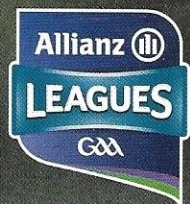


# RED HAND VIEW



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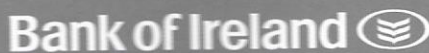
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## LE CHÉILE AR SON THÍR EOGHAIN

Coiste Chontae Tír Eoghain C.L.G. wishes to acknowledge the generous financial support provided towards its County Teams and the Association in Tyrone for 2018 from all of its sponsors.



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# IS CÚIS MHÓR ATHAIS DOM, FÁILTE A CHUIR ROMHAIBH GO LÉIR GO PÁIRC UÍ ÉILÍ. TÁ SÚIL AGAM GO MBEIDH CLUICHÍ DEN SCOTH AGAINN.



On behalf of Coiste Chontae Thír Eoghain I would like to welcome you all to Páirc Uí Éilí for this the fifth game in the Allianz National Football League.

We are delighted to congratulate and play host to, Dún na nGall, recently crowned Dr McKenna Cup champions. While we in Tyrone were disappointed to lose in the recent final we are happy to have the opportunity, on home turf, to try to balance the score with a league victory.

I would like to welcome the management team, officials and supporters of Donegal on their visit tonight. There are long established links between Tyrone and Donegal by way of family, business and football down through the generations. The corresponding fixture last year in Mc Cumhaill Park attracted a crowd of 8,570 and hopefully tonight will entice a similar number to witness the friendly rivalry of neighbours.

Mini Games are a regular feature in all our inter county games and I would like to thank all our coaching and games staff at county level, as well as acknowledging the hard work which is carried out at club, school and parish level. Our youth are the future of our organisation and their skills and enthusiasm need to

be nurtured. Mól an óige agus tíochfaidh sí.

I would like to thank, Tyrone Fabrication and O'Neill's, as well as our many other sponsors for their continued support. We wish all our brand partners every success in their respective businesses and encourage all the Tyrone faithful to support our sponsors.

In acknowledging the level of work necessary for organising tonight's fixture I would like to thank all our stewards, gate people, PRO Eugene for compiling the match programme, Culture Officer Donal Magee, Hannah McGirr, recent Scór Sinsear County Champion for singing the National Anthem, Fionntamhnach an Phiarsaigh, Ulster Champions in Scór na nÓg Ceol Uirlise for match entertainment and Cumann Naomh Éanna for the use of their facilities and anyone else who assisted in anyway.

Finally I would like to thank you, the supporters, for your attendance at games and your continued loyal support. Guíom gach ráth ar Mhichael, an bainisteoir agus ar na h-iomaitheoirí agus tá mé cinnte go mbainfidh an lucht féachaint sult as na gcluiche.

**Michael Mac Giolla Cheara**  
Cathaoirleach



**Michael Mac Giolla Cheara**  
Cathaoirleach

## AMHRÁN NA BHFIANN



The singer for Amhrán na bhFiann at tonight's game will be **Hannah McGirr** from the Killyclogher club.

Hannah is a regular competitor in Scór competition and is a recent County Champion at Amhránaíocht Aonair at Scór Sinsear level.



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# SCÓR Community



*Trí Leac Tráth na gCeist team also in the All-Ireland Finals*

**WHAT AN EXCEPTIONALLY BUSY WEEKEND FOR THE SCÓR COMMUNITY IN TÍR EOGHAIN. THE SCÓR SEASON IS NOW AT THE HEIGHT OF ITS BUSIEST TIME.**

The Scór na nÓg All Ireland Finals were held in Sligo IT Centre on Saturday 17th February to a full house in The Knocknarea Arena which is attached to the University College. The arena holds an audience of 1000 people.

Tír Eoghain were represented by Trí Leac in the Tráth na gCeist competition, and looked to be on course for victory along with Cavan side Cornafan, who were the eventual winners. Trillick managed to finish off the competition in a very creditable 5th place out of a total of thirty teams. Six points separated the top five places. Trillick has a very young team and will no doubt eventually capture the All Ireland title in this discipline in the very near future.

Later that afternoon the other seven disciplines were in contention and followed the normal Scór format. Bearing in mind the best talent from the four corners of Ireland was on show and the large crowd was presented with an excellent evening's entertainment.

Tír Eoghain representatives, Fintona, performed with the spirit and passion which is always evident from clubs when they represent their families, home parish, club and county. Although they did not win on this occasion they were a credit to us all. This experience will stand to them well for the future and are already keen to become involved next year.

The postponed Senior Scór semi-final took place again in Eskra. The skill and talent was very much in evidence and an entertaining evening was provided for the audience. The County Final took place on Sunday 25th February 2018 in Patrician Hall, Carrickmore. A great evening's entertainment was enjoyed by all those present.

The county winners will take part in the Ulster Semi Finals in Burtonport, Co Donegal today (Saturday, 10th March) at 5:00pm.

**The Ulster Finals are scheduled to be held in Silverbridge on Saturday 24th March with the All Ireland finals returning to Sligo IT on Saturday 14th April at 3:00pm.**

## County Champions for Scór Sinsear 2018 are as follows

**RINCE FOIRNE:**  
Coill an Chlochair

**AMHRÁNAÍOCHT AONAIR:**  
Dearbhla Ní Scealláin,  
An Goirtín

**AITHRISOIREACHT:**  
Annette Ní Cheallaigh,  
An Charraig Mhór

**BAILÉAD GHRÚPA:**  
Droim Mór

**RINCE SEIT:**  
An Charraig Mhór

**LÉIRIÚ STÁITSE:**  
Doire Treasc

**TRÁTH na gCEIST:**  
An Charraig Mhór

We wish them well in today's Ulster Semi Finals in Burtonport in Donegal.



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# A TRIBUTE TO CORMAC MCANALLEN

## 1980-2004

AODHÁN HARKIN

### **FOURTEEN YEARS AGO ON THE 2ND MARCH 2004, THE G.A.A. WORLD WAS ROCKED BY THE SUDDEN AND TRAGIC DEATH OF TYRONE FOOTBALLER THE LATE CORMAC MCANALLEN.**

Born on 11th February 1980, the Eglish St Patrick's clubman had amassed such a huge amount of honours in his short stay on this earth, you can only wonder what more he could and would have achieved had he not been taken from us at such a young age?

It's particularly poignant that Tyrone are playing Donegal here tonight as the last ever game that Cormac played with the Red Hand's was against them at Páirc MacCumhaill Ballybofey on Sunday 22nd February 2004 when he captained the team to win their sixth Dr McKenna Cup title. Many felt that even at the young age of 24 that Cormac was the perfect leader to replace the legendary Peter Canavan as captain of the side and that he would go on to replicate Peter by climbing the steps of the Hogan Stand at Croke Park and accept a second Sam Maguire Cup for Tyrone but sadly that wasn't to be the case.

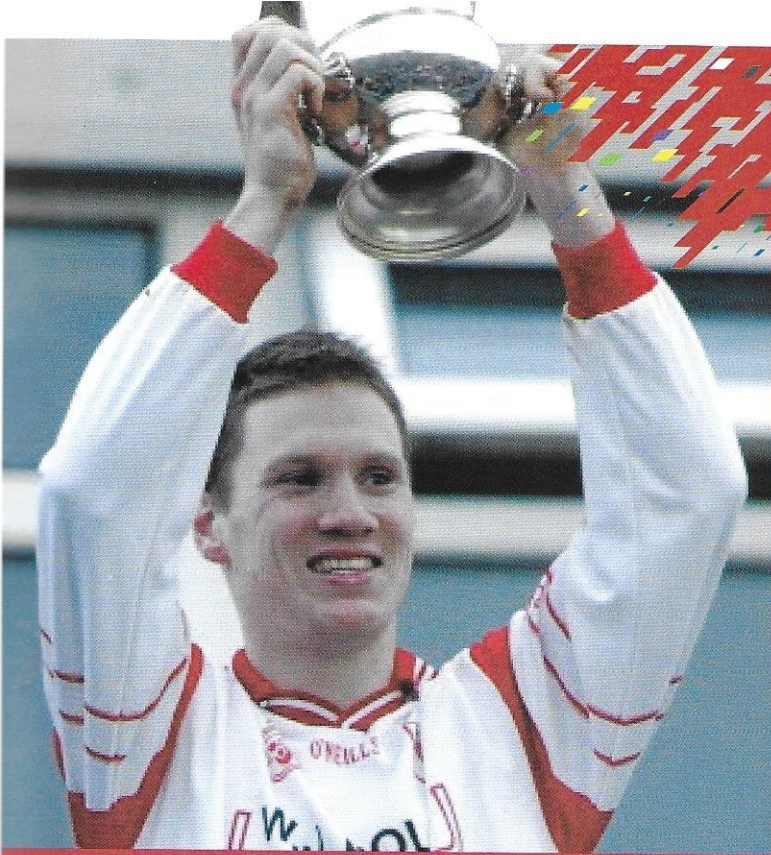
On their way to the 2004 Dr McKenna Cup final, Tyrone had defeated Derry at Omagh, Antrim at Belfast and UUU in what was the first official Ulster fixture involving a County team played under floodlights with the game taking place at Páirc Colmcille Carrickmore. The clash against the Tír Chonail men in the decider saw Tyrone win comfortably on a score line of 1-22 to 0-7. Joe McQuillan (Cavan) was the referee and the Tyrone side that day included the likes of Gavin Devlin who is now part of the Red Hand management team, Ryan McMenamin, Brian Doohar, Sean Cavanagh, Brian McGuigan, Enda McGinley, Conor Gormley and Philip Jordan. Donegal also had a strong side back then with Barry Monaghan as their captain, Kevin Cassidy, John Gildea, Christy Toye, Michael Hegarty, Brian Roper, Colm McFadden and Brendan Devenney were amongst their ranks.

Following the game, I can vividly recall the late Cormac raising aloft the Dr McKenna Cup under the press box in Ballybofey and thinking to myself it won't be too long before he will be lifting the Sam Maguire Cup for Tyrone as the team captain, but the man above had other plans

and ideas! The Dr McKenna Cup was the first piece of silverware that Cormac had lifted in his role as captain of the Tyrone Senior team, but he had already lifted many other titles at Minor and Under 21 levels as captain of the Red Hand's. Twenty years ago, in 1998, Cormac led Tyrone Minors to an All-Ireland title defeating Laois in the decider and followed this up in 2000 and once again in 2001 by defeating Limerick and Mayo respectively in respective Under 21 deciders. His leadership qualities were very evident from a young age and it was no surprise that he won so many honours at Schools, College, Club, County, Provincial and National levels. Many players have gone through their entire careers and not achieved even a quarter of what the legend that is Cormac McAnallen had achieved before he so suddenly departed this earth less than a month after celebrating his 24th birthday!

