

# 2024



# TUARASCÁIL AN RÚNAÍ



**DUNGANNY**  
MEATH G.A.A.  
CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE  
HERITAGE. EXCELLENCE. LEGACY.

**PÁIRC  
TAILTEANN**

*Carán Ó Broin*  
An Rúnaí



**Clár Abhair:**

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## 1. Tuarascáil an Rúnaí / Secretary Report



### **Ráiteas Misin**

Is é ár misean ná bainistiú straitéiseach agus cur chun cinn a dhéanamh ar chuspóirí Chumann Lúthchleas Gael, agus ár gcluichí, áiseanna, agus bonneagar a fheabhsú go leanúnach.

Táimid tiomanta do shármhaitheas, ionchuimsitheacht, agus rannpháirtíocht an phobail a chothú laistigh dár n-eagraíocht, agus ag an am céanna ag cothú na dtraidisiún agus na luachanna saibhre atá ag na cluichí Gaelacha agus an cultúr Gaelach.

### **Mission Statement**

Our mission is to strategically manage and advance the objectives of the Gaelic Athletic Association, ensuring continuous improvement of our games, facilities, and infrastructure.

We are committed to fostering excellence, inclusivity, and community engagement within our organisation while upholding the rich traditions and values of the Gaelic games and culture.



## Fáilte

Agus bliain eile curtha dinn, tá sé de phribhléid agam Tuarascáil Bhliantúil Chumann Lúthchleas Gael na Mí 2024 a chur i láthair. Cé nach raibh an t-ádh linn ag leibhéal fásta i mbliana, tá dul chun cinn suntasach déanta againn i struchtúir forbartha agus i bhforbairt ár n-imreoirí óga. Leis an obair chrua agus an paisean a léirigh ár gclubanna, ár n-oifigí, agus ár lucht tacaíochta, tá bonn láidir curtha síos againn do thodhchaí gheal.

As we reflect on 2024, it is my honour to present the Annual Report for Meath GAA. This year has been one of significant effort and groundwork, particularly in strengthening our underage structures and progressing key developments off the field. While success at the adult level has proven elusive, the strides made in nurturing future talent and building robust foundations leave us optimistic for the years ahead.

At the underage level, the commitment of our players, coaches, and volunteers has been exemplary, with several promising performances showcasing the potential of the next generation. These young players are at the heart of our mission, and their development remains a cornerstone of our long-term strategy. We are committed to creating an environment where their talents can flourish.

Off the field, 2024 has been a year of considerable progress. From advancing infrastructural projects at Páirc Tailteann and Dunganny to refining our governance and operational structures, we have laid the groundwork for a more sustainable and efficient future. These efforts are a testament to our committees' dedication, our sponsors' generosity, and our clubs' unwavering support.

While challenges persist we approach them with determination and a collective resolve to improve. Our focus remains steadfast on building a brighter future for Meath GAA—one defined by excellence, and a deep connection to the communities we serve.

I wish to thank everyone who has contributed to the ongoing success of Meath GAA in 2024. Your passion and dedication inspire us to continue striving for greatness. Together, we look forward to a future filled with promise and possibility.

Go raibh míle maith agaibh go léir.



## Senior Football



*1 - 02-06-24, All-Ireland SFC v Kerry at Páirc Tailteann, Navan*

Back Row – Adam O’Neill, Jack O’Connor, Cian McBride, Billy Hogan, Conor Gray, Ross Ryan, Cathal Hickey, Daithí McGowan, Ruairí Kinsella, Michael Murphy, Harry O’Higgins, Seán Brennan, Ronan Jones.

Front Row – Seán Coffey, Brian O’Halloran, Seán Ryan, Mathew Costello, Ronan Ryan, Darragh Champion, Cillian O’Sullivan, Donal Keoganm Eoghan Frayne, Jordan Morris, James Conlon, Ciarán Cautfield.

We thank Colm O’Rourke, our Senior Football Team Manager, and Ronan Jones, our Team Captain, for their dedication and leadership throughout 2024. While this year did not yield the results we aspired to, in the Allianz Football League, the Leinster Championship, or the All-Ireland Senior Football Championship, the commitment and efforts of the players and management team remain commendable.

The 2024 Allianz Football League Division 2 campaign presented significant challenges. Despite moments of promise and resilience, we concluded the league with two wins and five losses, placing us fifth in the standings. The team faced formidable opponents, and while the results did not consistently favour us, the experience gained will undoubtedly serve as a foundation for future growth.

Key performances during the league included hard-fought victories against Louth and Kildare, showcasing the team’s determination and ability to deliver under pressure. However, the drawn game against Fermanagh and Cavan highlighted areas for improvement, particularly in converting opportunities and maintaining consistency across all phases of play.



Off the field, 2024 also marks the conclusion of Colm O'Rourke's tenure as Senior Football Manager. Colm announced that he would not be seeking re-appointment after two years in charge, during which he guided Meath to Tailteann Cup glory in 2023. His management oversaw a significant transition period, with a large turnover of players and the introduction of fresh talent to the panel. This new core group of players, developed under his guidance, will undoubtedly shape the future of Meath football. Meath GAA extends its heartfelt gratitude to Colm and his management team for their dedication and leadership during a transformative period.

Looking to the future, Meath GAA is thrilled to announce the appointment of Robbie Brennan as the new Senior Football Team Manager. Brennan's extensive experience at the top level, including leading Kilmacud Crokes to multiple Dublin senior titles and an All-Ireland Club Championship win, makes him an outstanding choice to guide Meath forward. His proven leadership and commitment to excellence have earned him a stellar reputation in the sport.

Joining Brennan's backroom team are Conor Gillespie, Martin Corey, and Joe McMahon, all bringing extensive experience. Conor Gillespie led his club Summerhill to their first Keegan Cup in a decade. As a player, he was lauded as an excellent midfielder and he will bring this and his club managerial experience to the fore. Martin Corey has coached Cavan and Monaghan to the All-Ireland SFC Semi-Finals. At the same time, Joe McMahon played a pivotal role in Tyrone's success, coaching the county to the Ulster and All-Ireland SFC championships in 2021.

Meath GAA looks forward to a bright future under Brennan's leadership, building on the foundations laid this year. While challenges remain, we remain committed to restoring Meath football to its rightful place among the top counties in Ireland.

The loyal support of our fans has been unwavering, and their presence at matches, both home and away, continues to inspire the team. As we enter this exciting new chapter, we are united in our ambition to succeed and bring pride to Meath again.

Go n-éirí an t-ádh linn go léir sa bhliain atá romhainn.





## Group Table & Results

### GAA FOOTBALL ALL-IRELAND SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP GROUP 4

POSITION	TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	POINTS
1	Kerry	3	3	0	0	75	36	6
2	Louth	3	1	1	1	48	52	3
3	Monaghan	3	1	1	1	50	57	3
4	Meath	3	0	0	3	35	63	0

### SUNDAY 07 APRIL

#### Leinster GAA Football Senior Championship

Longford	<b>3-12 3-19</b> Venue: Glennon Brothers Pearse Park Referee: Niall Cullen	Meath
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### SUNDAY 14 APRIL

#### Leinster GAA Football Senior Championship

Dublin	<b>3-19 0-12</b> Venue: Páirc An Chrócaigh Referee: Thomas Murphy	Meath	
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### SATURDAY 25 MAY




#### GAA Football All-Ireland Senior Championship

Louth	<b>3-10 0-9</b> Venue: Inniskeen Referee: Paul Faloon	Meath
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**SUNDAY 02 JUNE**

GAA Football All-Ireland Senior Championship









	<b>Meath</b>	<b>0-9 2-18</b>	Venue: Páirc Tailteann Referee: Liam Devenney	<b>Kerry</b>		
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**SUNDAY 16 JUNE**

GAA Football All-Ireland Senior Championship

	<b>Monaghan</b>	<b>1-17 1-14</b>	Venue: Kingspan Breffni Referee: Joe Mc Quillan	<b>Meath</b>		
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ALLIANZ FOOTBALL LEAGUE ROINN 2

POSITION	TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	POINTS
1	 Donegal	7	6	1	0	128	83	13
2	 Armagh	7	5	2	0	132	86	12
3	 Cavan	7	3	1	3	103	117	7
4	 Cork	7	3	1	3	119	125	7
5	 Meath	7	2	2	3	86	105	6
6	 Louth	7	3	0	4	121	101	6
7	 Fermanagh	7	2	1	4	94	129	5
8	 Kildare	7	0	0	7	82	119	0

**SATURDAY 27 JANUARY**

Allianz Football League Roinn 2

	<b>Meath</b>	<b>0-12 1-9</b>	Venue: Páirc Tailteann Referee: Jerome Henry	<b>Fermanagh</b>	
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## SATURDAY 03 FEBRUARY

### Allianz Football League Roinn 2



Armagh

**2-16 0-10**

Venue: BOX-IT Athletic Grounds,  
Armagh

Referee: Brendan Cawley

Meath



## SUNDAY 18 FEBRUARY

### Allianz Football League Roinn 2



Meath

**1-11 1-9**

Venue: Páirc Tailteann

Referee: Liam Devenney

Louth



## SUNDAY 25 FEBRUARY

### Allianz Football League Roinn 2



Meath

**0-12 0-9**

Venue: Páirc Tailteann

Referee: Seamus Mulhare

Kildare





**SATURDAY 02 MARCH**

Allianz Football League Roinn 2



**Cavan**

**0-11 0-11**

Venue: Kingspan Breffni  
Referee: James Molloy

**Meath**



PLAYER

**SATURDAY 16 MARCH**

Allianz Football League Roinn 2



**Meath**

**1-11 1-15**

Venue: Páirc Tailteann  
Referee: Thomas Murphy

**Cork**



**SATURDAY 23 MARCH**

Allianz Football League Roinn 2



**Donegal**

**1-18 1-10**

Venue: Ballybofey  
Referee: Paddy Neilan

**Meath**





## Senior Hurling



### 2- Joe McDonagh Cup v Laois

Back Row L-R: Jarlath Ennis, James Kelly, Adam Kelly, Jamie Leavy, Seán Geraghty, Kris Gorman, Eoin Donegan, Karl Rogers, Jack Fagan, Fergal Chawlke, Josh Wall, Jack Walsh, James Toher.

Front Row L-R: Nicky Potterton, Simon Ennis, Éamon Óg Ó Donnchadha, Padraig O Hanrahan, Mark Horan, Charlie Ennis, Seán Quigley, Daire Shine, Domhnall Rogers, Mickael Burke, Philip O'Brien, Seán Martin, David Murtagh.

The 2024 season for the Meath Senior Hurling Team was one of transition and significant challenges, marked by changes in management and a determined effort to compete at the highest level possible.

The year began under the management of Seoirse Bulfin, who stepped down in late March due to personal and family commitments. In his resignation letter, Seoirse reflected on his immensely satisfying tenure with Meath, culminating in a historic League and Christy Ring double in 2023. We extend our deepest gratitude to him for his contributions.

We also acknowledge the efforts of Seoirse's backroom team, including David O'Reilly, Mark Cooney, and Seamus Ryan, who stepped aside alongside him. Their commitment to Meath hurling was important in the team's progress over the past few years.

Following Seoirse's departure, Meath GAA appointed Steven Clynych of Kilmessan GAA Club as the Senior Hurling Manager. A respected figure in Meath hurling, Steven's experience and passion for the game brought stability and focus during this transitional phase. His leadership was essential as the team rebuilt and looked towards the future. While results in the Joe McDonagh Cup were challenging, each game offered valuable lessons and provided insights into areas for growth. The team's commitment and effort were commendable even in the face of adversity.

While the results in the Joe McDonagh Cup were not as we had hoped, the team showed resilience and a commitment to improvement. Competing against strong opponents in a fiercely competitive environment offered valuable lessons that will inform the team's



development moving forward. Off the field, the focus remains on strengthening our structures, developing emerging talent, and fostering a culture of excellence within Meath hurling. The contributions of the Hurling Development Committee have been invaluable in driving these initiatives.

Looking ahead to the future to 2025, we were delighted to announce the appointment of Johnny Greville from Raharney GAA Club in Westmeath as the new Senior Hurling Team Manager. Johnny brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to the role, having successfully managed teams at various levels and demonstrated his commitment to the development of hurling. We are confident that his leadership will help drive the team to future success. Johnny will be supported by a highly accomplished management team, including Seán Corrigan of Kildalkey and Tom Shine from Kilskyre, who will serve as selectors. We will see ourselves in Division 2 of the Allianz Hurling League and the Christy Ring Cup.

A special word of thanks must go to Martin O'Halloran, who resigned from his roles as Chairperson of the Hurling Development Committee and Leinster Council Delegate earlier this year. Martin's dedication and commitment to the GAA over more than two decades have been exceptional. Martin has held numerous roles throughout his distinguished service, including Hurling PRO, County PRO, and Leinster Council PRO. He was also an award-winning PRO, earning both MacNamee and Leinster Awards for the programmes he produced during his tenure. A proud Rathmolyon man, Martin took great pride in Meath's Christy Ring Cup and League double in 2023, as well as the Christy Ring Cup victories in 2016 and 2019. His unwavering support and dedication to Meath Gaelic games have left a lasting legacy, and we look forward to his continued involvement in the future.

Reflecting on 2024, we recognise both the challenges faced and the opportunities ahead. With Johnny Greville's appointment and a renewed focus on underage development, the future of Meath hurling looks bright. We extend our gratitude to all players, management, and supporters who have contributed to this journey and look forward to a new chapter.

Go n-éirí an t-ádh leis an fhoireann sa toadhcháí.



## Group Tables & Results

### JOE MCDONAGH CUP

POSITION	TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	POINTS
1	Laois	5	4	0	1	164	110	8
2	Offaly	5	4	0	1	170	124	8
3	Kerry	5	3	0	2	104	109	6
4	Westmeath	5	2	1	2	132	110	5
5	Down	5	1	1	3	130	160	3
6	Meath	5	0	0	5	96	183	0

## SATURDAY 20 APRIL

### Joe McDonagh Cup

<b>Down</b>	<b>3-24 0-25</b> Venue: Ballycran Referee: Colm McDonald	<b>Meath</b>
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## SATURDAY 27 APRIL

### Joe McDonagh Cup

<b>Meath</b>	<b>1-16 7-29</b> Venue: Trim Referee: Peter Owens	<b>Laois</b>
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### SATURDAY 04 MAY

Joe McDonagh Cup



Meath

**3-16 5-31**

Venue: Trim  
 Referee: Conor Daly

Offaly



### SATURDAY 18 MAY

Joe McDonagh Cup



Westmeath

**1-29 0-14**

Venue: TEG Cusack Park, Mullingar  
 Referee: James Clarke

Meath



### SATURDAY 25 MAY

Joe McDonagh Cup



Kerry

**3-13 1-10**

Venue: Austin Stack Park  
 Referee: Conor Doyle

Meath



#### ALLIANZ HURLING LEAGUE ROINN 2A

POSITION	TEAM	P	W	D	L	F	A	POINTS
1	Carlow	5	4	0	1	132	102	8
2	Laois	5	4	0	1	146	103	8
3	Down	5	2	1	2	125	121	5
4	Kildare	5	2	1	2	116	116	5
5	Kerry	5	1	0	4	103	132	2
6	Meath	5	1	0	4	95	143	2



**SUNDAY 04 FEBRUARY**

Allianz Hurling League Roinn 2A



**Meath**

**2-20 3-14**

Venue: Páirc Tailteann  
 Referee: Colum Cuning

**Kildare**



**SUNDAY 11 FEBRUARY**

Allianz Hurling League Roinn 2A



**Carlow**

**3-22 1-16**

Venue: Netwatch Cullen Park  
 Referee: Chris Mooney

**Meath**



**SUNDAY 25 FEBRUARY**

Allianz Hurling League Roinn 2A



**Kerry**

**3-14 0-16**

Venue: Austin Stack Park  
 Referee: Brian Keon

**Meath**



**SUNDAY 10 MARCH**

Allianz Hurling League Roinn 2A



**Meath**

**1-12 4-26**

Venue: Páirc Tailteann  
 Referee: Niall Malone

**Laois**



**SATURDAY 16 MARCH**

Allianz Hurling League Roinn 2A



**Down**

**3-19 1-16**

Venue: Ballycran  
 Referee: Thomas Gleeson

**Meath**







## U-20 Football



The 2024 season for the Meath U-20 Football Team has been one of determination, skill, and significant achievement. Under the guidance of Cathal Ó Bric, the team made substantial strides, culminating in a memorable campaign that brought immense pride to Meath football.

This year's journey was highlighted by an impressive run in the Leinster Championship, where the team demonstrated resilience, teamwork, and a deep understanding of the game. The players showcased exceptional talent and the ability to perform under pressure, making this season a benchmark for future success.




### 2024 Leinster U-20 Championship Results:

- **Quarter-Final:** Meath 4-8, Laois 1-10  
Venue: Ashbourne, Referee: Fintan Pierce
- **Semi-Final:** Kildare 0-10, Meath 2-9  
Venue: Manguard Park, Referee: Anthony Nolan
- **Final:** Meath 3-13, Louth 0-12  
Venue: Parnell Park, Referee: Dan Stynes

Match Report: [EirGrid Leinster U20 Final: Armstrong powers Meath to victory](#)



EirGrid GAA Football All-Ireland U20 Championship

 <b>Meath</b>	<b>0-11 0-12</b> Venue: FBD Semple Stadium, Thurles Referee: Thomas Murphy	<b>Kerry</b> 	
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Match Report: [EirGrid U20 FC: Kerry edge out Meath](#)

Meath's success in the Leinster Championship was a testament to the collective effort of the players and the management team. The quarter-final victory over Laois set the tone for the campaign, with a commanding performance in Ashbourne. The semi-final against Kildare was a hard-fought battle, where the team's determination shone through, securing a place in the final. The Leinster decider against Louth saw the team deliver a dominant display, earning a well-deserved championship title.



The Leinster Final at Parnell Park was a standout performance in the county's season, as we captured our first Leinster U-20 Championship title since 2001 with a resounding 3-13 to 0-12 victory over Louth. Eamonn Armstrong, the dynamic wing-back from Duleek-Bellewstown, delivered another stunning performance, scoring a goal for the third consecutive game and finishing with 1-2. His attacking runs proved instrumental, and his goal in the first half shifted the momentum firmly in Meath's favour. Eamonn Armstrong was named the EirGrid U-20 Leinster Player of the Province and congratulations to Eamonn on achieving this accolade.

This victory not only ended a 23-year drought for a Leinster success at this grade but also highlighted the exceptional talent within the squad and the tactical acumen of the management team.

In the All-Ireland series, the team faced stiff opposition in Kerry but continued to show the grit and determination that defined their season. The match was a testament to the team's grit and determination, as they fought back from a five-point deficit at one stage to draw level late in the game. However, a late Kerry score ultimately sealed Meath's fate, bringing an end to what had been an extraordinary season.



The role of Cathal Ó Bric and his coaching team in leading this group of talented players cannot be overstated. Their commitment to fostering a culture of excellence and their focus on both individual and team development have been pivotal to this year's success. Special recognition must also go to the players, whose dedication and passion for Meath football were evident in every game.

In total, thirty-seven players from twenty clubs were involved in the panel this year, representing clubs across the Senior, Intermediate, Junior, and Junior B levels. St Patrick's had the highest individual representation, with four panellists proudly contributing to the team's achievements. The selectors working with the panel were David Callaghan, Eoin Joyce, and Marcus Brennan, with Niall Flynn acting as goalkeeping coach. Their strategic insights and expertise were invaluable throughout the season.

Other members of the backroom team who contributed greatly to the panel's success include:

Kit Manager: Aidan Young

Logistics/Liaison: Mickey McFadden

Strength & Conditioning: Martin Cahill

Physio: Fiachra Ward

Wellbeing & Psychology: Dan Glynn

Their dedication and professionalism ensured the team was prepared, supported, and motivated at every stage of the campaign.

Looking ahead, the focus remains on building on this success, further developing the talent within the county, and maintaining the momentum established this year. The U-20 program continues to play a vital role in preparing players for the senior ranks, ensuring the future of Meath football remains bright.

In closing, a heartfelt thank you to everyone involved in this remarkable season—the players, management, and supporters. Together, we celebrate this year's achievements and look forward to even greater success in the years to come.

Go raibh míle maith agaibh go léir.



## U-20 Hurling



**Back Row L-R:** Rian Fay, Darragh Heffernan, Conor McKeever, Charlie MC Cormack, Paddy Barnwell, Will Tracey, Domhnall Rogers, Darragh McVann, Ben Mather, Darragh Horan, Dylan Duignan, Cameron Smyth, Noah Conroy, Colm O'Toole, Kevin Horan, Mark Horan, Luke Gallagher, Eoin Bright, Eoghan Grehan

**Front Row L-R:** Cian Colhun, Darren Higgins, Jack Connell, Paul Hennessy, Tom Shine, Craig Gilsenan, Mark Leavy, Patrick Jordan, Cian O'Sullivan, Thomas Cully, Conor McNally, Lorcan Byrne, Conor Dixon, Tiernan Anderson, Finn Malone, Jamie Kavanagh, Seán McDermott.

The 2024 season for the Meath U-20 Hurling Team has been one of growth, development, and important learning opportunities. Under the leadership of Seán Corrigan from Kildalkey, the team competed against some of the strongest hurling counties in Leinster, gaining invaluable experience and improving throughout the campaign. This year, the team faced challenges and achieved moments of success, reflecting their progress and potential for future development.

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### 2024 Leinster U-20 Hurling Championship Results:

- **Round 1:** Meath 0-20, Westmeath 2-14  
Venue: Páirc Tailteann, Referee: Mark Ryan
- **Round 2:** Meath 1-16, Derry 1-10  
Venue: Páirc Tailteann, Referee: Mark Ryan
- **Knockout Round:** Kildare 3-17, Meath 0-12  
Venue: Manguard Park, Referee: Gearóid McGrath

While the team fell short in progressing further in the competition, the victory over Derry in Round 2 was a highlight, showcasing the team's determination and ability to execute their game plan effectively.

The role of Seán Corrigan as manager cannot be overstated. His commitment to fostering a culture of excellence and his focus on developing the players' skills, strategic



understanding, and mental toughness have been pivotal. Seán's leadership has set a strong foundation for these young hurlers, preparing them for greater challenges ahead.

The U-20 program remains a cornerstone of Meath hurling's future, providing young players with the platform to develop and compete at the highest level. This year's campaign has laid a solid foundation, and with continued investment in coaching, facilities, and player development, the future of Meath hurling looks bright.

In closing, a heartfelt thank you to everyone involved in this year's campaign—the players, management, and supporters. Together, we look forward to building on the progress made this season and continuing the upward trajectory of Meath hurling.

Go raibh míle maith agaibh go léir.





