

Páirc an
Chrócaigh,
Áth Cliath

Allianz Football League Division 2 Final

Allianz Football League Division 1 Final

CILL DARA
V **GAILLIMH**

ÁTH CLIATH
V **CIARRAÍ**



Aibreán 9 2017

CLÁR OIFIGIÚIL / OFFICIAL PROGRAMME LUACH €5

ARD STIÚRTHÓIR

Páirc B Dufaigh

ALLIANZ FOOTBALL LEAGUE ROINN II FINAL 2.00 PM

CILL DARA v GAILLIMH

An Réiteoir: Derek O'Mahoney (Tiobraid Árann)

Linesmen: Fergal Kelly (An Longfort) (Standby Ref)

Barry Tiernan (Áth Cliath)

Sideline Official: Anthony Marron (Muineachán)

Umpires: Peter Macken, Paddy Noonan, Liam Barrett, Stan Barlow.

In the event of a draw, extra-time will be played

ALLIANZ FOOTBALL LEAGUE ROINN I FINAL 4.00 PM

ÁTH CLIATH v CIARRAÍ

An Réiteoir: Paddy Neilan (Ros Comáin)

Linesmen: Ciarán Branagan (An Dún) (Standby Ref)

Barry Cassidy (Doire)

Sideline Official: Barry Judge (Sligeach)

Umpires: James Murray, Michael Neilan, Kieran Hughes, Paul Daly.

In the event of a draw, extra-time will be played

CLÁR AN LAE

13.38	Cill Dara amach ar an bpáirc
13.40	Gaillimh amach ar an bpáirc
13.45	Oifígh an Chluiche amach ar an bpáirc
13.50	Coin toss
13.58	'Respect' Handshake
14.00	Tús an chluiche
14.37 [*]	Leath-am
14.38 [*]	RESPECT Exhibition Go Games
14.52 [*]	Tús an dara leath
15.32 [*]	Críoch an chluiche
15.34 [*]	Presentation of cup
<i>If Cill Dara v Gaillimh goes to extra-time, see Clár an Lae B</i>	
15.40	Áth Cliath amach ar an bpáirc
15.42	Ciarraí amach ar an bpáirc
15.45	Oifígh an Chluiche amach ar an bpáirc
15.50	Coin toss
15.55	'Respect' Handshake
15.58	Amhrán na bhFiann

16.00	Tús an chluiche
16.37 [*]	Leath-am
16.38	RESPECT Exhibition Go Games
16.52 [*]	Tús an dara leath
17.30 [*]	Críoch an chluiche
17.32 [*]	Presentation of cup

If Áth Cliath v Ciarraí goes to extra-time

17.39	Coin toss
17.40	Start of extra-time 1st half
17.51 [*]	End of extra-time 1st half
	Teams remain on the pitch
17.56	Start of extra-time 2nd half
18.07 [*]	End of extra-time 2nd half
18.10 [*]	Presentation of cup
	[*] depending on 'added time'

Clár an Lae B

If Cill Dara v Gaillimh goes to extra-time

15.39	Toss
15.40	Start of Extra-time 1st half
15.51 [*]	End of Extra-time 1st half
	Teams Remain on the Pitch
15.56	Start of Extra-time 2nd half

16.07 [*]	End of Extra-time 2nd half
16.10 [*]	Presentation of cup

16.15	Áth Cliath amach ar an bpáirc
16.16	Ciarraí amach ar an bpáirc
16.17	Oifígh an Chluiche amach ar an bpáirc
16.20	Toss
16.25	'Respect' Handshake'
16.28	Amhrán na bhFiann
16.30	Tús an chluiche
17.07 [*]	Leath-am
17.08 [*]	RESPECT Exhibition Go Games
17.22 [*]	Tús an dara leath
18.00 [*]	Críoch an chluiche
18:02 [*]	Presentation of Cup

If both games go to extra-time

18.09	Coin toss
18.10	Start of extra-time 1st Half
18.21 [*]	End of extra-time 1st Half
	Teams remain on the pitch
18.26	Start of extra-time 2nd Half
18.37 [*]	End of extra-time 2nd Half
18.40 [*]	Presentation of cup

^{*} depending on 'added time'

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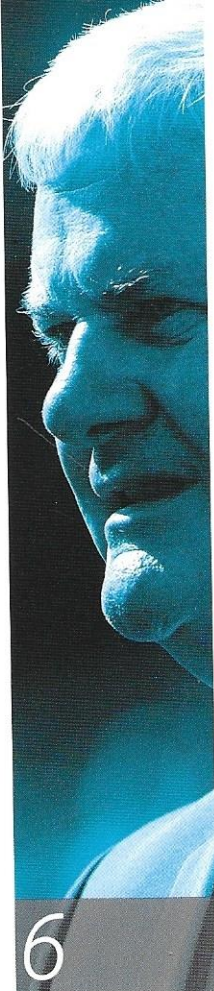


Printing
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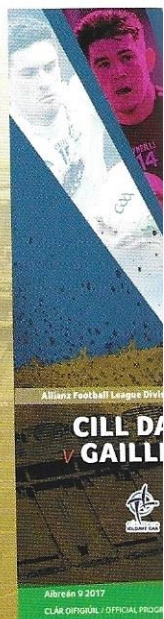
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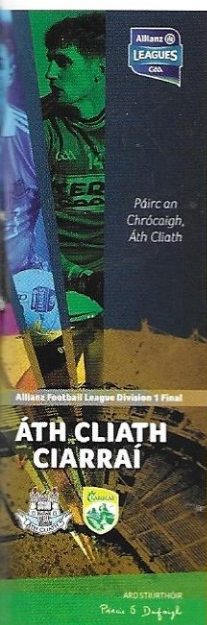
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Cill Dara
KILDARE GAA



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RÉAMHFOCAL ÓN UACHTARÁN

Cluichí Ceannais Peile Sraithe Allianz i Roinn a hAon is a Dó agus tá céad míle fáilte romhaibh go léir. Tá an t-Earrach buailte linn arís agus bhí cluichí iontacha againn arís sa Sraith Allianz is tá muid uilig ag tnúth leis na cluichí ceannais inniu. Fearaim fáilte mhór romhaibhse, lucht tacaíochta na bhfoirne, míle buíochas as teacht inniu is ta súil agam go mbainfaidh sibh lán taithneamh as bhur gcuairt go Pháirc an Chrócaigh inniu.

This has been a wonderful Allianz League. Competitive games, exciting finishes, large crowds, colour, drama and good fun. There are a number of ingredients that have produced this exciting league and I thank everyone involved.

The competition structure of our Allianz Leagues is fair and balanced. Teams are matched evenly against opposition of similar standard. The best teams arrive at the final stage and are promoted - congratulations to all. Our venues around the country are in great condition and provide a safe, comfortable environment for our patrons. I thank our county boards and clubs for the maintenance and stewarding of our venues to such high standards.

There are great attendances at our games and it is clear that nothing beats being here. Supporters enjoy competitive action in good venues and contribute enormously to the whole match-day excitement. Our patrons bring passion and enthusiasm, they love their own place and support their team loyally - kicking every ball in unison with their on-field heroes. Sincere thanks to our wonderful supporters.

Of course the key ingredient to our competitions are the teams; management, coaches, administrators and crucially, the players. Our volunteer teams invest so much time and energy perfecting their skills. We marvel at these skills and dedication and offer our sincere thanks to players and team mentors. Wearing our distinctive county colours we

identify with our heroes who perform so heroically for the honour of our little clubs and villages. Míle buíochas dár n-imreoirí, bainisteoirí agus oifigigh na gContaetha.

Flick down through the history of Gaelic Football and Croke Park has been the scene of many an epic battle when the Laochra Gael from Dublin and Kerry have met. The modern vintage of players have proven themselves worthy successors to this rich tradition.

We look forward to another gripping encounter between the Dubs and the Kingdom as the Dubs look to continue their phenomenal run of success and a fifth Allianz League title in-a-row, and Kerry try to produce a senior success to mirror the recent haul of titles at underage level.

In the Division 2 final we have another two traditional football strongholds in Kildare and Galway. Two counties who are also synonymous with good football and who impressed on the journey to promotion and are looking to crown their spring with silverware.

I wish all teams the best of luck for a successful final this weekend. Regardless of winners of trophies, all our finalists are winners as they head their respective leagues and gain promotion.

Finances generated by our inter-county competitions are reinvested in our clubs and counties. Monies collected today and on all match-days fund our club and county grounds and pitch redevelopments, our coaches and coaching programmes and we support our counties with their team expenses.

With the conclusion of our Allianz Leagues, attention now turns immediately to club activity. County leagues will be in full swing for the next few months and the heart of our Association will once again be reinvigorated. I hope all of you here today

support your clubs in their competitions as we all continue the excitement at local level for the honour of our own place. Best wishes and gratitude to our clubs for the huge levels of activity, games, coaching and fun you all provide for so many. Maith sibh.

Ba mhaith liom buíochas an Chumainn a chur in iúl dár reiteoirí ag na cluichí go léir - déanann siad sár obair agus tá muid buíoch. Buíochas fosta do na maoir uilig ag ár gcluichí idir maoir na gcluichí agus na maoir a chabhraíonn go deonach le lucht tacaíochta. Tugann Allianz urraíocht flaithiúl dúinn agus tá muid fíor bhuíoch. Tá Allianz linn anois ar feadh 25 bliana agus is fíor a rá " Is iad na sean cairde, na cairde is fearr."

I hope all teams, supporters and everyone here today fully enjoy the games at this wonderful venue. Thank you for coming to Croke Park, for promoting and supporting Gaelic games with club and county. Have a great day with the GAA. A little early perhaps, but Happy Easter to everyone; new life, new growth, renewed hope and excitement and more games ahead!

Who could ask for anything more.

Beannachtaí na Cásca agus ádh mór,

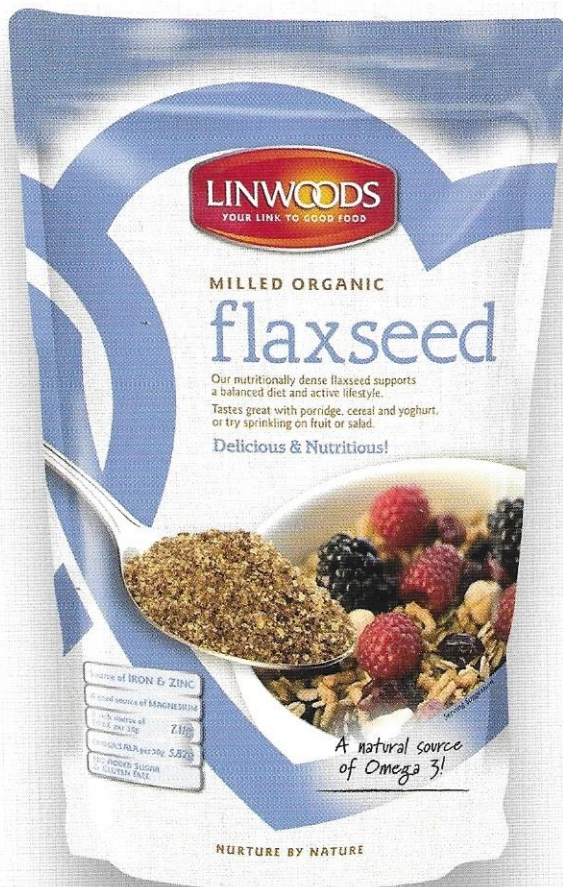
Beir Bua,

Aogán Ó Fearghail

Aogán Ó Fearghail
Uachtarán
Cumann Lúthchleas Gael



Come on you boys in blue!



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MESSAGE FROM THE SPONSOR

On behalf of Allianz, I would like to extend a warm welcome to supporters from Dublin, Kerry, Kildare and Galway who have travelled from near and far in support of their teams in today's Allianz Football League Division 1 and 2 Finals.

The first of today's finals sees a repeat of last weekend's final group game, with Kildare meeting Galway in the Division 2 decider. Last week's encounter saw the Tribesmen top the group and secure promotion to Division 1 with a one point win over today's opposition. Kildare had already secured promotion but will be aiming to make amends today with the prize of silverware on the table.

Elsewhere, Dublin and Kerry will renew acquaintances in the Division 1 final, a repeat of last year's Division 1 final which saw Dublin claim Allianz Football League honours for a fourth successive season. Kerry were the last team to beat the Allianz League and All-Ireland champions back in 2015, and following a hugely entertaining battle in Tralee last month which ended up a in a draw, I for one look forward to this afternoon's clash with great excitement.

2017 marks the 25th year of our support of communities through the Allianz Leagues, making it one of the longest standing sporting sponsorships in Ireland. Over the past 25 years we have witnessed the competition grow from strength to strength and we are privileged and honoured to have played a supporting role in the success of the Allianz Leagues.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank my colleagues in the GAA and particularly the team here at Croke Park for hosting today's Allianz Football League Division 1 and 2 deciders.



Finally, we would like to extend our best wishes to all four squads, the management and fans of the competing counties here today.

