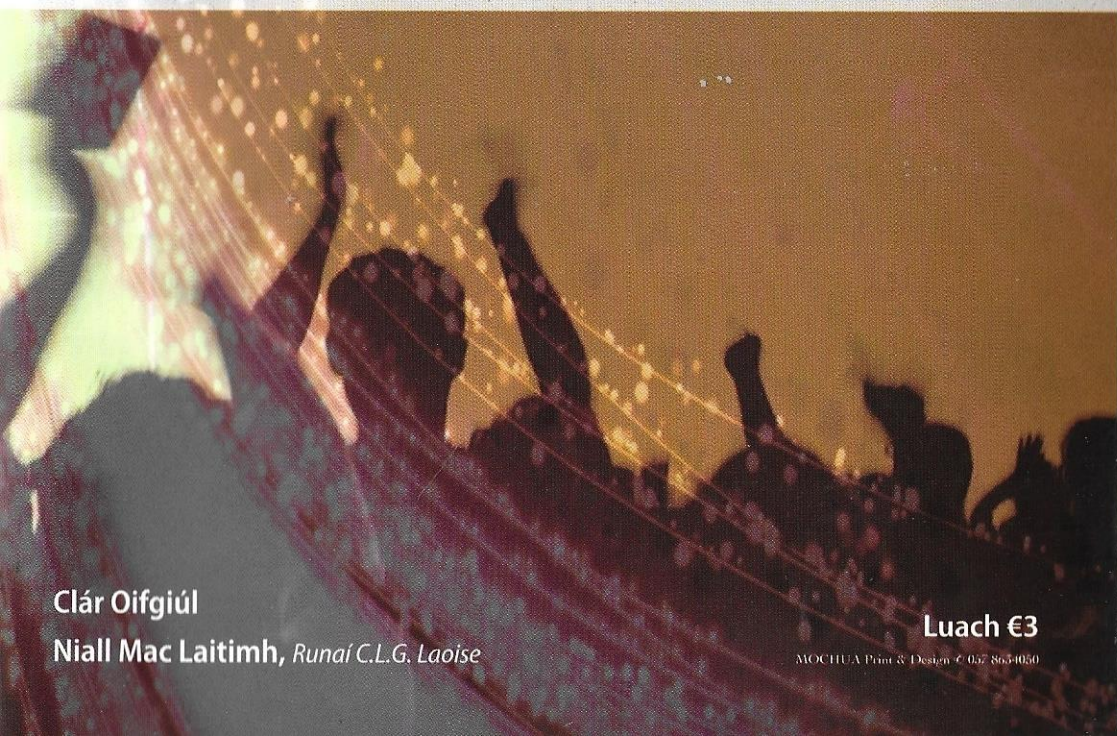
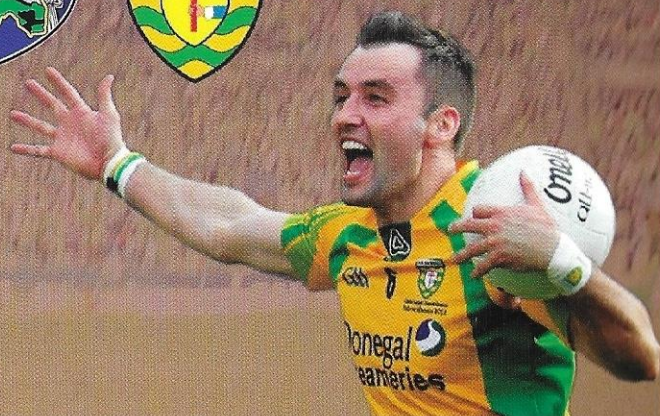
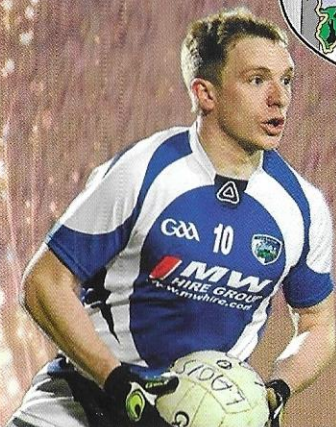
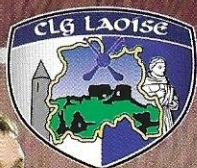




| Allianz GAA National Football League | Laois V Donegal |  
| O'Moore Park | Sunday 2nd February 2014 |



Clár Oifgiúl  
Niall Mac Laitimh, *Runaí C.L.G. Laoise*

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Allianz Football League Roinn 2  
Round 1  
O'Moore Park, Portlaoise



14:00

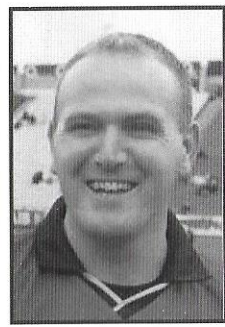
## Laois v Dún na nGall

Referee: Conor Lane (Corcaigh)  
Std By: Shane Hehir (Gaillimh)  
Linesman: James Molloy (Gaillimh)  
Sideline: Garrett Whelan (Cill Mhantáin)



### highlights on tg4

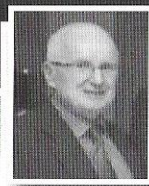
Highlights of today's game can be seen tomorrow night on TG4 on the GAA 2014 programme, which begins at 8.30. It will also feature the Meath-Galway clash, as well as all four Division 1 matches. Sin GAA 2014, oíche amárach, ag 8.30, ar TG4!



### today's referee

Cork native Conor Lane takes charge of today's game between Laois and Donegal. The experienced whistler, who is a member of the Lyre/Banteer club in Cork, took charge of the 2013 all-Ireland minor football final. Last year was a big year for Lane as he also took control of the Connacht Senior Football Final. The last time he took charge of a Laois game was in the all-Ireland qualifiers victory over Clare.

## Fáilte ón gCathaoirleach



It gives me a great pleasure to extend a warm welcome to you all to O'Moore Park for the eagerly anticipated Allianz National Football League opener between Laois and Donegal.

The pre-season shackles are well and truly off now and the 2014 campaign gets underway as we welcome the 2012 all-Ireland champions to Portlaoise.

Today marks a new era in Laois football as Tomás O'Flaharta and his management team will be aiming to get their season off to the best possible start. The prospect of playing against the former all-Ireland champions is a fantastic opportunity for this present group of Laois players.

On behalf of Laois GAA I would like to welcome Jim McGuinness, his players, management, supporters and County Board officials to O'Moore Park here today. I hope you enjoy the facilities we offer here in Portlaoise and we look forward to a sporting game.

I would like to wish our match officials here today the very best of luck. Referees play a very important part in our games and I would ask all supporters to respect their decisions at all times.

The support of our Laois GAA Sponsors, MW Hire, is also appreciated and I would like to thank Mattie Walsh and his company for their continued support.

