

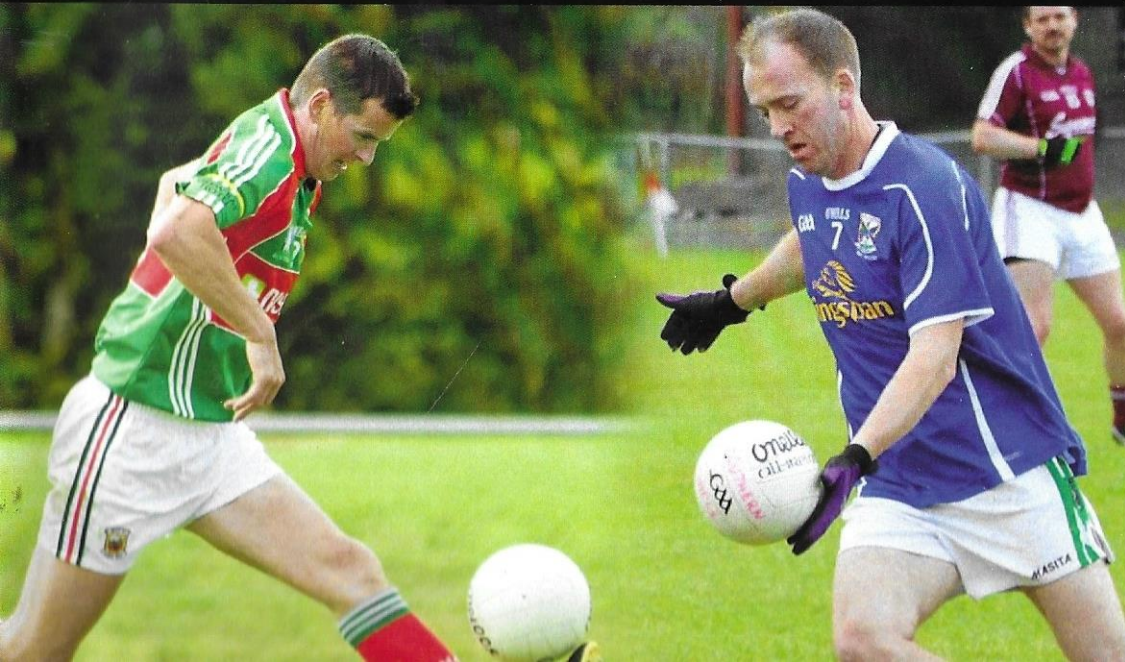
1.30PM SHIELD FINAL :
DONEGAL VS OFFALY
REFEREE : GERRY SHERIDAN (CAVAN)



ALL-IRELAND MASTERS FOOTBALL FINALS
KILKERRIN - CLONBERNE
SATURDAY 12TH NOVEMBER 2016



3.15PM SENIOR FINAL :
MAYO VS CAVAN
REFEREE : MICHAEL DUFFY (SLIGO)



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Foreword from our Chairman



Welcome to the Gaelic Masters Association All Ireland Finals 2016.

On behalf of the Gaelic Masters Association I extend a warm welcome to all attending our finals at Kilkerrin - Clonberne GAA club.

I want to start by complimenting all twelve counties who participated in this year's competitions. I'd like to wish all the best to the Cavan and Mayo teams who contest today's Senior Final, as well as to Donegal and Offaly who meet in the Shield Final. It's great to see two 'new' teams contesting the Shield final in their first year back after a long absence from Masters' football.

The pairings mean we'll have new Senior champions too, and I'd like to take this opportunity to congratulate last year's champions Tyrone on bringing the Masters to another level. One of the highlights of the last year was attending their celebration banquet in Quinn's Corner in April to celebrate their 2015 win and to mark 25 years of Tyrone involvement in Masters' football.

Once again, this year's competition has provided very enjoyable and competitive football. The level of support that we have received from clubs and county boards on the ground over the past five years has been exceptional. I'd like to offer sincere thanks also to our referees and umpires; they're willingness to undertake a difficult task is essential to the continuation of our games. Thanks too to the small tight-knit and hard-working committee for your endeavours throughout the year.

Following the last couple of year's successful live broadcasting of the finals, we are delighted to have Irish TV here once again providing coverage of today's finals. Today's finalists are competing for the Irish TV All Ireland Masters Cup, and, in addition, Irish TV is the main sponsor and broadcast partner for The Irish TV All-Ireland Masters Series and are sponsors of the Man of the Match for the Senior Final. We would sincerely like to thank Pierce O Reilly CEO of Irish TV, his wife, family, and all their team who show unbelievable support and commitment to our competition stemming from an inherent passion for Gaelic games. It is mind-boggling to think that in excess of a million viewers in Ireland, England, and North America will watch the finals via satellite, and many more worldwide online. We look forward to continuing to work with such a committed and professional team from Irish TV in the future and, indeed, to strengthening our ties.

2016 saw the renewal of the Masters International Rules series with Ireland wrestling back a trophy they had lost in 2009 in Australia. The series generated great interest in our association with the touring AFL Masters squad met by An Taoiseach, Enda Kenny, and the recently appointed Australian ambassador, Mr Richard Andrews, attending and meeting both teams in Cavan.

Congrats to our management team of Cavan's Jimmy Galligan, Tyrone's Eugene Bradley and Joe Leonard, and Galway's John Davin, for preparing a committed group of men who represented their country well. This club, Kilkerrin - Clonberne, hosted the first test with aplomb last month. The support given by the local community was again testament to this area's commitment to sport and the Masters itself. A huge thanks too to Pat McEaney and Joe McQuillan for their help in refereeing both tests, and also for the priceless advice they imparted to the players when refereeing trial games and training sessions in the run-in to the tests.

The second test was held in Denn GAA in Crosskeys in Cavan. The sides contested for the Paddy Gaffney Memorial Cup. The cup is named after the Denn man who represented Ireland with distinction at Masters level and was taken from us too early; there was a fantastic community support for the game there too.

Many of the players who represented their club, county and country with pride will be battling against each other in their county colours today. I wish them, and all players, management and supporters the best of luck on what promises to be a great day's football. May the best sides win.

2016 also saw us link up with our charity partners, Aware. We see our organisation as providing an invaluable sporting and social outlet for players over 40, and in Aware we believe we have found a charity that is a good match for our Association. They do fantastic work in assisting those with mental health issues.

We don't stop playing because we grow old, we grow old because we stop playing.

John Pat Sheridan

John Pat Sheridan, Chairman, Gaelic Masters Association.



Gaelic Masters And Aware: A Well-Made Match



Left: Sligo Masters' Eamonn O'Hara, JP Sheridan (Chairman Of The Gaelic Masters Association) and Des Greene (Aware) at the launch of their joint fundraising effort in Castlebar earlier this year. Aware are the Charity Partner of the Gaelic Masters, and they are two organisations that complement each other well. Aware makes a huge contribution to helping people and their families through mental health issues and provides support, education and information around these issues; Gaelic Masters provides a healthy, sociable outlet for men over 40 to continue playing a sport they love and have enjoyed for decades.

2016 Masters Final Table Standings



Group 1

Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	GF	GA	G+/-	Points
Tyrone	4	4	0	0	72	49	23	8
Cavan	5	3	0	2	92	74	18	6
Donegal	5	3	0	2	42	33	9	6
Antrim	5	2	0	3	60	80	20	4
Monaghan	4	1	0	3	52	50	2	2
Leitrim	5	1	0	4	50	82	12	2

Group 2

Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	GF	GA	G+/-	Points
Galway	5	5	0	0	96	49	47	10
Mayo	5	4	0	1	91	56	32	8
Offaly	5	3	0	2	76	64	12	6
Westmeath	5	2	0	3	60	93	33	4
Sligo	5	1	0	4	73	75	2	2
Longford	5	0	0	5	30	91	61	0

Semi-Finals Of Masters' All-Ireland SFC

Cavan	0-12	Galway	1-08
Mayo	1-12	Tyrone	1-10 AET

Semi-Finals Of Masters' Shield

Offaly	1-12	Antrim	1-07
Donegal	0-15	Westmeath	0-12

Ireland Victorious over AFL Masters in Kilkerrin-Clonberne, Wed 19th Oct 2016



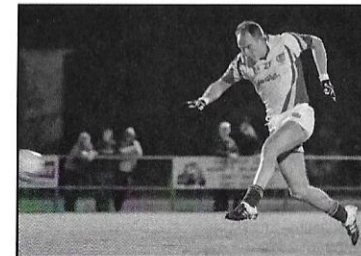
Photos by Martin McIntyre, Kilmeena @gmail.com



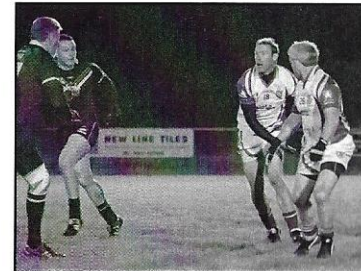
Above: The Touring AFL Masters squad.



