!

Réiteoir



Tommy Howard (Cill Dara)



● Tony Scullion, Doire

● John Finn, Maigh Eo

● Paul Earley, Ros Comáin

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Céad Míle Fáilte to all Railway Cup players and supporters

Ulster did not win the Railway Cup football title until 1942, but the province has been making up for lost time since then. Four crowns in the 'Eighties boosted the record to 18 championships, just four short of pace-setting Leinster.

The last success in 1989 — the last year the competition was played — was helped along the way by a remarkable scoring feat by Jim McConville, of Armagh. He helped himself to a thundering 4-3 in the semi-final win over Connacht at Mitchelstown. The following day the Armagh man was again on the goals standard as Ulster regained the title after five years by seeing off Munster at Páirc Uí Chaoimh by 1-11 to 1-8.

He hit Ulster's goal after only five minutes. Martin McHugh was another of Ulster's leading performers, scoring four points from frees, and one from play.

The Northern defence also played a big part in the success. Eugene Sherry, Tony Scullion and Martin McQuillan did much to ensure that the division presented a solid and unyielding barrier to the home attack.

Here it is interesting to look back on the Ulster title-winning side:

P. Linden (Monaghan), K. Hamill (Antrim), E. Sherry (Monaghan), T.

Scullion (Derry), M. McQuillan (Armagh), D. Loughman (Monaghan), J. Reilly (Cavan), Capt., M. Girmley (Armagh), P. Donaghy (Tyrone), J. McMullan (Donegal), D. O'Hagan (Tyrone), G. Blaney (Down), M. McHugh (Donegal), E. McKenna (Tyrone), J. McConville (Armagh).

Substitutes: A. Molloy (Donegal) for Donaghy. P. McErlean (Antrim) for McMullan.

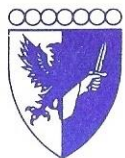
Ulster Footballers making up for lost time

The last Ulster-Connacht semi-final was naturally enough dominated by McConville's scoring tour-de-force. His accuracy did much to prompt the North to a facile 4-8 to 0-7 win.

That was Ulster's second successive semi-final win over Connacht. They beat the West by 3-12 to 1-10 at Ballina in 1987. We have to go back to 1981 for Connacht's last semi-final win at the expense of Ulster — a 2-19 to 2-14 victory at Roscommon. The match went to extra time and the home side included Tony McManus, who has been prominent in Roscommon's march to the current Royal Liver National League quarter-finals. He scored 1-2, the goal from a penalty.

Donegal was not represented in the Ulster side, and the North were then, as now, defending champions.

Ulster's cause must be helped by the fact that they have a home advantage, and they will be desperately keen to advance their hopes of a successful defence of the trophy for the first time since 1984.



Connacht

Dathanna: Bán

(1) Eoghan Ó Maoiléimhín
EUGENE LAVIN
Maigh Eo

(2) Gearóid Ó Wymme
GERRY WYMME
Ros Comáin

(3) Pádraig Ó Doorey
PAT DOOREY
Ros Comáin

(4) Oilibhéar Ó Honeyman
OLIVER HONEYMAN
Liatroim

(5) Seosamh Ó Connachtáin
JOE CONNAUGHTON
Ros Comáin

(6) Déaglán Ó Dorchaí
DECLAN DARCY
Liatroim

(7) Seán Ó Finn
JOHN FINN
Maigh Eo

(8) Brian Ó Maoileáin
BRIAN MOYLAN
Gaillimh

(9) Mícheál Ó Coinn
MICKEY QUINN
Liatroim

(10) Mícheál Mac Muiris
MICHAEL FITZMAURICE
Maigh Eo

(11) Vail Ó Dálaigh
VAL DALY
Gaillimh

(12) Tomás Ó Gréacháin
TOM GREHAN
Ros Comáin

(13) Tomás Ó Mainnín
TOMÁS MANNION
Gaillimh

(14) Pól Ó Mochóir
PAUL EARLEY
Ros Comáin (Capt.)