I would also like to welcome the Magni Group on board this year and their sponsorship is also greatly appreciated.

My sincere thanks to all those who have been involved in hosting today's game. To the gate men, groundsman, stewards, and the many voluntary workers who have helped stage this game.

Finally, I would like to thank our loyal supporters here in Laois GAA for their ongoing presence at our games in such numbers. Last year was a very positive year for the association in terms of attendances and the special atmosphere generated by our supporters at all our games is something we value highly.

**Thank you for continued support of Laois GAA**

**Bainigi sult as an la**

*Gerry Kavanagh*

**Laois GAA Chairman**

## Message from Laois GAA Sponsors

On behalf of everyone at MW Hire we are delighted to welcome you to O'Moore Park, Portlaoise for the opening game of the Allianz National Football League Division 2 involving Laois and Donegal.

We would like to wish Tomás O'Flaharta, his management team and his panel of players the best of luck here today as they take on the 2012 all-Ireland champions.

The Allianz National Football League is a very important competition and it will be no different for Laois as they aim to gain promotion from this division. First up is a difficult encounter against Donegal but we've no doubt the large vocal Laois supporters will do all they can to get the team across the line.

The GAA is an integral part of Irish heritage; community clubs, home-grown talent, pride and local support is what brings us all together here today.

MW Hire is delighted to be the main sponsors of Laois GAA and we look forward to continuing our excellent partnership.

We hope everyone enjoys today game. We welcome all the Donegal contingent here today and hopefully they enjoy the atmosphere and experience here in O'Moore Park today.

*MW Hire*



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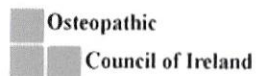
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## fl1: donegal fall to laois

12 February 2012

by Pat Delaney

Laois were more comfortable winners at Letterkenny than the 2-9 to 2-6 scoreline suggests. Buoyed by goals from Paul Cahillane (penalty) and brilliant full forward Pdraig Clancy in either half, the totally-dominant O'Moore County led by 2-9 to 0-4 with less than ten minutes left (Paddy McBrearty was their only scorer in the opening hour!) before the previously out-of-sorts hosts rallied with 2-2 in the closing stages to put some respectability on the scoreboard.

But the reality is that they were comprehensively beaten today.

Laois had the better of the first quarter with Pdraig Clancy dominant. The visitors bagged the first two points via the busy Ross Munnally to a solitary reply from a Paddy McBrearty free.

Munnally brought his tally to three and former Celtic midfielder Paul Cahillane netted from an injury-time penalty to make it 1-6 to 0-4 at the break. David Conway, Colm Belgley and Clancy had hit the remainder of the winners' first-half points.

Darren Strong pointed and Clancy collected well before firing a match-clinching goal to the net, effectively knocking the last bit of stuffing out of Jim McGuinness' men. When Conway followed up with a point, the Ulster champions were eleven behind, 2-9 to 0-4.

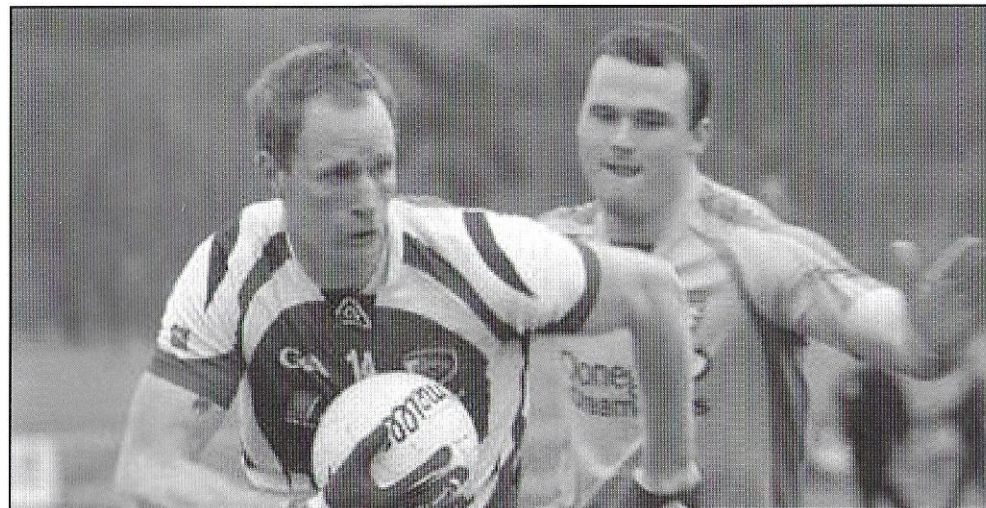
Rory Kavanagh opened Donegal's second-half

account with a 61st-minute point and things were briefly back in the melting pot when Anthony Thompson and Neil Gallagher both found the net in the space of two minutes, drawing the Tir Chonail men within four points, 2-9 to 2-5.

Donegal got one more point from Kavanagh but there would be no miracle escape...

Laois: E Culliton; C Healy, K Lillis, P O'Leary; D Strong (0-1), J O'Loughlin, C Boyle; K Meaney, B Quigley; R Munnally (0-3), C Begley (0-1), D O'Connor; P Cahillane (1-0), P Clancy (1-1), D Conway (0-3). Subs: C Kelly for Cahillane, MJ Tierney for Conway, J Kavanagh for O'Connor.

Donegal: P Durcan; F McGlynn, N McGee, P McGrath; A Thompson (1-0), K Lacey, L McLoone; R Kavanagh (0-2), N Gallagher (1-0); M McHugh, R Bradley, M Reilly; D Molloy, P McBrearty (0-4), A Hanlon. Subs: D Walsh for Molloy, S Griffin for Hanlon, E McGee for McGrath, D Walsh for Bradley, E Waide for Lacey.



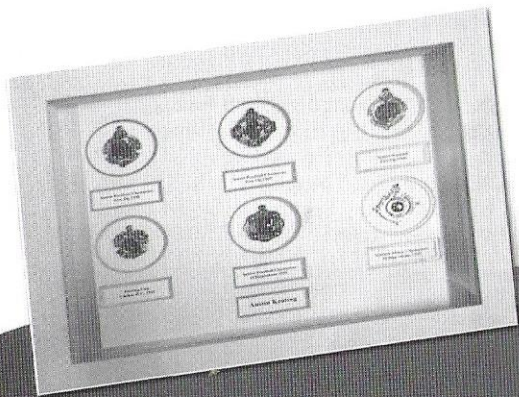
Laois' Pdraig Clancy and Neil McGee of Donegal during the NFL Div 1 game at Letterkenny



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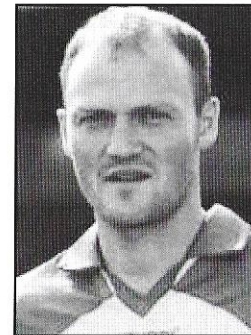
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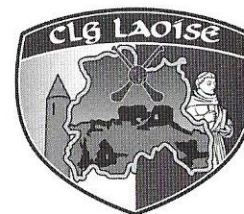
### ..... **Kidz Page** .....