Above: John Pat Sheridan, Gaelic Masters Association Chairman, presenting Tom Walsh, Kilkerrin - Clonberne Chairman, with an Irish Jersey as a thanks for their stellar work hosting of the first test in Masters International Rules Series.



Above: Donegal's Daniel Branley strikes for goal in Clonberne.



Above: Cavan's Christy Shiels is supported by Donegal's Charlie Doherty.



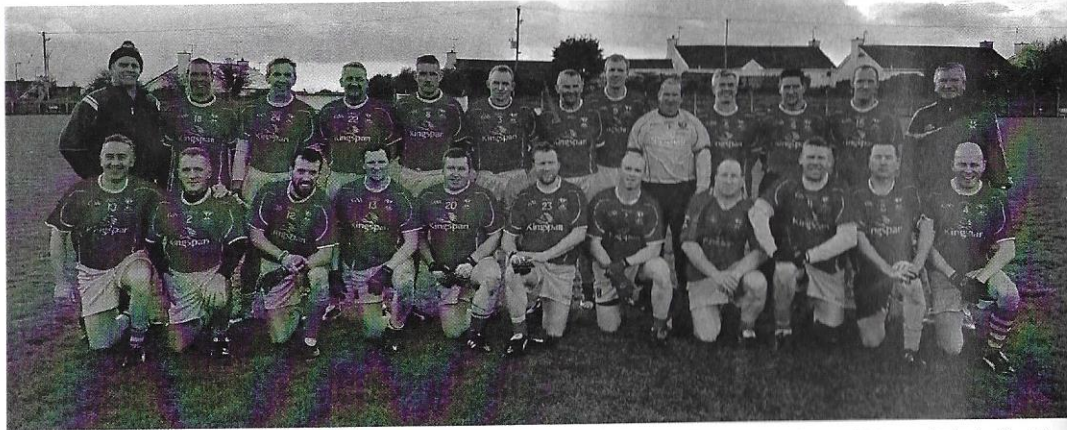
Above: Donegal's David McShane on the attack supported by Mayo's Sean McCaughey.

Best Wishes to
*The Cavan Team
 & Management*
 from Brendan & Marie Boylan

**THE
 TANK BAR**

Denncross, Carrickaboy, Co Cavan

Cavan Team Pic



BACK ROW (L-R): Jimmy Galligan (Manager), Christy Shiels, Michael Ward, Gabriel Patterson, Bernard Young, Padraig Sheridan, Padraig Brady, Glen Nulty, Francis Clarke, Mark Greaney, Mark Rehill, Andy Maguire, Kevin Madden. **FRONT ROW:** Adrian O'Reilly, Michael Brady, Jerome McKiernan, Art McSeain, Ray Brady, Oliver Costello, Noel McPhillips, Barney Brady, Ciaran Briody, Tommy Maguire, Patrick Mulligan.

Cavan Master Profiles



CHRISTY SHIELS: Mullahoran GFC, Midfield. 1 Senior League 2012; Junior League & Championship 2015; 2 Senior Club Championships 1998 & 2006. Fresher's championship Sligo RTC 1992; 1 Senior Club Championship Penrith Gaels, New South Wales Australia 1997. 1 Australasian Rules Championship – New South Wales Australia 1997. Intercountry: Played U-14, U-16, Minor & U-21 with Cavan; Division 3 League Medal 1996; Masters Shield 2013. Masters International Rules winner 2016.

TOMMY MAGUIRE: Mullahoran GFC, Forward. 1 SFC with Lisnaskea 1995. 1 All-Ireland intermediate 2010 (Lisnaskea). 2 Cavan SFC with Mullahoran 2006 & 2012.

PADRAIG SHERIDAN: Ballymachugh GFC, Midfield. 1 Intermediate Championship 1999; League titles in 1990, 1992 & 1994; Junior League 1999; Senior Hurling Championship 2011. Inter county: Masters Shield 2013. Masters International rules winner 2016.

GABRIEL PATTERSON: Kingscourt Stars, Forward. 3 Senior Championships, 3 Senior Leagues; 3 Master All Ireland Shields. Represented Ireland in Aussie Rules 2005 – 2009.

RAPHAEL ROGERS: Knockbride, Forward. Two Division 3 leagues, 2 division 2 leagues. 1 Junior Championship 1996, Intermediate championship 2000. Dr McKenna Cup with Cavan 2000, Played for Cavan at all levels.

AIDAN CROSSBIE: Kilmainhamwood GFC, Forward. 1 SFC, 1 IFC, 1 JFC, 1 Leinster JFC, 1 Feis cup, 2 "A" league Div 1, Two "A"

league div 2, One "A" league div 4, One "B" league div 4.

JEROME KIERNAN: Denn GFC, Forward. All-Ireland Colleges Div 3, Senior Div 1 League '98, Div 2 League 2002, 03. Intermediate C'ship 2003. SFC Finalists 2008 & '09. Masters International Rules Winner 2016.

MICHAEL WARD: Shercock GFC, Forward. 2013 All-Ireland Masters Shield, 2 Div 3 Senior Leagues, Div 2 Reserve League and Championship, Two Div 3 Reserve Championships.

FRANCIS CLARKE: Bailieboro Shamrocks, Goalkeeper. Senior Football Championship 1995, One IFC 1989, senior football league 1995. Senior hurling championship 1982, '85, & '89. All-Ireland Minor Hurling Championship 1985. Ulster Junior Hurling championship 1985. Masters Shield winner 2008. Represented Ireland Masters v Australia 2009.

JOHN DONNELLAN: Bailieboro Shamrocks, Half-Back. McKenna Cup 1988, Intermediate Championship 1989, Sigerson cup 1992, Senior Championship 1995. Masters Shield 2013.

MICHAEL "THE ROCK" CLINCH: Bailieboro Shamrocks, Centre Half-Forward. Three Div. 1a Leagues, 3 Junior B Championship, One Div. 3 League, One Div 2 League.

NOEL MCPHILLIPS : Butlersbridge, Back / Forward. All-Ireland Colleges, North American Championship, 2 Junior Championships, 2 leagues.

BARRY MCGOVERN: Killygarry, Forward. One Div. 2 League, 1 Reserve League, 1 Reserve Championship, 1 Legends Cup.

Cavan Master Profiles



OLIVER COSTELLO: Crosserlough, Back. Junior championship 2012; 3 Junior leagues 2011, 2012 & 2015. Intercountry: Cavan senior panel 1997 and 1999 - 2000. Masters International Rules winner 2016.

MARK REHILL: Crosserlough, Corner back/Centre back. Cavan SFC runner-up 1997; Junior league 2011, 2012 & 2015. Masters International Rules winner 2016.

ADRIAN O REILLY: Crosserlough, Half-Forward. Junior championship 2012, Junior League 2011, 2012 & 2015.

CIARAN FOX: Cootehill Celtic, Back. Division 2 league 2000, Division 1b League 2012, 1 Intermediate Championship 2014. Masters International Rules winner 2016.

BARRY MCGAHON: Cootehill Celtic, Full-Back. Division 2 league 2000, Division 1b League 2012, 1 Intermediate Championship 2014.

GLEN NULTY: Cootehill Celtic, Midfield. Div. 2 league 2000, Div. 1 B 2012, Intermediate Championship 2014.

BERNARD YOUNG: Drumalee, Midfield. 1 intermediate championship, 1 Ulster Colleges, 1 Masters shield, 2 senior Div. 2 leagues, 1 junior league.

PATRICK MULLIGAN: Arva, Corner Back. 1 Junior championship, 1 Div. 3 league, 3 Div. 3a, 1 Reserve Championship, Masters Shield 2013.

RAY BRADY: Arva, Corner-Back. 2 Junior Championships. One Intermediate Championship, 1 Trench Cup, Masters Shield 2013.

FERGAL BRADY: Mullahoran GFC, Defender. Senior Championship 2006 and 2012. Senior League 2012. Numerous medals in every age group level from underage to senior. Managed local Ladies club to county titles & County Underage Ladies to Ulster and All Ireland titles.

CIARAN BRIODY: Mullahoran GFC, Midfield/Forward. 1 Senior championship, One Div. 1 league.

MICHEAL BRADY: Mullahoran, Corner-Back. 1 Senior championship, 1 Intermediate championship, 1 Junior league, 2 Ulster handball titles, 1 All Ireland 'B' handball title.

MARK GREANEY: Killygarry, Back. Div. 2 league; Junior B

league & championship.

ANDY MAGUIRE: Bailieboro Shamrocks, Half-Back. 1 Div. 3 League, 3 Reserve Championships, 2 Junior leagues, 1 junior championship.

