



Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael
An Chomhdháil Bhliantúil 2010

Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael

Ardchomhairle, Páirc an Chrocaigh,
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Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael

An Chomhdháil Bhliantúil 2010

March 26th/27th 2010

Keadeen Hotel, Newbridge, Co. Kildare.

An Clár

Dé hAoine, 26 Martá 2010

4.30 – 6.00pm	Ceardlanna Forbatha	Development Workshops
6.30 – 7.30pm	Clárú	Registration
8.00pm	Fáilte ó Uachtarán Chill Dara, Máire Uí Chonchoille	Welcome from Kildare President, Marie Woods
	Tinreamh agus Buanorduithe	Check attendance and adopt Standing Orders
	Áiritheoirí a cheapadh	Appoint tellers
8.15pm	Ceardlann Rialacha	Rules Workshop
9.15pm	Miontuairiscí Chomhdháil 2009	Minutes Congress 2009
	Tuairiscí ó na Comhairlí Cúige	Reports from Provincial Councils
	Tuairiscí ó Londain, Meiriceá Thuaidh, an Eoraip agus an Astráil	Reports from London, North America, Europe and Australia
	Tuairiscí ó C.C.A.O. agus Comhairle na nIar-bhunscoileanna	Reports from CCAO and Post Primary Colleges
	Tuairiscí ó na Fochoistí	Subcommittee Reports
10.15pm	Críoch	End

Dé Sathairn, 27 Márta 2010

9.00 - 9.30am	Clárú	Registration
9.30am	Tinreamh	Check attendance
	Áiritheoirí a cheapadh	Appoint tellers
9.35am	Cuntais Airgeadais	Financial Accounts
10.00am	Tuairisc an Ard Stiúrthóra	Ard Stiúrthóir's report
10.30am	Strategic Plan 2010 - 2015	Strategic Plan 2010 - 2015
11.30am	Tuairisc ar Fhorbairt	Development Report
12.00 noon	Aitheasc an Uachtarán	President's Address
12.30 – 1.45pm	Lón	Lunch
1.45pm	Plé ar Rialacha	Open discussion on feedback on proposed rules
3.15pm	Rúin	Motions
4.25pm	Ionad na Comhdhála, 2011	Venue for Congress 2011
4.30pm	Críoch	End

Buanordaithe (Standing Orders)

1. The proposer of a resolution or an amendment may speak for five minutes.
2. A delegate to a resolution or an amendment may not exceed three minutes.
3. The proposer of a resolution or an amendment may speak a second time for three minutes before a vote is taken. No other delegate may speak a second time to the same resolution or amendment.
4. An Cathaoirleach may, at any time she/he considers a matter has been sufficiently discussed, call on the proposer for a reply. When that has been given a vote must be taken.
5. An Cathaoirleach may consider any subject not on An Clár provided she/he receives the consent of the majority of the delegates present.
6. Standing Orders shall not be suspended for the purpose of considering any matter not on An Clár except with the consent of a majority equal to two-thirds of those present, entitled to vote and voting.



Reamhrá an tUachtaráin

I dTuarascáil an Ard Stiúrthóra seo tugaimid aitheantais ar an sár obair atá ar siúl ar fud na tíre. Féachaimid siar ar shéasúir lán de phaisean agus imirt don scoth ag ár n-imreoirí idir contaethe agus gclubanna. An bhliain seo caite, b'iontach an obair a rinneadh ar ár Stratréis 2010-2015. I dtreo an todhcháil, is tábhachtach an Phlean nua mar tugann sé deis dúinne ár gcluiche a spreagadh agus a chur chun cinn agus deis a thabhairt do níos mó cailíní spraoi, sult agus spórt a bhaint as an gCamógaíocht.

One of the strongest impressions I have of 2009 is the passion, commitment, loyalty, energy and pride of Camogie players, mentors, referees, volunteers and administrators. I've witnessed this in visits to 26 of our 28 county boards – from Swatragh in Derry to Cappoquin in Waterford; from Ballyhaunis in Mayo to Aughrim in Wicklow including memorable journeys to London and to the North American Continental Youth Games in San Francisco. This voluntary effort, united with Camogie's full-time staff team is a key resource to strengthen and expand Camogie into the future.

