

# ALLIANZ FOOTBALL LEAGUE

Roinn 7 - Babhta 2



# Dún na nGall

# v

# Cill Dara

Sunday, 24th March, 2019, 2:00pm

Fr. Tierney Park, Ballyshannon

Clár Oifigiúil €3



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## Foreword

Mar chathaoirleach ar CLG Dhún na nGall ba mhaith liom fáilte a chuir roimh gach uile dhuine agaibh anseo go Páirc Uí Thiarnaigh i mBéal Átha Seanaidh inniú chuig an cluiche tábhachtach seo i roinn a dó de'n sraith naisiúnta sa pheil idir Dún na nGall agus Cill Dara. Fáilte speisialta roimh na patrúin ó Chill Dara a rinne an turas fada le bheith i láthair

As Chairman of CLG Dhún na nGall I would like to welcome you all here today. A special welcome to the County Board officers, team management and playing panel from Cill Dara, and to today's match officials.

Today's game has a major bearing on the final placings in Allianz League Roinn 2. There is a strong probability the winners will contest the Roinn 2 final in Croke Park on March 31st and gain promotion into next year's Roinn 1.

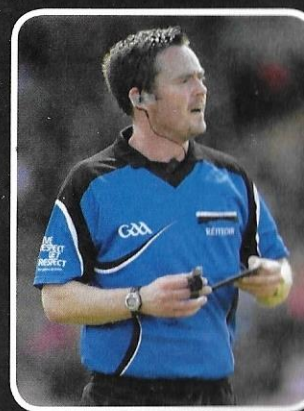
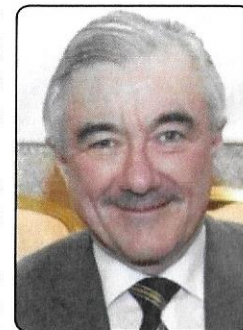
The team managers will not find it difficult to motivate their teams in pre-match speeches for this afternoon's encounter. It is for occasions like this and the chance to run out in Páirc an Chrócaigh that players train hard. A great game is in prospect.

There will most definitely be periods in this game that Donegal will need loud and vocal support, please encourage them positively as your support is vital. The players need and deserve it.

Thanks to all the parents and grandparents who bring the younger boys and girls, our GAA members of the future, to our games. These are days they will remember, so let's make today a day that will live in their memory. In conclusion, thanks to all in CLG Aodh Ruadh, Béal Átha Seanaidh, for their hard work during a week with very adverse weather conditions. They have got the facilities in top condition.

Mar fhocal scoir, ba mhaith liom buíochas a ghabháil libh go léir ar son freastal agus bainigí sult as an chluiche.

Is mise le meas,  
**Michéal MacCraith**  
Cathaoirleach



### The Man in the Middle Today:

Today's referee is Paddy Neilan a member of the St Faithleach's club. Neilan has been on duty three times this season in the Allianz League at St Conleth's Park, Newbridge (Kildare v Armagh), Cusack Park, Ennis (Clare v Cork) and Fitzgerald Stadium, Killarney (Kerry v Monaghan). The Roscommon ref was most recently in charge of a Donegal fixture in last year's league for their match with Kerry at Killarney. The 38-year-old joined the inter-county panel in 2012, but this will be first assignment at Ballyshannon.

## Neil McGee - on the verge of setting a new appearance record for Donegal

Today in Fr Tierney Park, Ballyshannon, it is 'back to the future' for Neil McGee. He made his debut here 14 years ago in the Dr McKenna Cup against Fermanagh and if he plays any part today, he will equal the Donegal appearances record of Colm McFadden with 173.

It has been a remarkable career for the Gaioth Dobhair man, who has nearly always worn the No 3 shirt. With three All-Stars, McGee is one of the most decorated footballers in the county (only Karl Lacey has more with four).

He has been a constant for Donegal from minor level right up to senior and he has also played his part with his club - adding to the Gaioth Dobhair and his own trophy cabinet in 2018 with Donegal and Ulster medals.

**Debut: 2 January 2005 v Fermanagh - Ballyshannon**

	McKenna	NFL	SFC	Total	Score
2005	3	-	-	3	-
2006	2	5	5	12	-
2007	3	7	5	15	-
2008	2	7	3	12	-
2009	-	7	6	13	-
2010	5	7	2	14	-
2011	3	7	6	16	1-0
2012	2	5	7	14	0-2
2013	-	6	5	11	0-1
2014	2	8	6	16	-
2015	-	7	6	13	0-1
2016	2	6	4	12	-
2017	-	6	5	11	-
2018	1	2	6	9	
	<b>25</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>171</b>	<b>1-4</b>
			<small>Dún na nGall record</small>		
2019	-	1		<b>172*</b>	

\*Colm A. McFadden 173



All-Ireland SFC: 2012

Ulster SFC: 2011 – 2012 – 2014 – (suspended for 2018 winning final – played in previous 3 games)

National Football League: 2007

Dr. McKenna Cup: 2010 – 2018

Ulster /All-Ireland Vocational Schools: 2002

All-Star: 2011 – 2012 – 2014

Railway Cup: 2012

Sigerson Cup: 2004

Ulster Club: 2018

Donegal S.F.C.: 2002 -2006 -2018

Donegal Player of the year: 2010

Ulster GAA Writers' Player of the year: 2014

## Clár an Lae

Páirc an t-Athair Mhic Tiarnaigh, Béal Átha Seanaidh – 24.03.2019 (Sun)

Allianz Football League, Roinn 2

Round 7

14.00 Dún na nGall v Cill Dara

13.30-13.40 Both Co. Secretaries to present Team Lists in Referees Room

13.45 Dún na nGall amach ar an bpáirc

13.47 Cill Dara amach ar an bpáirc

13.48 Oifigigh an Chluiche amach ar an bpáirc

13.50 Toss

13.55 Ionadaí leis an bPáirc a fhágáil

13.57 Amhrán na bhFiann

14.00 Tús an chluiche

14.35\* Leath-am

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

**Cill Dara to leave the field once Dún na nGall have cleared the tunnel**

14.52 \* Tús an dara leath

15.30 \*Críoch an chluiche

\*Depending on "Added Time"

### Match Regulation Arrangements

Team	Warm Up Area /Seating Area on Sideline	Bibs	Colour
<b>Dún na nGall</b>		Maor Foirne Maor Uisce	Green Red
<b>Cill Dara</b>		Maor Foirne Maor Uisce	Orange Purple

### Match Official

Referee: Paddy Neilan (Roscommon)

Stand By Referee: Sean Hurson (Tyrone)

Linesman: Kieran Eannetta (Tyrone)

Sideline: Martin Conroy (Tyrone)



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## Dún na nGall v Cill Dara – An Stair

By Fr. Seán

It seems that to-day's game is the fifteenth League meeting of Dún na nGall and Cill Dara. Cill Dara have won eight of the previous fourteen meetings, Dún na nGall have won four, with two draws - in Ballyshannon in 1996 when Tony Boyle scored 1-5 of Dún na nGall's 1-8 and in Letterkenny in 2011, when Cill Dara scored 1-1 in the last minute.