BRIAN DOYLE: Cornafean, Midfield. 2 Junior Championships, 3 Junior leagues, 4 Senior Hurling Championships.

ART MCSEAIN: Cornafean, Corner-Forward. 2 junior Championship, 3 Junior leagues.

PADRAIG BRADY: Gowna, Forward. 1 Senior Championship, 1 Senior league.

DARA MCCARTHY: Ballinagh, Goalkeeper. Senior championship 2013, Intermediate championship 2007 & 1992. Ulster Intermediate 2007.

MANAGEMENT TEAM PROFILES:

JIMMY GALLIGAN (MANAGER): Jimmy is from the Lacken club in Co. Cavan. He managed Ireland to the 2016 International Rules Series win over the AFL Australian Masters. Jimmy was a friend and team-mate of the late Paddy Gaffney of Denn GAA, after whom the International Rules Cup is named. Jimmy played with Cavan in New York winning a senior championship in '90 and a junior championship '94. In his first year home he won an intermediate with Lacken, winning another in 2004. He has refereed county finals in New York and Cavan. He was a founding member of the Gaelic Masters Association alongside John Pat Sheridan of Mayo, and is current vice-chairman.

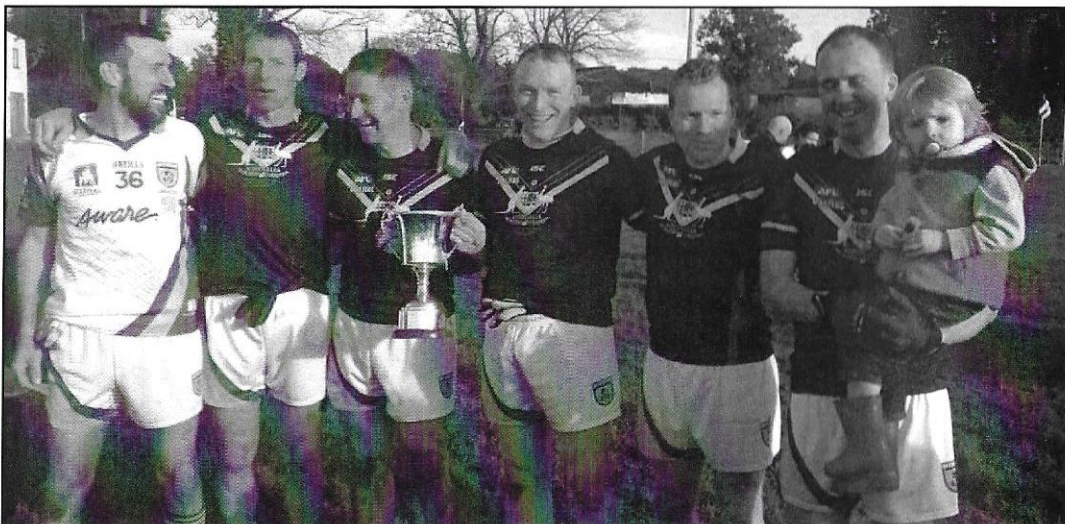
KEVIN MADDEN (ALSO PLAYING): Gowna, Goalkeeper. 1 Junior Championship, 1 Intermediate Championship, 6 Senior Championships, 3 senior leagues, 3 Masters' Shields, Represented Ireland International Rules 2005 – 2009. Involved with Cavan Masters as a player/selector since 2004

SEAMUS DONOHOE: Denn, Forward. McKenna Cup 1988, Ulster U-21 1988, Junior Club Championship 2003, Intermediate Championship 2006, Div. 2 and Div. all county league. Master shield 2013.

BARNEY BRADY (ALSO PLAYING): Lacken, Corner Back. Junior Championship, Junior league, Masters Shield 2013.



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Above: Cavan International Rules players, Jerome Kiernan, Christy Shiels, Mark Rehill, Pdraig Sheridan, Oliver Costello, Ciaran Fox (and his daughter, Rebecca) celebrate with the Paddy Gaffney Cup after defeating Australia last month.

Best Wishes To

The Cavan Team & Management

Hyland Hardware Ltd
General Hardware Merchants

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MARTIN CONWAY: Westport, Goalkeeper. 2 County League (1994, 2012), 3 West Mayo Junior B (1995, 2008, 2010), 2 Kelly Cup (1998, 2004). Masters Shield 2012.

JOHN CREAN: Ardnaree, Corner-Back. County Leagues (1992, 1997, 2001, 2009, 2011), North Mayo C'ship (2002, 2003, 2009), Junior Champions (2004, 2007, 2008, 2009). Masters Shield 2012.

DECLAN RYAN: Kilmeena, Full-Back. 2 County Junior C'ship (1993, 2003), Connacht Junior C'ship 2003.

J.P. SHERIDAN: Burrishoole, Corner-Back. West Mayo U16 1974, West Mayo Junior 1978, West Mayo U21 1980, West Mayo C'ship (1985, 1986, 1989, 1993). Centenary Cup (1999, 2000, 2001, 2002). County Intermediate C'ship 1992. County Senior B C'ship 1995, Senior League (1994, 1999), Connacht Junior C'ship 1995. All-Ireland Masters 2006, 2007 & 2009. Masters Shield 2012. Chairman Burrishoole GAA 2000-2004.

KENNETH MORTIMER: Shrulue - Glencorrib, Centre - Back. Played for Mayo Seniors 1992-2001, 2 All Stars. Nominated for both Senior and Young Footballer of the Year. 3 Connacht Senior Inter-County C'ship.

PAT MULCHRONE: Kilmeena, Wing-Back. County Junior titles in 1993 and 2003. All-Ireland Junior Runner-Up 2003. Mayo Intermediate Runner up 1995. Captained Allergen to win the Interfirms All-Ireland final in 1998. Masters Shield 2012. Player of the year with Kilmeena in 2015.

BRIAN HUGHES: Bohola Moy Davitts, Midfield. Mayo Intermediate C'ship 1996, Mayo Junior B C'ship 2013.

DARREN MADDEN: Kilmeena, Wing-Forward. County Junior C'ship 1986, 1993, 2003. All-Ireland Club Junior Runner Up 2003. Intermediate C'ship Runner-Up 1995. Connacht Vocational School C'ship 1988, All Ireland Vocational Schools Runner-Up 1988. Masters Shield 2012.

NOEL STAGG: Hollymount - Carramore, Corner-Forward. County Intermediate C'ship 1989. 3 County Senior (1990, 1991, 1994). 3 All Ireland Masters (2006, 2007, 2009). Masters Shield 2012.

JOHN FLANNERY: Balla, Full-Forward. Div 1 League 1994, All-Ireland Garda Inter-Divisional 2003 with Mayo, All Ireland Masters Shield 2012.

PAT CLARKE: Bohola Moy Davitts, Corner-Forward. Mayo Intermediate 1996 and County Junior B in 2013.

DECLAN O BOYLE: Ardagh, Goalkeeper. 2 All Ireland Masters, Masters Shield 2012. 1 Mayo VS U16, 3 North Mayo C'ship, won 2 All Britain Inter county, 2 All Britain Senior Club C'ship, 3 Lancashire County Senior County C'ship, 5 Senior league.

KIERAN HASTINGS: Kilmeena, Corner-Back. County Junior C'ship (1993, 2003). All-Ireland Club Junior Runner-Up 2003, Intermediate Runner-up 1995. Won All-Ireland final Inter-Firms 2004 (Allergen).

AIDAN CAMPBELL: Hollymount - Carramore, Half-Forward. 2 Mayo League Titles, Represented Mayo Seniors 1999-2001. Won All-Ireland Third Level League Medal 1985. 2 Master All-Ireland (2007, 2009). Masters Shield 2012.

SEAN MCCAUGHEY: Westport, Midfield. Played Senic with Augher St Macartans, Tyrone 1987-1995. 2016 Master International Rules winner vs Australia. Mayo Intermediate C'ship (2000, 2002). Reserve League 2000, O Mara Cup 3 South Mayo Junior B, Junior Player of the Year 2001 (Ballinrobe), Senior League Div 1E 2013, 4 West Mayo Junior B, Masters Shield 2012.

EDDIE BALL: Louisburgh, Half-Back. Mayo Junior C'ship (1989 & 1994), Mayo Intermediate (1995 & 2004). 4 West Mayo Junior B C'ship., Inter-firms All-Ireland 1998 (Allergen), All Ireland Masters 2009, Masters Shield 2012.

KIERAN LAVELLE: Belmullet, Half-Forward. County Junior titles in 1999 & 2001. Connacht Junior title 2001. Comórtha: Peil na Gaeltacht: Junior 2004, Senior (2006 & 2010).

DANNY O TOOLE: Westport & Inishturk, Midfield/Forward. All-Ireland Island's Medal 2008; Mayo Senior League Divisor 1e 2013. Played Senior Rugby for 15 years with Westport & Connacht. 2 x Connacht League Division 1 Winners Medals. 7 x Connacht Cup Winners medals, 2016 Masters International Rules winner vs Australia.