## Minor Football



**Back Row L-R:** Cillian Yore (St Ultan's), Senan Duffy (Slane), Cormac Smith (Clann na nGael), Eoin Feldman (Ratoath), Eoin McCrudden (St Peter's Dunboyne), Cathal Barron (Dunderry), Jamie Norris (Seneschalstown) Harry Healy (St Peter's Dunboyne), James Donnelly (Bective), Evan Demange (Drumbaragh), Mackenzie Doyle (Simonstown), Jack Doyle (St Peter's Dunboyne)

**Middle L – R:** Oran Meade (Simonstown), Ciarán Sheridan (Dunshaughlin), Conor Black (St Patrick's), Patrick Yourell (O'Mahony's), Charles McCarthy (Seneschalstown), Seán McLoughlin (Dunderry), Ciarán Sheridan (Dunderry) Conal Diggins (Ballivor) Cormac Nugent (O'Mahony's), Rob Hayes (Ratoath)

**Front L- R:** Andrew Brien (St Mary's), Aidan Roche (Kilmainhamwood), Seán McQuillan (St Colmcille's), Adam Ducie (Ratoath), Pat Crawley (Oldcastle) Thomas Sheridan (Oldcastle), Jake Madden (Drumbaragh) Cian Tobin (St Peter's Dunboyne), Evan Kelly (Donaghmore/Ashbourne), Thomas Morgan (Curraha)

Missing from photo Cian Murphy (St Patrick's)

The 2024 season for the Meath Minor Football Team has been one of challenges and learning opportunities. Under the leadership of Joe Cowley from Seneschalstown, the team worked tirelessly to develop their skills and understanding of the game. While the results may not have been as we had hoped, the commitment and resilience shown by the players and management were commendable.

### 2024 Meath Minor Football Results:

- Round 1: Meath 1-6, Kildare 1-18



Venue: Stamullen, Referee: Niall Ward

- Round 2: Meath 0-11, Louth 1-10

Venue: Páirc Baile Fiach, Referee: Kieran Otwell

- Round 3: Meath 2-11, Westmeath 1-07

Venue: Páirc Baile Fiach, Referee: Enda Kelly

- Pre-Q Final: Meath 0-14, Wexford 3-7

Venue: Ashbourne, Referee: Niall Ward

- All-Ireland Round 1: Meath 0-8, Down 2-16

Venue: Páirc Tailteann, Referee: Enda Mallon

The victory against Westmeath in Round 3 highlighted the team's potential, with a strong all-around performance that saw them secure an impressive win. However, the defeats, particularly in the All-Ireland series against Down, underscored the challenges of competing at this level and the need for continued development.

Despite the difficulties faced this season, the Minor Football Team remains an essential component of Meath's footballing future. This year's experiences have provided valuable lessons for players and management alike. With continued effort, support, and investment in the minor structures, we will continue to develop players for the future.

We extend our gratitude to the players, management, and supporters for their unwavering commitment to Meath football. Together, we look forward to building on the experiences of this season and striving for brighter outcomes in the years ahead.

Go raibh míle maith agaibh go léir.





## Minor Hurling



**Back Row L-R:** Alex Curran, Evan Curley, Michael Carr, Daithi Grehan, Rian Porter, Darragh Callanan, James Lonergan, Cormac Swan, Dean Walsh, Evan Curley, Billy Bermingham, Eoghan Monaghan, Tom Elliott, Shane Callaghan, Daniel Fox.

**Middle Row L-R:** Lennán McCormack, Diarmuid O'Bric, Seanie Reilly, Eimhin Flynn, Finnbar Witchlow, Daithi Wade, Adam Donoghue, Sean Cregan, Alex Fox, David Regan, Luke Ennis, Edward Dunne, Sean McKeown, Donal Dochairtaigh, James Cully.

**Front Row L-R:** Lorcan McDermott, Alex Hutcheson, Ronan Curley, Mark Elliott, Martin Lynch (Manager), Fintan Porter, Liam Ward, Chloe Mahon, Darragh McLoughlin, JJ McManus, Sean Ward. (Photo: Paula Grief)

The 2024 season for the Meath Minor Hurling Team has been a year of development and valuable experience. Under the guidance of Martin Lynch from Drumree, the team showed determination and growth, competing against strong opposition in Leinster. While results were mixed, the commitment of the players and management to the long-term development of Meath hurling remains unwavering.

### 2024 Meath Minor Hurling Results:

- **Round 1:** Meath 1-8, Offaly 1-11  
Venue: Páirc Tailteann, Referee: Liam Keenan
- **Round 2:** Meath 1-17, Wicklow 1-13  
Venue: Ashbourne, Referee: Dean Alford
- **Round 3:** Meath 0-4, Westmeath 3-23  
Venue: Páirc Tailteann, Referee: Kyle Waters
- **Knockout Round/Corn Peadar Ó Liatháin:** Antrim 1-24, Meath 1-20  
Venue: Drumree, Referee: Sean Michael Maher



The highlight of the campaign was the hard-fought victory over Wicklow in Round 2, where the team displayed great teamwork and scoring ability. The narrow loss to Offaly and Antrim demonstrated the team's ability to compete at a high level and highlighted their potential for future success. Although the defeat to Westmeath revealed areas for improvement, they provided valuable learning experiences for the players.

The leadership of Martin Lynch has been integral to the team's progress this year. His dedication to player development and his focus on nurturing young talent has laid the groundwork for Meath's future in hurling. A special mention must also go to the players for their commitment and determination throughout a challenging season.

The Minor Hurling Team continues to play a crucial role in the development of Meath hurling. This season has provided a platform for young players to test themselves against strong opposition, gain valuable experience, and identify areas for growth. With continued support and investment in the minor structures, we are poised to build on these foundations and achieve even greater success in the coming years.

We extend our gratitude to everyone involved in this year's campaign—players, management, and supporters—for their unwavering dedication to Meath hurling

Go raibh míle maith agaibh go léir.



### **Gambling in the GAA: Raising Awareness and Taking Action**

Gambling has emerged as a significant issue within the GAA, impacting not just players but also communities. Among elite inter-county athletes, the problem is particularly pronounced, with higher gambling rates compared to the general population.

### **The GAA's Response**

The GAA has prioritised addressing this issue through initiatives such as the *Stop Before You Just Can't Stop* campaign. Supported by the Gambling Awareness Trust and Problem Gambling Ireland, this campaign educates on the risks of problem gambling and offers resources, including access to professional help via ProblemGambling.ie. Since 2018, the GAA has prohibited betting firm sponsorships for competitions, teams, or facilities, a strong stance prioritising the health of players and members over financial partnerships.

### **Research Findings**

Recent studies reveal concerning trends among elite inter-county players:

- **High Participation Rates:** 79% reported gambling, with 4.8% classified as problem gamblers—well above the 0.8% in the general population.



- **Vulnerability Factors:** Problem gamblers were predominantly male, with early exposure to gambling (under 16 years old) and mobile app usage identified as key risk factors.
- **Cultural Challenges:** Players have acknowledged a pervasive gambling culture, compounded by personal susceptibility and accessibility to gambling platforms.

### **Broader Impacts**

Gambling issues extend beyond players to affect families and communities. Many players have shared their struggles with addiction and concerns about gambling on matches within the sport itself, highlighting the need for cultural change.

### **Addressing the Issue**

The GAA recognises the need for a comprehensive, multi-faceted approach to tackle this issue effectively. Key steps include:

1. **Proactive Education:** Campaigns and workshops targeting athletes, families, and clubs.
2. **Policy Strengthening:** Continuing the ban on gambling sponsorships and ensuring young people have restricted access to gambling.
3. **Support Services:** Enhancing access to counselling and treatment programs for affected individuals.

### **Conclusion**

The GAA has taken commendable strides in addressing gambling within its organisation. However, this remains an ongoing challenge requiring collective action. By fostering awareness, promoting healthy habits, and offering robust support systems, the GAA aims to combat the harmful impact of gambling and safeguard the well-being of its players and community.





## Clubs



To the Valued Clubs of Meath GAA,

As we reflect on the year 2024, I extend my deepest gratitude to each of you, the backbone of our county's Gaelic Athletic Association. This year has been remarkable in showcasing the resilience, dedication, and talent within our clubs. From the boundless energy in our juvenile ranks to the fierce competitiveness in our adult divisions, our teams have displayed exceptional skill, sportsmanship, and unwavering passion for the games.

The year has also seen the continued success of our developmental programs, which are evident in the improved performances across all levels. These advancements are a testament to the hard work and dedication of our coaches, volunteers, and, most importantly, our players. Your steady support and the vibrant culture within your clubs have been instrumental in these achievements.

This year also marked a significant milestone for Meath GAA with the establishment of Eastern Gaels, our newest club. Having completed their first full year, Eastern Gaels competed with distinction in both the league and championship. Some of club's players have also proudly represented the Brú an Bóinne regional team. We welcome Eastern Gaels into the Meath GAA family and look forward to their continued growth and success in the years ahead.

As we celebrate this year's achievements, it is with immense joy and admiration that we congratulate the winners of the 2024 Meath GAA Club Competitions. Your triumphs in various championships and leagues have brought pride not only to your clubs but also to our entire county. A full list of winners is included at the end of this report.



A hearty congratulations to Dunshaughlin for clinching the Senior Football Championship, and to Meath Hill, Dunsany, and Carnaross for their respective victories in the Intermediate, Junior, and Junior B Football Championships.

A massive congratulations to Ratoath for clinching the Senior Hurling Championship, and to O'Mahony's, Kilmessan, and O'Mahony's for their respective victories in the Intermediate, Junior, and Junior B Hurling Championships.

To all the clubs who have emerged victorious across the various divisions and age grades, your victories are a testament to the commitment, teamwork, and sportsmanship that define the spirit of GAA. These accomplishments not only reflect your dedication but also the steadfast support and passion of your communities. As we honour these successes, let us also look forward with optimism, eager to build on these accomplishments and continue to raise the standard of Meath GAA.

Once again, congratulations to all the winners. Your achievements have made your clubs, communities, and the entire Meath GAA family immensely proud. Let us carry this momentum forward as we strive for even greater heights in the coming year.

Go raibh maith agaibh go léir.



## Go Games, Youth, and Minor Committees



I would like to express sincere gratitude to the Go Games, Youth, and Minor Committees of Meath GAA for their exceptional service and dedication throughout 2024. Each of these committees has played a crucial role in shaping the future of Gaelic games in Meath by fostering growth and skill development among our young players.

Firstly, a special thanks to Martin Kelly, Secretary of the Go Games Committee, for his unwavering commitment to the Go Games ethos. Martin's work has been central to ensuring that our youngest players experience Gaelic games in a positive, inclusive, and skill-focused environment. His dedication has enriched the early sporting experiences of many young athletes, helping them build a foundation of enjoyment and confidence that will serve them well in their future development.

I would also like to extend my appreciation to Fintan Porter, Chairperson, and Adrian Madden, Secretary of the Youth Committee. Under their leadership, our juvenile programs have continued to thrive. The decision to structure the U-13 competitions as league-only, without knockout stages, is a progressive approach that reflects modern best practices in youth sports. This format aligns with the GAA Official Guide and prioritises development and participation over competition. Research shows that structured, inclusive sports opportunities contribute to better mental and physical health outcomes in adolescence and adulthood, and Meath GAA's approach here is providing young players with a strong foundation.





Finally, I would like to commend Raymond Finnegan, Chairperson, and David Campbell, Secretary of the Minor Committee, for their professionalism and dedication. It is essential to focus on decoupling minors from adult games to maximise youth participation. This separation allows us to meet the developmental needs of young players, supporting their growth while also reducing dropout rates. Prioritising these considerations will ensure a smoother pathway for players as they progress in Gaelic games.

Thank you all for your dedication and tireless efforts in nurturing the future of Meath GAA. Your work is crucial in providing our young athletes with an environment that prioritises their growth, well-being, and enjoyment, setting them up for lifelong involvement in the sport.

Go raibh míle maith agaibh.



## Handball & Rounders



*3- Gary McConnell and Brian Carroll after their fourth All Ireland Doubles 60x30 success*

In 2024, Meath GAA has continued to support and promote the development of all Gaelic games within the county, with notable achievements in handball and rounders.

Meath handball players have achieved impressive results this year, and the county is proud to be home to several handball clubs, including Crossakiel, Kells, Cormeen Sports Complex, and Ashbourne Community Centre. These clubs have been instrumental in fostering talent and enthusiasm for handball at all levels.

This year, Meath Handball continued its tradition of excellence, with remarkable successes at both senior and juvenile levels. Gary McConnell and Brian Carroll captured their fourth All-Ireland Senior Doubles 60x30 title after a hard-fought victory over Dublin. This victory highlights their skill, resilience, and dedication to the sport. For Carroll, this was a particularly significant achievement, marking his 11th Senior 60x30 doubles title.

Additionally, Meath's Tom Sheridan and Christy McGovern secured the All-Ireland 60x30 Emerald Masters title with a decisive win over Tipperary, further underscoring Meath's strong presence in the handball arena. The juvenile players from Kells Handball Club also brought pride to the county. Holly Dardis and Coco Griffin claimed the Leinster under-12 girls' doubles title, while Sophie Griffin and Amy Lynch won the under-15 title after a thrilling tiebreaker against Kilkenny.



This year, Meath GAA has also made strides in promoting rounders, with Dunganny Centre of Excellence now regularly hosting rounders events. These developments in both handball and rounders demonstrate Meath GAA's commitment to supporting a diverse range of Gaelic games and fostering talent across the county. Congratulations to all players and teams who have contributed to these achievements, making 2024 a memorable year for Meath GAA.

Rounders has also seen significant growth in Meath, with regular events hosted at the Dunganny Centre of Excellence. Dunganny has become a central venue for rounders, hosting local and national competitions, including the GAA Rounders Junior & Intermediate All-Ireland Finals this year. Meath GAA is home to two dedicated rounders clubs, Royal Rounders Dunderry and Skryne, both of which have been active in promoting and expanding the sport within the county.

These clubs, alongside the hard work and dedication of players, coaches, and volunteers, have contributed greatly to the vibrant Gaelic games community in Meath. Meath GAA extends its heartfelt congratulations to all involved and looks forward to continued growth and success in the years to come.



## Staging of Games



The successful organisation and presentation of games at our county grounds, Páirc Tailteann, and the Dunganny Centre of Excellence is a credit to the dedication and hard work of many individuals. The seamless execution of these events reflects the commitment and collaboration of everyone involved.

A special acknowledgement must go to Jim Lane, our Stadium Manager, whose efforts ensure Páirc Tailteann operates to the highest standards. Jim's attention to detail and focus on excellence was particularly evident during the closing stages of our championships.

We also extend our sincere gratitude to John McBride for his exceptional pitch maintenance. His work ensures that both Páirc Tailteann and Dunganny remain in pristine condition, providing our players and teams with the best possible facilities.

We also wish to acknowledge the invaluable contributions of Mairéad Delaney, Peter Meehan, Declan Black, Dessie Murtagh, Denise Farrelly, Joanna Duff, and all the gate personnel. Their professionalism and commitment to managing admissions play a key role in the success of every event. A heartfelt thank you goes to Jim Cooney, our head steward, and all



the stewards who work tirelessly at Páirc Tailteann and Dunganny to ensure events run safely and efficiently.

This year was particularly significant, as we bid farewell to Eugene McBride, who retired mid-year after years of outstanding service as the caretaker of Dunganny. Eugene's dedication, professionalism, and unwavering commitment to excellence have left an indelible mark on Meath GAA. His role in maintaining the Dunganny Centre of Excellence, hosting countless school and county team games, and ensuring that the facilities were always of the highest standard will be remembered and deeply appreciated. We extend our heartfelt thanks to Eugene and wish him a long, healthy, and happy retirement.

Following Eugene's retirement, we were delighted to welcome Dave McGee as our new caretaker at Dunganny. Dave has settled into his role seamlessly and is already proving to be an invaluable asset to Meath GAA. His attention to detail, work ethic, and commitment to maintaining the high standards set by his predecessor are evident in his excellent work. Dunganny remains a hub of activity, hosting school competitions, county team sessions, and a variety of other events, all of which have run smoothly under Dave's capable stewardship.

The combined efforts of this dedicated team ensure that Meath GAA continues to host games and events at the highest standard, providing players and supporters with a safe, enjoyable, and memorable experience. Their hard work underpins the smooth running of our operations, and for that, we are deeply grateful.

Go raibh míle maith agaibh.





## Regional Football Championship



The 2024 Brady's Skoda Regional Football Championship has continued to thrive in its third year, with Brú na Bóinne emerging as the deserved champions. Their hard-fought victory is a testament to the quality and determination within their ranks and reflects the growing success of this unique competition.

This year, the championship took on additional significance as it was used to trial several Gaelic Football rule enhancements under consideration for wider adoption. These trials offered players, coaches, and referees an opportunity to adapt to potential changes and provided valuable insights into their impact on the game. The feedback and lessons from these matches will play an important role in shaping the future of Gaelic Football.

A special acknowledgement is owed to all stakeholders—teams, players, referees, and organisers—for their enthusiasm and commitment to making this competition a success. Conor O'Donoghue, in particular, deserves immense credit for his leadership and dedication to ensuring the smooth running of the championship and its integration with these trials.



As the competition matures, there is a clear need for the regions themselves to take on a greater role in its organisation, allowing the Meath GAA County Committee to step back from direct involvement. Empowering the clubs and regions to lead will enhance the sense of ownership and pride in the championship, further solidifying its importance in the Meath football calendar.

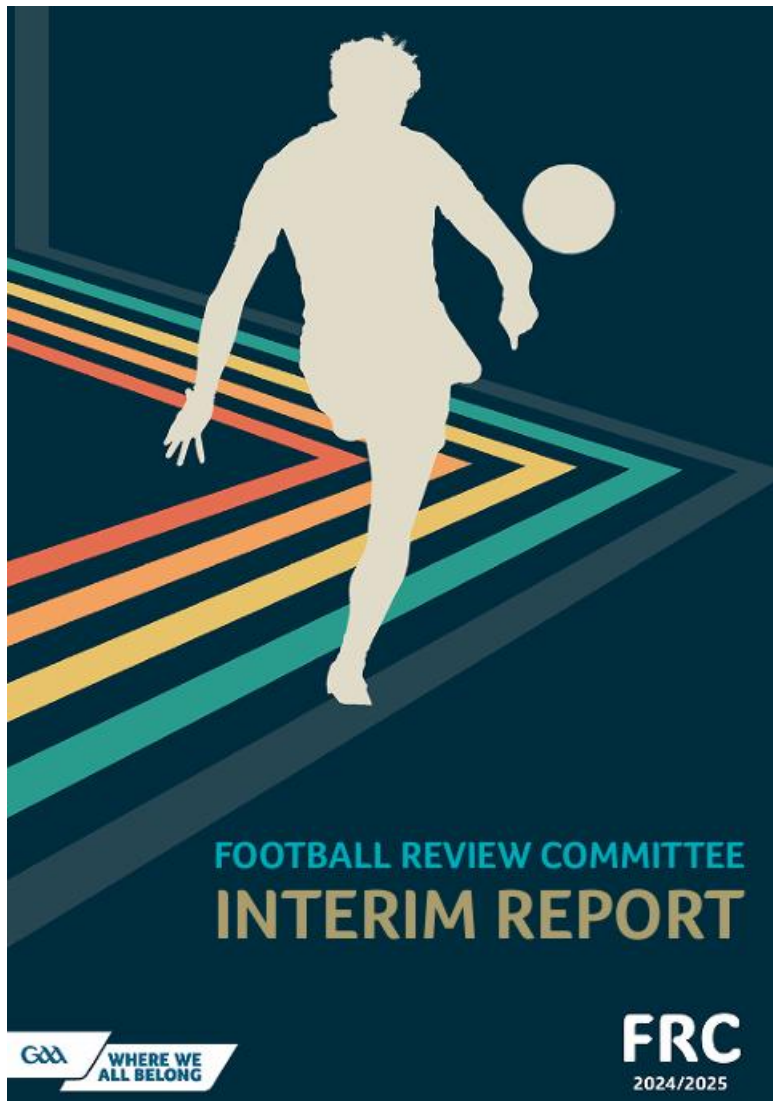
Congratulations to Brú na Bóinne and all involved in making the 2024 championship a resounding success. The competition continues to showcase the depth of talent in Meath football while also playing a vital role in exploring the future direction of the game itself.

Go raibh míle maith agaibh!





## Review of FRC Rule Enhancements



The Football Review Committee's (FRC) rule changes represent a transformative opportunity for Gaelic football. These adjustments, designed to enhance the game's flow, skill level, and spectator appeal, offer significant inter-county and club football benefits.

While implementation at the club level may present unique challenges, the effort promises long-term improvements in participation, competitiveness, and enjoyment for all involved.



## Pacing and Flow of the Game

### 1. 'Solo and Go' Restarts

- **Inter-County Impact:** This rule will increase the speed of play and provide an advantage to teams with tactical sharpness and high fitness levels. It promotes quick thinking and dynamic forward play.
- **Club Impact:** While initial adjustments may take time, this rule can invigorate games at all levels by reducing stoppages and encouraging attacking football. Clubs will benefit from players developing agility, decision-making skills, and a greater understanding of how to exploit defensive lapses.

### 2. 1v1 Throw-in Start

- **Inter-County Impact:** Emphasises high fielding and individual skill, adding excitement to game openers. It sets the tone for competitive, fast-paced matches.
- **Club Impact:** Although skill levels vary widely at the club level, this rule can encourage clubs to focus on training core football skills, such as high catching and aerial play. Over time, this emphasis will raise the overall standard of club football and make matches more thrilling for supporters.

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## Game Structure and Positioning

### 3. Mandatory 3-3 Outfield Player Placement

- **Inter-County Impact:** This rule will create attacking spaces and reduce overly defensive tactics, resulting in more open and flowing gameplay. With a full fleet of match officials, this should be something that will be implemented easily.
- **Club Impact:** Adapting to this rule may initially challenge teams without formal tactical structures, especially in lower-tier competitions. However, its introduction will encourage coaches and players to develop smarter positional play, fostering creativity and rewarding balanced team strategies. The result will be more dynamic and engaging matches across all levels. Also, games played



with only one match official may see some issues. However, the positives massively outweigh the negatives.

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## Skill Enhancement and Strategy

### 4. New Advance Mark

- **Inter-County Impact:** This adjustment rewards long-range, high-risk kicking, encouraging teams to use various attacking strategies. It revitalises traditional skills like high fielding and precise passing closer to goal.
- **Club Impact:** While some clubs may initially find the execution challenging, this rule promotes an appreciation for technical skills. Over time, it will incentivise clubs to develop players with strong kicking accuracy and spatial awareness, leading to more strategic and entertaining football.

### 5. Kick-Out Adjustments

- **Inter-County Impact:** Forces goalkeepers to refine their long-range accuracy and decision-making while creating contested midfield battles.
  - **Club Impact:** Goalkeepers and teams may face a steep learning curve, particularly in second team competitions. However, this rule fosters development in key areas, including tactical planning and midfield play, ensuring the long-term growth of technical and strategic skills across all levels.
- 

## Scoring System

### 6. Revised Scoring with a 40m Arc

- **Inter-County Impact:** Encourages long-range shooting and greater tactical depth, adding excitement for spectators and rewarding bold attacking play.
- **Club Impact:** While lower-tier clubs may initially struggle with consistent long-range scoring, the rule provides a clear incentive for skill development. Over time, it will encourage teams to incorporate long-range shooters and creative



scoring strategies, improving the overall standard and excitement of club football.

