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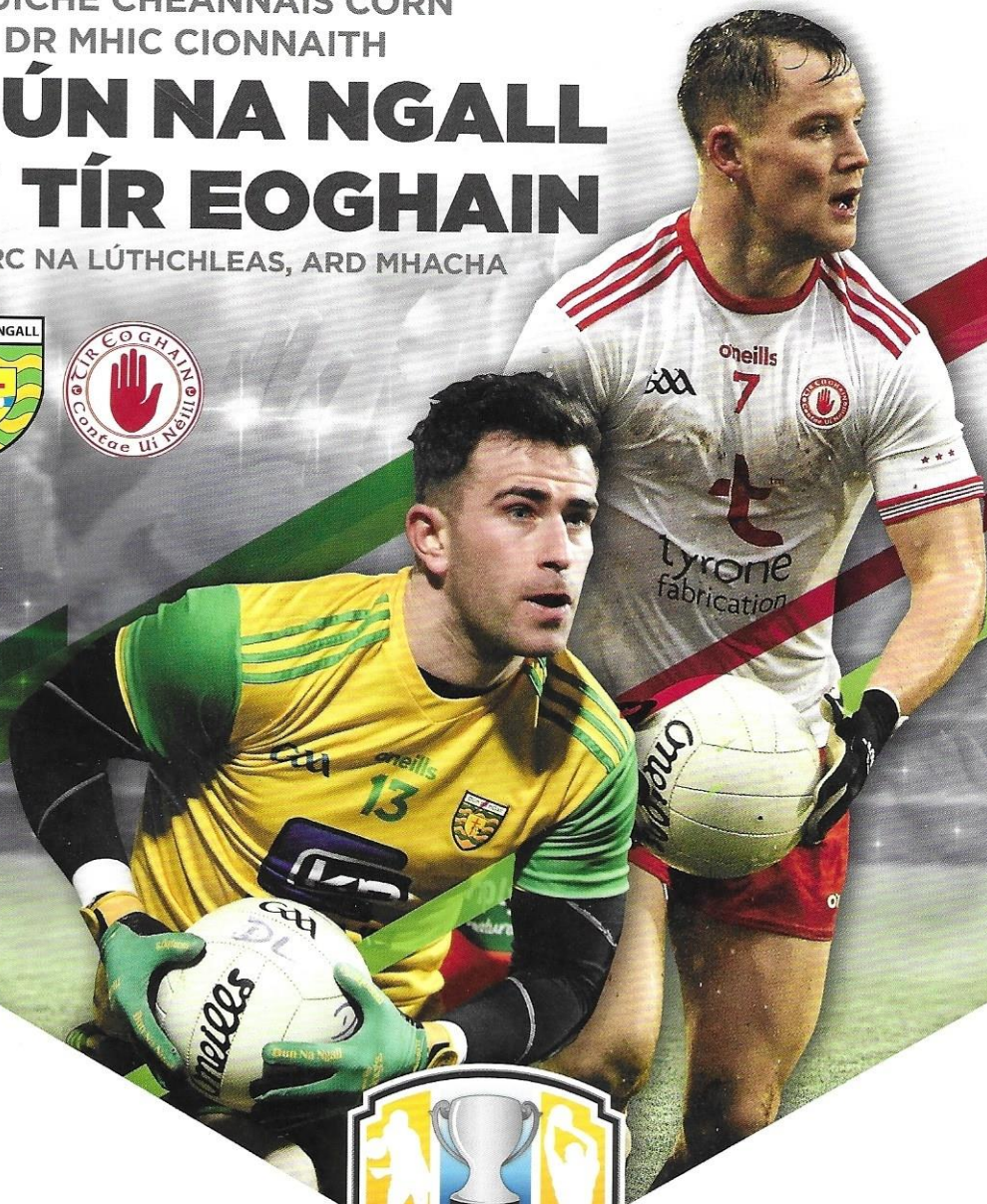
17ú
FEABHRA
2018

€2/£2
CLÁR OIFIGIÚIL

BANK OF IRELAND
CLUICHE CHEANNAIS CORN
AN DR MHC CIONNAITH

DÚN NA NGALL V TÍR EOGHAIN

PÁIRC NA LÚTHCHLEAS, ARD MHACHA



Rúnaí

Brian Mac Fh. Sheáin

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Micheal Ó hÓsain
Uachtarán Chomhairle Uladh

RÉAMHFHOCAL

PRESIDENT'S FOREWORD

Réamhfhocal an Uachtaráin

Tá fáilte romhaibh go léir go dtí Páirc na gCeilteach tráthnóna inniu fá choinne cluiche ceannais an chomórtais Corn an Dr. Mhic Cionnaith faoi urraíocht Bank of Ireland. Mar a tharla anuraidh, tháinig scaifí móra chuig na cluichí uilig i mbliana agus tá muid fíorbhuíoch díobh. Is fíor a rá, "Nothing beats being there", agus is léir go dtuigeann agus go gcreideann Gaeil Uladh an ráiteas sin.

I welcome all GAA members and supporters to the 2018 Bank of Ireland Dr McKenna Cup Final tonight between Dún na nGall and Tír Eoghain in Athletic Grounds, Armagh. Particular mention to those who purchased the Competition Tickets for all games and we hope that you availed of this value for money package.

My thanks to our county grounds for hosting these games at this time of the year, our facilities for players and patrons are of a high standard and I thank all stewards, field officials and event controllers.

Like all stewards, our referees and match officials are volunteer GAA members, míle buíochas daoibh uilig.

I commend all 12 teams involved in this year's competition. Universities had first call on the players while the counties then benefitted from a full squad for the semi finals and final.

Finally, I extend good wishes to both sets of players today and indeed to all our players for the upcoming League and Championship games in 2018.

Micheal Ó hÓsain

Micheal Ó hÓsain
Uachtarán Chomhairle Uladh



Amhrán na bhFiann

Siúne Fianna Fáil
A tá fé gheall ag Éirinn,
buion dár slua
Thar zonn do ráinig chugainn,
Fé mhóid bheith saor.
Sean tír ár sinsir feasta
Ní fhagfar féin tóran ná féin tráil
Anocht a théam sa bhearna bhaoil,
Lá gearr ar Ghaeil chun báis nó saoil
Le gine scraoch fé lámhach na bpiléar
Sealibh canaigh Amhrán na bhFiann.