(15) Fearghal Ó Néill
FERGAL O'NEILL
Gaillimh

FIR IONAID: (16) Pól Mac an Mhíle (**Paul Staunton**) *Ros Comáin*, (17) Seán Ó Fallúin (**John Fallon**) *Gaillimh*, (18) Deasún Ó Nútáin (**Des Newton**) *Ros Comáin*, (19) Tomás Ó Tighearnaigh (**Tomás Tierney**) *Maigh Eo*, (20) Ailéin Ó Maolchallan (**Alan Mulholland**) *Gaillimh*, (21) Séamus Mac Giolla Luairinn (**Seamus Killoran**) *Ros Comáin*, (22) Páid Ó Donnchú (**Pat Donoghue**) *Liatroim*, (23) Uinseann Ó Leannáin (**Vincent Glennon**) *Ros Comáin*, (24) Seán Ó Nútáin (**John Newton**) *Ros Comáin*.

ROGHNOIRÍ: Martin McDermott, Team Manager.

CONNACHT	Cúil	Cúillíní	Seacháí	45m	Saor Chiceanna
1adh Leath					
2adh Leath					
Iomlán					



Ulaidh

Dathanna: Buí is Dubh

(1) Gearóid Breathnach
GARY WALSH
Dún na nGall

(2) Seán S. Ó Dochartaigh
JOHN JOE DOHERTY
Dún na nGall

(3) Conchúir Ó Duígin
CONOR DEEGAN
An Dún

(4) Antóin Ó Scolláin
TONY SCULLION
Doire

(5) Dónall Ó Riada
DONAL REID
Dún na nGall

(6) Deaglan Ó Lochnain
DECLAN LOUGHMAN
Muineachán

(7) Máirtín MacCoilín
MARTIN McQUILLAN
Árd Mhacha

(8) Marc Ó Garmaile
MARK GRIMLEY
Árd Mhacha

(9) Pluinced Ó Donnchadha
PLUNKETT DONAGHY
Tír Eoghain

(10) Niall Mac Gabhainn
NIALL SMITH
Árd Mhacha

(11) Déaglan Ó Cnaimhsí
DECLAN BONNAR
Dún na nGall

(12) **DUINE**
EILE

(13) Séamus MacArtáin
JAMES McCARTAN
An Dún

(14) Brian MacGiollagáin
BRIAN MCGILLIGAN
Doire

(15) Seamus MacConmhaoil
JIM McCONVILLE
Árd Mhacha

FIR IONAID: (16) Damian MacOscair (**Damian McCusker**) *Doire*, (17) Máirtín Ó Seibhleáin (**Martin Shovelin**) *Dún na nGall*, (18) Eanna MacGiolla Pádraig (**Enda Kilpatrick**) *Tír Eoghain*, (19) Máirtín Ó Gaibheacháin (**Martin Gavigan**) *Dún na nGall*, (20) Daithí Ó Broin (**David Byrne**) *Muineachán*, (21) Ronán Ó Cearulláin (**Ronan Carolan**) *An Cabhán*, (22) Adrian MacCoise (**Adrian Cush**) *Tír Eoghain*, (23) Ciaran MacUirc (**Ciaran McGurk**) *Árd Mhacha*, (24) Brian Ó Muiri (**Brian Murray**) *Dún na nGall*.

ULAI DH	Cúil	Cúillíní	Seacháí	45m	Saor Chiceanna
1adh Leath					
2adh Leath					
Iomlán					

Anthony McGinley

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The Double Glory Boys

Des Foley blazed an impressive new trail in Railway Cup history in 1962 when he became the first dual player to win interprovincial medals on the same day.

Foley was at midfield for Leinster hurlers in their bid to end Munster's hopes of a sixth title in succession. He produced a power-packed display of centre field hurling at its best. Four separate Munster hurlers "marked" him during the hour, but he was unbeatable. His performance had a big influence in earning Leinster a famous win.

Following that five-star show, Foley lined out in the football decider, again at midfield, and once more contributed richly to an Eastern win. He is still the only player to win two Railway Cup medals on the same day.

Michael Keating, well-known these days as one of Tipperary's back-room team in senior hurling, helped Munster to their hurling title wins of 1968 and 1970, and was in the football team that brought the cup South in 1972.

Ray Cummins (Cork) was a team-mate of Keating's in the 1970 hurling final win, and two years later, he, too, helped to end Munster's long barren spell in football.