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## Foul Play and Defensive Tactics

### 7. Restrictions on Passing to the Goalkeeper

- **Inter-County Impact:** Reduces time-wasting and defensive recycling, compelling teams to focus on forward momentum.
  - **Club Impact:** This rule could create initial challenges for teams that rely heavily on defensive structures. However, it will encourage clubs to adopt more proactive attacking styles, fostering a more dynamic and engaging game.
- 

## The Road Ahead

The FRC's proposals will require patience and collaboration to implement effectively, particularly at the club level where resources and skill levels can vary significantly. However, the benefits of these changes—faster play, more open games, greater skill emphasis, and increased excitement—are undeniable. With proper training for referees, coaches, and players, the rules will enhance Gaelic football's appeal to participants and spectators alike.

Meath GAA is fully committed to supporting these innovations, ensuring their success at every level of the sport. The effort to adapt will be challenging but ultimately rewarding, breathing new life into Gaelic football and paving the way for a brighter future.



## Integration of the GAA, Camogie Association, and LGFA



The historic integration of the GAA, Camogie Association, and Ladies Gaelic Football Association is set to take effect from **1st February 2027**, marking a new era for Gaelic games. This decision, ratified at the GAA's Annual Congress, underpins a shared commitment to equality, inclusivity, and progress for all codes under a unified structure.

### Objectives of Integration

- 1. Unified Governance:** Integration will ensure equal representation for all codes, providing camogie and ladies' football with the same level of organisational and administrative support as hurling and men's football.
- 2. Resource Sharing:** Centralising resources will maximise the use of facilities, funding, and expertise, levelling the playing field across all levels of Gaelic games.
- 3. Fixture Alignment:** A single organisation will better manage scheduling, reducing fixture clashes and enabling dual players to participate in multiple codes without conflict.
- 4. Increased Promotion:** Equal visibility and support for camogie and ladies' football will inspire greater participation and engagement from players, supporters, and sponsors.

### Impact on Meath GAA

Meath GAA embraces this integration, recognising its potential to elevate all Gaelic games. Key benefits include:

- **Optimised Facilities:** Shared use of venues like Páirc Tailteann and Dunganny COE will ensure fairness and better accessibility for all codes.



- **Enhanced Development:** A unified system will provide more streamlined coaching, refereeing, and player pathways, fostering talent across football, camogie, and ladies' football.
- **Stronger Community Engagement:** Promoting all codes equally will strengthen the bonds within our GAA family, fostering a sense of unity and shared achievement.

### **Commitment to Progress**

Meath GAA remains fully committed to supporting the integration process, working collaboratively with stakeholders at all levels. By adopting a transparent and inclusive approach, we aim to ensure a seamless transition that benefits players, volunteers, and supporters alike.

This landmark integration represents a collective step towards a brighter, more inclusive future for Gaelic games, and Meath GAA is proud to contribute to this transformative journey.





## Sub-Committees of Meath GAA – 2024 Review

The success of Meath GAA depends on the tireless work of our Sub-Committees, whose dedication and expertise underpin all aspects of our organisation. I sincerely thank each committee for their invaluable contributions during 2024.

1. **Audit and Risk Committee:** Your vigilance in financial oversight and risk management has been essential to maintaining transparency and integrity.
2. **Child Safeguarding Committee:** Your unwavering focus on creating a safe environment for our youth is deeply appreciated.
3. **Coaching and Games Development Committee:** The strides in coaching quality and player development are a testament to your hard work.
4. **Cultural Committee:** Your promotion of Gaelic culture continues to strengthen our community identity.
5. **Demographics Committee:** Newly established, this committee is tasked with identifying trends in population and participation to guide future strategic decisions. Its insights will ensure that resources and opportunities are allocated where most needed.
6. **Finance Sub-Committee:** Your strategic planning has secured Meath GAA's financial stability, paving the way for future development.
7. **Fixtures Analysis Committee:** Your recommendations have ensured fair and efficient scheduling of games.
8. **Football Development Committee:** Your initiatives have supported football's growth and elevated its profile across all levels.
9. **Go Games Committee:** Your work has provided our youngest players with a positive and inclusive introduction to Gaelic games.
10. **Health and Well-Being Committee:** Your focus on physical and mental well-being has had a lasting impact on our members.
11. **Hearings Committee:** Your impartiality and fairness in handling disputes have preserved the integrity of our competitions.



12. **History and Commemorations Committee:** Your dedication to honouring Meath's past inspires pride and connection among our members.

13. **Hurling Development Committee:** The continued progress in hurling is a direct result of your efforts and passion.

14. **Information Technology Committee:** Your innovative solutions have improved communication and operational efficiency.

15. **Minor Committee:** Your focus on youth engagement and development ensures the next generation of talent is nurtured.

16. **Páirc Tailteann & Dunganny Games Committee:** Your management of our facilities has ensured exceptional experiences for players and supporters.

17. **Planning and Training Committee:** Your support for volunteers and staff has strengthened the capacity of our organisation.

18. **Post-Primary Schools' Committee:** Your collaboration with schools has been pivotal in fostering young talent and promoting Gaelic games.

19. **Public Relations/Marketing Committee:** Your creativity and strategies have significantly increased our visibility and engagement.

20. **Referees' Administration Committee:** Your efforts in recruitment and support have been vital for the smooth running of our games.

21. **Safety and Facilities Committee:** Your work has ensured our venues are safe and welcoming for all attendees.

22. **Supporters' Club Committee:** Your enthusiasm and initiatives have strengthened the connection between Meath GAA and its supporters.

### **Collective Contribution**

Each Sub-Committee has played a critical role in shaping 2024 into a year of progress and achievement for Meath GAA. A special mention must go to the newly established **Demographics Committee**, whose analysis of population trends and participation will be invaluable in guiding future initiatives. The work of all our committees highlights the passion and commitment of our members, volunteers, and supporters.



On behalf of Meath GAA, thank you for your dedication, expertise, and service. Together, you have helped us reach new heights and build a brighter future for Gaelic games in our county.

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## Referees and Discipline

Referees and discipline remain fundamental to Gaelic games, ensuring fair play and respect across all competitions in Meath GAA. These values form the bedrock of our games and community.

### Respect for Referees

Instances of abuse towards referees are a continuing concern. This behaviour is wholly unacceptable and undermines the ethos of Gaelic games. Meath GAA reaffirms its zero-tolerance stance on such conduct, and measures to address this include:

- **Strict Sanctions:** Strong penalties for those who engage in abusive behaviour towards officials.
- **Educational Campaigns:** Raising awareness of the critical role referees play in ensuring the smooth running and integrity of games.

All participants—players, mentors, and supporters—must actively promote an atmosphere of mutual respect.

### On-Field Conduct

Players also hold significant responsibility for maintaining respect on the field. Adult players, in particular, are role models for the younger generation and must lead by example. Sportsmanship, mutual respect, and positive behaviour on the pitch ensure that Gaelic games continue to inspire and unite communities.

### Supporter Conduct

Supporters are the heartbeat of our games, but we must all strive to ensure games are played in a positive environment. Any abuse among supporters tarnishes the experience for others and goes against the spirit of the GAA. Meath GAA encourages all attendees to take personal responsibility for their actions, promoting a welcoming atmosphere at every match.

### Gratitude to Referees

Our referees continue to give their time and expertise to ensure games can take place. Despite the challenges they face, their commitment to officiating is commendable. Meath GAA remains dedicated to:

- **Supporting Referees:** Through training and development opportunities to help them excel in their roles.



- **Promoting Excellence:** Encouraging high fitness standards and deepening knowledge of the rules to enhance their performance.

Referees are not only the enforcers of the rules but also the guardians of the core values of our games, including fair play, respect, and integrity.

### **Special Acknowledgements**

A heartfelt thank you is extended to Dudley Farrell, the Meath GAA Referees' Administrator, for his exceptional leadership and unwavering support of referees across the county. Dudley's dedication to recruitment, training, and mentoring referees has been invaluable to our games.

On behalf of Meath GAA, I also offer my deepest condolences to Dudley on the recent passing of his beloved wife, Joyce. Our thoughts and prayers are with Dudley and his family during this difficult time. His strength and commitment in continuing his volunteering despite personal loss exemplify the spirit of service that is at the heart of our association.



## Fundraising

Fundraising remains a vital pillar of Meath GAA, enabling us to sustain and grow our operations, support our teams, and develop key facilities like Dunganny COE. In 2024, the dedication of our committees and members has driven significant progress, ensuring the financial strength of our organisation.

## Sponsorship Success

A key highlight this year is the achievement of securing sponsorship for nearly all competitions, a testament to the commitment of **Jason Plunkett, our County Chairperson**, in forging these invaluable partnerships. This effort has provided much-needed financial support for competitions across the county.

## Key Fundraising Events

Our flagship fundraising events, the **Golf Classic** and **Race Day**, continue to be resounding successes. These events have not only generated critical revenue but also strengthened community ties and engagement. A special thanks to **Conor Tormey** and **Tony McEntee**, whose leadership and dedication have ensured the enduring success of the Race Day.

## Cairde na Mí Initiative

The **Finance Sub-Committee** has launched an exciting new initiative to grow **Cairde na Mí**, targeting business leaders and supporters who wish to contribute to the funding of our county teams and further developments at Dunganny COE. This strategic move aims to harness additional expertise and financial support, ensuring the continued growth and success of Meath GAA. Thank you to **Gene Smith** for being the treasurer in 2024.

## Looking Ahead

As we celebrate these achievements, we must continue to explore new opportunities and innovative ideas to expand our fundraising efforts. The future offers immense potential, and





with the collective efforts of our committees and supporters, we are confident in securing sustainable growth for Meath GAA.

Thank you to everyone involved in fundraising this year—your efforts are ensuring a vibrant and prosperous future for Gaelic games in Meath. Together, we are building a legacy of excellence and progress.



## Sponsors – Supporting the Future of Meath GAA

As we reflect on 2024, we extend our deepest gratitude to all our sponsors, whose invaluable support underpins the success of Meath GAA. Your contributions continue to be instrumental in enabling us to sustain and develop our activities at all levels.

### Team Sponsors

- **Senior, U-20, Minor, and Underage Academy Football Teams:** Noel and Valerie Moran of Bective Stud, Tea Rooms, & Apartments.
- **Senior and U-20 Hurling Teams:** Glenveagh Homes.
- **Minor Hurling Team:** WillowWarm.

### Competition Sponsors

#### Football

- **Senior Football Championship:** Fairyhouse Steel.
- **Intermediate Football Championship:** Meade Farm Group.
- **Junior Football Championship:** Balreask Bar, Restaurant & Guest Accommodation.
- **Junior 'B' Football Championship:** Coolrite.
- **Premier Football Championship (Div. 1–9):** Meath Cleaning Supplies.
- **Regional Football Championships:** Brady's Skoda.
- **Football Leagues:**
  - **Div. 1:** PR Coyne & Sons
  - **Div. 2:** J.M. Food Services
  - **Div. 3:** P.S. Supplies Doors & Floors
  - **Div. 4:** JMB Sportsfield Services.
  - **Div. 5:** Tommy Dowd Oil.
  - **Div. 6:** Tommy Dowd Oil.
  - **Div. 7:** Rays Roofing and Home Renovations.



- **Div. 8:** K McKeown Carpentry and Home Improvements.
- **Div. 9:** PMC Physiotherapy.
- **Div. 10:** Waterways Environmental Ltd.
  
- **Feis Cup:** JMB Sportsfield Services.
- **Corn na Bóinne:** Gaelic Games Equipment
- **Tailteann Cup & Shield:** N2 Electrical & Security Supplies Ltd.
- **U-19 Football Competitions:** Coolrite.
- **Minor Football Competitions:** LMFM.
- **U-15 Football Competitions:** O'Reilly & Co. Solicitors.
- **Juvenile Football Competitions:** RS Awards.

#### Hurling

- **Senior Hurling Championship:** Ted Murtagh Clothing & Footwear, Trim.
- **Intermediate Hurling Championship:** J.M. Food Services.
- **Junior & Junior 'B' Hurling Championship:** K Windows and Doors.
- **Adult Hurling Leagues:** LMES Ltd.
- **Brendan Davis Cup:** Harmon Oil.
- **Minor Hurling Competitions:** DG Stoves & Fireplaces.

#### Other Sponsorships

- **Meath GAA TV:** Ideal Bathrooms.
- **County Team Water:** Carraquil.
- **SF Kit Van:** DK Motors.
- **SH Kit Van:** Sports Lighting Systems.
- **Football Development:** The Grafton Group
- **Others:** Glanbia, Callmetrics.



## **Innovative Fundraising Opportunities**

This year, we are excited to announce a unique sponsorship opportunity: the **naming rights for the Dunganny Centre of Excellence**. This state-of-the-art facility is at the heart of Meath GAA's development, and we welcome expressions of interest from businesses keen to align their brand with the future of Gaelic games in the county.

## **Acknowledgements**

We are proud to note the exceptional efforts of **Jason Plunkett, County Chairperson**, who has secured new sponsors for nearly all previously unsponsored competitions, ensuring much-needed financial support across the board. We also extend our thanks to all sponsors who have contributed in various capacities.

Your support is not just an investment in Meath GAA but also in the lives of our players and the wider community. We look forward to continuing these valued partnerships and invite new sponsors to join us in celebrating and advancing Gaelic games in Meath.

Together, we are building a legacy of success and community. Thank you for your unwavering commitment and generosity.



## Central Council/Leinster Councils

Meath GAA acknowledges the invaluable support of the Leinster Council and Central Council throughout 2024. Their assistance has been pivotal in enabling the smooth running of our operations and advancing our goals.

### Acknowledgements – Leinster Council

Our heartfelt thanks to **Julie Quinn, Patricia Clear, Hannah Horan, and Michael Reynolds** for their continued guidance and support. Your commitment has been instrumental during my tenure as Secretary. I also extend my gratitude to **Derek Kent**, Chairperson of the Leinster GAA Council, for his leadership and encouragement throughout the year.

### Acknowledgements – Central Council

We deeply appreciate the efforts of **Teresa Rehill, Lorena Kelly, David Connellan, Bernard Smith, and Emma Tormey**, whose dedication has ensured the efficient operation of Meath GAA. Your hard work behind the scenes is sincerely valued.

Special thanks are due to **Ard Stiúrthóir Tom Ryan** and **Uachtarán Jarlath Burns** their leadership, which continues to inspire and guide us.

### Looking Ahead

Meath GAA remains committed to working closely with Leinster Council and Central Council to uphold the traditions and standards of Gaelic games while fostering innovation and progress. We are confident that, with their continued support, we can achieve even greater milestones in the year ahead.

Thank you to everyone who contributes to the success and development of Gaelic games at both provincial and national levels. Your efforts make a lasting impact on the Meath GAA community.



## Primary, Post-Primary, and Higher Education



*Pictured at the launch from left to right: Eoghan Frayne (Meath Senior player), Brian O'Halloran (Meath Senior player and MU alumnus), Ciarán Flynn (Meath GAA Secretary), Mary Kate Lynch (Meath Senior player and MU alumna), Ella Moyles (Meath GAA) and Sonia Leonard (Meath Camogie player)*

The relationship between Meath GAA and the educational sector remains a cornerstone of our community's sporting and cultural development. In 2024, we have made significant strides in strengthening our engagement with both primary and post-primary schools, laying a robust foundation for the future of Gaelic games in the county.

### **Primary and Post-Primary Collaboration**

The efforts of dedicated representatives from Cumann na mBunscol and the Post-Primary Schools' Committee have been pivotal. James Battersby continues to enhance ties with primary schools, ensuring widespread participation and enthusiasm for Gaelic games among younger players. At the post-primary level, Kevin Reilly, as Chairperson, has brought renewed vigour and strategic focus to nurturing talent within secondary schools. The creation of a Meath combined school was a highlight this year. This is a great initiative and will grow over the next few years.





We also extend our gratitude to Nodlag O'Neill-Forde, Secretary of Cumann na mBunscol, for her exceptional work in coordinating primary school competitions and fostering a thriving environment for budding athletes. Special thanks go to Christine O'Brien, Head of Games Development, for assembling a dynamic committee of active post-primary teachers who are integral to implementing these initiatives.

### **Maynooth University Partnership**

This year marked the launch of a groundbreaking partnership between Meath GAA and Maynooth University. This collaboration focuses on enhancing sports performance and academic opportunities for players and students alike. Key elements of the partnership include:

- **Sport Science and Medicine Support:** Maynooth University provides Meath GAA with expert consultancy, access to state-of-the-art facilities, and assistance with GAA player and coach scholarships.
- **Work Experience Opportunities:** Meath GAA supports Maynooth students through practical placements, fostering a hands-on learning environment.
- **Research Collaboration:** Both organisations are working together on research projects aimed at improving performance and reducing injury risks.

The partnership has already yielded significant benefits, with several Meath players actively involved in Maynooth's sports programmes, including scholarship recipients Eoghan Frayne, Conor Gray, and Nicole Troy. The shared vision between these institutions underscores the importance of integrating academic excellence with athletic development.

### **Conclusion**

Our partnerships with schools and universities are vital in ensuring the continued growth of Gaelic games in Meath. By bridging education and sport, we are not only nurturing future players but also creating a legacy that strengthens the bond between Meath GAA and our educational community. As we look forward, these initiatives will continue to inspire and empower the next generation of athletes and scholars.



## Media & Communications

In an era where media and public relations play an increasingly critical role, 2024 has been a good year for Meath GAA in terms of visibility, engagement, and innovation. We owe a debt of gratitude to all who contribute to ensuring that the stories, achievements, and events of Meath GAA are widely and effectively shared.

### Media Partnerships and Coverage

A special thank you is extended to Fergal Lynch and Jimmy Geoghegan of the *Meath Chronicle* for their exceptional weekly coverage, which continues to inform and connect our local community. Similarly, Colm Corrigan, head of sport at *LMFM*, has once again provided unparalleled radio coverage, bringing our games to life for listeners locally and abroad. The voices of Brendan Cummins and Mattie Kerrigan remain iconic and new voices such as David Rispin are bringing a new life to the coverage

To Declan Lynch and the team at *Meath HoganStand*, your tireless work in publicising games and capturing moments through photography is invaluable. David Rispin and Mickey Brennan from *We Are Meath* deserve praise for their innovative podcasts and modernised game coverage, which bring fresh energy to how our games are followed. Your awards show is turning into a GAA highlight for Meath GAA supporters and we wish you well in this endeavour.

The contributions of Stephen Markey (*Meath Daily TV*) have added depth to our digital and video content, while Seán Wall's dedication to attending and reporting on games is commendable. Thank you to our County PRO, Brian Kelly, and his team for their work in digital promotions and program publications.

### Innovation in Streaming

This year saw the successful introduction of *Clubber*, a game-streaming platform that has allowed fans to watch Meath GAA matches from anywhere in the world. This initiative, which I championed in 2020, has proven transformative. It is gratifying to see this vision finally come to fruition, enriching how our games are experienced while generating additional exposure and revenue for our association.



## Looking Ahead

As we look to 2025, we aim to build on these successes, leveraging media and technology to further promote and grow Gaelic games in Meath. The collective contributions of our media partners, volunteers, and staff ensure that Meath GAA remains at the forefront of community engagement and innovation. For this, we are deeply grateful.



## Awards and Achievements 2024

As we celebrate the success and contributions within Meath GAA, it is with great pride that we announce and honour the recipients of this year's awards. These individuals and clubs have exemplified the very best of Gaelic games, demonstrating exceptional skill, dedication, and commitment.

### Footballer of the Year

Mathew Costello (Dunshaughlin GAA)

Mathew's outstanding performances for Dunshaughlin and Meath epitomise leadership and excellence, making him a deserving recipient of this prestigious award. Hopefully this fantastic year is a foundation for further success at the inter-county level.

### Hurler of the Year

Padraig O'Hanrahan (Ratoath GAA)

Pádraig's consistent brilliance on the field has been instrumental in Ratoath's success, solidifying his place as one of Meath's standout hurlers. A Jubilee win this year for this club was a major accolade in Padraig's career.

### Young Footballer of the Year

Gary Breslin (Meath Hill GAA)

Gary's remarkable talent and determination at a young age highlight the bright future of Meath football. Gary starred for an excellent Meath Hill team. His dynamic attacking play could see him line out in a green and gold jersey in 2025.

### Young Hurler of the Year

Daire Shine (Kilskyre GAA)

Daire's passion and sharp skills have established him as a rising star in Meath hurling. Playing U-20 and Senior hurling in the same year brings many challenges. These challenges did not rock Daire as he played some great hurling for both teams.



### **Referee of the Year**

Keith Sheerin (Castletown GAA)

Keith's professionalism and consistency in officiating have earned him widespread respect across all levels of competition. He has been refereed at all levels in Meath this year and his positive mannerisms alongside his expert ability as a match official has seem pick up his award.

### **Most Improved Referee**

Darren Dunne (St Peter's Dunboyne GAA)

Darren's commitment to honing his skills is a testament to the critical role referees play in our games. Darren was in the middle of the Senior 'B' final this year and he showed his ability for the senior ranks. Further development in 2025 is in no doubt.

### **Grounds of the Year**

Summerhill GAA

Summerhill's commitment to maintaining exceptional facilities exemplifies what every club should aspire to achieve. Summerhill GAA Club is a hub for the community and its constant improvement is due to the incredible efforts of the members.

### **Club of the Year**

O'Mahony's GAA

O'Mahony's excellence on and off the field, from player development to community engagement, makes them a shining example in Meath GAA.

### **Public Relations Award**

Moynalvey GAA

Moynalvey's innovative and engaging approach to promoting their activities has set a high benchmark for club communications.



## Hall of Fame



*4- Patsy McGearty looks up before clearing his lines during the 1954 All-Ireland SFC Final.*

### **Patsy McGearty**

Patsy's lasting legacy and unparalleled contributions to Meath GAA are rightly celebrated with this highest honour. A member of the 1954 AISFC team alongside a lifetime of GAA contributions sees Patsy join a club of GAA greats.

Patsy has the somewhat unique distinction of playing in All-Ireland Finals for Meath in 1952 and 1954 as first an outfield player and then as a goalkeeper for the 1954 All-Ireland Final. In both the drawn game and replay in 1952, Patsy lined out at right half back against Mayo before migrating to be the net-minder for the victorious 1954 Final against Kerry.

The Ballivor clubman is one of a small but select group of players from the club who have All-Ireland Senior medals along with Bertie Cunningham (RIP), Conor Martin, Paddy Dixon (RIP) and Willie Rispin (RIP).

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These achievements reflect the dedication and passion that drive Meath GAA forward. Congratulations to all the winners for their invaluable contributions to our games and community. Their efforts inspire us all to continue striving for excellence in every aspect of Gaelic games.





## Jason Plunkett's Leadership: A Promising Start for Meath GAA



L-R – Kayden Plunkett & Jason Plunkett

2024 marked the beginning of a new chapter for Meath GAA under the leadership of Jason Plunkett as County Chairperson. From the outset, Jason has demonstrated a forward-thinking approach, setting the stage for a promising tenure characterised by reform and modernisation.