With 800,000 females aged under 20 on the island, and nearly half of these aged 5-15, the key age group for underage activity, we need to be ready and fit for purpose to ensure that any female who wants the opportunity to play Camogie has that opportunity in their local community or parish. Building on our achievements, we can grow and strengthen Camogie further.

Two important tasks were significantly advanced in the last year towards this. Firstly, detailed analysis, consultation and planning has produced a new National Strategic Plan to guide the development of the Association until 2015. Secondly, a thorough review of the Official Guide was undertaken. This has produced a consultative draft of the proposed new edition of the Official Guide for the 2010 Annual Congress. After a further period of consultation, a Special Congress will be convened to consider and ratify our new Constitution and governance and administrative procedures. I want to put on record my sincere thanks to the National Strategic Review Committee who undertook these tasks. This involved a high level of meetings, debate, analysis and shared wisdom. The Committee members were Louise Byrne (Chairperson), Uachtarán, Ard Stiúrthóir, Geraldine McGrath, Eamonn Browne, Liz Howard, Brighidin Heenan, Sarah O'Connor and Susan Malone.

All our National Committees worked extremely hard and effectively. Participating on a Committee, at all levels of the Association, is demanding for volunteers who travel to meetings after a day's work, or who have family or other commitments and who undertake a myriad of tasks between meetings. Our National Committees are sub-committees of Ardchomhairle and have delivered a number of key initiatives in the last year.

I would like to pay a special tribute to Rose Malone who retired from Ardchomhairle during the year. Exceptional service and outstanding knowledge and expertise on all matters related to Camogie characterised Rose's contribution. Louise Byrne retired too in 2009 while the term of Vice President Ray Quigley and Iar Uachtarán Liz Howard will finish at the 2010 Congress. To all, I say a very sincere míle míle buíochas and I have no doubt your talents will still be available to Camogie in other roles.

Ard Stiúrthóir, Sinéad O'Connor, does an excellent job in heading up the Association's full time team. In October 2009, Sinéad successfully completed her first year in her new role.

Our development initiatives at grassroots level, led by Director of Camogie, Mary O'Connor, and our seven Development Officers, Ger Gribben, Jenny Duffy, Eve Talbot, Jennifer Steede, Caroline Murray, Deirdre Murphy and Yvonne Byrne are having a wonderful impact. Today, there are more Camogie players, teams, clubs and competitions than ever before. And the athleticism, skill and standard of the game is outstanding.

Communications, public relations, marketing and sponsorship are so important. Improving the profile of Camogie is one of my priorities. I am delighted that we recently appointed a new Director of Communications and Marketing Claire Egan to advance this. Claire will build on the outstanding work of Therese O'Callaghan in 2009.

Finance, fixtures and administration are all important functions within the Association. Paula Bruen, very capably settled into her role as Finance Officer in 2009 and Regina Gorman and Brid Boylan continued to deliver their responsibilities impressively and with great poise.

There are many challenges in running a national sporting body. Without the dedication, mutual support and ongoing professionalism of our volunteers and our full-time team, this task would be a lot harder and a lot less enjoyable. On behalf of Ardchomhairle, I want to thank you all for your support, dedication, professionalism and ongoing involvement in Camogie.

The support of others is an important underpinning to our achievements. The Irish Sports Council, Sports NI, the GAA from central to local club level, our commercial sponsors, Gala, O'Neill's Irish and International Sports, Coillte, RTE, various local authorities and local sports partnerships all provide vital resources to us. These include funding, sporting and administrative facilities, resources in kind, advice and support. Your positive attitude and support for women's participation in sport is very much appreciated and valued at all times, but most particularly when things are tough economically for everybody. Míle buíochas do chách.

Finally, as we move to implement our development priorities, I am confident that our Association is in an excellent position to realise the ambition of our new Strategic Plan 2010-2015. I look forward to working together towards that over the next 12 months.