Pat Dunny, who has been Chairman of the Kildare County Board in recent times, had a memorable week-end in March 1974. He went in as a substitute during the football final win over Connacht, and was on for the entire game against Munster at left full back in hurling. He had a winning show that day as well to collect a second Railway Cup medal on successive days.

The hurling medal boosted Dunny's total in the code to three, and he collected another in hurling in 1975.

Mick Holden was centre half forward in the Leinster team that beat Connacht for the 1979 hurling title. He helped Dublin to their last All-Ireland senior football final win in 1983, and in 1985 joined the elite of Railway Cup interprovincial players by holding down the right full back spot in the football team that brought Leinster "in out of the cold" with a first final win in eleven years.

Connacht bid for a first win in five years

The interprovincial senior football title is proving a most elusive jackpot for Connacht. No since 1969 has the West won the title, and the last semi-final triumph was just over five years ago.

That was at Tralee in February 1986, and was a case of a "good beginning being half the battle" for Connacht. Against a Munster team that included six Kerry players and three from Cork in the actual line-up, the visitors had so much the better of the exchanges in the first half that they led at the break by 2-4 to 0-1.

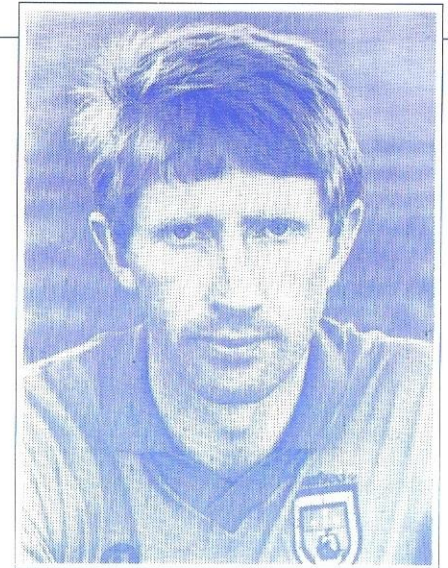
Connacht had the benefit of a strong wind in that half, but played so well that they were well on the road to the final. So it proved at the end of a low scoring second period that finished with the Westerners ahead by 2-6 to 0-7.

A strong Connacht attack provided the platform in the first half for the winning show. Jimmy Burke (Mayo), Pdraig Kelly (Galway), who were the goal scorers, and Mickey Martin (Leitrim) led the way up front in an impressive fashion.

The defence, with Val Daly (Galway), Harry Keegan (Roscommon) and one-time Donegal ace Martin Carney (Mayo) to the fore, gave little away under strong second half pressure.

Connacht had a home venue, Ballinasloe, for the final, but found a capable Leinster side a little too good for them, losing out by three points.

Incidentally, Pdraig Brogan (Mayo), who has joined Donegal, went in as a substitute for Connacht against Munster, and was also called up from the substitutes bench during the final.



Connacht's goalkeeper today,
Eugene Lavin (Maigh Eo).

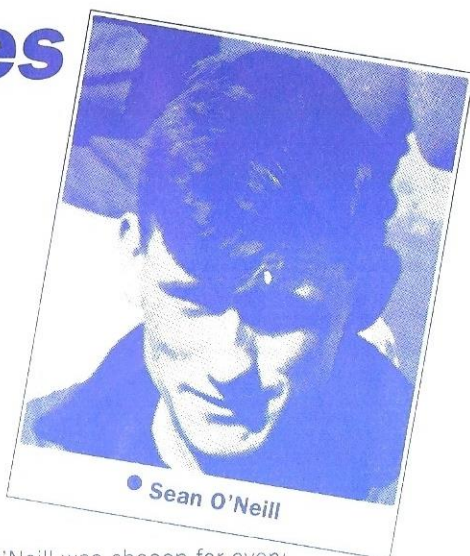
Since then there has been very little to cheer about for Connacht in the series, but that is still unlikely to prevent the latest company of interprovincials from making a strong bid to boost Western standards with a win.

The last semi-final defeat in 1989 by Ulster at Mitchelstown — 4-8 to 0-7 — was particularly disappointing. All the more so, as the Western outfit included such accomplished campaigners as Tomás Tierney (Galway), T.J. Kilgallon (Mayo), Michael Fitzmaurice (Mayo), John Newton (Roscommon) and Tony McManus, also of Roscommon. Fitzmaurice was top scorer with three points.