**PLAYER PROFILE**  
COLM MCFADDEN  
(DONEGAL)  
Club: **Micheal**  
Occupation: **Teacher**  
Height: **6'**  
Weight: **13.5st**



**PLAYER PROFILE**  
JOHN O'LOUGHLIN (LAOIS)  
Club: **St Brigid's**  
Occupation: **Games Development Officer**  
Height: **6' 2"**  
Weight: **15.5st**



Did you know about Donegal?

- Donegal is the most northerly counties of all 32 counties
- Ballyshannon is the oldest town in Ireland
- Killybegs in South West Donegal is the largest fishing port in Ireland
- Donegal has won the Sam Maguire twice (1992 and 2012)
- The highest mountain in Donegal is Errigal

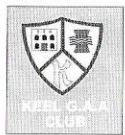
# CLIMB CARRAUNTOOHIL WITH ALL IRELAND GAA FOOTBALL

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## michael murphy interview



Michael Murphy and his Donegal team mates roll into Portlaoise today eager to put a disappointing 2013 behind them.

Its stark contrast to 2012 when the Ulster men were crowned all-Ireland senior football champions with Murphy scoring a crucial goal in their victory over Mayo. Last year it was different for Jim McGuinness and his side as they were steamrolled in their last championship game of 2013 against James Horan's Mayo. The honeymoon was well and truly over at this stage and star player Murphy is eager to kick start 2014 with two points in Portlaoise today.

The injuries to Karl Lacey, Mark McHugh and Murphy have cleared up so the Donegal attacker so these players will be important in Donegal's battle to gain promotion.

"Division 2 is very difficult. We've two difficult games to start off with (Laois & Galway). Laois have played us a few times before. They have new management so they'll be eager to get off to a good start.

The return of Lacey from injury is a big plus for Jim McGuinness's outfit as the lively defender missed the majority of 2013 with injury.

"He's a tremendous player. He leads by example and the whole place just looks up to him. To have him back and going at full throttle at this time of the year is fantastic. There's a good focus there in training and in the gym. The big thing for us has been the injured men we've been getting back. Neil (Gallagher) started against Queens and it's great to see him back. Christy Toye too."

Even though Donegal kick off their league campaign today against Laois, the Ulstermen will be eager to prove they are still a football powerhouse.

"The first thing to do when looking back at the McKenna Cup is to look at the new bodies who came in. They acquitted themselves very well. Darach O'Connor and Odhran MacNiallais has really put their best feet forward, Stephen McLaughlin came in and did well against Queen's.

"They've made a good push and add something new and different. You need competition for places. Those top teams get scores from all over and we're looking towards that. You look at Dublin, Mayo, Tyrone, Kerry, the top sides, they all have big squads with players able to come in and make an impact. We've been aiming to unearth a few during the McKenna Cup. The National League will tell a story. It's the same mantra, the one game at a time approach. That said, we're still all looking forward to that day, May 25th.

That big day in May is of course the opening round of the Ulster Championship where Derry, led by Brian McIvor, will be their opponents.

The hurt of 2013 will be a massive incentive for Donegal as they look to kick start their season when they roll into O'Moore Park today.

Donegal captain Michael Murphy scored an unbelievable goal recently during their McKenna Cup game against Queens in Ballybofey. The 2012 All-Ireland champions won the game 3-17 to 3-5 but failed to qualify for this weekend's semi-finals, however any fan of Jim McGuinness' men won't mind that if they were there to witness Murphy's wonder goal (goal comes 24 seconds into video)

To view the goal visit [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) and enter 'Donegal v Queens University' into the search engine.



# GIVE RESPECT, GET RESPECT AN INTRODUCTION TO THE GAA RESPECT INITIATIVE

## WHAT DOES THE GAA RESPECT INITIATIVE INVOLVE?

- > Implementing the GAA Code of Best Practice in Youth Sport
- > Club information evenings for parents and mentors
- > Coach and referee education programmes
- > Designated spectators' area
- > Implementing GAA Go Games policy
- > Strong club leadership
- > Respect awareness programmes for all
- > Recognition and merit awards

## WHO DOES IT INVOLVE?

- > Clubs, players, coaches, referees, parents, guardians and spectators

## HOW DOES IT WORK?

- > Players line up behind their coaches before and after the game to shake hands with the referee, opposing players and coaches
- > Referees communicate decisions to players in an effective manner
- > A line of cones/tape should mark out a designated spectators' area (non-segregated) two metres from the playing area
- > Supporters remain in designated areas at the side of the pitch for the full duration of each game
- > Team coaches (a maximum of five) should wear designated bibs and are the only personnel allowed along the sideline area
- > Each club must strive to achieve maximum participation for all players
- > Referees to be welcomed to the GAA club
- > Clubs should endeavour to offer participants the opportunity to socialise after the game by providing snacks and light refreshments where possible

The GAA Respect Initiative has been developed to ensure that Gaelic games are promoted in a positive manner and within an environment which is conducive to ensuring that all participants achieve their full potential

## OUR GAMES, OUR CHOICE

### For further information contact:

- > Laois GAA Office, Parkside, Abbeyleix Road, Portlaoise, Co. Laois (057 8660674)
- > GAA, Croke Park, Dublin 3 (01 8363222)

or visit: [www.gaa.ie](http://www.gaa.ie)



# Go Games Exhibition Game

## Graiguecullen

- 1 Jamie Ayres
- 2 Craig Doyle
- 3 Oisín O'Reilly
- 4 Ben Hovenden
- 5 Daniel Murphy
- 6 Lee Nolan
- 7 James Cowan
- 8 Jack Byrne
- 9 Lee Byrne
- 10 Cillian Morrissey
- 11 John O'Shea
- 12 Ricky Timmons
- 13 Gerard Duggan
- 14 Terry French
- 15 Jake Haughney
- 16 Brandon Walsh
- 17 Conor Kelly
- 18 Mickie Dempsey
- 19 Ricky Brennan
- 20 Ben Akerele Smith
- 21 Jack Akerele Smith
- 22 Ivan Jones
- 23 Howard Jones
- 24 Conor Harte
- 25 Evan Treacey
- 26 Cillian O'Reilly



Co. Laois

V



## Park Ratheniska

- 1 Eoin McWey
- 2 Aaron Lalor
- 3 Tomas Conroy
- 4 Simon Fingleton
- 5 Aaron Doran
- 6 Sean Drennan
- 7 Tomas Duff
- 8 Colm Byrne
- 9 Ciaran (Bobo) Laval
- 10 Gunay Bingol
- 11 Aaron Szwaglis
- 12 Adam Ramsbottom
- 13 Cian Nolan
- 14 Jamie Maher
- 15 James Daniel Blake
- 16 Paul Ruddy
- 17 Tom Cranny
- 18 Oran McGurke
- 19 Daniel O'Toole
- 20 Marc Ramsbottom
- 21 James Connolly
- 22 Jack Browne
- 23 DJ O'Brien Doyle
- 24 Josh Mulhall
- 25 Adam Dalton

## LAOIS COACHING AND GAMES

### Development Squad Trials

Under-14 football trials will take place on Sunday 9th February at 11am in Fr Browne Avenue, Portlaoise.