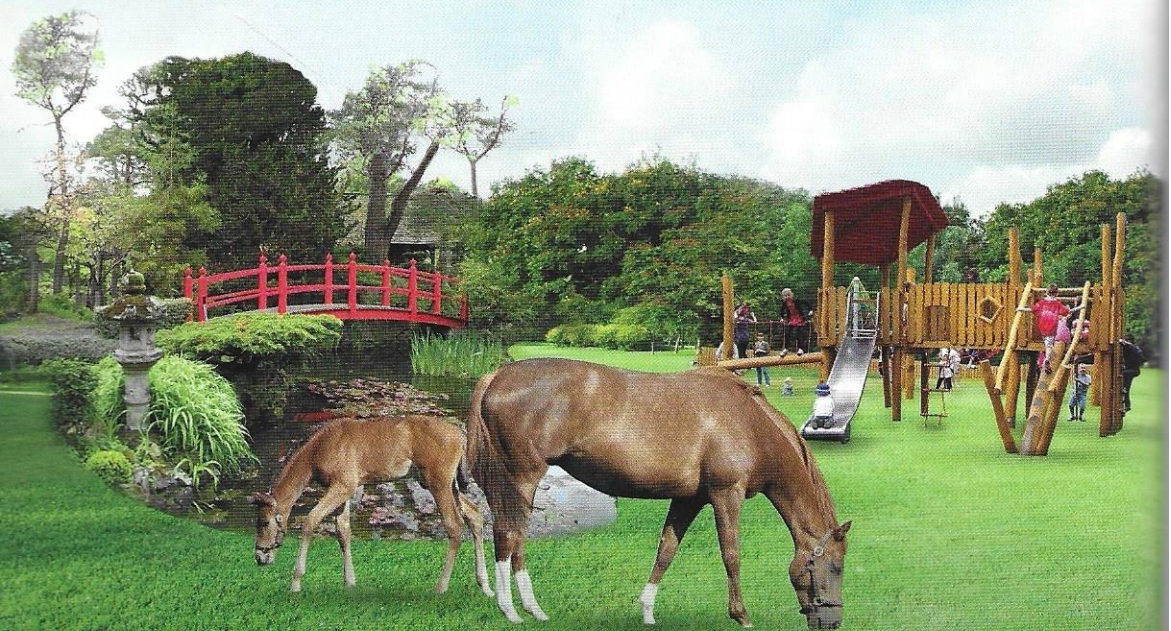
Enjoy the action,

Go raibh maith agaibh



Seán McGrath
CEO Allianz Ireland

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NACH MÓR ANN IAD

le Márta Ó Ciardha

Gan aimhreas is iad Ciarraí agus Áth Cliath máistrí na Sraithchomórtas Peile – eatarthu tá cluiche ceannais an chomórtais bainte amach 50 uair acu, Ciarraí inniu ar thóir an bhua don 20ú uair agus Áth Cliath an 13ú ceann. Níl aon mhaolú déanta ar an ócáid mar gurbh iad a d'imir a chéile i gcluiche an chomórtais seo cheana anuraidh, i gCluiche Leathcheannais na hÉireann 2016 freisin, i gCluiche Ceannais na bliana roimhe. etc., etc., etc.

Beag beann ar chomh minic agus a imríonn siad a chéile, bíonn rud éicint faoi leith ag baint i gconair le cluichí idir an dá chontae seo. Sin an fáth go bhfuil go leor acu chomh gléineach inár gcuimhne – cuid acu ag dul siad 40 bliain, cuid eile chomh úr leis an oíche bháistí ar Pháirc Aibhistín de Staic cúpla seachtain ó shin.

Céard a thabharfadh Paul Murphy ar an liathróid sin a bheith ar ais ina lámha arís ag deireadh na himeartha ansiúd – an deis fós beo ar dheireadh a chur le cur-iarracht Áth Cliath a bheith gan bualadh le 34 cluiche. Bí cinnte nach chuig Shane Carty a sheolfadh sé an pheil.

An mbeidh aon bhaint aige sin le imeachtaí an lae seo. Ní bheidh ná é agus sin an draíocht. Mo leithéid'se a chumann na scéalta faoi thábhacht na gcur-iarrachtaí seo atá 90 bliain d'aois agus a mheabhraíonn go bhfuil Áth Cliath ag iarradh Corn na Sraithe a bhreith leo don 5ú uair as a chéile, éacht nár deárnadh ó thug Maigh Eo leo é uair sa mbreis ar sin sna 1930idí.

Níl ó na peileadóirí a chuirfidh Éamonn Fitzmaurice agus Jim Gavin chun páirce inniu ach deis eile a fháil a gcéilí comhraic a chur do dhroim seoil, bíodh gur go minic roimhe nó go hannamh atá sin déanta acu sa gcuid is úire den stair a bhaineann le Ciarraí agus Áth Cliath.

Cluiche an lae inniu a shocróidh cé acu ainm a bheidh ar an gcorn don bhliain 2017, ach níl ann ach lúb eile sa slabhra a cheanglaíonn le chéile an t-am atá ann agus an t-am atá caite, a thugann chun cuimhne togha na bhfoirne agus a dhéanann cothú ar lucht a leanta agus ar thraidisiún a mhairfidh go deo.

Tá rudaí ann a fhanann sa bhfaisean. Tá an iomaíocht idir Ciarraí agus Áth Cliath ar cheann acu sin.

Is iad Gaillimh agus Cill Dara a imreoidh a chéile i gCluiche Ceannais Roinn 2 Sraithe Peile Allianz inniu agus tráthúil go leor ba iad Ciarraí agus Áth Cliath a d'imir ina gcoinne siúd an uair dheireanach a raibh siad beirt i gCluiche Ceannais na Sraithe ar Pháirc an Chrócaigh.

Sa mbliain 2006 agus Éamonn Fitzmaurice i lár an líne leath-thosaigh bhuaigh Ciarraí ar Ghaillimh 2-12, 0-10 – is é Seán Armstrong an t-aon duine de na Gaillimhgh a bhí ar an bpáirc an lá sin agus atá fós ag imirt.

Ní mór dul siar go dtí an bhliain 1991 chun teacht ar chuairt dheireanach Chill Dara ar Chluiche

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Ceannais na Sraithe. An lá sin agus Jarlath Gilroy agus Johnny McDonald ag tabhairt faoi chúil, bhí baint mhór ag dhá shábháil a rinne John O'Leary le bua Áth Cliath 1-9, 0-10.

Tá Gaillimh ag iarraidh éaló as Roinn 2 na Sraithe anois le seacht séasúr agus ba mhór an faoiseamh dá lucht leanta an bua ar Chill Dara ar Pháirc an Phiarsaigh Dé Domhnaigh seo caite a d'fhág sin déanta acu.

Bhíodar thar a bheith buíoch do chumas Shane Walsh, peileadóir a bhfuil na scileanna ar fad aige, ach a dtugann a chuairteanna ar Pháirc an Chrócaigh léargas dúinn ar an mbriseadh croí a bhain leis an mbóthar atá taistealaithe ag na fir Cois Coiribe le blianta beaga.

Ba é an babhta ceathrú ceannais i gCraobh na hÉireann an bhliain seo caite an 6ú uair ag Walsh imirt anseo. Níor eirigh lena fhoireann an bua bhreith leo aon uair amháin acu sin – i 2011 ar fhoireann Choláiste Iarfhatha i gCluiche Ceannais

Choirn An Ógánaigh, níos deireanaí an bhliain sin i mbabhta leathcheannais i gCraobh na Mionúir in aghaidh Áth Cliath agus i gCluichí sa gCraobh Shinsireach in aghaidh Chiarraí (2014), in aghaidh Dhún nan Gall (2015) agus sa gcluiche in aghaidh Thiobraid Árann anuraidh.

Togha tosach é an Breathnach ach inniu caithfidh sé déileáil le cosaint atá thar a bheith daingean. Níl géillte ag Cill Dara ó thús na Sraithe ach trí chúl – agus cé go bhfuair Gaillimh an bua orthu seachtain ó shin agus Co. an Chláir an tseachtain roimhe, beidh na Lílí i bhfad níos láidre inniu ná a bhí siad ceachtar de na leatheanta sin.

De na bainisteoirí atá ar dualgas anseo inniu, is é Cian O' Neill is giorra in oifig ach ar ndóigh chaith fear an Droichid Nua trí shéasúr ag obair le Éamonn Fitzmaurice agus roimhe sin bhí sé ag plé le peileadóirí Mhaigh Eo agus le iománaithe Thiobraid Árann.

Ní droch CV é sin.

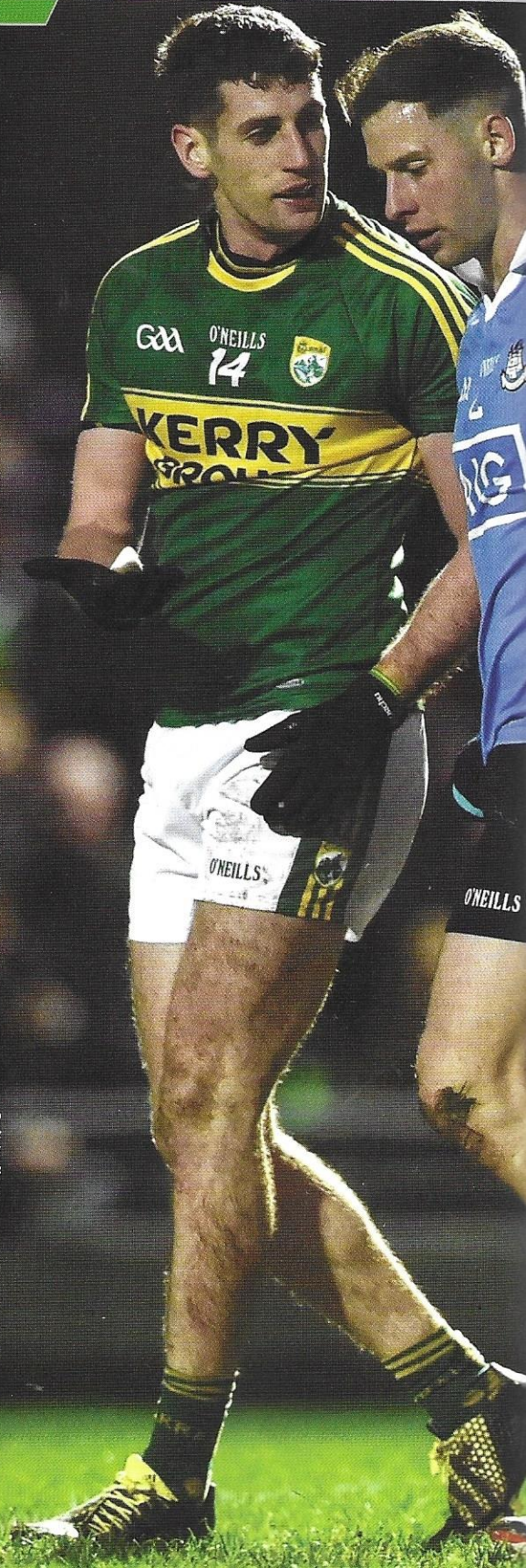



Philly McMahon, Áth Cliath, Shane Enright, Chiarraí, Shane Walsh, Gaillimh agus Eoin Doyle, Cill Dara

A LEAGUE LIKE NO OTHER LEAVES ITS MARK

By Colm Keys, Irish Independent

Paul Geaney of Kerry with Philip McMahon of Dublin during the Allianz Football League Division 1 Round 5 match between Kerry and Dublin at Austin Stack Park in Tralee.





At just after 3.20 last Sunday afternoon Donegal and Monaghan looked primed to contest an Allianz Division One final. Monaghan had a three-point cushion against Dublin in Clones with some 13 minutes still remaining but, after drawing breath to allow the champions to within a point, they got a nudge off them for some daylight again.

In Castlebar, where the action had been delayed by 10 minutes due to crowds pouring in, Aidan O'Shea had only just been thrust into action and Donegal were still holding a four-point lead with the wind blowing favourably for them.

By then Cavan had slipped into relegation territory, falling two points behind Roscommon in Dr. Hyde Park. But the home side's vulnerability still had this game within reach.

Only in Killarney, where Tyrone were chasing a first win over Kerry in seven years, was there a decisive shape taken.

But at that stage the margin of Kerry's lead didn't seem all that relevant with events at two venues much further north.

The cumulative attendance at the four venues was over 40,000, the average through the turnstiles over the seven weekends of Division One action. You could have replicated the uncertainty at both ends of the other two divisions at that very same time.

Derry and Fermanagh had the feel of a straight shoot out to avoid dropping down to Division Three where Down looked destined for as they trailed Cork by three.

Even Galway, who looked certain to return to top-flight football for the first time in six years given the nature of an already promoted Kildare team with 14 changes, were sweating for it down the home stretch in Salthill.

In Division Three the picture was just as complicated where it ebbed and flowed in Armagh's Athletic Grounds before the tide appeared to get behind the home side.

When Longford lost two players to red cards for the last quarter the odds on them getting the point required for safety felt more remote while Laois seemed too far adrift when they trailed by six points.

Fast forward no more than 15 minutes and the landscape had altered dramatically.

Dublin and Kerry were in a Division One final, Down had condemned both Derry and Fermanagh to the drop, Armagh had been caught late on the line for the third game in seven while Longford nicked a point to send opponents Antrim to the basement instead.

Galway survived as Laois narrowly missed out

by the width of a post as drama and tension permeated through every crevice of the top three divisions. Even Jim White and his yellow tie, with the clock ticking to bring transfer deadline day to a close, couldn't replicate the energy! It was quite an afternoon.

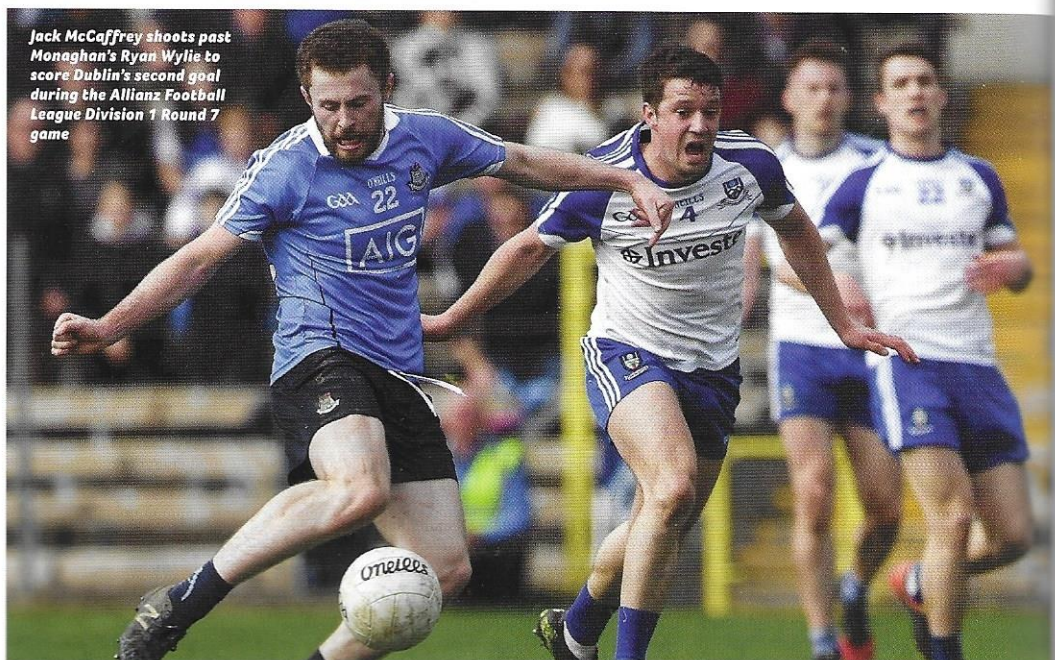
The best league in recent memory? In this opinion, it has to be, certainly since the four standardised divisions were reintroduced in 2008.