SIOBHÁN NÍ FHLOINN
Uachtarán



Tuairisc an Ard Stiúrthóra

Introduction

2009 was a busy year for Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael and an exciting one both on and off the field. With 16 titles up for decision counties battled it out on the field of play from February to December. Off the field of play much work has been done on a Strategic Plan 2010 – 2015 and revised An Treoraí Oifigiúil. There have been new clubs, new members added to the full-time team and 11,000 camogie players involved in 150 initiatives run by the development team.

Joan O'Flynn took over as Uachtarán from Liz Howard at Congress 2009 in Tipperary. At the beginning of her term as Uachtarán Joan O'Flynn outlined agreed working methods for Ardchomhairle and put in place the following national sub-committees:

1. Resource Management Committee
2. Competitions Management (Fixtures) Committee
3. Referees' Support and Development
4. Coaching and Games Development
5. Strategic Review Implementation Group
6. Volunteer and Officer Support and Development
7. Player Welfare Committee
8. Communications and Website
9. Disciplinary Committee
10. Child Protection and Welfare
11. Clemency Committee

Of greatest interest is the addition of the Player Welfare Committee which will oversee the development and implementation of a five year strategy and annual action plan on player welfare (e.g. anti-doping education, injury prevention and recovery, nutrition education programmes and standards in player welfare).

Governing and administrative structures

The work of a sporting organisation is nearly always judged by what people see on the playing fields – matches, coaching, refereeing, finals. However, it is what happens off the field that determines the Association's success. Annual Congress gives the Camogie Association an opportunity to reflect on the organisation as a whole, to look at activities on and off the field and to look at what direction we want to take the Association in. Congress is the ruling body of the organisation. It is important that clubs, counties, provincial councils and colleges councils understand that each unit is part of the greater decision making process of the Association and that each unit has a say in how we shape the future of the organisation. Between congresses Ardchomhairle is the ruling body and it is important that the links between club, county, provincial councils and Ardchomhairle work. The role of the delegate is one of great responsibility and is vital in providing a link between the different levels of the organisation – the club delegate must bring back to the club what has happened at county board, the county board delegate must bring back to the county board what has happened at provincial level and the provincial delegate must bring back what has happened at Ardchomhairle.

ORGANISATION STRUCTURE



Ardchomhairle 2009

There were 11 meetings of Ardchomhairle during 2009. Ardchomhairle comprises the following members:

Member	Position	No. of meetings attended
Joan O'Flynn	Uachtarán	11
Sinéad O'Connor	Ard Stiúrthóir	10
Liz Howard	Iar-Uachtarán	11
Mary Moran	Trustee	11
Phyllis Breslin	Trustee	9
Morgan Conroy	Munster Chairperson and National Vice-President	9
Marie Kearney (2)	Munster delegate	7 in total for Munster delegate
Marion Graham (2)	Interim delegate	
Rose Malone (3)	Retired as delegate during the year	
Jackie Brien	Connacht Chairperson and National Vice President	11
Geraldine McGrath	Connacht Delegate	11
Catherine O'Hara	Ulster Chairperson and National Vice President	8
Bridghidin Heenan	Ulster Delegate	11
Ray Quigley	Leinster Chairperson and National Vice President	9
Mary Connor	Leinster Delegate	8 represented by proxy at 1 meeting
Lynn Kelly (4)	CCAO	8 in total for CCAO
Louise Byrne (4)	CCAO – stepped down at CCAO AGM	
Paul Beecher	2nd Level Colleges	6

Two key priorities for Ardchomhairle in 2009 were the finalisation of a new National Strategic Plan and the production of a revised Official Guide for consultation with members. Ardchomhairle carried out much work in relation to the composition of the draft rules which are before this congress for discussion. It considered the option of incorporation for Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael following a presentation by the Strategic Review Implementation Group opting instead to retain the current status as an unincorporated organisation. It has given much consideration to the members of Ardchomhairle in the new rules and has put forward for consideration the make up that it feels is both representative of the organisation and that encompasses the skills the Association needs to run its business effectively and efficiently in years to come.