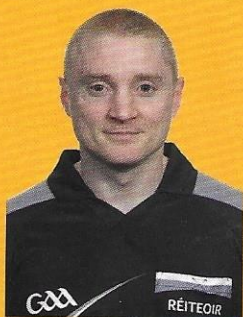


SATURDAY 17TH FEBRUARY

BANK OF IRELAND DR MCKENNA CUP FINAL (6.00PM, ET IF NECESSARY, FINISH ON THE DAY)

DONEGAL (DÚN NA NGALL) v **TYRONE** (TÍR EOGHAIN)
ATHLETIC GROUNDS, ARMAGH

REFEREE: BARRY CASSIDY (DOIRE)
STANDBY: RONAN BARRY (AN DÚN)
LINESMAN: JOE CORCORAN (FEAR MANACH)
SIDELINE OFFICIAL: COLM MCDONALD (AONTROIM)



REFEREE: BARRY CASSIDY (DOIRE)

Barry is a member of the Bellaghy Wolfe Tones Club and has been refereeing since 2002. He has taken charge of county finals at all levels within Derry, including the senior finals in 2010 and 2013.

He officiated at the 2009 Inter Continental Youth Games in San Francisco. In 2011 he refereed the MacRory Cup Final and the National Football League Division 4 Final. In 2012 he was the man in the middle for both the Ulster U21 Football Final as well as the All Ireland Minor Final. Barry has refereed an All Ireland U21 Final as well and in 2013 he took charge of the Dr McKenna Cup Final. Today his umpires will be Alan Nash, Kevin Toner, Tom O'Kane and Marty Donnelly.

Clar an Lae

5.39pm	Dún na nGall amach ar an bPáirc
5.42pm	Tír Eoghain amach ar an bPáirc
5.58pm	Amhrán na bhFiann
6.00pm	Tús an Cluiche: Dún na nGall v Tír Eoghain
6.38pm	Half Time / Leath Am –

Dún na nGall to leave the field immediately on half time whistle

Tír Eoghain to leave the field once Dún na nGall have cleared the tunnel area

6.42pm	Translink Young Volunteer of the Year Award Presentation
6.45pm	Ulster Wheelchair Team Presentation
6.50pm	Don't Tackle It Alone Promotion
6.53pm	Start of Second Half / Tús an dara leath
7.32pm	Críoch an Cluiche
7.35pm	Presentation of Man of the Match Award
7.37pm	Presentation of Corn Dr Mhic Cionnaith

DISCLAIMER

All the information in the programme is reproduced in good faith. The publishers are not liable for any advertising or contribution in this issue. BUIOCHAS: Comhairle Uladh would like to thank the County Boards and all other contributors for their assistance in the compilation of this programme. We'd also like to take this opportunity to thank all the players, management and backroom staff for their efforts today. Finally we thank all the supporters who have attended today's match, without you the championship just wouldn't be the same.

BANK OF IRELAND SPONSOR'S MESSAGE

On behalf of Bank of Ireland, we welcome you this evening for the 2018 Bank of Ireland Dr McKenna Cup Final.



Today marks the culmination of another successful competition in the GAA calendar as Tyrone take on Donegal in what is guaranteed to be an exciting match. We extend a warm welcome to all fans that have travelled here to support their team and look forward to some great football between the two sides.

The competition has provided much excitement and has been a great start to the season. The Bank of Ireland Dr McKenna Cup continues to prove its popularity by the large number of supporters that have come out to support their teams over the entire competition and again today for the final.

We are proud to be associated with this competition and our partnership with Ulster GAA further supports Bank of Ireland in making a valuable contribution in the communities in which we operate, reaching far beyond those players taking to the field.

**Best of luck for today's game -
may the best team win!**

William Thompson
Head of Consumer Banking NI, Bank of Ireland

DR. MCKENNA CUP ROLL OF HONOUR

Antrim (6)	1941, 1942, 1945, 1946, 1966, 1981
Armagh (9)	1929, 1931, 1938, 1939, 1949, 1950, 1986, 1990, 1994
Cavan (11)	1936, 1940, 1943, 1951, 1953, 1955, 1956, 1962, 1968, 1988, 2000
Derry (11)	1947, 1954, 1958, 1960, 1969, 1970, 1971, 1974, 1993, 1999, 2011
Donegal (8)	1963, 1965, 1967, 1975, 1985, 1991, 2009, 2010
Down (11)	1944, 1959, 1961, 1964, 1972, 1987, 1989, 1992, 1996, 1998, 2008
Fermanagh (4)	1930, 1933, 1977, 1997
Monaghan (14)	1927, 1928, 1932, 1934, 1935, 1937, 1948, 1952, 1976, 1979, 1980, 1983, 1995, 2003
Tyrone (15)	1957, 1973, 1978, 1982, 1984, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017

**Competition not played in 2001 or 2002*

MATCH PREVIEW

Dún na nGall V Tír Eoghain

What a difference a month makes. About the only constant that has remained has been the inclement weather and over the past month we've been treated to the usual wind and rain, a touch of frost, a blanket of fog, plenty of snow and even some unseasonal sunshine to keep everyone on their toes. Four week ago, both of this evenings finalists were approaching this game looking to continue the early season momentum they had built up in anticipation of the Allianz League campaigns. How circumstances can change.

The success of Tyrone in the Dr McKenna Cup has been well documented and tonight they aim to extend their record to seven successive titles. Their displays in the early stages of the competition, while being far from vintage, had been disciplined and at times ruthless. Antrim and Cavan found that out to their cost in Section A. The Red Hands racked up 4-20 and 2-22 respectively against their county opponents, who interestingly got their most stringent test against a well organised St Mary's University side in front of a bumper crowd in Coalisland. A semi-final encounter against Fermanagh descended into a war of attrition, and with scores at a premium – and Fermanagh reduced to 14 men – Tyrone progressed to the final after a low scoring game.

Meanwhile Section C was far from plain sailing for Donegal. Having enjoyed a comfortable victory over Queen's University the first day out, they encountered the inconvenience of a frozen pitch at Clones. Their next setback had the potential to be much more significant, when a fisted Seamus Quigley goal gave Fermanagh victory in Ballybofey. By the time Donegal returned to Clones to take on Monaghan their destiny was in their own hands; and they turned in a fantastic display of attacking football to blitz their opponents and run out 4-17 to 0-19 winners. The semi-final with Armagh once again fell foul of the elements, with the delay giving us this mid-February decider tonight. For the record, Donegal emerged seven point winners in Celtic Park, with Paddy McBrearty kicking eight points and newcomer Nathan Mullins once more impressing in midfield.