Weekend after weekend there's been twists and turns, ebbs and flows. Down and Offaly both looked dead and buried at different stages of their respective campaigns but clung to survival in those frantic last minutes.

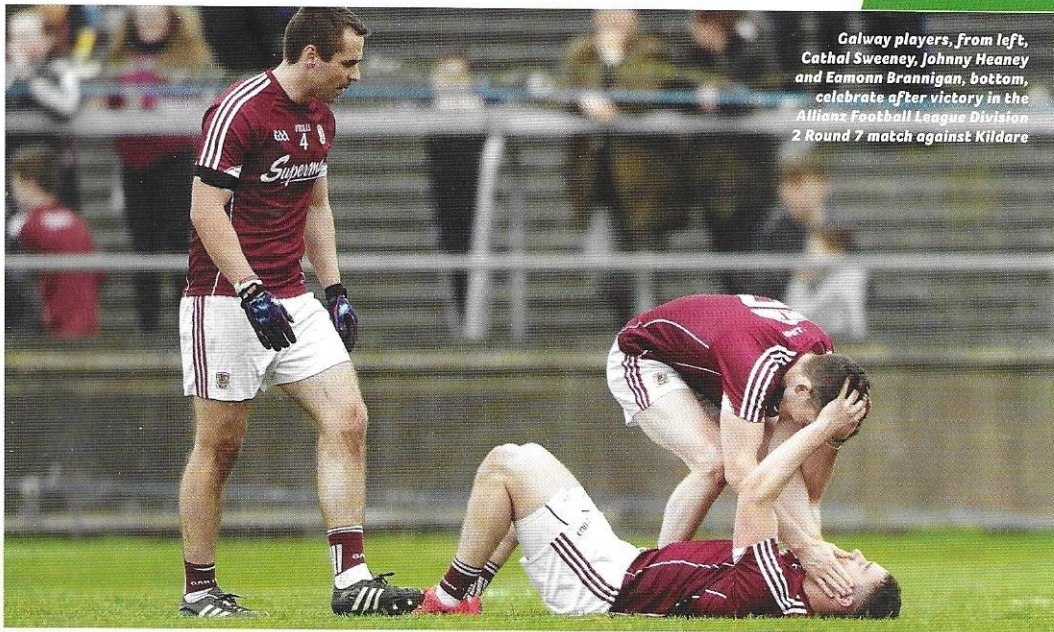
Just six points divided the eight teams in Division Three, seven from top to bottom in Division Two. That points to some level of equality and may provide a staple diet of food for thought in any future discussions on structural competition change.

Division One doesn't suit everyone's taste and a dearth of goals, 39 from 28 games, is just over half the 77 scored in the division in 2014, the year the black card was first introduced.

But maybe the quality shot-stopping of David Clarke and Stephen Cluxton, with more to do in the campaign than he's had in a long time, were small factors in that too.



Jack McCaffrey shoots past Monaghan's Ryan Wylie to score Dublin's second goal during the Allianz Football League Division 1 Round 7 game



Galway players, from left, Cathal Sweeney, Johnny Heaney and Eamonn Brannigan, bottom, celebrate after victory in the Allianz Football League Division 2 Round 7 match against Kildare

With 18 games from 28 played producing a winning margin of three points or less (six draws) it underscores an innate competitiveness, especially between the top six teams though Cavan's win in Castlebar, coupled with draws against Kerry and Monaghan, showed they can be got at.

For engagement, you only had to be in Tralee on the night that Dublin rolled into town to lay claim on a share of an 84-year old record to appreciate that.

It was hard-fought, edgy and spiteful but ultimately a contest that a 12,000 crowd were thoroughly absorbed in.

It said something about the league and Dublin's current status when Kerry supporters in the stand got off their feet in acclaim as their team went in at half-time with the sides still only level.

It said something too about the competition that Michael Murphy played in all seven of Donegal's games, bringing to 37 from 38 the number of league games he has played since 2013. Only a suspension ruled him out of the final 2015 game against Mayo.

The central thread stitching it all together has been that unbeaten league and championship streak for Dublin, stretching over two years and 36 games now and how their opponents have thrown everything at them to disrupt it.

When the fixtures were released last September, a sequence of games that gave them Tyrone and Mayo in Croke Park, Donegal in Ballyshannon and Kerry in Tralee in a five-week period looked like it would surely trip them up somewhere.

But resilience is their ultimate badge of honour that sees no rescue mission look impossible any more. From being five down against Tyrone with 10 minutes to go to draw to two down as four minutes of injury time began in Tralee to scramble a similar result, they have found a way each time.

The 'greatest ever team' debate is on the horizon and their league consistency over the last five years will give them significant capital in that when it comes.

The argument for diluting the top two divisions and restoring pre-2008 settings has merit in the benefit of lifting standards over a period of time. But as a measure of establishing an order of merit it's worth considering this - the only three teams to retain Division One status since the 2008 revamp are Kerry, Dublin and Mayo. A coincidence that they've been the top three championship teams in recent seasons too?

The crucible of Saturday nights and Sunday afternoons between February and April has surely something to do with that.



CAN THE KINGDOM TAKE DOWN AN EMPIRE?

By Christy O'Connor

At the end of last year's epic Dublin-Kerry All-Ireland semi-final, Kieran Donaghy made his way to the bottom steps of the Hogan Stand. For a moment, he thought about shooting straight down the tunnel but Donaghy suppressed that impulse for a couple of reasons. He wanted to shake hands with Colm Cooper, Aidan O'Mahony and Marc Ó Sé because Donaghy knew it would be the last time all four would be on the field together. And he wanted to acknowledge the Dublin players.

Donaghy shook hands with most of them. "I wanted to look them in the eye," wrote Donaghy in his autobiography, 'What do you think of that?'. "I wanted to say 'Fair play to ye, we put ye to the pin of your collar, ye might have folded, but ye came again, ye were better than us'. I respect all of them. You have to give it to them – they're a great team."

Kerry tried everything to take Dublin down but they just couldn't. Kerry hit Dublin with an unanswered 2-4 before the break to lead by five points at half-time. Kerry were still ahead by three points on 62 minutes but Dublin just hunted Kerry down and eventually ground them down. Kerry

were aggrieved but Dublin were still undoubtedly the better side.

Two of Kerry's greatest performances of the modern era have come in a pair of All-Ireland semi-final defeats to Dublin in 2013 and 2016. Kerry have drawn the best out of Dublin but similar to the 2015 All-Ireland final, when Dublin also finished stronger, the manner in which Dublin reeled Kerry in again last August hinted at a mental edge that Dublin now possess over Kerry.

The weekend before the sides met in March, Marc Ó Sé said in his newspaper column that psychology had nothing to do with Dublin's recent dominance. "I have never been in a Kerry dressing room prior to playing Dublin where I sensed that fear," wrote Ó Sé. "Trust me, if it was there, you would know. The notion that Kerry have some kind of mental issue with Dublin is way off the mark. It is far more serious than that – we have a footballing one."

In their long history, Kerry have always found a way of winning, especially after big defeats, but the challenge now is different to what they were often faced with before. Kerry evolved as the modern demands forced them to, but this Dublin team



Ciarán Kilkenny of Dublin is tackled by Kieran Donaghy of Kerry during last year's GAA Football All-Ireland Senior Championship semi-final

are not governed by certain systems of play or pioneering departures like Down and Tyrone were in the past. This Dublin side are a different standard because they have so much pace and athleticism.

Dublin have as many good footballers now as Kerry. Having more explosive players has also enabled Dublin to expose their great rivals in Croke Park. After giving game time to eight new players in this league, much of Kerry's campaign has been spent trying to hothouse those players for the kind of heat Dublin bring to the championship.

When the teams met three weeks ago, Kerry wanted to lay down a marker. They were even more pumped with Dublin in Tralee chasing Kerry's 84-year old unbeaten record. When Dublin matched that intensity, it often got ugly. Thirteen yellow cards were flashed.

Dublin equalled the record with a draw but what annoyed Kerry the most was the manner in which they had Dublin by the throat, and still couldn't finish them off. They had nine more scoring chances. Kerry created three goal

chances to Dublin's one. Kerry were two points ahead in injury time but they still couldn't close it out.

Dublin only created one decent scoring chance from play in the first 25 minutes. Kerry had eight shots at the target, four of which they converted, before Dublin even got a shot off in the second half. Nine of Dublin's 13 points came from placed balls.

Reeling Kerry in late on largely hinged on Paul Murphy's stray pass which led to Paul Mannion's equaliser but in the short time it took Dublin to wipe out that two-point lead, Dublin made 16 plays to Kerry's three. Kerry are normally the masters at killing a game but Dublin still found a way. Despite everything Kerry threw at them once more, they still couldn't beat Dublin.

Four successive championship defeats, plus last year's league final whipping, highlights how uncomfortable life has been under the iron-fist rule of the contemporary Dublin empire. Kerry may have to endure more pain yet before they sack the Dublin empire but today is another opportunity in their crusade of finally trying to take it down.

LAST OF THE PLAYGROUND FOOTBALLERS


By Christy O'Connor

When Johnny Buckley raised the Andy Merrigan Cup aloft on St Patrick's Day, Colm Cooper was at the bottom of the steps of the Hogan Stand. When Buckley finished his speech and each member of the Dr. Crokes panel took turns in raising the cup, most eyes were still on Cooper, the sense of anticipation rattling like a drumroll before the big bang. When Cooper finally stood at the top of the podium, the noise rose to a crescendo, every supporter still in the stadium, wherever they were from, celebrated Cooper's most satisfying, and probably cherished, coronation.

The image was slightly similar to one taken from the same afternoon two years earlier. When Henry Shefflin lifted the Tommy Moore Cup in 2015 to win his third All-Ireland club title with Ballyhale Shamrocks, Shefflin smiled but he still looked slightly uneasy of how to fully embrace the moment. Was that the final hurrah? Would he be back in Croke Park again? It took Shefflin another few weeks to make up his mind about retiring from the inter-county game but Cooper probably found that decision easier to come by. Winning that elusive All-Ireland club medal, and showing what it meant to him, highlighted how much Cooper was at peace with himself.

Cooper could have gone back again for one final shot with Kerry. His time could have been condensed into a five-month season at the most. He hadn't won an All-Ireland medal on the field of play since 2009, having been injured for Kerry's last success in 2014. After losing All-Ireland finals to Dublin in 2011 (as captain) and 2015, finally beating the Dubs after four successive defeats would have scratched an irritating itch. Great players are stimulated by those challenges but similar to Shefflin, Cooper didn't need another All-Ireland medal to





justify his iconic status as the greatest player of his generation, and one of the best ever. Cooper's legacy has long been secured. He didn't need to prove anything more to himself. Or anyone else.

Like Shefflin, Cooper's name and face transcended his sport. He was called 'Gooch' after the former Dr. Crokes goalkeeper Peter O'Brien likened him to a Goochie doll. The label was shortened and it stuck but Cooper didn't need a nickname to make him stand out; his class and brilliance did that for him. He forged that genius on the broad stretch of green in the middle of the Ardshanavooley estate on the fringe of Killarney where Cooper grew up. When the games got harder and the venues got bigger, Cooper still carried the same joyful and fun mindset into Fitzgerald Stadium, Páirc Uí Chaoimh and Croke Park. The venues were different but a football pitch was always his playground.

"That's all I want to do, I just want to put my boots on and play," he said in 2007.

"That's what I'm about. I was like that when I was

eight and when I was 18, and I hope I'm like that when I'm 28. That's the way I always want to feel. Growing up, I always looked at football like a child. I'm probably a child still. Play off the cuff. See what happens."

He soon became an ornament to the game but as football evolved and massed defences were constructed to swallow up players like Cooper, he adapted and found a way to survive. In 2013, he reinvented himself as a playmaker ahead of an assassin finisher, becoming the conductor of the orchestra rather than the soloist who played the sweetest and highest notes.

That was evident this year with Crokes. When they ran down the clock in the last ten minutes of the All-Ireland final – limiting Slaughtneil to just two possessions in that time – Cooper quarter-backed the operation. That style wouldn't have fitted Cooper's vision and ideal of how he wanted the game to be played but learning hard lessons at the hands of Armagh, Tyrone and Dublin gave Cooper a firmer grasp of how to survive in the modern jungle.

Hard-nosed defenders were always ready to take him out but Cooper never shirked that reality. He was an extremely disciplined and fair player but the velvet concealed the steel, like an iron fist wrapped up in a silk and lace glove. His greatest legacy though, is that even when football wasn't always the beautiful game, Cooper always tried to ensure, on his beat, that football won. His unique distillation of class and brilliance made those players around him play better too.

He didn't always win with Kerry but some of his greatest days with Kerry were in defeat, which underlined his defiance and greatness. His numbers were still outlandish but statistics can never fully measure impact and the gifts and golden moments Cooper consistently bequeathed to the game.

He was always at home on the big days and the big stage but he continued to try and perfect his game in the crucible of practice of the playground. If Cooper made a pass or took a shot that he wasn't happy with, he would, like a golfer, mentally and physically rehearse the way the striking action should have been, again and again and again. It underlined the supreme dedication to his craft but that desire and quest for continual improvement was also a constant inspiration and example to his team-mates. And everyone else. 'Thanks for inspiring no 13s everywhere,' tweeted Armagh's Jamie Clarke on Tuesday.