Later the same night after winning the Dr McKenna Cup when most players would have been out celebrating their success, I attended St Joseph's Hall in Omagh for what I believe was a Tír Eoghain Scór Sinsear semi-final and I bumped into Cormac who was there to represent his club Eglish in Tráth na gCeist (Quiz). I can remember congratulating him on captaining the team to the title earlier that day and as always, he was very modest about such preferring to concentrate on making sure that he had done his homework for the quiz questions ahead. I believe that the Eglish quiz team progressed to the final that was later held in St Patrick's Hall Strabane on 21st March but if memory serves me correct they withdrew as a mark of respect to Cormac.





that final piece of silverware that he proudly accepted as team captain on 21st February 2004, the Dr McKenna Cup.

The name of Cormac McAnallen proudly lives on via the Cormac Trust which has done amazing work over the years since his death, there's a club in Sydney Australia named in his honour, the trophy that Ireland and Australia compete for in the International Test series is the Cormac McAnallen Cup and I've no doubt there are many other trophies, awards and the likes honouring and commemorating his proud memory. However, if you want a full picture of the late great Cormac McAnallen then I'd suggest that you go out and purchase a copy of the book penned and published late last year by his brother Dónal titled "The Pursuit of Perfection; The life, death and legacy of Cormac McAnallen".

## THIS IS JUST A SMALL TRIBUTE TO THE MEMORY OF CORMAC ON HIS 14TH ANNIVERSARY, A REAL LEGEND IN TYRONE AND INDEED THROUGHOUT THE LAND.

Many tributes were paid to him in the days following his death and one that stood out for me was from the Árd Stiúthóir of the G.A.A. back then Liam Mulvihill when he said "Cormac left an endearing impression on anybody who had the privilege of meeting him. In a short life he left a giant imprint in the sands that are the chronicle of our games and association".

---

**Cormac McAnallen -  
Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam.**

Defeating Donegal in the Dr McKenna Cup final would have been that bit special for Cormac as his grandfather Charlie O'Neill hailed from Letterbarra just a few miles outside Donegal Town. A brother of Charlie's, Joe won a Tyrone Senior Football Championship medal with Strabane Lámh Dhearg back in 1945. He was working in the area at that time and it was also at a time when the parishes of Strabane and Lifford were all the one known as Clonleigh and Camus right up until 1974.

As a Strabane Sigersons clubman, I have great memories of Cormac attending our clubs Easter and Summer Coaching Camps, I recall him coming to the club back in 1998 with the Tom Markham Cup after Tyrone Minors won the All-Ireland Minor title and when Queen's University Belfast won the Sigerson Cup back in 2000

it was Cormac who brought the famous piece of silverware back to its spiritual hometown where Dr George Sigerson was born. Since his death the club has presented the annual Cormac McAnallen Cups to the best boy and girl at our annual Easter Camp, a tradition that hopefully will continue for many years to come.

An interesting footnote about Cormac that isn't so widely known is the fact that he won a Dublin Senior Championship title with UCD in 2002 whilst studying in the capital. He never got to win a Tyrone Senior Championship title but it must be one of the very few titles that he missed out on during his short yet rewarding career that saw him go from winning Scór na nÓg Tráth na gCeist titles with his club Eglis in 1992 through to winning Young Footballer of the Year in 2001, named as full back on the All-Star team of 2003 to



# CAMOGIE REVIEW 2017



**CAMOGIE PLAYERS DEMONSTRATE AMAZING LEVELS OF SKILL, FITNESS AND TECHNIQUE WHILE REPRESENTING THEIR FAMILIES, SCHOOLS, CLUB AND COUNTY AS THEY PLAY: THESE ARE SOME OF THE FACTORS THAT MAKE CAMOGIE SUCH A POPULAR SPORT AMONG YOUNG WOMEN TODAY.**

The sport is played by over 100,000 women worldwide, helped by substantial media coverage in recent years. This is in line with The Camogie Association's attempt to collaborate with the GAA in order to encourage the development of the player within the 'One Club' model.

Clubs and coaches are

aware of the demands that accomplished athletes are under, and within Tyrone and all over the country, they have built strong links with local schools and other clubs to ensure the girls are receiving maximum play.

The coaching team is lucky to be able to work with such motivated and passionate players. In 2017, the Tyrone Senior Camogie team was managed by Kieran Leadon with the assistance of Tommy Corr and Sinead O'Neill, who has just received an award for 2017 Volunteer of the Year. Tyrone Camogie were delighted to celebrate McAleer and Rushe as the official jersey sponsors for the 2017 season, and Michael Quinn of Quinn's Coach Hire sponsored new

tracksuits to Tyrone Senior Camogie Team for the season - this support helped kick start the season, which saw the senior team successfully competing in the Division 3 National League.

We are fortunate that we currently have ten clubs participating within Tyrone Camogie, in which some had a very successful season in 2017. Eglishe showed a great degree of skill by winning the League at post-primary, U16, minor and senior level, and represented Tyrone as they collected back-to-back Ulster Intermediate club titles.

The U14 League title was attained by Derrylaughan who also reached the Ulster Junior Club Championship semi-final. Edendork won the U14 Championship and brought their determination and talent to the Féile in June, becoming the overall winners. Another notable success within the County was Dungannon winning the Ulster Junior Club 'Bridie McMenemy' Shield.

Following these results, we wish every club in Tyrone a healthy and successful season ahead of the 2018 season as they aim for the highest standards.

**We would like to thank the clubs, mentors, coaches, administrators and board members who dedicate their time to the development of Camogie in Tyrone.**

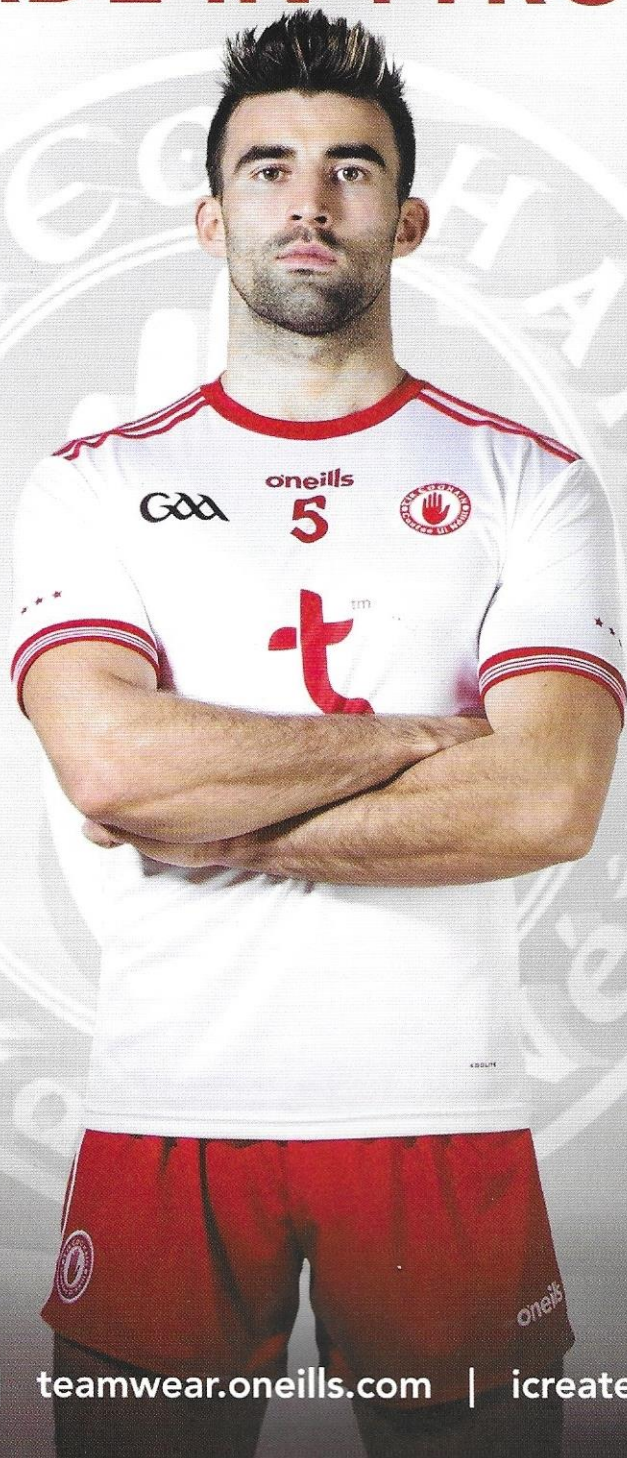




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'Ní bhíonn  
críonna  
ach an té a  
mhealltar ...

## Experience teaches wisdom'

The 'Decade of Commemorations' is a national initiative which looks at major events which took place in Ireland between 1912 and 1923. Those events shaped and influenced our history since then and include, among many others, the Ulster Covenant (1912), the First World War (1914-18), the Easter Rising (1916), the War of Independence (1919-2021) and Civil War and Partition (1922).

In Tyrone GAA through a series of talks, events and **Red Hand View** features we've been reminding ourselves of what happened here back then so that we can understand it, respect those involved in it and learn from it.

Dul a Bhealach Féin ...

# Marching to Different Tune

**THE 1912-22 DECADE SAW MANY MAJOR SHIFTS AND DEVELOPMENTS IN NATIONALIST/REPUBLICAN/GAELIC TYRONE. BUT FOR TYRONE PEOPLE WHO 'MARCHED TO A DIFFERENT TUNE', THINGS ALSO CHANGED VERY SIGNIFICANTLY. THIS WEEK WE TAKE A LOOK AT A MAJOR 'PLAYER' ON THE TYRONE UNIONIST SIDE OF THE FENCE.**

The Ulster Volunteer Force was created by Edward Carson as a cutting edge to resist Home Rule and a County Committee for Tyrone was put in place in December 1912. At a meeting in Omagh on 5 January 1913 it was decided to form the Tyrone Regiment of the 5th Ulster Volunteers and by August the County had been organised into four divisions. South, East, Mid and North with 4,762 men on board. On 1 October Edward Carson visited Killymoon Castle in Cookstown for a huge UVF review and later that month a major training camp took place at Baronscourt.

Among those at the heart of this loyalist resistance within Tyrone was Ambrose Ricardo.

Ambrose Ricardo was not a native of Tyrone. Born in 1866 at Gatcombe Park in Gloucestershire he was a great grandson of David Ricardo the famous economist and was of Sephardic Jewish ancestry (Sephardic Jews were those who coalesced in Spain/Portugal in the Middle Ages).