Winning is a habit that both sides have grown accustomed to in recent years and neither will want to be going into those important games off the back of a defeat to their near neighbour.

There was a feeling that the final four weeks ago had the potential to be mere shadow boxing in anticipation of the bigger challenges that lay ahead. But those challenges have arisen a little more quickly than either would have wished. Donegal host Kildare next weekend, Tyrone travel to Monaghan, with the margins for error all but gone. Winning is a habit that both sides have grown accustomed to in recent years and neither will want to be going into those important games off the back of a defeat to their near neighbour. There will be at least one more meeting between the sides this year, in Healy Park in a fortnight's time, and don't be surprised if there is another before the year is out.

Take5

steps to wellbeing

We know when we are mentally and physically well but sometimes we need a little extra support.

Here are five simple steps to practice every day:

Connect



Connect

Connect with the people around you: family, friends, colleagues and neighbours at home, work, school or in your local community. Think of these relationships as the cornerstones of your life and spend time developing them. Building these connections will support and enrich you every day.

Be active



Be active

Go for a walk or run, cycle, play a game, garden or dance. Exercising makes you feel good. Most importantly, discover a physical activity that you enjoy; one that suits your level of mobility and fitness.

Take notice



Take notice

Stop, pause, or take a moment to look around you. What can you see, feel, smell or even taste? Look for beautiful, new, unusual or extraordinary things in your everyday life and think about how that makes you feel.

Keep learning



Keep learning

Don't be afraid to try something new, rediscover an old hobby or sign up for a course. Take on a different responsibility, fix a bike, learn to play an instrument or how to cook your favourite food. Set a challenge you will enjoy. Learning new things will make you more confident, as well as being fun to do.

Give



Give

Do something nice for a friend or stranger, thank someone, smile, volunteer your time or consider joining a community group. Look out as well as in. Seeing yourself and your happiness linked to the wider community can be incredibly rewarding and will create connections with the people around you.

LOOKING BACK



THE ORIGINS OF THE DR. MCKENNA CUP

WHEN DR. PATRICK MCKENNA, BISHOP OF CLOGHER, PRESENTED THE MCKENNA CUP TO THE ULSTER COUNCIL IN 1925, HE WAS ONE OF ONLY A SMALL GROUP WILLING AT THAT TIME, TO BE PUBLICLY ASSOCIATED WITH THE GAA. IRELAND IN THE 1920'S WAS SLOWLY EMERGING FROM WAR, UNREST AND CHANGE.

When the Ulster Council sought donors for trophies there wasn't a queue to their door with offers. From 1923 the Council were actively looking for a donor for their Senior Championship and in 1925 the Treasurer of the Council proposed the establishment of a second competition to prepare teams for the championship.

Two loyal GAA stalwarts came to the Council's rescue in 1925. JF O Hanlon, owner Anglo-Celt newspaper presented a trophy to BC Fay, Secretary of the Council. It was decided to use the trophy for the Ulster Senior Championship and it was first presented to Cavan who won the 1925 Ulster Championship. Treasurer O'Duffy was successful in securing a trophy from the Bishop of Clogher and the new cup was presented to Council in 1925 although it was not until 1927 that the competition got underway.

Patrick McKenna was born in the North Monaghan parish of Errigal Truagh in 1869. A pupil at St Macartan's and Maynooth, he was ordained in 1894. He taught English at Maynooth and was appointed curate of Currin parish in 1896. He spent a period teaching in St Ciarán's Kilkenny before returning to Clogher as curate of Enniskillen. He was appointed Professor of Theology at Maynooth in 1904 and in 1909 he was consecrated Bishop of Clogher.

The bishop provided a glowing reference for Eoin O Duffy to help him secure the position of assistant-surveyor in the Clones/Cootehill district. Later in 1918 O Duffy was arrested in Clones and Bishop McKenna issued a lengthy statement condemning the arrest. When Bishop McKenna presented the cup to Ulster Council in 1925, the Council recognised an old friend.

The regulations for the new McKenna Cup were drawn up at Ulster convention in 1926 and the competition commenced in 1927. The first final was played in Clones on May 8, 1927 with Monaghan defeating Donegal 2-7 to 2-3.

The first and only trophy presented to the late Cormac McAnallen as captain of the Tyrone senior team was the McKenna Cup. It was fitting that Miceal Greenan as Uachtarán Comhairle Uladh presented that original McKenna cup as a permanent memento to the Mc Anallen family. It resides now with pride in Brantry.

The stories of our past heroes inform all our futures.

CHILD PROTECTION LEGISLATION

SAFEGUARDING - CHANGES IN LEGISLATION

On 11 December 2017 the remaining provisions of the Children First Act commenced in full. The GAA published guidance on what clubs and counties must do in order to comply with Safeguarding legislation and Association policy.

VETTING

To comply with vetting legislation, all persons who have a regulated role with children, must be vetted prior to commencement of position.

Gadra Vetting:

<http://ulster.gaa.ie/safeguarding/gardavetting/>

AccessNI vetting:

<http://ulster.gaa.ie/safeguarding/access-ni/>

APPOINTING A CHILDREN'S OFFICER

Club Children's Officer must be appointed and actively in membership of your Club Executive Committee.

APPOINTING A DESIGNATED LIAISON PERSON (DLP)

Each Club and County Board must appoint a Designated Liaison Person (DLP) who shall act as a resource, and is responsible for ensuring that reporting procedures within the Club/County are followed so that child welfare and protection concerns are referred as appropriate. The Club or County Chairperson automatically assumes the role of DLP unless another person is chosen and ratified to undertake the role. The DLP should be ratified on an annual basis by their Club or County and must attend the Association's DLP training in 2018.

CHILD SAFEGUARDING (PROTECTION) TRAINING

Child Safeguarding Training is highlighted in Children First as being mandatory and must be completed relevant to the role you play within the club as follows:

- **Safeguarding 1 - Child Protection in Sport Awareness Workshops** relevant to coaches and others who work in a regulated role with children in the Association.
- **Safeguarding 2 - Club Children's Officer Training for Club Children's Officer**
- **Safeguarding 3 - Designated Liaison Person Training for DLPS in Clubs**

COACHING QUALIFICATION

GAA safeguarding codes have for a number of years promoted the practice that all coaches who work with children must have a minimum coaching qualification. Given the standards contained in Children First this requirement is even clearer now and it will also be referenced in our Child Safeguarding Statement. Confirmation of compliance shall be required by March 2018.