Roscommon provided a worth-while boost for the Western crew when they comfortably saw off their Northern counter-parts, Donegal, in a Royal Liver National League Division I game at Dr. Hyde Park earlier this month. Whether or not they can build on that only time will show, but the Connacht men are most unlikely to fail for want of all out effort and skill.

Personalities of the Football Series

The record-maker of Railway Cup football is Sean O'Neill, of Down, who is the only man to win eight interprovincial medals in the code. He collected his medals in 1960, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1968, 1970 and 1971.



O'Neill was chosen for every single Ulster team from the 1960 semi-final up to and including the 1974 semi-final, which the North lost. He was then included among the substitutes for the 1975 semi-final, but later went into that match to help Ulster to victory over Connacht, and he retained his place for the final.

In all O'Neill made 26 appearances for Ulster, including that limited outing in the 1975 semi-final — an amazing record! The Down ace scored 9-26 (53 points) for the North.

In 1979 when Ulster regained the Railway Cup after an interval of eight years, Sean O'Neill was again to the fore. He was selector and team trainer.

Frank Sheehy, of Kerry, recorded the first score in a Railway Cup football final. He landed a point for Munster in their 1927 win over Connacht.

Leinster chalked up the first-ever sequence of four Railway Cup final wins in succession from 1952 and 1955 inclusive, and Stephen White, of Louth, proved a splendid all-rounder in the success story.

One of the only two footballers to play in all eight games in the run — Ollie Freaney (Dublin) was the other — he sparkled for the East as a back, a midfielder and a forward.

Top scorer for Leinster in that run was Kevin Heffernan (Dublin) with 5-25 (40 points) from seven games.

Another great all rounder in Railway Cup football was Sean Purcell, one of the all-time greats from Galway. He had a thirteen year span in the Connacht colours from 1949 to 1961 inclusive, and during that time he expertly ranged over such diverse placings as right half forward, centre half forward, full forward, midfield and full back.

Purcell won Railway Cup medals in 1951 at midfield, and in 1957 and 1958 at centre half forward.

Kevin Armstrong, a dual player with Antrim and Ulster in the 'Forties, brought the Railway Cup football trophy across the Border for the first time after leading Ulster to their 1947 final win. He won his third medal in that game, having been on duty in attack in the team that took the title to the North for the first time in 1942. Armstrong helped to retain the Cup the following year.

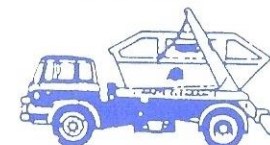
Paul Russell (Kerry), who was in the 1927 Railway Cup winning team from Munster, was chosen by both the South and Leinster for the 1928 competition. He played with Leinster following a Central Council ruling.

Russell, a Dublin representative for Leinster, swung the final his team's way with three long range points in the closing minutes to ensure a one-point win, although he was playing at half-back. Thus, he won a medal in the first final with Munster, and helped Leinster to their first title ... a remarkable record-making double.

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Railway Cup Roll of Honour

HURLING

37: Munster: 1928, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1934, 1935, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1940, 1942, 1943, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1948, 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1955, 1957, 1958, 1959, 1960, 1961, 1963, 1966, 1968, 1969, 1970, 1976, 1978, 1981, 1984, 1985.

19: Leinster: 1927, 1932, 1933, 1936, 1941, 1954, 1956, 1962, 1964, 1965, 1967, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1977, 1979, 1988.

7: Connacht: 1947, 1980, 1982, 1983, 1986, 1987, 1989.



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FOOTBALL

22: Leinster: 1928, 1929, 1930, 1932, 1933, 1935, 1939, 1940, 1944, 1945, 1952, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1959, 1961, 1962, 1974, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988.

18: Ulster: 1942, 1943, 1947, 1950, 1956, 1960, 1963, 1964, 1965, 1966, 1968, 1970, 1971, 1979, 1980, 1983, 1984, 1989.

13: Munster: 1927, 1931, 1941, 1946, 1948, 1949, 1972, 1975, 1976, 1977, 1978, 1981, 1982.

9: Connacht: 1934, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1951, 1957, 1958, 1967, 1969.

1: Combined Universities: 1973.

Note: No Competitions were played in 1990.



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