BRYAN HENNELLY: Castlebar Mitchels, Half-Back. 1 County IFC 2005; 1 County JFC A 2014; 2 Div 1 Senior leagues 2005 & 2012; 1 Senior County Cup 2012, 2016 Masters International Rules winner vs Australia.

BRENDAN HORAN: Islandeady, Wing-Forward. County Junior title 2011. Connaught U-16 title with Mayo 1987, Connacht Junior title 1993, New York panelist 2002.

MICHEAL MCGARRY: Claregalway, Half-Forward, Two Galway Junior titles.

JAMES MCHALE: Ardnaree. County & Connacht Junior Champions 2015. All-Ireland Junior runners-up.

TOMMY MC MANAMON: Burrishoole. Half-Back. Half-Forward. 1 West Mayo U-21 (1991), 3 West Mayo Junior B, 1 county senior B championship (1995).

RYAN GIBBONS: Castlebar Mitchels. Represented Mayo at minor and Under-21 level.

JAMES PRENTY: Mayo Gaels. Won Mayo Junior and Senior championships. New York SFC with Clare in 1993. Played with Mayo in New York when involved in starting the team in 1997 until 2003. Won Junior and Senior championships with them. Played senior football with New York in 2001 and 2002.

AIDAN HIGGINS: Charlestown Sarsfields, Half-Back / Midfield. 1 All-Ireland runners-up medal, 1 National league title, 3 Connacht SFC medals, 1 Connacht SFC club medal, 1 Connacht Intermediate club medal, 2 Mayo SFCs, 1 Mayo



IFC, 2 Senior club league medals, 2 Sigerson cup medals & 2 Sigerson league medals, 3 Connacht FBD medals, and 1 All-Inter-firms medal.

PAT TONRA: Breaffy. 1 West Mayo Junior A medal, 1 County Junior A medal, 1 Connacht Junior A medal, 1 West Mayo Junior B medal, 3 Club Over-30s County medals, 3 West Mayo divisional medals, 1 All-Ireland Masters medal.

DECLAN O'MALLEY: Louisburgh. County Junior Championship 1994, County U-21 B 1994, County Intermediate Championship (1995 & 2003).

DECLAN SWEENEY: Balla, formerly Knockmore, Midfield. Club - 3 senior county titles with Knockmore: 1992, 1996 & 1997. Inter county - Connacht Senior titles 1996, 1997 & 2004.

ADRIAN FORKAN: Kiltimagh. Contested Junior, Intermediate and Senior county finals.

JAMES MCHALE: Ardnaree, Full-Forward line. Mayo and Connacht JFC 2015, All-Ireland Junior Final runner-up 2015.

SEAMIE MAUGHAN: Killala, Defender. County Junior Championship 2000 as captain, & 2008. Connacht Junior club championship 2006 & 2008.

FERGAL KELLY: Ballyhaunis, Midfielder. 1 inter-county national league, 1 Connacht, 3 FBD leagues. One Intermediate club Championship.

JOE KEANE: Crossmolina, Forward.

KENNY DURCAN: Bonniclon. Intermediate Championship 1997, Senior League Division 2 1998, Connacht Championship with Mayo Vocational Schools County Team 1993, North Mayo Under 21-B Championship 1993, North Mayo Minor-B 15 Aside Championship 1993, North Mayo Minor-B 11 Aside Championship 1993, North Mayo Minor 7-a-side Championship 1993, North Mayo Junior Winter League 2000.

DAVID TIERNAN: Charlestown, Midfield/Forward. 2 senior county titles, 1 Connacht club title, 2 Intermediate county titles, 2 Senior Leagues, 1 Connacht U-21 Inter-county title, 1 Connacht Junior Inter-county title.

JIMMY BYRNE: Bohola Moy Davitts. 1 Mayo Club Intermediate title, 1 U-21 Connacht title.

DECLAN HUGHES: Crossmolina and Enniscrone / Kilglass (Sligo), Goalkeeper. Junior player of the year 1996, North Mayo Junior, Junior Championship 2006, Junior Div 3 league, 6 Senior Div 1 leagues, 5 Senior county, 3 Connacht club, 1 All-Ireland club title.

SEAMIE HUGHES: Killala.

KEVIN FILAN: Castlebar Mitchels, Forward. SFC 2013, Connacht club 2013. Intermediate 2005, JFC 2014.

DECLAN DOYLE: Ballyhaunis.

BRIAN SHAUGNESSY: Kilmaine.

EDDIE CONROY: Breaffy.

GERRY JENNINGS: Breaffy.

DECLAN O'MALLEY: Louisburgh.

MANAGEMENT TEAM:

PAT O NEILL: Managed Swinford U-21 side to the county championship in 2015, a first in the club's history. Managed Swinford minors to the East Mayo A Championship in 2015. As a Player, Pat won an Intermediate Championship with Swinford in 1999, and an Intermediate Championship with Tang, Co. Westmeath in 1990.

DES PHILIPS: Ballaghadereen.

TONY BYRNE: Bohola Moy Davitts. Won a County Intermediate title (1987) with Swinford, won numerous divisional titles. Former secretary of Bohola Moy Davitts, and is currently East Mayo Treasurer.

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BACK ROW (L-R): Eddie Ball, Noel Convey, Des Phillips, Tony Byrne, John Crean, Russell Gibbons, Fintan Corcoran, Declan Sweeney, Tommy McManamon, Sean McCaughey, Adrian Forkan, Kevin Filan, Declan O'Malley, John Flannery, James McHale, James Prenty, Darren Madden, Kenny Mortimer, Danny O'Toole, Jimmy Byrne, Fergal Kelly. **FRONT (L-R):** Pat O'Neill, Brian Shaughnessy, Aidan Higgins, Aidan Campbell, Declan O'Boyle, Noel Stagg, Pat Clarke, Declan Doyle, Brian Hughes, Joe Keane, Brendan Horan, Pa Mulchrone, Martin Conway, Declan Ryan, Kieran Hastings, Micheal McGarry, Seamie Maughan, Kenny Durkan, Declan Hughes. **MISSING FROM PIC:** JP Sheridan, David Tiernan, Jimmy Byrne, Bryan Hennelly, Pat Tonra, Eddie Conroy, Gerry Jennings, Kieran Lavelle

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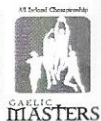
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CAVAN

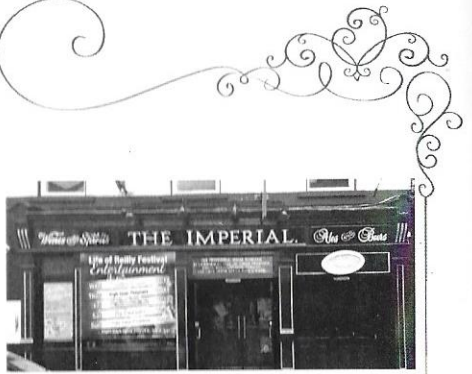
GOALS	POINTS	WIDES	FREES	
				1st HALF
				2nd HALF
				TOTAL



Management: Jimmy Galligan **Selector:** Kevin Madden, Seamus Donohoe & Barney Brady

- 1 Francis Clarke**
(Bailieboro Shamrocks)
- 2 Fergal Brady**
(Mullahoran)
- 3 Barry McGahan**
(Cootehill Celtic)
- 4 Oliver Costello**
(Crosserlough)
- 5 Noel McPhillips**
(Butlersbridge)
- 6 Mark Rehill**
(Crosserlough)
- 7 Ciaran Fox**
(Cootehill Celtic)
- 8 Christy Shiels**
(Mullahoran)
- 9 Bernard Young**
- 10 Adrian O'Reilly**
(Crosserlough)
- 11 Barry McGovern**
(Killygarry)
- 12 Michael Clinch**
(Bailieboro Shamrocks)
- 13 Tommy McGuire**
(Mullahoran)
- 14 Michael Ward**
(Shercock)
- 15 Raphael Rodgers**
(Knockbride)
- 16 Kevin Madden**
(Gowna)
- 17 Patrick Mulligan**
(Arva)
- 18 Raymond Brady**
(Arva)
- 19 Jerome McKiernan**
(Denn)
- 20 Mark Greaney**
(Killygarry)
- 21 Brian Doyle**
(Cornafean)
- 22 Glen Nulty**
(Cootehill Celtic)
- 23 Gabriel Patterson**
(Kingscourt Stars)
- 24 Padraig Sheridan**
(Ballymachugh)
- 25 Ciaran Briody**
(Mullahoran)
- 26 Padraig Brady**
(Gowna)
- 27 Michael Brady**
(Mullahoran)
- 28 Aidan Crosbie**
(Kilmainhamwood)
- 29 Andy Maguire**
(Bailieboro Shamrocks)
- 30 Barney Brady**
(Lacken)
- 31 John Donnellan**
(Bailieboro Shamrocks)

