

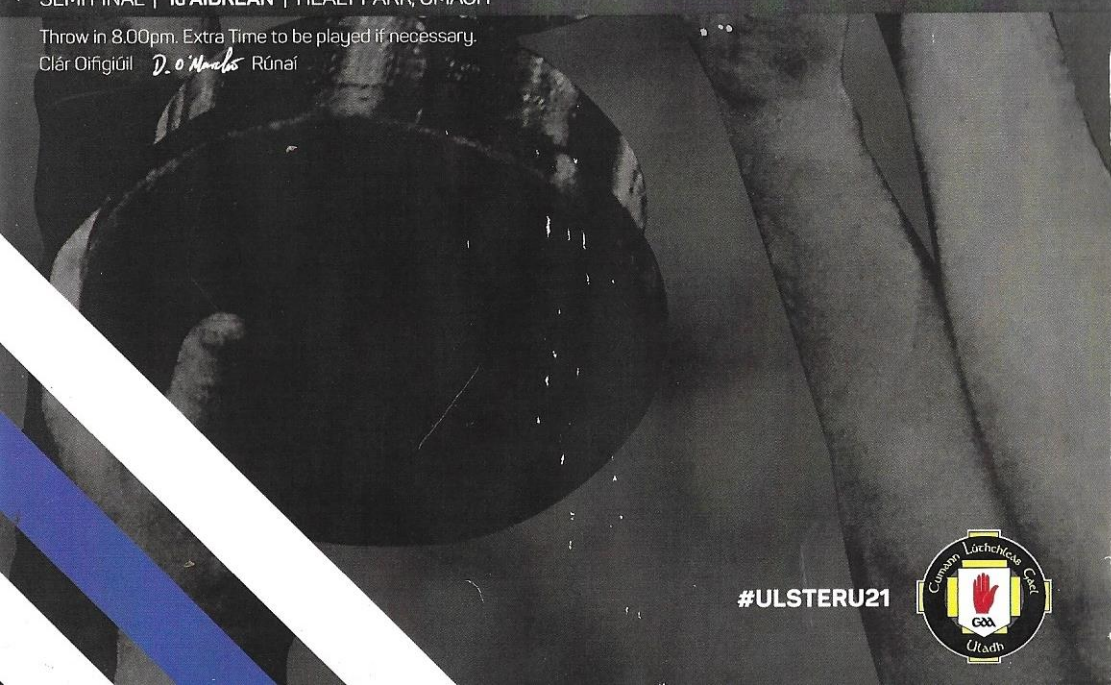
COMÓRTAS PEILE FAOI 21 2015

# DÚN NA NGALL V MUINEACHÁN

SEMI FINAL | 1ú AIBREÁN | HEALY PARK, OMAGH

Throw in 8.00pm. Extra Time to be played if necessary.

Clár Oifigiúil *D. O'Neills* Rúnaí



#ULSTERU21





# DÚN NA NGALL



## DONEGAL TEAM

Manager: Maxi Curran



### FÍR IONAID/SUBSTITUTES

16. Joe Coll, Cloich Ceann Faola 17. Niall Friel, Gaoth Dobhair 18. Eammon McGrath, Aodh Ruadh  
 19. Cian Mulligan, Gaoth Dobhair 20. Caolan McGonigle, Bun Cranacha 21. Conor O'Donnell, Naomh Adhamhnáin  
 22. Lorcan Connor, Na Dunaibh 23. Jamie Brennan, Bun Dobhrain 24. Michael Miller, Naomh Adhamhnáin



Referee: Kieran Trainor (An Dun)  
 Standby: Paul Faloon (An Dun)  
 Linesman: Eamon McHugh (Tir Eoghain)  
 Sideline: Conor Dourneen (An Cabhan)

# MUINEACHÁN

## MONAGHAN TEAM

Managers: Finbarr Fitzpatrick & Ciaran McBride



### FÍR IONAID/SUBSTITUTES

16. Conor Forde, An Bhoth 17. Adam Kieran, Cill Éanna 18. Shane Conlon, Achadh na Muileann  
 19. Micheál McCarville, An Bhoth 20. Donnacha Dolan, An Bhoth 21. Colm Meegan, Inis Caoin  
 22. Shaun Buckley, Craobh Mháirtín 23. Donal Meegan, Inis Caoin 24. David McAllister, Scairbh na gCaorach

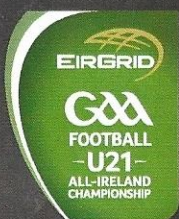
	Cúil	Cúilíní	Seachai	45	Saor	Ciceanna
1AD Leath						
2AD Leath						
Iomlán						

NOTES

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1AD Leath						
2AD Leath						
Iomlán						

NOTES





ULSTER U21 FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP  
FINAL | WED 8 APRIL | THROW IN 8:00PM

# ARD MHACHA / TÍR EOGHAIN V DÚN NA NGALL / MUINEACHÁN

AT VENUE TBC

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## GAA – EIRGRID ULSTER UNDER-21 FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP SEMI-FINAL

# U21s trounce Monaghan to book spot in final

DONEGAL ..... 4-09  
MONAGHAN ..... 1-05

REPORT BY CHRIS MCNULTY AT HEALY PARK  
PHOTOS BY SPORTSFILE

DONEGAL advanced to their third Ulster Under-21 final in a row as Maxi Curran's team comfortably overcame Monaghan in dreadful conditions in Omagh on Wednesday night.

