

Allianz Football League

ÁTH CLIATH



CORCAIGH

Division I Final

Allianz Football League

DÚN NA nGALL



LAOIS

Division II Final

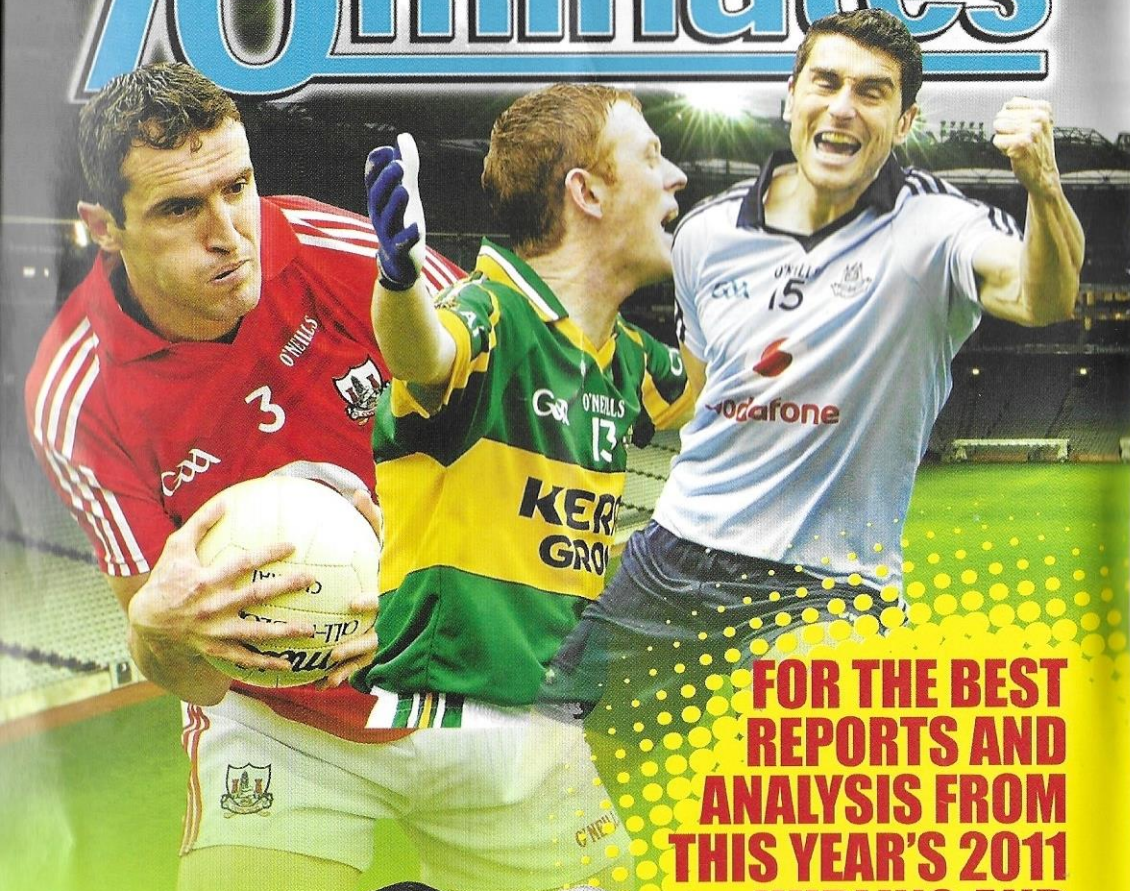
Páirc an Chrócaigh, Aibreán 24 2011

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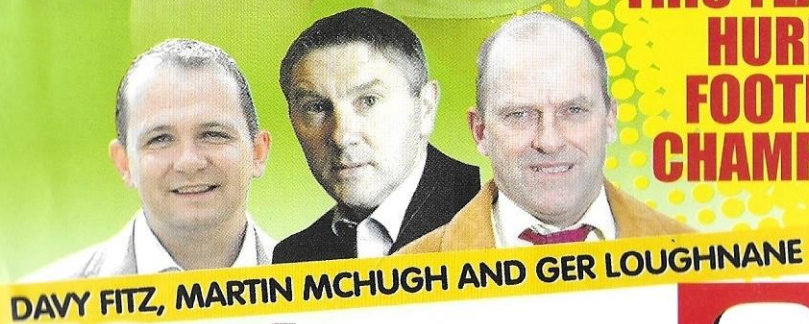
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ARD STIÚRTHÓIR

70minutes



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DAVY FITZ, MARTIN MCHUGH AND GER LOUGHNANE

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STAR**

Allianz Football League Division II Final



DÚN NA nGALL

V

LAOIS

2.00 PM



REFEREE: Marty Duffy (Sligeach)

LINESMEN: David Coldrick (An Mhí) (STANDBY REFEREE), Brian O'Shea (Áth Cliath)

SIDELINE OFFICIAL: Conor Lane (Corcaigh)

IN THE EVENT OF A DRAW, EXTRA TIME WILL BE PLAYED

Allianz Football League Division I Final



ÁTH CLIATH

V

CORCAIGH

4.00 PM



REFEREE: Joe McQuillan (An Cabhán)

LINESMEN: Maurice Deegan (Laois) (STANDBY REFEREE), Robert O'Donnell (Dún na nGall)

SIDELINE OFFICIAL: Shaun McLaughan (Dún na nGall)

IN THE EVENT OF A DRAW, EXTRA TIME WILL BE PLAYED

Amhrán na bhFiann

Sinne Fianna Fáil,
Atá faoi gheall ag Éirinn,
Buíon dár sua
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 gean ar Ghaeil chun
báis nó saoil

Le gunna scréach faoi
lámhach na bpiléar,
Seo libh canaig amhrán
na bhFiann.

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Dearadh

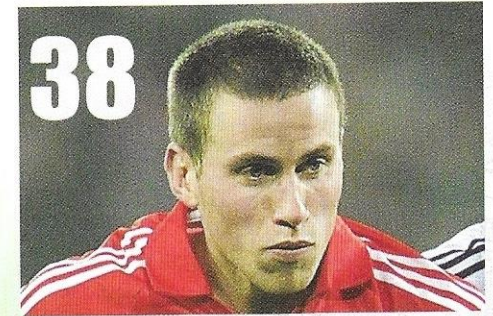
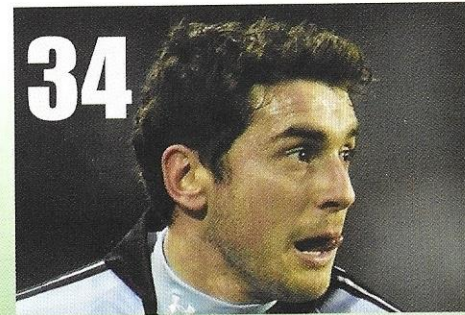
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wood printcraft

Fótagrafaíocht





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Clár an Lae

12.45 Artane Band

1.38 **Dún na nGall** amach ar an bpáirc

1.40 **Laois** amach ar an bpáirc

1.45 Oifígh an chluiche amach ar an bpáirc

1.50 Toss

2.00 Tús an chluiche

2.37* Leath-am

2.39* GAA Go Games Exhibition Games

2.52* Tús an dara leath

3.30* Críoch an chluiche

3.32* Presentation of trophy to the winning captain by Uachtarán Chumann Lúthchleas Gael

3.36 Flag bearers and guard of honour

3.39 **Áth Cliath** amach ar an bpáirc

3.41 **Corcaigh** amach ar an bpáirc

3.45 Oifígh an chluiche amach ar an bpáirc

3.53 Toss

3.55 Parade

3.58 Amhrán na bhFiann - Artane Band

4.00 Tús an chluiche

Clár an Lae

4.37* Leath-am

4.38* Set up for Aslan commences

4.38* GAA Go Games Exhibition Games

4.41* Aslan commence their act

4.49* Aslan act ends

4.52* Tús an dara leath

5.30* Críoch an chluiche

5.32* Presentation of trophy to the winning captain by Uachtarán Chumann Lúthchleas Gael

* depending on 'added time'

Aslan

Aslan are one of Irish music's most enduring names, a group who have spent nearly 30 years as a genuine people's band. Formed in the mid-80s, they made an instant impression when their debut album went to number one – following it with their classic single 'Crazy World'. Since the turn of the century, they have toured the world and released a string of platinum selling albums. A new album is due in 2012. Join them online at www.aslan.ie

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Teachtaireacht An Uachtaráin

Is cúis mhór áthais dom fíor fáilte a chur romhaibh go Páirc an Chrócaigh inniu le haghaidh cluichí cheannais na sraitheanna Allianz tar éis feachtais den scoth.

This year's League competitions rank alongside the best in recent memory and today's two final pairings give us every reason to be hopeful that the competitions will continue in that upbeat vein as we gear up for the final hurdles in Divisions 1 and 2.

Looking at the top flight in isolation, last year's Championship form guide proved to be a good barometer in relation to the pecking order for the early stages of 2011 and is it any real surprise that we are contemplating another Dublin v Cork meeting in late April?

The two counties have already served up a memorable spectacle in this competition and in this context today's meeting between a free scoring and unbeaten Dublin team and the reigning All-Ireland champions is hugely enticing.

Donegal and Laois arrive in Croke Park today with aspirations of their own as they continue to impress under the guidance of their respective new managers Jim McGuinness and Justin McNulty.

The interest in the fare and fortunes of both counties will no doubt be evidenced in the support they receive today and it would be no surprise if these counties make full use of these early season Croke Park appearances as a motivation for protracted summer campaigns.

I would like to acknowledge the efforts undertaken to promote and raise the profile of the Allianz Leagues this year.

Dublin's Spring Series with the co-operation of opposing counties was hugely successful and a template for seasons to come. It should also make other counties think about opportunities available to them in their ongoing efforts to promote the leagues.

The ongoing increase in the popularity of our Season Tickets and the Communications and Marketing Campaign that accompanied key fixtures during the spring further added to the allure of the competition.

I acknowledge the ongoing support of Allianz and Brendan Murphy in particular as part of what is one of Irish sport's longest running sponsorship arrangements and we look forward to this continued support.

I wish every one involved here today an entertaining afternoon at Páirc an Chrócaigh and I look forward to two excellent spectacles.

Ar aghaidh len ár gcluichí,

Cristóir Ó Cuana

Cristóir Ó Cuana
Uachtarán
Cumann Lúthchleas Gael



Message From The Sponsor

On behalf of Allianz I would like to welcome you all to Croke Park today for the much anticipated Allianz Football League finals.

The 2011 Allianz Football League has been one of the most exciting and competitive in recent years. Going into the final round of matches two weeks ago, 22 of 24 counties in Divisions 1, 2 and 3 were either bidding for a place in the finals or trying to avoid relegation. All the drama we've come to expect from top flight GAA action came to the fore this year and we're delighted to be a part of that.

There have been so many highlights not least of which has been the introduction of the Spring Series of fixtures here in the magnificent stadium at Croke Park and credit must go to all those involved for making that such a resounding success.

As the 2011 campaign comes to a close, Allianz looks forward to next year when we mark our 20th season as partners of the GAA and title sponsors of the Allianz Leagues.

Before all that, of course, we have some finals up for decision and we wish the counties' managers, players and supporters all the very best.

Enjoy the action,

Brendan Murphy,
CEO Allianz Ireland



HANDS UP WHO WANTS Príomh Tickets?

For just €75, become a Príomh Ticket Exchange member and make it easier to get your hands on Premium Level tickets. Enjoy all the action and excitement of the game from the best seats in the stadium.

See www.crokepark.ie/príomh



Bua Stairiúil Nua-Eabhrac

le Márta Ó Ciardha

Is tráthúil an rud é go bhfuil peileadóirí mionúir Nua-Eabhrac ag imirt ar Pháirc an Chrócaigh an deireadh seachtaine seo mar anseo beagán os cionn 60 bliain ó shin bhuaigh foireann as an gcathair sin an tSraith Náisiúnta Peile don chéad uair ariamh nuair a fuair siad an lámh in uachtar ar an gCábhán sa chluiche ceannais 2-8 in aghaidh 0-12.

Ba é sin an chéad uair ag Nua-Eabhrac a bheith páirteach sa tSraithchomórta Náisiúnta Peile. Bhíodar san tomaíocht arís an bhliain dar gcionn agus arís ar feadh formhór na seascadaí, tráth ar bhuaigh siad cluiche ceannais na Sraithe Náisiúnta i 1964 agus i 1967. I gcluiche ceannais '64 bhuaigh siad ar Bhaile Átha Cliath 2-12, 1-13 agus comóradh á dhéanamh ar lubhaile Órga Bhord Nua-Eabhrac. Trí bliana dar gcionn bhuaigh siad ar Ghaillimh 7-8, 1-16 i gcluiche ceannais ina raibh dhá bhabhta. Ba i Nua-Eabhrac a himríodh na cluichí ceannais sin ar fad.

Ach ba é bua 1950 i bPáirc an Chrócaigh an ceann ba stairiúla, cluiche a himríodh i lár an tsamhraidh, ar an 30ú Iúil. Bhain foireann Nua-Eabhrac Aerfort na Sionna amach 10 lá roimhe sin agus sular thugadar aghaidh ar Bhaile Átha Cliath, d'imir siad cluiche dúshláine in aghaidh Chiarraí ar Pháirc an Ghearltaigh i gCill Áirne. Ar na peileadóirí ba aitheanta a bhí acu bhí Bill Carlos, a bhí ar fhoirne Ros Comáin a bhuaigh Corn Mhic Guidhir i 1943

agus i 1944 agus 'Big' Pat McAndrew as Maigh Eo. Bhí an bheirt acu siúd gaibhte ar imirce tar éis dóibh gaiscí a dhéanamh lena gcontaethe dúchais, mar a bhí 'Gega' O' Connor a bhuaigh trí bhonn uile Éireann le Ciarraí, ach nach raibh ar a chumas siúd taisteal go hÉirinn.

Measadh go mbeadh an bua ag an gCábhán gan stró agus go gcuirfeadh an fhoireann iontach seo Sraithchomórta eile leis na Craobhacha a bhí buaite acu i 1947 agus '48. Ní raibh a fhios go raibh Nua-Eabhrac chomh tapa, oillte agus a bhí agus nuair a tháinig an lá mór, bhain McAndrew lánúsáide as a airde, 6' 4" i lár na páirce agus bhí líne leath-thosach na n-imirceach, an captaen Micí Ó Súilleabháin, Jack Hughes agus Frank Quinn cumasach – an Súilleabhánach (a rugadh agus a tógadh i Nua-Eabhrac) agus Quinn a d'aimsigh na cúil. Laistigh dóibh bhí Paddy Holley thar a bheith cruinn agus bhuaigh Nua-Eabhrac 2-8 in aghaidh 0-12.