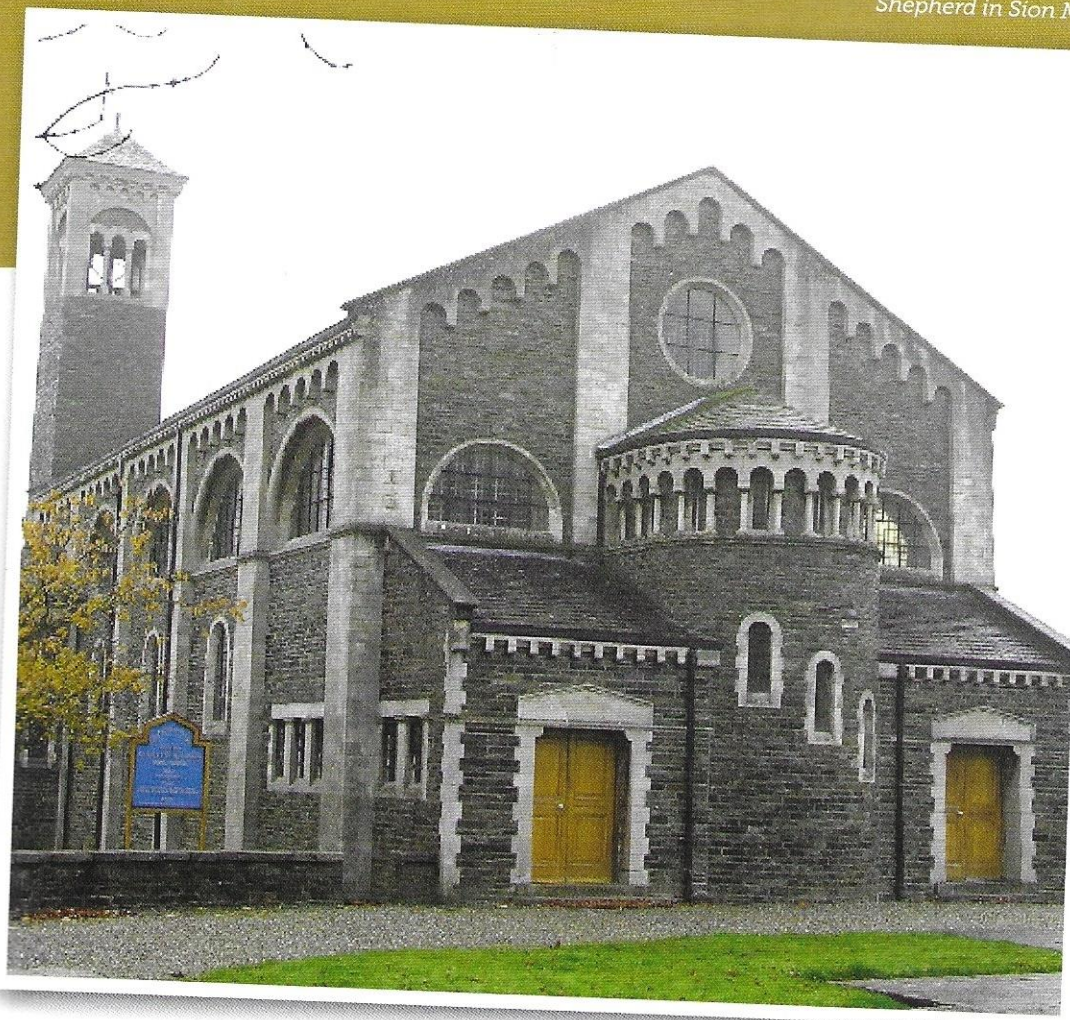
Ricardo had a strong British military career and went with the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers to both South Africa and India. It was in Burma in 1893 that he married Elizabeth Alice ('Ella') Herdman of Sion Mills and that formed what became his strong Tyrone connection.

In 1904 he and Ella moved to Sion Mills, so he could take up a role as a Director of Herdman's Mills. Although he had retired from the British army he kept strong links with it and in 1914 formally rejoined at the start of World War I. By then he had become a key player in the creation of the UVF in West Tyrone, raising what would form the nucleus of the 9th Battalion of the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers, 'The Tyrones'.

'The Tyrones' were essentially UVF men who had also moved seamlessly sideways into the regular British army and Ricardo became their first Commanding Officer, moving with them to the Western Front. He survived the War, ending up as a Brigadier-General, but its impact never left him.

**Whatever about his deep British military connections, Ambrose Ricardo was a man of varying other views and interests. In the early 1900s he had been**





**central to building one of Sion Mills' most prominent landmarks, the Church of the Good Shepherd and in 1922 he would help found Féis Dhoíre Cholmcílle, now probably the most vibrant of its kind anywhere.**

Ricardo also became a leading figure in the Scout movement. All the while, even within Unionist politics, he was a man who firmly believed in the full, nine-County Ulster and at the critical March 1920 Ulster Unionist Council meeting that voted on partition he stood firmly for the cases of Cavan, Donegal and Monaghan.

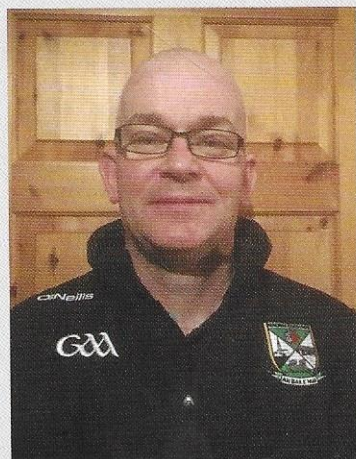
Ambrose Ricardo drowned in a reservoir at Sion Mills, on 9 July 1923, still badly affected it is said, and even damaged, by the horrors he had witnessed on the Western Front.

He is buried in front of his Church of the Good Shepherd and as many of you go home that way tonight after this game, you'll see his memorial placed there between the Church and the road you're travelling on.

**As always, the story of our County moves on.**



# VALUING THE VOLUNTEER



**AIDAN MAGUIRE -  
NEWTOWNSTEWART ST  
EUGENE'S**

## **HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN INVOLVED WITH YOUR CLUB, NEWTOWNSTEWART ST EUGENE'S?**

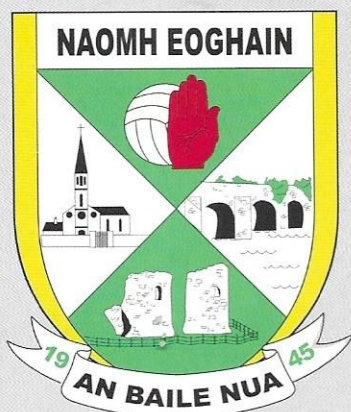
38 years - I started playing for the under 12 team in 1980.

## **WHAT ROLES HAVE YOU CARRIED OUT FOR YOUR CLUB DOWN THROUGH THE YEARS?**

I was Secretary in 1988, 2003-2006 and 2016-2017, Treasurer from 1996 to 1998, Chairperson from 1999 to 2001 and 2011 to 2013, and Vice Chairperson from 2008 to 2010.

## **WHAT IS YOUR CURRENT POSITION WITHIN THE CLUB?**

I am Chairman of the football sub-committee and serve on the Finance and Development sub-committees.



## **WHAT DO YOU ENJOY MOST ABOUT BEING A VOLUNTEER AT YOUR CLUB?**

Working with good people in your own Parish with the common goal of making a difference.

## **WHAT HAVE BEEN YOUR GREATEST CLUB MEMORIES?**

The day both our boys and girls won their respective Under 16 County titles in 2011.

**THE GIRLS WERE ON FIRST AND, BEFORE CELEBRATING THEIR SUCCESS, THE TEAM CAPTAIN LUCY ARNOLD LED THE TEAM DOWN TO WHERE THE BOYS WERE WARMING UP TO WISH**

**THEM WELL. THAT MOMENT WILL LIVE LONG IN MY MEMORY AND MANY NEWTOWN GAELS.**

## **WHAT SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS HAVE YOU SEEN AT NEWTOWNSTEWART SINCE FIRST JOINING?**

I was fortunate to be serving as either Chairperson, Secretary or Treasurer when we purchased our Grounds in 1997, built our Clubhouse in 1999, erected our Stand and Perimeter Fencing in 2006, and did a full reconstruction of the Pitch in 2013.

## **WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO YOU TO BE A MEMBER OF THE GAA?**

I count myself very lucky to have been born into a GAA house. My father, who passed away in November 2017, was the last surviving founding member of our Club and everything revolved around the GAA. I can't imagine life without it.

## **WHAT ARE YOUR HOPES FOR 2018?**

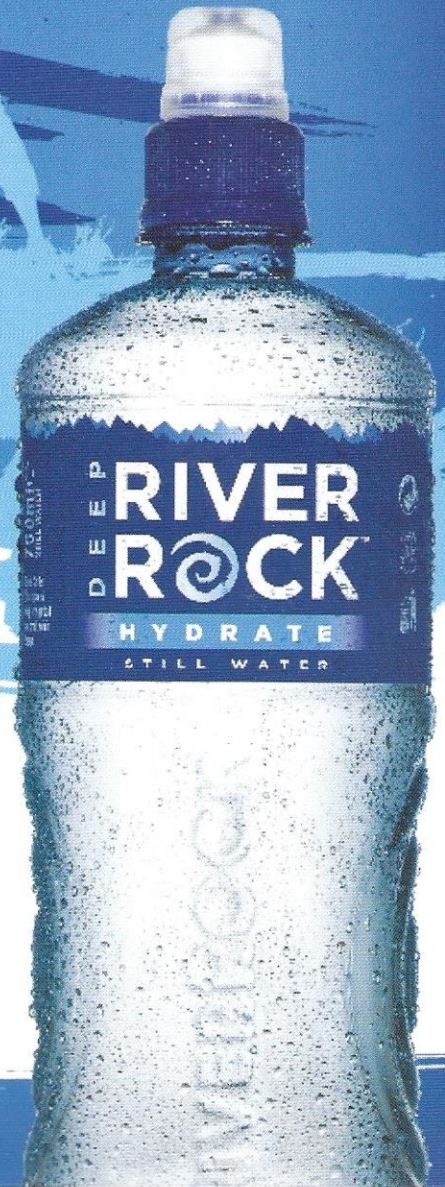
In 2017, our Club suffered badly in the August floods. With the amazing support of the GAA community in Tyrone and way beyond, we are getting our clubhouse and grounds back to the standards that we were so proud of. My hope for 2018 is to complete all those works.