A day later, Dara Ó Cinneide wrote how heroes always slip quietly into the pantheon in Kerry. They are soon replaced but the affection in the county for Cooper "was unique". His last chapter with Kerry may be written but Cooper's story, and legacy, is endless.

ALLIANZ FOOTBALL LEAGUE – ROLL OF HONOUR

KERRY (19)	1928, 1929, 1931, 1932, 1959, 1961, 1963, 1969, 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1977, 1982, 1984, 1997, 2004, 2006, 2009.
DUBLIN (12)	1953, 1955, 1958, 1976, 1978, 1987, 1991, 1993, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016.
MAYO (11)	1934, 1935, 1936, 1937, 1938, 1939, 1941, 1949, 1954, 1970, 2001.
CORK (8)	1952, 1956, 1980, 1989, 1999, 2010, 2011, 2012.
MEATH (7)	1933, 1946, 1951, 1975, 1988, 1990, 1994.
DERRY (6)	1947, 1992, 1995, 1996, 2000, 2008.
DOWN (4)	1960, 1962, 1968, 1983.
GALWAY (4)	1940, 1957, 1965, 1981.
NEW YORK (3)	1950, 1964, 1967.
LAOIS (2)	1927, 1986.
TYRONE (2)	2002, 2003.
CAVAN (1)	1948.
LONGFORD (1)	1966.
ROSCOMMON (1)	1979.
MONAGHAN (1)	1985.
OFFALY (1)	1998.
ARMAGH (1)	2005.
DONEGAL (1)	2007.



DUBLIN v KERRY – ALLIANZ LEAGUE FINALS

1977 KERRY 1-8 DUBLIN 1-6

Kerry – C Nelligan, J Deenihan, P Lynch, G O’Keeffe, P Ó Sé, T Kennelly, G Power, J O’Keeffe, J O’Shea, S Walsh, D Moran, M Sheehy, B Walsh, P Spillane, J Egan.

Dublin – P Cullen, G O’Driscoll, S Doherty, H Kelleher, T Drumm, K Moran, P O’Neill, B Brogan, A Larkin, A O’Toole, T Hanahoe, D Hickey, B Doyle, J Keaveney, J McCarthy. Subs: M Hickey, F Ryder.

1987 DUBLIN 1-11 KERRY 0-11

Dublin – J O’Leary, D Carroll, G Hargan, M Kennedy, D Synnott, G O’Neill, N McCaffrey, J Ronayne, D Bolger, B Rock, J McNally, K Duff, D De Lappe, M Galvin, A McCaul. Sub: D Sheehan.

Kerry – C Nelligan, P O’Shea, T Spillane, M Spillane, S Stack, T Doyle, G Lynch, J O’Shea, T O’Dowd, J Kennedy, D Moran, P Spillane, W Maher, M Sheehy, G Power. Subs: J Higgins, E Liston.

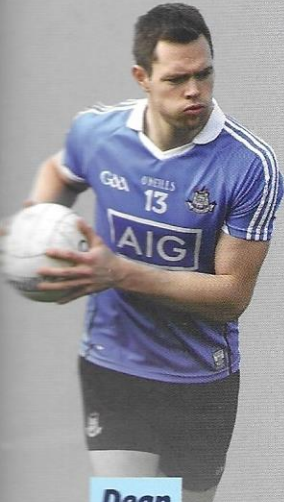
2016 DUBLIN 2-18 KERRY 0-13

Dublin – S Cluxton, P McMahan, J Cooper, D Byrne, J McCarthy, C O’Sullivan, J Small, B Fenton, D Bastick, P Flynn, D Rick, C Kilkenny, P Mannion, D Connolly, B Brogan. Subs: MD Macauley, K McManamon, C Costello, M Fitzsimons, E Lowndes, D Daly.

Kerry – B Kealy, M Ó Sé, M Griffin, S Enright, P Crowley, A O’Mahony, F Fitzgerald, K Donaghy, D Moran, B Sheehan, P Murphy, D Walsh, D O’Sullivan, C Cooper, S O’Brien. Subs: K Young, B O’Sullivan, J Lyne, BJ Keane, P O’Connor, M Geaney.



PATHS TO THE FINAL



Dean

ROCK



FEBRUARY 5, BREFFNI PARK

Defeated Cavan 0-18 to 0-11

FEBRUARY 11, CROKE PARK

Drew with Tyrone 0-10 to 1-7

FEBRUARY 26, BALLYBOFEY

Drew with Donegal 1-8 to 2-5

MARCH 4, CROKE PARK

Defeated Mayo 1-16 to 0-7

MARCH 18, TRALEE

Drew with Kerry 0-13 to 0-13

MARCH 25, CROKE PARK

Defeated Roscommon 2-29 to 0-14

APRIL 2, CLONES

Defeated Monaghan 2-15 to 1-15

Total Scored/Conceded

6-109/4-72



FEBRUARY 5, LETTERKENNY

Defeated Donegal 2-17 to 1-17

FEBRUARY 11, TRALEE

Lost to Mayo 1-10 to 0-15

FEBRUARY 26, KILLARNEY

Lost to Monaghan 1-10 to 2-8

MARCH 5, DR. HYDE PARK

Defeated Roscommon 1-19 to 1-13

MARCH 18, TRALEE

Drew with Dublin 0-13 to 0-13

MARCH 26, BREFFNI PARK

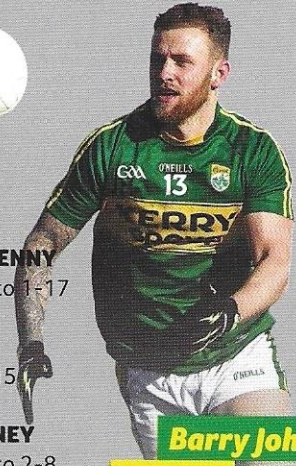
Drew with Cavan 0-13 to 1-10

APRIL 2, KILLARNEY

Defeated Tyrone 1-21 to 2-11

Total Scored/Conceded

6-103/7-87



Barry John

KEANE

SCORERS:

Dean Rock 0-42, Conor McHugh 1-9,
Paul Flynn 1-7, Niall Scully 1-5,
Bernard Brogan 1-4, Brian Fenton 0-5,
Paddy Andrews 0-5, Kevin McManamon 1-2,
James McCarthy 0-4, Ciarán Kilkenny 0-4,
Philly McMahon 0-4, Ciarán Reddin 0-4,
Jack McCaffrey 1-1, Eric Lowndes 0-3,
Shane Carthy 0-2, Michael Darragh Macauley 0-1,
Jason Whelan 0-1, Cormac Costello 0-1,
Jonny Cooper 0-1, David Byrne 0-1,
Eoghan O'Gara 0-1, Paul Mannion 0-1,
Diarmuid Connolly 0-1.

SCORERS:

Paul Geaney 3-33, Barry John Keane 1-11,
James O'Donoghue 0-10, Donnchadh Walsh 0-9,
Jack Savage 0-7, David Moran 1-3,
Paul Murphy 0-5, Bryan Sheehan 0-5,
Michael Geaney 1-2, Jack Barry 0-4,
Jonathan Lyne 0-2, Tadhg Morley 0-2,
Brendan Kealy 0-2, Peter Crowley 0-2,
Stephen O'Brien 0-2, Tom O'Sullivan 0-1,
Conor Geaney 0-1, Shane Enright 0-1,
Kevin McCarthy 0-1.

Scores from play (69%)

Scores from frees (31%)

Scores from play (68%)

Scores from frees (31%)

Scores from '45s (1%)



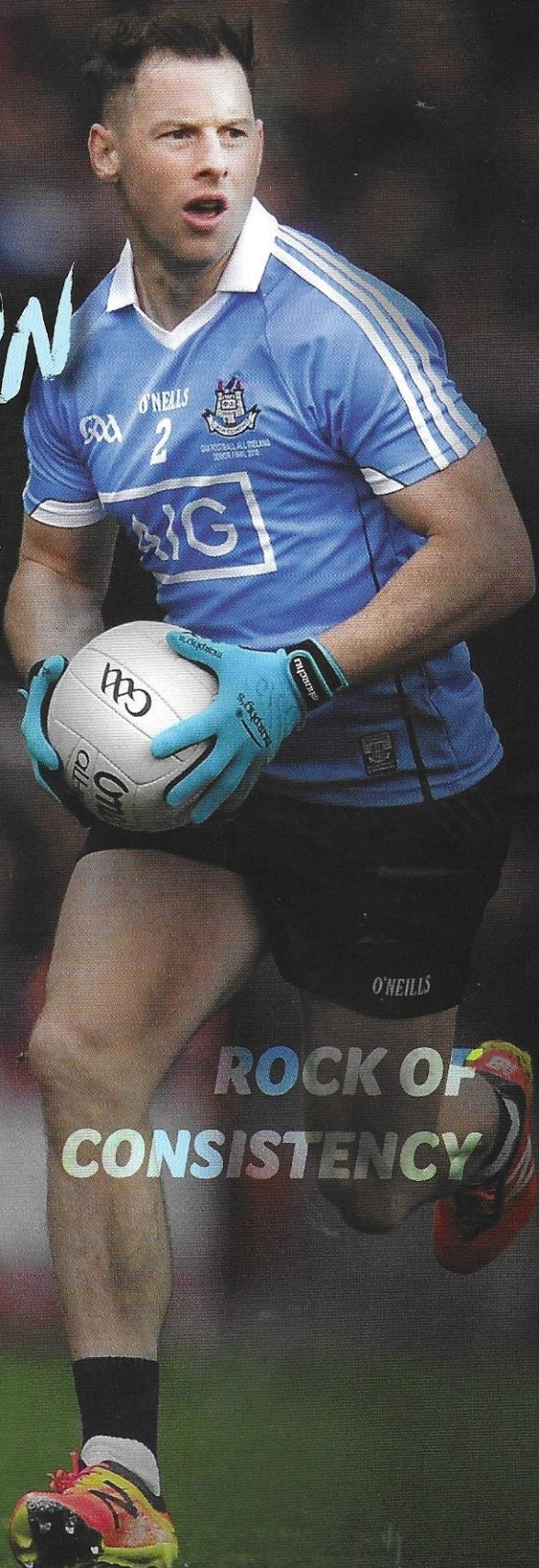
PHILLY

McMAHON

To be classed as an automatic pick in the current golden age of Dublin football is quite the honour, and that's precisely what Philly McMahon has become for Jim Gavin's side, reflected by the fact that he so far hasn't missed a second of Dublin's 2017 league campaign. The Ballymun Kickhams man has been the personification of reliability throughout Dublin's unbeaten run to a fifth successive league final and on current form, he is probably the best corner-back in Ireland – although 'corner-back' is hardly an adequate description of the wide-ranging role that McMahon plays for the All-Ireland champions.

McMahon has been a rock of consistency in the full-back line throughout the league but it's his performance in round 4 against Mayo that stands out the most. McMahon ultimately came out on top in a compelling contest with Cillian O'Connor – marking the Ballintubber man brilliantly but also popping up with 0-2 of his own, two more than his direct opponent managed on the night from open play. That's McMahon in a nutshell – a nightmare to mark whether you're a forward or a back.

Now 29, McMahon is the holder of four All-Ireland senior medals and he is one of the very few to have been on the field to savour the moment of victory in all four finals – 2011 (having come on as a sub), 2013, 2015 and 2016 (all as a starter). McMahon was an All Star in 2015 and is a Sigerson Cup winner with DCU.



ROCK OF
CONSISTENCY

2017 ALLIANZ LEAGUE APPEARANCES



ÁTH CLIATH



ROGHNÓIRÍ JIM GAVIN (BAINISTEOIR), Declan Darcy, Shane O'Hanlon, Jason Sherlock



1 Stiofáin Cluxton (C.)
STEPHEN CLUXTON
Parnells

2 Pilib Mac Mathúna
PHILIP McMAHON
Ballymun Kickhams

3 Mícheál Mac Síomóin
MICHAEL FITZSIMONS
Cuala

4 Darren Ó Dálaigh
DARREN DALY
Fingal Ravens

5 Séamus Mac Cárthaigh
JAMES McCARTHY
Ballymun Kickhams

6 Cian Ó Súilleabháin
CIAN O'SULLIVAN
Kilmacud Crokes

7 Eric Lowndes
ERIC LOWNDES
St. Peregrine's

8 Brian Ó Fiannachta
BRIAN FENTON
Raheny

9 Ciarán Ó Rodáin
CIARÁN REDDIN
St Maur's

10 Pól Mac Floinn
PAUL FLYNN
Fingallians

11 Ciarán Mac Giolla Choinnigh
CIARÁN KILKENNY
Castleknock

12 Diarmuid Ó Conghaile
DIARMUID CONNOLLY
St. Vincent's

13 Dean Mac Concharraige
DEAN ROCK
Ballymun Kickhams

14 Pádraig Mac Aindriú
PADDY ANDREWS
St. Brigid's

15 Bernard Ó Brógáin
BERNARD BROGAN
St. Oliver Plunkett's/Eoghan Ruadh

FIR IONAIÐ

16. Evan Mac Cumascaigh
EVAN COMERFORD
Ballymun Kickhams

17. Donncha Bastick
DENIS BASTICK
Templeogue Synge Street

18. Daibhéid Ó Broin
DAVID BYRNE
Naomh Olaf

19. Seán Mac Cárthaigh
SHANE B. CARTHY
St Vincent's

20. Mícheál Mac Amhlaoidh
MICHAEL DARRAGH MACAULEY
Ballyboden St. Enda's

21. Pól Ó Mainnín
PAUL MANNION
Kilmacud Crokes

22. Conchúr Mac Aodh
CONOR McHUGH
Na Fianna

23. Caoimhín Mac Meanman
KEVIN McMANAMON
St. Jude's

24. Conn Ó Ceallacháin
CON O'CALLAGHAN
Cuala

25. Eoghan Ó Gadhra
EOGHAN O'GARA
Templeogue Synge Street

26. Neil Ó Scoláí
NIALL SCULLY
Templeogue Synge Street

CIARRAÍ

ÉAMONN FITZMAURICE (BAINISTEoir), Mikey Sheehy, Pádraig Corcoran, Liam Hassett, Maurice Fitzgerald **ROGNÓIRÍ**