The draft rules require in-depth analysis by all units. While much of the core of the rules remains the same there are a number of areas that will directly affect the running of the day to day business of clubs, county boards, provincial councils and colleges councils. When considering the new rules some areas worth focusing on include:

- Amending name to An Cumann Camógaíochta or The Camogie Association
- Structures – Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary; Ardchomhairle
- Guidance and Codes
- New dates for AGMs
- Voting for over 16s
- Email, English or Irish
- Children’s welfare
- Home club and transfers
- Age criteria for competitions (Section 27)
- Player grading (Section 28)
- Penalties (Section 45)

Regional workshops will be held as follows to allow for further consultation on the draft rules taking into account feedback from Congress:

- Dublin April 14th
- Tullamore April 22nd
- Armagh April 28th
- Waterford April 29th

County chairpersons, secretaries, congress delegates and development officers will be required to be in attendance. The evening will also include one hour section on the rule of the development officer and how she/he will work within the county board.

Camogie for 2010 and beyond

At Congress 2009 Morgan Buckley presented a report “Shaping the Future” for Camogie. The report encompassed a review of the Association highlighting all that was good about Camogie as well as highlighting the areas that need change.

Throughout 2009 a series of consultations took place regarding the development of the Strategic Plan 2010 – 2015 with the following groups:

- Ardchomhairle
- Full-time team
- National sub-committees

These consultations, the “Shaping the Future” report together with the Strategic Plan 2004 – 2008, consultations with other Gaelic games and the needs of our membership have framed the Strategic Plan presented to Congress 2010 for consideration. The strategic plan of any organisation acts as a roadmap, a way for all levels of the Association to move forward together and provide what works best for our players, coaches, mentors, referees, administrators and supporters.

The areas of priority identified for 2010 – 2015 include:

1. Growing Participation
2. Improving Performance
3. Volunteer Development and Leadership
4. Enhancing Camogie’s Profile
5. Excellent Governance and Organisational Development

This strategic plan will bring the Association to the next level of its development, to a position where there are sufficient camogie clubs to ensure that all females have the opportunity to play camogie, that coaches, referees and administrators will have sufficient training, that camogie will be well represented in all media and that our structures and governance will reflect best practice.

Participation

Much of what we do in the Camogie Association, at club, school, county, provincial or at national level, is about providing opportunities to play camogie. The more chances to play the more a player will learn about the game and the more she will enjoy it. This will make it easier to retain a player, teach her the skills of the game and ensure that she continues to play camogie for many years. A number of factors feed into providing playing opportunities and making sure it is enjoyable. Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael’s Strategic Plan 2010 – 2015 is underpinned by the theme of increasing playing opportunities, thereby increasing participation which will in turn lead to an increase in the number of clubs in the Association.

All units of Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael must work to ensure that playing opportunities are provided irrespective of social class, ethnic background or ability level. 2010 is the European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion. Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael is committed to providing playing opportunities for all but as an Association we must take positive steps to ensure that our clubs are accessible and inviting to everyone.

In 2009, with financial support from the RAPID Programme (Revitalising Areas by Planning, Investment and Development) and a number of local authorities and sports partnerships, the Association initiated a number of projects to promote a socially inclusive approach to Camogie as follows:

Ballinasloe

This funding was used by the Camogie club to run a family day to entice new members into the club, in particular members from new communities within Ballinasloe. The event was supported by Galway County Council.

Tralee

A project to start camogie in Tralee. The project included a "Camogaerobics" project for mothers and teachers together with a schools coaching initiative in the primary schools in the selected region.

Dublin City

The funding received targeted six areas directly linked to clubs in the inner city. The project, "Puck Around Town", targeted young girls between the ages of 10 and 14 and ran for six weeks culminating in a trip to the Gala All-Ireland Finals in Croke Park. The project received enormous support from Dublin City Council and is a template for future events to run in the city.



Fingal County Council

Funding was also received for the start up of a Camogie club in Tyrellstown which is an area where 90% of primary school students are of differing ethnic minorities. The GAA club was launched in early 2009, the establishment of the camogie club just a few short months later will ensure that camogie grows as hurling and football grow.

Making camogie fun needs to be a priority at every level of the Association. The use of "Go Games", ensuring young players get to play enough matches, ensuring that they have good coaches and that they have a safe environment to play in will increase the chances of young players staying with camogie.