1	2 Nov 1986	Cill Dara	2-11	Dún na nGall	1-10	An Droichead Nua
2	8 Nov 1987	Dún na nGall	1-10	Cill Dara	1-3	Bealach Féich
3	21 Apr 1991	Cill Dara	0-14	Dún na nGall	1-10	Páirc an Chrócaigh
4	19 Oct 1992	Dún na nGall	1-9	Cill Dara	0-6	Bealach Féich
5	21 Nov 1993	Cill Dara	1-10	Dún na nGall	0-7	An Droichead Nua
6	27 Nov 1994	Cill Dara	1-11	Dún na nGall	1-8	Bealach Féich
7	2 Apr 1995	Dún na nGall	1-16	Cill Dara	0-11	Cluain Eois
8	25 Feb 1996	Dún na nGall	1-8	Cill Dara	0-11	Béal Átha Seanaidh
9	2 Mar 1997	Cill Dara	1-14	Dún na nGall	1-7	An Droichead Nua
10	15 Apr 2007	Dún na nGall	1-13	Cill Dara	1-11	Páirc an Chrócaigh
11	2 Mar 2008	Cill Dara	0-12	Dún na nGall	0-11	An Droichead Nua
12	7 Mar 2010	Cill Dara	1-17	Dún na nGall	1-9	An Droichead Nua
13	27 Feb 2011	Dún na nGall	0-8	Cill Dara	1-5	Leitir Ceanainn
14	2 Feb 2013	Cill Dara	2-14	Dún na nGall	1-13	Páirc an Chrócaigh
15	25 Feb 2018	Dún na nGall	1-15	Cill Dara	3-9	Béal Átha Seanaidh

- Dún na nGall and Cill Dara have met twice in the National Football League semi-final. In 1991 Cill Dara won but lost to Baile Átha Cliath in the final 1-9/0-10. In 2007 Dún na nGall won and beat Maigh Eo 0-13/0-10 in the final. Frank McGlynn came on as a substitute for Neil McGee during the 2007 semi-final.
- Cill Dara were Dún na nGall's first competitive opponents after the winning of Sam in 1992. Declan Bonner scored a point that day. Declan also scored a point in the first Dún na nGall v Cill Dara League match in 1986 when he lined out at midfield alongside Barry Cunningham.
- Dún na nGall and Cill Dara have met twice in the Senior Football Championship. Cill Dara beat Dún na nGall 1-17/1-16 in An Droichead Nua on June 30, 2001.
- Dún na nGall beat Cill Dara 1-12/0-14 in the 2011 quarter-final in bPáirc an Chrócaigh. Cassidy!

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## LAST YEAR . . .

Donegal scraped a two point win to keep their Division One survival hopes alive in Fr Tierney Park, Ballyshannon (Sunday 25 February 2018)

**Donegal . . . . . 1-15**

**Kildare . . . . . 3-7**

However, there will be post mortems about conceding three goals and they were lucky on another two occasions as Kildare found huge gaps in the middle of the Donegal defence. It was probably Donegal's worst performance of the year, yet they ended getting their first league points. The win puts them back in the mix as regards staying in Division One, but they will need improvement as they go to Healy Park, Omagh next Saturday night.

Kildare manager, Cian O'Neill, was outraged with the decision to red card his captain Eoin Doyle on 14 minutes. Doyle had been booked earlier but then lost his gumshield. Referee David Gough told him to go the sideline and get a replacement but on his way there the Kildare 'keeper aimed a kick-out at him and he caught it. Gough showed him a yellow card and then realised that it was his second yellow, so he was shown red.

At half-time Kildare held a one point lead - 1-3 to 0-5. Donegal went three points clear on two occasions in the second half but each time they conceded a goal to allow Kildare back into the contest.

It took a fortuitous goal from Ryan McHugh with six minutes left to finally put enough daylight between the teams, the ball deceiving the Kildare 'keeper and ending in the net. McHugh ended as Donegal's top scorer while Patrick McBrearty had three fisted points in his tally of

four.

**DONEGAL:** Shaun Patton; Eoghan Bán Gallagher (0-1), Caolan Ward, Stephen McMenamin; Paul Brennan, Eamonn Doherty, Tony McClenaghan; Hugh McFadden (0-2), Odhran Mac Niallais (0-1); Ryan McHugh (1-2), Leo McLoone, Mark McHugh; Patrick McBrearty (0-4, 1f), Michael Murphy (0-3, 1f), Jamie Brennan (0-1). Subs., Niall O'Donnell (0-1) for McClenaghan ht; Neil McGee for Ward 51; Stephen McBrearty for Brennan 55; Caolan McGonagle for M McHugh 60; Ciaran Thompson for Mac Niallais 64; Nathan Mullins for O'Donnell 70

**KILDARE:** Mark Donnellan; Peter Kelly, David Hyland, Mick O'Grady; Cian O'Donoghue, Eoin Doyle, Johnny Byrne (0-1); Kevin Feely (0-3, 3f), Tommy Moolick; Fergal Conway (0-1), Niall Kelly (1-0), Paul Cribbin; Ben McCormack, Daniel Flynn (1-1), Keith Cribbin. Subs., Paddy Brophy for McCormack 25; Kevin Flynn for O'Donoghue ht; David Slattery (1-0) for P Cribbin 55; Chris Healy for Kelly 60; Fionn Dowling for Conway 64; Mark Sherry for Moolick 69

**REFEREE:** David Gough (Meath)





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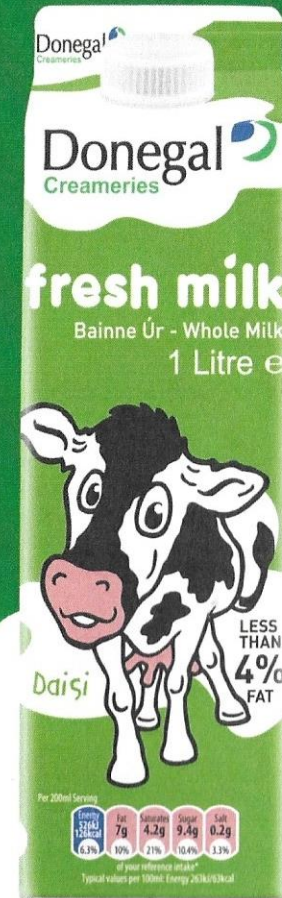
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to the Donegal team in the 2019  
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## Hard to beat Tir Conaill's Famous Five

By Gerry McLaughlin

**It's all to play for the on the 'Rock' in Ballyshannon on Sunday- but it is equally hard to beat Tir Conaill's Famous Five**

For both Donegal and Kildare could go up to Division One if they can be victorious in a most intriguing denouement to the NFL.

And Messrs Michael Murphy, Leo McLoone, Paddy McGrath, Neil McGee and Frank McGlynn could be crucial to that expected return to the top flight.

Murphy and McLoone have already excelled in those two vital victories over Armagh and Kildare which clearly showed that the promising young guns are not quite yet ready to take on the mantle of leadership.

But, in combination with these legends, the younger brigade have the ability to wreak havoc on Kildare and Jason McGee and Michael Langan are back and looking for places.

Paddy McGrath had a fair old outing the last day while Neil 'The Bear' McGee made his first appearance.

And, Frank McGlynn remains in the wings waiting for his first start.

So I would not be too surprised to see all five on the pitch at some stage on Sunday as Kildare could be a very tricky proposition.

And all five will be key figures for the really big match against the "wee brother" from Fermanagh in the merry month of May

Tir Conaill are coming on the back of a fine victory over relegation candidates Cork.

But they had to turn around a five points deficit at half-time which went up to six early in the second half, before eventually finishing as seven points winners.

That took a fair bit of character, in a match where the talismanic Michael Murphy started, and it showed.

Murphy finished up with a tally of 0-6 with three frees, a 45 and two well struck points from play.

And a late Jamie Brennan goal ensured there was no way back for Cork, who had given Donegal some anxious moments in the opening half.

Tellingly Donegal did not falter in the final quarter as they pulled clear which is a good omen for Bonner and his backroom team as they prepare for Kildare on the rock.

Cian O'Neill's men got the better of Tipperary, but a second half fade-out did not please their manager.

The Lily Whites lead by 1-7 to 0-2 at the break but could only manage 0-4 in the entire second half.

They went 25 minutes without a score as Tipp staged a fine comeback and Kildare scraped home by 1-11 to 2-7.

When Donegal and Kildare met last year in Ballyshannon, the Lily Whites worryingly rammied in three goals and missed a further four as Donegal eventually prevailed by 1-15 to 3-7.

And it took a somewhat lucky goal from Ryan McHugh to

ensure victory in a match where team captain Eoin Doyle was controversially lined and Kildare had a goal disallowed in the first half.