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STRAIGHT



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# FROM THE HARTE

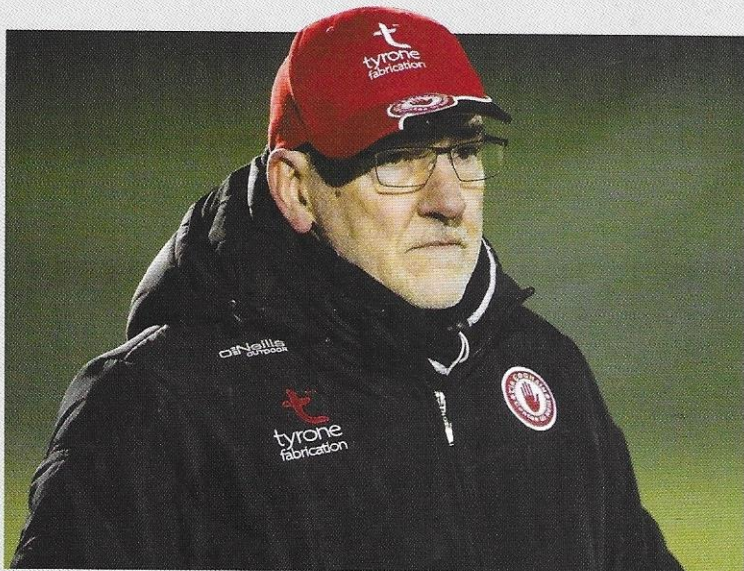


**ONCE AGAIN,  
WE'RE LOOKING  
FORWARD TO  
OUR SECOND  
HOME GAME IN THE  
ALLIANZ LEAGUE  
CAMPAIGN OF  
2018.**

Having faced our opponents Donegal in the recent McKenna Cup Final we have been afforded an early opportunity to avenge that result. Donegal recorded their first League win last weekend so both teams sit on 2pts apiece and as games go this encounter has a huge significance in helping ourselves to ease a little bit away from the relegation battle. We have a huge task ahead of us if we're to get anything out of this game. Our encounters in recent years have traditionally been very tight affairs and we know what to expect in a derby game with so much at stake.

With just two more games left after Donegal, a win at home is crucial in order to keep out of the relegation battle. There is a lot to play for and all the players and management know we will need to ensure we bring our best performance to the pitch this Saturday night.

Last week against Monaghan we were disappointed with



**WE HAVE TO ROLL UP OUR  
SLEEVES NOW AND SEE CAN WE  
RAISE THE LEVEL AND STANDARD  
OF OUR GAME.**

our slow start to the game but we showed good character to battle back and possibly if we had been a bit more clinical towards the end we could have pushed on but it wasn't to be and these fine margins can come back to haunt you.

I once again want to extend my sincere appreciation to our new County Sponsors, Tyrone Fabrication, and extend my ongoing thanks to O'Neill's, our Brand Partners Donnelly Vauxhall, Bank of Ireland, Deep River Rock plus the ongoing contributions of the Club Tyrone membership. Their

continued support is vital in assisting our preparations.

I must thank our loyal support who have followed us in fantastic numbers so far this year despite some terrible weather. The huge support which has been such a tremendous boost throughout all the McKenna Cup campaign and in all our 4 games in the League 3 of which have been away from home. I have no doubt they will be out again in big numbers tonight, I know you'll get behind us and make yourselves heard!





# TÍR EOGHAIN Tyrone



MANAGER: **Mickey Harte**

ASST. MANAGER: **Gavin Devlin**



N Ó Muireagáin  
**Niall Morgan**  
Éadan na dTorc



M Mac Thiarnáin  
**Michael McKernan**  
Oileán a'Ghuail



R Mac Con Midhe  
**Ronan McNamee**  
Achadh Uí Aráin



C Mac Cearáin  
**Cathal McCarron**  
Athí



C Mac Maoilín  
**Conor Meyler**  
An Omaigh



P Ó hAimsaigh  
**Pádraig Hampsey**  
Oileán a'Ghuail



C Mac Gadhra  
**Kieran McGeary**  
Cabhán a'Chaortainn



C Caomhánach  
**Colm Cavanagh**  
An Mhaigh



P Mac an Ultaigh  
**Padraig McNulty**  
Dún Geanainn



M Ó Donnailé  
**Matthew Donnelly (C)**  
Trí Leac



N Ó Sludáin  
**Niall Sludden**  
An Droim Mhór



P Ó hAirt  
**Peter Harte**  
Aireagal Chiaráin



L Ó Braonáin  
**Lee Brennan**  
Trí Leac



C Mac Conuisce  
**Connor McAliskey**  
Cluain Eo



M Ó Brolcháin  
**Mark Bradley**  
Coill an Chlochair

## FÍR IONAIÐ/SUBSTITUTES

16. Mickey O'Neill, Cluain Eo 17. Rory Brennan, Trí Leac 18. Brendan Burns, Cabhán a'Chaortainn  
19. Conal McCann, Coill an Chlochair 20. Declan McClure, Cluain Eo 21. Aidan McCrory, Aireagal Chiaráin  
22. Darren McCurry, Éadan na dTorc 23. Hugh Pat McGeary, Cabhán a'Chaortainn  
24. Ronan McNabb, An Droim Mhór 25. David Mulgrew, Ard Bó 26. Ronan O'Neill, An Omaigh





Referee: **David Coldrick** An Mhí  
 Stand By: **Paddy Neilan** Ros Comáin  
 Linesman: **Sean Laverty** Aontroim  
 Sideline Official: **James Lewis** Fear Manach

# DÚN NA NGALL Donegal

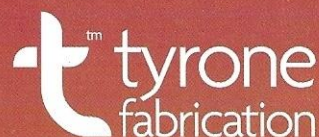


MANAGER: **Declan Bonner**



## FÍR IONAIÐ/SUBSTITUTES

16. **Mark Anthony McGinley**, Naomh Mícheál 17. **Conor Morrison**, Naomh Adhamhnáin 18. **Dáire Ó Baoill**, Gaoth Dobhair  
 19. **Stephen McMenamin**, Aodh Rua, Cúil na nCuiridín 20. **Caolan McGonigle**, Bun Crannacha  
 21. **Stephen McBrearty**, Cill Chartha 22. **Niall O'Donnell**, Naomh Adhamhnáin 23. **Martin McElhinney**, Naomh Mícheál  
 24. **Darrach O'Connor**, Bun Crannacha 25. **Frank McGlynn**, Gleann Fhinne 26. **Nathan Mullins**, Naomh Uinseann, B.A.C





# FÁILTE TO THE... THE TÍR CONAILL MEN



**THE GAELS OF TYRONE  
EXTEND A WARM AND  
HEARTY “CÉAD MÍLE FÁILTE”  
TO THE PLAYERS, OFFICIALS  
AND SUPPORTERS OF  
DONEGAL ALONG HERE  
TO HEALY PARK, OMAGH  
FOR TONIGHT’S ALLIANZ  
DIVISION 1 LEAGUE CLASH.**

Both sides go into tonight’s game fully knowing that they are in dire need of the points after what has been a tough campaign to date for each of them. The sides have played well in their opening games but didn’t get the desired results making tonight’s clash even more important as they battle for much needed points to stave off the threat of relegation.

Just a fortnight ago at the Athletic Grounds Armagh, the sides went head to head in the Dr McKenna Cup final with Donegal gaining the upper hand to deny Tyrone a magnificent seven in a row of titles, so they go into this clash with the bragging rights secured whilst Mickey Harte’s side have something of a score to settle!

The last occasion that Donegal were the visitors to Omagh in the Allianz Division 1 League was exactly five years ago today (3rd March 2013) and they arrived here as the reigning All Ireland Champions but despite affording them a very deserving and hearty welcome Tyrone were in no mood for sentiment and edged the contest on a score line of 1-13 to 0-12. The Red

Hand’s went on to reach the final that season where they narrowly lost out to Dublin in the decider whilst Donegal ended up being relegated to Division 2! However, last season in the League clash at Páirc MacCumhaill Ballybofey, Donegal won by double scores, 0-12 to 0-6 and back in 2015 during their League clash the Tír Chonail men also saw off the challenge of Tyrone again at the Ballybofey venue with a convincing 1-13 to 0-6 victory.

The rivalry between the O’Neill’s and O’Donnell’s is indeed legendary with one such historical incident being the famous Battle of Knockavoe on the hillside overlooking Strabane that claimed 900 lives away back in the year of 1522. If you have read your history books, then I’ve no doubt that you will recall that there were many other battles between them over the years. However, all of that is now history as the present-day warriors from the O’Neill’s and O’Donnell’s thankfully preferring to do their battling on the playing pitches.

Several of the North Tyrone players also have strong Donegal connections with Ronan McNamee’s (Aghyaran) mother hailing from Glenfin whilst Cathal McShane (Owen Roe O’Neill’s) also has relatives residing in the O’Donnell County. The third member of the North Tyrone contingent on the squad Ronan McHugh (Aghyaran) was very quick to

point out to me that he was a Tyrone man through and through, however I suspect that he must have a wee drop of Donegal blood somewhere in his genes!

As someone who hails from Strabane that sits directly on the artificial border with Lifford, I know full well and have witnessed at first hand over the years the passion that my near neighbours have for the Donegal team and jersey. Put it like this, if Donegal were to win this clash tonight then I will be more than likely to travel the fourteen miles to Derry to fill my car with petrol as I’d be keen to avoid the stick and banter that would be meted out at my usual haunt of Daly’s Filling Station in Lifford. Thankfully I filled up on the Friday prior to the recent Dr McKenna Cup decider so I’ve managed to avoid them for a bit! That sort of rivalry can be had right along the North Tyrone and East Donegal border areas in places like Urney, Castlederg and Aghyaran with their close neighbours and rivals in neighbouring parts of Castlefin, Killygordon and Ballybofey.

Many families in these areas are married through each other and many supporters are working, socialising, and attending schools and the like in each other’s County so the tension and the passion is very strong indeed. A Tyrone win here tonight will mean that it will be very quiet on the various border crossing





points on the way home for the Donegal supporters, but a Red Hand defeat will mean that even the statues known as the "Tinnie's" sited on the Strabane/Lifford crossing point will be seriously aroused by the sound of car horns as was the case just recently!

The Urney St Columba's club in Tyrone is unique in that they belong to the parish of Doneyloop situated in Donegal which also takes in Donegal club side Castlefin Robert Emmett's catchment area. Down through the years there have been many players that have represented both clubs and indeed there have been players like the late Seamus "Congo" O'Kane who has played for both Tyrone and Donegal.

When Donegal won the Dr McKenna Cup back in 2010, Urney club player Fergal McNulty was a member of the winning squad. Similarly, former Strabane Shamrock's club hurler Gerard Gilmore who won several titles with the Red Hand's including a Nicky Rackard All-Star Award now hurls with Donegal side

Setanta and was a member of the winning Donegal team that defeated his native Tyrone in the 2017 Allianz Division 3A League decider played at Celtic Park Derry so there are plenty of strong links amongst the counties.

The first ever clash of Tyrone and Donegal in the Ulster Championship occurred some ninety-nine years ago on Sunday 25th May 1919 in Strabane when the Tír Chonaill men had a 4-3 to 2-0 win over the Red Hand's. I believe the game was played at the Bog Road in Strabane with the Ulster Herald newspaper back then reporting that 1,200 spectators had been in attendance.