Nua-Eabhrac: P. O'Reilly (Baile Átha Cliath), J. Quinn (Ros Comáin), T. Gallagher (Fear Manach), D. Connors (Corcaigh); J. Redigan (Uíbh Fhailí), B. Carlos (Ros Comáin), E. Kenny (Ceatharlach); P. McAndrew (Maigh Eo), P. Ryan (Gaillimh); M. O' Sullivan (Nua-Eabhrac), J. Hughes (Nua-Eabhrac), F. Quinn (Gaillimh); P. Holley (Ciarraí), S. Keane (Ciarraí), J. Corcoran (Ceatharlach). Ionadaithe: E. Lyons (Ciarraí), J. Geelan (Nua-Eabhrac).

tráthúil

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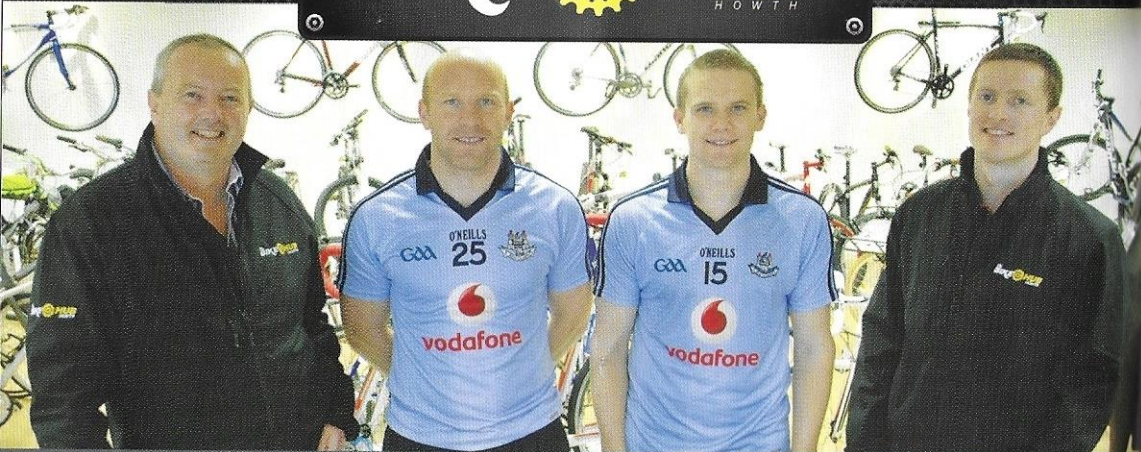
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(from l to r): Harry Norton (Na Fianna/Naomh Mearnóg), Shane Ryan, Tomás Quinn and Paul Norton (Naomh Mearnóg)

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Dermot Earley Memorial



A committee has been formed to include members of Gorthaganny Community Development Company and members of the local community to organise a fitting tribute to the late Dermot Earley.

Feelystone, Boyle have been engaged to design and erect a life-size monument of Dermot representing his football career. The monument will be erected adjacent to his family home in Gorthaganny.

A prominent dignitary has been invited to unveil the memorial monument on Saturday, August 27 2011 at 11.30 am.

A fundraising plan has been launched and GAA Clubs throughout the country, in Britain and the US will be contacted to be associated with the memorial.

A meeting has taken place between the committee and Roscommon County Board and Roscommon County Council.

A Bank Account has been set up to receive funding and donations.

Bank of Ireland, Ballyhaunis, Co. Mayo.

Account Name: Gorthaganny Community Development Company Limited

Sort Code: 90 37 28

Account Number: 81888952

BIC: BOFI IE2D,

IBAN: IE87 BOFI 9037 2881 8889 52

The following can be contacted for further information or to make a contribution:

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Ann Walshe (087 6528647)

Email: abwalshe@gmail.com

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Email: bernieg@midwestradio.ie

Mary Nolan (086 3125364)

Email: mnolan@dillon-leetch.ie

CHAIRMAN: Seamus Crawley (087 8048853)

Email: scrawley@sonas.ie

Further details available at:

www.gorthaganny.net



Five League Finals to Remember

By Denis Hurley

Denis Hurley delves into the archives and recalls five of the most memorable finals in the history of the Football League.

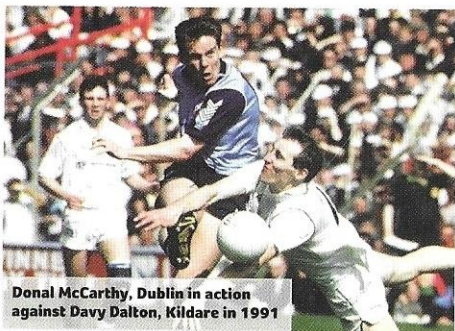
MAYO 5-9 MEATH 0-6 May 14, 1939

This was the final league win of Mayo's amazing six titles in a row between 1933-'34 and '38-'39, a period in which the Westerners played 41 matches in the competition, winning 37, drawing two and losing two, though just one All-Ireland was claimed in the same timeframe.

While a close match had been anticipated as Meath sought to avenge their defeat at the same stage in 1937, shouted on by a large home crowd in Ballina, Mayo got off to a great start, captain Paddy Moclair finding the net early on.

Despite that boost for the hosts, the opening 20 minutes were a close affair and frees from Tony Donnelly helped Meath back into contention at 1-1 to 0-3 before Moclair's second goal. By half-time, Mayo's lead had extended to 2-4 to 0-4, the midfield partnership of Colm O'Toole and Henry Kenny (father of the current Taoiseach) helping them find supremacy.

Another goal followed from Paddy Munnally early in the second half and only for Hughie McEnroe in the Meath goal, Mayo would have been well out of sight long before the end.



Donal McCarthy, Dublin in action against Davy Dalton, Kildare in 1991

As it was, late green flags courtesy of George Ormsby – direct from a '50' – and Jackie Carney put further gloss on the scoreline, but Mayo did not get a chance to win seven in a row as they refused to take part in the 1939-'40 competition due to grievances over the events of the 1939 All-Ireland semi-final replay against Kerry.

DOWN 0-12 CAVAN 0-9 May 8, 1960

While the League champions have not always gone on to claim Sam Maguire the following September – it has happened 20 of 78 times – from 1958-'60 this was the case, the only occurrence of it happening three times in a row.

Of course, none of the 49,451 present at Croke Park for this first all-Ulster final (a record attendance at the time for a League final in either code) would have known that this win for Down over their Ulster rivals would lead to them going on to become one of the game's dominant forces in the 1960s.

At the same time few would have expected Cavan to still be waiting for a Senior All-Ireland title but that was what panned out, so this game could be seen as a turning point in the game's history.

The game itself was far from a classic – there were 54 frees awarded over the 60 minutes – but the Mourne Men did enough to claim victory. In captain Kevin Mussen they had an inspired leader, with Seán O'Neill and sub Kieran Denvir very impressive. In contrast, Cavan free-taker Jim McDonnell was not his usual reliable self from frees but still contributed a lot.

Afterwards, jubilant Down supporters chaired their heroes from the field. It would not be the last time that it would happen in Croke Park that year.

ROSCOMMON 0-15 CORK 1-3 May 13, 1979

While Down's 1960 victory led to greater things for the county, unfortunately for Roscommon, the win of 1979 did not prove to be a similar springboard, coming closest to an All-Ireland in 1980 only to lose to Kerry.

That should not diminish the achievement of steamrolling Cork here, though, when midfielder Dermot Earley put in an immaculate performance at midfield, scoring seven points.

He was not the only hero, though, as Roscommon were on top throughout the pitch, wing-back Danny Murray and centre-forward John O'Gara prominent as Cork were limited to just two points in the first half.

A Jimmy Barry-Murphy goal gave Cork brief hope but further chances of green flags were wasted and despite the loss of the influential Tony Heneghan to injury, Roscommon took the honours.

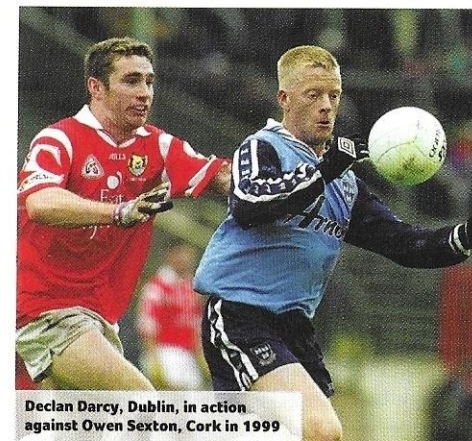
DUBLIN 1-9 KILDARE 0-10 May 5, 1991

As surprising as it may seem, Dublin have won just one league title since this victory over a Kildare side in its first year under the stewardship of Mick O'Dwyer. In front of a Croke Park crowd of just under 45,000, Dublin looked like easy winners for long stages, Paddy Cullen's side leading by four points at half-time, Vinny Murphy with a sixth-minute goal.

Two fine John O'Leary saves – from Jarlath Gilroy after 17 minutes and Johnny McDonald nine minutes later – ensured that the Dubs were in a good position at the interval, but as the second half progressed the Lilywhites came back into the game more and more.

At midfield there was a fine battle between Dublin's Dave Foran and Paul Clarke and their opponents' pairing of Martin Lynch and Seán McGovern, but while Kildare were doing well, the Dublin half-back line of Tommy Carr, Keith Barr and Eamonn Heary were commanding in the face of strong pressure.

Dublin suffered a blow when Barr was sent off 13 minutes from time for a second booking, but Jack Sheedy could have had a decisive goal for them only to tip a Charlie Redmond delivery over the bar.



Declan Darcy, Dublin, in action against Owen Sexton, Cork in 1999

Instead, Kildare pressed and reduced the lead to one, but ultimately they could not reel the Dubs in fully.

CORK 0-12 DUBLIN 1-7 May 9, 1999

This was the third time that today's protagonists met in the final after the deciders of 1952 and '89, and the Rebels made it three out of three against the Dubs in front of a small crowd at Páirc Uí Chaoimh.

With the Cork defence in miserly form, they limited the visitors to just two points from play, Owen Sexton putting in a commanding performance at centre-back while Joe Kavanagh orchestrated the forward division from number 11 and captain Philip Clifford gave Shane Ryan plenty of bother. To emphasise just how solid Cork were in defence, Dublin were held scoreless from the ninth minute until the 25th, and again from minutes 33 to 46, and even when the rearguard was breached, the Dublin forwards were then frustrated by the heroics of goalkeeper Kevin O'Dwyer. At half-time Cork led by 0-5 to 0-3, a lead which would have been even more commanding but for two Declan Darcy frees.

Cork had a good start to the second half, extending their lead to 0-10 to 0-4 and things got worse for Dublin when sub Jason Sherlock was shown a red card. A late Darren Homan goal for Dublin did cut the Rebels' lead to 0-12 to 1-7 but Cork were not going to be denied.

A Fitting Finale to the Allianz Leagues

Today's finals in Croke Park bring the curtain down on what has been one of the most competitive campaigns in the history of the Allianz Football Leagues.

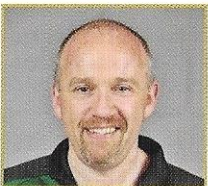
It has been remarked upon a number of times in recent years how the Allianz Football League has tended to start with a bang and end with a whimper, but today's double-header at Croke Park should quickly dispel such talk. The meeting of the reigning All-Ireland champions and the game's biggest crowd-pullers ensures that the 2011 competition enjoys a fitting finale.

This afternoon's curtain-raiser will also grab the attention as Donegal and Laois meet just a fortnight after their final-round clash at O'Moore Park, where a sublime performance by MJ Tierney (1-10) helped the hosts clinch their final berth with a four-point winning margin. However, the visitors were all but assured of their final place before that meeting and may well reverse that result.

Can Cork do likewise against Dublin after their 0-16 to 3-13 loss in Round 2? Perhaps, but Dublin were just one of two unbeaten teams in this year's group stages (Roscommon were the other) with their ability to plunder goals a major factor in that run. Betting against the holders of both major titles seems foolish, but the suspicion is that the Metropolitans may just edge it.



Today's Referees



MARTY DUFFY (SLIGEACH)

Marty helped to usher in the GAA 125 celebrations as referee of the Tyrone-Dublin Allianz Football League tie at Croke Park in January of 2009. That was the start of a great year for the Enniscrone/Kilglass clubman. He went on to referee the Allianz Football League final between Kerry and Derry and joined the ranks of All-Ireland Senior final referees when he controlled the Kerry-Cork summit. Duffy, who received the Vodafone Referee of the Year award for 2009, added another All-Ireland final to his record last season - the Cadbury GAA U21 summit between Dublin and Donegal. This year, Marty has taken charge of the Dublin-Kerry Allianz Football League clash at Croke Park, and was also on duty when Kildare played Meath in Division II last month.



JOE MCQUILLAN (AN CABHÁN)

Joe is in his sixth season on the inter-county panel. He was on duty in Croke Park last year when he refereed the All-Ireland quarter-final between Kerry and Down and the GAA All-Ireland Qualifier Round 3 match between Dublin and Armagh. The Kill Shamrocks clubman has refereed Senior Championship games in all four provinces and his impressive CV also includes All-Ireland final engagements. He was the man-in-the-middle at the Cadbury GAA All-Ireland U21 final in 2006 and the AIB GAA Senior Club Championship decider two years later. Joe was also in charge of the Allianz Football League opener between Dublin and Armagh on February 5.

Pundits' Predictions

SEÁN MCGOLDRICK, SUNDAY WORLD



Dublin v Cork: Dublin's need to win a national title is far more pressing than Cork's. Provided Dublin keep their discipline and don't present Daniel Goulding with simple chances from frees as they did in last year's All-Ireland semi-final they will prevail.

VERDICT: DUBLIN.

Donegal v Laois: This will be an interesting tactical battle between two of the country's newest bosses, Jim McGuinness and Justin McNulty. Perhaps Michael Murphy will shade the shoot-out against Michael John Tierney. **VERDICT: DONEGAL.**

GORDON MANNING, THE IRISH SUN



Dublin v Cork: Just like Cork did last year, Dublin see League success as a route to Championship glory. Cork will not want to lose to Dublin again. But Dublin are the form team and winning it will mean more to them than Cork. **VERDICT: DUBLIN**

Laois v Donegal: Injury problems could hamper Donegal's chances but the Ulster men will have revenge on their minds after losing to Laois in the last round of group games. **VERDICT: DONEGAL**

CONOR MCKEON, EVENING HERALD



Dublin v Cork: Dublin's return to densely populated defence could frustrate Cork and if their inside snipers fire and -vitaly- they get close to break even in midfield, Gilroy's men should prevail.

VERDICT: DUBLIN

Laois v Donegal: Donegal must vanquish memories of their last visit here while MJ Tierney has been perhaps Ireland's best forward this spring. Laois mustn't fall into the trap of over-reliance. **VERDICT: LAOIS**

CIAN MURPHY, GAA CORRESPONDENT



Dublin v Cork: Just as Cork used the 2010 League title as an important step on the path to their Sam Maguire glory, Dublin must look on a first Allianz League crown since 1993 in the same sort of psychological vein. Whatever happens, they cannot afford a collapse like Mayo suffered

here last year. **VERDICT: DUBLIN**

Laois v Donegal: Jim McGuinness kept the Donegal players back for a talking to after their recent loss in Portlaoise and with their Championship match with Antrim looming up on May 15 they'll feel under pressure to go into that on the back of a win here. **VERDICT: DONEGAL**

MICHAEL FOLEY, SUNDAY TIMES



Cork v Dublin: A satisfying League campaign for both teams. Dublin carry the greater momentum into the final, but Cork are building steadily towards Championship pace. It's a day to lay down a marker. **VERDICT: CORK**

Donegal v Laois: Donegal might have seen too many promising League campaigns followed by poor Championships to invest too much stock in today. Laois, though, haven't won a national Senior title since 1986. **VERDICT: LAOIS**

KEITH DUGGAN, THE IRISH TIMES



Dublin v Cork: Dublin's high-octane performances and the significance of winning a national title should edge it here. Cork have made it to the final playing well within themselves. This is an opportunity for Dublin to atone for last summer's late slip-up against Cork.

VERDICT: DUBLIN

Donegal v Laois: Donegal appear blighted with injury ahead of this game. They ought to have learned more than Laois from their recent League game and their senior players have the experience of winning the Division 1 title in 2007. A tight game in prospect. **VERDICT: DONEGAL**

Up Close and Personal With...Michael Murphy

Ever wondered what your favourite GAA star listens to on their iPod? Ever wondered what the country's top GAA players get up to in their spare time? We get Up Close and Personal with Donegal star and 2009 Young Footballer of the Year Michael Murphy.