RISK ASSESSMENT

The Children First Guidance states that providers of relevant services to children must carry out a comprehensive risk assessment of their services and develop Child Safeguarding Statements thereafter. Each Club Executive shall be provided with a risk assessment template which must be formally discussed at an Executive meeting. The Executive must minute and date the discussion. Following completion of this process they may then proceed to ratify a Child Safeguarding Statement for their Club and to display the statement as well.

CHILD SAFEGUARDING STATEMENT

The GAA Child Safeguarding Statement shall specify the services provided by the GAA and the principles and procedures to be observed to ensure, as far as practicable, that a child availing of our services is safe from harm. Reflective of our risk assessment procedure it shall be issued in poster format highlighting procedures such as Recruitment, the new Code of Behaviour (Underage), Safeguarding Training, Reporting Procedures, Children's Officers roles, DLPs etc. It shall be provided by the GAA for all of our Clubs.

NEW CODE OF BEHAVIOUR (UNDERAGE)

The GAA in collaboration with LGFA, Camogie, Handball and Rounders shall publish a new and enhanced joint Code of Behaviour (Underage).

APPOINTING A MANDATED PERSON

The GAA Mandated Person is Gearóid Ó Maoilmhichil: mandatedperson@gaa.ie

For further information please contact
Bernie Fox: bernie.fox.ulster@gaa.ie



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SATURDAY, 10 FEBRUARY, 2018

WEEKEND

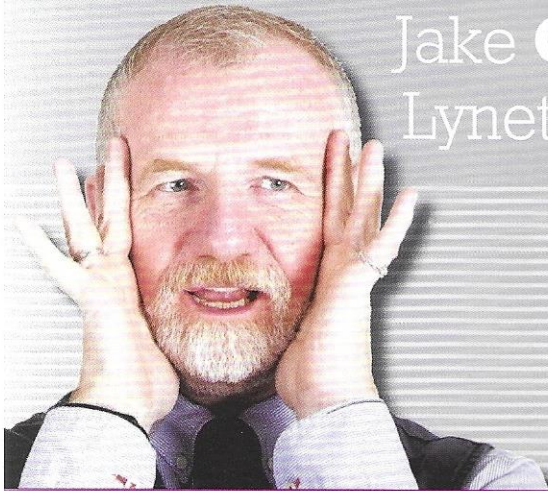
SUNDAY, 11 FEBRUARY, 2018

€1.00

THE IRISH NEWS

Meet our new Weekend columnists...

Jake O'Kane
Lynette Fay



You can now buy it on a
Saturday or a Sunday!

**More sport, more
food and more travel.
A bigger better
WEEKEND!**



FOOD: RECIPES, EATING OUT & NUTRITION • DRINK: WINE & BEER • TRAVEL • TV

2017/18 Danske Bank Ulster Schools' Football All Stars



1 Eoin O'Boyle
(St Eunan's Letterkenny)

2 Conor Magennis
(St Paul's Bessbrook)

3 Antoin Fox
(Omagh CBS)

4 Conor Quinn
(St Ciaran's Ballygawley)

5 Jamie Haughey
(St Ronan's Lurgan)

6 Brian Diver
(St Eunan's Letterkenny)

7 Aaron Doherty
(Coláiste na Carraige)

8 Oran Mallon
(St Patrick's Dungannon)

9 Oisín McWilliams
(St Patrick's Maghera)

10 Jude McAtamney
(St Patrick's Maghera)

11 Tiernan Kelly
(St Ronan's Lurgan)

12 Patrick Dolan
(St Columba's Stranorlar)

13 James Garrity
(Omagh CBS)

14 Oisín Gallen
(St Columba's Stranorlar)

15 Lorcán McWilliams
(St Patrick's Maghera)

For the first time in the 31 years of the Danske Bank Ulster Schools' All Star scheme twins have made it onto the team with Oisín McWilliams named at midfield and Lorcán at corner-forward. Both are already MacRory Cup winners with St Patrick's Maghera and both were in the Derry minor team that reached the 2017 All-Ireland Final where they were beaten by Kerry.

The twins are joined in the team by their Swatragh teammate Jude McAtamney who has also been in super form for Maghera who have reached the MacRory Cup Semi Finals due to take place later this month.

St Ronan's Lurgan have two players in the side, half-back Jamie Haughey and centre-half forward Tiernan Kelly, and they will face near neighbours St Patrick's Armagh in the other Semi Final.

The two Lurgan and three Maghera players are five of just nine players hoping to get their hands on the MacRory Cup in March, while at the other end of the spectrum two schools who play in the Markey Cup gain All Stars for the first time ever.

Aaron Doherty is the first player from Coláiste na Carraige in southwest Donegal to be included, while another Donegal school, St Columba's Stranorlar has two players in the forward line, Patrick Dolan and Oisín Gallen.

Their inclusion means that 47 of the 138 schools under the auspices of Ulster Schools' GAA have gained recognition in the All-star scheme something that Jimmy Smyth, Chairman of the Ulster Schools, touched on as he congratulated the recipients in announcing the team at a reception in the Riddell Hall Belfast back in December.

In total there are five players from Donegal in the side, the highest representation from a single county. The other two, goalie Eoin O'Boyle and centre half-back Brian Diver, both represent St Eunan's College Letterkenny and are the only players still hoping to land a MacLarnon Cup medal.

Tyrone is the next best represented county with four awards, one each for St Ciaran's Ballygawley and St Patrick's Academy Dungannon and two for Omagh CBS including full-back Antoin Fox.

Like the other Tyrone players Antoin picked up an All-Ireland medal in 2017 for the inaugural Under 17 competition, but what sets the Loughmacrory clubman apart is that he possesses a World Handball title from 2012, and in 2016 he won both the USA and Irish titles. With the three Maghera players and then St Paul's Bessbrook defender Conor Magennis joining the two St Ronan's players in the team, there are just four counties represented in the team.

PHOTO LEFT - Donegal representatives pictured at the All Star event with Ulster Schools Chairman, Jimmy Smyth and Aisling Press from Danske Bank

PHOTO RIGHT - Tyrone representatives pictured at the All Star event with Ulster Schools Chairman, Jimmy Smyth and Aisling Press from Danske Bank.