Under-15 football trials will take place on Saturday 8th February at 3pm in Fr Browne Avenue, Portlaoise.

Under-16 football trials will take place on Saturday 8th February at 10am in Fr Browne Avenue, Portlaoise.



# LAOIS

16. DARREN MAHER  
Darren Meachair  
*Sraidbhaile*

17. ROBBIE KEHOE  
Roibeard Mac Eochaidh  
*Na Díomasaigh*

18. STEPHEN ATTRIDE  
Stiofán Attride  
*Cill Uiseann*

19. PAUL BEGLEY  
Pól Ó Beaglaioch  
*Sraidbhaile*

20. PAUL KINGSTON  
Pol Mac Clochaire  
*Ard Lios Cillín*

21. PAUL CAHILLANE  
Pol Ó Cathaláin  
*Portlaoise*

22. MARTIN SCULLY  
Máirtín Ó Scolaí  
*Mainistir Baile Atha Roine*

23. EOIN LOWRY  
Eoin Ó Labhraí  
*Cill Uiseann*

24. DAMIEN O'CONNOR  
Damian O Conchúir  
*Tigh Mochua*

25. MARK O'HALLORAN  
Marcas Ó hAllúráin  
*Coill na Cúirte*

26. PAURIC MCEVOY  
Pauric Mac Fhíobhuí  
*Baile Laigheanáin*

**Team Management:**

Manager: Tomas O'Flaharta  
Selectors: Noel Garvan,  
Fergal Byron, Jerome Stack

1st Half  
2nd Half  
Total

|      |          |         |               |
|------|----------|---------|---------------|
|      |          |         |               |
| Cúil | Cúil Iní | Seachai | Saor Ciceanna |



GRAHAM BRODY  
Graham Ó Bruaideadha  
*Portlaoise*

Colours:  
Blue & White



DENIS BOOTH  
Donncha Ó Buaidh  
*An Fraoch Mór*



MARK TIMMONS  
Marcas Ó Tiomáin  
*Graig Chuillinn*



PETER O'LEARY  
Peadar Ó Laoire  
*Na Díomasaigh*



DARREN STRONG  
Darren Strong  
*Ioma*



PADRAIG MCMAHON  
Padraig Mac Mathúna  
*Mainistir Baile Atha Roine*



ADAM RYAN  
Adam Ó Riain  
*Cúl an tSudaire*



KEVIN MEANEY  
Caoimhín Ó Maonaigh  
*Ard Lios Cilchrúis*



JOHN O'LOUGHLIN  
Seán Ó Lochlainn  
*Naomh Brid*



JAMES FINN  
Seamus O Finn  
*Baile Fionn*



DONAL KINGSTON  
Dónal Mac Clochaire  
*Ard Lios Cillín*



BILLY SHEEHAN  
Liam Ó Siocháin  
*Ioma*



ROSS MUNNELLY  
Ross Ó Maonaile  
*Ard Lios Cilchrúis*



EVAN O'CARROLL  
Éimhín Ó Cearúill  
*Crochta Árd*



DAVID CONWAY  
Daithí O' Conbhui  
*Ard Lios Cilchrúis*



# DONEGAL

16. MICHAEL BOYLE  
Mícheál Ó Baoill  
*An Tearmann*

17. CHRISY TOYE  
Cristóir Ó Tuathaigh  
*Naomh Mícheál*

18. DECLAN WALSH  
Déaglán Breathnach  
*Málainn*

19. ÉAMONN DOHERTY  
Éamonn Ó Dochartaigh  
*Naomh Adhamhnáin*

20. GARY MC FADDEN  
Gary Mac Pháidín  
*Gleann Súilí*

21. HUGH MCFADDEN  
Aodh MacPháidín  
*Na Cealla Beaga*

22. LEON THOMPSON  
Leon Mac Thomáis  
*Naomh Conaill*

23. LUKE KEANEY  
Lúcas Ó Cianaigh  
*Na Ceithre Máistir*

24. MARTIN O'REILLY  
Máirtín Ó Raghallaigh  
*Seán MacCumhail*

25. MATTHEW SMYTH  
Maitiú MacGabhann  
*Na Cealla Beaga*

26. PATRICK MCBREARTY  
Pádraig MacBreartaigh  
*Cill Chartha*

**Team Management:**  
Manager: Jim McGuinness

1st Half  
2nd Half  
Total

|      |          |         |               |
|------|----------|---------|---------------|
|      |          |         |               |
| Cúil | Cúil Iní | Seachai | Saor Ciceanna |