It was a ding-dong game in blustery conditions and it might be something similar on Sunday.

Donegal were never able to put Kildare away and it looks like a real battle on the Rock on Sunday.

A plus for Donegal is that Kildare do not have the gifted Daniel Flynn who has emigrated.

But they do have some fine performers in Kevin Feely, Fergal Conway, Tommy Moolick, Jimmy Hyland and the mercurial Paddy Brophy.

Donegal are slowly but surely fielding even stronger sides as the League comes to an end.

Significantly both Murphy and the vastly experienced Leo McLoone started while Paddy McGrath and Neil McGee both got some valuable game time.

It is clear that both will be needed against Kildare, while Frank McGlynn could also get some game time against the Lily White.

But the introduction of Daire O'Baoill was a real plus for Donegal as the Gaioth Dobhair man made a big difference.

Odhran McFadden/Ferry, goal specialist Cian Mulligan and Micheal Carroll are also interesting options.

And there is a strong probability that both Odhran MacNiallais and the long-term injured Paddy McBrearty could be back for the championship clash with Fermanagh in May.

So, after two speed wobbles against Tipperary and Fermanagh, Donegal are back in a good place.

On balance you would expect Donegal to prevail against a Kildare side that were deservedly defeated by a Fermanagh side who suffered their first defeat of the campaign in Armagh.

But Kildare are a big strong physical side who will remember that they could easily have taken two points in almost similar circumstances in Ballyshannon last year.

Donegal are starting to look stronger at the right time of the year.

But it has taken the return of the vastly experienced Murphy and McLoone to tip the balance for a relatively young side who have showed they are not quite ready to do all the "heavy lifting" so far.

Ryan McHugh, Hugh McFadden and Jamie Brennan are proven leaders while Niall O'Donnell is settling in well as a classy finisher.

This Donegal team still has loads of potential and they should have too much firepower for Kildare on Sunday.

But if Fermanagh were to beat Meath, then Donegal would need a fairly comprehensive margin to ensure a swift and necessary return to top flight football.

Roll on the Rock.....and the 'Famous Five'



Best of luck to the Donegal team from all at

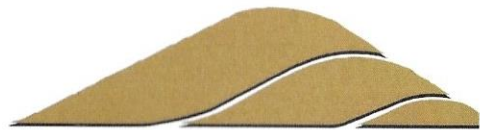
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# Donegal Dún na nGall

Bainisteoir: Deaglán Mac Cnáimhsí



**1**  
**SHAUN PATTON**  
SEÁN Ó PEATAÍN  
NAOMH ADHAMHNÁIN

**2**  
**PADDY MC GRATH**  
PADRAIG MAC CRAITH  
ARD AN RATHA

**3**  
**BRENDAN MC COLE**  
BREANDÁN MAC CUMHAILL  
NAOMH NÁILLE

**4**  
**EOGHAN BÁN GALLAGHER**  
EOGHAN BÁN Ó GALLCHOIR  
NA CEALLA BEAGA

**5**  
**DAIRE Ó BAOILL**  
DÁIRE Ó BAOILL  
GAOTH DOBHAIR

**6**  
**LEO MC LOONE**  
LEO MAC GIOLLA UAIN  
NAOMH CONAILL

**7**  
**RYAN MC HUGH**  
RIÁN MAC AODHA  
CILL CHARTHA

**8**  
**HUGH MC FADDEN**  
AODH MAC PHAIDÍN  
NA CEALLA BEAGA

**9**  
**MICHAEL LANGAN**  
MÍCHEAL Ó LONGÁIN  
NAOMH MÍCHEAL

**10**  
**NIALL Ó'DONNELL**  
NIALL Ó DOMHNAILL  
NAOMH ADHAMHNÁIN

**11**  
**CIARAN THOMPSON**  
CIARAN MAC THOMÁS  
NAOMH CONAILL

**12**  
**CAOLAN MC GONAGLE**  
CAOLAN MAC CONGAIL  
BUNCRANNACHA

**13**  
**OISIN GALLÉN**  
OISÍN Ó GALLÁIN  
SEAN MAC CUMHAILL

**14**  
**MICHAEL MURPHY (Capt)**  
MÍCHEAL Ó MURCHÚ  
GLEANN TSUILLÍ

**15**  
**JAMIE BRENNAN**  
JAMIE Ó BRAONÁIN  
BUN DOBHRAÍN

## SUBSTITUTES:

16. Michael Lynch, Mícheál Ó Loinsigh, Naomh Colmcille; 17. Caolan Ward, Caolán Mac an Bháird, Naomh Adhamhnáin; 18. Neil McGee, Niall Mac Aoidh, Gaoth Dobhair; 19. Stephen McMenamin, Stíofán Mac Meanman, Aodh Rua, Cúil na nCuirridín; 20. Eamonn Doherty, Éamonn Ó Dochartaigh, Naomh Adhamhnáin; 21. Eoin Mc Hugh, Eoin Mac Aodha, Cill Chartha; 22. Conor Morrison, Conchur Ó Muircheasain, Éamonn Ó Dochartaigh; 23. Paul Brennan, Pól Ó Braonáin, Bun Dobhráin; 24. Jason Mc Gee, Deasún Mac Aoidh, Cloch Cheann Fhaola; 25. Odhran Mc Fadden Ferry, Odhran Mac Phaidín Ó Fearraigh, Gaoth Dobhair; 26. Frank Mc Glynn, Proinsias Mac Fhloinn, Gleann Fhinne.



# Kildare Cill Dara

Bainisteoir: Cian O'Neill

**1**  
**MARK DONNELLAN**  
MARCUS Ó DONALLÁIN  
MAIGH NUAD

**2**  
**DAVID HYLAND**  
DAITHÍ Ó HAOLÁIN  
ATH Í

**3**  
**MICK O GRADY**  
MÍCHEAL Ó GRADA  
CILL DROICHID

**4**  
**MARK HYLAND**  
MARCAS Ó HAOLÁIN  
ATH Í

**5**  
**CIAN O' DONOGHUE**  
CIÁN Ó DONNGHÚ  
CLAONADH

**6**  
**EOIN DOYLE (Capt)**  
EOIN Ó DÚGHAILL  
NAS NA RÍOGH

**7**  
**PETER KELLY**  
PEADAR Ó CEALLAIGH  
TEACH DHA MHILE

**8**  
**KEVIN FEELY**  
CAOIMHÍN Ó FICHEALLAIGH  
ATH Í

**9**  
**TOMMY MOOLICK**  
TOMÁS MOOLICK  
LÉIM AN BHRADÁIN

**10**  
**FERGAL CONWAY**  
FEARGAL Ó CONBHUI  
CILL DROICHID

**11**  
**PADDY BROPHY**  
PADRAIG Ó BROITHE  
CILL DROICHID

**12**  
**KEITH CRIBBIN**  
CEITHEACH MAC ROIBÍN  
DROICHEAD BAILE SHEAIN

**13**  
**NEIL FLYNN**  
NEIL Ó FLOINN  
MAIGH NUAD

**14**  
**CHRIS HEALY**  
CRIOSTOIR EALAIGHTE  
TEACH DHA MHILE

**15**  
**JIMMY HYLAND**  
SEAMUS Ó HAOLÁIN  
BAILE THAIGH

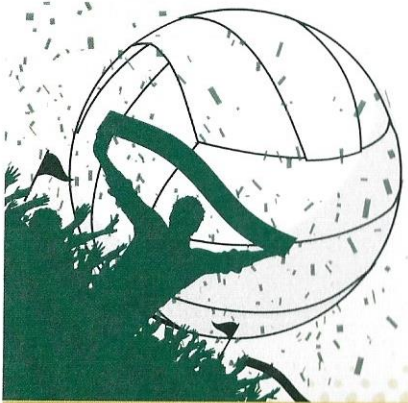
## SUBSTITUTES:

16. Aaron O'Neill, Árón Ó Néill, Caibre; 17. Adam Tyrrell, Adam Ó Tírial, Acadha Mórdha; 18. Mark Dempsey, Marcas Ó Diomasaigh, Acadha Mórdha; 19. Jason Gibbons, Jason Mac Giobúin, Cill Cocha; 20. Fionn Dowling, Fionn Ó Dulaing, Crocha na Greine; 21. Aaron Masterson, Árón Mac an Mháistir, Acadha Mórdha; 22. James Murray, Seamus Ó Muiri, Acadha Mórdha; 23. Kevin Flynn, Caoimhín Ó Floinn, Cill Droichid; 24. Mark Barrett, Mark De Baróid, Baile Mór; 25. Tony Archbold, Antóin Áirseabóid, Cill Droichid; 26. David Malone, Daithí Ó Maoileoin, Na Raitheirí.