Camógaerobics

During 2010 the development team rolled out Camógaerobics - a combined programme bringing together the basic skills of camogie with aerobic fitness work. The programme is aimed at adults who have never played before, many of whom have a daughter playing with the club at present. The Camóg-Aerobic sessions run for six weeks. The programme was piloted in Sylane Camogie Club, a newly formed club in Galway and has been very successful. Now, instead of dropping their daughters off at training, these women have been recruited as volunteers for the club helping with teams and with fundraising. The women from Sylane club exhibited their skills on All-Ireland Camogie day in Croke Park. A number of other clubs are now using this initiative with great success.



Childrens Welfare

The most significant development in this area in 2009 was the introduction of Garda Vetting. Ray Quigley, Garda Vetting Officer, began work on this in March. Garda Vetting was required for Féile na nGael 2009 with all host families, officers and mentors involved with Féile teams being required to complete the process. To date almost 1300 people have successfully completed the Garda Vetting process in the following counties:

- Laois
- Offaly
- Wexford
- Cork
- Carlow

For 2010 plans are in place to roll out Garda Vetting in the following counties:

- Westmeath
- Dublin
- Kilkenny
- Galway
- Roscommon
- Mayo



The Garda Vetting Officer has received a very positive response from all counties. Thank you to the Childrens Officers that have assisted in completing Garda Vetting in their clubs/counties.

The role of the Childrens Officer at club, county, provincial and national level is vital. It is imperative that we ensure the safety of our children at all times and that we provide our mentors and coaches with the necessary tools to ensure that they follow best practice when dealing with children.

There has been increased co-operation with the GAA in this regard and a Joint Code of Behaviour was launched in 2009. The possibility of a joint Code of Best Practice is now also being explored. A joint code would ensure that children in all sections of a club, whether involved in camogie, ladies football, handball or GAA, would be dealt with in the same manner when an incident arises.

Coaching and Games Development

It has been another busy year on the development side of camogie. The efforts of Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael's full time development team together with the efforts of the volunteers on development committees and on club, county and provincial executives across the country have made a significant impact on the development of the game during the year.

Through the services of existing Coaching Tutors six foundation level courses were delivered in 2009. Resources to deliver coaching courses are an issue as two tutors are required to deliver all courses with more than 12-15 participants. An additional tutor has now begun training through Coaching Ireland. In addition, an approach has been made to the GAA with regards to the use of their coaching tutors to deliver Camogie Coaching courses. This would enable Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael to deliver an increased number of our Foundation and Level 1 Courses, "Camán Get a Grip" and "Camán Get Hooked". The delivery of these courses is imperative to the development of camogie – better coaches means better players. I would encourage all coaches to complete these camogie specific courses when the opportunity arises.

During the summer of 2009 an in-service programme for primary school teachers in Kerry was jointly run by Camogie and Ladies Football. The course content included camogie, ladies football and GAA. This pilot course proved very successful and is an ideal way to train teachers to deliver our game to young girls in primary schools throughout Ireland. A second coaching course was delivered to trainee teachers in Mary Immaculate College and a course was delivered to PE students in UCC. Equipping the teachers of our primary and secondary schools with the necessary skills to coach camogie is the most effective way of ensuring that all young players get the opportunity to play camogie.

Together with the development of the syllabi for these courses a coaching and player pathway are other essential parts of the jigsaw in putting together an effective coaching and technical plan. Work is underway at present through the Coaching and Games Development Committee to develop a national coaching plan. Coaching Ireland has been extremely supportive throughout this process and I would like to acknowledge Michael McGeehin and Catherine Bird and thank them for their help.

The full time development team has worked closely with clubs and county boards to run different initiatives and events including the following:

- County Participation Days
- Come and Try It Days
- Schools Blitzes (primary and secondary)
- Go Games Blitzes
- Spórt agus Spraoi events for 2nd level schools
- GREEN Card Courses
- TY Coaching Programmes
- Gaisce Pilot Programme
- Workshops
- Development Squad blitz days

During the course of 2009 the team ran 150 events catering for almost 11,000 young players not including club and school competitions initiated by the Regional Development Officers (e.g. North Munster League, Kildare Second Level Schools Competition). This is a fantastic achievement with a small team of people and it would not be possible without their hard work and dedication and an enormous amount of support from club and county officers, schools, third level institutes and GAA personnel both voluntary and full-time. Many of these initiatives catered for young players that never played camogie before. Let's hope that we can retain the interest of these young players and nurture their talents both on and off the field.