What's on your iPod?

Mumford and Sons and a bit of Snow Patrol.

What would you change about your game?

I'd like to work more on my left foot. In the modern-day game you need to have two feet.

What would you like to change about the game in general?

I'd block out swarm defences.

What are your hobbies and interests?

I like reading, watching TV and playing the Xbox.

What's your favourite TV programme?

I'm watching the Sopranos box set at the moment.

Who's your sporting idol?

Ronan O'Gara or Dan Carter.

When I was younger I wanted to be...?

A professional soccer player, but I'm afraid that was never going to happen.

What's your earliest GAA memory?

Watching replay upon replay of Donegal's 1992 All-Ireland win.

What's your favourite venue?

Croke Park.

Which county other than Donegal has the best supporters?

You couldn't look any further than the Dubs.

Which player would you buy if there was a transfer market?

It would be between two: Colm Cooper or Bernard Brogan.

Who is the most difficult opponent you have ever encountered?

The next one.

Who is your all-time favourite GAA player?

Maurice Fitzgerald (Kerry).

Who is the best player you have ever seen?

Peter Canavan (Tyrone).

The biggest influence on your career?

Parents.

Who do you share with on away days?

Karl Lacey. He snores an awful lot.

Who is your most confident team-mate?

Karl Lacey.

Who has the worst haircut on the panel?

It's between Neil Gallagher and Colm McFadden.

Who is the worst trainer in the panel?

Conor Classon never likes training.

Who is the biggest joker?

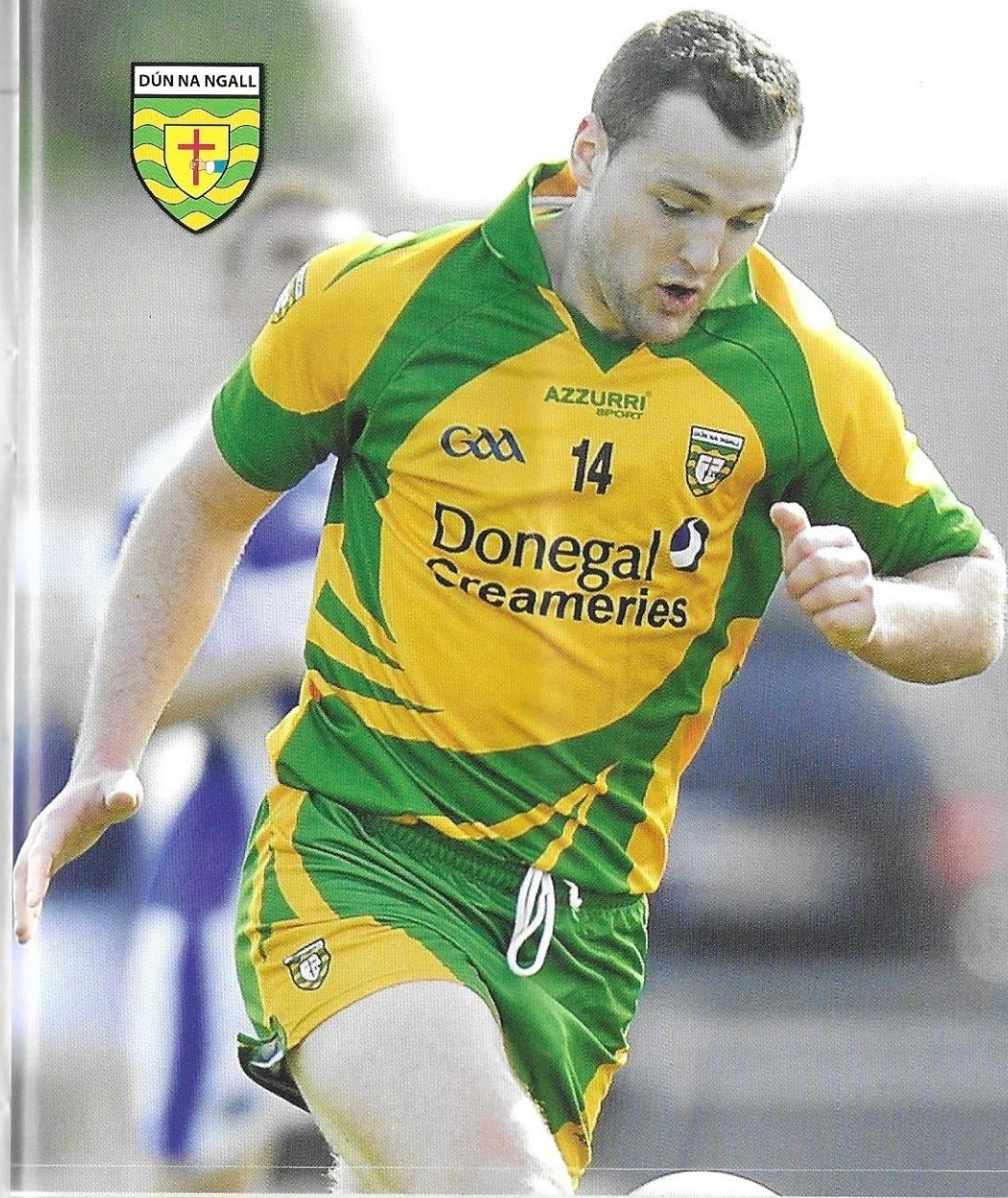
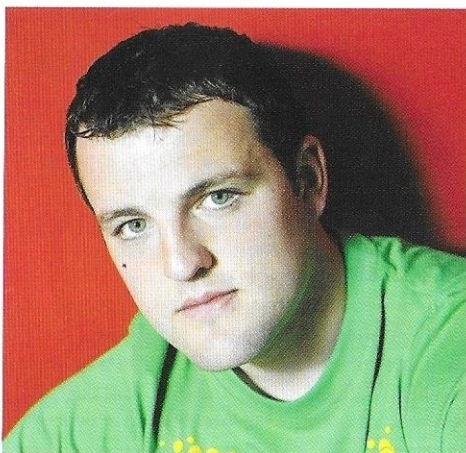
Colm McFadden and Conor Classon.

Who fancies themselves as a ladies man?

Neil Gallagher.

Name one Donegal player to watch out for?

I'll give you three. Dermot Molloy, Martin McHugh and Paddy McGrath.



Michael

MURPHY

FACTFILE

NAME: Michael Murphy

AGE: 21

HEIGHT: 6' 2"

POSITION: Full forward

PLACE OF BIRTH: Letterkenny

INTER-COUNTY DEBUT: 2007 McKenna Cup v UUJ

OCCUPATION: Student (P.E. and Biology at DCU)



GIVE RESPECT GET RESPECT

Our games. Our choice.

RESPECT

- Responsible
- Encouraging
- Supportive
- Positive
- Enabling
- Considerate
- Tolerant

The GAA Respect Initiative seeks to ensure that Gaelic Games are promoted and played in a positive, fair and enjoyable manner where players, coaches, spectators and referees Give Respect – Get Respect from each other.

Give Respect – Get Respect applies to all in the GAA regardless of age, competition or ability.











An Captaen – Michael Murphy

Glenswilly man Murphy, at just 21 years of age, was appointed as Donegal Senior captain by manager Jim McGuinness at the start of the season. An underage star with Donegal, he made his inter-county debut in the McKenna Cup in 2007. Murphy captained Donegal to a Cadbury GAA Ulster U21 title last year, before his side were beaten by Dublin in the All-Ireland final. He was the Young Footballer of the Year in 2009.



Back (L-R): Anthony Thompson, Kevin Mulhern, Rory Kavanagh, Leo McLoone, Neil McGee, Kevin Cassidy, Karl Lacey, Martin McElhinney.
Front Row (L-R): Michael Murphy, Dermot Molloy, Paddy Mc Grath, Colm McFadden, Michael McHugh, Ryan Bradley, Peter Boyle.

Division Two Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts	Diff
 Donegal	7	4	2	1	111	87	10	+24
 Laois	7	5	0	2	116	93	10	+23
 Derry	7	5	0	2	108	110	10	-2
 Tyrone	7	4	1	2	104	89	9	+15
 Kildare	7	4	1	2	93	89	9	+4
 Meath	7	1	1	5	98	109	3	-11
 Sligo	7	1	1	5	101	111	3	-10
 Antrim	7	1	0	6	87	130	2	-43

Paths to the final

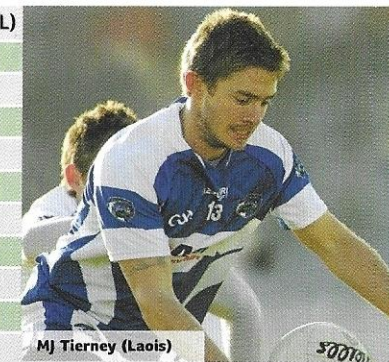
Round 1	Donegal	2-11	1-14	Sligo
Round 2	Donegal	1-10	0-6	Tyrone
Round 3	Donegal	0-8	1-5	Kildare
Round 4	Donegal	0-15	0-9	Meath
Round 5	Donegal	2-18	2-12	Derry
Round 6	Donegal	1-17	1-8	Antrim
Round 7	Laois	1-15	1-11	Donegal
Played 7, Won 4, Drew 2, Lost 1, Scored 7-90 (111), Conceded 6-69 (87)				

DONEGAL

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total
M Murphy	1-2	0-3	0-4	0-6	1-7	0-3	0-2	2-27
C McFadden	0-3	0-4	0-2	0-3	1-3	1-5	0-3	2-23
D Molloy	0-2	1-2	----	0-1	0-5	0-2	1-1	2-13
R Kavanagh	0-1	----	0-1	0-2	0-1	0-1	0-2	0-8
R Bradley	----	----	----	0-3	----	0-1	----	0-4
L McLoone	0-2	0-1	----	----	----	----	----	0-3
M Hegarty	----	----	0-1	----	----	0-2	----	0-3
M McElhinney	----	----	----	----	0-1	----	0-2	0-3
N McGee	1-0	----	----	----	----	----	----	1-0
K Lacey	----	----	----	----	0-1	0-1	----	0-2
K Cassidy	----	----	----	----	----	0-2	----	0-2
S Griffin	0-1	----	----	----	----	----	----	0-1
A Thompson	----	----	----	----	----	----	0-1	0-1

Division Two Top Scorers

PLAYER	SCORE (TOTAL)
 MJ Tierney (Laois)	2-39 (45)
 Paddy Cunningham (Antrim)	0-38
 Michael Murphy (Donegal)	2-27 (33)
 Adrian Marren (Sligo)	2-27 (33)
 Paddy Bradley (Derry)	1-28 (31)
 Martin Penrose (Tyrone)	1-27 (30)
 Colm McFadden (Donegal)	2-23 (29)
 Johnny Doyle (Kildare)	1-23 (26)
 Conleth Gilligan (Derry)	0-25
 Seán Cavanagh (Tyrone)	2-18 (24)



MJ Tierney (Laois)

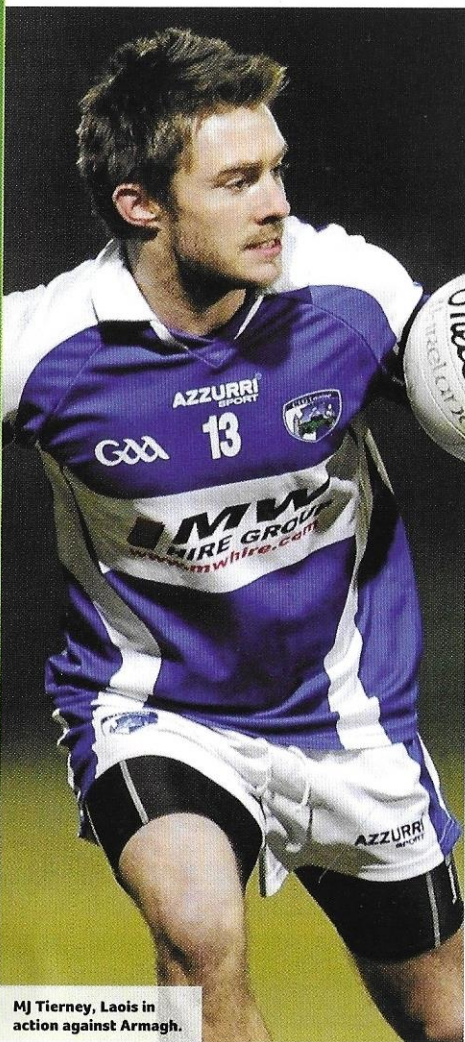
Round 1	Laois	1-14	1-11	Meath
Round 2	Laois	1-12	0-10	Antrim
Round 3	Laois	1-21	1-7	Derry
Round 4	Kildare	1-13	1-11	Laois
Round 5	Tyrone	1-12	0-11	Laois
Round 6	Laois	1-14	2-8	Sligo
Round 7	Laois	1-15	1-11	Donegal
Played 7, Won 5, Lost 2, Scored 6-98 (116), Conceded 7-72 (93)				

LAOIS

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total
MJ Tierney	0-9	1-2	0-5	0-3	0-5	0-5	1-10	2-39
R Munnely	0-1	0-1	0-4	0-5	0-2	0-1	----	0-14
D Strong	----	0-3	0-3	0-2	0-1	0-2	0-1	0-12
J O'Loughlin	1-1	0-1	----	0-1	----	0-2	0-1	1-6
C Begley	----	----	0-1	1-0	0-1	0-2	0-1	1-5
N Donohoe	0-1	0-2	0-1	----	----	0-1	----	0-5
B Quigley	0-1	0-1	----	----	----	1-0	----	1-2
B Sheehan	0-1	----	0-2	----	0-1	----	----	0-4
P Cahillane	----	0-1	1-0	----	----	----	----	1-1
D Carroll	----	----	0-3	----	----	----	----	0-3
G Kavanagh	----	0-1	----	----	----	0-1	----	0-2
S Julian	----	----	0-1	----	----	----	----	0-1
C Boyle	----	----	0-1	----	----	----	----	0-1
K Meaney	----	----	----	----	0-1	----	----	0-1
M Timmons	----	----	----	----	----	----	0-1	0-1
P O'Leary	----	----	----	----	----	----	0-1	0-1

Shooting Star Burning Brightly Again

One of the stars of Laois' most celebrated underage teams, MJ Tierney is in the form of his life and back enjoying his football.



MJ Tierney, Laois in action against Armagh.

Often, one of the unwanted consequences of being an underage prodigy is the burden of pressure that stalks the rest of your career.

Laois has sent forth more talented footballers than a pond might tadpoles over the last 15 years.

Ever since 1996, when the county won a breakthrough All-Ireland Minor title and added a second a year later for good measure, the expectation in the O'Moore County was that success at Senior level would follow as naturally as night follows day.

The stars appeared to be aligned when a first Leinster GAA Senior Championship title in 47 years arrived in 2003, and a trophy-laden future seemed assured when a second wave of underage talent supplemented an already golden crop, yielding a third All-Ireland Minor title the same year.

Despite reaching Leinster finals in four of the next five years, there has been little more in the way of a tangible return at Senior level. Best laid plans and all that.

One of that gilded generation, MJ Tierney, the star turn of the 2003 All-Ireland winning Minor team, has been at the heart of the recent revival of Laois' fortunes, which sees the O'Moore County go in search of a first national title at Senior level since 1986 when they take on Donegal in Croke Park today.