1 **Breandán Ó Caolaí**
BRENDAN KEALY
Kilcummin

2 **Fionn Mac Gearailt (C.)**
FIONN FITZGERALD
Dr. Crokes

3 **Marc Ó Grifín**
MARK GRIFFIN
St Michaels-Foilmore

4 **Ronán Ó Seanacháin**
RONAN SHANAHAN
Austin Stacks

5 **Peadar Ó Crualaidh**
PETER CROWLEY
Laune Rangers

6 **Tadhg Ó Muraile**
TADHG MORLEY
Templenoë

7 **Pól Ó Murchú**
PAUL MURPHY
Rathmore

8 **Daithí Ó Moráin**
DAVID MORAN
Kerins O'Rahillys

9 **Antaine Ó Meachair**
ANTHONY MAHER
Duagh

10 **Seán Ó Laighín**
JONATHAN LYNE
Killarney Legion

11 **Micheál Ó Géibheannaigh**
MICHAEL GEANEY
Dingle

12 **Donnchadh Breathnach**
DONNCHADH WALSH
Cromane

13 **Caoimhín Mac Cárthaigh**
KEVIN MCCARTHY
Kilcummin

14 **Pól Ó Géibheannaigh**
PAUL GEANEY
Dingle

15 **Stiofán Ó Briain**
STEPHEN O'BRIEN
Kenmare

FIR IONAID

16. Briain Ó Ceallaigh
BRIAN KELLY
Killarney Legion

17. Seán de Barra
JACK BARRY
Na Gaeil

18. Barra Seán Ó Catháin
BARRY JOHN KEANE
Kerins O'Rahillys

19. Seán Sabhaois
JACK SAVAGE
Kerins O'Rahillys

20. Briain Ó Siocháin
BRYAN SHEEHAN
St. Mary's

21. Darran Ó Suilleabháin
DARRAN O'SULLIVAN
Glenbeigh/Glencar

22. Adrian Ó Spealáin
ADRIAN SPILLANE
Templenoë

23. Gaibhín Ó Crualaíoch
GAVIN CROWLEY
Templenoë

24. Donnchadh Ó Dálaigh
DENIS DALY
St Mary's

25. Cathal Ó Lúing
CATHAL Ó LÚING
An Ghaeltacht

26. Ciarán Mac Donnchaidh
KIERAN DONAGHY
Austin Stacks



PAUL

GEANEY

Paul Geaney's evolution into a forward of national renown is complete and he is now arguably Kerry's most important player. The Dingle man has had plenty of stellar attacking talents to share the limelight with in his time in the Kerry jersey - James O'Donoghue, Colm Cooper and Kieran Donaghy to name a few - but there is nobody ahead of Geaney in the pecking order now. As is often the way in Kerry, Geaney's progression to the top was not well flagged years in advance; his ascent was gradual and he had to work extremely hard to get where he is today. He did not make his senior championship debut until August 2013 but when he got his first serious opportunity at the start of the 2014 season, he grabbed it with both hands and ended the year as an All-Ireland winner and a key member of the Kerry full-forward line. He also captained UCC to Sigerson Cup glory earlier that year, another important part of the journey for him.

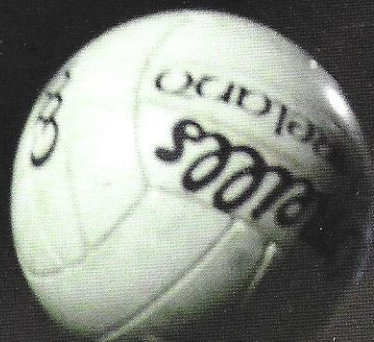
He has been outstanding so far in the 2017 Allianz Football League for Kerry. He has scored 3-33 in seven matches, comfortably leaving him as the Kingdom's top scorer, and he has been deadly both from open play and placed balls - 3-7 has come from open play with the remainder bearing testament to how reliable Geaney has become with frees. Geaney's form in attack, along with that of Donnchadh Walsh, has helped Kerry cope without the likes of Cooper, Donaghy and O'Donoghue this spring.

**DEADLY BOTH
FROM OPEN PLAY
AND PLACED
BALLS**

2017 ALLIANZ LEAGUE APPEARANCES



TRULY, MADLY, GRUDGINGLY



By Malachy Clerkin, *The Irish Times*


Here we go again, then. Eyes down for the sort of house that is respectably filled for early April. Somewhere between last year's Rising-inspired capacity crowd and the 31,000 that turned up for Dublin's win over Cork in 2015 sounds about right.

It feels odd to even bring up the notion. Jim Gavin's team is still on an unprecedented unbeaten streak – they might only be in the middle of it for all we know. And they're coming out unscathed from game after game by playing relentless attacking football, wave after wave, run after run, score after score. There isn't much in Irish sport these days that tops the sight of the Dubs chasing down a lead in the closing minutes of game.

But that isn't how the GAA works, sure it's not? It would be a sign of a thin and fairly antiseptic association if the rest of the country was glorying in Dublin's run. Wouldn't it be just about as perverse if we were all to push our spectacles up on our nose and loftily declare our appreciation for the works of art they invariably produce? This isn't the UN, lads.

No, we are Irish and we reserve the right to crib about the Dubs and their population and their money and their accents and their backroom team and their Hill-16-is-Dublin-only carry-on. It would be mildly disgusting if we were to behave otherwise. The Dubs are appreciated alright, but grudgingly and just to stop them getting more notions than they already have.

Michael Fitzsimons of Dublin during the Allianz Football League Division 1 Round 5 match between Kerry and Dublin



Another match-up with Kerry in another league final creates an interesting dynamic for the rest of the country. Do we all feel deep in our bones that it would be a good thing if someone would be kind enough to finally beat Gavin's side? Indisputably, yes. Do we really and truly want it to be Kerry? Well, that's a whole other racket.

Memories are short but surely enough of us are around to remember that the Kerry team of the 2000s went through spells when they clomped around the place with just the same sort of psychological bullying demeanour as the current Dublin team do. And who suffered? Everyone, that's who.

So far this decade, Dublin have faced 16 counties in championship and beaten them all. The Kerry team that went to eight All-Ireland finals in 10 years in the 2000s ended the decade having faced 20 teams in championship and beaten 19 of them. Tyrone were able to stand tall against them and shared Team of the Decade status as a result. But otherwise, they were equal-opportunities destroyers. Everybody got a piece if they came looking for a piece.

Casting them now as fearless defenders of the general populace is therefore a bit of a leap. Did we swoon in vapours when Colm Cooper and Declan O'Sullivan and the Ó Séis were joyriding over the dreams of all and sundry back then? No we did not. Again, we are Irish and we took seriously our role of sly denigration.

We cranked and moaned about them not being the artists everyone made them out to be, although who this 'everyone' is has remained unclear to the end. We whined about the handy run they had to the final every year and the fact that they could lie back in a hammock against Cork in June before springing to their feet with fists drawn if they met them in September.

So if it's Kerry who end Dublin's unbeaten run and if it's today, the rest of the country will probably just throw an exaggerated shrug and pretend not to care. One big dog finally landing a bite on another. And sure it's only the league. But it's easy being a neutral. For Kerry people, the Dubs have to be beaten – and soon.

"There is still a gap there," Éamonn Fitzmaurice said after the league final last April. "It is a gap that we have to try to close. I think we were better today than we were last September. Look, they are a serious outfit. In fairness to Jim Gavin, he flies below the radar but he is obviously brilliant at his job because for him to be able to keep the level of hunger he has in a group that has been so successful is remarkable, really."

It is. It was when he said that 12 months ago and it's true even more so today. Truly, genuinely remarkable and a credit to everyone involved.

But let's not tell them, eh?



NIALL

KELLY

Niall Kelly was a key driver of Kildare's promotion bid from Division II right from the start of the spring. In round 1 against Meath, he hit 2-2 and he continued to contribute scores from play throughout the campaign, finishing with an impressive tally of 2-10 from seven matches. As valuable as Kelly's scoring power has been for Kildare this season, it's his all round industriousness in attack and around the middle third that makes him such an important player for the Lilywhites.

A crisp night under the Croke Park lights against Donegal in February 2013 was the first time Kelly came to the attention of most GAA observers outside Kildare. Just turned 19, Kelly was man-of-the-match against the then All-Ireland champions, kicking 0-3 in an Allianz League match at Headquarters before he had even played a senior league game for his club Athy. Since his earliest days in the underage ranks for club and county, it's been obvious that Kelly is a talent with few equals. A beautifully balanced footballer on both left and right sides, the 23-year-old's low centre of gravity, refined technique and considerable physical power means that on his day, he is a joy to watch. His progress with the Lilywhites was slightly curtailed by hip and hamstring injuries in 2013 and 2014, but for the past two years he has been a vital figure in Cian O'Neill's fast developing side.

A BEAUTIFULLY
BALANCED
FOOTBALLER ON
BOTH LEFT AND
RIGHT SIDES



2017 ALLIANZ LEAGUE APPEARANCES



CILL DARA

ROGHNÓIRÍ CIAN O'NEILL (BAINISTEOIR), Ronan Sweeney, Enda Murphy



1 **Marcus Ó Donalláin**
MARK DONNELLAN
Maynooth

2 **Mícheál Ó Gráda**
MICK O'GRADY
Celbridge

3 **Daithí Ó hAoláin**
DAVID HYLAND
Athy

4 **Oilibhéar Ó Laighin**
OLLIE LYONS
Celbridge

5 **Seán Ó Broin**
JOHNNY BYRNE
Allenwood

6 **Eoin Ó Dúghaill (C.)**
EOIN DOYLE
Naas

7 **Ceitheach Mac Róibín**
KEITH CRIBBIN
Johnstownbridge

8 **Caoimhín Ó Ficheallaigh**
KEVIN FEELY
Athy

9 **Tomás Moolick**
TOMMY MOOLICK
Leixlip

10 **Feargal Ó Conbhuí**
FERGAL CONWAY
Celbridge

11 **Fionn Ó Dulaing**
FIONN DOWLING
Suncroft

12 **Pól Ó Croibín**
PAUL CRIBBIN
Johnstownbridge

13 **Críostóir Ó hÉilí**
CHRIS HEALY
Two Mile House

14 **Niall Ó Ceallaigh**
NIALL KELLY
Athy

15 **Beirheart Mac Cormaic**
BEN McCORMACK
Sarsfields

FIR IONAIÐ

16. Seán Mac Conmara
SHANE McNAMARA
Celbridge

17. Peadar Ó Ceallaigh
PETER KELLY
Two Mile House

18. Daithí Ó Slathara
DAVID SLATTERY
Confey

19. Cathal Mac an Fhaillí
CATHAL McNALLY
Johnstownbridge

20. Liam Ó hÉilí
LIAM HEALY
Moorefield

21. Éamonn Ó Ceallacháin
ÉAMONN CALLAGHAN
Naas

22. Conchubhar Ó hArtaile
CONOR HARTLEY
Sarsfields

23. Eadhard Ó hEimhigh
EDDIE HEAVEY
Moorefield

24. Pascal Ó Conaill
PASCHAL CONNELL
Athy

25. Marcus Ó hAoláin
MARK HYLAND
Athy

26. Shea Ó Riain
SHEA RYAN
Sarsfields

GAILLIMH

KEVIN WALSH (BAINISTEOIR), Brian Silke, Séan Conlon **ROGHNÓIRÍ**



1

Ruairí Ó Maolábhail

RUAIRÍ LAVELLE
Rinn a'Mhaoil

2

Daithí Ó Gaoitín

DAVID WYNNE
Maigh Cuilinn

3

Daithí Breathnach

DAVID WALSH
Cill Ainnín

4

Cathal Mac Suibhne

CATHAL SWEENEY
Cill Ainnín

5

Garraí Ó Domhnaill (C.)