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John is currently involved in underage hurling and football management.

John has been involved in musicals for over 20 years, and has been a member of both Ballyshannon Musical Society and Sligo Musical Society during this time. He has taken on leading roles in a number of shows including Beauty & the Beast, The Addams Family, The Wedding Singer and most recently Chitty Chitty Bang Bang where he played the lead role of Caractus Potts in a sell-out run of shows in the Abbey Centre Theatre, Ballyshannon.



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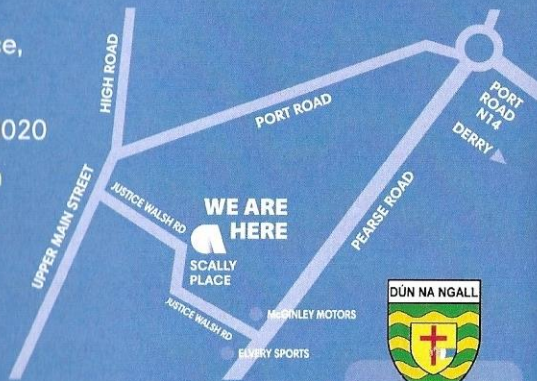


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# KILDARE - DONEGAL QUIZ

with PJ Buggy

1. What is the name of the GAA pitch in Newbridge?
2. Gaoth Dobhair won what cup for the Ulster Club championship in 2018?
3. What Kildare man won Railway Cup medals in football and hurling with Leinster in 1974?
4. Who is the Donegal senior hurling manager?
5. What Cavan man is Chairman of the Ulster Council?
6. Who are the only team beaten in four consecutive All-Ireland club finals?
7. Kildare were National Football League runners-up on five occasions but unfortunately never won it. When were they last in the final?
8. What county has won the greatest number of National League Division 1 titles?
9. Which Ulster team has won the greatest number of League titles?
10. What is the name of the GAA pitch in Burt?
11. Who were Donegal's goal scorers in the 2012 All Ireland final win?
12. Who was the first person to lift the original Sam Maguire Cup?
13. What club won the Kildare Senior Club championship in 2017 and 2018?
14. What Donegal club won the Ulster Junior Club championship in November 2018?
15. The All-Ireland Senior final of 1906 between Dublin and Cork took place in which Kildare venue?
16. Donegal won the All-Ireland Junior ladies final in 2003. Who did they beat in the final?
17. Donegal beat Mayo by 0-13 to 0-10 in the National League Division 1 final in 2007. Who was the captain?
18. Who was the first Donegal man to referee an Ulster Senior Football final. He did so in 2008 and also refereed the Connacht final in 2007?
19. The 2005 All-Ireland between Tyrone and Kerry was refereed by a Kildare man. Name him?
20. Who was Donegal's youngest player in the 2012 All-Ireland final?

- Quiz Answers:**
1. St. Conleth's Park
  2. Seamus McFerran Cup
  3. Pat Dunmy (Raheens)
  4. Mickey McCann
  5. Oliver Galligan
  6. Clanna Gael Roscommon (1987, 88, 89, 90)
  7. 1991 (beaten by Dublin)
  8. Kerry 20 (Dublin 13); Derry 6 (2008 was their last win)
  9. Michael Murphy and Colm McFadden
  10. Hibernian Park
  11. Michael Murphy and Colm McFadden
  12. Bill "Squires" Gannon, Kildare in 1928
  13. Moorefield
  14. Red Hughs Killygordan who defeated Limavady in the final
  15. Geraldine Park Athy
  16. Kildare (Donegal won by 3-14 to 0-12)
  17. Neil Gallagher
  18. Jimmy White
  19. Michael Monaghan
  20. Patrick McBrearty (he was 19)



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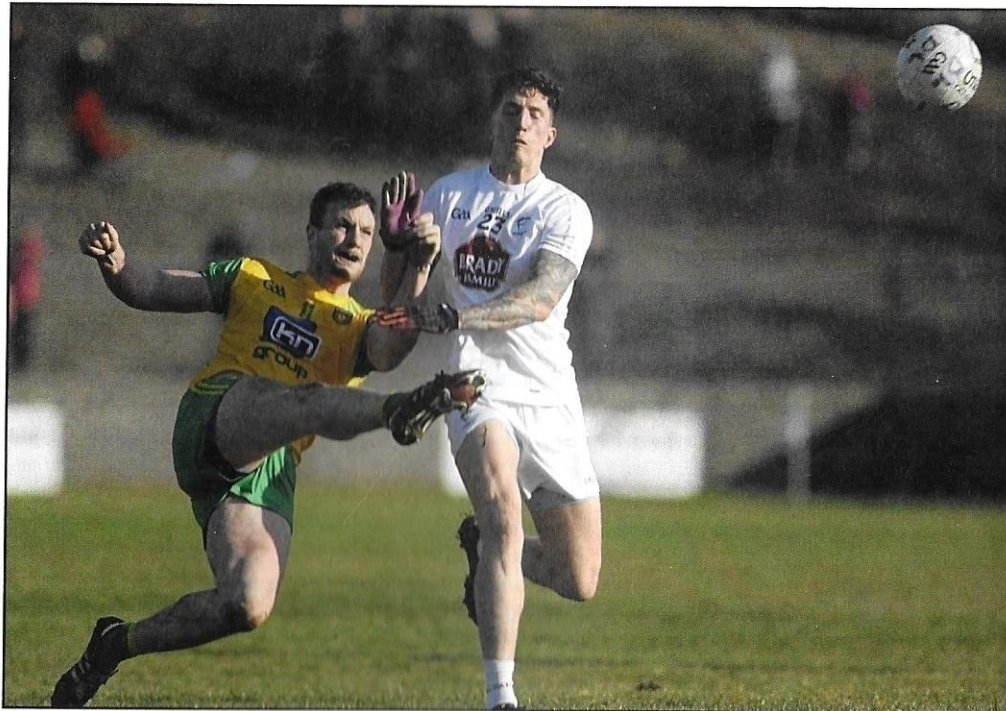
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Good luck to Declan and the Donegal team



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# Allianz National Football League Division Two

## FIXTURES:

Armagh v Cork, Athletic Grounds;  
Donegal v Kildare, Ballyshannon;  
Meath v Fermanagh, Pairc Tailteann;  
Tipperary v Clare, Semple Stadium.

Meath (10pts) have not been in Division 1 since 2006, but the long wait for promotion will come to an end next Sunday if they beat, or draw with Fermanagh (8pts). Donegal (8pts) and Kildare (7pts) are also in contention for promotion.

Donegal host Kildare, knowing that a win would be enough to secure promotion if Meath beat Fermanagh. If Fermanagh and Donegal both win, the top two places would be decided on scoring difference, which currently stands as follows: Meath +20 pts; Donegal +5 pts; Fermanagh +2 pts.

Two from Clare, Tipperary and Cork (all on three points) will be relegated. Cork are on -22 pts, Tipperary -9 and Clare -8. Cork are away to Armagh, who are safe on six points, while Tipperary host Clare in Semple Stadium. The sides drew in last year's League.

Ironically another draw between them and a Cork win would see Clare and Tipperary both relegated.