The Tyrone side consisted of players from just a handful of clubs with Augher, Fintona and Trillick to the fore and one Strabane player named Charlie Smith who was originally from Cavan and working in the town at that time. Tyrone appeared to be in great difficulty around that period with the newspapers reporting that many teams

were not fielding owing to the growth of soccer even in the stronghold areas of East Tyrone!

Much has changed over the years since that first ever meeting but the rivalry is still intense.

**WHATEVER THE OUTCOME OF TONIGHT'S CLASH BOTH SIDES WILL HAVE STRONG AMBITIONS OF MEETING ONCE AGAIN IN THE ULSTER CHAMPIONSHIP DECIDER ON 24TH JUNE AT CLONES BUT BEFORE ALL OF THAT THOUGH THEY BOTH HAVE SEVERAL DIFFICULT LEAGUE GAMES TO ENCOUNTER.**

A safe journey home is extended to all the travelling supporters and just in case Donegal do happen to gain another win here tonight then a word of caution to them, please be respectful when passing through Strabane, Clady, Castledearg, Aghyaran or any other residential areas of Tyrone later tonight!

**Slán agus ádh mór  
Aodhán Harkin**



AG DÉANAMH GO MAITH ...

# FLOURISHING AND PROSPERING



Club Tyrone  
Comann Thír Eoghain

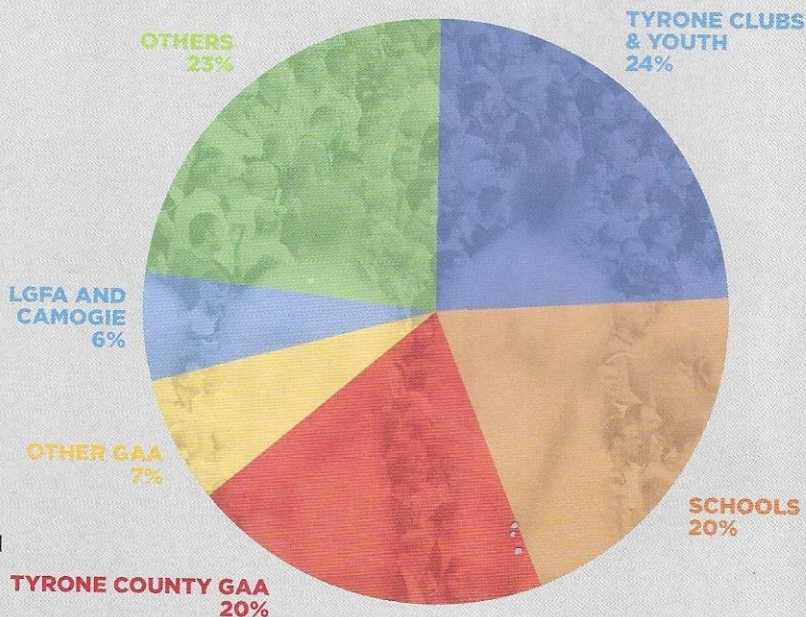
It may be hard to believe, but it's five years from Wednesday a week ago, 28 February 2013, that we formally took possession of Garvaghey.

On that historic day for Gaelic Tyrone, the paperwork was signed-off at 'dinner time', the complex was blessed soon afterwards and that evening Mickey Harte and our Senior footballers became its first formal users.

What may be harder for some people to believe is that since then over a quarter of a million people have used Garvaghey.

Garvaghey is delivering everything and more than we'd ever planned and hoped for.

## WHO ARE THOSE 50,000 PEOPLE A YEAR WHO ARE USING GARVAGHEY?



**50,000**  
users per year

**50%** coming to use our pitches &  
**50%** to use our other facilities



**1,000**  
users  
per week

**80%**

from within Tyrone

**50:50 SPLIT**

between Over  
and Under 18s

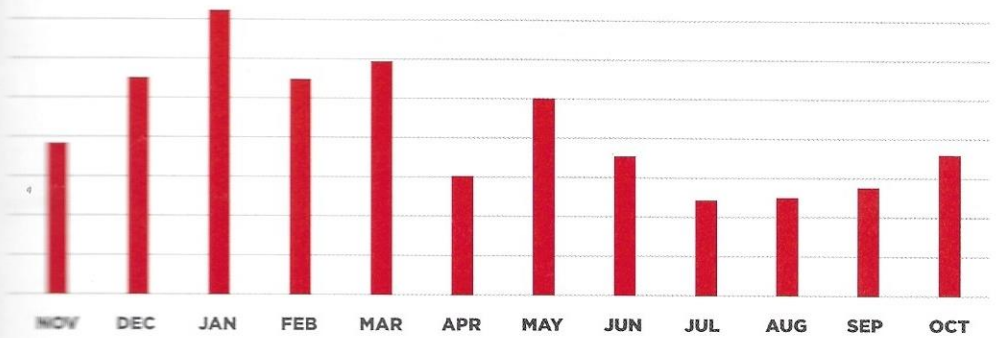


**75%**  
Men



**25%**  
Women





*Garvaghey's usage year-round*

Garvaghey's usage is year-round but we're particularly busy in the winter months, something that's heavily driven by our Schools. That winter usage has consequences of course for the maintenance and ongoing availability of our pitches.

It cost about £7.5m to put Garvaghey in place. We believe it's the best single investment Tyrone GAA ever made. But we still have a debt of £1M against it and nobody is going to clear that debt but us. And contrary to a false notion that's sometimes peddled, Tyrone is

not a massive, wealthy County that's just rolling in GAA cash. So, if you're not already with us, come on board...

Contact us at [enquiries@clubtyrone.com](mailto:enquiries@clubtyrone.com).

**'Ceangail linn inniu agus feabhsaigh an todhchaí ...  
Join today and change tomorrow'**



Club Tyrone Members gift £500 a year to help develop and sustain Tyrone's GAA vigour



Garvaghey Patrons donate £5,000, usually over five years, to put their mark on Ireland's best GAA concept, our County GAA Centre at Garvaghey



Dragain Thír Eoghain also donate £5,000, usually over five years, to help secure the playing and personal futures of our young people

# GOLDEN TICKET

**IF YOUR PROGRAMME CONTAINS THE GOLDEN TICKET, YOU HAVE WON:**

**A TYRONE HOME JERSEY**

COURTESY OF **oneills**



Please Note: The Golden Ticket will be loosely inserted. If your programme is the lucky one please make yourself known to the stewards at the tunnel entrance. Presentation will be made at half-time.



# AN ULSTER DERBY TO SAVOUR



**FOR THE SECOND TIME IN AS MANY WEEKS, TWO FIERCE ULSTER RIVALS DO BATTLE. AT THE ATHLETIC GROUNDS, DONEGAL WON A HIGHLY COMPETITIVE DR MCKENNA CUP FINAL TO DENY THE RED HANDS A SEVENTH SUCCESSIVE TITLE.**

Tonight it's all about securing precious league points, and following a shaky start to the Division One campaign by both counties, the Red Hands and Tir Chonail are equally intent on carving out a positive result.

Tyrone have endured a difficult time in this season's NFL, suffering defeats in their first two games of the 2018 league, and losing again after staging a brief recovery.

Newly promoted Galway have since demonstrated that their opening day defeat of Mickey Harte's side was no flash in the pan. Damien Comer's goal and four Shane Walsh points secured a 1-9 to 0-8 victory at Tuam Stadium.

Next it was a visit by All-Ireland champions Dublin to Healy Park, and despite a strong showing by the home side, with Cathal McShane hitting the net, a familiar late surge saw Jim Gavin's men take a 2-13 to 1-11 verdict with goals from Eoghan O'Gara and Ciaran Kilkeny.

But Tyrone got off the mark in round three at St Conleth's Park in Newbridge. Lee Brennan, who on his first start had nailed six points against the Dubs, struck

the all-important goal that sparked a revival after Kildare had got off to a strong start. And a late wonder point from skipper Mattie Donnelly gave the visitors a dramatic 1-16 to 0-18 result.

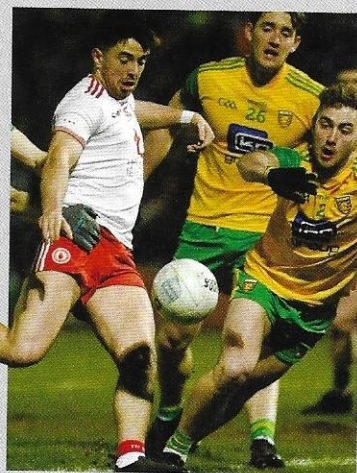
But there was a third defeat when the Red Hands visited neighbours Monaghan last weekend and lost by 0-15 to 0-14.

**DONEGAL CAN JUSTIFIABLY FEEL THAT THEY DESERVED BETTER FROM THEIR EARLY CLUTCH OF FIXTURES THAN THREE STRAIGHT DEFEATS.**

The in-form Paddy McBerarty arrives at Healy Park this evening with 30 points in just four games. His ten scores were not enough to prevent his side from going down by 3-18 to 2-18 to Kerry in a Killarney thriller. Prolific again at Letterkenny, he hit nine points against Galway, but victory eluded the home side as the Tribesmen left with both points, Eamon Brannigan's goal helping them to a 1-12 to 0-14 success.

New manager Declan Bonner oversaw another encouraging performance at Croke Park, McBrearty on fire again with a string of spectacular scores as they gave Dublin a real fright, but once again fell short, going down by 0-20 to 0-15.

And Donegal finally got off the mark last weekend when they



defeated Kildare by 1-15 to 3-7 at Ballyshannon.

In the proud and true spirit of these neighbouring counties, both will feel that they can pull themselves clear of the relegation zone, despite the league points that have slipped away. But with three rounds to go, they must take on board the perils that lie ahead.

No such worries, it seems, for pace-setters Dublin and Galway, who have shown impressive early season form to move into pole position in the race to the Croke Park decider.

Tyrone and Donegal will also reflect on last season's league encounter between the sides, in which a young Tir Chonail side stormed to a 0-12 to 0-6 success at Ballybofey.

**Can the Red Hands turn the tables on their own Healy Park turf? All will be revealed over the next hour or two.**



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# HURLING MATTERS

PADDY HUNTER

## ALLIANZ HURLING LEAGUE ROINN 3A

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Warwickshire	4	3	1	0	84	72	7
2. Roscommon	4	2	1	1	86	57	7
3. Louth	4	2	1	1	82	88	5
<b>4. Tyrone</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>4</b>
5. Monaghan	4	1	1	2	72	71	3
6. Longford	4	0	0	4	58	91	0

### TWO WINS ON THE BOUNCE NOW FOR MATTIE LENNON'S TYRONE LEAVES THEM STILL WITHIN A POC OF A BALL AWAY FROM A LEAGUE FINAL.