One of Jason's standout achievements this year was addressing and reforming outdated administrative and operational practices. His commitment to ensuring Meath GAA operates with efficiency and transparency has been pivotal. Jason prioritised aligning the organisation with best practices while maintaining its rich traditions, creating a solid foundation for sustainable growth.

His focus on collaboration has fostered a strong sense of unity among the 60 clubs within Meath GAA. Jason's emphasis on communication and inclusivity has been instrumental in energising volunteers, players, and supporters alike, reflecting his dedication to serving every corner of the county.

Looking ahead, Jason has articulated a clear vision for Meath GAA. His focus on both on-field and off-field development will be vital in driving success and innovation across all



aspects of the organisation. From supporting county teams to enhancing club structures, Jason's leadership promises to usher in an era of progress and achievement.

In conclusion, Jason Plunkett's first year as Chairperson has been a resounding success. His proactive leadership style and commitment to modernisation have positioned Meath GAA for continued excellence in the years ahead. We look forward to seeing the positive impact of his initiatives unfold and wish him continued success in his role.



## Modernising our Accounting and Financial Practices

In 2024, Meath GAA embraced a transformative shift in our financial management by transitioning from the Microsoft Dynamics system to Xero, a cutting-edge, cloud-based platform. This change aligns with the GAA's decision to phase out Dynamics by October 2024 and reflects our commitment to modernisation and operational efficiency.

Xero's real-time accessibility has already proven invaluable, enabling informed financial decisions anytime, anywhere. This agility enhances responsiveness, particularly during pivotal moments, ensuring that our financial practices are as dynamic as our games.

The platform's user-friendly interface has significantly reduced training requirements, streamlining the transition for our staff and volunteers. Its seamless integration with various business applications has further enhanced connectivity, simplifying operations across all levels of Meath GAA.

Data security remains paramount, and Xero's robust protections offer peace of mind against emerging cyber threats. Its scalability ensures that as Meath GAA continues to grow, our financial system will adapt effortlessly to meet our expanding needs.

A standout feature is Xero's real-time financial reporting, which allows us to monitor our financial health and make timely, strategic decisions. This innovation supports our aim to continuously improve, ensuring transparency and accountability.

The move to Xero signifies more than a technical upgrade; it represents our commitment to evolving alongside the needs of our members and community. By embracing modern tools, Meath GAA is well-positioned to achieve greater efficiency, security, and adaptability in its financial practices, ensuring a stronger foundation for future success.



## **Bereavements**

As we reflect on 2024, it is with great sadness that we acknowledge the significant losses within the Meath GAA community. Each bereavement has left a void in our organisation and reminded us of the deep connections that bind our members.

The individuals we lost came from all walks of life within the GAA family: players, coaches, administrators, volunteers, and supporters. Each one contributed uniquely to the strength and vibrancy of our organisation, leaving behind legacies that will inspire generations to come. Their passion, generosity, and love for Gaelic games extended far beyond the pitch.

We offer our deepest condolences to the families and friends of the departed. Their sorrow is shared across the Meath GAA community, and we honour the lives and memories of their loved ones. Let us hold onto the happy memories and the lessons they imparted, ensuring that their spirit continues to guide us in the future.

In remembrance, we recommit ourselves to upholding the values they cherished and celebrating the impact they had on our organisation. While their physical presence is missed, their influence and memory will remain deeply rooted in the heart of Meath GAA.

**Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-anamacha uaisle.**



## Conclusion

As we bring this annual report to a close, I extend my heartfelt gratitude to my fellow officers on the County Management Committee for their steadfast commitment and exceptional service to Meath GAA. Your dedication has been pivotal in maintaining the traditions of our association while pushing forward into new opportunities.

A special note of thanks is due to Jason Plunkett and Gene Smith for their collaboration throughout the year. Our teamwork has strengthened operations significantly, setting a positive foundation for continued progress. I also wish the incoming Management Committee every success in the year ahead.

I want to express my sincere appreciation to Tara Rowan, our Senior Administrator, for her outstanding work in the County Office at Dunganny.

To all the liaison officers supporting our county teams, your efforts have been integral to ensuring smooth operations, enabling our teams to perform at their best. Special thanks to Paul Garrigan for his dedication to player development through the Academy and athletic programmes.

On a personal note, I extend my gratitude to my clubs, Dunsany and Kilmessan, for their ongoing encouragement and understanding as I balance my many roles within the GAA. To my fiancée, Rachel Coyne, thank you for your unwavering support and patience throughout this journey. My parents, Ann and Francis Flynn, have also been a source of invaluable guidance and encouragement—thank you both.

Finally, to the wider Meath GAA community, your passion and dedication are the driving forces behind everything we do. Together, we look forward to a bright future, built on the foundations of collaboration, pride, and the unyielding spirit of Gaelic games.

**Go raibh míle maith agaibh.**



### Coiste Bainistíochta an Mhí C.L.G.

Role	Name	Club
Chairperson	Jason Plunkett	Cluain Íoraird
Vice-Chairperson	Paddy Kelly	Cill Teidhil
Secretary	Ciarán Flynn	Dún Samhna
Assistant Secretary	Nick Fitzgerald	Cill Dealga
Treasurer	Gene Smith	An Obair
Assistant Treasurer	Jim Mullery	Baile Shláine
Coaching Officer	Eamon Barry	Baile an Bhaitearaigh
Irish Cultural Officer	Joseph O'Brien	An Scrín
Public Relations Officer	Brian Kelly	Baile Sencaill
Leinster Council Representative	Damien Griffin	Na Fianna
Leinster Council Representative	Mairead Delaney	Domhnach Seachnaill
Central Council Representative	Conor Tormey	Domhnach Mór/Cill Dhéagláin
Children's Officer	Michael Bennett	Ó Mathúna
Planning and Training Officer	Brian Carberry	Naomh Uinsíonn
Safety and Facilities Officer	Jason Plunkett	Cluain Íoraird
Hurling Development Committee Chairperson	John Brennan	Rath Tó
Minor Committee Chairperson	Ray Finnegan	Naomh Ultain
Football Development Committee Chairperson	Conor O'Donoghue	Naomh Peadar Dún Bóinne
County Competitions Control Committee Chairperson	Conor Tormey	Domhnach Mór/Cill Dhéagláin





## 2. Competitions Control Committee

As the 2024 season comes to a close, it is with great pride and optimism that we reflect on what has been an exceptionally successful year for fixtures and competitions in Meath GAA. The CCC's efforts to innovate and expand opportunities for players have borne fruit, with several key reforms and initiatives making a significant impact.

One of the most notable successes this year was the expansion of the football leagues to include all teams across the county. This initiative ensured every player had access to meaningful competitive games throughout the season, strengthening participation and engagement.

The introduction of the U-19 Football Cup at the start of the year addressed a long-standing gap, providing a vital bridge for players transitioning from minor to adult football. This competition proved hugely popular, offering young players a platform to develop and showcase their skills. Additionally, the U-19 Football Championship, held in the autumn, attracted more teams than ever before, further consolidating this age grade as a key element in the GAA calendar.

Another highlight was the restoration of championship football for all second and third teams in August and September. This change was met with widespread enthusiasm and has revitalised competition at these levels, ensuring that players of all abilities have the opportunity to compete in meaningful championship matches.

In hurling, the introduction of the Senior B Hurling Championship was a significant step forward. This new tier has provided a more competitive structure for clubs, offering a pathway for development and success while ensuring balanced and exciting games.

Overall, 2024 has seen more players participating in games over longer periods of the year, a testament to the CCC's commitment to inclusivity and player welfare. Fixture dates were once again released well in advance, providing clarity and allowing clubs to plan effectively.

However, challenges remain. The appointment of referees continues to be a demanding task, but thanks to the dedication of Dudley Farrell along with the referees' committee, this was managed with great efficiency. The ongoing shortage of referees remains a concern, and I urge clubs to prioritise identifying and supporting new referees in the future.

Discipline is another area requiring continued focus. While the majority of games are played in the true spirit of sportsmanship, incidents of misconduct cannot be ignored. Clubs



must reinforce codes of conduct among players, mentors, and supporters, ensuring respect for referees and fellow participants.

A special thanks go to all club secretaries, executives, and volunteers for their unwavering support in hosting games and maintaining pitches. Your hard work underpins the success of our competitions and demonstrates the true spirit of the GAA.

I would like to acknowledge the leadership of our CCC members, Liam Keane, Conor O'Donoghue, Ciarán Flynn, and Thelma Byrne and extend my gratitude to all my fellow CCC colleagues. Your dedication, teamwork, and commitment have been instrumental in achieving the successes of 2024.

**Conchúr Ó Tormaigh**

**Cathaoirleach Choiste Rialaithe Comórtas C.L.G. na Mí**



## **Disciplinary Report**

An overview of the year will show that most games progressed without incident or injury. There were, however, 136 straight red card dismissals and 97 Category 1 dismissals (remainder of the game) giving a total number of 233 sending-offs.

Most of the straight red card dismissals were for Category 3(i) offences: Striking or attempting to strike with minimal force accounting for 25% of all straight red card dismissals. Seven clubs had no red cards. Four clubs had more than ten red cards throughout the year.

Regrettably, abuse of referees and match officials is still evident, especially from the sidelines. Verbal abuse of a referee or match official changed from a Category 3 (1 game) to Category 4 (2 games) infraction for players in 2024. It is especially disappointing that this is an increasing problem with underage games, from both players and mentors and a zero-tolerance policy on this should be adopted by club executives.

Under 15 and 17 grades were problematic throughout the year, with some incidents occurring that resulted in serious injuries to players. It is concerning that out of those dismissals noted above, 80 sanctions were associated with games at the Under 17 level or below.

I would like to thank those who assisted me in finding my feet in what is a somewhat challenging role, including my colleagues on the CCC and the members of the Hearings Committee, Tara and all the office staff in Dunganny, and the club secretaries.

In particular, I would like to thank the referees for their ongoing cooperation and ask that they keep submitting their reports without delay following games.

### **Thelma Uí Bhroin**

Riarthóir Smachtbhanna

Leas Rúnaí Coiste Rialaithe Comórtas C.L.G. na Mí



### 3. Fixtures Analysis Committee

The Meath Competitions Control Committee's objective in 2024 was to deliver an efficient and meaningful programme of Gaelic games. We can report that in 2024 all the major objectives were met. Despite a packed schedule and challenges such as weather disruptions, significant progress was made, further building on the reforms of recent years.

#### Key Successes in 2024

##### 1. Adult Football Competitions:

- All divisions of the *Football League* were completed before the championship, allowing teams to transition smoothly.
- The *Premier Football Championship* continued to provide valuable competitive opportunities for second and subsequent teams, with fewer walkovers recorded this year compared to 2023.

##### 2. Adult Hurling Competitions:

- The introduction of the *Senior B Hurling Championship* provided a much-needed competitive outlet for emerging teams.
- All hurling leagues were completed on schedule despite challenges posed by weather and venue availability.

##### 3. Underage Initiatives:

- The *U-19 Football Cup* at the start of the year successfully bridged the gap to adult competitions.
- The *U-19 Football Championship* in autumn saw increased participation, ensuring extended playing opportunities.

##### 4. Participation Growth:

- Significant strides were made in promoting dual-code participation at Go-Games and underage levels.
- Regional football competitions continued to flourish, with more players progressing to senior and development inter-county squads.



## Challenges Addressed

- **Walkovers:** While walkovers in adult competitions remain a concern, the overall rate decreased in 2024 due to better scheduling and increased emphasis on player retention.
- **Referees:** Recruitment, training, and respect for referees were prioritised, with campaigns launched to encourage new officials, particularly women.
- **Climate Issues:** Adjusted scheduling minimised fixture clashes caused by weather-related disruptions.

## National Guidelines Compliance

Meath CCC continues to exceed national guidelines for meaningful games provided to adult players, especially for first-team and dual players. Reserve team players and those in lower divisions remain a focus for further improvements although major improvements were made in 2024.

## Emerging Issues

- Retaining players as they progress from underage to adult competitions.
- Balancing the fixture calendar with increasing demands on facilities and weather impacts.
- Addressing player workload due to inter-county commitments and their impact on clubs.

## Conclusion

The CCC's efforts in 2024 have resulted in a record number of games played, increased participation across all levels, and meaningful reforms that benefit both players and clubs. These achievements were only possible through the dedication of volunteers, referees, and club committees. Looking ahead, the CCC will continue to refine its processes to enhance the player experience and ensure the continued growth of Gaelic games in Meath.

## Fixture Operational Performance (52 Points)

1. **Commencement of Season:** The competitive adult season should begin before the end of March. **6 / 6 points**



2. **Master Fixture Plan:** A detailed fixture plan must be submitted to the provincial fixture analyst and circulated to clubs by the end of February. **5 / 5 points**
3. **Postponement Policies:** Counties must annually review their postponement and re-  
fixture policies, sharing these with clubs and the Provincial Council. **5 / 5 points**
4. **Provincial Finals Timeline:** County finals for competitions progressing to provincial  
levels must be played at least two weekends before the provincial championship. **5 / 5  
points**
5. **Alternative Venues:** A regulation must be in place to move games to alternative venues  
if home pitches are unplayable, as decided by the CCC. **5 / 5 points**
6. **Weekly Fixtures:** Weekly fixtures must be published on the county website and shared  
with clubs before 10 a.m. on Tuesdays during the season. **5 / 5 points**
7. **County Players in Club Games:** County managers' charters must allow county players  
not on match-day panels to represent their clubs on weekends. **5 / 5 points**
8. **Championship Rounds:**
  - No championship rounds should be postponed due to county team progression  
unless outlined in the Master Fixtures Plan. **4 / 4 points**
  - Similarly, league rounds should adhere strictly to the fixtures plan unless  
impacted by county team commitments. **2 / 2 points**
9. **Fixture Analyst Reports:** The county fixture analyst should annually report on all  
fixtures played, submitting it to the provincial fixture analyst. **5 / 5 points**
10. **End-of-Year Forums:** A forum or review with club players and representatives must  
occur before the year's fixture calendar is finalised. **4 / 5 points (No player  
involvement)**

**51 points of 52 points**

**David Harford**

**Fixture Analyst**





#### 4. Hearings Committee



Coiste Éisteachta an Mhí has convened 30 times and heard 43 cases throughout 2024.

**The breakdown of cases is as follows:**

- Transfers - 9
- Permissions to Play - 2
- Adult Football - 20
- Adult Hurling - 5
- Juvenile Football - 3
- Juvenile Hurling - 3
- DRA Cases – 1
- 

Coiste Éisteachta an Mhí issued four fines, the total amounting to €1,000.

**Coiste Éisteachta an Mhí members 2024:** Cathaoirleach: Francis Flynn (Baile Sencaill); Rúnaí: Ruth Chambers (Baile an Bhaitearaigh); Andy Fahy (Rath Tó); Brendan Lynch (Magh nEalta); Brian Rennick (Dún Doire); Cyril Creavin (Domhnach Seachnaill); Gerry Giblin (Domhnach Mór Cill Dhéagláin); Michael Mullally (Gaeil Bhláth Gall); Pat O'Reilly (Gaeil Baile Shiomóin).

**LE MEAS,**

**RÚNAÍ**



## 5. Safety and Facilities Committee

### Club Facility Improvements

This year, we witnessed significant progress in facility enhancements across our clubs. A total of **28 clubs** completed the Leinster grants process, securing funding amounting to **€236,000**. Among these, three clubs – **St Colmcille's, Dunderry, and Donaghmore/Ashbourne** – were awarded land purchase grants. We also acknowledge the valuable contributions of our County Council and local councillors, who provided support for various smaller projects, assisting clubs in their development efforts.

### County Infrastructure Developments

On the county front, 2024 was marked by substantial advancements. We completed the construction phase of the three grass pitch projects in Dunganny, initiated in 2023. These pitches are now in the grow-in phase, with games and training anticipated to commence by late May.

Significant funding achievements include:

- **€329k** from the Sports Capital Programme.
- **€225k** from the GAA County Infrastructure Fund.

These funds are dedicated to the upgrade of LED floodlights across our four-county pitches, enhancing both the quality and sustainability of our facilities.

### Enhancements in Dunganny

In Dunganny, we have made a number of strategic improvements:

- A container was converted into a fully equipped first aid station.
- A new portable scoreboard was acquired.
- A multi-use vehicle was purchased to support our caretaker, **Dave McGee**, in his maintenance duties.
- An **80m x 40m** area behind the main building was drained and developed for use as a warm-up space.
- Planning permission was secured for a new gym facility, with capacity for **70 players**.



## **Future Planning**

A strategic development plan is currently in progress to guide the completion of our Centre of Excellence. This plan prioritizes projects that will be executed as funding becomes available, ensuring the continued evolution of our facilities.

## **Safety, Stewarding, and Compliance**

Safety remains a primary focus. Each club must have a safety statement in place, as this is a legal requirement. We remind clubs of the critical need to provide adequate stewards, ensuring we meet safety regulations and can continue to use Páirc Tailteann for matches while safeguarding the well-being of patrons. Additionally, we encourage clubs to update their trustees to transition to the GAA corporate trustee system to streamline grant applications and legal matters.

## **Acknowledgements**

I wish to extend my sincere thanks to the committee for their dedication and expertise throughout the year. Special recognition goes to our office staff, particularly Tara for her work on insurance, along with Sinead and Ciara at Croke Park, and Patricia, John Browne, and Hannah at Leinster GAA, for their invaluable support.

Iasón Pluncéad

**Cathaoirleach Choiste na Sábháilteachta agus na nÁiseanna**



## 6. Referees' Administration Committee

As we reflect on 2024, I wish to extend my sincere gratitude to all those who have supported the referees within Meath GAA throughout the year. The backing from the County Committee, chaired by Jason Plunkett, and the collaborative assistance of Secretary Ciarán Flynn and Treasurer Gene Smith, has been fundamental in fostering the growth and development of refereeing in the county.

The Competitions Control Committee has continued its invaluable support in the efficient appointment of referees, ensuring that games across all levels are officiated with fairness and professionalism. I would also like to acknowledge the tireless work of the Referee Administration Committee, with particular thanks to Denise Farrelly, whose dedication to managing appointments has been exemplary.

On a provincial and national level, Meath referees have once again represented the county with distinction. In football, David Gough and David Coldrick have continued their exceptional work on the National Panel, while Kieran Olwell, Andrew Smith, and Patrick Coyle have made significant contributions to the Leinster Panel. In hurling, Derek Ryan and Ciarán Flynn have upheld the county's reputation on the Leinster Panel with their exemplary officiating.

Special congratulations are due to Keith Sheerin who was named Referee of the Year, and to Darren, recognised as the Most Improved Referee. These awards underscore their dedication to improving standards and the vital role they play in maintaining the integrity of our games.

Refereeing remains a challenging but essential element of Gaelic games, and I urge all clubs to continue promoting the recruitment and development of referees within their communities. The ongoing success of our games depends on a strong and capable refereeing community.

In conclusion, I extend my deepest thanks to all our referees, committee members, and volunteers for their unwavering commitment. The collective efforts of everyone involved continue to strengthen the fabric of Meath GAA, and I look forward to seeing this progress continue in 2025.

**Dudley Farrell**

**Cathaoirleach, Coiste na Réiteoirí**



## 7. Coaching and Games Development Committee

The Coaching & Games department has had a highly positive and progressive year, marked by significant achievements and impactful initiatives across all areas of our operations. Our commitment to excellence has been evident in the delivery of innovative projects, comprehensive support for clubs, and the successful execution of our Operations Plan.

The Player Pathway Programme has been a cornerstone of our success this year. With clear structures and tailored support, it has fostered development at every level, from grassroots to academy teams. The pathway's strong alignment with our long-term vision has ensured excellent participation and meaningful progress for players and coaches alike.

Coach education has been a major highlight, with exceptional engagement in both formal and informal settings. From introductory workshops to advanced development sessions, our offerings have equipped coaches with the skills and confidence to excel. The dedication of our staff has been instrumental in this success, with their expertise and enthusiasm shining through in every session.

### Cul Camps

In 2024 the camp programme has continued its success with participating numbers holding their own. Cul Camps had 6,672 children participating across 53 venues. We had GDC Conor Brennan take on the role as Cul Camp Coordinator and we thank him for his diligence throughout the year, ensuring the smooth running of all venues. We are very grateful to all host clubs for their efforts and hospitality. To the 130 coaches who are a massive part of the success of camps, we thank them for their rapport and expertise with the children weekly.

We made an improved impact at Club, Easter and Halloween Camps this year, which we are delighted with. The targeted 8 Camps at Easter and 18 Club Summer Camps were achieved, whilst the Halloween Camps were down to 3 venues.

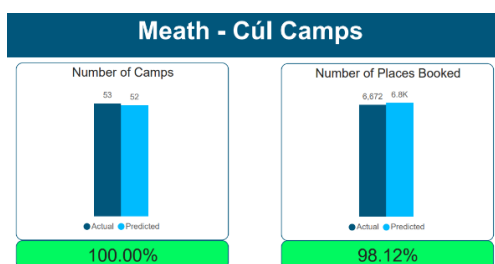


Figure 1: Meath Cul Camp Figures for 2024



## Nursery Programme

A concentrated effort to offer support of all Club Nurseries was assigned to all Participation Officers during the year with all PO clubs receiving additional training/workshops and visits during the year. We are undergoing a Nursery Report which will be shared via our C&G website page before Christmas. That will highlight the fantastic work being done by clubs to ensure our Foundation for participation and coaching is very healthy across the county.

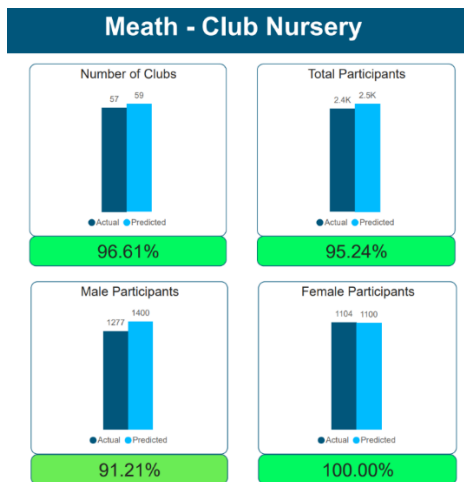


Figure 2: Nursery Coaches and Participation Data.

## Go Games

Again, we have worked closely with Coiste Go Games this year and we are determined to ensure the “Ethos of Go Games” is adhered to and embraced by all clubs. Fintan Porter and Martin Kelly have been instrumental in driving this forward with C&G and we fully appreciate all the work the two men have put into Go Games and especially in the fixture coordination. PO Staff have delivered a new series of “Go Games” coach support workshops across the county during Q2 and Q3 and this has proven to be of great quality and benefit to our juvenile coaches.

The design and delivery of Go Games Coach Support workshops have been a standout success, elevating the Child Pathway and setting a benchmark for engagement. A total of 159 coaches have attended the “Coaching the Go Game”, “Bilateral Kicking” and “Find Your Keepers” workshops which were regionalized around the county.