## RESULTS TO DATE:

### Round 1:

Donegal 0-16 Clare 0-13; Fermanagh 0-8 Cork 1-5; Kildare 0-14 Armagh 1-11; Meath 0-15 Tipperary 1-8.

### Round 2:

Kildare 1-10 Cork 0-10; Donegal 1-13 Meath 0-14; Tipperary 2-5 Fermanagh 2-5; Armagh 1-13 Clare 2-10.

### Round 3:

Fermanagh 0-8 Kildare 0-6; Clare 3-13 Cork 1-10; Meath 2-13 Armagh 0-13; Tipperary 3-9 Donegal 0-13.

### Round 4:

Meath 2-12 Cork 1-9; Armagh 1-15 Tipperary 0-12; Fermanagh 0-13 Donegal 0-10; Kildare 1-16 Clare 0-13.

### Round 5:

Fermanagh 0-12 Clare 0-9; Meath 1-9 Kildare 1-8; Donegal 1-9 Armagh 0-11; Cork 1-12 Tipperary 0-12.

### Round 6:

Meath 1-12 Clare 1-7; Donegal 1-19 Cork 1-12; Kildare 1-11 Tipperary 2-7; Armagh 1-9 Fermanagh 0-6.

### Round 7:

March 24: Armagh v Cork; Donegal v Kildare; Meath v Fermanagh; Tipperary v Clare.

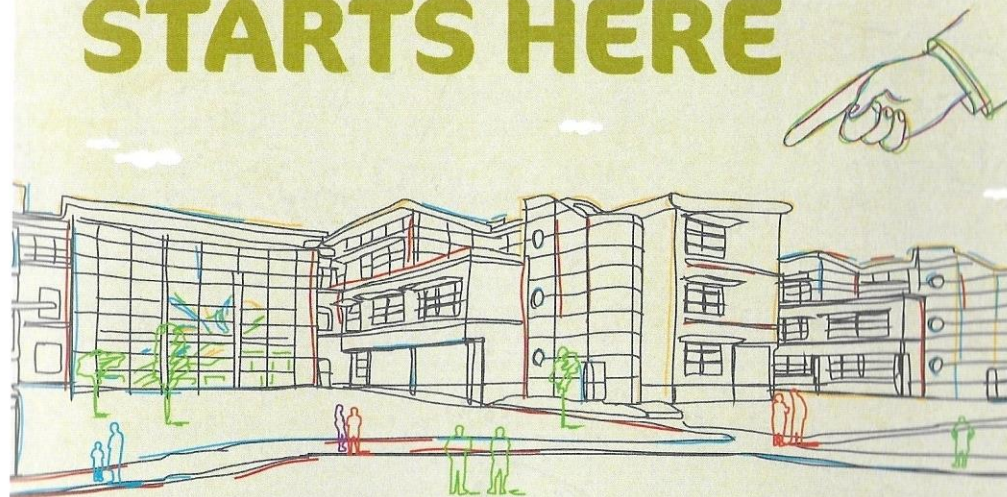
Final: March 31

## Division 2 Table after 6 games

### Allianz Football League Roinn 2

Pos	Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
1	Meath	6	5	0	1	93	73	10
2	Fermanagh	6	3	2	1	58	56	8
3	Donegal	6	4	0	2	89	84	8
4	Kildare	6	3	1	2	77	70	7
5	Armagh	6	2	2	2	84	79	6
6	Clare	6	1	1	4	83	91	3
7	Tipperary	6	1	1	4	77	86	3
8	Cork	6	1	1	4	73	95	3

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2018 ULSTER GAA FOOTBALL SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP						
ROUND 1						
13/05/2018	Dún na nGall	2	20	An Cabhán	1	15 Mac Cumhaill Park
QUARTER FINALS						
19/05/2018	Fear Manach	0	12	Ard Mhacha	0	07 Brewster Park
20/05/2018	Tír Eoghain	1	16	Muineachán	1	18 Healy Park
26/05/2018	An Dún	1	18	Aontroim	0	14 Páirc Esler
27/05/2018	Doire	0	16	Dún na nGall	2	16 Celtic Park
SEMI FINALS						
03/06/2018	Fear Manach	1	08	Muineachán	0	10 Healy Park
10/06/2018	An Dún	1	12	Dún na nGall	2	22 Clones
FINAL						
24/06/2018	Dún na nGall	2	18	Fear Manach	0	12 Clones



2018 GAA FOOTBALL ALL-IRELAND SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP						
QUALIFIERS ROUND 1						
09/06/2018	Doire	2	14	Cill Dara	2	22 Owenbeg
09/06/2018	An Mhí	0	19	Tír Eoghain	2	14 AET Páirc Tailteann
09/06/2018	Uíbh Fhailí	2	20	Aontroim	1	15 Bord na Mona O'Connor Park
09/06/2018	Cill Mhantáin	1	05	An Cabhán	2	16 Joule Park
09/06/2018	An Iarmhí	1	11	Ard Mhacha	3	16 TEG Cusack Park
QUALIFIERS ROUND 2						
23/06/2018	Port Láirge	0	09	Muineachán	5	21 Fraher Field
23/06/2018	Ceatharlach	1	10	Tír Eoghain	3	14 Netwatch Cullen Park
23/06/2018	An Cabhán	1	14	An Dún	0	15 Brewster Park
23/06/2018	Sligeach	1	13	Ard Mhacha	1	19 Markievicz Park
QUALIFIERS ROUND 3						
30/06/2018	Liatroim	0	09	Muineachán	1	19 Páirc Seán Mac Diarmada
30/06/2018	Ard Mhacha	2	16	An Clár	1	15 Athletic Grounds
30/06/2018	An Cabhán	1	12	Tír Eoghain	0	18 Brewster Park
QUALIFIERS ROUND 4						
07/07/2018	Ros Comáin	2	22	Ard Mhacha	1	19 O'Moore Park
07/07/2018	Corcaigh	0	13	Tír Eoghain	3	20 O'Moore Park
07/07/2018	Fear Manach	0	18	Cill Dara	3	20 Páirc Tailteann
08/07/2018	Laois	1	11	Muineachán	0	19 Páirc Tailteann
QUARTER FINALS						
GROUP 1						
14/07/2018	Tír Eoghain	4	24	Ros Comáin	2	12 Páirc an Chrócaigh
14/07/2018	Dún na nGall	0	16	Baile Átha Cliath	2	15 Páirc an Chrócaigh
21/07/2018	Ros Comáin	0	13	Dún na nGall	0	20 Hyde Park
21/07/2018	Tír Eoghain	0	14	Baile Átha Cliath	1	14 Healy Park
05/08/2018	Dún na nGall	1	13	Tír Eoghain	2	17 Ballybofey
GROUP 2						
15/07/2018	Cill Dara	1	11	Muineachán	0	15 Páirc an Chrócaigh
22/07/2018	Muineachán	1	17	Ciarraí	1	17 Clones
04/08/2018	Gaillimh	0	08	Muineachán	0	16 Pearse Stadium
SEMI FINAL						
12/08/2018	Muineachán	0	15	Tír Eoghain	1	13 Páirc an Chrócaigh
FINAL						
02/09/2018	Baile Átha Cliath	2	17	Tír Eoghain	1	14 Páirc an Chrócaigh