It is of course out of their own hands now, after poor results against Louth and Warwickshire, and while Tyrone can only concentrate on a trip to Longford tomorrow, the games between Warwickshire, Roscommon, Monaghan and Louth will certainly have a bearing on the final standings.

Longford have yet to register a point on the board, and with Tyrone hitting some fine form again, the Leinster men could well find the going tough.

Damien Casey, for so long described as a player that could line out for any county, is once

again Tyrone's top marksman. His 2-11 against Monaghan as Tyrone scored a 2-15 to 0-17 win, followed by a 0-13 haul on Sunday against a fancied Roscommon in a 1-16 to 1-12 Red Hand win, just emphasises how important a fit Casey is to the cause.

Several players are on the road to recovery again after injury. Sean Og Grugan, for example, enjoyed his first full training session last week after surgery. The timing of these returns couldn't be better with the Nicky Rackard Cup not far away.

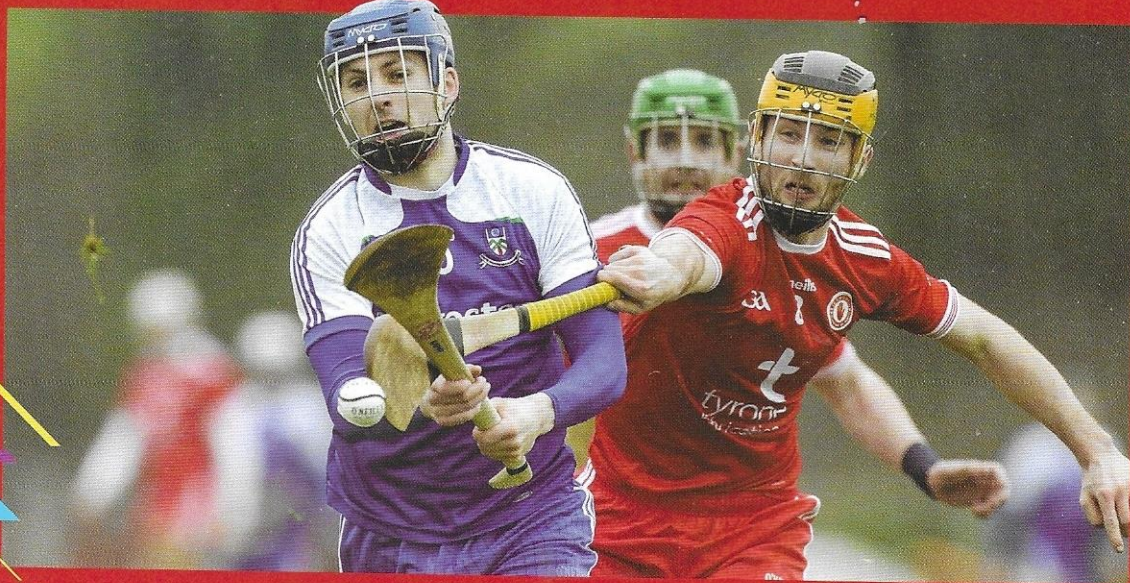
Tyrone will open their championship campaign against Donegal on May 12th, with Leitrim up next on June 2nd.

For now though, the league is the priority. As it stands now in

NFL Division 3A, Lennon's side are in a sort of Limbo land, in fourth on four points. A win will leave them with six points and that could be, if results go in their favour elsewhere, enough for a final spot.

A loss, with other results going against them, could see them in a relegation play-off... small margins indeed!

Plans for the new domestic season in Tyrone continue at pace, with the county's Development Committee and CCC working closely in relation to fixtures. A new look club championship is on the agenda with a more competitive edge across the board. Details are expected to be confirmed next week but these are exciting times.





# TYRONE GAA HANDBALL PLAYERS IN SEARCH OF ALL IRELAND GLORY...

**THE GAA HANDBALL 40x20 CHAMPIONSHIP CAMPAIGN IS REACHING A CLIMAX AT PRESENT AND TYRONE GAA HANDBALL IS AGAIN VERY MUCH TO THE FOREFRONT OF THE ALL IRELAND CHALLENGES ACROSS ALL THE GRADES.**

In the Juvenile All-Ireland championships, a strong O'Neill County Team will travel to Mallow in Cork to take on the Munster champions. Mairead Fox (Girls U16s), Clodagh Munroe (Girls U14s), Gary McAleer (Boys U14s), Zak Devine (Boys U15s) and Conor Owens & Patrick McCann (Boys U14D) spearhead a strong challenge while Conor Fox & Caran McNally (Boys U15s) and Dearbhail Fox & Cloda McNamee (Girls U14D) are others who may well finish this campaign with gold.

While the Juveniles take on Munster it is the Leinster champions who the Adult Ulster Champions will face. Tyrone won 8 Ulster championship titles in the

adult grades two weeks ago and major wins included Ryan Mullan's success in the Men's Intermediate Singles championship and Cormac Munroe completing a back-to-back triumph in the Ulster Minor Singles grade.

Both have big challenges while Caitlin Conway in the Girls Minor Singles will surely be in the hunt too, facing Kildare's Leah Doyle in Beragh. Niall Kerr (Golden Masters), Chris Curran (Silver Masters), Shane O'Neill (Masters 35+), John McCullagh (Ruby Masters) and Clare Conway (Ladies Junior B) all contest All-Ireland Semi Finals this weekend also.

It is a big year for Tyrone GAA Handballers with the 2018 World Championships topping the bill in Minnesota in August. The forthcoming series of All Ireland 40x20 championship could determine a lot when it comes to the World challenges later in the year and Tyrone have enjoyed some success already this term.

The big title of 2018 so far was won by Breacach's Sean Kerr who became the latest winner of the highly prestigious US Nationals Boys 19 & Under title, beating a very large and high quality field on route to that



crown. Kerr will be among the major title contenders later in the year too while All Ireland Colleges 40x20 championships successes for Antoin Fox, Lorcan McBride and Mairead Fox also made the headlines in the past two weeks. Darragh Daly also showed up well in reaching the Ulster Senior singles championship final, losing out in the end to 2017 All-Ireland Senior Champion, Armagh's Charly Shanks.

Loughmacrory's Eoin McElholm and Dearbhail Fox teamed up two weeks ago also to become the latest All-Ireland Gael Linn Champions (Club U13 event) while a number of young players, including a Pomeroy duo, Sean Kennedy and Ryan McCallan, made their mark on the provincial and All-Ireland Cumann na mBunscoil stage.

**Another big achievement last week was Breacach's Michelle Warren being awarded the GAA Handball All star club-person of the Year for 2018 and Conor McElduff picking up the Ulster GAA Writers Handballer of the Year Award.**





# HOW WE STAND 2018



PADDY HUNTER

## ALLIANZ FOOTBALL LEAGUE ROINN 1

Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1. Dublin	4	4	0	0	78	57	8
2. Galway	4	4	0	0	60	47	8
3. Monaghan	4	3	0	1	56	53	6
4. Kerry	4	2	0	2	70	71	4
5. Donegal	4	1	0	3	70	75	2
<b>6. Tyrone</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>2</b>
7. Mayo	4	1	0	3	51	62	2
8. Kildare	4	0	0	4	62	73	0

**With four games now played in this National League campaign Tyrone find themselves with just two points, very much in need of something out of tonight's clash with Donegal, who also find themselves with a single win ahead of Mickey Harte's side on score difference.**

Tyrone's sole victory so far came at Kildare, with Mattie Donnelly's late point sealing the win. It was Donnelly's 105th competitive game in a Tyrone jersey, the Trillick man one of six current players over the century of appearances.

Niall Morgan chalked up his 100th appearance in the game against Monaghan 2 weeks ago, while Colm Cavanagh made his 140th appearance in a Tyrone jersey against the same opposition.

Twenty nine players have had a run out in this league campaign, with Morgan, Donnelly, Peter Harte, Padraig Hampsey, Connor Mc Aliskey and Niall Sludden having started in all four games.

Indeed, 12 players have played in all four league games to date, against Galway, Dublin, Kildare and Monaghan.

Who says Tyrone play defensively? They have racked up 2-49, with 14 players getting on the scoresheet. Second placed Galway have only scored five points more as they remain unbeaten.

Such is the closeness of Division One, a Tyrone victory tonight could see them leapfrog into fourth spot.

Lee Brennan leads the scoring chart with an excellent return of 1-17 to date. Cathal Mc Shane, with 1-4 and Connor Mc Aliskey (0-6) also feature among the scoring 14, seven of whom have hit the target once.

The Full list is:  
**For 2-49 Against 3-55**

L Brennan **1-17**, C McShane **1-4**, C McAliskey **0-6**, N Sludden **0-5**, P Harte & M Donnelly **0-4**, T McCann **0-2**, N Morgan, M McKernan, , P McNulty, D McCurry, R O'Neill, C Cavanagh, R Donnelly **0-1 each**

In terms of appearances, Niall Sludden's outing at Castleblaney marked his 40th competitive game, it was Lee Brennan's 20th while Conal McCann is in line for a 40th and Richard Donnelly could make his 20th tonight, with Hugh Pat McGeary set to hit double figures.

## MICKY HARTES RECORD

It's amazing just how many people like to keep tabs on our manager's record, remarkable to think just how many competitive, games, O'Fiach Cup games, in-house games and training sessions he has presided over... calculators at the ready, but that's for another day. For now we just deal in cold hard facts.

COMP	P	W	D	L
NFL	118	63	15	40
McK	69	59	1	9
SFC	89	59	9	21
<b>Total</b>	<b>276</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>70</b>

## MCKENNA CUP

The Bank Of Ireland Dr Mc Kenna Cup final was played at the Athletic Grounds, a cracking open game of football but disappointment as our hold on the famous old trophy was relinquished to tonight's opponents Donegal.

The cup campaign saw 30 players used. Harry Loughran came back from his exploits with Moy, started the final and scored 1-1, his sole appearance in the competition.

Omagh's Ronan O'Neill hit six points in the final to finish as top scorer with 0-17. He was one of 21 players to get on the score-sheet over the five games as Tyrone scored 8-78 and conceded 4-49. In total then this year, Tyrone have scored 10-127 and conceded 7-104.



## LADIES FOOTBALL

# MID TERM BREAK



NADY HUNTER

The postponement last Saturday of the Tyrone Cavan National League fixture here at Omagh has now afforded Tyrone an enforced three week break from competitive action.

The natural break was to take place both this weekend and next. The O'Conner Cup now taking centre stage this weekend, it will allow Tyrone boss Gerry Moane an extended opportunity to review and plan ahead.