Colours:  
Gold & Green



PAUL DURCAN  
Pól Ó Dorcáin  
*Na Ceithre Máistir*



KARL LACY  
Carl de Lása  
*Na Ceithre Máistir*



NEIL MCGEE  
Niall MacAoidh  
*Gaoth Dobhair*



RYAN MCHUGH  
Ryan MacAodha  
*Cill Chartha*



FRANK MCGLYNN  
Prionsias MacFhloinn  
*Gleann Fhinne*



LEO MCLOONE  
Leo Mac Giolla Uain  
*Naomh Conaill*



ANTHONY THOMPSON  
Antoin Mac Thomáis  
*Naomh Conaill*



RORY KAVANAGH  
Ruairi Caomhánach  
*Naomh Adhamhnáin*



MARTIN MCELHINNEY  
Máirtín MacGiolla  
*Naomh Mícheál Chainnigh*



MARK MCHUGH  
Marc MacAodha  
*Cill Chartha*



DERMOT MOLLOY  
Diarmuid Ó Ludhóg  
*Naomh Conaill*



ODHRÁN MAC NIALLAIS  
Odhrán Mac Niallais  
*Gaoth Dobhair*



COLM MCFADDEN  
Colm Mac Pháidín  
*Naomh Mícheál*



MICHAEL MURPHY ©  
Mícheál Ó Murchú ©  
*Gleann Súilí*

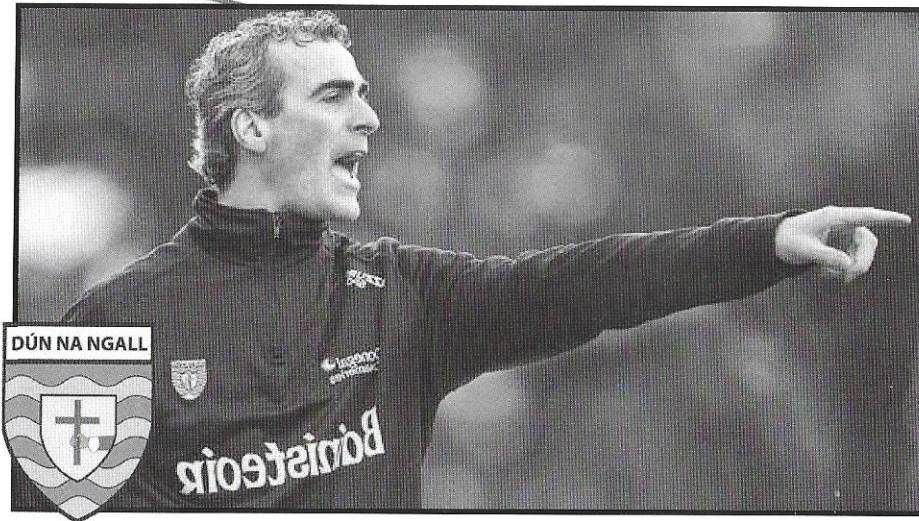


DARRACH O'CONNOR  
Darrach O Conchúir  
*Bun Crannacha*



## meet the managers

### JIM MCGUINNESS



Jim McGuinness is a household name around Ireland and today we visit his journey from his days with his club and county. McGuinness's achievements are well recognised as he has earned recognition from Ryder Cup captain Paul McGinley and Celtic FC boss Neil Lennon. After guiding Donegal to the 2010 All-Ireland Under-21 Football Championship, McGuinness was then appointed manager of the county senior team. His time at the helm has been a roaring success, he has overseen a Donegal team which has won two Ulster championships and then guided them to the All Ireland Senior Football Championship crown in 2012. It was the county's first success at this level since 1992.

McGuinness was born in Glenties, Co Donegal in 1972. A member of the 1992 all-Ireland winning team, he was also a star of Third-Level Colleges football winning Sigerson Cups with Tralee and UUJ. He played his club football with Naomh Conaill, winning a Donegal Senior Football Championship in 2005. With Ireland, he played in the 1998 International Rules Series.

In July 2010, Jim was appointed Donegal senior boss after John Joe Doherty resigned following a poor season. The first year under the McGuinness era proved successful as the Ulster men gained promotion by defeating today's opponents, Laois. A number of months later the second piece of silverware arrived as Donegal claimed the Ulster championship with a victory over Derry. However, this was to be the last of their success for 2011 as they eventually lost the all-Ireland semi final to Dublin with the Pat Gilroy trained side going on to be crowned champions.

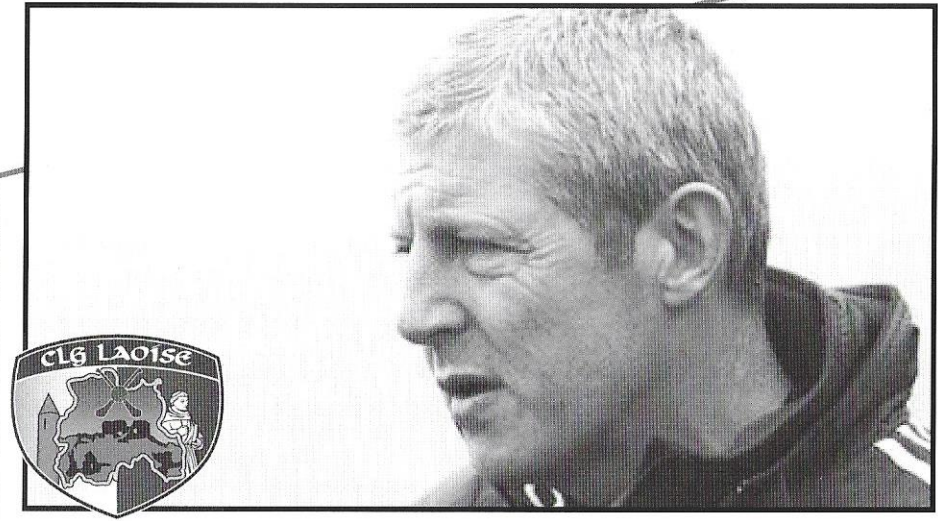
It was the second season in charge where McGuinness really came to the fore when he guided the Ulster men to the famous all-Ireland crown. They retained the Ulster championship for the first time in their history with a comprehensive win over Down. The wins continued with Cork and Mayo falling by the wayside as McGuinness masterminded a famous all-Ireland title.

Last year was a difficult year for Donegal and McGuinness as injuries to Karl Lacey, amongst others, halted their progress and they exited the championship at the quarter final stage when Mayo inflicted a huge defeat on the then all-Ireland champions.

Sandwiched in with his Donegal duties, Jim has also taken up a post with Celtic FC working with their youngsters. He's back for another year with Donegal and he will look to be a major powerhouse in this year's campaign.

## meet the managers

### TOMÁS Ó'FLAHARTA



Tomás Ó'Flaharta will take charge of Laois today for the first time in the National Football League as he looks to outwit Jim McGuinness and his Donegal side.

It's not the easiest of games for the Kerry man to make his competitive debut in but it's a challenge he will relish against the former all-Ireland champions.

One win in the O'Byrne Cup, against neighbours Offaly, has seen the Ó'Flaharta era begin but the new man has admitted he's still only learning in his new role.

"One thing we've learned is that when we move the ball fast it pays dividends for us," he said recently.

"Even towards the end of the last match it yielded scores for us. And we can see there are one or two young lads fighting for places, which is always good. We'd like to have a fairly competitive environment

"The one thing you have to have is plenty of players the whole time. We have brought in a good few young lads. We have seven or eight of the under-21 panel which is good, and I think some of them showed up good in the last few weeks."

Laois fans will remember the Leinster senior football final defeat to Westmeath in 2004 when Dessie Dolan and Co ended any chance of the O'Moore County claiming back-to-back Leinster crowns.

Hugging the touchline for the Lake County on that day was the great Paidi O'Se and his second in command was Ó'Flaharta.

When O'Se stepped down as Westmeath manager, the reigns were left to Ó'Flaharta where, after winning two National League titles, he resigned from his position in 2009 following defeat to Meath in the all-Ireland qualifiers.

In 2010 he then succeeded Joe Kernan in Galway but, however, left after a short spell.

His club football career in Kerry was spent playing with An Ghaeltacht and later with Kilmacud Crokes in Dublin where he won an all-Ireland club senior football championship medal.