Our efforts to drive support for the Go Games Referees wasn’t exactly how we had planned initially but we had 60 Young Whistlers attend our Go Games Monster Blitzes in Dunganny in September, which were excellent events.



Our GDC Owen Sullivan will play a major part in this drive to revive the Go Games ethos and ensure that all children are awarded the opportunity to play and enjoy our games in the positive environment they deserve and that our teenagers are supported in their learning as new referees. Plans are forthcoming on how Go Games may look with a different focus in 2025.



Figure 3: Go Games Blitz per Age Rates Football (Top) Hurling (Bottom).

### Primary Schools

The Primary School Programme has been invaluable with regards to maintaining and in many areas increasing the participation rates in schools and clubs. PO's deliver quality programmes through our Coach Eile initiative, which has been designed by our staff, and it has gathered momentum throughout 2024. Schools and clubs in consultation with their PO can choose elements of Coach Eile that they wish to incorporate into their schedule.

The leadership programmes we provide for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> classes through Reiteoir and Playground Leaders will help establish a culture of coaching and mentoring amongst the participants and give them invaluable tools in being an assertive and cooperative volunteer in their school and club community.

The programme is laid out as follows:

- Junior and Senior Infants - Fundamental Movement Skills and Caman & Play





- 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> Class – Have A Ball and Caman & Play
- 3<sup>rd</sup>/4<sup>th</sup> - Cooperation Games, Go Games Blitzes, Coaching Classes
- 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> - Reiteoir, Playground Leaders, Go Games Blitzes, Coaching Classes and 100 Touch Challenge.

Unfortunately, with the loss of some PO staff during the year our numbers were down significantly on previous years. As staff are replaced, we hope to be thriving here in this area once again.

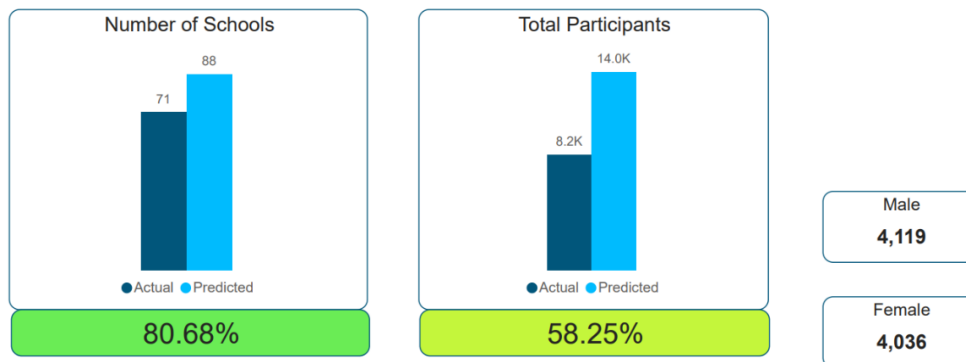


Figure 4: Primary School Participation Rate 2024

**NB: Post Primary School Report is covered in the PPS Committee Report**

### Coach Education

Coach Education has been in huge demand once again with our impact being divided between Formal (Award 1 & ICGG) and Informal (Workshops) more than ever before. Thanks to Jenny Rispin who manages our LMS (Learning Management System) with such expertise and coordinates all staff and volunteer tutors in the delivery of our Formal Coach Education Programme. We are indebted to her contribution to C&G.

Our Informal Coach Ed Programme has been immensely boosted by the Youth Player Pathway Workshops that have been designed by Football Academy Head Coordinator, Paul Garrigan, and are being implemented by the GDCs across the county. To date 31 of these workshops have been delivered with 405 participants attending to date. Following the workshop with coaches we had Support Sessions for U13 to U17 teams, totaling 74 sessions. We are all enthused as to where we can elevate this pathway to in the future with elements being added to the programme.

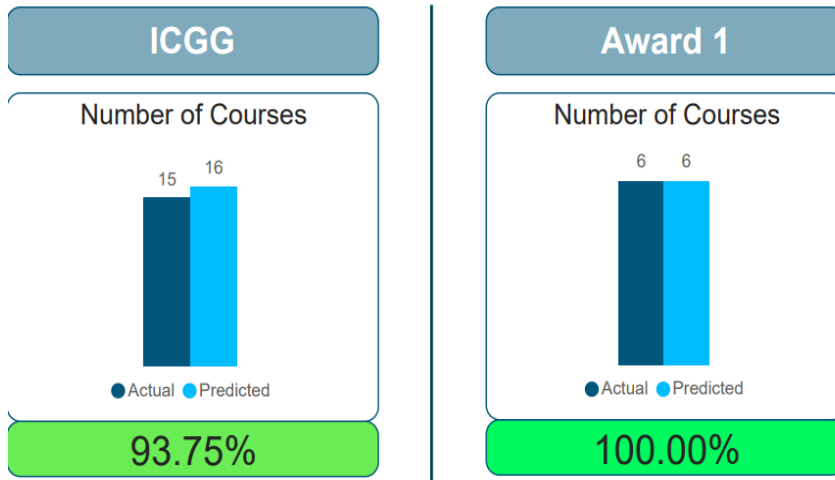


Figure 5: Formal Coach Ed Courses 2024

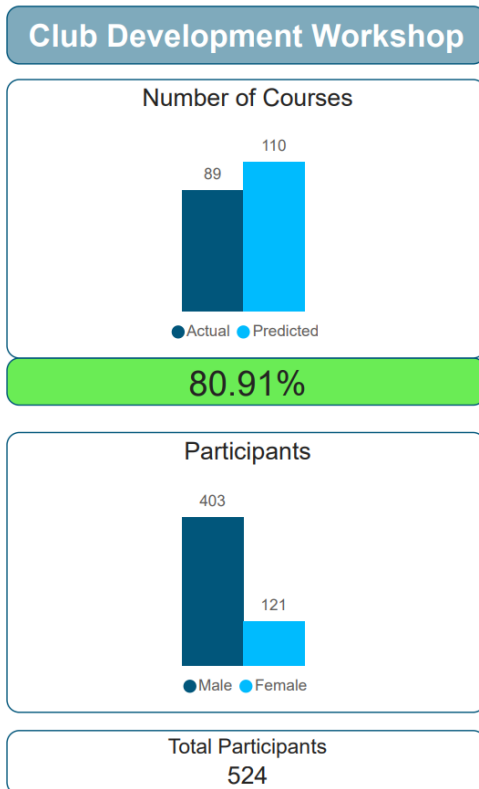


Figure 6: Club Development Coach Ed Attendance 2024

### Hurling Player Pathway

In 2024 we had our Hurling Pathway established, through our lead Hurling GDCs Peter Durnin, Pauraic Burke and the Hurling Development Committee. This was focused initially on the Child Strand, through the delivery of 20 “Grip and Swing” workshops to 183 Go Games and Nursery Coaches. We have had an excellent response from the clubs to this and there will be a



concentrated drive of the Child Hurling Pathway again in 2025 with the transition from Nursery to U7 being the focus for early Spring and then we will deliver to the U9 and U11 coaches with “Striking on the Run” content moving into the summer period. We have identified all the new Hurling Pathway Mangers for each club which will be a huge asset to the clubs, C&G and the Hurling Development Committee as we continue to promote and improve our pathway.

### ***Football Player Pathway***

GDC staff delivered workshops on 5 different topics in regional areas across the county to include u13, U15 and U17 coaches. To follow these workshops a series of support sessions were scheduled, throughout the year, to focus on individual topics targeted at certain age groups. This allowed all clubs the opportunity to have in person sessions with their teams and where management were present to be upskilled and challenged on the future delivery of similar coaching sessions to ensure the Player Pathway has a sustainable future delivery across the county. This whole process began with Planning and Policy Meetings with the new Football Pathway Managers, in each club, and then the Pathway has followed our structure and resources shared on Team Buildr with all Pathway Managers and Team Coaches. This ensures every club is fully aware of and committed to the County Football Pathway.

The input from Academy Head Coach Paul Garrigan, Athletic Development Head Coach Daithi McCabe and the C&G staff ensures that the best programme will be shared with clubs and through the volume of in person, positive, delivery sessions the relationships have grown between staff and coaches and allows us to drive forward with tremendous enthusiasm for our Pathway.

The addition of Post Primary Schools to the Pathway delivery has been very positive to date. The Pathway, Athletic Development and S&C interventions should prove invaluable to both club players and those on academy teams.

### **Club Support & Innovation Projects:**

The year saw a range of well-directed and widely received projects that have enhanced the connection between the department and our clubs. These initiatives, grounded in a spirit of collaboration and innovation, have not only supported the development of club structures but also empowered coaches and players to achieve their potential.



Meath C&G supported and funded several projects throughout 2024, and huge focus went into these County Based programmes:

- Primary School – Coach Eile Programme
- Primary School – Club School Link
- Post Primary School – Combined Football Team and PPS Player Pathway
- Post Primary Schools Super 7s
- Go Games Referee Support
- Hurling Club Nursery Support
- Pathway Manager Recognition
- Coaching officer Support Training

All the above programmes have been in operation throughout the year, with most complete. The exception is the Coaching Officer Support which has only been designed and is now ready to roll out in early 2025. Q4 this year will see the position adjusted for all CO's and this will be shared with all clubs in time for their AGM and then we will run a workshop to incorporate training for the position and confirm the role and responsibility going forward.

### **2024 Meath GAA Football Academy Report**

In 2024 within the Meath GAA Academy, we used a game-based approach to assist us develop two sided Gaelic footballers who possess an adaptable skill set. This approach helped our players to find solutions to game-based problems in line with our Principles of Underpinning Football Coaching Beliefs. The Meath GAA Coaching Curriculum was also developed further to standardize all player and coach development within the Football Talent Academy. The objective was to provide all coaches with the right tools to be prepared and organised for each training session. All session plans were specifically developed for all different age groups and levels in mind with a focus on developing players in the below 4 key areas.

- Technical
- Tactical
- Physical
- Character

Our Coaching Curriculum Priorities for all our squads in 2024 were:

- Q1: Bilateral Skill Development (January-March)



- Q2: Tactical Awareness (April-June)
- Q3: Tactical Awareness- What If's/Coaching Scenarios (July-September)

### **Meath U14 Academy Football Squad**

Our U14 panel consisted of 80 players this year with 4 teams playing in 5 National Game Days over the course of the playing season. Skill Development and an Introduction into Tactical Awareness was the focus with these players in 2024. This panel of players competed well in all games during the year and considering we had a panel of 80 players it was very encouraging to see a huge number of players perform at a very high level. The panel was managed and coached by Kevin Walsh (Trim) Jack Reynolds (St Colmcilles) Paul McManus (Drumbaragh) Marty Reilly (Dunshaughlin) Fin O Driscoll (Trim) Brian Boshell (Gael Colmcille) Jarlaith Brennan (Bective) and James Brennan (St Ultans). The squad was coordinated by GDC Owen O Sullivan with Athletic Development support provided by Conor Brennan.

### **Meath U15 Academy Football Squad**

Our U15 Football panel consisted of 48 players this year with 2 teams competing in the U15 Adam Mangan competition during the year. Games against Kerry, Kildare, Cork, and Westmeath were of a high standard this year and players showed great improvements in their technical, tactical, physical and character development in all these matches. The panel was managed and coached by Trevor Giles (Skryne) Alan Nestor (Blackhall Gaels), Ben Hoey (Simonstown) Garrett Dooley (Dunderry) and Owen Creevey (Trim). The squad was coordinated by GDC Pauraic Burke with Athletic Development support provided by Ruth Caffrey.

### **Meath U16 Academy Football Squad**

Our U16 Football Panel consisted of 44 players this year with 2 teams competing in both the U16 Gerry Reilly and Ted Webb Competitions. Both squads competed well in 2024 with final appearances in both competitions. There were big improvements in their Tactical Awareness and Skill Development in games v Mayo, Tipperary, Kerry, Louth, Laois, Kildare, Armagh, Dublin, Clare, and Monaghan during the year. There would be positive signs with this group that can develop into a competitive team in the 2025 U17 Leinster Championship. The panel was managed and coached by Kenny Morgan (Trim), Nicky Hamill (Skryne) Finbarr Clarke (Trim) Pat



O Sullivan (Bective) and Alan Mulvaney (Seneschalstown). The squad was coordinated by GDC Jenny Rispin with Athletic Development support provided by Stephen Dawson.

Finally, a huge thanks to all the clubs who provided players and coaches to our Academy in 2024 and to the Meath GAA County board who provided support to all our teams. We had over 170 players from U14 to U16 in the Academy who took part in our player development pathway training sessions and games. We also ran Development Panels for over 150 players during the year for players currently not on our Academy squads. These panels provide sessions for late developers and many of these players joined our main Academy squads during the year. This pathway is supported by our Meath GAA Model and Coaching Curriculum which will allow and assist our players to maximise their potential and hopefully go on to represent our clubs and county in future years.

## **2024 Meath Hurling Academy Report**

### ***High Kings***

Meath Coaching and Games held a 3-day camp in Dunganny COE for the Meath u13 High Kings for 2025.

Almost 100 boys from every corner of the county attend the camp which was ran over the Halloween midterm. The program included various skills testing, small sided games, full games and plenty of work on technical proficiency.

These players will now work on their skills for the coming months before attending trials for the Meath u14 panel in the springtime.

Special thanks to the members of staff and to Paul Reilly, Mark Owens and Ger Clarke for helping.

### ***U-14 Hurling Academy***

The Meath u14's started their year back in March with trials taking place over 6 weeks. Over 90 players attended these trials which included games against Louth and Wicklow. A panel of 52 panels was then chosen.

Throughout the year the took part in 5 official blitz days with 3 taking place in Dunganny and 2 in Abbottstown.



In their opening couple of blitzes, they struggled to get up to the speed of the inter county games but by the time the last 2 blitz days came around massive improvements could be seen.

The year ended with a bonding trip to Limerick to take on some top club teams in Munster.

Special thanks to the management team of:

Eddie O'Brien, Fergal Hanlon, David McGuinness, David Wade, David McGowan, Dáire Leharte, Adrian Hobbs, Seamus Ryan and Paddy Kelly.

### **U-15 Hurling Academy**

The Meath U15 Hurling Development Squad had a highly successful and encouraging season in 2024, showcasing the depth of talent and commitment among the county's young hurlers.

With 47 players on the panel, the team set an ambitious goal at the beginning of the season: qualification for the prestigious Arrabawn Tournament Tier 2 in Tipperary in August.

This objective drove the team's preparation, culminating in a series of notable performances throughout the year.

#### *Arrabawn Tournament Highlights:*

The squad's qualification for the Arrabawn Tournament was a testament to the hard work and dedication of players and coaches alike.

Competing in the group stages, the team secured impressive victories over Dublin and Tipperary, demonstrating their skill and determination.

While a narrow loss to Westmeath prevented a perfect record, the team advanced to the quarterfinals, where they faced a strong Cork 1 side

Despite a valiant effort, Meath fell short in this encounter.

However, the team displayed resilience and character in the 3rd & 4th place playoffs, delivering an outstanding performance to overcome Clare and secure a top three finish in Tier 2. This result highlights the continued progress and potential of the squad as they develop into future stars for Meath hurling.





*John Doyle Tournament Success.*

In addition to the Arrabawn Tournament, the Development Squad entered a second team into the John Doyle Tournament, held in August.

This provided an excellent opportunity for additional players to gain competitive experience and represent Meath at a high level.

The team competed against Kildare and Carlow, performing admirably and earning praise for their skill and determination.

The tournament underlined the squad's depth and the strength of the county's hurling program.

The achievements of the Meath U15 Hurling Development Squad in 2024 are a source of great pride for the county.

From their successes in the Arrabawn Tournament to their strong showing in the John Doyle Tournament, the players demonstrated exceptional commitment, teamwork, and skill.

These young hurlers have laid a strong foundation for the future of Meath hurling, and the experience gained this season will undoubtedly stand to them in the years ahead.

Congratulations to all involved, and special thanks to the coaching staff, parents, and supporters who made this season possible.

Here's to even greater success in the seasons to come!

### ***U-16 Hurling Academy***

The 2024 U16 Hurling Academy began 9th December 2023 with Strength and Condition Sessions. A group of 45 players enjoyed challenging Saturdays out in Garlow Cross. Big thanks to John McCarthy for this space. After 10 weeks of S&C following a trial period in February, the squad of 35 was selected.

Our decision to train/meet only on Saturdays unless a game was coming up was welcomed by all. With 34 out of 35 players being dual, their playing time and load is considerable. We encouraged players to play with their Clubs and if that meant missing an odd Meath match that was fine. We strongly encouraged players to bring the training standards of the Academy on Saturdays back to their Clubs and push their training on during the week.



Meath entered 1 Team in the Celtic Challenge. Following wins against Laois, Kildare and Armagh we met Offaly A in the Q/F. Another victory over Offaly meant we met Laois again in a Semi Final, losing out by 5 and having lead for 45 minutes. In addition to the Celtic Challenge, we played Dublin, Kildare B and Derry in challenges. All were excellent learning opportunities for players.

Based on the results we qualified for a higher division for Academy League games. Again, we defeated Offaly and lost narrowly to Waterford. Our final group game before the end of year blitz saw us take on Wexford A in a game where we learned most. The final blitz day saw us defeat the Clare team and lose narrowly out to Galway. That experience for this group against these oppositions gave them huge belief.

At training, the focus for the first half of 2024 was technical ability. We demanded two- sided fast playing hurlers and we were extremely pleased with how players reacted and improved their skillset. The second half we focused on training pitch depth and width to find space, as well the final third of the pitch for goal opportunities.

It should be noted that a decision to make dual players choose a code at 15 or 16 is something worth reviewing. No other County in Leinster enforces this and the consequences, good and bad, should be valued. Meath Football and Hurling Academies must do better to accommodate our brightest talents for a longer period, and we could possibly pool time and resources for the athletic development of these players, as this is the common ground for both codes.

### **C&G Staff**

Unfortunately, there has been a turnover of staff again in 2024 and this continues to be a challenge for C&G and the clubs. Our team had been reduced from 9 POs to 6 in a matter of months, in the first half of the year, with staff following opportunities elsewhere. We wish each of them well in their new careers. We would like to acknowledge the impact that Noreen Sheridan, Carolanna Foley and Stephen Reilly had during their time with us. We have had Oran Smullen join our PO staff in the last few months. He has settled in perfectly with our set up and we are sure he will thrive in his new role.

Our GDC team has grown also, and we welcome Conor Dillon. There is no doubt that Conor will revel in his new role with Meath C&G.



None of the achievements mentioned in the report, would have been possible without the incredible efforts of our Coaching & Games staff. Their ability to influence, lead, and collaborate has driven the success of our programmes and strengthened our impact across the board. From leading innovative projects to inspiring engagement at every level, their contributions have been exceptional.

As we look to the future, we remain steadfast in our commitment to delivering impactful programmes, enhancing club and coach support, and continuing to build on this year's success. Together, we are creating a positive and sustainable legacy for Coaching & Games.

Thank you to our Coaching Officer, Eamon Barry, for all his efforts to support our initiatives and to communicate our efforts to the County Committee.

We also wish to thank the County Board, The Football Development Committee and The Hurling Development Committee for all their support in our endeavors to develop both codes at club and county level.

Finally, a huge thanks to Tara, Senior Administrator, who has been an invaluable resource to us on all financial matters.

**Thank you to all who added submissions to this report:**

Paul Garrigan – Football Academy Head Coach

Peter Durnin – Hurling Academy Head Coach

Academy Coaches.

*Report by:*

Christine O'Brien – County Head of Games

Eamon Barry - Coaching Officer



## 8. Cultural Committee

Coiste Culthúrtha agus Gaeilge help the Scór Sinsir competition on 22 March in Wilkinstown Community Centre. While the number of competitors was down the standard was very high. The Semi final was held on 7 April in Birr with the final on 21 March in the Downs GAA Centre.

**Scoláireachtaí** – A limited fund of €1000 is provide each year to help finance the promotion of Irish within the GAA. Coiste na Mí also provided a further €600 to this fund. A total of 8 scholarships to the value of €200 each were awarded. This was done by means of a lottery which was supervised by a member of the Gardaí.

**Culture night** - Coiste Culthúrtha organised with the help of an expanded committee a high level concert in the Swift Theatre Trim as our event for Culture Night. We were assisted by the internationally respected tenor from Meath Matthew Gilsenan who's experience was invaluable to this project. On the night there were 14 acts some like Thlrim GAA's entry featuring a number of different disciplines including music, dancing and singing.

This project was part funded by the Arts Council and Coiste na Mí. We also received some very attractive raffle prizes from some generous sponsors. This was a very successful event which has received very good reviews from all who attended. I want to extend my appreciation to my Coiste members and also the extended committee who were of great assistance

**Scór na nÓg** - The Scór na nÓg quiz was Heidi Duganny on 12 October an was won by Na Fianna.

The main part of Scór na nÓg was held in Trim GFC Centre on 8 November. This year we had an improved number of entries and a very high standard of competition overall. The Leinster semi-final will be held in Oulart Community Centre on Sunday 17 November with the final taking place in Summerhill Community Centre on Saturday 30 November at 1 pm. The Quiz will take place prior to this at 11.30am. Final part of the quiz will take place on the stage at 1pm.

**Seosamh Ó Briain**

**Oifigeach Culthúra agus Gaeilge**



## 9. Public Relations/Marketing Committee

As the curtain draws to a close on this my second year as Public Relations Officer for Coiste na Mí C.L.G. it is my pleasure to present my annual report for 2024. While the role has its challenges and is very busy, it is an honour and a privilege to be elected by the clubs to run what is the public face of Meath GAA.

Year on year we as a committee strive to improve our output by building on the work done previously and look to improve the level of communication both on and offline. To this end, a PRO Training Evening for Club PRO's was arranged in The Castle Arch Hotel last March, an evening which John Haughney from Leinster GAA ran superbly. This was well attended by clubs, and all took plenty from it leading into the season. My thanks to John for all his work in developing presentations for it and to Fergal Lynch, Sports Editor of the Meath Chronicle for also attending.

The committee for 2024 was as follows.

- Chairperson: Brian Kelly (Baile Sencaill)
- Vice-Chairperson/Hurling P.R.O.: Martin O'Halloran (Rath Moliadhain)
- Secretary/Football P.R.O.: Ellen Blake (Naomh Bríd)
- Assistant Secretary/Underage P.R.O.: Alan Tormey (Gaeil Colmcille)
- Match Programme Correspondent: Brendan Cummins (Dún Samhna)
- Assistant Football P.R.O.: Keith Loughman (Naomh Colmcille)
- L.G.F.A.: Aisling Clery (Beag Teach)
- Camogie: Órla Brady (Dún Doire)
- Match Programme Sales: Fintan Porter (Ó Mathúna)
- Stadium Announcers: Martin O'Halloran (Rath Moliadhain) Joseph O'Brien (Scrín)  
Niamh Regan (Rath Moliadhain) & Irene Ní hIfeárnáin (Na Fianna)

The Meath GAA Official Photographers for 2024 were as follows:

- Paula Greif (Beag Teach)
- Brian Mulligan (Naomh Colmcille)
- Laura Berry (Baile na Breacraighe)
- Martin Costello (Ath Troim)



Each member of the team played a hugely important role in getting our message out to the public over the course of the year and it was a pleasure to be a small cog in a relatively large wheel as the team worked well together. While every member of the team was a great help over the course of the season, it would be remiss not to single Ellen Blake in particular out for thanks. Over the last two years Ellen has done far more in her role than it is fair to ask and is always generous with her time and carries her role out with aplomb.