"We will use the time wisely, Garvaghey is fully operational again and the players will be stepping up their training from this point on, this will present a few big weeks for us as a squad" explained Moane

Tyrone sit fifth in the table and in all reality the re-fixture with Cavan now pencilled for the weekend of the 7th & 8th April could well decide which of the Ulster sides make the last four. The semi-finals still remain the target for Moane and Tyrone who will return to action on Saturday 24th against Clare followed by a trip to Laois on Easter Sunday. The break comes at a good time for Tyrone and they hope to have players returning over the coming weeks ahead of the run in. That said Tyrone will be losing Neamh Woods who heads to Australia next week alongside Armagh's Caroline O'Hanlon and Antrim's

Michelle Magee as part of Netball NI taking part in the Commonwealth games.

Last day out Tyrone suffered a heavy loss at the hands of Armagh but while they shipped six goals Tyrone had the bulk of the chances as coach Barry Grimes pointed out "the stats don't lie" "We created over thirty scoring chances but scored just eight times, Armagh had twenty six and scored from twenty of them, that's not good enough for us and we must improve, it remains in our own hands but we can't afford any more slip ups and we must be more clinical in front of goal"

There is no doubt that the Tyrone run in will be critical. The Tyrone Clare game will go ahead now on Saturday 24th March at Clanabogan Park. Meanwhile the Tyrone underage squads are on duty this weekend with games against Down and a double outing at Red Hughs against Donegal.

**TYRONE HAVE RECORDED WINS OVER WATERFORD AND SLIGO BEFORE LOSING BY THREE POINTS TO ALL IRELAND CHAMPIONS TIPPERARY AHEAD OF THAT GUT WRENCHING DEFEAT AGAINST THE ORCHARD GIRLS.**

### U14 Championship Group Two

10/3 v Donegal  
24/3 v Antrim  
7/4 v Cavan

### U16 Championship Group 2

11/3 v Down  
25/3 v Fermanagh  
8/4 v Cavan

### Minor Championship

10/3 v Donegal  
24/3 v Antrim  
7/4 v Cavan

Tyrone will also field Under 13, 15 and 17 development squads in this years development competitions.

The Tyrone Senior Ladies Murphys Gloves Fundraising Spinathon which had been postponed from February 17th will now go ahead at a later date. The plans were pencilled in for April 7th however the team now have the small matter of that Cavan refixture. It is intended that both Players, management, coaches, officials and a host of special guests will still be taking part in the Spinathon. The players wish to thank all our sponsors and supporters so far and trust you will continue to support the girls and they also want to wish Neamh Woods all the best as she heads away with Netball NI.



# TYRONE GAA REFEREE RECRUITMENT DRIVE 2018

## WHY BECOME A GAA REFEREE?

### SOME POINTS THAT MIGHT ANSWER THE QUESTION?

- **STAY INVOLVED** with the game as an alternative to playing,
- **FITNESS** – It's a great way to keep fit and stay in shape,
- **AMBITION** – could you referee a County Final or even an All-Ireland? Why not
- **LEARN** more about the game,
- **GIVE SOMETHING BACK** – offers players, at the end of their playing days, or those unable to continue due to injury the opportunity to continue in the sport they love,
- **PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT** – helps to develop personal skills that are of value in all walks of life

### WHAT QUALITIES ARE REQUIRED TO BECOME A GAA REFEREE?

- Good knowledge of the playing rules
- Be physically and mentally fit
- Have the ability to remain calm
- Have the moral courage to take decisions which are correct

### HOW DO I BECOME A REFEREE?

We all know only too well the most essential part of any GAA Fixture is the Referee, without Him or Her there is unlikely to be any game. Clubs therefore must accept their responsibility to assist the Referee's Committee to identify new recruits who are willing to take up the Whistle.

The Challenge must be a joint approach if this campaign is to be a success. An Urgent Call goes out to any potential candidates to come forward.

The first thing to do, is to contact your local Referee's

Recruitment Officer or Administrator who will give you details on upcoming GAA Referee Foundation Course in your local area, which you will have to complete before you can referee games. GAA Club Referee Course will take 2 nights to complete and will be delivered by a National GAA Referees Tutor.

**Give it a Go - Help your Club and your County.**

**Please contact our Referee Recruitment Officer  
Eugene McConnell  
on 07775532917  
John Devlin  
on 07789893026  
Alan Richardson  
on 07715211388.**

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for more information



# 150 YEARS & COUNTING OF GAA HANDBALL IN LOUGHMACRORY



**LOUGHMACRORY GAA HANDBALL CLUB ARE CELEBRATING THEIR 50TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR IN 2018.**

To mark the occasion they are launching a book entitled '150 Years of GAA Handball & Counting'.

The book got its name from a souvenir programme entitled "A Hundred Years of Handballing", which was produced to mark the opening of the new alley.

Fr Peter Coyle, a member of the first official committee tells how "Starting back in 1968, the club built the 1st fully covered 60x30 court and the Handball Committee decided to include a new Community Hall to cater for the wider community. There was a strong team of people led by the likes of Peter and John Curran, Frank McCrystall, MJ Kelly, Hugh Duff and John Conway and it is terrific to see the legacy continue."

The club built a 40x20 handball court in 1981 and in 2014 added a unique One Wall International Handball Facility with 3 full sized courts, opened as part of a wider major Community Project on 28th June 2014. The Club also pick up the prestigious 2014 Ulster GAA Writers Handball Award and won the Ulster Club of the year Awards in 2015 and 2016.

Mickey Conway was Tyrone's first ever All Ireland Champion in 1970 while Ciaran Curran was the first ever Ulster handballer to win an All Ireland Juvenile

title in 1984 and added 8 Ulster Senior singles titles, 27 All Ireland medals, 5 US National titles and a World 23&U title.

Significant National titles include All Ireland Under 14 clean sweeps by Ciaran Curran (1986 and 1987), Brian Donaghy (2003), Aoife Kelly (2010) and Mairead Fox (2016) while Antoin Fox was a 1st winner of the All-Ireland Under 16 60x30 Singles title in 2016. Conal Curran, Plunkett Kelly, Ciaran Meenagh, Shane McCullagh, Conor Duff, Chris Curran, Kenny Curran, Paul Donnelly, Patrick McCullagh, Pearse McKernan, Lisa McAleer, Nadine Kelly, Grainne McKernan, Caitlin Conway, Dara Curran, Shane Grimes, Ronan Curran, Eoin McElholm and Dearbhail Fox have also all won All Ireland gold medals in recent times.

One of the stand-out memories is a Guinness World Record 80 hour Handball Marathon by six members (John McCullagh, Pat O'Brien, Kieran Kelly, Pat Kelly, Paddy McGurk and Packie Coyle) in 1978 while Hugh Duff also captured the first All Ireland Masters Singles Championship title for Tyrone in 1985.

All Ireland Feile Division 1 success for the club came in 1984 and 2003 and in 2014 the club completed a 1st Boys and girls All Ireland Feile Division 2 double.



*Loughmacrory's young players who won double All-Ireland Feile titles in 2014.*

Loughmacrory reached the All Ireland 60x30 Club Senior Championship final of 1980 with the team of Hugh Duff, John Curran, John McCullagh and Packie Coyle. In 2007 the club claimed the club and county's first Ulster Mens Open Senior Club 40x20 Championship and the team of Chris Curran, Ciaran Curran, Ciaran Meenagh and Stephen Conway lost to Ballaghaderreen by 93-86 in the All-Ireland Senior Club final.

In August 2014 the Club launched the inaugural Lough 1Wall Showdown when 252 players competed and over 1,000 spectators packed in to watch Puerto Rico's Wally Amaro and Catriona Casey win the first titles. The prestigious 5th event takes place from 29th June to 1st July 2018.

With the LCDA leading a redevelopment of the Centre in 2018 the future looks bright as Loughmacrory GAA Handball Club develop the sport into the future. Check out all the plans, events and stories at [www.loughmacrory.com](http://www.loughmacrory.com).

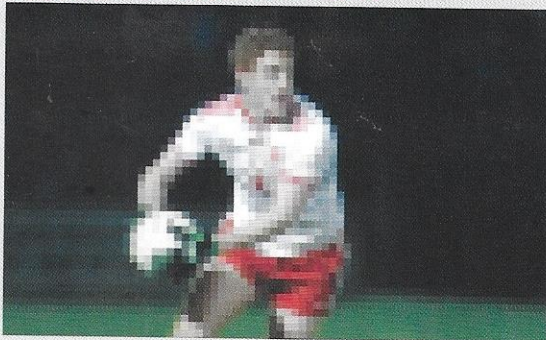


# TY KIDS

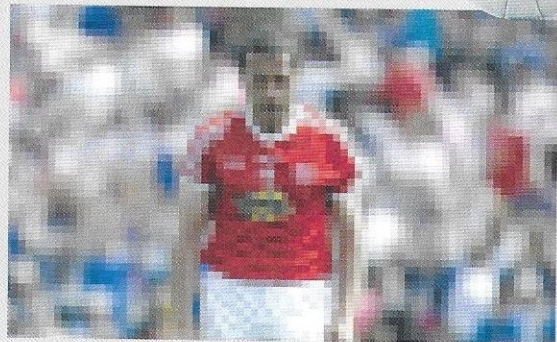


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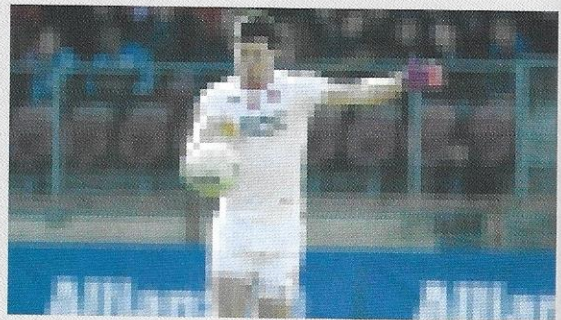
**NAME THE STAR PLAYER? .....**



**NAME THE STAR PLAYER? .....**



**NAME THE STAR PLAYER? .....**



**NAME THE STAR PLAYER? .....**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**AGE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADULT'S TEL NO:** \_\_\_\_\_

Tear off and post your answers to County PRO, C/O Tyrone GAA Centre, 230 Radergan Road, Garvaghey, Dungannon, County Tyrone, BT70 2EH. Prizes will be presented at next Home League Match.



# TODAY'S MINI GAMES



## SACRED HEART

Aaron Lynch, Cormac McGinn, Conan Campbell, Eoin Kerlin, Liam Og Mossey, Oran McCrory, Josh Connolly, Oisín Rodgers, Enda Mulryan, Tiarnan O'Donnell.

## DEAN BRIAN MAGUIRC

Ryan Laverty, Pierce Byrne, Francis Hurson, Cidhran McCallan, Darragh McPhilips, Jude Quinn, Aidan Woods, Thomas Duff, Pádraig McDonald, Calum Stewart.