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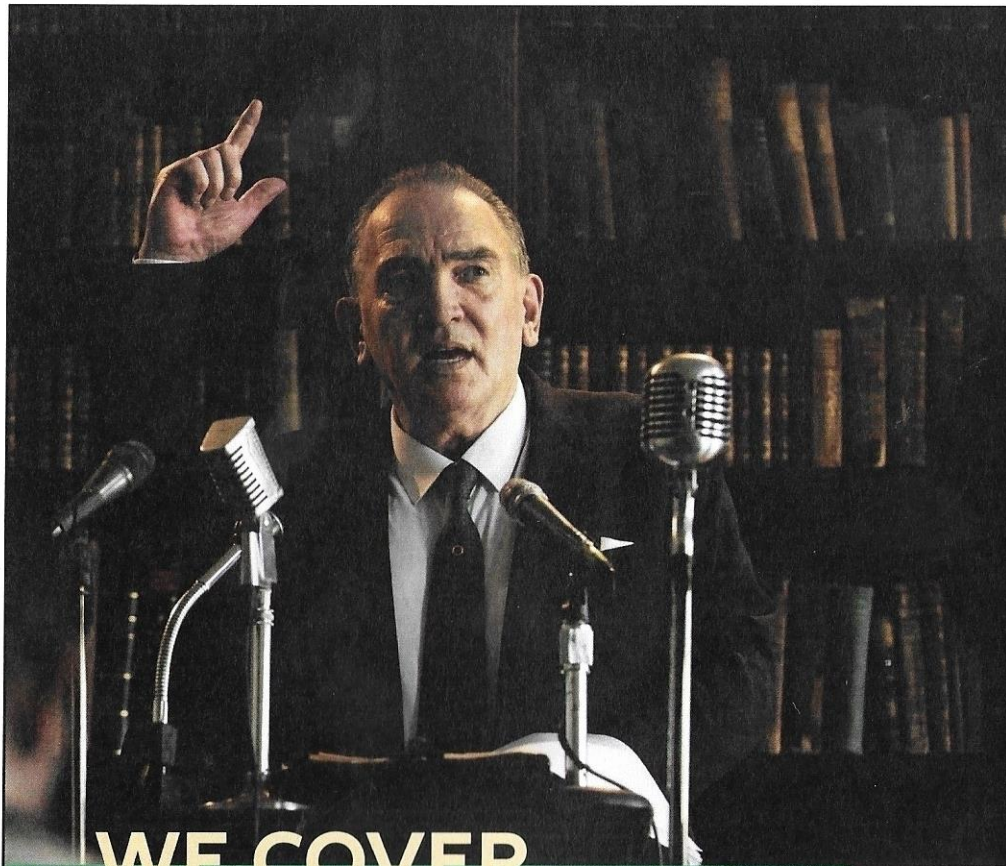
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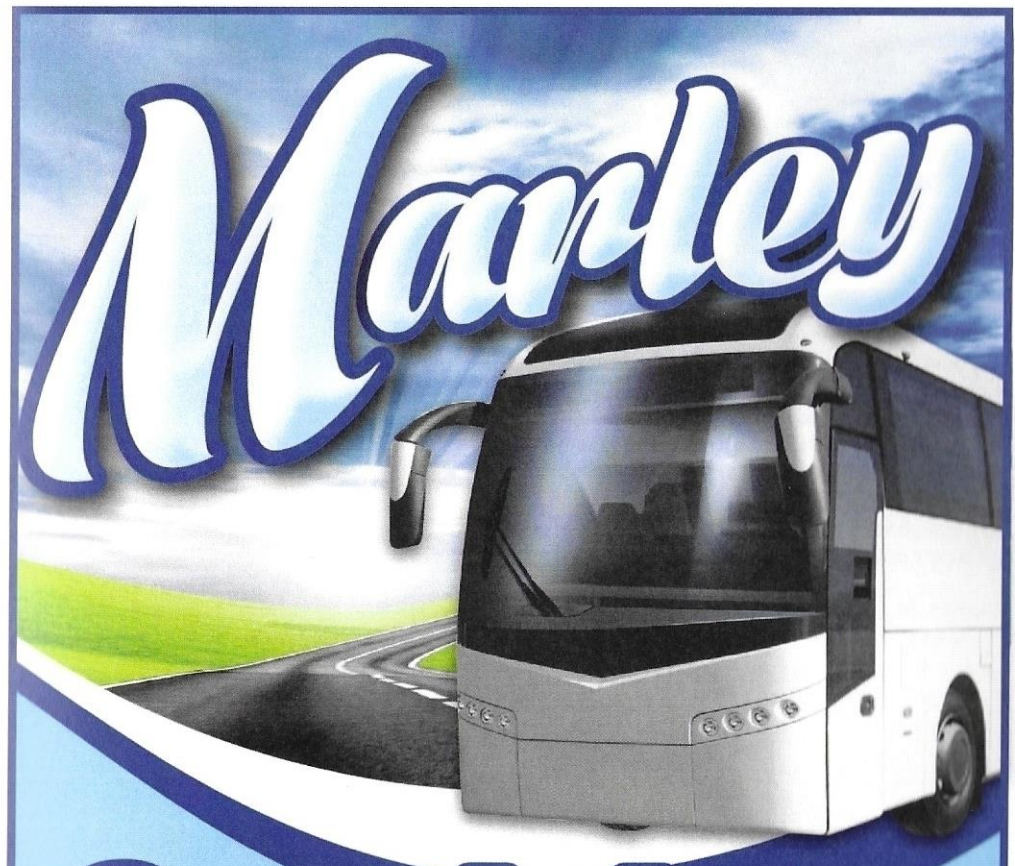


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**Alcohol:** The consumption of alcohol is not permitted within the ground and spectators are not permitted to bring alcohol into the ground.

**Safety:** The unauthorised climbing of any structure, walls or buildings in the ground is strictly forbidden. Under no circumstances is it permitted to throw any object onto the pitch.

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

**Field of Play:** Unauthorised persons are not permitted to enter upon the field of play at any time, before, during or after the games.

**Ground Control:** The Ground 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.

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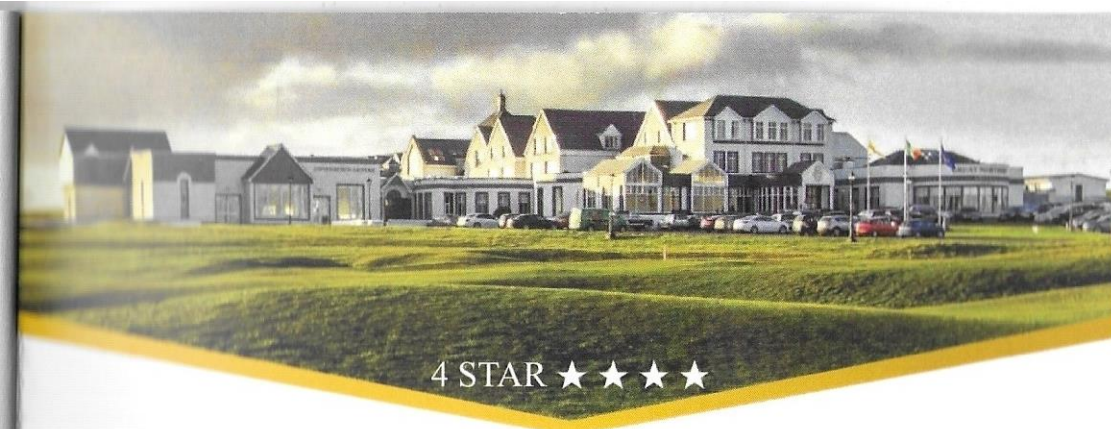


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# Donegal secure promotion with

DONEGAL ..... 1-20  
KILDARE ..... 0-10

BY RYAN FERRY

DONEGAL secured promotion back to Division 1 with a convincing victory over a disappointing Kildare side in Fr Tierney Park on Sunday.

Declan Bonner's men played some super football with the wind at their backs in the first half and they out-classed Kildare to lead by 0-13 to 0-1 at the break.

Kildare's cause worsened in the second half when Eoin Doyle was sin-binned, before Kevin Flynn was dismissed.

Jamie Brennan killed off the game as a contest with a goal in the 46th minute and Donegal's game management was excellent as they took the sting out of the match in the second half, and ensured there were no dramatic comebacks.

The win was good enough to take Donegal back to the top flight, and they will face Meath in the League Final next weekend.

Both sides came into the game with a chance of winning promotion, and a decent crowd braved the rain to come to Fr Tierney Park.