Tierney reflects on that celebrated Minor team and points out that only four of that side were involved in the 1-15 to 1-11 defeat of Donegal two weeks ago, a win that guaranteed their passage to today's final.

"It was expected – and I know myself from being on that panel that I expected it – that those 15 players would turn up at Senior level two or three years later and stay winning," he says.

"When you look at Cork, Dublin and any of the teams that I would have been playing in Leinster and All-Ireland finals against on the way up, a lot of the players playing in the games against me didn't make it through to Senior level.

"People were expecting a lot of us and I suppose that we presumed that because success came so easy to us at underage level that it was going to come at Senior level but I have learned that lesson harshly that it doesn't work that way. I suppose I have just enjoyed getting back to enjoying football and we are lucky to be in the position we are in."

Tierney, now aged 25, has blossomed under new manager Justin McNulty. Under the Armagh native, Tierney and his Laois team-mates have rediscovered the elemental joy that first drew them to the game. The focus has switched from results to performances and success has followed, he says.

"We have started enjoying playing football. That is the big thing really," the Ballyroan native says. "We got caught up in years gone by on having to win games, and obviously winning is important and that is the ultimate goal at the end of it, but you start playing football to enjoy it.

"I know myself, personally, I had lost the enjoyment and was caught up in how our results were going. People were caught up in how our results were going and it was affecting how I was playing.

"I am presuming it was affecting how I was playing as well. It made us look at why we are here, why we are playing. We play the game because we love it and lucky enough, because we are enjoying it, results have started to come our way."

Perhaps the most obvious manifestation of Tierney's renaissance in a Laois jersey was when he kicked 1-10 of Laois' total in the dress rehearsal for today's game against Donegal two weeks ago. It was a tour de force performance that grabbed all the headlines the next morning.

"The story tells itself to a certain degree," says

Tierney. "I would have been a lot happier to have had 10 scores from open play. A lot of people were patting me on the back, but I know myself that I am not happy with how I performed from play myself.

"I could have done a lot better on the day. I take the frees. If it wasn't me taking them someone else would have taken them and could very easily have kicked 10 points as well.

"I am enjoying it and that is one thing I will agree on. It's great to be able to take the frees for Laois and to be able to put up scores like that, but as I said before I could turn around in the League final and not kick one score. It's the way the luck of football goes. Donegal, I can guarantee it, won't be letting me score too easily in the League final."

Despite his relative youth, Tierney is blessed with a natural maturity and a capacity for self-reflection.

He relocated to Dublin last year, where he works with Topaz, and plays his Club football with Parnells, alongside inter-county team-mate Colm Begley. He makes the trip home to Laois for training twice a week and divides his time between his family home in Ballyroan and the capital.

As well as the demands of playing top-level football, Tierney is a proud new father after the birth of his first child at Christmas. He carries the burden lightly, though, and exudes the air of a man who is more than happy with his lot on the football pitch and on the home front.

Tierney's partner, Nicola, is Scottish and he jokes that she may not have realised what she signed up for when they first met.

"It was tough on her having to get used to going to a stadium that seated 82,500 and I wasn't getting paid for it. She's a Glasgow Celtic girl and she is well used to football and well used to sport, but she didn't really understand everything to do with the GAA and she was wondering why I was gone five nights a week!"



Peig's

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PORTLAOISE

Best wishes to the Laois team from George, Liz and staff



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An Captaen - Colm Begley

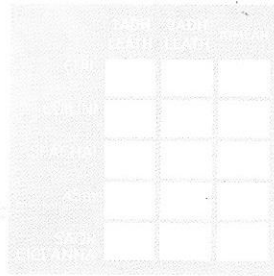
Colm was a member of the Laois Minor team that won the All-Ireland title in 2003. The Stradbally man was recruited by AFL side Brisbane in 2005 and played 27 games with the Lions before moving on to St. Kilda in 2009. After an injury-ravaged season he decided to call time on his AFL career to return to his native Laois and concentrate on Gaelic football. The 24-year-old captains the O'Moore County in their first League final appearance since 2003.

Front (L-R): Kevin Meaney, Niall Donoher, Mj Tierney, Pádraig McMahon, Robbie Kehoe, Darren Strong, Shane Julian
Back (L-R): Mark Timmons, Colm Begley, John O'Loughlin, Eoin Culliton, Brendan Quigley, Conor Boyle, Billy Sheehan, Colm Munnally



DÚN NA nGALL

DATHANNA: GLAS IS ÓR



1. PAUL DURKAN

P. Ó Dúrcáin

Na Ceithre Máistirí

2. PADDY McGRATH

P. Mac Craith

Ard an Ratha

3. NEIL McGEE

N. Mac Aoidh

Gaoth Dobhair

4. KARL LACEY

K. de Lasa

Na Ceithre Máistirí

5. ANTHONY THOMPSON

A. Mac Thomáis

Naomh Conaill

6. FRANK McGLYNN

P. Mac Fhloinn

Gleann Fhinne

7. KEVIN CASSIDY

C. Ó Casaide

Gaoth Dobhair

8. RORY KAVANAGH

R. Ó Caomhánach

Naomh Adhamhnain

9. MARTIN McELHINNEY

M. Mac Giolla Chaining

Naomh Micheál

10. MICHAEL HEGARTY

M. Ó hÉigearthaigh

Cill Chartha

11. MARK McHUGH

M. Mac Aodha

Cill Chartha

12. DERMOT MOLLOY

D. Ó Ludhóg

Naomh Conaill

13. RYAN BRADLEY

R. Ó Brollcháin

Buncranaigh

14. MICHAEL MURPHY

M. Ó Murchú (Capt.)

Gleann Súilí

15. COLM McFADDEN

C. Mac Fháidín

Naomh Micheál

Fir Ionaid

16. MICHAEL BOYLE

M. Ó Baoill

An Tearmann

19. NEIL GALLAGHER

N. Ó Gallchóir

Gleann Súilí

22. KEVIN RAFFERTY

C. Ó Raifeartaigh

Naomh Adhamhnain

25. KEVIN MULHERN

C. Ó Maolchiaráin

Cloich Cheann Fhaola

17. PAUL McGINLEY

P. Mac Fhionghaile

Na Cealla Beaga

20. MARTY BOYLE

M. Ó Baoill

Naomh Conaill

23. ADRIAN HANLON

A. Ó hAnluain

An Clochán Liath

26. DANIEL McLAUGHLIN

D. Ó Lochlainn

Naomh Micheál

18. STEPHEN GRIFFIN

S. Ó Gríofa

Naomh Náille

21. DAVID WALSH

D. Breathnach

Naomh Bríd

24. JASON NOCTOR

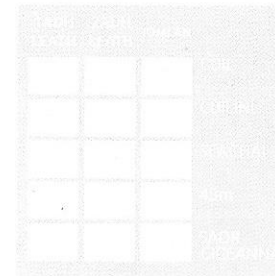
J. Ó Conchúir

Na Cealla Beaga

LAOIS



DATHANNA: GORM IS BÁN



1. EOIN CULLITON

E. Mac Collatáin

Tigh Mochua

2. DENIS BOOTH

D. Ó Buaidh

An Fraoch Mór

3. KEVIN MEANEY

C. Ó Maonaigh

Ard Lios Cilchrúis

4. MARK TIMMONS

M. Ó Tiomáin

Graig Chuillinn

5. DARREN STRONG

D. Strong

Ioma

6. SHANE JULIAN

S. Gilleán

Ard Lios Cillín

7. PETER O'LEARY

P. Ó Laoire

Na Diomasaigh

8. PÁDRAIG CLANCY

P. Mac Lannchaidh

Tigh Mochua

9. BRENDAN QUIGLEY

B. Ó Coigligh

Fingallions

10. COLM BEGLEY

C. Ó Beaglaoidh (Capt.)

Parnells

11. JOHN O'LOUGHLIN

S. Ó Lochlainn

Mointeach Milic

12. NIALL DONOHER

N. Ó Danachair

Coill na Cúirte

13. ROSS MUNNELLY

R. Ó Maonaile

Ard Lios Cilchrúis

14. BILLY SHEEHAN

L. Ó Siocháin

Ioma

15. MICHAEL JOHN TIERNEY

M. S. Tiarnaigh

Parnells

Fir Ionaid

16. MICHAEL NOLAN

M. Ó Nualláin

Portlaoise

19. DONAL BRENNAN

D. Ó Braonáin

Ard Lios Cillín

22. CATHAL ÓG GREENE

C. Óg hUaine

Páirc Ráithín an Uisce

25. PAUL BEGLEY

P. Ó Beaglaoidh

Sraidbhalle

17. PAUL CAHILLANE

P. Ó Cathaláin

Portlaoise

20. MICHEÁL FINLAY

M. Ó Fionnalaigh

Na Diomasaigh

23. KIERÁN LILLIS

C. Laignléis

Portlaoise

26. ROBERT KEHOE

R. Mac Eochaidh

Na Diomasaigh

18. DONAL KINGSTON

D. Mac Clochaire

Ard Lios Chillín

21. GARY KAVANAGH

G. Caomhánach

Sraidbhalle

24. CAHIR HEALY

C. Ó hÉilí

Portlaoise

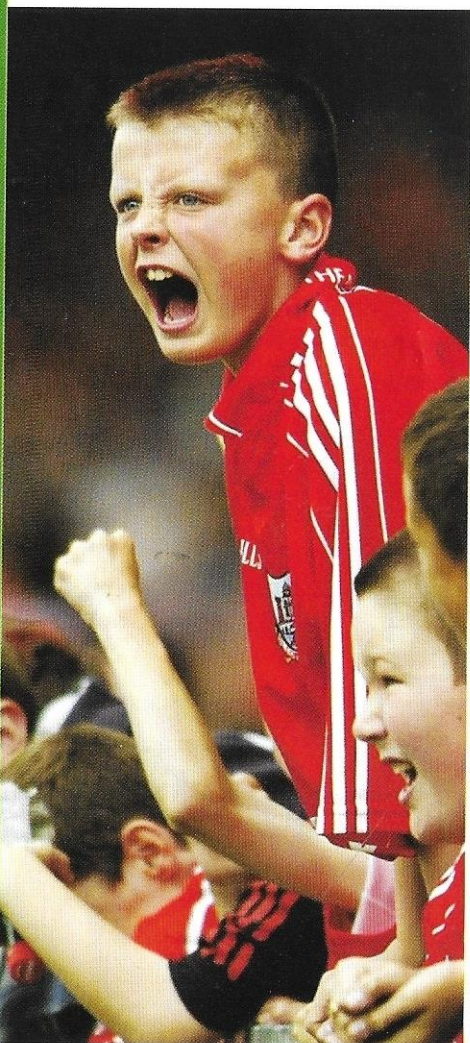
ROGHNÓIRÍ: Jim McGuinness (Bainisteoir), Marcas Ó Curráin, Ruairt Ó Gallachóir, Aodh Ó Fearraigh.

ROGHNÓIRÍ: Justin McNulty (Bainisteoir), Paul Clancy, Donal Norton, Barry Solan.

Tours of Duty with a Band of Brothers

By Keith Duggan
The Irish Times

The Irish Times' Keith Duggan pays tribute to the most hardened and dedicated of all GAA supporters - the League fan.



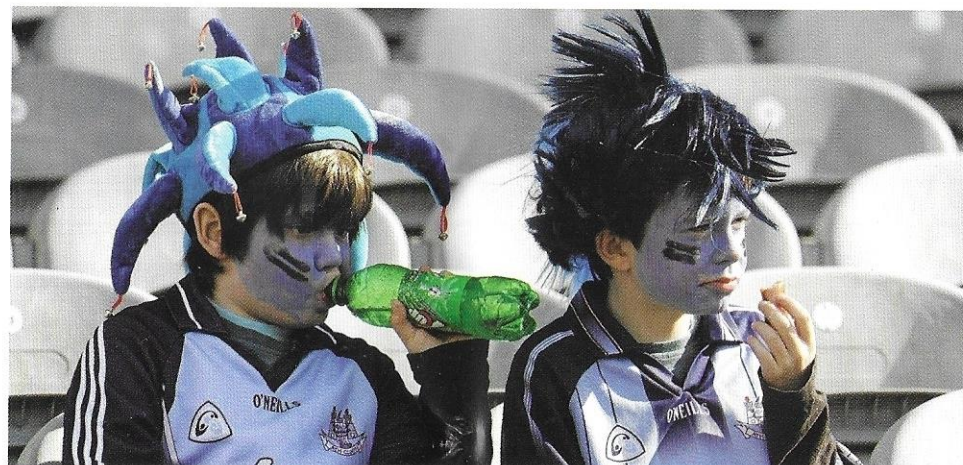
Those of you that are reading this belong to the most heroic of all GAA categories: the League fans. Cork and Dublin have contributed richly to Gaelic Games since its earliest days but it is hardly any secret that neither county commands the most enthusiastic winter support. You would never mistake the Cork or Dublin away support for the festival crowd at Glastonbury.

Therefore, you, the small band of brothers who follow your teams around the country are probably the most loyal in Ireland. The chances are that you have made several or all of the trips to the remoter parts of Ireland to follow Cork and Dublin through this and many other league seasons. You are metropolitans who share a conviction that your own particular metropolis shines like no other and you might be right about this. You rarely feel the need to take leave of your city but if your football team is operating elsewhere, you are going to be there. With bells on.

You, the winter fans, are the lifers of the Association and you have discovered the rarefied pleasure of following your teams through the stormy and unfashionable months of the League. You know the truth: that the Championship, for all its glory and glamour, is for dilettantes.

To walk up the Jones's Road or to Páirc Uí Chaoimh on a fine June Sunday is all fine and dandy but those salad days of summer, with iced drinks and guests in glad rags watching the sport from behind darkened windows, require no real effort. To make it from Glasnevin or Bantry for a 2.30pm start in Inniskeen or Castlebar: that takes planning.

League fans take their business seriously. You like to leave early and often have a cartographer's knowledge of the back roads and short cuts to the destination. Nobody knows the country as well as



GAA League fans and no group of people are better equipped to explain the changes that the last ten years of prosperity have brought. You can point at the Michelin star gastro pub on the main street of a midlands town and reminisce about the magnificence of the mixed grill that was served there in earlier days. You know which petrol stations still have pump attendants, which town has the best newsagents and where the bad bends on the road are.

You will know which mountain range is interfering with the radio reception from Montrose and you won't mind anyway because half of the pleasure of driving on a Sunday morning is in the silence of it. When you get to the match town, you will leave the car on a side street and stretch your legs with a stroll through the main street, strangers in a strange land. League fans dress for all kinds of weather, often all at once. You tend to be umbrella fetishists, carrying all manner of size and colour in the boot of your cars.

League weather is notoriously changeable and its followers know that. Often, you will appear at the ground looking like Chris Bonnington in the old Bovril adverts in anticipation of driving winds and hail storms but by half time, you will stand in short sleeves enjoying the sudden and unannounced appearance of spring sunshine.

And if the rewards of a League match are more subtle than the all-consuming satisfaction of a Championship win, they can be just as deep. It is on League days that you might get your first glimpse of a once-in-a-generation wonder - a Canty or a

Brogan. It is on League days that some of the epic names of the game - Cooper or McGuigan or Joyce - might do something unbelievable on the field, gifting the crowd with some sleight of hand or foot that would look indulgent in the Championship.

In the League, you can happily attend a match while eating lunch, reading the paper and listening to several other games on the radio. At the League, you can hear the managers shouting instructions. If you want, you can stand outside the dressing room door afterwards so your kid can have a few moments with the stars.