Three people who it would have been impossible to carry out the role as P.R.O. without their assistance are Tara Rowan, Christina Buckley and Olivia Cussen who were as always, a major help over the course of the season. No matter that was asked of them and however little notice they were given, nothing was ever too much. Christina and Olivia saw their time in the office draw to a conclusion in the second half of the year and they will be sorely missed.

One thing which isn't going to change any time soon is the increasing role of social media in our lives and it has largely taken over as a method of communication with the general public. To this end we have continued to build on our profiles on Facebook, Instagram and X while also creating profiles on new platforms such as BlueSky and Threads. While the aforementioned three platforms will remain our primary social media platforms, it is important to have the Meath GAA name secured on the other two in what is an ever more turbulent time on social media. We do also have a YouTube platform.

We are blessed with a local media in Meath which gives great coverage to our games with LMFM, the Meath Chronicle, Drogheda Independent, Hoganstand.com or We Are Meath all showcasing our games in various ways. I have long beaten the drum that I would love clubs to make more use of these outlets by sending in match reports and information relating to club events. Social media is wonderful in many ways, but I wish anybody who ever wishes to work on a club history the very best of luck trying to do it based on old posts on social media. Please make more use of our local media as our newspapers in particular have excellent archives which makes it easy to find old match reports or information on games/events. If we don't use them, they will eventually disappear and that would be a very sad day.

Over the course of the season, we strived to in particular, improve the promotion of our club championships and team sheets were published on our website and social media platforms for games across all first team football championships as well as across all our hurling championships. We are cognisant that this request each week increased the workload on the



hardworking Club Secretary's and P.R.O.s and we are grateful for their co-operation with this. It was a great way of promoting the games each week and it was well received once more this year by supporters and media alike. Last year this worked very well but this year we reached a stage where every club provided their panel. This complimented the physical handout which was always available in Páirc Tailteann and it was wonderful to see an increasing number of clubs providing these when they were hosting games. It all makes a difference in promoting our games.

Match programmes remain a big element of the match day experience and to this end we have continued to produce quality programmes, building on the work of previous incumbents in the role. Over the last two years Tommy Rooney has come on board as a columnist in the programmes and he has been a welcome addition to them along with the return of Brendan Cummins. Both have provided insightful analysis and excellent content, with the profile of our new football management team in this year's Football Finals programme proving to be one of the best regarded pieces in recent times. My thanks also to all the businesses who have taken out adverts over the last two years and to the team of programme sellers.

During the Club Championships we introduced goal line cameras which were used at a number of games, generating footage of big moments in games whether they were goals or high-quality saves such as the incredible Shane McGann stop for Kiltale in their Ted Murtagh Clothing & Footwear SHC game against Na Fianna.

This year also saw the introduction of our streaming partnership with Clubber who covered almost thirty games across out football and hurling championships in addition to a further five games in the Regional FC. The negotiation process for this was a lengthy one and I would like to take this opportunity to thank Gene Smith, Keith Loughman and Damien Griffin for their assistance in these negotiations. One of the best elements of this agreement was the ability for nursing homes in the county and Our Lady's Hospital in Navan to have free access to these games.

Following on from the great success of the Press Evening's in advance of the County Finals in 2023, we once more arranged these ahead of this year's games to facilitate our local media partners and enable them to gather the information they required for their pre final coverage. These proved to be a huge success, and I would like to thank all clubs for their cooperation on both nights and also to Ellen Blake who co-ordinated the football event and John Brennan who





co-ordinated the hurling event. We also held a photoshoot in Dunganny ahead of the semi-finals in both codes with Brian Mulligan on camera duties. This provided us with great material for the promotion of the semi-finals and finals. At times Brian's patience must be tested with the requests he receives but he along with Paula Greif never fails to give up his time in a voluntary capacity.

One disappointment over the course of the year was the decision taken early in 2024 to abolish the Meath GAA App. This was a welcome addition in 2023, and the number of users had built steadily over the course of the season. While accepting the decision to revert to a previous ticketing supplier over the App, it was disappointing to see the App discontinued entirely as it was a very valuable method of getting our news out to supporters and also had sponsorship and fundraising capabilities.

A second disappointment was the decision of Martin O'Halloran to resign from all roles within Meath GAA, a decision which saw him step away from his role as Hurling P.R.O. It is vital for more people from hurling clubs to get involved and assist in the promotion of the games at both club and county level as there are wonderful stories crying out to be told. It is one of the Christmas wishes for this year that we will have a new Hurling PRO for the 2025 season.

We also had a photoshoot in Bective GAA Club at the start of the year with children from all over Meath which Paula helped organise, Ellen co-ordinated, and Brian did his usual wizardry with the camera. This was somewhat unique, and no other county was using promotional material such as this for their games. We might be the first but from conversations with another county PRO's, it's safe to say we won't be the last.

It would be remiss not to thank both Colm O'Rourke and Seoirse Bulfin who finished up as Senior Football and Hurling manager respectively for their assistance over the last two years. There is an ever-increasing demand for interviews post-match for inter-county managers but both men were generous with their time and whatever was asked of them.

At the start of November, we held a launch event in Bective Stud to mark the renewal of our sponsorship with Bective Stud Tea Rooms & Apartments of our county football teams. There were too many people involved in the co-ordinating of the day to mention them all but one person who I do wish to single out for thanks is Paula Greif who spent two afternoons there getting photographs for a press release and then on the launch day itself.



Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Summerhill GAA Club on the recent publication of their club history. This tome, carefully curated by Donie Mooney and Jim Gilligan will be a treasure trove for years to come. I would also like to congratulate the Moynalvey P.R.O. Paul Greene on his recognition in winning the Public Relations Award at our Annual Awards Evening for the second time. In winning it, Paul becomes the first two-time winner of our Public Relations Award.

**Brían Ó Ceallaigh**

**Oifigeach Caidrimh Phoiblí na Mí C.L.G.**



## 10. Health and Well-Being Committee

The Meath GAA Health and Wellbeing Committee agreed its 2024 Action Plan in January 2024; primarily focusing on the four distinct areas outlined by Croke Park: (i) Continued Development of the County Committee; (ii) Support and encouragement for clubs in the Irish Life Healthy Club Project; (iii) Ensure that all clubs have a Critical Incident Response Plan in place; and (iv) encourage clubs to initiate and organise physical and mental wellbeing activities within their communities.

### (i) **Continued Development of the County Committee;**

A representative from Healthy Ireland was added to the Meath GAA Health and Wellbeing Committee. The Committee, however, propose to have a detailed examination of its structure in 2025 to examine its fitness for purpose.

### (ii) **Support and encouragement for clubs in the Irish Life Healthy Club Project**

A total of ten additional Meath clubs have qualified to be part of the Irish Life GAA Healthy Club Project. This brings the total number of clubs in the Project to 33 - one of the highest number of any county in the country. See list below.

Meath GAA Health and Wellbeing Committee holds an Annual Gathering of Healthy Club Officers to bring such Officers up to date on developments and allow them exchange ideas. Their fifth such Gathering was held in the Meath GAA Centre in Dunganny last February, where close on sixty people were in attendance, representing almost 40 clubs. Topics such as Funding Sources; Health and Wellbeing Initiatives; Critical Incident Response Plan + Alcohol and Substance Use Workshops; and the Role and Duties of a Healthy Club Officer were discussed.

### (iii) **Critical Incident Response Plan (CIRP)**

In 2023 Croke Park introduced a new template for Clubs to draw up their Critical Incident Response Plan. An updated webinar was held for all clubs during the year explaining the importance of having a Plan in place and the new procedures involved. The Meath Health & Wellbeing Committee continues to push clubs to have an updated Critical Incident Response Plan in place.

The Committee Chair met with the incoming County Committee to draw up a Critical Incident Response for County Grounds and County organised activities.



**(iv) Encourage clubs to initiate and organise physical and mental wellbeing activities within their communities.**

The functions of the Healthy Club Officer are twofold: (i) when presented with complex health or wellbeing issues such as mental health or addiction, they signpost people to the relevant support services; and (ii) they help their club become a healthier place for everyone to enjoy – be that players, officials, parents, supporters and the community - by proposing and organising healthy activities within the club. Most Clubs carry out this function by organising activities such as :

- Physical activity, e.g. walking initiatives, exercise classes, and social Gaelic Games;
- Community development, including supporting older members of the community, youth leadership and supporting local charities etc;
- Mental health awareness and education;
- Diversity and inclusion, including games opportunities for all;
- Substance use and gambling awareness.
- Promoting No Smoking/No Vaping grounds.
- Promoting Cardiac Screening.

Officers of the County Health and Wellbeing Committee engaged with three clubs within the county who have experienced tragic incidents during the year.

Officers attended Leinster and National Conferences



**Irish Life Healthy Clubs (33)**

Ballinlough	Dunderry	Na Fianna
Bective	Dunsany	O Mahony's
Carnaross	Dunshaughlin	Nobber
Castletown	Gaeil Colmcille	Rathmolyon
Clann na Gael	Kilmainham	Simonstown
Clonard	Kilmainhamwood	St. Colmcille's
Cortown	Kilmessan	St. Michaels
Curraha	Kiltale	St. Patrick's
Donaghmore/Ashbourne	Meath Hill	Syddan
Drumree	Moynalty	Trim
Duleek-Bellewstown	Moynalvey	Wolfe Tones

**Seán Ó Dunaigh**

**Rúnaí Coiste Sláinte agus Folláine an Mhí**



## **11. Planning and Training Committee**

20<sup>th</sup> Jan 2024 County Officer Development Conference in Croke Park

The following workshops were delivered

- Managing Large-Scale Infrastructure Projects
- Leading Major Fundraising Initiatives in Counties
- The GAA's Disciplinary System Explained: An Overview of Hearings and Appeals
- Crisis Communication Masterclass for County Officers

### **Then a Webinar on an Introduction to Foireann**

1. Creating Foireann Account
2. Setting up a profile / Adding your club
3. Navigating around Foireann
4. Family management
5. How to register

Running Registration on Foireann

### **Club Compás Explainer webinar. Feb 2024**

1. Encourage Club Planning
2. Improve Governance Standards
3. Simplify Volunteer Workload
4. Support Evidence-Based Decisions
5. Reward Clubs

The Officer Development Committee (ODC) introduced a structured learning path leading to a Certificate in Club Leadership (Gaelic Games)

Club Leadership Development Programme Regional Workshops in March in Abbotstown.

Club Compas Workshop April in Dunganny

### **Club Planning and Training Forum Croke Park in Sept.**

Areas Covered:



- Gaelic Games versus Discrimination
- Essential training for Data Protection, GDPR practices.
- Critical Incident Response Training
- It can be overwhelming with everything coming at a volunteer
- Training for County Board delegates
- Amount of messaging being sent out
- Retention of Club Officers
- A standard requirement to include safeguarding in every club plan

### **Club Officers**

The GAA, LGFA and Camogie Association have the next phase of Club Officer training scheduled for the end of 2024 and beginning of 2025

A scheme in 2025 will recognise active volunteers by providing meaningful and beneficial rewards. This means that volunteers completing Club Leadership Development Programme modules in 2024 and 2025 stand to benefit beyond the valuable skill and knowledge development gained from completing modules.

Here is a summary of what's available:

#### **1. Role Induction Webinars**

Each Provincial Council will lead the delivery of online role-induction training for Chairpersons, Secretaries, Treasurers, PROs and Coaching Officers, Leinster is on the 15<sup>th</sup> January

Find more information: [https://learning.gaa.ie/club\\_leadership](https://learning.gaa.ie/club_leadership)

#### **2. Club Governance**

In-person governance workshops will be held in each County next February, giving Club Officers an opportunity to meet, share experiences, and improve their understanding of essential governance

tasks for 2025. This training will be offered both in person and as an eLearning module for those who prefer online learning. Registration opens in December.





### 3. Volunteer Management

An accredited volunteer management course specifically for Club Officers, developed in partnership with SETU Carlow. This micro-credential course will strengthen volunteer management and succession planning skills, and formally acknowledge the dedication of volunteers to their personal development. Applications open in December.

### 4. IT Systems

Webinars and tutorial videos on the Foireann system and Microsoft 365 Apps (including OneDrive, Forms, and Planner) are being developed to support digital proficiency among Club Officers. Visit - [https://learning.gaa.ie/club\\_leadership](https://learning.gaa.ie/club_leadership)

#### Module Dates:

- Essential Data Protection 27<sup>th</sup> November and 4<sup>th</sup>. December
- Recruitment to Retention: Optimising Volunteer Efforts in a Club 11<sup>th</sup> December, 30<sup>th</sup> January and 27<sup>th</sup> February
- Irish Language and Culture Officer 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> January
- Creating a Safe Club 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> January and 3<sup>rd</sup> February
- Healthy Club Officer Training 5 February
- Player Welfare 6<sup>th</sup> February
- Critical Incident Response Training 19 March

#### Digital Archives

An extensive library of recorded webinars on topics such as Club Planning, Club AGMs, the Corporate Trustee and more is available to support ongoing learning.

For any queries, please contact [officertraining@gaa.ie](mailto:officertraining@gaa.ie) and also at The GAA Learning Portal Registration (Tobar)

Getting Started as a Club Officer - Training 15<sup>th</sup> Jan 2025

The County Officer Development Conference will take place on Saturday, the 18<sup>th</sup> January 2025 from 9:30am to 4.00pm in Croke Park.

Induction for new Officers on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> Jan 2025 in Croke Park from 7.00pm to 9.00pm.



## **12. Audit and Risk Committee**

The Audit & Risk Committee of Meath GAA is a newly established group formed as per Croke Park's recommendations to enhance oversight and guidance for the Management Committee in fulfilling their responsibilities.

Cooperation from the sub-committees is essential to the ARC's mission, particularly as it develops a comprehensive risk register for the county. This register will allow for the identification, mitigation, and management of risks across all operations, ensuring Meath GAA adheres to best practices in governance.

Looking ahead, the ARC will continue to expand its remit, ensuring that Meath GAA remains compliant, transparent, and proactive in identifying and managing risks. This work is vital for safeguarding the long-term stability and success of Meath GAA operations.

### **Coiste Iniúchta agus Riosca an Mhí C.L.G.**



## 13. Post-Primary Schools' Committee

### Introduction

The Post Primary Schools Committee has made significant strides in 2024 in promoting and developing Gaelic Games across secondary schools in Meath. Two key initiatives were launched this year: the establishment of the Meath Schools Team and the Schools Pathway Programme. These efforts aim to enhance player development, foster greater participation, and create a clear progression route for students aspiring to excel in Gaelic Games.

### Establishment of the Meath Schools Team

#### 1. Formation and Purpose:

The Meath Schools Team was established to provide a representative platform for the county's most talented post-primary school players. The initiative focuses on showcasing the best young talent while offering them opportunities to compete at a higher level, bridging the gap between school and inter-county football. Currently, there are seventeen schools in county Meath playing in the B,C or D grades of schools' football, with only St. Pats and Ashbourne CS playing in the A grade. This initiative affords the opportunity for players from these schools to play at the highest level of schools' football, Thus, raising the standard of games provided for these players. The school's team, supported by Meath coaching and games is aligned with the Meath academy structures and team management has worked closely with all parties to ensure that players are looked after to the highest degree.

#### 2. Team Selection Process:

- Over 70 players were nominated by their schools for initial trials, which were held in September
- A rigorous selection process led to the formation of a 35-player panel representing 12 schools across Meath.
- Players were selected based on skill level, commitment, and potential for development.

#### 3. Achievements:

- The Meath Schools Team competed in the Leinster Schools group team championship achieving notable success by reaching the semi-finals in their inaugural campaign.
- Several players earned recognition for their performances, with five subsequently called up to the Meath Minor Squad.

#### 4. Coaching and Development:



- The team was coached by a dedicated team of teachers and supported by members of the Meath GAA coaching staff.
- Training sessions emphasized skill development, tactical understanding, and mental preparation, with a strong focus on fostering a team ethos, aligned with the Meath GAA academy principles of play.

#### **5. Player Impact:**

- The initiative provided a valuable experience for players, many of whom reported improved confidence, skill levels, and a deeper understanding of the game.
- It also strengthened the connection between schools and the county's broader GAA framework.

### **Schools Pathway Programme**

#### **1.**

#### **Objectives:**

The Schools Pathway Programme was introduced to provide a structured development model for students at all levels of ability. The programme aims to:

- Increase participation in Gaelic Games across all post-primary schools.
- Develop players' skills and game knowledge through age-appropriate coaching.
- Identify and nurture talent for progression to minor, U20, and senior county teams.

#### **2. Programme Features:**

- **School-Club Collaboration:** A partnership model was implemented to strengthen ties between schools and local GAA clubs, ensuring seamless player development.

#### **3. Participation Growth:**

- There were nine schools selected to take part in the pathway this year with a view to increasing this into next year.

#### **4. Coach Development:**

- Regular workshops and a Schools Coaches Forum facilitated knowledge sharing and collaboration.

### **Challenges and Solutions**

While the committee has made significant progress, challenges remain, including:

- **Fixture congestion:** For the most part, clubs, and schools worked very well to facilitate their players' participation on the Meath schools' team. A collaborative approach was taken to minimize clashes, and every effort was made by club coaches to avoid clashes.



The committee would ask that the fixtures committee takes Meath schools' games into consideration when coordinating U19 fixtures going forward.

- **Sustainability:** Funding remains a priority, and sponsorship opportunities are being explored to ensure the longevity of both initiatives. A massive thank you must go to LMETB who kindly took the opportunity to advertise on the team's Jerseys this year.

### **Future Goals**

- Expand the Schools Pathway Programme to include all post-primary schools in Meath.
- Secure additional funding to support programme growth and resource allocation.

### **Conclusion**

The Post Primary Schools Committee is proud of the progress achieved in 2024, with the establishment of the Meath Schools Team and the Schools Pathway Programme marking significant milestones. These initiatives have enhanced player development, increased participation, and strengthened the foundations for future success in Meath GAA. We thank the schools, players, coaches, and the County Board for their support and look forward to building on this year's achievements.

### **Kevin Reilly**

#### **Chairperson, Post Primary Schools Committee**

A revitalised focus and effort have been driven by Coaching & Games and the Post Primary School Committee in 2024 with many positives forthcoming. It has been a wonderful opportunity to create and develop relationships with the various schools throughout the county via the work and engagement between C&G staff and the teachers.

Meath Post Primary Schools were invited to an online "Leinster Review Meeting" back in early September 2024 with Noel Delaney (Rúnaí, Comhairle Larbhunscoileanna Laighean). The agenda for that meeting was as follows:

- Leabhran Eolais overview
- Existing /Planned Competitions within the county
- Opportunities for cross border games
- Provision of Coaching Supports from C&G
- Review PPS Committee activity.

Our county meeting followed in October, where we identified key areas as a focus for this group:



- Super Games Centres (Super 7s) for 1<sup>st</sup> Year Students – Internal Leagues and County Finals Day.
- Transition Year Workshop Options
- Build good communication and understanding between the PPS and Coiste na nOg committees.
- Combined School Football Team support.
- New Player Pathway Support to Post Primary Schools.

**The New Committee for 2024/2025:**

**Chairperson** – Kevin Reilly (Colaiste na Mi)

**Secretary** – Conor Dillon GDC (Meath C&G)

**Committee Members:** Cathal Harvey (St Olivers PP Oldcastle), Pat O’ Sullivan (Kells Community School) and Seamus Peppard (St Pats Navan), Ciaran Flynn (County Board Secretary), Ray Finnegan (Coiste na nOg Chairperson), Christine O’ Brien (County Head of Games).

**Super Games Centres:**

In 2024 we had 12 Internal leagues with 357 First Year players participating.

The follow-on for this programme was our Super 7s Finals Day in Dunganny where we had 19 Boys Football teams, and 190 players competed across 2 divisions. We also had 21 Girls Football teams, and 210 players competed across 2 divisions.

On the day we had 87 Transition Year students assist with the running of the event by taking up coaching, mentoring and refereeing roles.

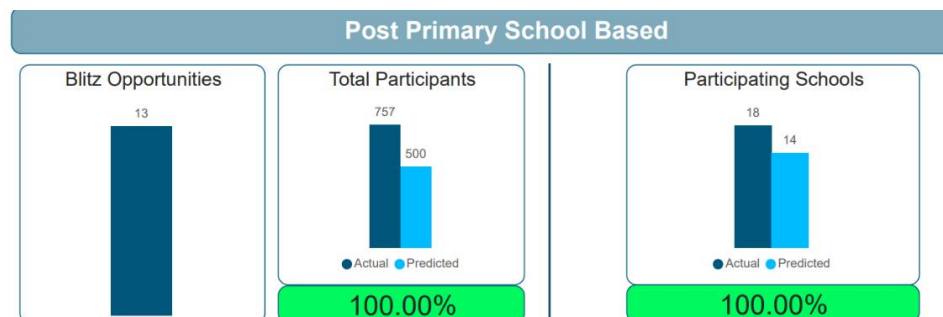


Figure 1: PPS SGC participation (Includes Internal Leagues and Super 7s)



### ***Transition Year Workshops:***

These workshops were scheduled and implemented by the GDC staff across the county. 4 Courses were conducted with 120 students successfully completing the sessions and then those schools devised their internal league plan and/or set about organising their teams to attend the Super 7s day. 4 schools also benefitted from our Inclusion Awareness Modules that have been delivered by PO Inclusion staff. 82 students completed this.

### ***Combined Schools Football Team Support:***

Our New Combined Schools are up and running under the guidance of Team Management – Kevin Reilly, Dean Halpin, Conor Brennan and James Rafferty and with GDC Conor Dillon looking after logistics for the team.

After a trial period where 70 players attended for the opportunity to be selected, a panel of 30 players were selected representing 10 schools.

They have completed a 10-week training and challenge schedule under the guidance of their management and have gained valuable experience at this level through tactical and technical sessions and use of the County Pathway Model. It has been a very successful venture to date with a win v Offaly Combined Schools on 9<sup>th</sup> November on a wet Geashill pitch, by a single point 2-13 to 2-12.

They now meet Maynooth Education Campus at the semifinal stage on November 23<sup>rd</sup> in Dunganny at 1pm. Best of luck to all involved.

The team received sponsorship from LMETB and are funded by Meath C&G also.