Donegal made four changes from their win over Cork eight days previously with Paddy McGrath, Brendan McCall, and Dave Ó Baoill all starting, while Jason McGee was back from suspension.

It was a blustery day in Ballyshannon and Kildare won the toss, but opted to allow Donegal to play with the strong wind at their backs in the first half.

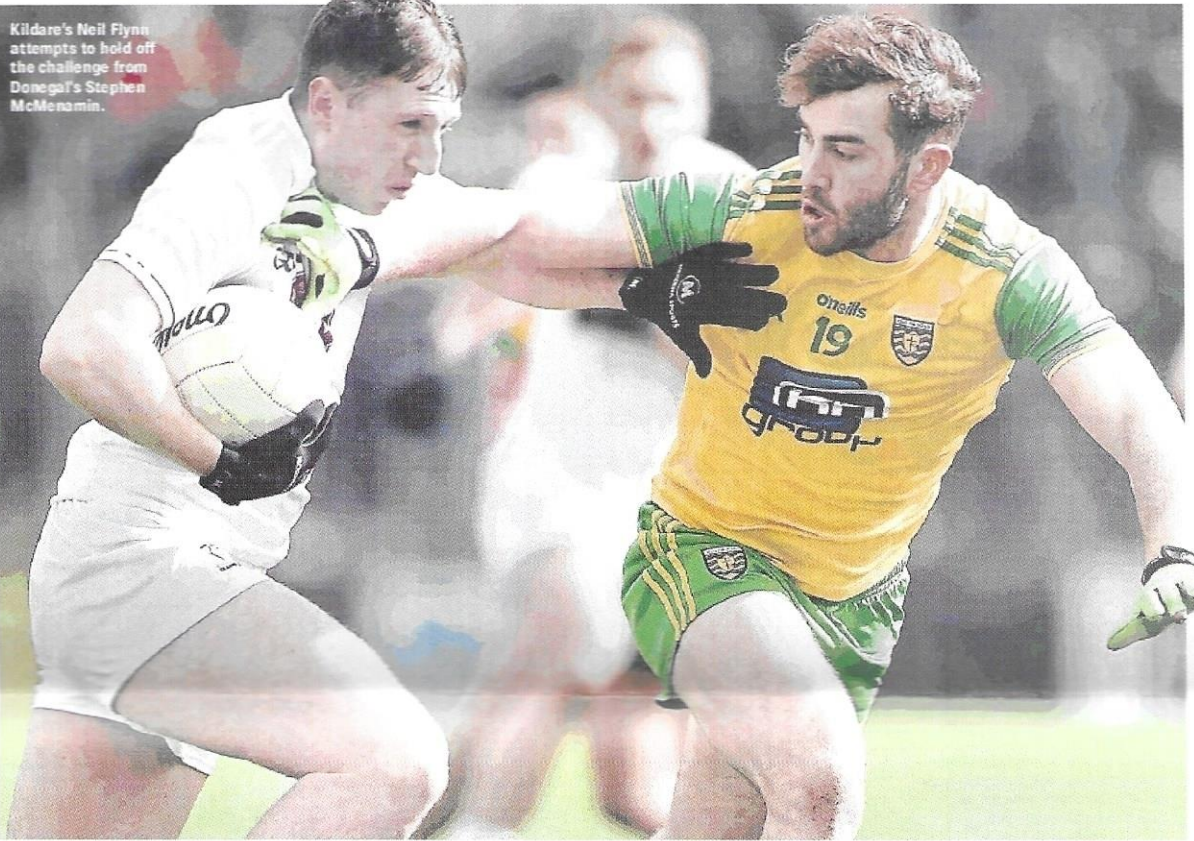
Donegal used the elements impressively from the start and Jamie Brennan and Niall O'Donnell notched points.

Oisín Gallen also landed a great score with his first kick of the match, while O'Donnell added another as Donegal made a promising start.

Kildare were pegged in, and the home side created a goal chance in the ninth minute when Eoghan 'Ban' Gallagher drove through the middle, but Kevin Flynn got back to make a great tackle in the nick of time.

Murphy did convert the resulting

Kildare's Neil Flynn attempts to hold off the challenge from Donegal's Stephen McMenamin.



'45' and he tagged on a free after David Hyland was penalised for inexplicably handling the ball on the ground.

The visitors were really struggling to adapt to the conditions and they persisted with playing the ball on the ground, even though there was very little bounce on the Fr Tierney Park pitch.

Donegal kept to their task and they worked possession wisely. Oisín Gallen fired over a great score, before Hugh McPadden and Jason McGee both got into advanced positions and

curling over.

Neil Flynn eventually got Kildare off the mark with a free in the 24th minute, but that was just a brief respite.

O'Donnell responded immediately with a lovely effort from 45 metres off his left foot.

Donegal's young players were enjoying the outing and they were seeing plenty of the ball, with the accurate Gallen lofting over a point to put Bonner's men ten points clear.

The home side weren't as clinical as

they might have been in the closing stages of the first half, but Dáire Ó Baoill and Ryan McHugh both dissected the posts from play, and Donegal went to the dressing room at half-time with a 0-13 to 0-1 lead.

Kildare had it all to do in the second half, but they made a bright start with Paddy Brophy kicking a point from a mark 22 seconds after the restart.

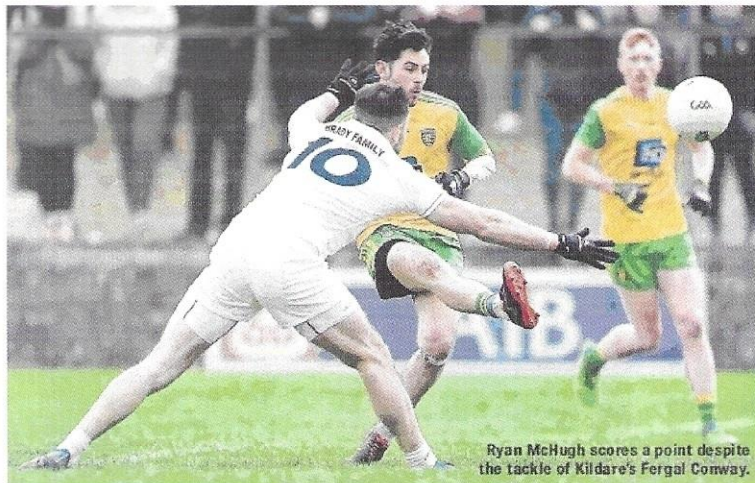
They were then dealt a blow when Eoin Doyle - who was sent off in Ballyshannon last year - picked up a black card,

and that left Kildare down to 14 men for ten minutes.

Donegal made use of their numerical advantage and had a goal chance in the 38th minute, when Caolan McGonagle released Jason McGee, but the Cloughaneely man lacked composure and blazed wide.

Oisín Gallen saw an effort contentiously ruled wide, but the young corner-forward did land a point in the 40th minute.

Kildare's cause worsened when they lost Kevin Flynn to a red card af-



Ryan McHugh scores a point despite the tackle of Kildare's Fergal Conway.



Donegal's Caolan McGonagle in action against Eoin Doyle and Jimmy Hyland.

# impressive victory over Kildare

ter he picked up a black card for a trip on Michael Murphy, and that put them down to 11 men for a couple of minutes until Doyle returned to the field.

The big Donegal man then added a free to Donegal's tally before Adam Tyrell kicked a point for Kildare.

Ryan McHugh and Tyrell then swapped points before Donegal hit the net in the 48th minute. McGee did brilliantly to work the ball into Brennan, and he finished low to the net off his left foot.

That left Donegal 15 ahead, and while that killed off the game, the Lilywhites did kick the next four scores through Cian O'Donoghue, Jimmy Hyland, Brophy (free), and Tyrell.