You see the players wearing jerseys so crumpled that it looks as if Conor Counihan or Pat Gilroy just pulled them down from the clothesline before dashing off for the match. At League games, you sometimes see the corner back that you believed would never slow up realising that he doesn't have it anymore.

After most League games, you will hightail it for home but once in a blue moon you will stop into a pub and find yourself received like exotics and you will say to hell with Monday and you will book into a B&B and you will have a great evening. Funny thing is that you will remember it for years after big Championship days are forgotten.

You have followed your team through the League and you know exactly how they got here, to the final, today. And the perfect thing about a League final is that while a win may mark the beginning of something special, a loss does not mean the end of anything at all.



ÁTH CLIATH

DATHANNA: GORM IS DUBHGORM

	TADH LEATH	2ADH LEATH	IOMLÁN
CÚIL			
CÚILÍNÍ			
SEACHAÍ			
45m			
SAOR CICEANNA			

1. STEPHEN CLUXTON

S. Cluxton
Parnelis

2. MICHAEL FITZSIMONS

M. Mac Síomóin
Cuala

3. PAUL BROGAN

P. Ó Brógáin
St Oliver Plunketts/Eoghan Ruadh

4. PHILIP McMAHON

P. Mac Mathúna
Ballymun Kickhams

5. BARRY CAHILL

B. Ó Cathail
St Brigid's

6. GER BRENNAN

G. Ó Braonáin
St Vincent's

7. KEVIN NOLAN

C. Ó Nualláin
Kilmacud Crokes

8. DENIS BASTICK

D. Bastic
Templeogue Synge Street

9. MICHAEL DARA MACAULEY

M. Mac Fháilí
Ballyboden/St Enda's

10. BRYAN CULLEN

B. Ó Cuilinn (Capt.)
Skerries Harps

11. KEVIN McMANAMON

C. Mac Meanman
St Jude's

12. PAUL FLYNN

P. Mac Floinn
Fingallians

13. BERNARD BROGAN

B. Ó Brógáin
St Oliver Plunketts/Eoghan Ruadh

14. DIARMUID CONNOLLY

D. Ó Conghaile
St Vincent's

15. TOMÁS QUINN

T. Ó Coinn
St Vincent's

Fir Ionaid

16. MICHAEL SAVAGE

M. Saobhaois
St Vincent's

19. SEÁN MURRAY

S. Ó Muirí
St Brigid's

22. COLM MURPHY

C. Ó Murchú
St Jude's

25. PADDY ANDREWS

P. Mac Aindriú
St Brigid's

17. DARREN DALY

D. Ó Dálaigh
Fingal Ravens

20. PAUL GRIFFIN

P. Ó Griofa
Kilmacud Crokes

23. PAT BURKE

P. de Búrca
Kilmacud Crokes

26. PAUL CASEY

P. Ó Cathasaigh
Lucan Sarsfields

18. NICKY DEVEREUX

N. Deabhús
Ballinteer St Johns

21. DARA NELSON

D. Mac Neighill
Ballyboden/St Enda's

24. DECLAN LALLY

D. Ó Maolalaidh
St Brigid's

ROGHNÓIRÍ: Pat Gilroy (Bainisteoir), Paddy O'Donoghue, Mickey Whelan, Dr. David Hickey.

TADH LEATH	2ADH LEATH	IOMLÁN	
			CÚIL
			CÚILÍNÍ
			SEACHAÍ
			45m
			SAOR CICEANNA

CORCAIGH

DATHANNA: DEARG IS BÁN



1. KEN O'HALLORAN

C. Ó hAllmhuráin
Bishopstown

2. RAY CAREY

R. Ó Ciara
Clyda Rovers

3. MICHAEL SHIELDS

M. Ó Siall (Capt.)
St Finbarr's

4. JAMIE O'SULLIVAN

S. Ó Súilleabháin
Bishopstown

5. NOEL O'LEARY

N. Ó Laoire
Cill na Martra

6. JOHN MISKELLA

S. Mac Scaláí
Ballincollig

7. PAUDIE KISSANE

P. Ó Ciosáin
Clyda Rovers

8. ALAN O'CONNOR

A. Ó Conchubhair
St Colm's

9. NICHOLAS MURPHY

N. Ó Murchú
Carrigaline

10. PEARSE O'NEILL

P. Ó Néill
Aghada

11. PATRICK KELLY

P. Ó Ceallaigh
Ballincollig

12. FINTAN GOOLD

F. de Gúl
Macroom

13. DANIEL GOULDING

D. Ó Góilín
Éire Óg

14. DONNCHA O'CONNOR

D. Ó Conchubhair
Ballydesmond

15. CIARÁN SHEEHAN

C. Ó Siócháin
Éire Óg

Fir Ionaid

16. ALAN QUIRKE

A. Ó Cuirc
Valley Rovers

19. CONOR O'DRISCOLL

C. Ó Drisceoil
Ilen Rovers

22. DAVID GOOLD

D. de Gúl
Macroom

25. PAUL O'FLYNN

P. Ó Floinn
Ballyclough

17. PAUL KERRIGAN

P. Ó Ciarragáin
Nemo Rangers

20. DENIS O'SULLIVAN

D. Ó Súilleabháin
Ballinascarthy

23. KEVIN O'DRISCOLL

C. Ó Drisceoil
Tadhg Mac Carthaigh

26. SEÁN KIELY

S. Ó Caodhla
Macroom

18. EOIN COTTER

E. Mc Coitir
Douglas

21. FIACHRA LYNCH

F. Ó Loingsigh
Valley Rovers

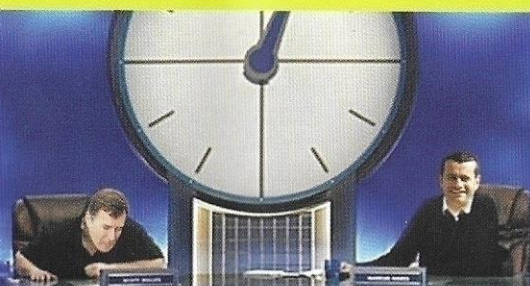
24. JAMES FITZPATRICK

S. Mac Giolla Phádraig
Carbery Rangers

ROGHNÓIRÍ: Conor Counihan (Bainisteoir), Ger O'Sullivan, Peadar Healy, Jim Nolan, Terry O'Neill.

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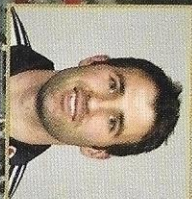
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An Captain - Bryan Cullen

Skerries Harps clubman Bryan Cullen captains Dublin on their first appearance in an Allianz Football League final since 1999. Cullen, 27, has been on the Dublin Senior panel since he made the Allianz League debut against Armagh in 2003. An All-Ireland U21 winner in the same year, he is the holder of four Leinster Championship medals and has represented Ireland in the International Rules in three different series - 2002, '04 and '08.

Back (l-r): Diarmuid Connolly, Pat Burke, Paul Casey, Kevin Nolan, Paul Brogan, Paddy Andrews, Michael Dara Macauley, Barry Cahill, Graham Cullen, Colm Murphy, Bernard Brogan, Michael Savage.
Front (l-r): Bryan Cullen, Alan Brogan, Dean Kelly, Tomas Quinn, Paul Flynn, Philip McMahon, Dara Nelson, Nicky Devereux, Alan Hubbard, Darren Daly, Sean Murray, Mascots - Conor Kelly and Louise Whelan

Up Close and Personal With...Bernard Brogan

Ever wondered what your favourite GAA star listens to on their iPod? Ever wondered what the country's top GAA players get up to in their spare time? We get Up Close and Personal with Dublin star and Footballer of the Year Bernard Brogan.

What's on your iPod?

I listen to a lot of dance music. I do a warm-up with my iPod in just to get the blood going.

Who would you invite to a dinner party?

Barack Obama. I met him in Washington for St Patrick's Day, but I didn't get enough time with him and I would like to pick his brains.

What would you change about your game?

I would like to have more of an engine, to be able to run around like a midfielder. I'm a striker and that's where I am put, but I would love to be out in the mix setting up plays.

What would you change about the game in general?

I'd love to see the fist pass into the goal again because I get a lot of one-on-ones and some 'keepers are very hard to beat with the foot.

What are your hobbies and interests?

Between training, study, work and my girlfriend I don't have much time for anything else.

What's your favourite TV programme?

I'm currently going through the *Entourage* series.

Who's your sporting idol?

Wayne Rooney.

When I was younger I wanted to be...?

A Dublin footballer.

What's your earliest GAA memory?

Being lifted over the fences in Croke Park and put on my Dad's knee to watch Dublin playing in '95.

What's your favourite venue?

Croke Park.

Which player would you buy if there was a transfer market?

Declan O'Sullivan. He's a serious talent.

Who is the most difficult opponent you have ever encountered?

Marc Ó Sé (Kerry).

Who is your all-time favourite GAA player?

Kevin Moran (Dublin).

Who is the best player you have ever seen?

Colm Cooper (Kerry)

Who's been the biggest influence on your career?

My father.

Who do you share with on away days?

Eamon Fennell.

Who is your most confident team-mate?

Eamon Fennell

Who has the worst haircut on the Dublin panel?

Eamon Fennell.

Who is the worst trainer?

Stephen Cluxton (he will hate that!)

Who is the biggest joker?

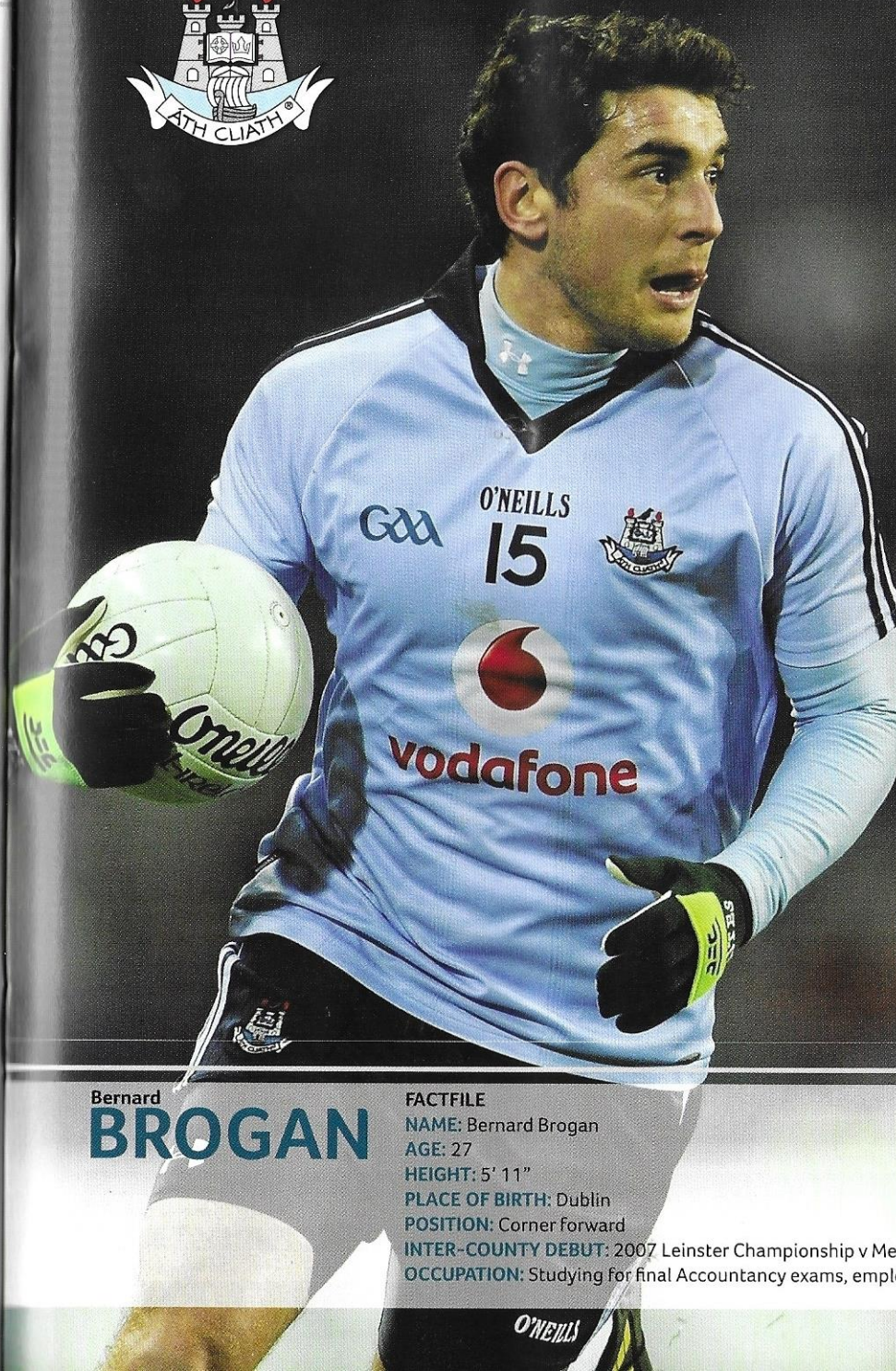
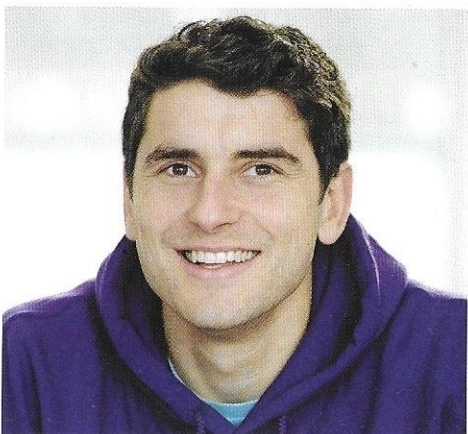
Paul Flynn

Who fancies themselves as a ladies man?

Definitely Eamon Fennell.

Name one Dublin player to watch out for this season?

Paul Brogan or Dean Kelly.