*Figure 2: Meath Combined Schools Team v Offaly Schools – Sponsored by LMETB*





### **PPS Player Pathway:**

This has been our major focus with the Post Primary Schools where we have offered support through Workshops and team training sessions where GDCs are educating teachers and players, at junior and senior levels, about our County Football Pathway. 9 schools were selected for this programme, and this was decided with regard to the number of players from academy teams that were in each school, with those schools with the greatest volume of academy players being selected for support. Our GDCs started the programme in late September and will continue until March 2025 with delivery. We have also added an Athletic Development delivery to the offering to each school, under the guidance of Daithi McCabe, our Athletic Development Lead Coach with Meath County Board.

## **Meath - Post Primary Schools Coaching**

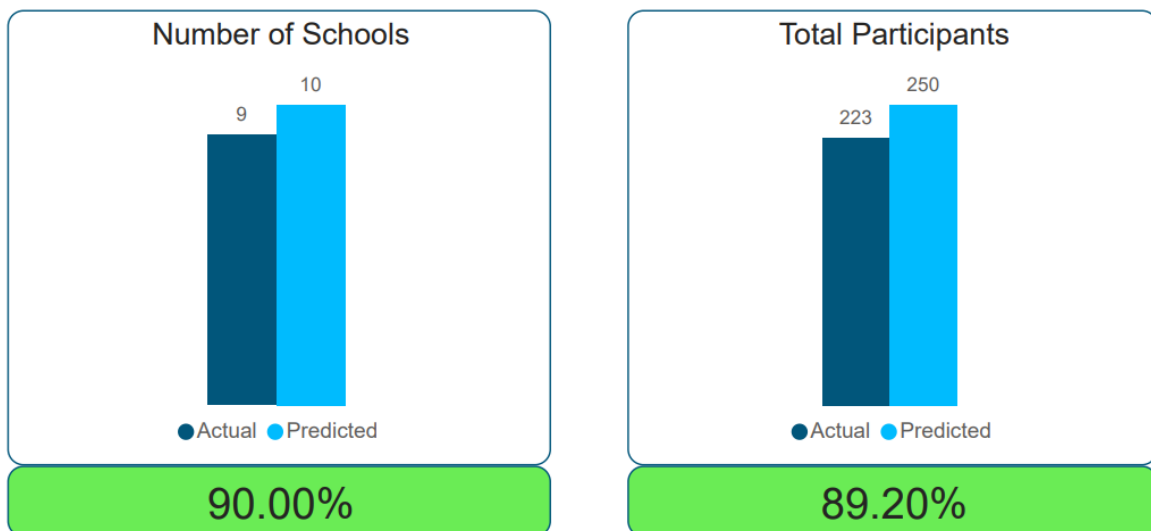


Figure 3: PPS Player Pathway Sessions

**Report by:**

**Christine O’ Brien (County Head of Games)**

**Conor Dillon (GDC & PPS Committee Secretary)**



## 14. Hurling Development Committee

This has been a year of ups and downs, with our Manager and his backroom team leaving after the league campaign. I would like to Seoirse Bulfin and his team of David O'Reilly, Mark Cooney Alan Bracken, and Seamus Ryan for their efforts through their reign over Meath Hurling.

Our League campaign got off to a good start with a 2-20 to 3-14 win over Kildare in Páirc Tailteann, our next game didn't go to plan with a Defeat to Carlow in Carlow on a scoreline of 3-22 to 1-16. Our third match was down in Kerry for the fourth year in a row in the league, and unfortunately, it ended in a 3-14 to 0-16 defeat. Our fourth match didn't go any better with a big loss to Laois in Páirc Tailteann on a score line of 1-12 to 4-26. Our final game in the league was against Down in Ballycran and this was our fourth loss, 3-19 to 1-16.

We didn't have long to wait for the Joe McDonagh Cup to come around, and with a new management team of Steven Clynch, Trevor Cummings and Declan Murray, who were handed the reigns with the hope of turning our fortunes around, unfortunately, this didn't happen. Our first match was the long trip up to Ballycran, the fight shown on the day from us didn't show on the score board, we suffered a disappointing loss 3-24 to 0-25, this game was in the melting pot until the final couple of minutes.

Our second game was against Laois in Trim, we were bet by a far better team on the day with Laois winning 7-29 to 1-16. Our third game was against Offaly in Trim and we suffered another defeat with Meath putting up a respectable score of 3-16 to Offalys 5-31. Our fourth game was against Westmeath in Mullingar, we battled hard but came away with a defeat 1-29 to 0-14. Our final game was our annual trip down to Kerry, this was another defeat on a scoreline of Kerry 3-13 to Meath's 1-10.

I would like to thank Steven, Trevor and Declan for stepping into the breach. This wasn't an easy thing to do, especially with the way the results were going. I know all of the Players and the backroom team enjoyed working with you for a couple of months, and hopefully, you enjoyed the experience as well.

The Hurling Development Committee was rocked to its core with the news that Martin O'Halloran was stepping down from his position as chairman. Martin has been a leader for all things hurling over the years and was a great source of help and guidance to me as secretary



over the last number of years. I wish Martin well in all he does for the future and hopefully, we will see you at games.

I would also like to thank Ritchie Daly and Niamh Guy for their dedication over the last number of years with the Hurlers. I would like to thank Dr. Seamus McMenamin for his help over the last number of years, from trips to London and the length and breadth of the Country Seamus was there for the lot.

To all the backroom team, Gerry McLoughlin, Paul Dunne and Dominic Reilly, from the cold wet nights in Dunganny to all the playing pitches in nearly every county that we travelled this year. Thanks for everything. Without you lads, this would have been a quiet dressing room.

To the girls in the office, Tara, Christina and Olivia, without you, the County affairs would not have run as smoothly so it's a massive personal thanks for everything from me.

To the county board, Thanks for your help and guidance throughout the year, you were always on the end of the phone with the answers, these might not have been the answers we were looking for but you always steered us in the right direction.

To all the referees and umpires and all the match officials a massive thanks. Without your time and dedication to this sport we love, these games would not be happening. To all the volunteers on match days around the county at the various grounds, the whole county thanks you, for you giving up your spare time to steward at all the games over the year.

To the Sponsors, we would thank you for your generosity in sponsoring our competitions. Please if you can support our sponsors please do.

I would like to thank all the Managers and coaches around the county who keep the interest alive in the kids and adults around the county, a special thanks to all of the coaches in Dunganny under the guidance of Christine and Peter, who go to all the clubs around the county and coach the kids.

I cannot finish this report without thanking John Brennan for stepping into the breach as Chairperson of the Hurling Development Committee. This wasn't an easy task with all the changes going on, with the new manager and his team coming in and the upcoming club season, with the leagues and the cup competitions in full swing.



## 15. Football Development Committee

The highlight of the football year was the U-20 Leinster success. It has been close to a quarter of a century since we have enjoyed success at this level. Cathal, his management and backroom team, and all of the players involved put in massive work, not just this year but over many years, to achieve provincial success. Our goal is to continue to compete at this level. It had become a truism that Meath football could not hope to have any senior success without seeing better results at this grade. We have now seen that success, let's see if we can build on it.

The continued support of Noel and Valerie Moran is helping to underpin and give real long-term substance to the development structures that are being put in place. Meath GAA and the Morans recently agreed to a further three-year support. Their genuine interest in and deep commitment to Meath football is second to none. As a county, we are in their debt, not just what they contribute to Meath football but also to sport in Meath generally. Bective Stud are building a five-star hotel on their spectacular grounds. It will undoubtedly be another asset to the people of Meath. I want to thank Noel and Valerie for their generosity and wish them every success with their ambitious venture.

Every year has the good and the bad. Let's start with the good.

Our club pathway model is well underway. The two-year demographics project run by Shane O'Brien, in conjunction with Games Development in Croke Park, is complete. We presented an update to club chairpersons and we are ready to share the in-depth demographic information with every club in the county to help clubs with their long-term decision-making. Daithí McCabe is our performance lead and has begun to roll out the athletic pathway model to our clubs. We are aligning with the national athletic programme, which involves the best physical development minds in the country. Our club football pathway coaching models, run by Paul Garrigan, are now well established. Each club has their pathway manager for each code supported by our central GDCs. We will be working with C&G to roll out individual club club plans in the coming months.

We asked respected top-level Meath coaches Seán Kelly, Conor Gillespie, Cathal Ó Bric and Paul Garrigan to produce a Meath game model. That was complete in October and we will see a commonality about the way Meath teams in the years to come. Meath teams will look



like Meath teams across the board, whether we win or lose. That is on top of a broader football curriculum that is circulated through the pathway system.

It is an exciting time to be involved in football development in Meath. There is great work going on. We need to acknowledge that such an ambitious project comes at an enormous cost. Our national games development funding was reduced two years ago and we have not yet asked clubs to replace their contribution to the older GPO model. If we want to continue the support and make it sustainable, we will need all stakeholders to make some contribution to the costs in time.

First, we need to Congratulate Dunsany and their manager Kevin Cahill. Getting to a Leinster final (At the time of writing there might be more to come) is a proud triumph for the club and when Meath teams compete in Leinster, they represent everyone in the county and have all of our support. Congratulations to each of Dunshaughlin, Meath Hill and Carnaross. Winning championships is hard at every level, sweeter still when not the favourite, which was the case with every victory in Meath last year.

On the downside, we have not seen Meath senior teams perform well enough in Leinster competition, not just this year but over many years. Winning a county title is such a difficult goal to achieve. The Meath senior championship is one of the most competitive championships in the country, with no dominant teams. First-time winners and/or young teams rarely win Leinster titles. And, like the inter-county scene, Dublin teams tend to dominate Leinster club football given their scale. Nonetheless, we cannot ignore that the results have not been good enough. They give us a clear signal that our championship needs to be strengthened further.

I was disappointed to lose the championship relegation playoffs, and to do so without seeding the groups, will make for lopsided groups with reduced jeopardy, especially in weaker groups. I know they were not popular with managers but provided critical 'all or nothing' games that we need to foster football development. Good championships have certainty, (with the split season, we have that), and they are competitive (teams are relatively equal and there is sufficient doubt around which team will win that supporters will want to see the contests. I have doubts that we have enough of the that) and consequence or jeopardy. (Without 1 team in relegation and no seeding, we have reduced consequence but the group of 4 structure with 2 qualifying, retains jeopardy for group games).



I would like to see our senior championship divided into a Senior A championship of 8 teams and a Senior B championship of 8 teams. I am satisfied that our intermediate and junior championships are sufficiently competitive, with 16 and 12. I am not sure about our Senior. To get there, the 8 quarter-finalists would be in the Senior A competition the year after any decision was made, with the 8 balancing teams in the Senior B championship, thereafter. Streaming the competition into 8 would dramatically alter the competitiveness of our senior championship. Whether it would better prepare our teams to compete in Leinster, make for better contests, and ultimately prepare our players to play for Meath? I believe it would help. Might clubs see the long-term benefits of hyper competitive senior championship for Meath football? They might.

Notwithstanding our senior standard, we need our top senior clubs to unapologetically plan to play until December. Clubs should plan for 10 championship games, not 6. I wonder if some of the effort expended in January, February and March, 8 months before the championship starts, might be better directed towards the latter end of the year. The bottom line is that Meath club teams need to develop a culture around competing beyond our county championships.

Our adult games programme now meets best practice standards nationally. Football has 17 guaranteed games with hurlers getting 16 games. We launched our more inclusive league model and it proved a great success. There are now 110 teams in our league the third biggest league in the country. In addition, Meath launched an U-19 championship and league structure to support retention and help clubs transition 'shy minors' into adult teams.

On the football development side, our committee has focused on our academy structures first, developing detailed structures and policies, then club with our club pathway model, and it is now time to turn our attention to the second level. Second-level Gaelic football is not strong in Meath and we have work to do. Detailed planning has begun.

There is a huge amount of long-term work underway. I am optimistic that the years to come will be positive.



## 16. Minor Committee

### Introduction

On behalf of the 2024 Meath Minor Committee it is with honour and pleasure that I submit my second annual report as minor secretary of Meath GAA to our clubs and members. I would firstly like to extend sincere thanks to the current Minor Committee members of Ray Finnegan (Chairperson), Declan Black (Vice-Chairperson), Niall Gogarty (Assistant Secretary), Denise Farrelly (Referee Administrator), Darren Hickey, Brian Boshell, Diarmuid McCloskey, and Eamonn Barry. Their contributions are in addition to their own busy specific duties/roles within Meath GAA and often within their own clubs. It is a committed and dedicated working group that thrives to improve all matters of football and hurling at Under 15 and Minor level in Meath GAA.

### Fixtures and Games

One of the most important roles for our committee is to produce a fixed planner of games in our calendar at the beginning of the year to ensure a consistent and regular games programme for our players. This is done in line with the adult master fixture planner and development planner for the year. In 2024 the restructuring of the adult planner format brought some challenges and changes to our games. A games structure was agreed which ran successfully with minimum interruption and the success of our underage calendar relies on dedicated nights for our games, free from officially scheduled adult games at any grade. A reduction in minor games did result which we hope to reinstate in 2025. A total of 1,114 (2023: 1,193) games were played from March to November, as illustrated in the following table:

Under 15 and Minor - TOTAL GAMES 2024 v 2023												
	Tournament		League		Championship		Felle*		7-a-side*		Total	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
<b>Football</b>												
Under 15	-	-	222	214	214	209	26	26	-	-	462	449
Minor	130	126	87	154	93	84	-	-	32	32	342	396
	<b>130</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>309</b>	<b>368</b>	<b>307</b>	<b>293</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>804</b>	<b>845</b>
<b>Hurling</b>												
Under 15	-	-	93	98	53	78	14	14	-	-	160	190
Minor	46	41	42	67	48	36	-	-	14	14	150	158
	<b>46</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>114</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>348</b>
Total Games	<b>176</b>	<b>167</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>533</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>407</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>1,114</b>	<b>1,193</b>

\*Short sided blitz format games counted as one game per day per team





The above games programme ensured between 15 (minimum) and 20 (maximum) football games per under 15 team and between 13 (minimum) and 20 (maximum) football games per minor team in the year. In hurling we provided and between 12 (minimum) and 17 (maximum) hurling games per Under 15 hurling team and between 13 and 19 minor hurling games. The fixture schedule at under 15 level was alternate weeks for football and hurling games and week on week for minor games (with 2 week intervals at certain times), with a break for state exams. A two week breaks between minor games were introduced this year to facilitate trainings. This also reduced the overall number of minor games provided.

Minimum and maximum games per team in 2024 are illustrated in the following table:

Under 15 and Minor Games - GAMES PER TEAM 2024 v 2023 (Min to Max #)												
	Tournament		League		Championship		Feile*		7-a-side*		Total	
	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023	2024	2023
<b>Football</b>												
Under 15	-	-	7 to 9	7 to 9	7 to 9	7 to 9	1 to 2	1 to 2	-	-	15 to 20	15 to 20
Minor	5 to 7	5 to 7	3 to 5	7 to 9	3 to 5	3 to 5	-	-	2 to 3	2 to 3	13 to 20	17 to 24
	<b>5 to 7</b>	<b>5 to 7</b>	<b>10 to 14</b>	<b>14 to 18</b>	<b>10 to 14</b>	<b>10 to 14</b>	<b>1 to 2</b>	<b>1 to 2</b>	<b>2 to 3</b>	<b>2 to 3</b>	<b>28 to 40</b>	<b>32 to 44</b>
<b>Hurling</b>												
Under 15	-	-	7 to 9	7 to 9	4 to 6	5 to 7	1 to 2	1 to 2	-	-	12 to 17	13 to 18
Minor	4 to 6	5 to 7	4 to 5	7 to 9	4 to 6	3 to 5	-	-	1 to 2	1 to 2	13 to 19	16 to 23
	<b>4 to 6</b>	<b>5 to 7</b>	<b>11 to 14</b>	<b>14 to 18</b>	<b>8 to 12</b>	<b>8 to 12</b>	<b>1 to 2</b>	<b>1 to 2</b>	<b>1 to 2</b>	<b>1 to 2</b>	<b>25 to 36</b>	<b>29 to 41</b>
Total Games	<b>9 to 13</b>	<b>10 to 14</b>	<b>21 to 28</b>	<b>28 to 36</b>	<b>18 to 26</b>	<b>18 to 26</b>	<b>2 to 4</b>	<b>2 to 4</b>	<b>3 to 5</b>	<b>3 to 5</b>	<b>53 to 76</b>	<b>61 to 85</b>

# Minimum and maximum games based on majority divisional size.  
 \*Short sided blitz format games counted as one game per day per team

## Regulations & Related Matters

Regulations are central to the proper and efficient running of our games. Our Minor Regulations are regularly under review for improvement and are presented by the minor committee to the County Committee. Several changes were implemented and approved by the County Committee prior to championship in 2024 , examples as follows:

- Where teams are tied after group games brought in line with Croke park and Meath GAA regulations
- Fines around non compliance with fixture change requirements, named 15 lists etc
- Additional requirements on named 15 lists



- Where games conceded by teams fielding more than one team the reserve team must concede not the higher graded team
- Formalising procedures around trophies and the two-week return period

Disciplinary matters continues to be a challenge in our games, particularly at Under 15 level with several incidents referred to the CCC. While we recognise that overall discipline is being maintained, the behaviour of certain clubs, mentors, and supporters is something that must be improved upon, with harsher penalties enforced by our committees to deal with serious breaches. Offending clubs and mentors must be held accountable and called out on their conduct. We are writing to clubs to again remind them that the recruitment of coaches at underage level must comply with the GAA Code of Behaviour (Underage)

### **Referees**

The shortage of referees continues to be an issue for the efficient running of our competitions. This is particularly evident for hurling with numerous games called off at Under 15 level this year due to no referees being available. In fact, if not for the role of referees from outside the County some of our competitions may not have been completed. The shortage of referees also contributes to the overall standard of refereeing in the county. Clubs regularly raise issues with the standards of refereeing at certain games but must realise that the ultimate responsibility lies with clubs to put forward referees for training, both at young referee level and older. The small pool of referees is under increased pressure for games, and in the performance of their duties on the field. Clubs must remember this. Referees also must remember their responsibilities, particularly in relation to the reporting of incidents at games. There are many incidents and unsavoury issues going unreported, for a variety of reasons, with no referees' report being submitted. The relevant county committees are unable to act or address these matters without the referee's match report. A specific word of thanks to our Minor Committee member and referee administrator, Denise Farrelly, who works tirelessly and efficiently to ensure referee appointments at our games. Her volunteer work is an example to all, and should encourage more female representation on our committees.

### **Finals**

Finals are one of the highlights of the year for our clubs, players, and supporters. A total of 68 (2023: 67) finals were played across ten competitions this year, being four U-15 and six Minor



competitions, excluding 7-a-side and Féile. Of these finals 53 were cup finals and played at neutral venues with huge thanks to the host clubs who volunteered for these finals. A lot of committee and host club work and preparation happens behind the scenes to make these occasions the best possible for the participating clubs and supporters. An analysis of our finals for 2024 is as follows:

Under 15 and Minor FINALS 2024					2023
<u>Football (CUP FINALS)</u>	<u>Tournament</u>	<u>League</u>	<u>Championship</u>	<u>Total</u>	
Under 15	-	9	9	18	16
Minor	8	6	6	20	19
<b>Total Football Cup Finals</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>35</b>
<u>Hurling (CUP FINALS)</u>					
Under 15	-	3	3	6	7
Minor	3	3	3	9	7
<b>Total Hurling Cup Finals</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>TOTAL CUP FINALS</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>51</b>
<u>Hurling (Shields Only)</u>					
Under 15	-	3	3	6	9
Minor	3	3	3	9	7
<b>Total Shields</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>TOTAL FINALS (CUP &amp; SHIELD)</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>67</b>

Shield finals (non-ticketed) were played in our hurling competitions only, at a home venue of either participating club. This is due to larger variance between stronger and weaker clubs within each division and to allow more competitive games within a shield competition. Smaller groups for hurling championship this year (4 at Minor and 6 at Under 15) meant the variance was far less and possibly reduces further the need for shield competitions. New formats for hurling finals were trialled this year where semi-finals were avoided to proceed straight to cup and shield finals based on final group positions. This provided additional hurling games, but semi-final formats appear to be the preferred option by clubs. Cup finals are ticketed games and provide valuable gate receipts to Meath GAA with a percentage to the host club. In addition to hosted finals this year the Minor committee once again hosted the semi-finals of the Minor football championships in Dunganny. This was a huge success with very large crowds in attendance and hugely entertaining games of football. Hurling semi finals were played at home/away venues due to the need to upgrade our lighting in Dunganny. We also take this



opportunity to thank all sponsors of our competitions, being LMFM, O'Reilly & Co Solicitors, and DG Stoves & Fireplaces. Our Under 15 hurling competitions had no sponsor this year. Undoubtedly, the highlight of the year was playing our Under 15 and Minor Football League finals in Páirc Tailteann. Huge thanks to the management committee, and to Jim Lane and his grounds committee for making it available. It was a wonderful experience for our young players and parents and enhances the retention rates and popularity of our games. We hope to extend this opportunity to Minor Hurling in 2025. It was disappointing not to have our Division 1, Minor football and hurling championship finals in Pairc Tailteann as curtain raisers to the adult senior championship finals in October. However, this was understandable considering the need to facilitate all codes in our flagship venue. This was always a wonderful occasion and provides valuable exposure to our sponsors and PR in our various media channels.

### **Trophies**

A new process, introduced in 2023, of presenting and returning of trophies was in place by the minor committee for the full year in 2024. Huge thanks to Niall Gogarty for his work in creating and implementing this new process which involves a temporary 2-week period for clubs to hold trophies for return with subsequent sign-out if required at future periods. The process also involved engraving a unique reference on each trophy. Thanks for our Finance Committee for the approval of new cups and shields which were a much-needed addition to our finals. It facilitated the minor committee to present a trophy at all, bar one, of our 68 finals during the year. The one exception being due an administrative error at the last Under 15 final of the year.

### **Public Relations**

Our county P.R. committee and our own Minor P.R. committee member Alan Tormey for their work in promoting our games and the profile of our sport. I would also like to thank Declan Lynch and Brian Mulligan for their photography work on our competitions and teams in 2024 and to the Meath Chronicle and HoganStand for their coverage. Declan Lynch and his colleagues in the HoganStand travel to all ends of the county to be present at our finals. I feel there is further need to promote our games and look forward to additional coverage in 2025.

### **Grading**

Grading of our divisions continues to be a vital factor in the successful running of our competitions. It presents challenges in the earlier part of the year when circumstances can



change from the equivalent competitions of two years previous. Independent Teams and personnel changes can also contribute to grading complications in our competitions. However, the championship competitions in the latter part of the year benefit from using results and performances from our initial competitions have achieved very competitive games and competitions for both our Under 15 and Minor championships. Our initial Under 15 league competition did contain grading issues and we are reviewing procedures to facilitate an improved process for future years. The changes at Under 13 level and not playing semi-finals and finals creates additional challenges for grading at the subsequent Under 15 levels. While our committee understand the concerns of increased competitiveness at a young age it is our opinion that the problems are generally around coaches' attitudes and not children. Finals and semi-finals provide a clearer picture of teams' strengths and are of great benefit for subsequent grading of competitions.