Donal Keogan and everyone at
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 The Cavan Masters Team
 & Management
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 All-Ireland Final



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MAYO

GOALS	POINTS	WIDES	FREES	
				1st HALF
				2nd HALF
				TOTAL



Management: Pat O'Neill (Swinford) **Selector:** Tony Byrne, Des Phillips (Bohola Moy Davitts / Ballaghaderreen)
Physio: Emer Tansey (Ballaghaderreen)

- 1 Martin Conway**
(Westport)
- 2 Kenneth Mortimer**
(Shrule/Glencorrib)
- 3 Fergal Kelly**
(Ballyhaunis)
- 4 Kieran Hastings**
(Kilmeena)
- 5 Bryan Hennelly**
(Castlebar Mitchels)
- 6 Aidan Higgins**
(Charlestown Sarsfields)
- 7 Pat Mulchrone**
(Capt.) (Kilmeena)
- 8 Declan Sweeney**
(Balla)
- 9 David Tiernan**
(Charlestown Sarsfields)
- 10 Micheál McGarry**
(Claregalway)
- 11 Jimmy Byrne**
(Bohola Moy Davitts)
- 12 Brendan Horan**
(Islandeady)
- 13 Russell Gibbons**
(Castlebar Mitchels)
- 14 Kevin Filan**
(Castlebar Mitchels)
- 15 Pat Clarke**
(Bohola Moy Davitts)
- 16 Declan O'Boyle**
(Ardagh)
- 17 Eddie Conroy**
(Breaffy)
- 18 Gerry Jennings**
(Breaffy)
- 19 Declan Doyle**
(Ballyhaunis)
- 20 Declan Ryan**
(Kilmeena)
- 21 Brian Hughes**
(Bohola Moy Davitts)
- 22 Adrian Forkan**
(Swinford)
- 23 Noel Stagg**
(Hollymount / Carramore)
- 24 Kenny Durcan**
(Bonniconlon)
- 25 Kieran Lavelle**
(Belmullet)
- 26 Darren Madden**
(Kilmeena)
- 27 J P Sheridan**
(Burrishoole)
- 28 Sean McCaughey**
(Westport)
- 29 Danny O'Toole**
(Westport)
- 30 John Crean**
(Ardnaree)
- 31 James McHale**
(Ardnaree)
- 32 Eddie Ball**
(Louisburgh)
- 33 Aidan Campbell**
(Hollymount / Carramore)
- 34 James Prenty**
(Mayo Gaels)
- 35 Declan O'Malley**
(Louisburgh)
- 36 Declan Hughes**
(Crossmolina)
- 37 Tommy McManamon**
(Burrishoole)
- 38 Seamie Maughan**
(Killala)
- 39 John Flannery**
(Balla)
- 40 Pat Tonra**
(Balla)

Fuelling footballers of all ages



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DONEGAL

GOALS	POINTS	WIDES	FREES	
				1st HALF
				2nd HALF
				TOTAL



Management: John Mc Nulty **Assist. Manager:** Darragh Dolan **Selector:** Tony Byrne, Des Phillips
Physio: Kevin Gallagher **Photographer:** Stephen Doherty

- 1 Martin Gillespie**
(Naomh Columba)
- 2 Charlie Doherty**
(Naomh Muire, Iochtar Na Rosann)
- 3 Kevin Mc Gettigan**
(Termon)
- 4 John Anthony Mc Mullan**
(St. Marys, Convoy)
- 5 Sean Mc Daid**
(GLC Iorras)
- 6 Eamonn Doherty**
(Ard an Ratha)
- 7 Michael Mc Shane**
(Cill Chartha)
- 8 David Mc Shane**
(Cill Chartha)
- 9 Charlie Gallagher**
(Four Masters)
- 10 Paul Gallagher**
(Naomh Muire, Iochtar Na Rosann)
- 11 Ger McGrenra**
(Glenswilly)
- 12 Paul Mc Glynn**
(Gleann Fhinne)
- 13 Seaghán MacLaifeartaigh**
(Na Dúnaibh)
- 14 Daniel Branley**
(Realt Na Mara)
- 15 Shaun Boyce**
(Mac Cumhaills)
- 16 Liam Breen**
(Gleann Fhinne)
- 17 Benny Cassidy**
(Four Masters)
- 18 Charlie Bonner**
(Gleann tSuili)
- 19 John Haran**
(St. Eunans)
- 20 Stephen Moss**
(Pettigo)
- 21 Ross Brady**
(Kilcar)
- 22 Martin Mc Shane**
(Ard an Ratha)
- 23 Stephen Walls**
(Naomh Brid)
- 24 James Mc Bride**
(Na Dúnaibh)
- 25 Adrian Mc Gettigan**
(Termon)
- 26 Charlie McGinty**
(Gleann tSuili)
- 27 Val Murray**
(Aodh Ruadh Ballyshannon)
- 28 Johnny Mc Ginty**
(Gleann Fhinne)
- 29 Joe Boyle**
(Ard an Ratha)
- 30 Kevin Gallagher**
(Na Dúnaibh)
- 31 Pauric Bonner**
(Gleann tSuili)



OFFALY

GOALS	POINTS	WIDES	FREES	
				1st HALF
				2nd HALF
				TOTAL



Management: Ken Kellaghan (Rhode) **Selector:** Ciaran Daly, Brian Gavin, Vinny Claffey
Kitman: Richard Dowling **Physio:** Johny Grehan

- 1 Alan Cronin**
(Clara)
- 2 Dessie O Connor**
(St. Rynagh's)
- 3 Paul Mulvihill**
(Castleknock, Dublin)
- 4 Darren Hennessy**
(Annanough, Co Laois)
- 5 Alan Kellaghan**
(Rhode)
- 6 Cathal Daly**
(Tullamore)
- 7 Patrick Kenny**
(Rhode)
- 8 Tommy Kelly**
(Ballinacargy, Westmeath)
- 9 Gerry O Malley**
(Ferbane)
- 10 Tony Dalton**
(Clara)
- 11 Roy Malone**
(Rhode)
- 12 Paudie Mulhare**
(St. Rynagh's)
- 13 Donnie Ryan**
(Doon)
- 14 John Kenny**
(Tullamore)
- 15 Colm Quinn**
(Ballycumber)
- 16 Pdraig Kelly**
(Shamrocks)
- 17 Anthony Kelly**
(Shannonbridge)
- 18 Brendan Wynne**
(Ferbane)
- 19 Conor Conneely**
(Ballycumber)
- 20 Darren Quinn**
(Clonbullogue)
- 21 Declan Gorman**
(Rhode)
- 22 Derek Mc Evoy**
(Clonbullogue)
- 23 Fergal Dunne**
(Rhode)
- 24 James Stewart**
(Clara)
- 25 Jim Killeen**
(Shannonbridge)
- 26 Jimmy Grennan**
(Ferbane)
- 27 Mark Daly**
(Clonbullogue)
- 28 Mel Keenaghan**
(Ferbane)
- 29 Mick Dooliin**
(Tubber)
- 30 Pdraig Carroll**
(Pullough)
- 31 Finbarr Cullen**
(Edenderry)
- 32 Enda Carroll**
(Pullough)
- 33 John Ryan**
(Shannonbridge)
- 34 Ronan Mooney**
(Shamrocks)