Bernard BROGAN

FACTFILE

NAME: Bernard Brogan

AGE: 27

HEIGHT: 5' 11"









PLACE OF BIRTH: Dublin

POSITION: Corner forward

INTER-COUNTY DEBUT: 2007 Leinster Championship v Meath

OCCUPATION: Studying for final Accountancy exams, employed by FGS

Division One Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	PLs	DIFF
 Dublin	7	6	1	0	130	110	13	+20
 Cork	7	5	0	2	128	112	10	+16
 Kerry	7	5	0	2	111	89	10	+22
 Down	7	3	1	3	106	108	7	-2
 Mayo	7	2	1	4	114	118	5	-4
 Armagh	7	2	0	5	100	116	4	-16
 Monaghan	7	2	0	5	102	114	4	-12
 Galway	7	1	1	5	97	121	3	-24











Paths to the final

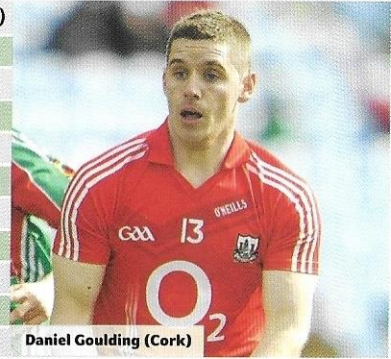
Round 1	Dublin	2-12	1-11	Armagh
Round 2	Dublin	3-13	0-16	Cork
Round 3	Dublin	3-10	1-15	Kerry
Round 4	Dublin	0-13	1-9	Monaghan
Round 5	Dublin	4-15	3-13	Mayo
Round 6	Dublin	2-10	0-13	Down
Round 7	Dublin	2-9	0-15	Galway
Played 7, Won 6, Drew 1, Scored 16-82 (130), Conceded 6-92 (110)				

DUBLIN

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total
B Brogan	1-3	0-6	0-4	0-4	----	0-1	0-5	1-23
T Quinn	0-2	1-1	1-0	0-1	1-7	0-4	----	3-15
D Connolly	1-1	0-1	----	0-3	3-3	0-1	----	4-9
K McManamon	0-2	1-0	1-1	0-1	0-2	----	----	2-6
A Brogan	----	----	0-1	0-1	0-1	1-1	1-0	2-4
P Flynn	0-1	----	0-1	----	----	1-1	0-1	1-4
MD Macauley	0-1	----	1-1	----	0-1	----	----	1-3
D Lally	0-1	0-2	0-1	0-1	----	----	----	0-5
B Cahill	----	1-0	----	----	----	0-1	----	1-1
P Burke	----	----	----	----	----	----	1-0	1-0
E O'Gara	0-1	----	0-1	----	----	----	----	0-2
B Cullen	----	0-1	----	----	----	0-1	----	0-2
D Bastick	----	0-1	----	----	----	----	0-1	0-2
D Nelson	----	----	----	0-1	0-1	----	----	0-2
J McCarthy	----	0-1	----	----	----	----	----	0-1
P Andrews	----	----	----	0-1	----	----	----	0-1
S Murray	----	----	----	----	----	----	0-1	0-1
D Kelly	----	----	----	----	----	----	0-1	0-1

Division One Top Scorers

PLAYER	SCORE (TOTAL)
 Daniel Goulding (Cork)	0-44
 Paul Finlay (Monaghan)	0-38
 Steven McDonnell (Armagh)	0-36
 Cormac Bane (Galway)	1-25 (28)
 Jason Doherty (Mayo)	7-6 (27)
 Bernard Brogan (Dublin)	1-23 (26)
 Conor McManus (Monaghan)	1-23 (26)
 Martin Clarke (Down)	2-20 (26)
 Tomás Quinn (Dublin)	3-15 (24)
 Bryan Sheehan (Kerry)	2-17 (23)



Daniel Goulding (Cork)

Round 1	Cork	0-17	1-13	Kerry
Round 2	Dublin	3-13	0-16	Cork
Round 3	Cork	1-15	1-12	Monaghan
Round 4	Cork	3-17	0-15	Down
Round 5	Cork	0-16	0-13	Galway
Round 6	Mayo	1-13	0-14	Cork
Round 7	Cork	2-15	1-12	Armagh
Played 7 Won 5 Lost 2 Scored 6-110 (128) Conceded 7-91 (112)				

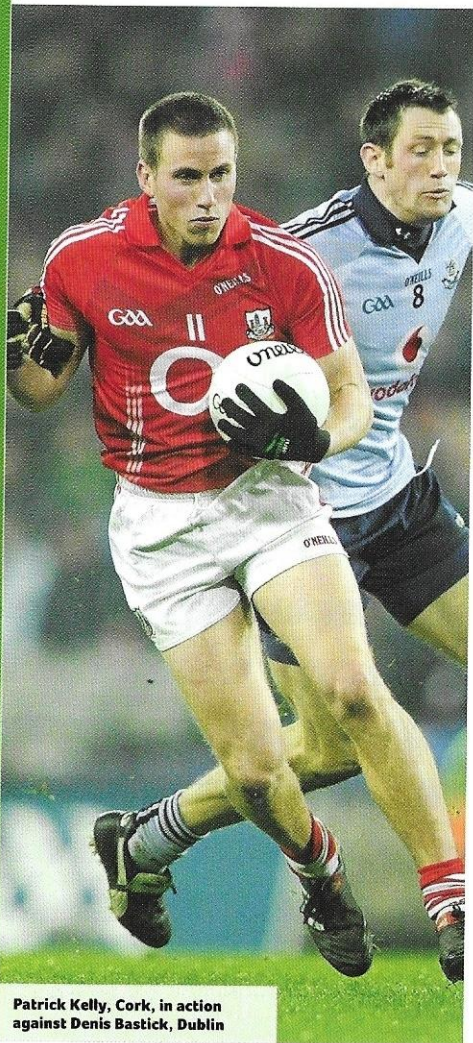
CORK

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	Total
D Goulding	0-7	0-5	0-4	0-7	0-7	0-7	0-7	0-44
D O'Connor	0-6	0-2	0-1	----	----	----	2-3	2-12
P Kelly	0-1	0-3	1-1	1-2	0-2	----	----	2-9
P O'Neill	----	0-3	0-5	1-0	----	0-2	----	1-10
F Goold	0-1	0-1	0-2	0-3	0-2	----	----	0-9
C O'Neill	0-1	----	0-1	1-1	----	----	----	1-3
A Walsh	----	0-1	----	0-1	----	----	0-2	0-4
C Sheehan	----	----	----	0-2	----	----	0-2	0-4
S Kiely	----	----	----	----	0-2	0-1	----	0-3
C O'Driscoll	0-1	----	0-1	----	----	----	----	0-2
J Miskella	----	----	----	----	----	0-2	----	0-2
P Kerrigan	----	----	----	----	----	0-1	0-1	0-2
D O'Sullivan	----	0-1	----	----	----	----	----	0-1
D Goold	----	----	----	0-1	----	----	----	0-1
A O'Connor	----	----	----	----	0-1	----	----	0-1
K O'Driscoll	----	----	----	----	0-1	----	----	0-1
J Fitzpatrick	----	----	----	----	0-1	----	----	0-1
F Lynch	----	----	----	----	----	0-1	----	0-1

Patrick Kelly: Centre of Attention

By Denis Hurley

In his third year as a recognised starter, Cork's Patrick Kelly has had to do some adapting over the spring as he has been chosen at centre-forward rather than manning either of the wings, as he has done since his introduction.



Patrick Kelly, Cork, in action against Denis Bastick, Dublin

As well as the physical manifestations of the Sam Maguire Cup, the medals, the winter-long celebrations and the team holiday, winning an All-Ireland also seems to provide some intangible benefits.

It's a quality that's hard to quantify, but there is little doubting that a team's mental strength is increased by going the distance and climbing the Hogan Stand steps. It's a journey that makes other challenges seem trifling in comparison.

For instance, before this year it would have been difficult to imagine a Cork side stealing victory in an Allianz League game in Tralee with two late points, while the win over Armagh to get to today's decider was a fine example of triumph in adversity, the Rebels playing splendidly in the final 20 minutes following Eoin Cadogan's red card.

Having the tag of champions means that such things are expected rather than hoped for, and Cork half-forward Patrick Kelly agrees that the status change can be noticeable.

"It does ease a bit of the pressure," he says, "the last couple of years we've had people saying that it was 18, 19, 20 years without an All-Ireland. Finally getting there, all that talk is gone now, instead we've people saying how good we are and all that, but we have to ignore that now and get back to what we did last year."

The flipside of the coin, however, is that the champions are there to be knocked by everybody else, with opponents relishing the chance to take the scalp of the country's number one side.

"Exactly, that's one thing we're well aware of this year," Kelly says.

"We know ourselves from going up against Tyrone and Kerry in previous years that when you're playing the All-Ireland champions you want to have a right good crack off them to know where

you're at in terms of Championship credentials. "I'm sure every team will want to do that against us this year so it's up to us to deal with that and produce the goods against them."

The first team to take the chance of putting one over on Conor Counihan's side were today's opponents, Dublin, who prevailed in the second round of fixtures back in February.

While Cork obviously want to win today, it's not necessarily a case of settling scores, according to Kelly.

"I don't think it's a case of revenge anyway," he says.

"That was very early in the season, we weren't back that long after our holiday so we weren't totally upset by that defeat.

"The Allianz League final is a standalone fixture, it's great preparation for us for the Championship ahead, a big game in Croke Park is always a bonus."

That it's a game against the team regarded as the country's form side can be taken as a positive from the Rebels' point of view, a chance to evaluate their own standing ahead of their title defence.

"Dublin have been the form side of the League so far this season," Kelly says "they've won all their games bar the last one against Galway.

"They've been racking up big scores and I've been very impressed by them, in their own backyard it's going to be a very tough game but it's ideal preparation for the Championship in a month's time.

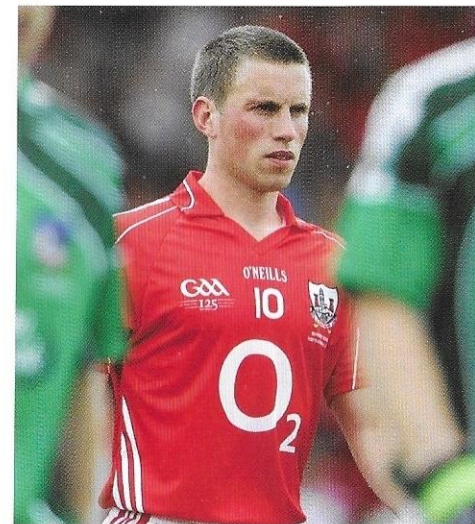
"We're looking forward to it and it should be a good battle."

At this stage last year, Mayo were going into the League final against Cork with more than an outside chance of victory. Instead, the Westerners failed to perform and were roundly beaten.

While Cork went on to the League and Championship double, Mayo lost to Sligo and then Longford, their season over by early July. Regardless of who wins today, Kelly can't foresee a similar outcome for the vanquished.

"I'd say not," he says. "At the end of the day, it's still only April, if we meet again later in the year, you're looking at August, or September hopefully, but it's a good guide for us to see where we're at at this time of year.

"It's not too often you get to play in Croke Park,



we haven't been there since the All-Ireland final so for us to get back out there, and for the newer lads to get a taste of it, is good too."

In his third year as a recognised starter, Kelly has had to do some adapting over the spring as he has been chosen at centre-forward rather than manning either of the wings, as he has done since his introduction.

It might not be much of a journey on paper from ten or 12 to 11, but the reality is less simple.

"They're very different positions," he says. "The way we play, the emphasis these days is on wing-forwards coming deep, there's a lot of work going back. Centre-forward is very much about holding the line on the 45, you've less running and tracking back but you're on the ball more and in more dangerous positions."

And he has tried to make the most of those dangerous positions, scoring a goal in the match against Down in March. Trying to increase the number of green flags has been a collective effort. "I suppose we all have been trying to get more goals," he says. "We're aware that we haven't been the most prolific team when it comes to goals, but at the same time we've put up good tallies in terms of points.

"We practice taking goal chances in training and thankfully a few goals have come this year in the League so hopefully we can continue that in the Championship."

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Paul Kerrigan
Colm O'Neill
Ray Carey
Paul O'Flynn
Donnacha O'Connor
James Fitzpatrick
Conor Counihan (Coach)
Jim Nolan (Selector)
Conor O'Driscoll
Aidan Walsh
Ciarán Sheehan
Brian O'Regan



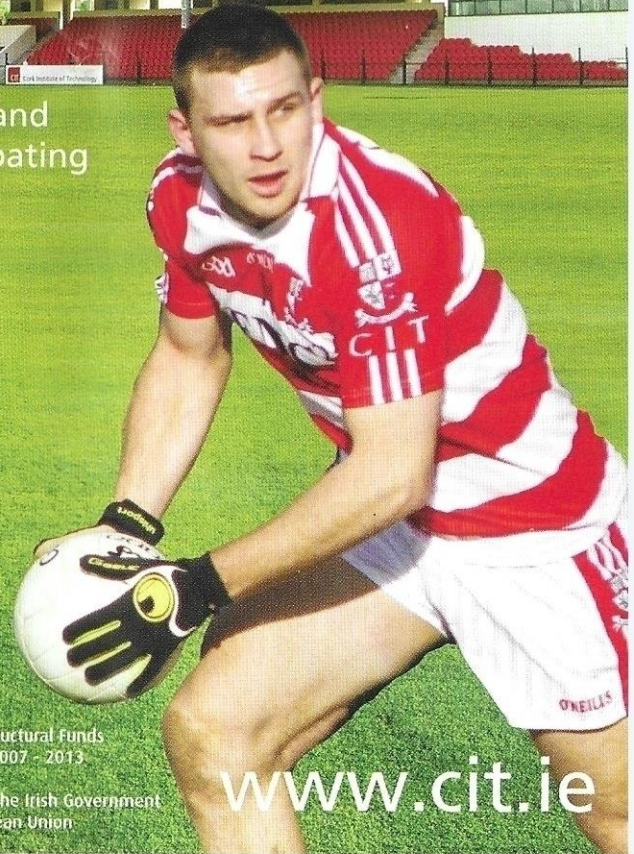
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An Captain - Michael Shields

St. Finbarr's clubman Shields captains Cork today in the absence of regular skipper Graham Canby, a duty he also performed last year when the Rebels beat Mayo in the Allianz League Division 1 Final. Shields, 24, has been named at full back on the GAA All Star team for the last two seasons and was a key performer in Cork's 2010 GAA Football All-Ireland Championship success.

Back (l-r): Eoin Cadogan, Ray Carey, Alan O'Connor, Fiachra Lynch, Nicholas Murphy, Pearse O'Neill, Noel O'Leary, Denis O'Sullivan, Michael Shields.
Front (l-r): John Hayes, Fintan Gould, Ken O'Halloran, Colm O'Neill, Patrick Kelly, Paudie Kissame, Daniel Goulding.



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Information for Prospective Students

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Division One League Champions

1925/26	Laois	1969/70	Mayo
1926/27	No Competition	1970/71	Kerry
1927/28	Kerry	1971/72	Kerry
1928/29	Kerry	1972/73	Kerry
1929/30	Kerry	1973/74	Kerry
1930/31	Kerry	1974/75	Meath
1931/32	No Competition	1975/76	Dublin
1932/33	Meath	1976/77	Kerry
1933/34	Mayo	1977/78	Dublin
1934/35	Mayo	1978/79	Roscommon
1935/36	Mayo	1979/80	Cork
1936/37	Mayo	1980/81	Galway
1937/38	Mayo	1981/82	Kerry
1938/39	Mayo	1982/83	Down
1939/40	Galway	1983/84	Kerry
1940/41	Mayo	1984/85	Monaghan
1942/45	No Competition	1985/86	Laois
1945/46	Meath	1986/87	Dublin
1946/47	Derry	1987/88	Meath
1947/48	Cavan	1988/89	Cork
1948/49	Mayo	1989/90	Meath
1949/50	New York	1990/91	Dublin
1950/51	Meath	1991/92	Derry
1951/52	Cork	1992/93	Dublin
1952/53	Dublin	1993/94	Meath
1953/54	Mayo	1994/95	Derry
1954/55	Dublin	1995/96	Derry
1955/56	Cork	1996/97	Kerry
1956/57	Galway	1997/98	Offaly
1957/58	Dublin	1998/99	Cork
1958/59	Kerry	1999/00	Derry
1959/60	Down	2000/01	Mayo
1960/61	Kerry	2002	Tyrone
1961/62	Down	2003	Tyrone
1962/63	Kerry	2004	Kerry
1963/64	New York	2005	Armagh
1964/65	Galway	2006	Kerry
1965/66	Longford	2007	Donegal
1966/67	New York	2008	Derry
1967/68	Down	2009	Kerry
1968/69	Kerry	2010	Cork

Skills of the Game

The Free Kick

The presence of an accurate and reliable free-taker is crucial to the success of any team. Two of the best exponents of the skill share their insights and thoughts on taking frees.