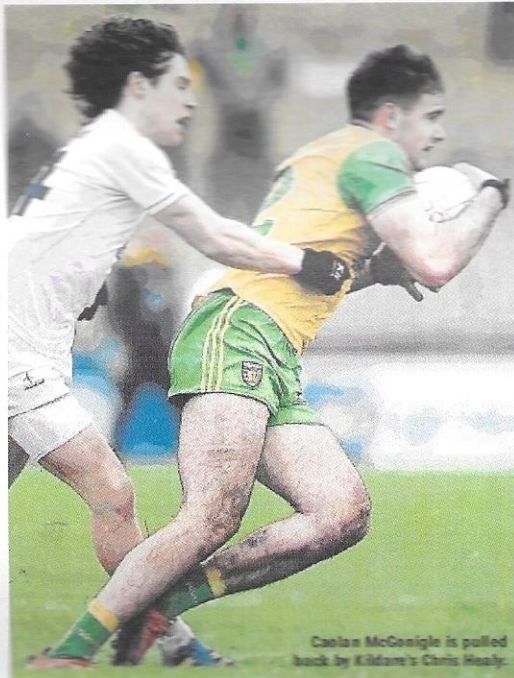
Donegal weren't worried about that and they were just happy to play keep ball and hold onto possession.

Jason McGee did fist over a point in the 59th minute, and Ryan McHugh kicked over another.

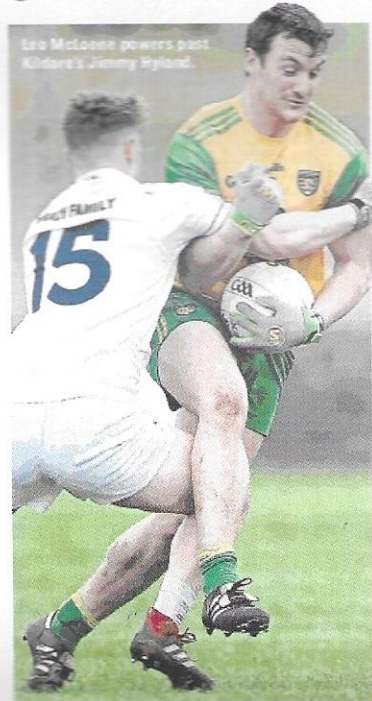
The away side landed late consolation scores from Tyrell and Jimmy Hyland, before Murphy brought a huge cheer from the home supporters with a great point from play.

Caolan McGonagle kicked Donegal's last point, before Shaun Patton was called into action to make a fine save from Chris Healy in injury-time.

Donegal will be happy with their win and promotion, and they now advance to the League Final next week-end.



Caolan McGonagle is pulled back by Kildare's Chris Healy.



Leo McLoone powers past Kildare's Jimmy Hyland.

## THE GAME AT A GLANCE

WITH RYAN FERRY IN FR TIERNEY PARK

**PLAYER OF THE MATCH**  
Oisín Gallen (Donegal)  
The Sean MacCumhaill's man was superb for Donegal on Sunday. He was hungry to get on the ball and used it smartly when he had it kicking four points from play. Niall O'Donnell and Stephen McMenamin were also excellent.

**THE WHISTLER**  
The two big decisions for Paddy Neilan were to sin bin Eoin Doyle, and send off Kevin Flynn. Kildare didn't have any big complaints about either call, and the players were foolish to put themselves in that position.

**TURNING POINT**  
There was no turning point in this encounter as Donegal were in control from very early in the game and never looked like they would lose.

**TALKING POINT**  
It wasn't the prettiest league campaign from Declan Bonner's team but they will be delighted to get promoted. The team gradually improved as their bigger names returned and they will take confidence from concluding the regulation campaign with convincing wins over Cork and Kildare. It was important that Donegal returned to Division 1 as there is a difference in quality and it will be better for younger players breaking through to play at the top level.

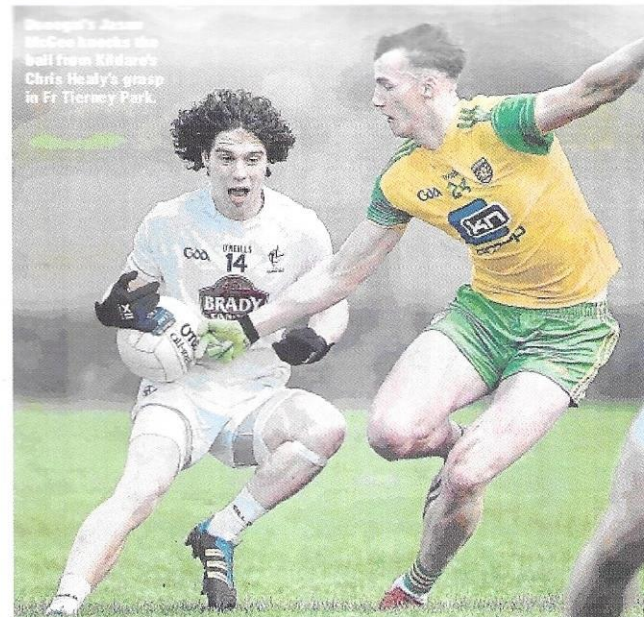
**WHAT'S NEXT?**  
Donegal will play Meath in the Division 2 League Final next Saturday at 5pm.

## TEAMS

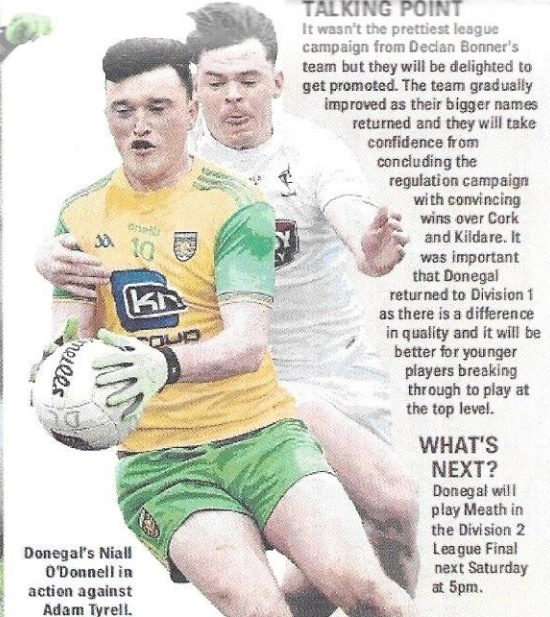
**Donegal:** Shaun Patton; Paddy McGrath, Brendan McCole, Stephen McMenamin, Ryan McHugh (0-3), Leo McLoone, Eoghan 'Ban' Gallagher; Hugh McFadden (0-1), Caolan McGonagle (0-1); Dáire Ó Baoill (0-1), Niall O'Donnell (0-3), Jason McGee (0-2); Jamie Brennan (1-1), Michael Murphy (0-4, 2fs, 1'45'), Oisín Gallen (0-4). Subs: Neil McGee for McCole (57 mins), Eoin McHugh for Ó Baoill (61 mins), Paul Brennan for Gallen (63 mins), Frank McGlynn for McLoone (67 mins), Caolan Ward for McHugh (68 mins).

**Kildare:** Mark Donnellan; David Hyland, Mick O'Grady, Peter Kelly; Cian O'Donoghue (0-1), Eoin Doyle, Kevin Flynn; Kevin Feely, Tommy Moolick; Fergal Conway, Chris Healy, Keith Cribbin; Neil Flynn (0-1 ff), Paddy Brophy (0-2, ff, 1m), Jimmy Hyland (0-2). Subs: Adam Tyrell (0-4, 1ff) for K. Cribbin (Half-time), James Murray for Conway (48 mins), Aaron Masterson for Flynn (53 mins), Tony Archibald for Brophy (57 mins), Mark Barrett for O'Donoghue (62 mins)

Referee: Paddy Neilan (Roscommon)



Donegal's Jason McGee breaks the ball from Kildare's Chris Healy's grasp in Fr Tierney Park.



Donegal's Niall O'Donnell in action against Adam Tyrell.



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