GOOD LUCK
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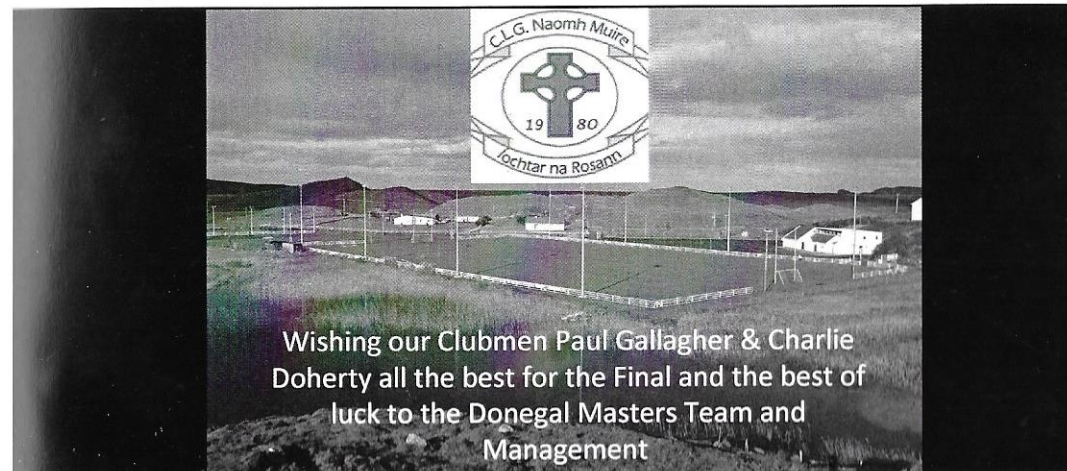
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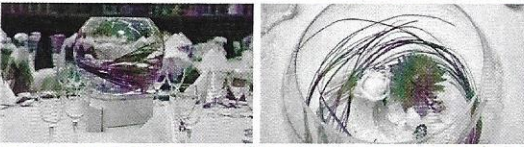
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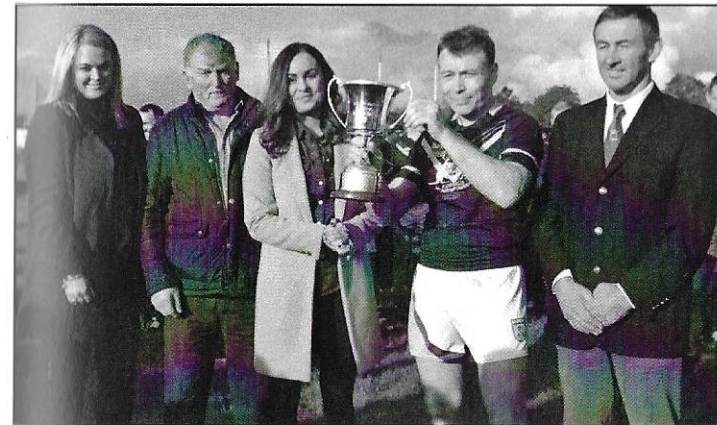
Ireland Masters secure Paddy Gaffney Cup in Denn, Co. Cavan, 22nd October 2016



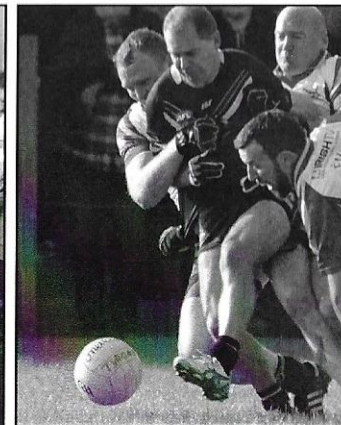
Photos by Martin McIntyre, Kilmeena@gmail.com



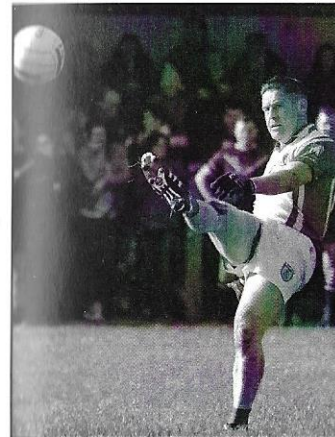
Above: Irish winning team & management.



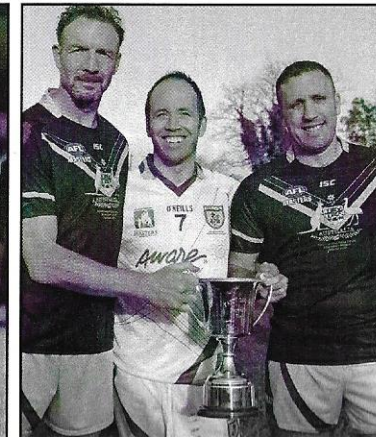
Above: Ireland Captain, Tyrone's Damian Gormley, is presented with the Paddy Gaffney Cup by Paddy's daughters, Carol & Sandra, and Paddy's brother, Charles. John Pat Sheridan, Masters Chairman, is also present.



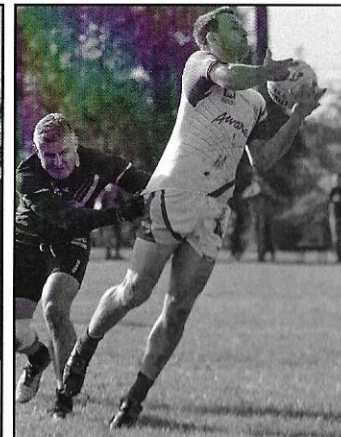
Above: Cavan's Padraig Sheridan & Jerom Kiernan, and Offaly's John Kenny treble up on an Aussie Master.



Above: Cavan's Mark Rehill sets Ireland on the attack.



Above: Mayo's Irish trio of Sean McCaughey, Bryan Hennelly and Danny O'Toole with the Paddy Gaffney Cup.



Above: Offaly's Roy Malone takes a mark.

MARTIN GILLESPIE: Naomh Columba, Goalkeeper. 1 Senior C'ship, 3 Senior Leagues, 1 Reserve C'ship.

CHARLIE DOHERTY: Naomh Muire, Íochtar Na Rosann; Defender. 3 Donegal Intermediate C'ship, 2 Donegal Junior Gaeltachts, 2 All Ireland Junior Gaeltachts, 1 Donegal Junior Championship, 2016 Masters International Rules winner.

KEVIN MC GETTIGAN: Termon, Full-Back. 3 Intermediate C'ships 1 Donegal Senior Gaeltacht, 1 All-Ireland Colleges, 1 Ulster Minor C'ship.

JOHN ANTHONY MC MULLAN: St. Marys, Convoy; Defender. 1 Junior C'ship, 1 reserve league.

SEAN MC DAID: GLC Iorras, Half-Back. Junior A C'ship, 3 Ulster Vocational Schools, One Donegal U21 B C'ship.

EAMONN DOHERTY: Ard an Ratha, Centre-Back. U-16 C'ship, Minor C'ship, Two U-21 C'ships, 2 All-Ireland Gaeltachts, 2 senior C'ships.

MICHAEL MC SHANE: Cill Chartha, Back. 2 Junior C'ship, 2 Senior Reserve C'ships, 1 Senior County C'ship, 2 Senior & 1 Junior County Gaeltacht, 1 All-Ireland Senior Gaeltacht.

DAVID MC SHANE: Cill Chartha, Midfield. 1 junior championship, 3 Senior leagues,

2 Senior All-Ireland Gaeltachts, 2016 Masters International Rules winner.

CHARLIE GALLAGHER: Four Masters, Midfield. 2 Donegal Senior Gaeltachts, 1 All-Ireland Gaeltacht, Two Div 1 Leagues, 1 Junior A Championship, 3 Junior A League Titles, 2016 Masters International Rules winner.

PAUL GALLAGHER: Naomh Muire, Íochtar Na Rosann, Forward. 2 Intermediate C'ships, 1 Junior C'ship, 1 NSW C'ship, 1 Asian Games C'ship, 5 Middle East C'ships, 1 All China C'ship.

GER MCGRENRA: Gleann tSuili, Forward. 1 Intermediate C'ship, 3 Senior C'ships.

PAUL MC GLYNN: Gleann Fhinne, Forward. 1 Ulster Intermediate Club C'ship, 1 Donegal Intermediate C'ship.

SEAGHÁN MACLAIFEARTAIGH: Na Dúnaibh, Forward. 1 Ulster U-21 championship, 1 All-Ireland Gaeltacht, 1 Donegal Intermediate C'ship, 2 Junior C'ships.

DANIEL BRANLEY: Realt Na Mara, Forward. 1 Intermediate C'ship, 1 Ulster intermediate Finalist, Leitrim Senior C'ship & 1 senior League title. 2016 Masters International Rules winner.

SHAUN BOYCE: Mac Cumhailis, Forward. 1 Ulster Minor C'ship, 1 Ulster U-21 C'ship, Two All-Ireland Senior Club Gaeltacht C'ship.

LIAM BREEN: Gleann Fhinne, Forward. 1 Intermediate C'ship, 1 Ulster Club Intermediate C'ship, 1 Junior B C'ship, 1 Trench Cup.

BENNY CASSIDY: Four Masters, Forward. 4 Senior Reserve C'ships, Three Div 1 Reserve Leagues, 1 Senior League, 1

Intermediate C'ship.

CHARLIE BONNER: Gleann tSuili, Midfield. 2 Senior C'ships, 1 Intermediate C'ship, 1 Senior Reserve C'ship.

JOHN HARAN: St. Eunans, Midfield. 8 Senior C'ships, Eight Div 1 Leagues.

STEPHEN MOSS: Pettigo, Defender. Ulster & All Ireland college winners 1987, Division 4 League winners 1994.

ROSS BRADY: Kilcar, Defender. Reserve league & C'ship, County Gaeltacht 2008, Junior A & B C'ship.

MARTIN MC SHANE: Ard an Ratha, Defender. One Intermediate C'ship, 2 Senior C'ship, One Ulster Minor championship.

STEPHEN WALLS: Naomh Brid, Midfield. 2 Junior C'ships, One Div 3 League.