2018 BANK OF IRELAND DR MCKENNA CUP

SECTION A

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	+/-	Pts
1	Tyrone (Q)	3	3	0	0	79	38	+41	6
2	St Mary's University	3	1	0	2	46	49	-3	2
3	Antrim	3	1	0	2	54	72	-18	2
4	Cavan	3	1	0	2	42	62	-20	2

Wednesday 3rd Jan

Tyrone	4-20	2-11	Antrim	Athletic Grounds
Cavan	0-15	0-12	St Mary's University College	Kingspan Breffni

Sunday 7th Jan

Antrim	4-10	2-14	Cavan	Woodlands
Tyrone	1-16	1-11	St Mary's University College	Coalisland

Wednesday 10th Jan

Cavan	0-7	2-22	Tyrone	Kingspan Breffni
Antrim	0-15	4-8	St Mary's University College	Woodlands

SECTION B

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	+/-	Pts
1	Armagh (Q)	3	2	1	0	48	38	+10	5
2	Derry	3	2	0	1	50	53	-3	4
3	Down	3	1	0	2	46	44	+2	2
4	Ulster University	3	0	1	2	40	49	-9	1

Wednesday 3rd Jan

Down	0-13	2-12	Armagh	Páirc Esler
Derry	2-14	3-10	Ulster University	Celtic Park

Wednesday 10th Jan

Derry	1-14	2-10	Down	Celtic Park
Armagh	0-12	1-9	Ulster University	Athletic Grounds

Sunday 14th Jan

Armagh	1-15	0-13	Derry	Athletic Grounds
Down	1-14	0-9	Ulster University	Burren

SECTION C

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	+/-	Pts
1	Fermanagh (Q)	3	3	0	0	46	37	+9	6
2	Donegal (Q)	3	2	0	1	63	41	+22	4
3	Down	3	1	0	2	51	52	-1	2
4	Ulster University	3	0	0	3	24	54	-30	0

Wednesday 3rd Jan

Donegal	2-15	0-6	Queens University Belfast	Ballybofey
Fermanagh	2-11	0-12	Monaghan	Brewster Park

Sunday 7th Jan

Fermanagh	1-10	1-9	Queens University Belfast	Brewster Park
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Wednesday 10th Jan

Monaghan	2-14	0-6	Queens University Belfast	Castleblayney
Donegal	1-10	1-13	Fermanagh	Ballybofey

Sunday 14th Jan

Monaghan	0-19	4-17	Donegal	Clones
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SEMI FINALS

Sunday 14th Jan

Fermanagh	0-04	0-08	Tyrone	Brewster Park
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Wednesday 17th Jan

Donegal	0-20	1-10	Armagh	Celtic Park
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DÚN NA NGALL

Donegal Senior Football Team
 Manager: Declan Bonner



FÍR IONAIÐ/SUBSTITUTES

16. Peter Boyle Aodh Ruadh B.A.S. 17. Ciaran McGinley Cill Chartha 18. Caolain McGonigle Bun Crannacha
 19. Brendan McCole Naomh Náille 20. Kevin McBrearty Na Ceithre Máistirí 21. Marty Reilly Seán Mac Cumhail
 22. Eoghan Bán Gallagher na Cealla Beaga 23. Leo McLoone Naomh Conaill 24. Caolain Ward Naomh Adhamhnáin
 25. Michael Murphy Gleann tSúilí 26. Hugh McFadden Na Cealla Beaga

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

NOTES



TÍR EOGHAIN

Tyrone Senior Football Team
 Manager: Mickey Harte
 Assitant Manager: Gavin Devlin



FÍR IONAIÐ/SUBSTITUTES

16. Niall Morgan Éadan na d'Torc 17. Matthew Donnelly Trí Leac 18. Pádraig Hampsey Oileán a'Ghuail
 19. Peter Harte Aireagal Chiaráin 20. Connor McAliskey Cluain Eo 21. Hugh Pat McGeary Cabhán a'Chaortainn
 22. Ciaran McLaughlin An Ómaigh 23. Padraig McNulty Dún Geanainn 24. Cathal McShane E. R. Uí Néill
 25. Conor Meyler An Ómaigh 26. Niall Sludden An Droim Mhór

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

NOTES

C L U B



MAITH



As many clubs are aware Club Maith is an excellent means through which to improve the way your Club conducts its business. It is Ulster GAA's club accreditation scheme which is licensed by Sport NI and is relevant to all clubs in Ulster.

Although Club Maith will prove a valuable assurance-mark when applying for funding; the real value of Club Maith for your Club is the journey which it takes your Club on. This is something accredited clubs can testify to; with improvements being seen in many aspects of club life. The beauty of Club Maith is that it asks clubs to assess themselves on all aspects of their club, not just those which grab the headlines. And increasingly we are seeing those clubs which have been on the Club Maith journey realising their potential both on and off the field.

From January 2018 clubs registering for Club Maith a pathway has been introduced with clubs required to complete each stage before progressing. An online system has will also been made available for clubs to upload their documents for assessment. This update has shown plenty of interest thus far with over 40 clubs registered online.

Health Check: Clubs will be asked to complete a Health Check which will give them a better understanding of their current position and what may need to be put in place to meet the criteria required at Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum Level.

Bronze Level: In order for a Club to achieve Bronze Accreditation the Club must have completed the Club Maith Health Check and achieve all 65 Bronze criteria. This will also ensure clubs receive Sport NI Clubmark NI accreditation.

Silver Level: In order for a Club to achieve Silver Accreditation the Club must have been accredited at Bronze Level and achieve all 20 Silver criteria.

Gold: In order for a Club to achieve Gold Accreditation the Club must have been accredited at Bronze and Silver Level and achieve 10 of a possible 17 Gold criteria.

Platinum Level: In order for a Club to achieve Platinum Accreditation the Club must have been accredited at Gold Level and achieved all 100 Club Maith criteria.