Among the initiatives run by the development team were coaching projects in conjunction with three 3rd level institutions:

WIT – Michelle Quilty coached for 26 weeks in primary schools throughout Waterford City with more than 650 girls benefiting from this scheme. Two new Camogie clubs have now been set up in this area; Del la Salle and Rowanmore.

UL – Aideen Howlin coached for 26 weeks in primary schools throughout Limerick city (800 girls). A new Camogie club, Treaty Gaels has now set up in the city.

Dundalk IT – Aisling O'Rourke coached for 11 weeks in 9 schools around Louth (400 girls).

The knock on effects of coaching in the schools targeted in these initiatives is extremely positive and the clubs involved are already seeing the benefit. We must constantly look at ways of penetrating schools, in particular primary schools as this is where we have access to the greatest captive audience of young players.

Camogie internationally

The development of camogie overseas is challenging. For many years the game survived on those leaving this country to find work. This trend had stopped for many years but with the current economic conditions there are many young people leaving clubs and



communities across Ireland to find work elsewhere. However, overseas units cannot and do not wish to continue to survive in this way. London has been to the fore in developing the game at underage level in the current year with a huge amount of work taking place to develop under-age sections in the six existing clubs. Uachtarán Joan O'Flynn visited the London County Board Development Planning Workshop and London has now produced and launched a three year development plan to grow the game. It is also working much more with the British Provincial GAA Council and its full-time Gaelic Games Officers.

The development of under-age camogie in North America is also a priority. The CYC Games, the US equivalent of Féile na nGael, takes place in New York in July 2010. With a view to ensuring that camogie is represented in 2010 Uachtarán Joan O'Flynn attended the 2009 CYC Games in San Francisco. Existing clubs, both camogie and GAA have been approached to develop under-age camogie teams for CYC 2010. Following on from the Uachtarán's visit Director of Camogie Development, Mary O'Connor, represented Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael at the NACB Convention in November 2010. As well as attending convention, the Director met with representatives of the camogie clubs separately and developed a few key targets for the clubs for 2010 including a structure for championship competition in the current year.

The game also continues to grow in Europe and Australia but is at a much younger stage than that of London or North America. International units operate in a very different environment than our clubs in Ireland. They face challenges that clubs here could only imagine in terms of the numbers of players available and the distances that must be travelled to play games. Yet they continue to grow. These units find ways to work around these challenges – small sided games, championships played using different structures – something that they do very well.

Development Officer Role

An additional officer role, Development Officer, was introduced at Congress 2009. All units should, at this stage, have elected an officer to this position. Recognising that the county secretary and chairperson are often overworked this position will provide a direct link for the Regional Development Co-ordinators to each county board without adding to the workload of those officers looking after the day to day business of running a county board.

The overall role of the County Development Officer is to ensure that Coaching & Games Development Activities are co-ordinated within their county. He/she should be chairperson of the County Coaching & Games Development Committee.

Responsibilities:

1. To chair the County Coaching and Games Development Committee.
2. To co-ordinate and implement plans for Camogie Development in the county/Division
3. Development officer or nominated member of development committee to sit on GAA coaching and games committee in the county where possible
4. To liaise with regional development officer on development plan for county under the following six headings:
 - Games Programme at Child, Youth and Adult Level
 - Primary School Autumn and Spring programmes
 - Camp Programme - Easter, Summer (Cúl Camps) & Halloween
 - Talent Academy Programme (Schools of Excellence U-14/U-15 Development Squads U-17)
 - Coach Education - Child, Youth, Adult
 - Referee Education - Child, Youth, Adult
5. To report to the County Convention on Games Development Activities in the County.