JAMES MC BRIDE: Na Dúnaibh, Defender. 4 Junior C'ships, 2 All-Ireland Junior Gaeltachts.

ADRIAN MC GETTIGAN: Termon, Defender. 2 Donegal Intermediate C'ships, 1 Donegal Senior Gaeltacht, Three Div 2 Leagues.

VAL MURRAY: Aodh Ruadh Ballyshannon, Forward. 5 Senior C'ships, 1 senior league, Two U-21 C'ships, 1 Minor league.

CHARLIE MCGINTY: Gleann tSuili, Defender. 1 Senior C'ship, 2 Div 5 Leagues, 1 Senior B C'ship, One Div 5 League, 1 Div 2 Reserve League.

JOHNNY MC GINTY: Gleann Fhinne, Midfield. 1 Intermediate C'ship, 1 Intermediate Ulster Club C'ship.

JOE BOYLE: Ard an Ratha, Forward. 1st year playing masters football.

KEVIN GALLAGHER: Na Dúnaibh, Defender. 1 All-Ireland Gaeltacht, 1 Donegal Intermediate C'ship, 2 Junior C'ships.

PAURIC BONNER: Gleann tSuili, Defender. One Div 1 League, 1 All-Ireland Gaeltacht, 1 Senior Reserve C'ship, 1 Senior C'ship, One Div 5 league.

MANAGEMENT TEAM & BACK ROOM TEAM:

JOHN MC NULTY: Manager

DARRAGH DOLAN: Assistant Manager

KEVIN GALLAGHER: Physio

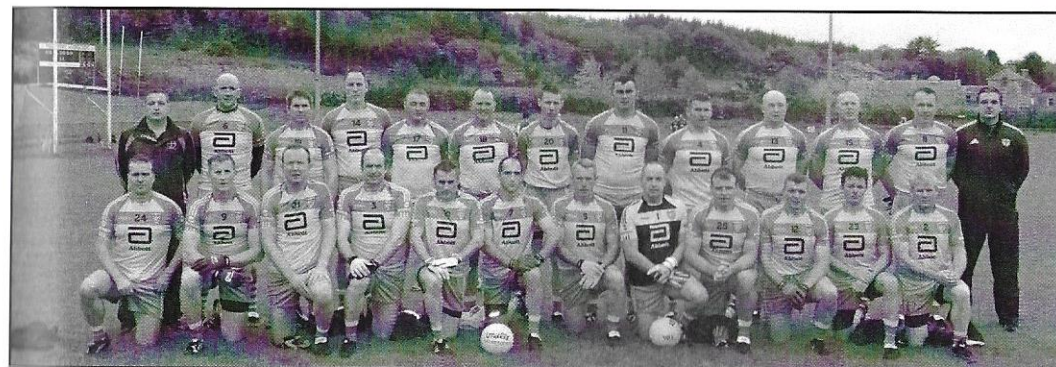
COMMITTEE:

PAUL GALLAGHER: Chairperson

CHARLIE GALLAGHER: Treasurer

CHRIS DOHERTY: PRO

STEPHEN DOHERTY: Photographer



Front Row L-R: Adrian Mc Gettigan, Charlie Gallagher, Stephen Walls, Kevin Mc Gettigan, Paul Gallagher, Sean Mc Daid, Michael Mc Shan Martin Gillespie, Charlie Mc Ginty, Paul Mc Glynn, Stephen Moss, Charlie Doherty. **Back Row L-R:** John Mc Nulty, Eamonn Doherty, Mart Mc Shane, Daniel Branley, James Mc Bride, Liam Breen, Ross Brady, Gerard Mc Grenra, John Anthony Mc Mullan, Seaghán MacLaifeartaigh, Shaun Boyce, David Mc Shane, Darragh Dolan.

Roll of Honour

2015 Tyrone	2006 Mayo	1997 Mayo
2014 Galway	2005 Longford	1996 Cavan
2013 Galway	2004 Dublin	1995 Mayo
2012 Galway	2003 Donegal	1994 Mayo
2011 No competition	2002 Donegal	1993 Cavan
2010 No competition	2001 Dublin	1992 Mayo
2009 Mayo	2000 Longford	1991 Kildare
2008 Derry	1999 Galway	1990 Kildare
2007 Mayo	1998 Monaghan	

History

The Masters Football competition has been running for over twenty years now and was the brainchild of Dr Mick Loftus. Up until 2009 the competition was organised and supported by the GAA. Following the 2009 competition, the GAA sought to disband the competition citing insurance, discipline and a variety of other issues. Over the following two years attempts were made to resume competitive Masters Football. Unfortunately, despite the best efforts of many on both sides to resume games under the auspices of the GAA the only option was for Masters footballers to go it alone and the Gaelic Masters Association was formed. Over the last five years, having organised and obtained our own insurance, the Masters competition has thrived and grown from five counties in 2012, to nine counties have competed in 2011 (Antrim, Cavan, Dublin, Galway, Leitrim, Longford, Mayo, Monaghan and Tyrone) to 12 in 2016, with Offaly, Donegal and Sligo competing. Two of these sides, Offaly and Donegal, contest our Shield final. There are a number of other counties in the process of organising themselves to compete in 2017, including Roscommon and Kildare. Many competitive and enjoyable games have been played and the standard of football has been consistently high. This year's final sees Mayo attempting to win their first title since 2009, and their eighth in total. Cavan are hoping to add to the titles they won in 1993 and 1996.

The increased profile of the Masters game, largely as a result of Irish TV's coverage in the last two years, was added to this year by the resumption of the International Rules with two tests against the touring AFL Masters side. 'Coming together is a beginning; keeping together is progress; working together is success.' Henry Ford

Offaly Masters Profiles



ALAN CRONIN: Clara, goalkeeper. Three SFC, 1 Intermediate hurling, 1 Junior hurling, Two Under-21 football and 1 minor football championship.

DESSIE O CONNOR: St. Rynagh's, Corner-back. Two Intermediate Championships.

PAUL MULVIHILL: Castleknock Dublin. Full-back. One national league, 2 O'Byrne Cups, 1 Junior Leinster, One Leinster U-21 Inter-county Championship.

DARREN HENNESSY: Annanough, Co Laois, Back. Leinster U-21, 2 Offaly Div 1 leagues.

ALAN KELLAGHAN: Rhode, Back. Four SFCs, 1 Leinster Vocational school, 1 JFC.

CATHAL DALY: Tullamore, Back. 1 National League, 1 Senior Leinster inter-county, 1 u21 Leinster, 3 Club SFC. 1997 All-Star corner-back.

PATRICK KENNY: Rhode, Wing-Back. Two Senior Football Championships.

TOMMY KELLY: Ballinacarrigy, Westmeath. One JFC.

GERRY O MALLEY: Fermbane, midfield. Four Mayo SFC, 3 Connacht Club SFC, 1 All Ireland Club, 1 Sigerson Cup.

TONY DALTON: Clara, Forward. One Under-21 Leinster, 3 SFC, 1 Club U-21, 1 Club minor.

ROY MALONE: Rhode. One Leinster senior inter-county, 1 Leinster u-21, 1 National League, 7 Senior championships, 2 minor championships. 2016 Masters International Rules Winner.

PAUDIE MULHARE: St. Rynagh's, Forward. One Leinster senior hurling inter-county, 1 All Ireland Senior Hurling inter-county, 2 Intermediate football, 1 Intermediate and Junior Hurling.

DONIE RYAN: Doon, Corner-Forward. One Leinster schools, 1 school North-Leinster league, 1 u-16 Championship.

JOHN KENNY: Tullamore, Back/ Forward. All-Star Nominee '98. Leinster Senior and National League with Offaly. Senior International Rules. 3 SFC with Tullamore, Leinster u21 with Offaly. 2016 Masters International Rules winner.

COLM QUINN: Ballycumber. One National League, 1 Senior Leinster inter-county, 1 Senior B & 1 Intermediate Championship.

PADRAIG KELLY: Shamrocks, Goalkeeper. One National League, 1 Leinster, 1 Railway Cup, 2 Intermediate Hurling.

ANTHONY KELLY: Shannonbridge. One Senior Leinster, 1 u21 Leinster, 2 Vocational Schools Leinster, 1 SFC, 1 Div 1 league, Footballer of the year.

BRENDAN WYNNE: Fermbane. 1 National League, 1 U-21 Leinster, 1 Junior Leinster, 1 SFC.

CONOR CONNEELY: Ballycumber, Forward. Connacht SFC with Roscommon, 2001. Connacht MFC 1992. Leinster Senior A Colleges 1994. Offaly SFC(B) 2015 Manager.

DARREN QUINN: Clonbullogue. Two Leinster Junior, 2 County Junior, 1 Minor Club, 3 Club leagues.

DECLAN GORMAN: Rhode. Four County SFC. 2 Junior A, 1 JFC B, 2 Junior Hurling B Championships, 1 JHC 'C', 1 U-21 Hurling.