## COALISLAND

Oisín Robinson, Naoise Campbell, Cormac Daly, Cormac Dillon, Caolen Carty, Eamon Gribben, Caoimhín Hughes, Aaron Connelly, Eoin O'Neill, Enda O'Neill.

## HOLY CROSS

Conor Langan, Ryan Kelly, Lorcan McKee, Darren McMenamin, Oisín Tinney, Lee McGonagle, Ryan McCormack, Ronan Devenney, Shea Molloy, Ben McCrossan, Jake McDermot.

## Healy Park Ground Regulations

**Contact:** pro.tyrone@gaa.ie

### Contributors:

Eugene McConnell, Paddy Hunter, Aodhan Harkin, Francis Mooney, Orla O'Neill, Mark Conway, Donal Magee, Colin Mackie, Chris Curran, Michael Kerr, Paul McCusker, Michelle Cox, Declan McKeown

**Photos:** Sportsfile, Jim Dunne, Rory Cox, Martin McGlone, Michael Cullen, O1 Media

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A special word of thanks to the Donegal PRO for their help in bringing the programme together.

All persons entering Healy Park, Omagh are admitted only subject to the following Ground Regulations and to the Rules and Regulations of the Gaelic Athletic Association. Entry to the ground shall be deemed to constitute unqualified acceptance of all these Rules and Regulations. Any person who fails to comply with these Ground Regulations may be refused entry to, or removed from the Grounds.

Fireworks, smoke canisters, gas horns, bottles, glasses, cans, flags, banners, poles and other similar articles or containers including anything which may be used as a weapon, are not permitted in the Grounds.

The consumption of alcohol is not permitted within the Grounds and spectators are not permitted to bring alcohol into the Grounds.

The unauthorised climbing of any structure, walls or buildings or seating in the Grounds is strictly forbidden.

Under no circumstances is it permitted to throw any objects onto the pitch.

Unnecessary noise and behaviour likely to cause confusion or nuisance of any kind, including foul and abusive language, is not permitted in any part of the Grounds.

Unauthorised persons are not permitted to enter upon the field of play at any time before, during or after the game.

A person may not obstruct a gangway, stairwell or circulation area at any time.

All persons on entering the Grounds are reminded of their obligation to ensure that their behaviour does not present a danger of fire or other occurrence to anyone using the premises.

The Grounds Management reserve the right of admission.

The Grounds Management reserve the right to refuse admission or eject any person who refuses to be searched where such a search is deemed necessary.

The Grounds Management reserve the right for its servants or agents to remove from the ground any person who does not comply with the Ground Regulations or whose presence in the ground could reasonably be construed as constituting a source of danger, nuisance or annoyance to other spectators.

**ALL PATRONS ARE ASKED TO OBEY THE STEWARDS AT ALL TIMES**



GAA - ALLIANZ NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION 1

# Defeat sees Donegal slip closer to relegation trap door

TYRONE ..... 2-13  
DONEGAL ..... 1-10

BY RYAN FERRY

Donegal face a real battle to stay up in Division 1 after they lost to fellow strugglers Tyrone in Healy Park on Saturday night.

It was billed as a crucial four-pointer, and Declan Bonner's team started well and established a 0-6 to 0-3 lead after 19 minutes.

However, Tyrone raised their game in the second quarter, and Donegal struggled to stop their sweeping team moves.

Peter Harte missed a penalty in the 32nd minute, but Niall Sludden did score a goal to leave the Red Hands one up at the break.

Tyrone started the second half brilliantly, scoring 1-3 without reply, with Mark Bradley getting the goal.

Donegal didn't cave, and an Odhran MacNiallais goal brought them back into contention, but Tyrone never looked like losing the game.

Bonner's team will now have to win their two remaining games against Monaghan and Mayo to be in with a chance of remaining in the top flight.

Donegal got the better of Tyrone in the McKenna Cup Final three weeks previously, but it was two very different teams that took to the field in Omagh.

Bonner was dealt a blow in the lead-up to the game as Patrick McBrearty wasn't fit to play.

Despite the loss of their top scorer, Donegal started well and Odhran MacNiallais opened the scoring after three minutes.

Mark Bradley quickly cancelled that out, but Mark McHugh nudged the visitors ahead again with a fine curling effort.

MacNiallais and Niall Sludden traded points, before Donegal started to get on top, and Michael Murphy converted a free, while Eoghan 'Ban' Gallagher was on target from distance.

Lee Brennan replied with a good score for the Red Hands, but Murphy nailed a free for Bonner's side in the 19th minute after Brennan was fouled.

Donegal were defending well, but as the half progressed Tyrone started to get more joy, and Lee Brennan and Conor McAliskey helped themselves to



Donegal's Stephen McBrearty looks to evade Tyrone's Matthew Donnelly.

frees. Mickey Harte's team were growing in confidence and they won a penalty in the 32nd minute.

Murphy saw a shot blocked down and Tyrone raced forward with the Donegal rearguard caught too far up the field.

Conor Meyler played the ball forward to Sludden, who was unceremoniously brought down by Donegal net-minder Shaun Patton, although the St Eunan's man somehow escaped a black card. Peter Harte stepped up for Tyrone but dragged his effort wide.

Murphy converted a long-range free for Donegal, but his team were caught again just before the break after they

lost possession in attack again. The home side sliced their way through the Donegal defence, with Sludden burying the ball in the net.

That left Tyrone one point ahead at the break and Donegal had plenty to think about as they made their way to the dressing room.

However, it was Tyrone who continued to dominate when the play resumed.

Mark Bradley scored an excellent goal in the 37th minute after selling a dummy to Leo McLoone, and then McAliskey registered two quickfire frees.

All of a sudden, Donegal seemed devoid of confidence and even simple

hand-passes became challenging. Tyrone were strong defensively and they kept the scoreboard ticking with a free from Niall Morgan.

Donegal had gone 17 second half minutes without a score, but they gave themselves a lifeline when they scored a super goal.

They worked the ball down the field from a short kick-out with Eoghan 'Ban' Gallagher, Jamie Brennan, and Martin McElhinney all involved, before MacNiallais palmed the ball to the net.

That lifted Bonner's side and they reduced their deficit to three points when Stephen McBrearty pointed.

Lee Brennan responded with a placed ball for Tyrone, but Donegal

kept at their task, and fine scores from Eamonn Doherty and Hugh McFadden kept them in contention.

They did create further openings but didn't take their chances, and were punished at the other end with scores from Lee Brennan and Cathal McShane.

Donegal needed another goal but never looked like getting it, and Tyrone closed the game out with scores from Peter Harte and Lee Brennan (free).

The defeat means that they have only won once from five outings, and will need to prevail in both of their remaining matches if they are to avoid the drop to the second tier.

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# THE GAME AT A GLANCE

WITH RYAN FERRY IN HEALY PARK



**MAN OF THE MATCH**  
Niall Sludden: The classy centre-forward, pictured above, was a constant thorn for Donegal, who couldn't nullify his influence. The Dromore man won a penalty and scored a goal, while he also helped himself to a fine point in the first half.

**THE WHISTLER**  
Donegal gave away ten scoreable frees, but they couldn't really have any great complaints about them as their tackling was poor. However, they may have felt that they could have had another few at the other end of the pitch. The main focus of David Coldrick's performance was on his decision to not give Shaun Patton a black card for pulling down Niall Sludden in the first half. It was a terrible call by the referee.

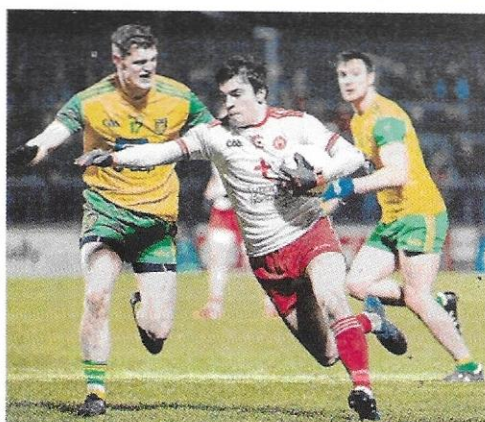
**TURNING POINT**  
Niall Sludden's goal in the 35th minute was a huge blow to Donegal. They were under pressure at that stage, and had just been given a let-off with the penalty miss. If they could have got through to half-time, the management team might have been able to settle their charges. However, Tyrone broke through for a goal, and once they hit the front, they never looked like relinquishing their advantage.

**TALKING POINT**  
After Saturday's defeat, it's going to take a huge effort for Donegal to avoid relegation, and it's difficult to envisage them doing so. They are too open at the back, and are lacking organisation in defence. That situation should improve when Mark Anthony McGinley, Neil McGee, and Paddy McGrath return to the team, but there is still a lot of work to be done before the championship. Donegal were also without Patrick McBreaty and he was a huge loss, while with the exception of Tiernan McCann, Tyrone were pretty much at full tilt. The Red Hands are still the team to beat in Ulster, and Donegal are going to struggle against their counter-attacking style, if they continue with their more expansive brand of football.

**WHAT'S NEXT?**  
Donegal have a huge game against Monaghan in Clones next Sunday.



Eoghan Ban Gallagher makes the pass under pressure from Colm Cavanagh and Frank Burns.



Tyrone's Lee Brennan Pulls away from Donegal's Conor Morrison.

## TEAMS

**Tyrone:** Niall Morgan (0-1, 1f); Hugh Pat McGeary, Padraig Hampsey, Cathal McCarron; Mattie Donnelly, Frank Burns, Conor Meyler; Colm Cavanagh, Padraig McNulty; Peter Harte (0-1), Niall Sludden (1-1), Cathal McShane (0-1); Lee Brennan (0-5, 4fs), Connor McAliskey (0-3, 3fs), Mark Bradley (1-1). Subs: Michael McKernan for McGeary (49 mins), Kieran McGeary for McNulty (57 mins), David Mulgrew for McAliskey (63 mins), Darren McCurry for Bradley (67 mins), Conall McCann for McShane (70 mins), Rory Brennan for Meyler (73 mins).

**Donegal:** Shaun Patton; Eoghan 'Ban' Gallagher (0-1), Caolan Ward, Conor Morrison; Tony McClenaghan, Stephen McMenamin, Eamonn Doherty (0-1); Hugh McFadden (0-1), Odrán Mac Niallais (1-2); Ryan McHugh, Leo McLoone, Mark McHugh (0-1); Ciaran Thompson, Michael Murphy (0-3, 3fs), Jamie Brennan. Subs: Dáire Ó Baoill and Martin McElhinney for McClenaghan and Thompson (42 mins), Stephen McBreaty (0-1) for McHugh (49 mins), Frank McGlynn for Ward (57 mins), Niall O'Donnell for Brennan (63 mins), Michael Langan for Mac Niallais (67 mins)

Referee: David Coldrick (Meath).



Donegal's Mark McHugh is tackled by Tyrone's Colm Cavanagh.