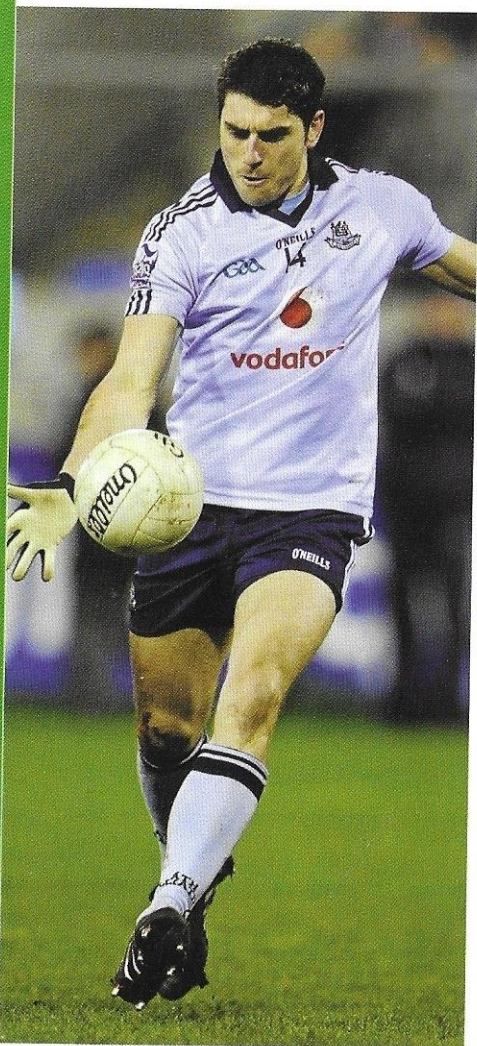
A study of the statistics from the final round of games in the 2011 Allianz Football League on April 9-10, conducted by the GAA's Coaching and Games Development Department, showed that 27 per cent of scores were from placed balls.

While there is a huge degree of technical skill required to kick over from distance, from the hands or the ground, there are a number of factors that affect this ability and the GAA's OTú Coaching Model can help to identify those.

The model identifies six aspects of play and each has a role to play in taking a free kick for a score. Technical Proficiency refers to the player's ability to perform the required technique correctly while Tactical Awareness refers to the player's decision-making ability; would he be better to play it short to a team mate? If he does go short, Team Play is relevant as team-mates need to be on the same wavelength.

Physical Fitness is also relevant as the ability of the player to shoot from distance is directly related to the power they can generate in the kicking action. Psychological Focus is key and maintaining composure, particularly under pressure, is an attribute all the best free takers have. Participant Feedback should also be referred to; is the player better suited to shooting from the ground or the hand and what do his and the broader statistics say about this?

Two of Gaelic football's finest dead ball strikers are in action in Croke Park today. Dublin's Bernard Brogan was the second highest scorer in the 2010 All-Ireland Championship, while MJ Tierney of Laois demonstrated his skill with a haul of 0-10



from placed balls in the defeat of Donegal on April 10.

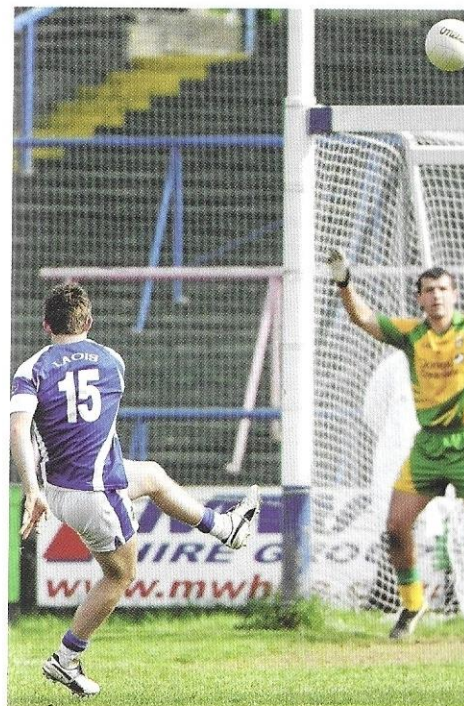
Here, MJ and Bernard share some of their insights on the art of free-taking.

ROUTINE: MJ TIERNEY

MJ Tierney, who kicks from the ground, has been following the same routine since he developed his individual style aged 16.

"The most important thing is to concentrate on the steps and the breathing involved," he says. "That's just a relaxation technique. I studied Sports Psychology towards the end of my college term and the more reading I did, I got a better understanding of it.

"I also have a very specific routine, and the boys on the team always slag me about it, because I lick my thumbs before I take the frees. To be honest that came from Charlie Redmond when I was 16. But I have kept it in it and it has always been part of my routine."



ROUTINE: BERNARD BROGAN

Footballer of the Year Bernard Brogan has been forced to kick from the hands because of a cruciate knee injury he suffered earlier in his career, but he also follows the same routine every time he addresses the ball.

"I take a couple of bounces and a couple of deep breaths to settle myself. I then step over for three steps and sling it."

VISUALISATION: MJ TIERNEY

"The easiest way to explain it is that before I strike a ball, even the way I place the ball, I know how the kick is going to look and how the ball is going to look when it is travelling through the air because I have kicked it so many times before.

"The whole thing people say about the routine taking the pressure out of the kick and out of the stadium is because you have practiced it so many times outside the stadium that you have seen that kick outside the stadium."

BREATHING: BERNARD BROGAN

"I think if you take a couple of deep breaths and slow everything down it alleviates all the pressure. You put the crowd out of your head, pick your spot where you want to go and do what you have done before. Think of it as if you are in your back garden kicking balls."

LEARNING FROM THE BEST: MJ TIERNEY

"Jonny Wilkinson was one of the references in the Sports Psychology thesis I did for my final year of study. I read extensively into what he does and I followed a bit of Ronan O'Gara, even David Beckham, people that take kicks and strike it off the ground to see how they approach it."

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT: BERNARD BROGAN

"Once the clock goes back and with the longer evenings I go out on my own with Ray Boyne from the Dublin backroom team and I bang over about 100 balls on the nights that we are off training. I read Jonny Wilkinson's book and he practiced religiously and was hugely demanding of himself. That's why he was so good. If you want to follow his lead you really have to put in the hours."

For more information on the OTú Coaching Model log on to: <http://gaa.ie/coaching-and-games-development/coaching/otu-coaching-model/>

GAA Respect Initiative and Fair Play Index

The GAA Respect Initiative was implemented in many Counties in 2010. The focus of the implementation was predominantly around the GAA Go Games blitz programme. The initiative is designed to promote a proactive approach to improving respect between players, officials, administrators and supporters.

A new set of Respect posters, a new publicity booklet and a special promotional tool kit that will include marketing, publicity and printable materials for Clubs and County Boards will be launched shortly and available through your local County Games Manager(s).

While the initiative seeks to be integrated into all aspects of our games, regardless of age or competition, specific targeting will take place to promote Respect for the U12s to U14s age groups in 2012 and at Féile na nGael at County and national level.

While the continued promotion of the GAA Respect Initiative is targeted at all levels, Clubs are asked to discuss how they may promote the initiative as a good behaviour promotion and to avail of the toolkit.

For queries on the Respect Initiative, email respect@gaa.ie.

Allianz Football League Fair Play Index (up to April 10, 2011)

With only the finals in all four football divisions to be played, Kerry and Monaghan sit proudly on top of the Fair Play Index after the last round of games on April 10 in the Allianz Football League.

Three Division 1 teams occupy the top three spots with Kerry and Monaghan amassing a creditable 3.0 average per game.

Of the four finalists in action today, Laois top the standings with Cork a close second followed by Dublin and Donegal in third and fourth place respectively.

Points System:

- Caution (Yellow Card) 1 Point
- Category 2 Sending Off/Suspension 2 Points
- Category 1a Suspension 2 Points
- Category 3 Sending Off/Suspension 3 Points
- Category 2a Suspension 3 Points
- Category 4 Sending Off/Suspension 6 Points
- Category 3a Suspension 6 Points
- Category 5 Sending Off/Suspension 10 Points
- Category 4a Suspension 10 Points

A Sending Off on two cautions is recorded as one point per caution (Yellow Card).

Details of the various Categories of Sendings Off are as follows:

Category 2:

Abusive language towards a Referee, Umpire, Lineman, or Sideline Official; Striking or attempting to strike with hurley, with minimal force; Striking or attempting to strike with arm, elbow hand or knee; Behaving in any way which is dangerous to an opponent; Spitting at an opponent; Contributing to a melee.

	Yellow	Red (C2)	Red (C3)	Total	No. of Games	Average
Kerry	14	2	1	21	7	3.00
Monaghan	21	0	0	21	7	3.00
Galway	22	0	0	22	7	3.14
Fermanagh	26	0	0	26	8	3.25
Kilkenny	26	0	0	26	8	3.25
Leitrim	21	1	0	23	7	3.29
Wexford	24	0	0	24	7	3.43
Limerick	24	0	0	24	7	3.43
Longford	28	0	0	28	8	3.50
London	25	0	0	25	7	3.57
Sligo	25	0	0	25	7	3.57
Laois	23	1	0	25	7	3.57
Cork	22	2	0	26	7	3.71
Clare	22	4	0	30	8	3.75
Louth	25	1	0	27	7	3.86
Armagh	27	0	0	27	7	3.86
Cavan	27	0	0	27	7	3.86
Down	25	1	0	27	7	3.86
Roscommon	31	0	0	31	8	3.88
Dublin	23	1	1	28	7	4.00
Carlow	29	0	1	32	8	4.00
Mayo	28	0	0	28	7	4.00
Tyrone	29	0	0	29	7	4.14
Waterford	30	0	0	30	7	4.29
Tipperary	30	0	0	30	7	4.29
Offaly	33	0	0	33	7	4.71
Kildare	35	0	0	35	7	5.00
Donegal	36	0	0	36	7	5.14
Derry	33	2	0	37	7	5.29
Westmeath	35	1	0	37	7	5.29
Wicklow	39	2	0	43	8	5.38
Antrim	34	2	0	38	7	5.43
Meath	37	2	0	41	7	5.86

Category 3

Striking with hurley, either with force or causing injury; Attempting to strike with hurley, with force; Kicking, either with force or causing injury; Attempting to kick, with force; Stamping; Striking or attempting to strike with the head; Inflicting injury recklessly by means other than those stated above; Any type of assault on an Opposing Team Official.

Category 4

Minor physical interference with (e.g. laying a hand on, pushing, pulling or jostling), threatening or abusive conduct towards, or threatening language to, a Referee, Umpire, Linesman or Sideline Official.

Category 5

Any type of assault on a Referee, Umpire, Linesman or Sideline Official.

Misconduct at Games by Team Officials

Category 1a

Abusive language towards a Referee, Umpire, Lineman or Sideline Official.

Category 2a

Any type of physical interference with an Opposing Player or Team Official.

Category 3a

Minor physical interference with (e.g. laying a hand on, pushing, pulling or jostling), threatening or abusive conduct towards, or threatening language to, a Referee, Umpire, Linesman or Sideline Official.

Category 4a

Any type of assault on a Referee, Umpire, Linesman or Sideline Official.

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Fitting Finale For 'Follow The Dubs'



The 13th Allianz-sponsored 'Follow The Dubs' initiative in Dublin's primary schools has come to a perfect ending with both county Senior teams qualifying for the Allianz League finals. Children throughout the capital have, once again, participated wholeheartedly in the various elements of the award-winning Cumann na mBunscol initiative.

The fixtures poster distributed to all schools was a big hit and the weekly 'Guess The Score' competitions for Dublin merchandise made Monday mornings very special in the classrooms. Having the 'Spring Series' in Croke Park added greatly to the excitement for the children who participated in the half-time exhibition games while the children chosen to meet the Dublin captains before each game will always remember the occasions.

Writing and art activities in the class rooms added greatly to the excitement as the teams progressed through the Leagues. With the two teams now in the finals, 2011 will be remembered as

a vintage year by the boys and girls of Cumann na mBunscol, Áth Cliath. Cumann na mBunscol teachers are extremely grateful to Allianz and to O'Neills International Sports for their valued support.

* The children who will meet the Dublin captain prior to today's final are Jamie Whelan, Josh Spratt and Josh Dillon.

* Members of the 2011 Allianz Cumann Na mBunscol Dublin Primary Whistlers will be presented with their whistles at half-time today by Uachtarán Chumann Lúthchleas Gael Críostóir Ó Cuana and Allianz Chief Executive Mr. Brendan Murphy.

Ciarán Whelan and Bryan Cullen launched the 2011 'Follow The Dubs' project in Croke Park with Ciarán O'Sullivan, Alex Nestor, Jamie Loftus and Graham O'Reilly.



Kennedy

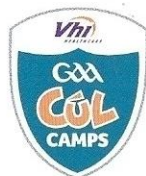
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*Best of Luck to Pat & all the Lads
from Deborah, Yvonne & Michael*

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Vhi GAA Cúl Camps



Vhi GAA Cúl Camps provide boys and girls – between the ages of 6 and 13 – with an action-packed and fun-filled week of activity during the summer holidays which revolves around maximising enjoyment and sustaining participant involvement in Gaelic Games.

Activities are GAME BASED – a strong emphasis is placed on skill acquisition and are organised in an age appropriate manner with a view to:

- optimising learning
- enhancing friendships
- improving physical and psychological well being
- promoting school and club links



Dún na nGall

Camp Venue	Camp Dates
Gaoth Dobhair	27/06/11 - 01/07/11
Killybegs	27/06/11 - 01/07/11
Urris	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
St Eunan's	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
Naomh Pádraig, Muff	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
Naomh Ultan	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
Milford	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
Dungloe	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
Convoy	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
Beart	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
Buncrana	11/07/11 - 15/07/11
Naomh Pádraig, Lifford	11/07/11 - 15/07/11
Red Hughs	11/07/11 - 15/07/11
Na Dúnaibh	11/07/11 - 15/07/11
McCumhaills	11/07/11 - 15/07/11
Glenswilly	11/07/11 - 15/07/11
Carndonagh	11/07/11 - 15/07/11
An Tearmainn	11/07/11 - 15/07/11
Naomh Colmcille	18/07/11 - 22/07/11
Moville	18/07/11 - 22/07/11
Malin	18/07/11 - 22/07/11
Fanad Gaels	18/07/11 - 22/07/11
Cill Chartha	18/07/11 - 22/07/11
Ardara	18/07/11 - 22/07/11

For further information on camps in Donegal, contact the County Co-ordinator, Michael Murphy on 086-6003159 or by email at mmurphygaa@hotmail.com.

Laois

Camp Venue	Camp Dates
Killeshin	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
Emo	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
Ballacolla	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
Mountrath	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
Portlaoise	11/07/11 - 15/07/11
Colt/Shanahoe	11/07/11 - 15/07/11
Rathdowney	11/07/11 - 15/07/11
Kilcavan	11/07/11 - 15/07/11
Park/Ratheniska	11/07/11 - 15/07/11
O'Dempseys	11/07/11 - 15/07/11
Clonaslee	18/07/11 - 22/07/11
Naomh Eamonn	18/07/11 - 22/07/11
Clonad	18/07/11 - 22/07/11
Mountmellick	18/07/11 - 22/07/11
Arles Killeen	18/07/11 - 22/07/11
St Joseph's	18/07/11 - 22/07/11
Camross	25/07/11 - 29/07/11
The Harps	25/07/11 - 29/07/11
Ballylinan	25/07/11 - 29/07/11
The Rock	25/07/11 - 29/07/11
Graigucullen	25/07/11 - 29/07/11
Abbeyleix	15/08/11 - 19/08/11
Ballyfin	15/08/11 - 19/08/11
The Heath	15/08/11 - 19/08/11
Portarlinton	15/08/11 - 19/08/11

For further information on camps in Laois, contact the County Co-ordinator, Ciaran Muldowney on 086-8293008 or by email at ciaranmuldowney@eircom.net.