DEREK MCEVOY: Clonbullogue. Two Junior Championships and 2 Leagues.

FERGAL DUNNE: Rhode. Four SFC, 3 County Senior leagues, 1 JFC.

JAMES STEWART: Clara, Half-back, Half-forward. 3 Offaly SFCs (1991;'93;'03), 1 JFC (2007), Four Div1 leagues, Division 1, 2, 3 & 4 national leagues with Offaly, 1 All-Ireland U-21, One Leinster Junior, 2 Railway Cups.

JIM KILLEEN: Shannonbridge. One Senior, Intermediate and Junior Championship. Div 1, 2, 3 and 4 Medals.

JIMMY GRENNAN: Fermbane, Midfield. One Leinster SFC, 1 National League, 1 schools Leinster, 1 Offaly SFC, 1 All-Ireland minor club.

MARK DALY: Clonbullogue. 1 National League, 1 Leinster SFC, 1 U-21 Leinster, 2 Club SFC.

MEL KEENAGHAN: Fermbane. One U-21 Leinster, 1 Junior Leinster, 1 Leinster schools, 1 SFC, 1 All-Ireland Minor club.

MICK DOOLIN: Tubber. One senior B, 1 Intermediate, 2 Div 2 league, 1 JFB, 1JFC, 1 JHC, 1 Leinster Voc schools.

PADRAIG CARROLL: Pullough. Two Intermediate Club, 3 Division 2 leagues.

FINBARR CULLEN: Edenderry, Half-Back. 1 National League, 1 Leinster, 4 Club Championships, 2 Railway Cups, 2 Leinster Minors, 1 All-Ireland Minor Hurling, 3 Senior International Rules Series.

ENDA CARROLL: Pullough. Three Div 2 medals, 2 Intermediate, U-14 Leinster, Leinster Voc schools.

JOHN RYAN: Shannonbridge. One All-Ireland Hurling, 1 National League, 1 Junior Leinster, 1 Leinster u21, 1 SFC.

RONAN MOONEY: Shamrocks. One National League, One Leinster SFC.

MANAGEMENT TEAM.

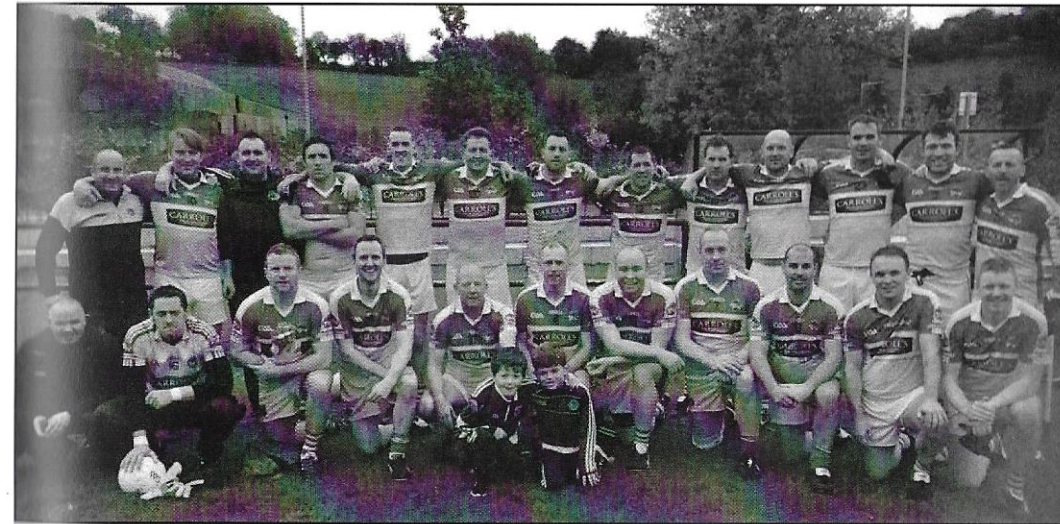
MANAGER: Ken Kellaghan Rhode

SELECTORS: Ciaran Daly, Brian Gavin, Vinny Claffey

KIT MAN: Richard Dowling

PHYSIO: Johny Grehan

Offaly Team Pic



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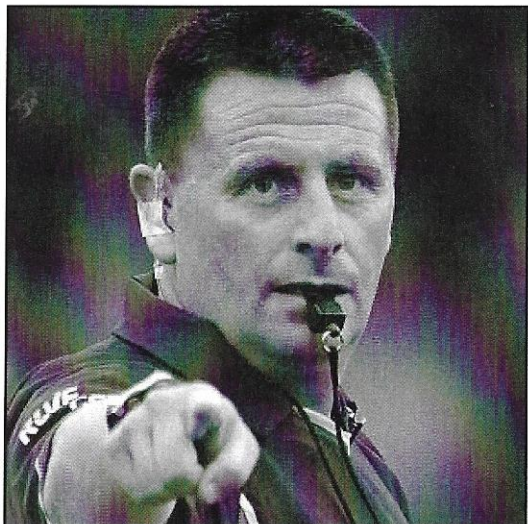
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Brian Gavin: From All-Ireland Final Ref to Masters Selector



Having refereed four All-Ireland hurling finals, Brian Gavin is a household name in any house that has even a passing interest in the GAA. He's associated with letting the game flow and being able to discern between robust physicality and skulduggery. He's known for that, and the whack he took from Tommy Walsh's hurl in the nose in the 2011 All-Ireland final! So how did the man with the whistle in Tipp's 2016 final win over Kilkenny get drawn into becoming an Offaly selector in Masters football?

Thinking of Brian as a hurling man is only half the story. He has Leinster Vocational medals in football with Ardscoil Chiaran of Clara and has refereed Offaly Senior Football Championship games in 2001 and 2003. He recounts that he 'always liked football, playing it and refing it' and he always had a 'good feel for the game'.

Interestingly, hurling had a part in Brian's introduction to Masters football. After refereeing the Galway-Dublin Leinster Hurling quarter-final replay last June in Tullamore, the Offaly county board secretary, Tommy Byrne, introduced Brian to Pat Cullinane, the Gaelic Masters Development Officer. Pat had been in contact with Tommy about the possibility of an Offaly Masters side signing up. Following the game, Pat was beckoned out of the crowd by the county secretary to follow him across O'Connor Park and to wait outside the referee's changing room. When Brian emerged, Tommy simply said to Pat: 'This is your man!' Brian and Pat got talking about the Masters set-up and it got Brian's wheels turning about the possibility of an Offaly involvement. Pat Cullinane says that he knew straight away

after that brief meeting with the outgoing Brian that they'd a good man on the job, and that Offaly would feature in the Masters' 2016 scheduling.

Later that year, Brian refereed the Masters' semi-final between Galway and Mayo, and he liked what he saw. After that game, he met with Ken Keelaghan of Rhode and Ciaran 'sod' Daly of Cloghan, and when they put their heads together they quickly drew up a list of likely lads to form a panel. As Brian says, 'From that meeting, it just took wings. We knew from the responses we got from the first few phone calls that we'd get a good side together. Then the Whatsapp got set up and with the banter over and back, it took off altogether!'

Brian continued: 'Ken is the manager, and he's a great man to head it up. Sod (Ciaran Daly) knows all the footballers of that vintage well, and I'm delighted to be involved with such a talented bunch. The craic is mighty too. While it's not too serious, there's still that competitive edge to matches and I'd expect the game with Donegal to be a great battle with good football.'

Donegal are another side making a return to Masters football after a prolonged absence. 2016 too saw them fall just short of the senior semi-finals; the two sides could, with a little more luck and Masters experience, be in the Senior final.

The backbone of this Offaly team is made up of guys who brought Offaly to Leinster glory in 1997, beating Meath, and won the National League title a year later beating Derry in the final. While many counties find that their former inter-county stars simply have too much mileage done on heavy roads, the Offaly contingent was in good order. Cathal Daly, John Kenny, Jimmy Grennan, Colm Quinn and Roy Malone were good to go. Throw in to the mix men like Conor Connelly who played inter-county for Roscommon and they've the basis of a strong outfit.

On Offaly's year thus far, Brian says they're delighted to have gotten involved and are looking forward to today's contest. However, there's no sense of Brian or Offaly being happy to stand still. He says that as a management and squad they've 'learnt a lot from coming up against the seasoned teams like Galway and Mayo'. Using the rolling substitutions astutely is one aspect the management team are now more attuned to. He also likes that there's no secrets between teams in that the established teams are more than willing to give advice on their structures and training arrangements. Next year he believes they'll be well-equipped to challenge for major honours.

Brian himself turns 40 in July of 2017 but he skilfully deflects the question as to whether he'll tog himself in 2017, 'Even if I'm selector, I'd be doing well to get picked!'



Best of Luck to
Mayo Masters
Today



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