GARY O'DONNELL
Réalta Thuama

6

Micéal Ó Fearachair

MICHAEL FARRAGHER
Corafinne

7

Séan Ó hÉanna

JOHNNY HEANEY
Cill Ainnín

8

Pól Ó Conraoi

PAUL CONROY
Naomh Séamus

9

Fiontán Ó Curraoin

FIONTÁN Ó CURRAOIN
Micheál Breathnach

10

Tomás Ó Fhloinn

THOMAS FLYNN
Baile Átha'n Rí

11

Sheadhna Breathnach

SHANE WALSH
Cill Chloirín/Cluain Bheirne

12

Eamon Ó Brannagáin

EAMONN BRANNIGAN
Naomh Micheál

13

Garraí Ó Saigheas

GARY SICE
Corafinne

14

Baróid Mac Aodha

BARRY McHUGH
An Creagán/Magh Locha

15

Séan Ó Labhraí-Traen

SEÁN ARMSTRONG
Bóthar na Trá/Cnoc na Cathrach

FIR IONAIÐ

16. Manus Breathnach

MANUS BREATHNACH
An Spidéal

17. Liam Ó Síoda

LIAM SILKE
Corafinne

18. Lucas dé Búrcha

LUKE BURKE
Cealltrach

19. Finian Ó hÁinle

FINIAN HANLEY
Bóthar na Trá/Cnoc na Cathrach

20. Gearóid Breadseach

GARETH BRADSHAW
Maigh Cuilinn

21. Ronán Mac Eachaidh

RONAN STEEDE
Corafinne

22. Éanna Ó Tiarnaigh

ENDA TIERNEY
Uachtar Ard

23. Micéal Ó Dálaigh

MICHAEL DALY
An Creagán/Magh Locha

24. Micéal Ó Giolla Fhiondháin

MICHAEL LUNDY
Corafinne

25. Deaglán Ó Cadhain

DECLAN KYNE
An Fhairche

26. Ian dé Búrcha

IAN BURKE
Corafinne



PAUL

CONROY

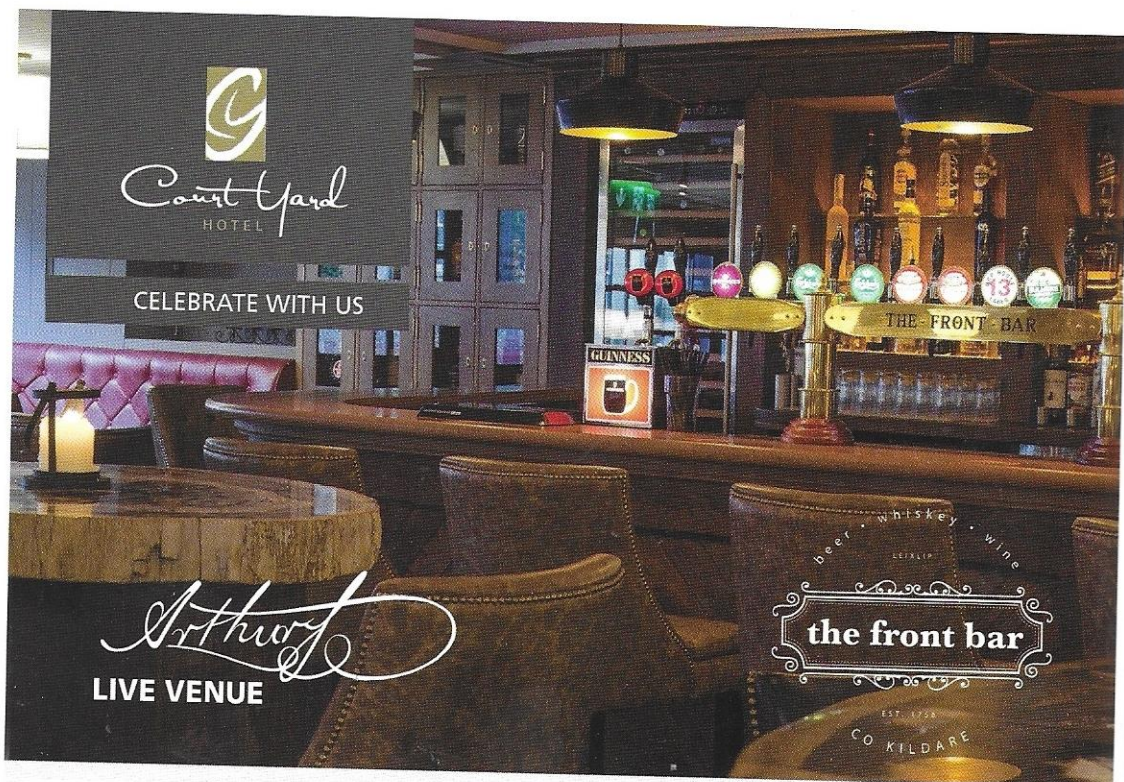
Paul Conroy has played all but a few seconds of Galway's successful 2017 Allianz League campaign and unsurprisingly has been instrumental in their return to the top flight. His work-rate, power, drive and composure in the middle has been evident since week 1 in Division II, as has his undimmed scoring ability – he has contributed 0-9 (0-7 from play) in seven outings, an impressive return for a midfielder these days. Perhaps his finest display came against Fermanagh in week 2, when he inspired his side to a stirring comeback victory which laid the foundations for their subsequent promotion and final appearance here today. Although he's still just 27 years old, Conroy is one of the undisputed leaders on Kevin Walsh's Galway team. This is the St James' man's tenth season on the Galway senior panel – he came in for the first time as an 18-year-old at the start of the 2008 season, having had the honour of captaining Galway to the All-Ireland minor title the season before. His switch to the senior ranks was seamless and he won a Connacht title in his first year (2008), but remarkably he had to endure seven barren provincial campaigns before he got his hands on the Nestor Cup again last year, when Galway defeated Roscommon after a replay in the final. Conroy is a native of Renmore in Galway city, and he grew up close to where his club St James' is based.

ONE OF THE
UNDISPUTED
LEADERS



2017 ALLIANZ LEAGUE APPEARANCES





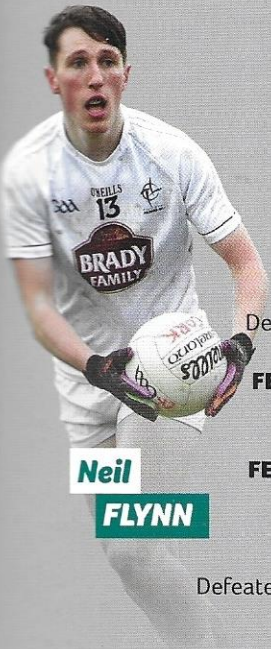
AS A SPORTS LOVER,
THERE'S NOTHING QUITE
LIKE THE ROAR OF THE
CROWD, THE SCREECH OF
THE WHISTLE AND THE
PALATABLE TENSION IN
THE ATMOSPHERE AT A
LIVE GAME.

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be there in real life, so
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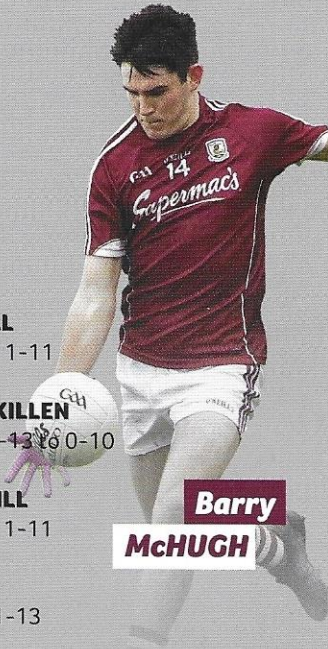
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PATHS TO THE FINAL



**Neil
FLYNN**



**Barry
McHUGH**

FEBRUARY 5, NAVAN

Defeated Meath 3-17 to 0-16

FEBRUARY 5, SALTHILL

Drew with Cork 0-14 to 1-11

FEBRUARY 12, NEWBRIDGE

Defeated Cork 1-14 to 1-8

FEBRUARY 12, ENNISKILLEN

Defeated Fermanagh 1-13 to 0-10

FEBRUARY 26, CELTIC PARK

Lost to Derry 1-17 to 1-18

FEBRUARY 26, SALTHILL

Defeated Clare 3-13 to 1-11

MARCH 5, NEWBRIDGE

Defeated Fermanagh 4-14 to 0-14

MARCH 5, NAVAN

Lost to Meath 0-15 to 1-13

MARCH 18, NEWRY

Defeated Down 2-9 to 0-10

MARCH 19, TUAM

Defeated Derry 5-15 to 2-15

MARCH 26, NEWBRIDGE

Defeated Clare 0-18 to 1-14

MARCH 26, NEWRY

Defeated Down 3-15 to 1-13

APRIL 2, SALTHILL

Lost to Galway 0-13 to 0-14

APRIL 2, SALTHILL

Defeated Kildare 0-14 to 0-13

Total Scored/Conceded
11-102/3-94

Total Scored/Conceded
12-99/6-86

SCORERS:

SCORERS:

Neil Flynn 0-17, Kevin Feely 0-17, Niall Kelly 2-10, Ben McCormack 2-8, Paul Cribbin 0-10, Tommy Moolick 2-4, Daniel Flynn 1-6, Chris Healy 2-3, Fionn Dowling 0-8, David Slattery 2-0, Fergal Conway 0-4, Keith Cribbin 0-3, Cathal McNally 0-3, Ollie Lyons 0-2, Eoin Doyle 0-1, Johnny Byrne 0-1, Eddie Heavey 0-1, Conor Hartley 0-1, Mark Donnellan 0-1, Eamonn Callaghan 0-1, David Hyland 0-1.

Barry McHugh 0-27, Eamonn Brannigan 4-7, Shane Walsh 3-9, Paul Conroy 0-9, Michael Daly 0-9, Gary Sice 0-7, Danny Cummins 1-4, Thomas Flynn 1-4, Johnny Heaney 1-4, Gary O'Donnell 0-6, Damian Comer 1-2, Gareth Bradshaw 1-2, Declan Kyne 0-2, Seán Armstrong 0-2, Cillian McDaid 0-1, Cathal Sweeney 0-1, Michael Lundy 0-1, Liam Silke 0-1, Michael Farragher 0-1.

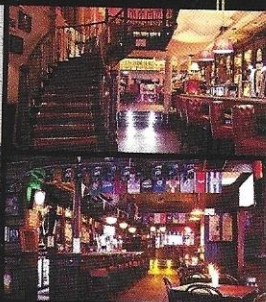
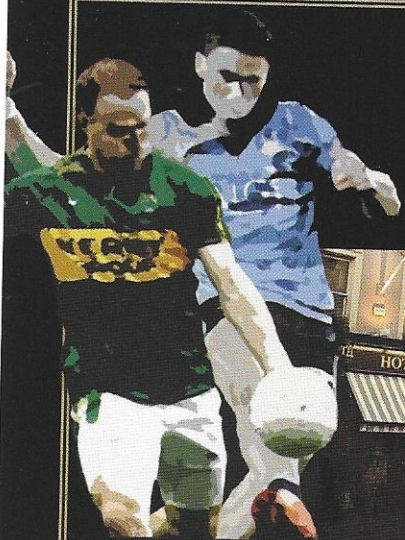
Scores from play (81%)
Scores from frees (18%)
Scores from penalties (0%)
Scores from '45s (1%)

Scores from play (74%)
Scores from frees (19%)
Scores from penalties (4%)
Scores from '45s (2%)



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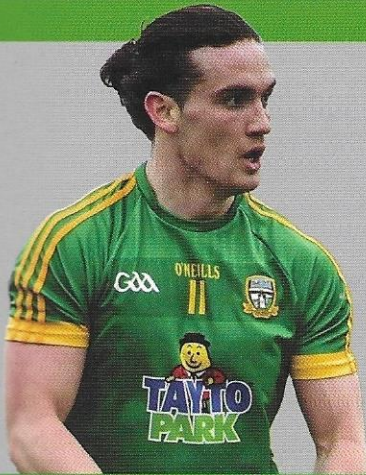
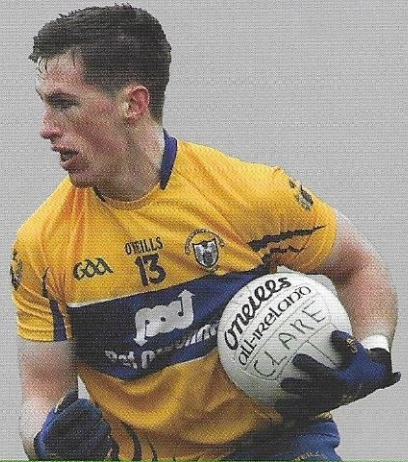
#SLICEOFTHECITY

ALLIANZ FOOTBALL LEAGUE ROINN II

TOP SCORERS...

...Overall

Eoin Cleary	(Clare)	1-32
Colm O'Neill	(Cork)	0-33
Donal Lenihan	(Meath)	2-27
Seán Quigley	(Fermanagh)	0-28
Barry McHugh	(Galway)	0-27



...From Play

Cillian O'Sullivan	(Meath)	4-10
Graham Reilly	(Meath)	0-19
Paul Kerrigan	(Cork)	1-15
Shane Walsh	(Galway)	3-9
Niall Kelly	(Kildare)	2-10

FINALS

2010-2016

2010	Armagh	0-17	Down	1-12
2011	Donegal	2-11	Laois	0-16
2012	Kildare	0-16	Tyrone	0-11

2013	Derry	1-18	Westmeath	0-15
2014	Monaghan	1-16	Donegal	1-10
2015	Roscommon	1-17	Down	0-15
2016	Tyrone	1-17	Cavan	0-15

FINAL TOP SCORERS

2010-2016

2010	Steven McDonnell	(Armagh)	0-6	2014	Michael Murphy	(Donegal)	1-4
2011	Michael Murphy	(Donegal)	1-3	2015	Cian Connolly	(Roscommon)	0-5
	Colm McFadden	(Donegal)	1-3		Donal O'Hare	(Down)	0-5
2012	Michael Conway	(Kildare)	0-5		Ciarán Murtagh	(Roscommon)	1-2
2013	John Heslin	(Westmeath)	0-5	2016	Ronan O'Neill	(Tyrone)	1-3

NA RÉITEOIRÍ

ALLIANZ FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION I FINAL

Dublin v Kerry



PADDY NEILAN
ROSCOMMON

A member of the St Faithleach's club, Neilan is in his sixth year as a member of the inter-county panel. The 36-year-old's most recent appearance at Croke Park was in July last year when Cork took on Donegal in a Round 4 All-Ireland Qualifier. His last assignment with Dublin was 14 months ago when the Metropolitans took on Cork in the Allianz League at GAA Headquarters, while he has yet to be in the primary role for a match involving the Kingdom. In 2017 the Roscommon referee has three league outings under his belt at Markievicz Park (Sligo v Armagh), Celtic Park (Derry v Down) and Páirc Esler (Down v Galway) while a couple of EirGrid Connacht U21 assignments (including the final in Sligo) also feature on this year's CV.



ALLIANZ FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION II FINAL



Kildare v Galway

DEREK O'MAHONEY
TIPPERARY

A member of the Ardfinnan club, he has been on the inter-county panel for seven years. The 41-year-old took charge of three fixtures in last year's league while this season has had outings at Dr. Hyde Park (Roscommon v Donegal), Fitzgerald Stadium (Kerry v Monaghan) and a couple of weeks ago at Páirc Tailteann for Meath and Fermanagh. His last match involving Galway was in February last year for their Allianz League tie with Tyrone at Salthill, while Kildare featured twice last season on his rota, the first of which was their Croke Park encounter with Westmeath in the Leinster Championship. He subsequently blew the whistle in the Lilywhites' All-Ireland Qualifier against Mayo at Elverys MacHale Park, Castlebar. Twelve months ago, O'Mahoney ran the line for the Allianz League Division I final.