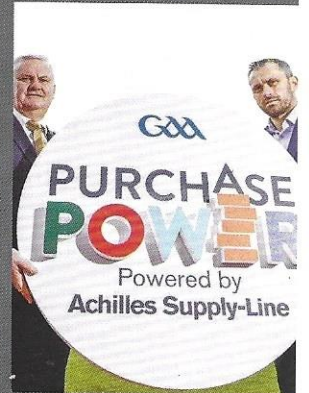
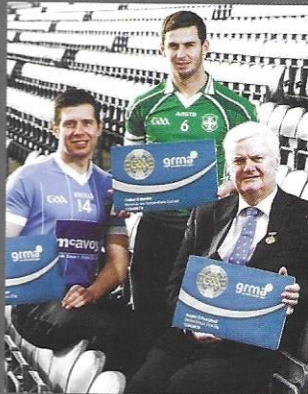
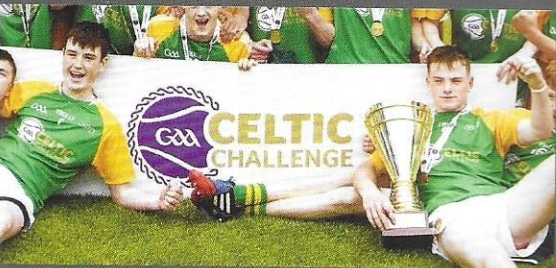
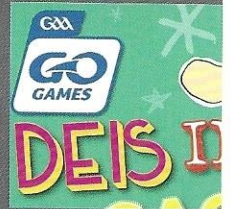
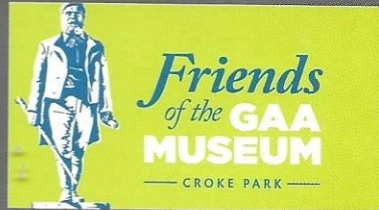
For more information on the Club Maith Accreditation Process please contact Ulster GAA Club and Community Development Officer Fionntan O'Dowd:

fionntan.odowd.ulster@gaa.ie
028 3751 7180



LD2

FROM CLUB TO CONGRESS



Proud designers to the
GAA at club, county,
provincial & national level.



SUBWAY FRANCHISEES SUPPORT

THE 2018 SUBWAY ULSTER GAA PLAYER ACADEMY

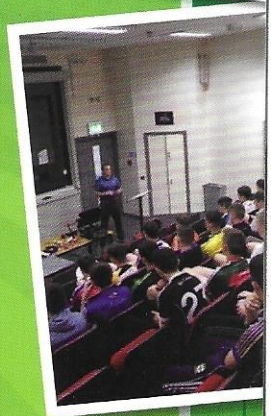
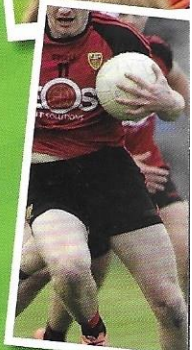
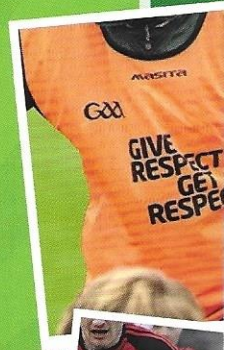
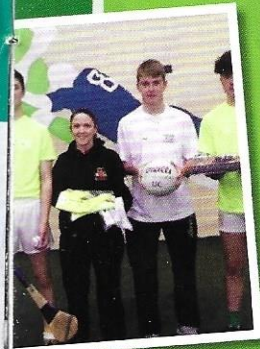
Making our commitment to promote a healthy and active lifestyle through our support of grass roots and social sports across the island of Ireland.

Our aim is to nurture young talent and recognise and reward the coaches, officials and volunteers that give their time to grow grass roots GAA right across the island.

As proud sponsor and supporter of the Ulster GAA U16 Player Academy, we want to thank all the parents, coaches and volunteers that give their time to grow grass roots GAA.

ULSTER
GAA

SUBWAY
Keep Discovering





Féile an Phobail

Festival of the People

Community Festival celebrates 30 years young



This year Féile an Phobail celebrates its 30th birthday, and to mark the occasion, 'The People's Festival' is organising a series of celebrations throughout 2018. Emerging from one of the darkest periods of the conflict, Féile an Phobail has grown from a local west Belfast festival, to the largest community festival in Ireland. Not only is the festival an opportunity to showcase local youth and community achievements, it also delivers a vast range of arts, music, literary, culinary, visual, performance, discussion and debates; and international music artists and performers to the heart of west Belfast for the community to enjoy at affordable prices. The Féile 30 project (#wearefeile30) involves collaboration with the wider community sector in west Belfast and plans to deliver the biggest and most inclusive festival the city has ever experienced.

The August Féile, the flagship festival, will deliver 10 days of activities for young and old from literary events, family and children activities, sporting events, carnival parades, events for older people, cultural celebrations, to large scale music concerts amongst many others. The festival takes place from the 2nd - 12th August and involves contributions from the wider west Belfast community sector.

Preceding the August Féile is the Spring festival, Féile an Earraigh, which will take place between the 1st - 18th March. Whilst the festival focuses on Irish traditional music and celebrations, this year also features a number of debate and discussions, an International Day with food fayre, music and dance, and a performance by the highly acclaimed 'The Priests', performing in Clonard Monastery on Wednesday 14th March.

Draíocht Children's Arts Festival 2018 takes place from the 26th - 30th October and includes a feast of Halloween activity for young and old. With lantern parades, haunted houses, fireworks display, arts and crafts, environmental programmes, the festival provides a wide range of fun and educational activities for children, young people and families alike.

Féile an Phobail continues to be a champion of inclusivity and a representative community festival, providing opportunities to celebrate the diversity and cultures of our new and developing community.

Inclusivity could not be better highlighted by Féile's connection with the 2018 Dr McKenna Cup Final. Supported by the Ulster GAA, Féile's Community Engagement Programme is delighted to be attending the match with 20 young people from across the religious and political divide. In partnership with the Resurgam Youth Initiative (Lisburn) and Cherry Aspen Community Association (Belfast), these young people will be experiencing a GAA match for the first time as part of a cultural awareness programme. The programme (supported by The Executive Office) has seen the young people attend Ulster Rugby against La Rochelle, whilst also scheduled is Northern Ireland against South Korea in the coming weeks. As Nelson Mandela rightly stated "Sport has the power to change the world", and Féile is grateful for these opportunities to prove that statement right.

Kevin Morrison
Community Engagement Co-ordinator,
Féile an Phobail

Domestic Abuse

#DontTackleItAlone

Those who are abused by a partner, former partner or family member often tell no one. Frightening, given that the Police Service of Northern Ireland respond to a domestic incident every 18 minutes. Last year there were over 29,000 incidents. Sadly, with those numbers we could almost fill one of our sporting stadiums twice over.