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Date of Birth \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

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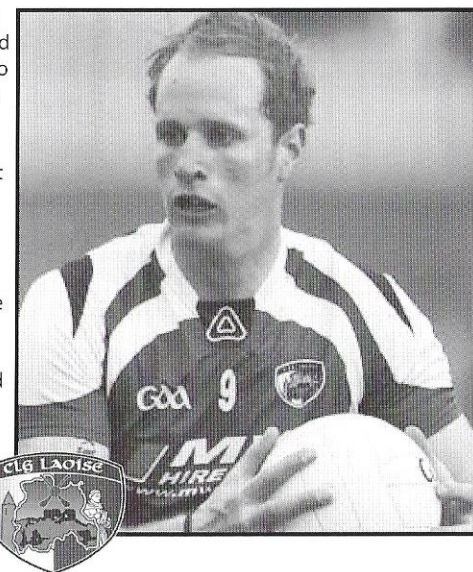
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## clancy looks back on laois career

An Inter-County career which spanned 14 years and 57 championship appearances, flame-haired Timahoe clubman Pdraig Clancy has decided to step away from wearing the Laois jersey. He has been a familiar figure in the blue and white, produced many top-class performances from midfield while Laois supporters will never forget his displays in the 2003 Leinster senior football championship winning side.



"The legs were starting to slow down," was his reason for calling it a day at the end of 2013. The outpour on social media networks, Twitter and Facebook, proved the Joe Mallon Motors employee was a very likeable character on and off the field.

"Even last year I was struggling in training, I just couldn't keep up to the levels you have to sustain for Inter-County football at the minute, which have gone through the roof. Plus, I'm hitting 34 next year and I don't think you start getting any better at 34!"

"I could feel it last year, coming home from some sessions and it taking three or four days to recover, I couldn't do it anymore."

The high point of Clancy's career was winning the Leinster senior championship with Laois following a famous victory over Kildare.

"It's always nice to be part of a group of players that wins something with your county, there's a lot of older players that were great footballers and never actually won anything. We had a group of 30 players that won in 2003 and before that I think my grandfather was on the last team that won it in 1946, that's how precious a Leinster medal is around here, to be part of that was brilliant.

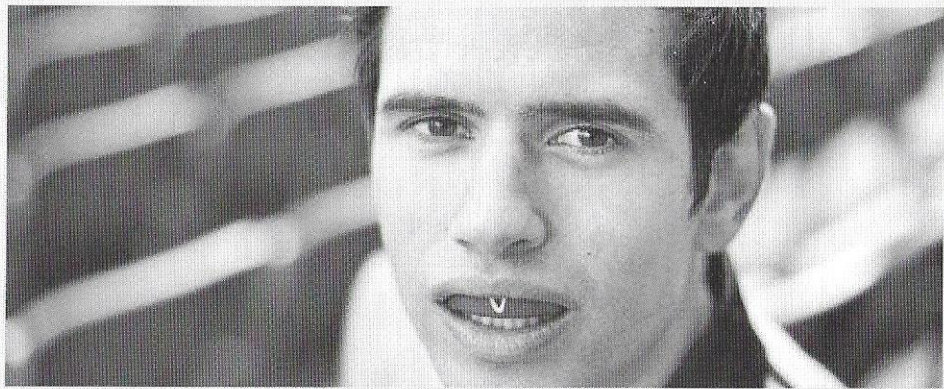
"I have to say, getting to the county final in 2008 with Timahoe, after beating O'Dempsey's in the semi-final, is also right up there. Those two days really stick out. One was with your county, but the other was nearly more important because you're playing with your club.

"We had low points, but every time you put on a Laois jersey you count yourself blessed to be putting on the jersey and going out in the first place. Any game you lose is a low point. One regret I would have is in 2005, losing to Dublin in the Leinster Final. Not to win that game, when we were two points up with 68 minutes gone and should have closed it out and we didn't, with a full house and we ended up losing by a point, that was hard to take."

However, Clancy has now closed the door on his inter-county career and wishes new Laois boss Tomás O'Flaharta all the best in his role.

"I think they are good enough to win Division 2. Individually, if you start naming names off the Laois team, there's not another county team out there that would say no to them."

*\*Pdraig Clancy was speaking with Conor Lennon*



**Mouthguards are mandatory for players in all age grades, in all Gaelic football practice sessions and games.** This rule has been mandatory for players in grades up to Minor since 2013 and applies to all age grades since January 1st 2014.

#### KEY POINTS

- Gaelic footballers in all age grades must wear a mouthguard from January 1st 2014
- It is the responsibility of each individual player to use a mouthguard
- A properly fitted mouthguard is the best available protective device for reducing the incidence and severity of sports-related dental injuries
- Players can be sent-off in a game for not wearing a mouthguard
- Players will not be covered under the GAA player injury scheme if they don't comply with the mouthguard rule
- No Mouthguard? No Game!

#### ROLE OF THE REFEREE

If a player refuses to comply with a Referee's instruction to wear a mouthguard, he will incur the penalty as outlined in (Rule 6.2, Rules of Foul Play, The Playing Rules of Football, Official Guide, Part 2, 2012) 'Caution the offender; order off if he persists'

#### ROLE OF THE PLAYER

In all Football Games and Practice Football Sessions, it shall be mandatory for, and the responsibility of, each individual player to use a mouthguard.

#### ROLE OF THE CLUB

Clubs should ensure that their players, player's parents/guardians, coaches and team mentors are made aware of the mouthguard rules.

#### ROLE OF THE OFFICIAL GAA COACH IN SCHOOLS

If an official GAA coach is coaching Gaelic football in primary schools then children must wear a mouthguard to participate in a practice session or game.

#### GAA PLAYER INJURY SCHEME

Players will not be covered under the player injury scheme if they are not wearing a mouthguard.

## nfl div 2 final 2011

Donegal 2-11 Laois 0-16

by Pat Delaney

**Fourteen-man Donegal held on for a narrow win in the Allianz Football League Division Two final against Laois at Croke Park.**

**Jim McGuinness' side had to play the final half-hour a man short after Adrian Hanlon picked up a second yellow card, and had to withstand a furious fightback from a Laois side that trimmed an eight-point deficit back to one.**

Goals from skipper Michael Murphy and Colm McFadden had given the Ulster side a comfortable advantage, and in the end, those strikes proved crucial.

Donegal crafted two glorious goal chances in the opening five minutes.

First Eoin Culliton saved superbly when McFadden's fist met a right wing cross from Mark McHugh, with Murphy converting the resultant '45.

The Midlanders had another let-off when Dermot Molloy smashed a shot off the butt of a post, moments after Niall Donohar had brought them level with a delightful sliced effort.

McHugh and John O'Loughlin swapped points, and in the 18th minute, the Ulster men finally did get the goal they had threatened for so long.

Murphy drove a penalty in off the underside of the crossbar after he had been fouled by Darren Strong, and when McFadden slotted over a couple of neat scores, the men from the north-west led by 1-05 to 0-03.