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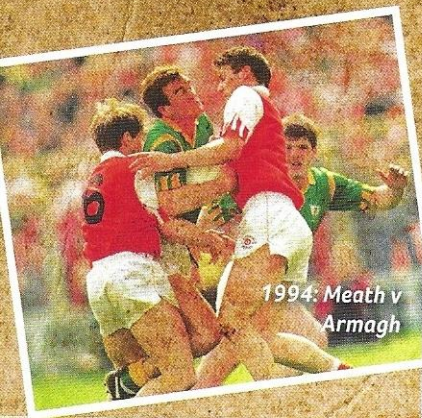
REFLECTIONS ON 25 YEARS OF THE ALLIANZ LEAGUE

By Dónal Keenan

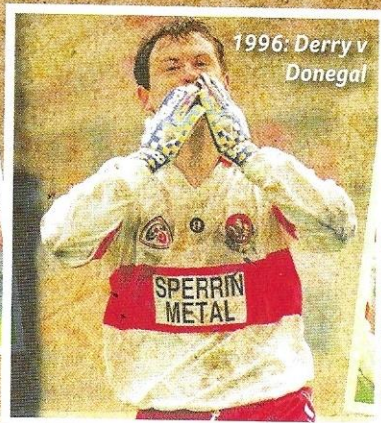
Jim Gavin in action for Dublin

If Jim Gavin could find time to reflect within his packed daily schedule of football and life in general he would, like the rest of us more and more with age, wonder and shudder with the swiftness of the passage of time.

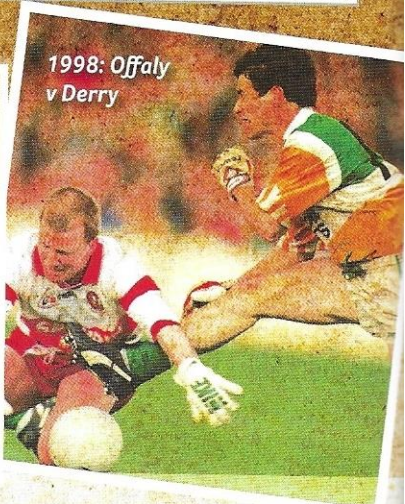
Inserted in his ever-expanding sporting CV from the earlier days of his playing career is a statistic that could easily be overshadowed by the multiplicity of other achievements - he was right-half forward on the Dublin team that won the National Football League title on May 9, 1993.



1994: Meath v Armagh



1996: Derry v Donegal



1998: Offaly v Derry

It was Gavin's only success in the competition as a player but a quarter of a century later – a period involving the long-running sponsorship of the league by Allianz (originally under the Church and General moniker) – he is still a major figure in the competition; at the moment, a dominating one.

During those two-and-a-half decades of the only continuous sponsorship in the GAA nationally, the Allianz Football League has continued to grow in strength and relevance. Dublin's bid today for a fifth title in succession clearly reflects their status in the game currently.

Some of their greatest rivals will look back with nostalgia on what the league has meant for them. Meath, for example, were the winners in 1994. "Royal Rout" was the banner headline in the *Meath Chronicle* over the report by their then chief GAA writer Colm Keys.

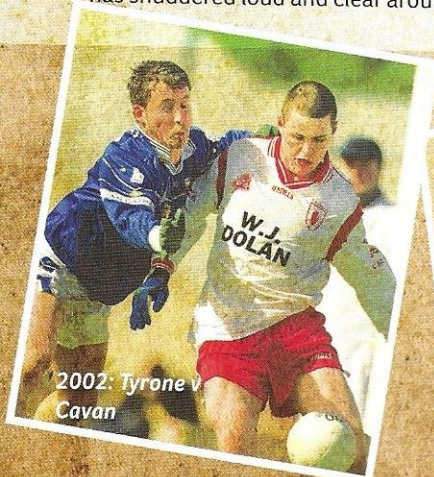
"Meath are back in the big time with a bang which has shuddered loud and clear around the country.

A third League title in seven years was emphatically clinched as Meath rose to a new level with a powerful performance of craft, skill, experience and passion," wrote Keys about their 2-11 to 0-8 win over Armagh.

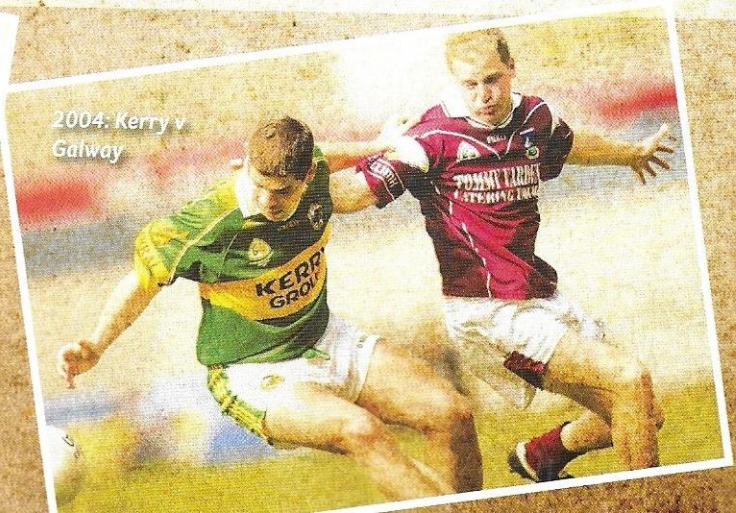
They were the first of ten different winners of the title in the period governed by the sponsorship, with no less than four teams – Derry, Kerry, Cork and Dublin – winning four titles, though only the Dubs managed those in succession.

Derry became the first team to defend the title since 1974 when they beat Donegal for the second year in-a-row to win the title in 1996. And their involvement was still central when Offaly emerged to win their only league title in a memorable final in 1998 when the Tommy Lyons-managed team beat Derry by 0-9 to 0-7 on a wet and windy afternoon in GAA Headquarters.

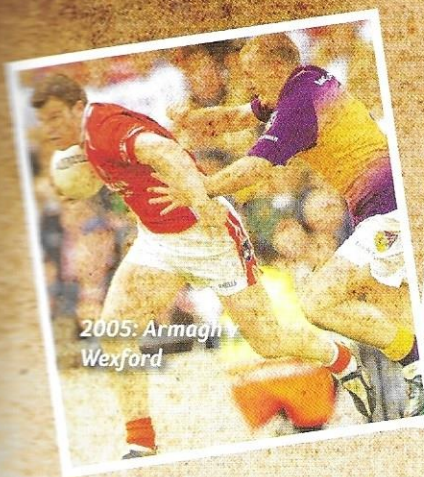
The league was reflective of the changing order in Gaelic football at the dawn of the new century. Tyrone



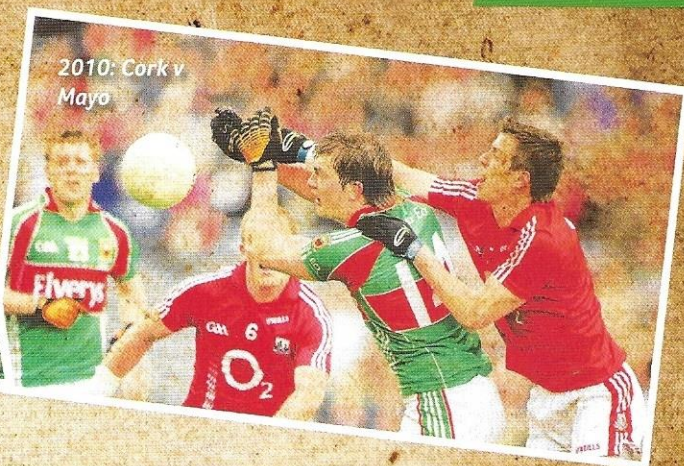
2002: Tyrone v Cavan



2004: Kerry v Galway



2005: Armagh v Wexford



2010: Cork v Mayo

won their first national senior title when taking the league in 2002. There was a familiar theme to their story when they retained the title a year later, as reflected in the reports from the finals by the *Irish Independent's* Martin Breheny.

Of their victory over Cavan in 2002, he wrote. "They had effective leaders all over the field, none more so than Peter Canavan, who delivered a smashing performance."

And in the 2003 success against Laois, he reported; "Canavan, as always, was the main reference point, with his positional trickery and mental elasticity on a totally different level to everybody else."

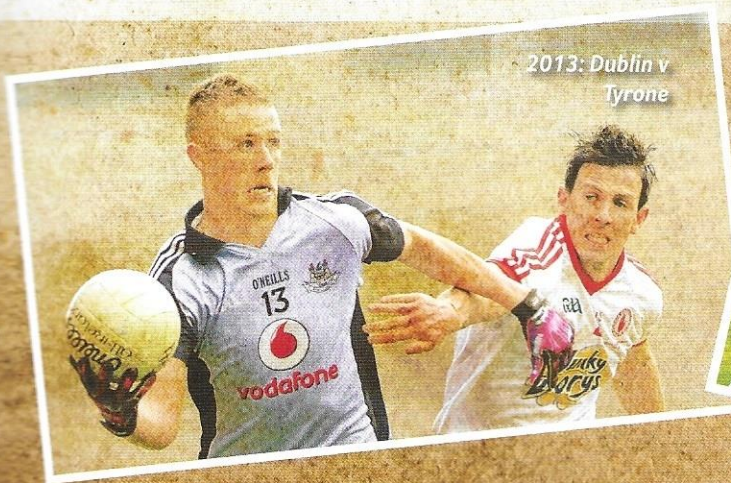
The traditionalists, as they are known to a certain generation, returned for their say. Kerry and Galway fought a great battle in 2004, to this day regarded as one of the great finals of the modern era. The renowned chronicler of football drama, Eugene McGee, was enthralled. "Thank you Kerry and Galway for reminding us what a great game

Gaelic football is when played in a totally positive environment," he wrote.

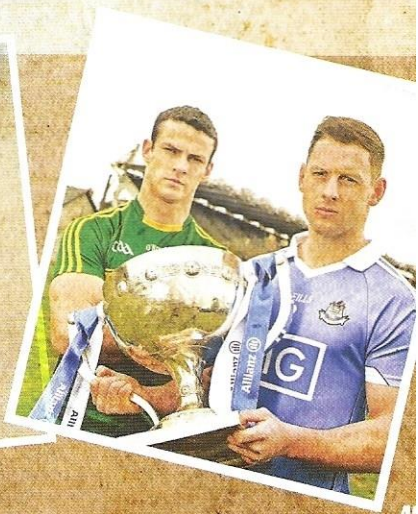
Éamonn Fitzmaurice, Kerry's manager today, won the first of two league medals on the field of play that day; he added the other in 2006. Armagh had interrupted the order of things in 2005 by winning their first ever league title when they defeated Wexford in a novel final pairing.

As Cork, three in-a-row winners from 2010-2012, and Dublin have dominated the last seven competitions there have been many memorable individual displays. Was there any better than Eoin Cadogan for Cork in 2012? This is what John Fogarty had to say in the *Irish Examiner* after Cork beat Mayo. "The image of Eoin Cadogan brushing off tackle after tackle as he cleared his lines will be one of the most indelible memories from this year's Division One final."

New heroes will surely emerge from one of the oldest rivalries today.



2013: Dublin v Tyrone



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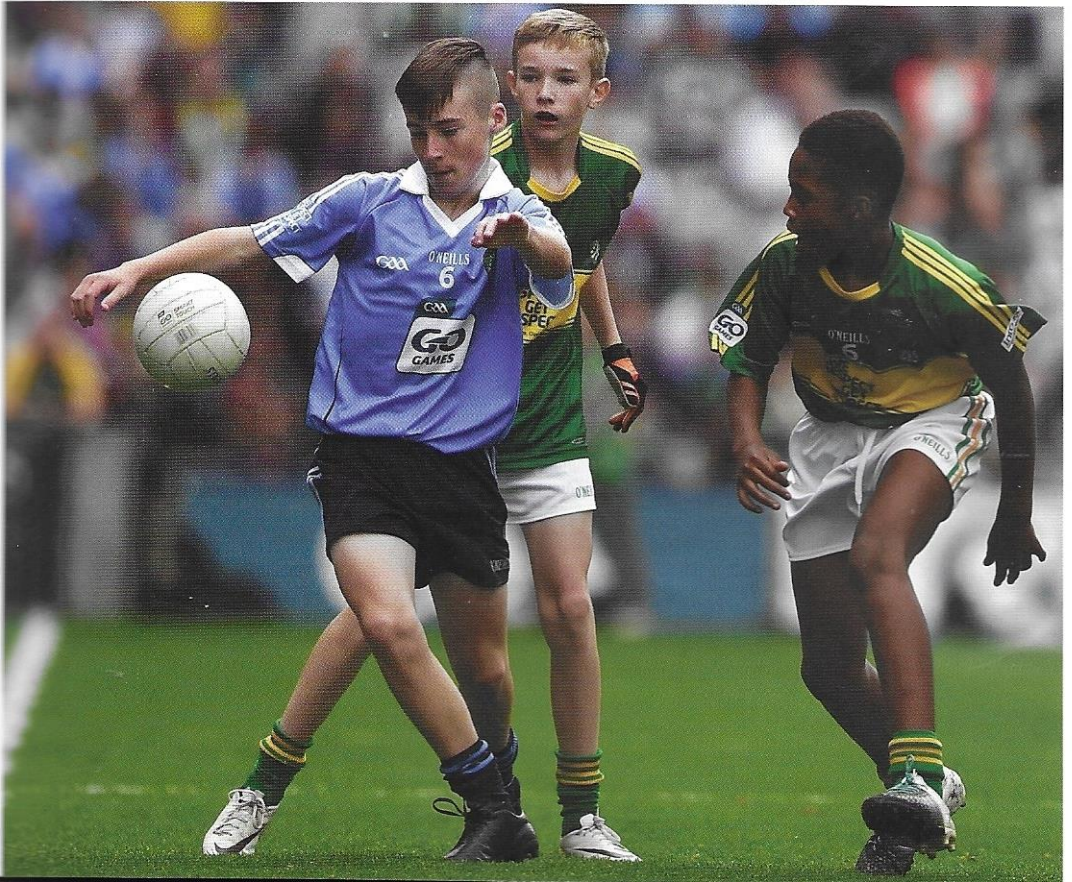
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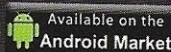


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FIVE GOOCH FACTS

In 85 Championship appearances for the Kingdom Cooper scored 23-283.