It doesn't need to leave a bruise to be domestic abuse. Abuse can be physical, sexual, emotional, verbal or financial. There is no defence for domestic abuse. It can have a devastating life-long impact on all involved, particularly children who witness it.

During sporting events like this one, domestic abuse incidents spike. We need to change this. We're asking you – reading this now – to support not only your team, but your friends, family and loved ones, to tackle this issue. Don't tackle it alone. With your help we can work to reduce abuse, so that no one, male or female has to suffer alone.

Speaking about the campaign Ulster GAA CEO, Brian McAvoy, "Ulster GAA are committed to working with our partners in the Irish Football Association, Ulster Rugby, and the Department of Justice to help raise awareness of this very important issue. We hope this campaign will encourage those with concerns to speak-out and get the help they need; and that ultimately we can help to reduce the incidence of domestic abuse. #Don'tTackleItAlone"



In an emergency
always call the Police:

999

In a non-emergency
contact the Police:

101

Domestic Abuse
#DontTackleItAlone.

If you think you, or someone you know, is being abused contact the 24 hour domestic and sexual violence helpline.

Freephone

0808 802 1414,

e-mail

24hrsupport@dvhelpline.org

or, text 'support' to

07797805839.

You will be believed.

PHOTO:

Representatives from sporting codes and the Department of Justice support the #DontTackleItAlone domestic abuse campaign.

From left-to-right: Andy Waterworth and Patrick Nelson (Irish FA); Maggie Farrelly and Brian McAvoy (Ulster GAA); Anthony Harbinson (Department of Justice); and Shane Logan and Eliza Downey (Ulster Rugby).

ULSTER SENIOR & INTERMEDIATE CLUB LEAGUES 2018

There are 46 Teams entered in the 2018 Ulster Senior & Intermediate Football Club League. These teams are divided into Senior & Intermediate grades with 19 teams in Senior and 27 teams in Intermediate. The League commenced on Sunday 28th January and all games are fixed for 12.00pm.

The groups and draws are as follows:

SENIOR

SECTION A

Claudy (Derry)
Dromore (Tyrone)
Dungloe (Donegal)
Glenullin (Derry)
Naomh Conaill (Donegal)

SECTION B

Coalisland (Tyrone)
Coleraine (Derry)
Kilrea (Derry)
Maghery (Armagh)
St Brigid's (Antrim)

SECTION C

Ballinascreen (Derry)
Bellaghy (Derry)
Cootehill (Cavan)
Ramor United (Cavan)
Roger Casement's (Antrim)

SECTION D

Kilcoo (Down)
St Enda's (Antrim)
Swatragh (Derry)
Tír na nÓg (Armagh)

INTERMEDIATE

SECTION A

Foreglen (Derry)
Gortin (Tyrone)
Owen Roes (Tyrone)
Robert Emmet's (Donegal)
Sean Dolan's (Derry)
Strabane (Tyrone)

SECTION B

Ballymaguigan (Derry)
Greencastle (Tyrone)
Limavady (Derry)
Moneyglass (Antrim)
Newtownstewart (Tyrone)
Stewartstown (Tyrone)

SECTION C

Derrynoose (Armagh)
Killanny (Monaghan)
Laragh United (Cavan)
Mountrugent (Cavan)
Shane O'Neill's Camlough (Armagh)

SECTION D

Collegeland (Armagh)
Doire Trasna (Derry)
Eglish (Tyrone)
Faughanvale (Derry)
Glenelly (Tyrone)

SECTION E

Banagher (Derry)
Con Magee's Glenravel (Antrim)
Dungannon (Tyrone)
Glack (Derry)
Kildress (Tyrone)

Fixtures and results can be viewed at www.ulster.gaa.ie

ULSTER GAA WRITERS AWARDS 2018

By Paddy Hunter

In the thirty years of the Ulster GAA Writers association Tyrone and Donegal have always been well represented when it came to the monthly and annual awards handed out by the association... it comes as no surprise then that the most recent awards night held in Monaghan saw several gael's from the counties once again honoured.

Held at the Four Seasons Hotel in Monaghan the great and good of Gaelic games in Ulster were gathered and honoured. Ulster President Michael Hasson was joined by representatives from camogie, ladies football and handball for the awards night. Perhaps it came as no surprise two of the main winners on the night could not be there. The Cavanagh Brothers from Moy were gearing up for their clubs historic All Ireland Club Final the next day, their awards made earlier that afternoon in Moy. After a wonderful year with Moy and Tyrone Colm Cavanagh was confirmed as the UGAAWA Senior Footballer of the Year with big brother Sean, who hung up his inter county boots at the end of 2017, named as the Personality of the Year.

There were further honours for Tyrone - the Omagh St Enda's set dancers, All Ireland Scor champions, collected a second culture award, having won the inaugural award in 2014. Conor Mc Elduff made it a perfect night for Tyrone as he claimed the Handballer of the Year award.

Other awards on the night included Aimee Mackin, Armagh - Ladies Footballer of the Year, Eimear Smyth, Fermanagh Ladies - Young Achiever Award winner. Eimear's award was presented by Brendan McAnallen in memory of the late Cormac, who as captain, raised aloft the Dr McKenna Cup just weeks before his sudden and tragic passing.

The association also honoured Eilis Ni Chasidie Slaughtneil - Camogie Player of the Year - the Slaughtneil club - Club of the Year and St Marys University - Team of the Year. Antrim's John Dillon was named Senior Hurler of the Year and Ulster Council PRO, Michael Geoghegan annexed the Communications Award on the night.

There was a very proud Donegal man to add to the list of Donegal winners too as Naul Mc Cole was honoured for his Services to the GAA in Ulster, although his commitment to the association knows no limits. Just to cap things perfectly too for Moy and Tyrone, Harry Loughran picked up the monthly merit award for January as he helped Moy to that final. It was Harry's second award in three months.



Sean & Colm Cavanagh pictured with their Personality of the Year and Senior Footballer of the Year Awards.



Ulster GAA President Michael Hasson presents award to Naul McCole

UPCOMING ULSTER FIXTURES

ULSTER SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

(In SFC, Extra Time shall be played if required. Replays if needed will take place the following weekend).