Ross Munnely and Donohar hit the target for Laois, with MJ Tierney converting a free, and at the break, they trailed by 1-05 to 0-05.

Donegal made a sensational start to the second half, Murphy floating over a wonderful point, before sending McFadden through for a clinically taken goal, all inside the opening 45 seconds.

They were reduced to 14-men when wing forward Adrian Hanlon picked up a second yellow card in the 40th minute, and Laois

staged a revival, with points from Paul Cahillane, Munnely and Darren Strong. Donegal's short passing game frequently broke down, and a more direct Laois side narrowed the gap to three points through substitutes Cahillane and Donie Kingston with 20 minutes to play. Kingston's third had made it a one-point game when McFadden converted a free to end a 21-minute barren spell for the Ulster men.

But they were forced onto the back foot by resurgent Laois, who added further scores through the exciting Kingston and O'Loughin, but fell just short.

**Donegal:** P Durkan, A Thompson, K Cassidy (0-01), K Lacey, M Boyle, F McGlynn, M McElhinney, R Kavanagh (0-01), K Rafferty, A Hanlon, M McHugh (0-01), D Molloy, R Bradley (0-01), M Murphy (1-03, 1-00 pen, 0-01f, 0-01'45), C McFadden (1-3, 0-1f).  
Subs: N Gallagher for Rafferty, D McLaughlin for Molloy, D Walsh (0-1) for McElhinney

**Laois:** E Culliton, D Booth, K Meaney, M Timmons, D Strong (0-01), S Julian, P O'Leary, P Clancy, B Quigley, C Begley (0-01), J O'Loughlin (0-02), N Donohar (0-02), R Munnely (0-02), B Sheehan, MJ Tierney (0-01, f).

**Subs:** C Healy for Booth, P Cahillane (0-03) for Clancy, D Kingston (0-04, 1f) for Tierney, K Lillis for Sheehan

**Referee: M Duffy (Sligo).**

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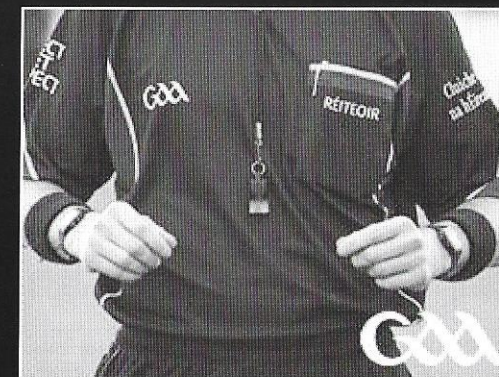
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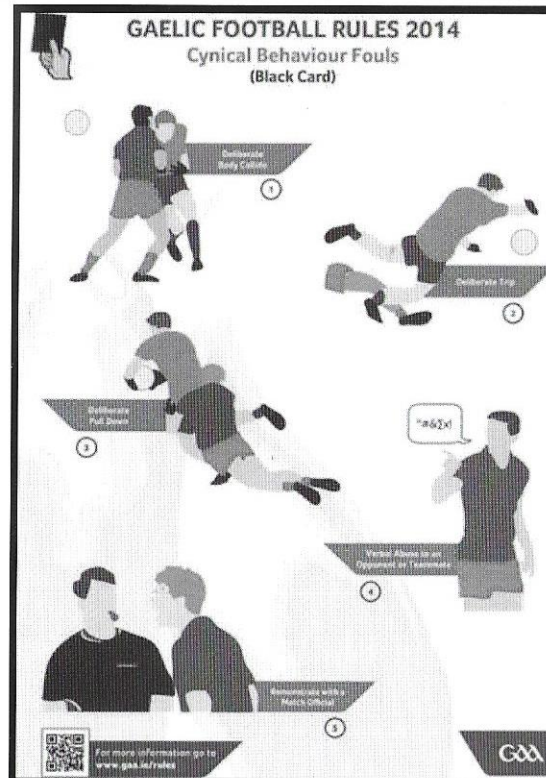
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## REFEREE RECRUITMENT 2014

Laois GAA is recruiting for new hurling and football referees for the 2014 season. As you are aware, we have a problem in relation to the limited number of referees we have available to officiate at our games. If you wish to talk to our Referee Administrator Tony Maher or our Inter County Referees Maurice Deegan, Eddie Kinsella or Anthony Stapleton to assist or talk to possible recruitment candidates, this can also be arranged.



Please forward interested names to and Contact details to Tomas 057 8660674 or Tony Maher 087 3742655. Courses will be held in the forthcoming future .



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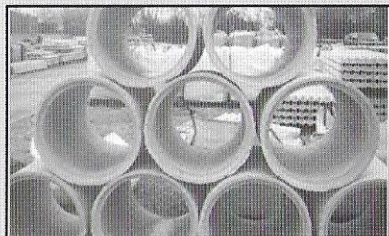
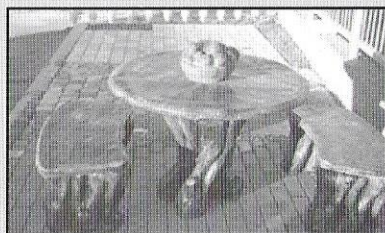
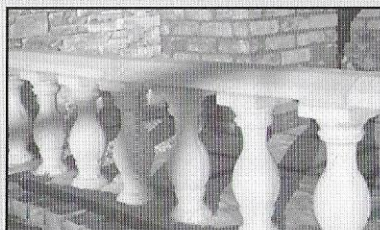
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# Donegal prove they have a potent mix