He made his debut for Kerry in the 2002 Allianz League.

During a glittering career Cooper won four All-Ireland SFC medals, nine Munster Championships, three Allianz Football Leagues, and eight All Stars.

In 2004 he was named Texaco Footballer of the Year.

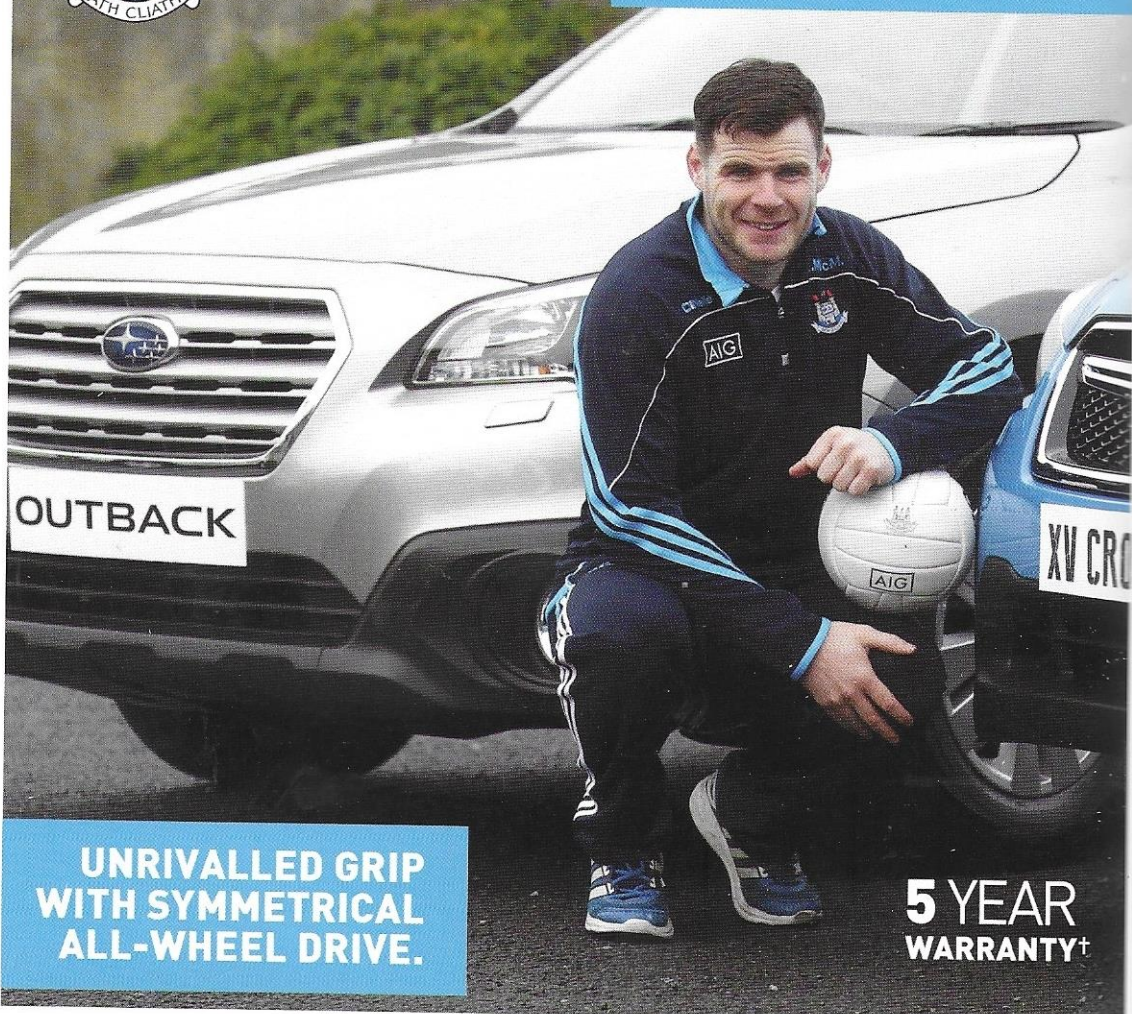
With Dr Crokes, Cooper claimed six Kerry SFC victories, five Munster Championships, and an All-Ireland Club on St Patrick's Day.



Colm COOPER



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WORD SEARCH

W	T	D	O	Y	L	E
E	F	U	J	N	B	X
B	N	B	R	E	B	Y
K	I	L	D	A	R	E
U	H	I	Y	R	O	P
A	Y	N	E	O	G	Z
N	A	K	N	Y	A	H
T	W	I	A	L	N	S
R	L	N	E	E	G	L
C	A	W	G	G	E	A
O	G	X	T	A	T	W

See can you find the names of the four counties involved in today's finals in the word box above.

There are also the names of four players playing today in the word search.

Can you get them all?

TRÁTH NA gCEIST



1. Séideann an réiteoir é seo?
2. Bíonn dhá chluas ar an gceann a chrochann an captaen buacach san aer?
3. An contae lena n-imríonn T.J. Reid?
4. An uimhir a bhaineann leis an 'gCnoc' i bPáirc an Chrócaigh?
5. An dath ar an mbratach do chúilín?
6. Céard a chrochann an réiteoir san aer agus é ag fógairt "buntáiste"?
7. Uimhir an lánchúláí ar chlé?
8. Bíonn sé ar lámh an réiteora?
9. Bíonn stocaí agus _____ ar na cosa ag imreoir?
10. Cé mhéid cúlín is fiú 4 chúl?



TRÁTH NA gCEIST: 1. Feadóg 2. Corn 3. Cill Chainínigh 4. 16 5. Bán 6. A Lámh 7. 4 8. Uaireadóir 9. Bróga 10. 12



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

Activities are player-centred with a games based approach. There is a strong emphasis being placed on personal development and well-being.

Activities are organised in an age-appropriate manner with a view to:

- OPTIMISE LEARNING
- ENHANCE FRIENDSHIPS
- IMPROVE PHYSICAL & PSYCHOLOGICAL WELL-BEING
- PROMOTE SCHOOL AND CLUB LINKS

Find out more, including who your local co-ordinator is:

www.kelloggsculcamps.gaa.ie

CLUBS TAKE CENTRE STAGE FOR LÁ NA gCLUBANNA

'Lá na gClubanna' is set to take place next month on May 6/7 as GAA clubs take centre stage with events to celebrate their impact in their community and reconnect with their locality.

The inaugural 'Lá na gClubanna' was held in 2009 as part of the GAA's national events to mark the 125th Anniversary of Cumann Lúthchleas Gael. Last year more than 500 clubs engaged in the event and a call is being made for even more clubs to take part in 2017.

Dromid Pearses (Kerry) and Arklow Geraldines Ballymoney (Wicklow) earned special merit prizes due to the extensive events they organised last year.

There will be a similar competition this year with prizes that include the chance to win an overnight stay and match tickets to an All-Ireland senior semi-final of their choice, as well as the chance for 'Lá na gClubanna' events to be captured by professional photography and video.

Commenting on the upcoming 'Lá na gClubanna' weekend, Uachtarán Chumann Lúthchleas Gael Aogán Ó Fearghail said: "The club is the focal point of the Association and 'Lá na gClubanna' is about taking time out to celebrate and acknowledge this fact, to mark the positive impact that is made and the work that our dedicated teams of volunteers do on our behalf."



Clubs can learn more about 'Lá na gClubanna' and how they can organise their own activities by downloading a toolkit in order to plan their own 'Lá na gClubanna' events on GAA.ie

GAA MUSEUM SUMMER SCHOOL TO EXAMINE 'THE POLITICS OF SPORT'

The GAA Museum is hosting a fascinating series of talks at Croke Park this summer from Thursday 29th June to Saturday 1st July examining the theme of 'Sport and Politics' and the effects they have had on one another since the 1870s.

National and international leading experts in their field will discuss diverse topics including how the GAA suffered in the 1890s due to its support for Charles Stewart Parnell; the issues and divisions in Irish soccer that led to the establishment of two separate governing bodies in 1921; the struggle for an Irish identity through the Olympic movement pre-1922; how the Irish republican movement has viewed sport since 1923, and the cultural trauma felt by the people of Liverpool in the aftermath of the 1989 Hillsborough tragedy.

"The event will be of huge interest to anyone with a keen interest in sport, politics or history," according to GAA Museum Archivist, Mark Reynolds. "The broad overall theme of 'Sport and Politics' and the calibre of the speakers ensures that this will be an engaging and stimulating experience for all those who attend."

"We are honoured to have high profile speakers attending from all over the world, including Doctor Har Edwards, Professor John Hughson and Professor Alan Bairner. It is a unique opportunity to ask questions and interact with these speakers."



Tickets cost €45 per day or €120 for a three day pass.

Lunch and tea/coffee are included in the price.

Advance booking is required, and it is expected to sell out quickly, so secure your place today on crokepark.ie



25 Years

Supporting people and communities through hurling and football



The sweetest of wins for Kerry

GAMEZone

Dublin v Kerry

1. S Cluxton

2. P McMahon 3. M Fitzsimons 4. D Daly
19. J Savage 14. P Geaney 13. K McCarthy

5. J McCarthy 6. C O'Sullivan 7. E Lowndes
12. D Walsh 11. M Geaney 10. J Lyne

8. B Fenton 11. C Kilkenny
17. J Barry 8. D Moran

10. P Flynn 12. D Connolly 9. C Reddin
5. P Crowley 7. P Murphy 6. T Morley

15. B Brogan 13. D Rock 14. P Andrews
2. F Fitzgerald 3. M Griffin 4. R Shanahan

1. B Kealy

■ = Dublin ■ = Kerry

Scorers for Dublin: D Rock (0-6, 4 frees); P Mannion (1-2); C Reddin and C Kilkenny (both 0-2); P McMahon, J McCarthy, P Flynn, D Connolly (all 0-1).

Scorers for Kerry: P Geaney (0-8, 5 frees); D Moran (0-3); M Geaney and D Walsh (both 0-2); J Barry, P Murphy, K McCarthy, J Savage and B Sheehan (all 0-1).

DUBLIN: S Cluxton; P McMahon, M Fitzsimons, D Daly; J McCarthy, C O'Sullivan, E Lowndes; B Fenton, C Kilkenny; P Flynn, D Connolly, C Reddin; B Brogan, D Rock, P Andrews.

Subs: N Scully for Connolly (black, 29); P Mannion for Andrews (41); MD Macaulley for Reddin and K McManamon for O'Sullivan (both 51); D Byrne for Lowndes (61); BJ Keane for McCarthy (63); E O'Gara for Flynn (68).

KERRY: B Kealy; R Shanahan, M Griffin, F Fitzgerald; T Morley, P Murphy, P Crowley; D Moran, J Barry; J Lyne, M Geaney, D Walsh; K McCarthy, P Geaney, J Savage.

Subs: G Crowley for Lyne (black, 26); D O'Sullivan for Savage (60); B Sheehan for Walsh (67); A Maher for Barry (70); A Spillane for M Geaney (72).

Referee: P Neilan (Roscommon)



Talk of the town

Two years, 25 months to be exact, since their last loss in league or championship and Dublin's colours are finally lowered. It is unlikely that we will see the likes of it again for years and possibly decades to come. If ever.

Game-changer

Kerry hit 10 points to Dublin in two in the 26 minutes of extra time that followed Diarmuid Connolly's dismissal on a black card but they still needed another goal and a lot of work to see an inevitable comeback from a team seeking a record fifth league title in a row.

Did that just happen?

So much went down in the final minutes of the ball that it was impossible to keep up. Superb football, fouling, controversial referee decisions and non-decisions, the lot of it all.

Best on show

David Moran has all the attributes: size, mobility, speed. His display here was short of epic. Scored 10 points from play, he teamed with Jack Barry at times to overshadow Brian Barry and Ciaran Reddin. A hero on the day.

Sideline story

Both sides pushed for a posing kick-outs and a tone for a cheeky end to a game where spectators were mium at times. Kerry's extra man at the end of the while on defense.

The man in black

Huge game for the relatively experienced Paddy Neilan and the Roscommon man didn't shirk the hard decisions with the first two black cards. Dirtied his bib by ignoring a number of clear fouls and cards thereafter. Difficult enough game to referee.

What's next?

Dublin play winners of Carlow v Wexford in Leinster opener. Kerry await winners of Limerick and Clare in Munster.

Eoghan Cormican

League roll of honour

- 20: Kerry (1928-29-31-32-59-61-63-69-71-72-73-74-77-82-84-97-2004-2006-2009-2017).
- 12: Dublin (1953-55-58-76-78-87-91-93-2013-2014-2015-2016).
- 11: Mayo (1934-35-36-37-38-39-41-49-54-70-2001).
- 7: Meath (1933-46-51-75-88-90-94).
- 8: Cork (1952-56-80-89-99-2010-2011-2012).
- 6: Derry (1947-92-95-96-2000-2008).
- 4: Down (1960-62-68-83).
- 4: Galway (1940-57-65-81).
- 3: New York (1950-64-67).
- 2: Laois (1927-86).
- 2: Tyrone (2002-2003).
- 1: Armagh (2005).
- 1: Cavan (1948).
- 1: Longford (1966).
- 1: Monaghan (1985).
- 1: Offaly (1998).
- 1: Roscommon (1979).
- 1: Donegal (2007).

Kerry up by one, Maher sent Niall Scully crashing to the ground from a kick-out that ended with Bryan Sheehan claiming their last score. The lack of a free was astonishing.

Maher's subsequent tug on Fitzsimons would earn him a black card and, as it turned out, the title for Kerry and a first win over Dublin in HQ since 2012. It's not the first time we've seen such crimes pay on big days out at Croke Park. And it won't be the last.

A brilliant, terrible beauty of a game.