SUNDAY 13TH MAY FIRST ROUND (4.00PM)		REPLAY
a) DÚN NA NGALL	V AN CABHÁN	at Pairc MacCumhaill
SATURDAY 19TH MAY QUARTER FINAL (7.00PM)		REPLAY
b) FEAR MANACH	V ARD MHACHA	at Brewster Park
SUNDAY 20TH MAY QUARTER FINAL (4.00PM)		REPLAY
c) TÍR EOGHAIN	V MUINEACHÁN	at Healy Park
SATURDAY 26TH MAY QUARTER FINAL (7.00PM)		REPLAY
d) AN DÚN	V AONTROIM	at Pairc Esler
SUNDAY 27TH MAY QUARTER FINAL (4.00PM)		REPLAY
e) DOIRE	V a) DÚN NA NGALL / AN CABHÁN	If Doire V Dún na nGall at Celtic Park; If An Cabhán V Doire at Kingspan Breffni
SUNDAY 3RD JUNE FIRST SEMI FINAL (2.00PM)		REPLAY
b) FEAR MANACH / ARD MHACHA	V c) TÍR EOGHAIN / MUINEACHÁN	
SUNDAY 10TH JUNE SECOND SEMI FINAL (4.00PM)		REPLAY
d) AN DÚN / AONTROIM	V e) DOIRE / DÚN NA NGALL / AN CABHÁN	
SUNDAY 24TH JUNE SENIOR FOOTBALL FINAL (2.00PM) - REPLAY SUNDAY 1ST JULY		

ULSTER UNDER 20 FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

All date/times/venues will be confirmed by CCC following National Congress on 23rd/24th February.

FIRST ROUND	
DÚN NA NGALL	V AN CABHÁN
QUARTER FINALS	
ARD MHACHA	V FEAR MANACH
TÍR EOGHAIN	V MUINEACHÁN
AN DÚN	V AONTROIM
DOIRE	V DÚN NA NGALL / AN CABHÁN
SEMI FINALS	
ARD MHACHA / FEAR MANACH	V TÍR EOGHAIN / MUINEACHÁN
AN DÚN / AONTROIM	V DÚN NA NGALL / AN CABHÁN / DOIRE
FINAL - SUNDAY 24TH JUNE	

All games are Finish on the Day (CCC reserve the right to assign the venue. First team drawn may not be assigned a home venue in this competition as it may precede a SFC game on the same date).

MINOR (UNDER 17) FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

Where possible, first team drawn will receive home advantage up to and including Qualifier Round 2. (CCC reserve the right to assign the venue. First team drawn may not be assigned a home venue in this competition as it may precede a SFC game on the same date). (All games up to and including Qualifiers Round 3 are Finish on the Day, subject to approval of rule deviation request)

SATURDAY 21ST APRIL PRELIMINARY ROUND

a) DOIRE V MUINEACHÁN at Celtic Park

SATURDAY 28TH APRIL ROUND 1

b) AONTRÓIM V FEAR MANACH

c) DÚN NA NGALL V TÍR EOGHAIN

d) AN DÚN V ARD MHACHA

e) AN CABHÁN V a) DOIRE / MUINEACHÁN

If An Cabhán V Doire at Kingspan Breffni;
If Muineachán V An Cabhán at Inniskeen

SATURDAY 5TH MAY

QUALIFIERS R1

(losers of (a), (b), (c), (d) and (e) - should be winners of (a) lose in (e), they will be excluded from this Round)

1 V 2 (loser eliminated)

SATURDAY 12TH MAY / SUNDAY 13TH MAY

ROUND 2 (Open Draw - 4 Winners Of Round 1)

QUALIFIERS R2

(Remaining three losers not drawn in Qualifiers R1, plus Qualifier R1 winners)

3 V 4 (loser eliminated)

5 V (loser eliminated)

SATURDAY 19TH MAY / SUNDAY 20TH MAY

QUALIFIERS R3

(Two Rounds 2 losers V two qualifiers R2 winners)

(1) V (loser eliminated)

(2) V (loser eliminated)

SATURDAY 30TH JUNE - SEMI-FINALS

(Two Rounds 2 winners V two qualifiers R3 winners)

SATURDAY 14TH / SUNDAY 15TH JULY - FINAL

ULSTER GAA WHEELCHAIR HURLING TEAM

At half time in tonight's game Ulster GAA will receive a donation for our Wheelchair Hurlers from the the O'Neill family, Portlengone.

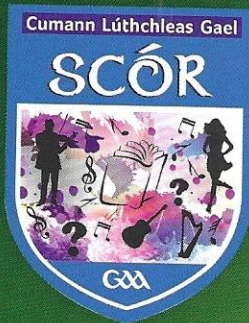
Declan O'Neill now lives in Philadelphia and each year runs a fundraiser in memory of his late brother Christopher, who had Spina Bifida and passed away a few years ago. The money raised is shared with local charities or clubs and this year The Christopher O'Neill Memorial Golf Outing, Philadelphia has donated \$8370 to the Ulster GAA Wheelchair Hurling Programme.

Plans are in place to use this generous donation to increase participation numbers in the programme throughout the province and to empower people with physical disabilities qualifications to enable them to get involved with coaching in their local clubs and communities.

Declan would like to acknowledge the contributions made by Paddy Rooney & the Philadelphia GAA Community in the fundraising.

We are delighted to welcome Christopher's parents Stafford and Angela here tonight to make the cheque presentation.





Scór na nÓg Uladh 2018 Final

Comhghairdeas and well done to all involved in the final of Scór na nÓg Uladh which took place in Downpatrick on Saturday 13th January to a full house.

Below is a round-up of all the winners who will now go forward to represent the Province and compete in the Scór na nÓg All Ireland Final which will take place on the 17th of February i Sligeach.

Ádh mór to all of the Ulster winners in the next stage of the Competition.

Rince Foirne: Ard Mhacha - Cill Shléibhe (Killeavy)

Amhránaíocht Áonair: An Cabhán - Cian Ó Muirí (Cian Murray), Loch Gamhna (Gowna)

Aithriseoireacht/Scéalaíocht: Fear Manach - Odhran Mac an hAirbín (Odhran Harbinson), Doire Ó gConáile (Derrygonnelly)

Bailéad Ghrúpa: An Cabhán - Cor na Féinne (Cornafean)

Léiriú Stáitse: Aontroim - Naomh Mhuire, Achadh Gallain (Aghagallon)

Ceol Uirlise: Tír Eoghain - Fionntamnach, An Phiarsaigh (Fintona Pearses)

Rince Seit: Doire - Sheáin Mhistéil, Gleann an Iolair, (Glenullin)