THE IRISH TIMES  
Monday, February 3, 2014

Donegal 2-19

Laois 1-9

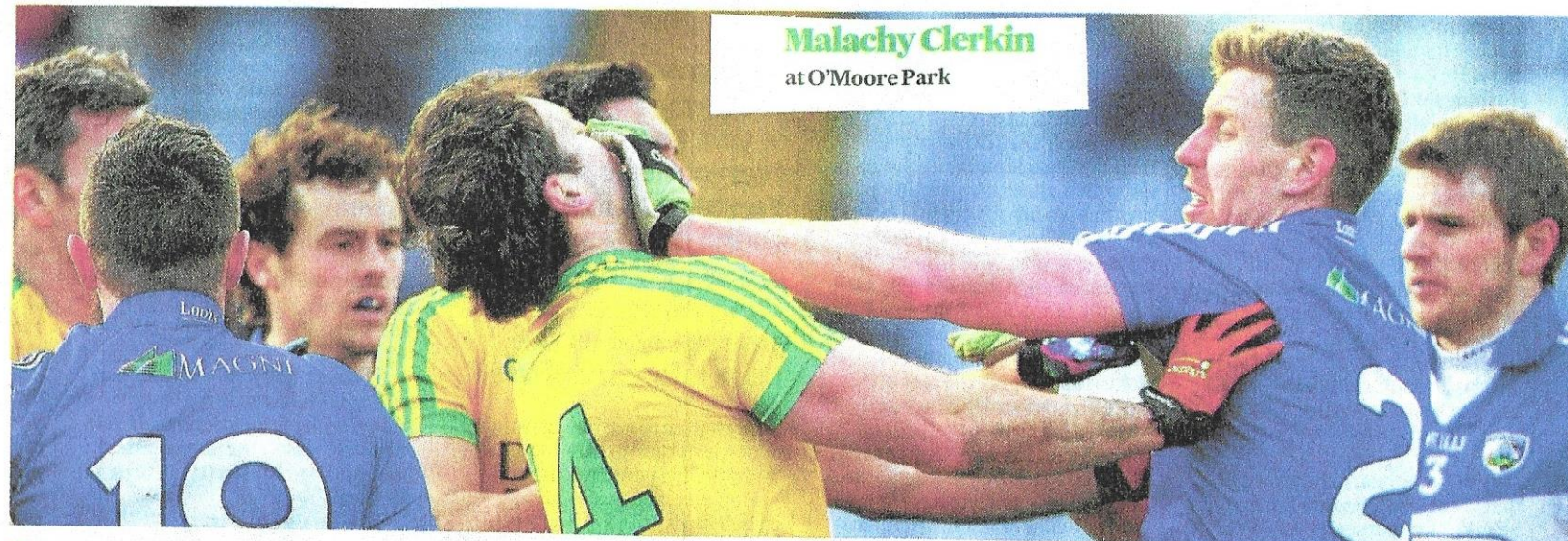
Or, How Donegal Got Their Groove Back. Jim McGuinness's side came south to Portlaoise and clicked into something like the sort of rhythm that made them such an irresistible force not so long ago. That they won't come up against many teams more amenable to helping them along their way than Laois were here feels irrelevant. That they've never scored more in a league game under McGuinness says plenty about the mood they were in.

Donegal played like a squad that had at some point over the winter thrown all the ills and cess of 2013 into a barrel and topped it off with a good douse of petrol and a just-struck match.

The all-out vigour that was such a rarity last year came in waves here. They created overlaps by the fistful and found themselves with spare men with which to attack at will. Too often, the Laois defence looked like men trying to bail out a boat with a teaspoon.

## Two tortuous years

All six Donegal starting forwards scored from play, as did subs Hugh McFadden and Patrick McBrearty. Mark McHugh reprised his role as a rugby number seven – constantly where the action was, always effective. After two tortuous years on the



Malachy Clerkin

at O'Moore Park

Donegal's Michael Murphy and Denis Booth of Laois get hands on with each other during yesterday's Division Two game at O'Moore Park.

PHOTOGRAPH: KEN SUTTON/INPHO

sideline, Christy Toye made his first start since a league match against Dublin in March 2012. Everywhere McGuinness looked, a good news story smiled back at him.

"We're in okay shape," he demurred afterwards. "We're not in fantastic shape. But what we did was we laid down a marker early in the game by taking the play to the opposition.

"Our natural game in Donegal is a running game and we're very comfortable with that. We ran the ball very well in the first half into the wind and obviously we have a couple of very good inside forwards."

The wind was stiff and had Laois been fit to hoist even a rudimentary sail they'd have been

carried along by it in that first half. But it's already apparent that Tomás Ó Flatharta has far more acreage to plough than he currently has the machinery to service. They day when they're able to live with a fully-fit and properly-prepared Donegal side looks a long way off.

"They're a better team than us," was Ó Flatharta's simple verdict. "They're away further down the road than we are in terms of development. We didn't create any opportunities for our forward line. When we had the aid of the breeze in the first half, we should have moved the ball quicker."

## Enjoyable spectacle

Instead, it was Donegal who moved it with the greater speed and accuracy. So much so that at times you were reminded of just what made them such an enjoyable spectacle in their All Ireland winning season. Throw in the added latitude afforded to their running game in these

black-card-wary days and it's a potent mix they've got.

Two rat-a-tat scores early in that first half told the day's story. The first, a 14th-minute goal by Odhrán MacNiallais was the endpoint of a quick passing move that left the Laois defence

## 2-19

Donegal had never scored more in a league game under manager Jim McGuinness

spinning. From Michael Murphy to Colm McFadden to Anthony Thompson to MacNiallais to the net in four simple moves and not a Laois glove laid on them. Glenties tiki-taka, unstoppable when done right.

The point that followed a minute later was just as impressive. A length-of-the-field effort, full of gives-and-goes and runners with options. It passed through eight pairs of hands before Der-

mot Molloy fisted over the bar to put them 1-2 to 0-2 ahead.

Time and again, Donegal came with their *Ride of the Valkyries* routine and all Laois could do was smell the napalm. Thompson and Frank McGlynn both could have had goals at the end of five-on-two attacks, Toye and Murphy found space to kick points.

## Desperate challenge

It left them four up at the break and when Colm McFadden opened the second half with a goal. Laois had Denis Booth sent off soon after for a desperate challenge on Mark McHugh and from there to the end it was an accounting matter and nothing else.

"We're in a better position than we probably have been in the four years in terms of where players are," said McGuinness. "Both old and young. The younger fellas that are starting to progress, they're coming close to finding their feet within

the squad. I think we had six or seven players who needed surgery and they're all coming out the other end of that.

"Last year, we were losing those players through the season. So if we can continue to manage them and bring them forward, hopefully we end up with a squad that can challenge for championship football."

For a first day's work, he can't have wished for more.

DONEGAL: P Durrain; K Lacey, N McGee, R McHugh; F McGlynn, L McLoone, A Thompson (0-1); R Kavanagh, M McElhinney (0-2); M McHugh (0-1); D Molloy (0-1); O MacNiallais (1-1); C McFadden (1-3, 0-1 free); M Murphy (0-6, 0-2 frees, 0-2 45s); C Toye (0-1). Subs: D Walsh for Lacey (43 mins); H McFadden (0-2) for Kavanagh (48 mins); P McBrearty (0-1) for Molloy (48 mins); E Doherty for McGlynn (64 mins); S McLoughlin for MacNiallais (67 mins). LAOIS: G Brody; D Booth, M Timmons; P O'Leary (0-1); D Strong; P McMahon; A Ryan; K Meaney; J O'Loughlin (1-1); J Finn; D Kingston (0-2, both frees); B Sheehan; R Munnally (0-3, 0-2 frees); E O'Carroll (0-1); D Conway (0-1). Subs: P Begley for McMahon (temp, 12-14 mins); P Cahillane for Finn (half-time); Begley for Ryan (half-time); R Kehoe for O'Leary (47 mins); S Attride for Sheehan (57 mins); E Lowry for Attride (70 mins). Referee: G. O'Connell.