### **Multiple Team Affiliations**

All of our Under 15 and Minor competitions facilitate registration of multiple teams per club in the same competition, where their playing numbers permit. Additional affiliations are graded in our competitions as appropriate by the minor committee for ratification by the County Committee. There were several complaints by clubs during the year regarding second and third teams fielding stronger teams, and regarding 'Named 15' lists. This includes claims of ineligible players, consistent changing of fixture dates, conceding first team fixtures, and inaccurate named 15 lists. We do notice a large increase in fixture changes this year regarding clubs who were fielding multiple teams and often don't field on the same night as their other teams in that competition. While we understand that this may relate to ensuring game time for more players, we must maintain the integrity of our competitions for clubs involved. The Minor committee are discussing further changes to the regulations to streamline procedures around clubs with multiple teams. Inter County & Development Our County development squads, teams and academies continue their great work on our journey back to the top table of Inter County Football and hurling development. Compliments to our football development committee and to all the coaches for the positive work involved with our development squads and Minor panels. Our Minor footballers had a disappointing campaign this year and despite a great win over Westmeath bowed out of the Leinster Championship after the group stage. It was followed by defeat in the All-Ireland 'C' championship to a very strong Down side in Páirc Tailteann. Our Minor hurlers fared better as they topped their Celtic Challenge group with wins over Laois,



Kildare, and Armagh. They defeated Offaly in the semi-final but lost out to Laois narrowly in the final. Our Under 16s reached the final of the Tedd Webb Cup and Gerry Reilly Shield finals, losing to Kerry in the Tedd Webb Final but defeating Louth in Gerry Reilly Shield Final in Millbrook. We wish the very best of luck to the Minor Managers in 2025, being Joe Cowley from Seneschalstown and Ray O'Connor from St Peter's Dunboyne.

### **Conclusion**

As well as thanking my fellow committee members I would also like to extend thanks to the various members of committees within the county for their help and support during the year. Huge thanks to Tara, Christina, and Olivia in the office in Dunganny as well all those who have assisted with the 68 trophy presentations over the year. Finally, I would like to sincerely thank all the club juvenile secretaries for their co-operation during the year. Their role is an important one which acts as advisors to their coaches and members and not just an intermediary to forward and return information without question. Thankfully, the majority of secretaries perform their role in that manner and for that we thank you.

Daithi Ó Caimbéal

Rúnaí Coiste Mionúir Co. na Mí C.L.G.



## 17. Child Safeguarding Committee

A chairde Gael,

I give hereunder the current situation for the period November 2023 to October 2024. As in my reports of the past number of years I again confirm that 8 years ago in September of 2016 our Association together with its sister organizations launched its online version of OUR GAMES - OUR CODE, the joint CODE OF BEST PRACTICE IN YOUTH SPORT. This Code has been agreed between the GAA, the Ladies Gaelic Football Association, the Camogie Association, GAA Handball Ireland and the Rounders Council of Ireland. The Code is now the mandatory Code of Best Practice for all Gaelic Games Associations who work with underage players. It is in situ for these past eight years and it replaces all previous Codes. Our Games Our Code, the Association's own Code of Best Practise is by now a well-established pillar of all activities involving young people. The Code of Behaviour is but one section of the Code, and addresses the minimum appropriate levels of behaviour, practice and conduct required from our Young Players, Coaches, Supporters, Parents/Guardians, Referees and Clubs. The Code of Behaviour is a compulsory Code for all persons working in any role of responsibility with Children in the Associations referenced above and has been adopted by our relevant Central Councils and is in accordance with Rule. The essential issues relate to dealing with alleged breaches of the Code and the forthcoming structures to be put in place at Club, County, Provincial and National levels. It also includes the GAA Anti-Bullying Policy Statement.

Garda Electronic Vetting is now an ongoing process across the county. This procedure gives effect to the National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Act 2012. which was the subject of a Ministerial Commencement Order on 29th April 2016. As a result of this Directive Cumann Luthchleas Gael together with An Garda Síochána both agree that our Association will be the subject of electronic vetting only. Since April 2016, a total of 9000 members of Meath GAA Clubs have been vetted in accordance with this new legislation. Some people have in fact been re-vetted as their three years validity had expired. These persons are now considered vetted for a period of three (3) years. Anyone engaging with children in a GAA club context is leaving themselves (and their Club) exposed to potential criminal prosecution if not so vetted. The process is quite simple, and turnover time is about 10 days. I again strongly exhort all Clubs to be mindful of their responsibility in this regard. I remain available to assist any individual or Club in this process. The National Vetting Bureau (Children and Vulnerable Persons) Act is now the law of the Land and is the supreme adjudication on both mentors and





the GAA as an organization in relation to our interaction with young people. Gaa Headquarters together with An Garda Síochána now advise that GAA members who are vetted from 1st January 2021 will now have to be re-vetted every three (3) years. In the coming year 2025, All GAA personnel vetted prior to 2022 will have to be re- vetted. Each such person will receive an electronic invitation from the Gardai to apply for a new certificate. As mentioned already, this new certificate will be valid for a further period of three (3) years.

Since April of 2022, the method of Vetting has been transferred to the Foireann network and is overseen at Club level by the relevant Childrens Officer. Within Foireann the relevant Officer will have a full and up to date record of the current vetting status of each Club member. All Clubs will be aware that a Child Safeguarding Risk and Assessment Management Audit was carried out in the Spring of 2023. Similarly, the relevant Child Safeguarding Statement was compiled in respect of each Club. Likewise, this process was completed at County Level in respect of Coiste Na Mi. I am happy to report that all Clubs in Meath are now fully compliant in this regard. This process will again however have to be repeated in the Spring of next year 2025. Croke Park will have further information in this regard closer to the time.

Micheal Mac Beineid,

Oifeagach Na Leanai Coiste na Mi.

**Coiste um Chosaint Leanai an Mhí C.L.G.**



## **19. I.T. Committee**

The IT committee have been primarily focused on supporting 3 areas:

1. Supporting the Office365 email and related issues
2. Supporting and Maintaining the Games/Fixture Management system in conjunction with Competition administrators
3. Supporting Other related IT issues as required.



## **21. Cumann na mBunscol**

Cumann na mBunscol Coiste na Mí would like to extend its thanks to Coiste na Mí for allowing us to play our competitions during the year in Dunganny and in Páirc Tailteann.

Your support and cooperation in hosting our school finals in Páirc Tailteann every year is greatly appreciated.

The opportunity to play in Páirc Tailteann is as important for the children themselves as reaching their respective finals. It allows them to showcase their talents and skills in our county ground and to dream of bigger days ahead with their clubs in years to come.



## 22. Youth Committee & Go Games Committee

A chara,

On behalf of the Meath Go Games Section, I would like to thank Ciarán Flynn, Jason Plunkett and all the members of the Meath management committee for all the help and support throughout the year.

Meath Go Games had another successful year in 2024 and hopefully the lingering effects of the covid years are now well and truly behind us.

With 1,700 football fixtures and 710 hurling fixtures catering for over 70 clubs averaging 28 players per team in each age group from U7 to U11. Some teams boasting 50+ players and some teams with the bare minimum.

Blitzes were continued at u8 and u10 and introduced at other ages to further trial this year. It was overall a success and may be further expanded in 2025 subject to club alignment.

Mini combinations were also set up to allow bigger teams (number wise) play 2/3 teams blitzes some weeks. This was met with both positive and negative but overall was considered a success.

We must congratulate and thank all the young whistlers this year and we must strive to continue to grow this next year.

I must also congratulate clubs in adverse conditions and pitch closures move, rearrange and transfer matches to make sure all fixtures were played.

Many thanks also to Christine O'Brien and all the Meath coaching and games staff in their efforts this year and the return of the successful Dunganny Blitz day

We look forward to an even bigger year next year and again I thank everyone involved at county level in assisting Go Games in Meath.

Coiste na nÓg would like to thank all the clubs and the various teams for their participation in the competitions we organised throughout the year. Without the dedication of the mentors and parents, we would not have had such a successful year. We are also cognisant of the magnificent work done by the many administrators at the juvenile level within the clubs and the tremendous effort made to keep the club members and players well-informed. Most of the



competitions ran smoothly and this was due to the cooperation of the clubs and teams doing their best to adhere to the games schedule we had agreed upon. We also know that as a committee we cannot get everything correct; however, we did strive to help give as many teams a reasonable number of games and to accommodate them where possible.

Regarding the competitions, we did strive to achieve a fair system of grading, but we are conscious that this needs a close review on an annual basis. We would urge all clubs and underage teams to strive in improving the standard of our games and to have as many of their mentors and coaches participate over the winter months in the various coaching courses being organised by Meath Coaching & Games. The more Award 1 and Award 2 coaches we have the better chance we have of retaining as many of our children to keep playing Gaelic Games and continue their sporting careers under the umbrella of the C.L.G.

Thankfully, overall discipline at our games is improving; nonetheless, there have been some incidents at our games that have caused us concern. Players and mentors must strive to maintain a high standard of respect for their opposition both on and off the field and towards the officials appointed to oversee our games. We appreciate the necessity for a competitive spirit in our games, but this should not diminish the importance of a high standard of discipline by players, mentors, and supporters alike.

To improve the overall standard of our Gaelic Games we will continue with 'Silent Sidelines'. It is mandatory for all mentors to wear designated bibs and to follow detailed match regulations. These initiatives are designed to encourage a positive fun atmosphere at our games. We hopefully will continue to diminish the unsavoury incidents that discredit our association.

We would like to thank Cathaoirleach Coiste na Mí Jason Plunkett and Rúnaí Coiste na Mí Ciarán Flynn and all the members of the 2024 Meath Management Committee. I would like to thank all the people who work in Dunganny who work tirelessly behind the scenes.

Thank you to Christine O'Brien, our Head of Games Development and all her GDC/PO team. Thanks to all who help promote our games through social media. Thanks to all the media who helped promote our games throughout the county.

Go raibh maith agaibh to Adrian Madden and the full committee. It has been a pleasure to work with you all and everybody contributed to a good working relationship. It is important to



note the integral role all volunteers involved in the Meath County Committee play. Final thanks to Richard Smith of RS Awards who sponsored our games in 2024. We are truly thankful for your support, and we hope to continue to work together.

Also, we extend our sympathies to any member or player who suffered a bereavement during the year; ar dheis De go raibh a h-anam dilis. We would like to wish the Coiste Chontae every success in 2023.

**Agus anois, sin deirneach ar mo tuairisc do Coiste Chontae seo.**

Is mise le meas,

**Fionntáin Ó Portair**

**Cathaoirleach Coiste na nÓg an Mhí**



## 23. Demographics Committee



As part of a pilot project initiated by the Meath Football Development Committee before establishing the County Demographics Committee, a GIS (Geographic Information System) analysis of the county and its clubs was conducted this year. This analysis integrated population data from the 2022 Census with club catchment areas, resulting in a Demographics Report for both the county and individual clubs.

The 2022 Census revealed that Meath ranks second in the country for population growth, and this Demographics Project will help Meath GAA and its clubs better understand the emerging opportunities and challenges as we plan for the future. The report identifies trends and provides insights into current and projected player numbers, assisting clubs in making evidence-based decisions on areas such as coaching and facility development.

The process involved the complex task of creating a digitised map of the Catholic parishes in Meath and defining the catchment areas for each club. In June, we circulated preliminary maps to football and dual clubs, inviting them to review and validate their catchment areas, and to notify us of any discrepancies. We appreciate the clubs that responded, and this remains an ongoing process. We encourage any clubs with questions or updates about their catchment areas to reach out to Shane O'Brien, Technical GDC/Demographics Committee Secretary, at [shane.obrien.gda.meath@gaa.ie](mailto:shane.obrien.gda.meath@gaa.ie).

Over the next few years, the committee's goal is to produce a definitive map of club catchment areas, a task that can only be completed with input and local knowledge from the clubs themselves. As the catchment areas for hurling clubs may include multiple parishes, there is additional work that will be carried out in this area in the coming year. It is important to note that, while the GIS analysis provides valuable insights, the catchment areas are not yet





fully accurate. Therefore, this data should not be used for game administration, dispute resolution, player transfers, or similar matters at this stage.

We would like to thank Peter Horgan and Conor Weir (Croke Park), and Eoghan McCarthy and Emma O'Connor (People and Place) for their expertise and support in this GIS analysis project.

Coiste Déimeagrafaic an Mhí members 2024:

Cathaoirleach: Ruth Chambers (Baile an Bhaitearaigh); Rúnaí: Shane O'Brien (Meath GAA Technical Games Development Coordinator); Jason Plunkett, Ciarán Flynn, Gene Smith, Conor O'Donoghue, Paddy Kelly, Joe O'Brien, Kevin Reilly.



## 24. Buaiteoirí Comórtais C.L.G. na Mí 2024

Comortás	Club
Senior Football Championship	Domhnach Seachnaill
Intermediate Football Championship	Cnoc na Mí
Junior Football Championship	Dún Samhna
Junior 'B' Football Championship	Carn na Rós
Senior Hurling Championship	Rath Tó
Intermediate Hurling Championship	Ó Mathúna
Junior Hurling Championship	Cill Mheasáin
Junior 'B' Hurling Championship	Ó Mathúna
Football League Div. 1	Druim Samhraidh
Football League Div. 2	Domhnach Seachnaill
Football League Div. 3	Rath Coinnig
Football League Div. 4	Rath Tó
Football League Div. 5	Magh nEalta
Football League Div. 6	Naomh Colmcille
Football League Div. 7	Sean Caisleán
Football League Div. 8	Naomh Colmcille
Football League Div. 9	Magh nAilbhe
Football League Div. 10	Sódan
Feis Cup	Domhnach Mór/Cill Dhéagláin
Corn na Bóinne	Cnoc na Mí



Tailteann Cup	Slane
Tailteann Shield	Magh nEalta
Div. 1 Hurling League	Cill Teidhil
Div. 2 Hurling League	Cill Dealga
Div. 3 Hurling League	Maolach/Cill Scíre
Div. 4 Hurling League	Cill Teidhil
Div. 5 Hurling League	Cill Dealga
Brendan Davis Cup	Cill Mheasáin
Billy Byrne Cup	Rath Moliadhain
Corn Dónal Ó Loingsigh	Cill Mheasáin
Premier Football Championship Div. 1	Rath Tó
Premier Football Championship Div. 2	Naomh Pádraig
Premier Football Championship Div. 3	Domhnach Mór/Cill Dhéagláin
Premier Football Championship Div. 4	Dún Doire
Premier Football Championship Div. 5	Baile Shláine
Premier Football Championship Div. 6	Ó Mathúna
Premier Football Championship Div. 7	Carn na Ros
Premier Football Championship Div. 8	An Obair
U-21 Hurling Championship Division 1	
U-21 Hurling Championship Division 2	
U-19 Football Championship Division 1	
U-19 Football Championship Division 2	



U-19 Football Championship Division 3	
U-19 Football Championship Division 4	
U-19 Football Championship Division 5	
Regional Football Championship	Brú na Bóinne

**Under 15 & Minor Competitions Winners 2024**

<b>Grade</b>	<b>Code</b>	<b>Comp</b>	<b>Sponsor</b>	<b>Division</b>	<b>Type</b>	<b>Winners</b>
Minor	Football	Tournament	LMFM	Group A	Cup	Simonstown
Minor	Football	Tournament	LMFM	Group B	Cup	St. Peter's Dunboyne
Minor	Football	Tournament	LMFM	Group C	Cup	Gaeil Colmcille
Minor	Football	Tournament	LMFM	Group D	Cup	Dunderry
Minor	Football	Tournament	LMFM	Group E	Cup	St. Ultan's/Cortown Gaels
Minor	Football	Tournament	LMFM	Group F	Cup	Rathkenny/St.Marys
Minor	Football	Tournament	LMFM	Group G	Cup	Moynalvey/Boardsmill
Minor	Football	Tournament	LMFM	Group H (Premier)	Cup	Simonstown
Minor	Hurling	Tournament	DG Stoves & Fireplaces	Group A	Cup	Trim
Minor	Hurling	Tournament	DG Stoves & Fireplaces	Group A	Shield	Kildalkey
Minor	Hurling	Tournament	DG Stoves & Fireplaces	Group B	Cup	Wolfe Tones
Minor	Hurling	Tournament	DG Stoves & Fireplaces	Group B	Shield	Kiltale
Minor	Hurling	Tournament	DG Stoves & Fireplaces	Group C	Cup	Boardsmill/Rathmoylan
Minor	Hurling	Tournament	DG Stoves & Fireplaces	Group C	Shield	Clann na nGael
Minor	Hurling	League	DG Stoves and Fireplaces	Division 1	Cup	St. Peter's/Blackhall
Minor	Hurling	League	DG Stoves and Fireplaces	Division 1	Shield	Ratoath
Minor	Hurling	League	DG Stoves and Fireplaces	Division 2	Cup	Boardsmill/Rathmoylan
Minor	Hurling	League	DG Stoves and Fireplaces	Division 2	Shield	Loughcrew Gaels/Gaeil Colmcille
Minor	Hurling	League	DG Stoves and Fireplaces	Division 3	Cup	Kilmessan
Minor	Hurling	League	DG Stoves and Fireplaces	Division 3	Shield	The Saints
Minor	Football	League	LMFM	Division 1	Cup	St. Colmcille's
Minor	Football	League	LMFM	Division 2	Cup	Trim
Minor	Football	League	LMFM	Division 3	Cup	Wolfe Tones
Minor	Football	League	LMFM	Division 4	Cup	St. Ultan's/Cortown Gaels
Minor	Football	League	LMFM	Division 5	Cup	Clonard
Minor	Football	League	LMFM	Division 6	Cup	St. Peter's Dunboyne
U15	Football	League	O'Reilly & Co. Solicitors	Division 1	Cup	St. Colmcille's
U15	Football	League	O'Reilly & Co. Solicitors	Division 2	Cup	Oldcastle
U15	Football	League	O'Reilly & Co. Solicitors	Division 3	Cup	Simonstown
U15	Football	League	O'Reilly & Co. Solicitors	Division 4	Cup	Slane
U15	Football	League	O'Reilly & Co. Solicitors	Division 5	Cup	Kilbride
U15	Football	League	O'Reilly & Co. Solicitors	Division 6	Cup	St. Peter's Dunboyne
U15	Football	League	O'Reilly & Co. Solicitors	Premier	Cup	St. Colmcille's
U15	Football	League	O'Reilly & Co. Solicitors	Premier 1	Cup	Dunshaughlin
U15	Football	League	O'Reilly & Co. Solicitors	Premier 2	Cup	St. Peter's Dunboyne



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U15	Hurling	League	*NO SPONSOR*	Division 1	Cup	Na Fianna
U15	Hurling	League	*NO SPONSOR*	Division 1	Shield	Kiltale
U15	Hurling	League	*NO SPONSOR*	Division 2	Cup	O'Mahony's
U15	Hurling	League	*NO SPONSOR*	Division 2	Shield	Boardsmill
U15	Hurling	League	*NO SPONSOR*	Division 3	Cup	Dunderry
U15	Hurling	League	*NO SPONSOR*	Division 3	Shield	Clann na nGael
Minor	Football	Championship	LMFM	Division 1	Cup	Ratoath
Minor	Football	Championship	LMFM	Division 2	Cup	Seneschalstown
Minor	Football	Championship	LMFM	Division 3	Cup	Killary Emmetts
Minor	Football	Championship	LMFM	Division 4	Cup	Clonard
Minor	Football	Championship	LMFM	Division 5	Cup	Dunsany
Minor	Football	Championship	LMFM	Premier Division 6	Cup	St. Patrick's
Minor	Hurling	Championship	DG Stoves & Fireplaces	Division 1	Cup	Kildalkey
Minor	Hurling	Championship	DG Stoves & Fireplaces	Division 1	Shield	St. Peter's/BlackHall
Minor	Hurling	Championship	DG Stoves & Fireplaces	Division 2	Cup	Na Fianna
Minor	Hurling	Championship	DG Stoves & Fireplaces	Division 2	Shield	Kilmessan
Minor	Hurling	Championship	DG Stoves & Fireplaces	Division 3	Cup	Drumree
Minor	Hurling	Championship	DG Stoves & Fireplaces	Division 3	Shield	Clann na nGael
U15	Football	Championship	O'Reilly & Co. Solicitors	Division 1	Cup	St. Ultan's/Cortown Gaels
U15	Football	Championship	O'Reilly & Co. Solicitors	Division 2	Cup	Dunderry
U15	Football	Championship	O'Reilly & Co. Solicitors	Division 3	Cup	Killary Emmets
U15	Football	Championship	O'Reilly & Co. Solicitors	Division 4	Cup	Gaeil Colmcille
U15	Football	Championship	O'Reilly & Co. Solicitors	Division 5	Cup	St.Peter's Dunboyne
U15	Football	Championship	O'Reilly & Co. Solicitors	Division 6	Cup	Ballinlough
U15	Football	Championship	O'Reilly & Co. Solicitors	Premier	Cup	Dunshaughlin
U15	Football	Championship	O'Reilly & Co. Solicitors	Premier 1	Cup	Summerhill
U15	Football	Championship	O'Reilly & Co. Solicitors	Premier 2	Cup	St. Colmcille's
U15	Hurling	Championship	*NO SPONSOR*	Division 1	Cup	Trim
U15	Hurling	Championship	*NO SPONSOR*	Division 1	Shield	Loughcrew Gaels/Gaeil Colmcille
U15	Hurling	Championship	*NO SPONSOR*	Division 2	Cup	Kilmessan
U15	Hurling	Championship	*NO SPONSOR*	Division 2	Shield	Killyon/Longwood
U15	Hurling	Championship	*NO SPONSOR*	Division 3	Cup	Drumree
U15	Hurling	Championship	*NO SPONSOR*	Division 3	Shield	Ratoath
Minor	Football	7 a side Cup			Cup	Summerhill
Minor	Football	7 a side Shield			Shield	Wolfe Tones
Minor	Hurling	7 a side Cup			Cup	Dunderry



## Coiste na nÓg

Final standings for RS Awards U13 Spring Hurling League 2024, winners:

- Roinn A – Cill Mheasáin
- Roinn B – Gaeil Loch Craobh
- Roinn C – Cill Mhesáin
- Roinn D – Cill Teidhil

RS Awards U12 Spring Football League 2024, winners:

- Roinn A - Naomh Colmcille

RS Awards U12 Summer Football League 2024, winners:

- Roinn A - Naomh Colmcille

Final Standings for the RS Awards U13 Summer Football League 2024 Winners:

- Roinn A - Naomh Peadar Dún Bóinne
- Roinn B - Sean Caisleán
- Roinn C - Dún Doire
- Roinn D - Domhnach Mór/Cill Dhéagláin
- Roinn E - Beag Teach
- Roinn F - Sódan
- Roinn G - Naomh Peadar Dún Bóinne
- Roinn H – Magh nAllbhe
- Roinn I - Baile Sencaill
- Roinn J – Gaeil Baile Shiomóin

Final Standings RS Awards U13 Summer Hurling League 2024, Winners:

- Roinn A - Cill Mheasáin
- Roinn B - Cill Dealga
- Roinn C – Cill Teidhil
- Roinn D – Bórd an Mhuilinn