A deadly finish to the first half, in which they scored 2-4, saw Donegal pull away in a game that somehow got the go-ahead despite the pools of water dotted all over Healy Park.

Jack O'Brien and Lorcan Connor had netted to give Donegal a nine-point lead at the interval. Connor palmed home again in the second half, after a third by Ciaran Thompson.

Donegal were devastating at times, in spite of the hazardous underfoot conditions. In Connor, Ryan McHugh, Eoin McHugh, Darach O'Connor, Willie Gillespie and Eamon McGrath, Donegal had serious running power.

The move for the first goal outlined Donegal's intent as one corner-back, Conor Morrison, provided the assist across goal for the other. Jack O'Brien, to net.

After a delay because of floodlight failure ten minutes before the appointed throw-in time, the teams were level at a point apiece after 23 minutes before the game roared away from the Farney in a stunning six-minute spell for Donegal.

O'Brien palmed home from close range after Morrison's ball across goal in the 27th minute. Just two minutes later, Ryan McHugh's clever pass provided the opening for Connor and he applied the finish in style.

Hugh McFadden (2), Willie Gillespie and Ciaran Thompson hit points and with Monaghan down to 14 men the passage to the final was effectively sealed. Conor Lavelle walked the tightrope from a third-minute booking and the Clontibret men was dismissed when black carded in the 25th minute. Conditions were such that former Donegal football star Martin McHugh blasted at half-time: "The first thing we should look at is the safety of the players. The referee made the wrong call. People talk about our game against Derry at Clones in 1993 – that was worse there tonight."

A late pitch inspection gave the go-ahead, but a messy opening ensued with Ryan McAnespie and O'Connor trading points before Donegal took complete control in the latter passage of the opening stanza.

Monaghan were given a glimmer of hope early in the second half when Conor McCarthy batted home as

Donegal 'keeper Danny Rodgers lost the flight of Kevin Loughran's ball into the mixer.

The nerves whistled for a few moments as Dessie Ward reduced the margin to six, but Donegal clicked again. After David Kirk saved from influential sub Gillespie, who had been hamstrung for the quarter-final win over Cavan, Thompson fired in from the rebound.

It got even better when Connor got his second and Donegal's fourth after McGrath's telling incision.

Daire McDaid, Thompson, McGrath and Eoin McHugh had all landed points in between times as Donegal coasted to their third final in as many years.

Having been beaten by Cavan in each of the last two finals, it is now Tyrone – who overcame Armagh in the other semi-final – who stand in Donegal's way of a first Irish News Cup since Jim McGuinness's class of 2010.

**Donegal:** Danny Rodgers; Conor Morrison, Conor Parke, Jack O'Brien (1-0); Oisín Crawford, Ryan McHugh, Eoin Ban Gallagher; Ciaran Thompson (1-2), Hugh McFadden (0-2, 1f); Darragh Mulgrew, Eoin McHugh (0-1), Tony McClenaghan; Lorcan Connor (2-0), Daire McDaid (0-1, 1f), Darach O'Connor (0-1). Subs: Eamon McGrath for Mulgrew (black card, 15), Willie Gillespie (0-1) for Craw-

ford (22), Stephen McBrearty for McGrath (34), Eamon McGrath (0-1) for McDaid (46), Jamie Brennan for O'Connor (52 mins), Conor O'Donnell for McClenaghan (56).

**Monaghan:** David Kirk; Ryan Wylie, Mikey Murnaghan, Kevin Loughran; Dessie Ward (0-1), Shane Conlon, Fergal Malone; Conor Lavelle, Brian Greenan; Ryan

McAnespie (0-1), David McAllister, Padraic Keenan; Conor McCarthy (1-1, 1f), Fergal McGeough (0-1, 1f), Fearghal McMahon (0-1, 1f). Subs: Donal Meegan for McMahon (h-t), Adam Traynor for Conlon (50), Micheál McCarville for Keenan (52), Adam Kieran for Ward (black card, 59).

Referee: Kieran Trainor (Down).

## The Game at a Glance

With Chris McNulty in Omagh

### MAN OF THE MATCH

Hugh McFadden (Donegal): When this one was trench warfare in the first half it was McFadden who led the charge for Donegal. The big Killybegs man battled hard throughout and ended with two points to his name, one of them an inspirational point from distance that opened up a 0-4 to 0-1 lead.

### TURNING POINT

Between the 23rd and 29th minutes, Donegal scored 2-4, with Jack O'Brien and Lorcan Connor getting the goals, to move into a position of real strength. From there, it was always a damaged limitations exercise for Monaghan.

### THE WHISTLER

Down referee Kieran Trainor showed the participants little leeway in the horrendous conditions. Black carded Darragh Mulgrew very harshly in the 15th minute and the official was a little too card happy in the opening half.

### TERRACE TALK

Donegal won't exactly be complaining given that they managed to prevail, but questions surely must be asked as to how Healy Park was given the go-ahead on Wednesday night. Plainly, the surface was unplayable and yet a second pitch inspection in the hour leading up to the game deemed that it was fine despite being littered with puddles.