Áth Cliath

Camp Venue	Camp Dates
Trinity Gaels GAA Club	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
St Margaret's GAA Club	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
Clontarf GAA Club	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
Ballinteer St John's GAA	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
Stars Of Erin, Glencullen	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
St Anne's	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
Templeogue Synge Street	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
Naomh Mearnóg GAA Club	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
Lucan Sarsfields GAA Club	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
St Kevin's Killians GAA	11/07/11 - 15/07/11
Cuala GAA Club	11/07/11 - 15/07/11
Ballyboden St Endas	11/07/11 - 15/07/11
Thomas Davis GAA	11/07/11 - 15/07/11
Lucan Sarsfields GAA Club	11/07/11 - 15/07/11
St Patrick's GAA, Donabate	11/07/11 - 15/07/11
Ballyboughal	11/07/11 - 15/07/11
St Sylvesters GAA Club	11/07/11 - 15/07/11
St Mark's GAA Club	11/07/11 - 15/07/11
Naomh Olaf	11/07/11 - 15/07/11
Good Counsel	18/07/11 - 22/07/11
St Vincent's	18/07/11 - 22/07/11
O'Dwyers GAA	18/07/11 - 22/07/11
Beann Eadair	18/04/11 - 22/07/11
Erin Go Bragh	18/07/11 - 22/07/11
St Maurs GAA Club	18/07/11 - 22/07/11

For further information on camps in Dublin, contact the Dublin County Board on 01-8312099 or by email at coachingdept@eircom.net.

Corcaigh

Camp Venue	Camp Dates
White's Cross	27/06/11 - 01/07/11
Boherbue	27/06/11 - 01/07/11
Cobh	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
Glanworth	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
Éire Óg	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
Blarney	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
Banteer	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
Nemo Rangers /Trabeg	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
Tadhg MacCarthaigh /Caheragh	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
Adrigole	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
Tracton / Minahane Bridge	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
Blackrock	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
Charleville	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
Ballincollig	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
Milford	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
Carrigdown/Riverstick	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
UCC	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
Mayfield	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
Kilavullen	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
Buttavant	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
Glen Rovers	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
Castlelyons	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
Bishopstown	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
Carrigaline	04/07/11 - 08/07/11
Kildorrery	04/07/11 - 08/07/11

For further information on camps in Cork, contact the County Co-ordinator, Kevin O'Callaghan on 086-8532375 or by email at kevinoc65@yahoo.com.

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BY GERARD O'CONNOR

"GIVE US A GAME" IS THE LATEST BOOK WITH A COLLECTION OF OVER 200 GAMES FOR FOOTBALL AND HURLING APPROPRIATE FOR ALL AGES AND ABILITIES. THE REASON WE PLAY GAMES IS TO GET PLAYERS TO WORK TOGETHER AS A TEAM AND UNDERSTAND WHAT TO DO AND HOW TO DO IT.

The games in this book will ensure that training is enjoyable and players will get increased opportunities to make decisions and solve problems.

The book includes a variety of games in the following categories:

- Chasing Games
- Target Games
- Court Games
- Field Games
- Part Invasion Games
- Full Invasion Games

WHAT THEY SAY

"Give us a Game" is an absolutely brilliant book for any coach, well illustrated and easy to follow. Something for every coach, both juvenile and adult.
Pat Gilroy, Dublin Senior Manager

This coaching book contains some of the best games that I have ever come across. It's a must for any coach.
Paul Earley, Former Roscommon Footballer

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 Phone: 01 8520205
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Leinster GAA
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GAA Go Games

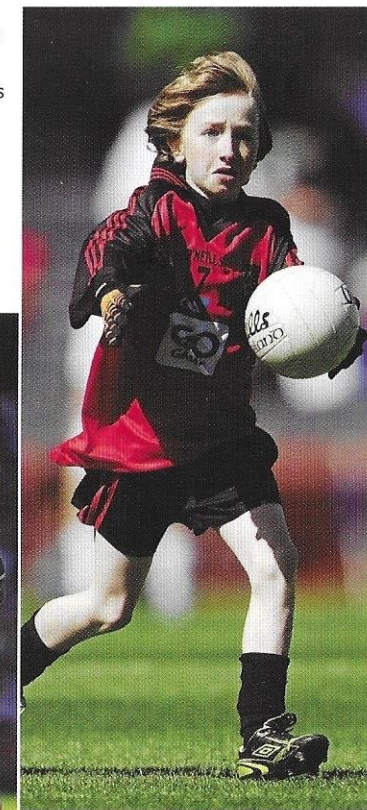
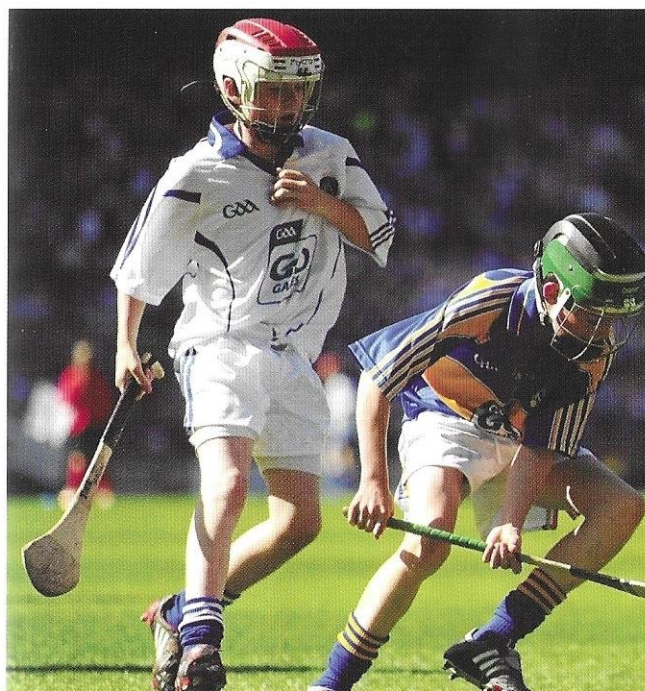
Through our Games Development personnel, **Bórd na nÓg** and **Cumann na mBunscol**, the Association now provides opportunities for all children up to 12 years of age to participate in appropriate small-sided GAA Go Games in hurling and Gaelic football throughout the spring, summer and autumn.

With the adoption of the GAA Go Games model nationally, aligned to the provision of a competitive structure at U12, the GAA provides an opportunity for all players to participate in our games while also catering for a gradual exposure to competition.

A special mention must go to the 88 boys and girls who recently participated in the GAA Go Games Exhibition Games at half-time in the AIB GAA Club Championship finals on March 17.

A crowd of 25,000 plus witnessed some fine skills of football and hurling from local Club U12 players who were full of excitement and enthusiasm as they walked proudly onto the Croke Park pitch at half time in both games. Well done to all!

The 13th Allianz sponsored 'Follow The Dubs' initiative in Dublin's primary schools has also come to a perfect ending with both county Senior teams qualifying for the Allianz League finals. Children throughout the capital have, once again, participated wholeheartedly in the various elements of the Cumann na mBunscol initiative. The fixtures poster distributed to all schools was a big hit and the weekly 'Guess the Score' competitions for Dublin merchandise made Monday mornings very special in the classrooms. With the two teams now in the finals, 2011 will be remembered as a vintage year for the boys and girls in Dublin's primary schools.



Croke Park Safety and General Information

REGULATIONS Páirc an Chrócaigh

- All persons entering this ground are admitted only subject to the following Rules (which are designated to protect the Health and Safety of all entrants to the ground). Entry to the ground shall be deemed to constitute unqualified acceptance of all of these Rules.
- The management reserves the right of admission.
- The instructions of the stewards must be obeyed at all times.
- All persons entering the ground agree to be searched by a member of the Garda Síochána.
- Every person (including infants) entering the ground must have a ticket.
- The following are not permitted:
- 6.1 Entry upon the pitch or engaging in conduct that causes or is likely to cause injury or harm to, or otherwise interferes with, disrupts, hinders, or distracts a person playing in, refereeing or otherwise having a role in a match at this ground.
- 6.2 Any unauthorised contact with the boundary wall surrounding the pitch or incursion on to the pitch. Any such unauthorised contact or incursion constitutes a trespass to property.
- 6.3 The climbing of floodlights or other pylons, stands or other buildings. Such behavior constitutes a trespass to property.
- 6.4 Throwing of objects onto the pitch.
- 6.5 Remaining or loitering in any gangway or aisle.
- 6.6 Behaving in an offensive or indecent manner.
- 6.7 Bringing of alcohol into the ground.
- 6.8 Bringing into the ground of fireworks, smoke canisters, bottles, glasses, cans, flags, banners, poles, distress signals, laser pointers and similar articles or containers, including anything which could or might be used as a weapon.
- 6.9 Excessive noise such as that from the use of radio sets or other appliances and behaviour likely to cause confusion or nuisance of any kind including foul or abusive language.
- If a person commits a trespass, reasonable force may be used to prevent, restrain or terminate any trespass.
- Where a person is in breach of any of these rules, or where the management believes that a person constitutes a source of danger to others, or to the ground, such person may be refused entry or ejected from the ground, and reasonable force may be used for that purpose.

Safety and General Information

Supporters are asked to respect the fact that they are entering and leaving the stadium through residential areas.



Safety Notice

In the interests of safety, patrons will not be allowed to enter the playing area after the games.



The policy to prohibit such encroachment in the future has been taken to avoid further injuries and possible fatality and has been taken on the advice and promptings of the safety authorities, namely the Gardaí, Dublin City Council, Fire Brigade and the HSE. The full co-operation of supporters is requested to avoid serious injury and to ensure that games can be enjoyed without resource to fencing or avoidable obstructions to seeing action from all vantage points.

Together we can ensure that the Croke Park experience is both enjoyable and safe, particularly for the young and vulnerable.

Smoking Policy

Croke Park now operates a No Smoking policy except in designated areas of the ground.



Medical Assistance

First Aid Centres are located in the following areas:

Davin Stand/Cusack Stand Level 3:	Section 312
Hogan Stand Level 3:	Section 333
Cusack Stand Level 7:	Section 701
Davin/Cusack Stand Level 7:	Section 724
Dineen/Hill 16 Cusack Side:	Section A
Medical Centre:	Hogan Players Tunnel



The Site Medical Officer will be situated on the pitch in front of the Cusack Stand. All First Aid Posts are staffed by St. John Ambulance Brigade members.

Lost Children

Lost children will be brought to the above First Aid Centres.



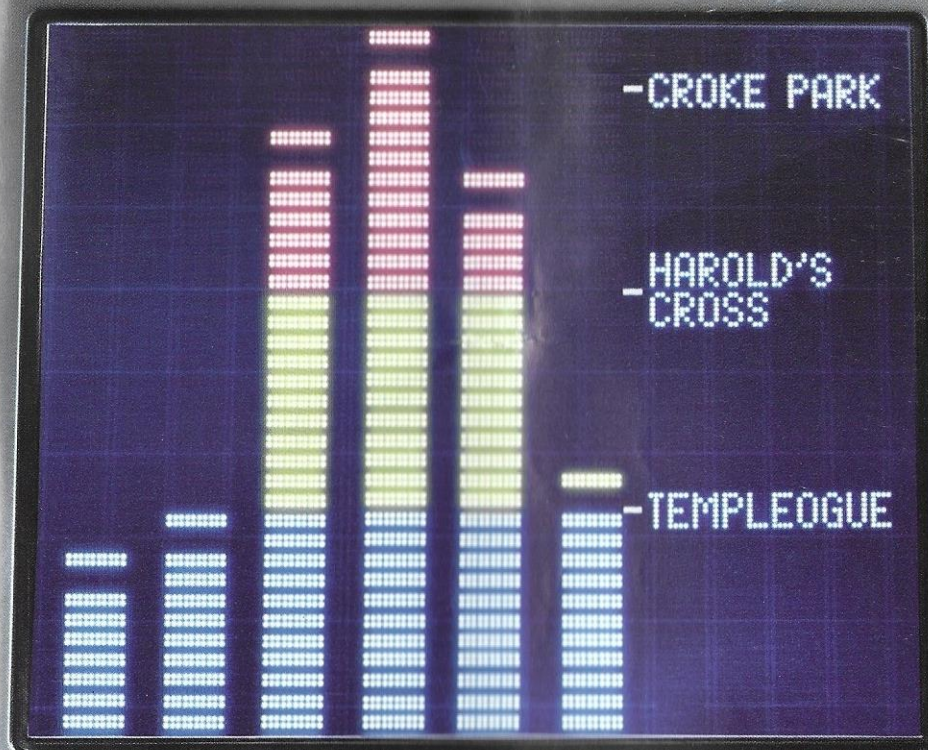
Cúl Green

Supporting a Greener Croke Park

Please play your part by co-operating with the Cúl Green initiatives at the Stadium and using the recycling stations provided. Log onto www.culgreen.ie and make a pledge today.



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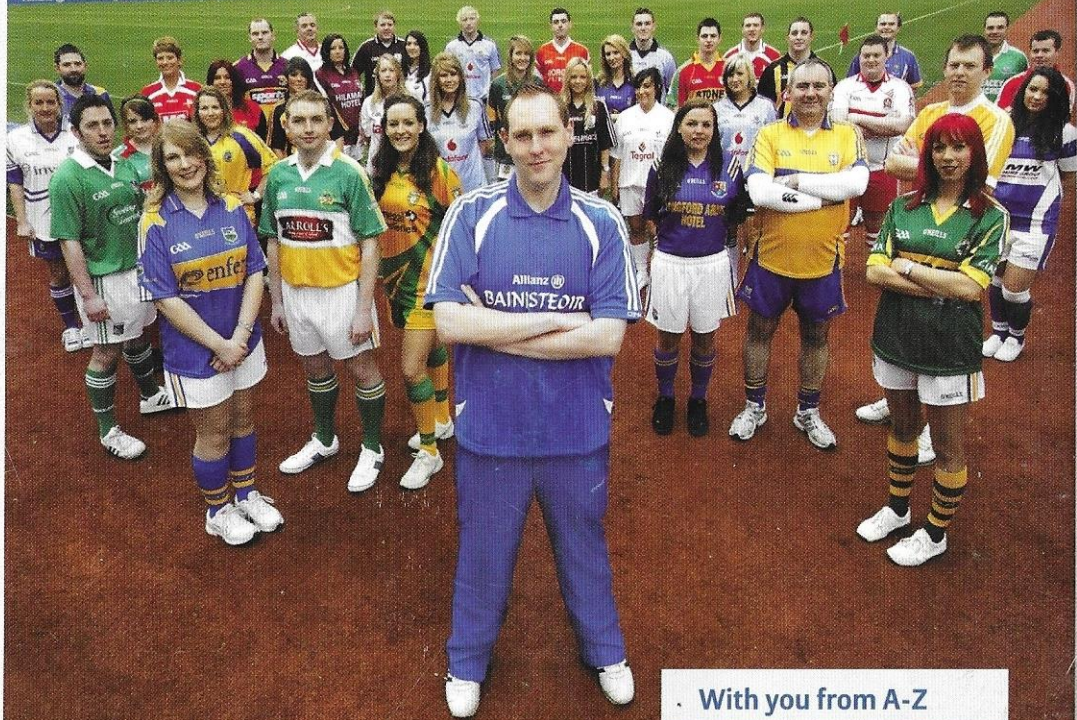




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