Club Development

There is huge potential for the development of camogie throughout the 32 counties of Ireland and internationally. Every unit of the Association must take responsibility for the set up of new clubs. There are in excess of 2,500 GAA clubs in Ireland. There are approximately 1,000 hurling clubs. Each one of these hurling clubs has the potential to have a camogie club. County boards and provincial councils must take responsibility for the development of the game within its area and work with the newly appointed development officer and the Regional Development Co-ordinator for that region to set up new clubs.

The GAA's funding support to Camogie in 2010 includes funding for helmet and hurleys for the set up of 35 new clubs under an agreed plan over the next two years with Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael in the following counties:

- Sligo
- Mayo
- Roscommon
- Leitrim
- Longford
- Donegal
- Fermanagh
- Antrim
- Louth
- London
- Kerry
- Clare

During 2009 a number of new clubs were set up and Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael paid start up grants to the following:

Davidstown/ Courtnacuddy Camogie Club	Enniscorthy, Wexford
St Molleran's Camogie Club	Carrick-on-Suir, Waterford
Cargin Camogie Club	Toomebridge, Antrim
De La Salle Camogie Club	Waterford City
Graigenamanagh Camogie Club	Killeen, Kilkenny
Conahy Shamrocks	Jeninstown, Co Kilkenny
Crusheen Camogie Club	Crusheen, Co Clare
Monaleen Camogie Club	Monaleen, Limerick

Payment of start up grants to the following two clubs is accrued pending registration:

Fr Shields	Omagh
St Colum's Camogie Club	Banty Cork

Development grants were also paid to Louth, Carlow and Roscommon in 2009 with grants accrued for Armagh and Cavan pending approval of development work carried out.

I have already talked about the importance of schools and colleges in developing but I think it is worth re-iterating in the context of club development. The club/primary school link is the first port of call for any existing or new club. It has the widest audience giving clubs access to all young players in a catchment area. By introducing the game into schools we are widening the scope of clubs beyond the existing "Gaelic Games" families that will naturally come to the club. There needs to be a coherent link between the development of camogie in primary school and the development of camogie in the club.

At secondary school level it is becoming increasingly difficult for colleges to take part in colleges competitions because of the pressure of substitute teacher cover. We need to monitor this situation and ensure that girls continue to play camogie through secondary school. Again, the development of camogie in secondary school needs also to be linked back to the development of the game at club level.

The game at 3rd level continues to be strong. But we are still faced with the issue that only the elite players are catered for. However, third level college competitions are as keenly contested as ever and play an important part in the development of players. Congratulations to the following third level college students who received bursaries from Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael in 2009:

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sharon Glynn, UCD, Dublin • Shauna Murphy, UUJ, Derry • Sinéad Sheridan, DCU, Westmeath • Karen Kelly, WIT, Waterford | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Karen Tinnelly, UUJ, Down • Katie O'Dwyer UCD, Galway • Lorraine Ryan NUIG, Galway • Marie Greenan, Dundalk IT, Louth |
|--|--|

FIXTURES 2009

2009 was another successful year on the field of play with 203 fixtures played at national level. The intensity and skill level of our game is continually getting higher through the dedication and hard work of our players and coaches.

A total of 16 competitions were administered with 13 counties taking titles. Only Galway and Wexford won more than one title (Galway: Intermediate and U-16A Championship, Wexford: Division 1 and 2 National League and U-16B Championship). Roscommon, Westmeath, Cavan and Wicklow all won All-Ireland titles for the first time. That three All-Ireland finals had to go to replays to be decided is a very positive indication of the level of competition at all grades; The Gala All-Ireland Intermediate Final, the Gala All-Ireland Junior Final (Nancy Murray Cup) and the All-Ireland Junior Club Final which was won by Lavey for the first time.

It is disappointing to note that there were six withdrawals from competitions at various stages during the year. Notice of fixtures was sent to counties in December of 2008 and yet there were still 18 walkovers given during the course of the season [2008: 5 withdrawals, 18 walkovers]. We must aim to improve on this for 2010. Counties need to give serious consideration to panels when entering teams in competitions and ensure that they are in a position to fulfil all fixtures.

NATIONAL LEAGUE 2009			
Grade:	Total No. of Fixtures	Total Withdrawals	Total Walkovers
Division 1	14	0	0
Division 2	15	0	2
Division 3	17	0	0
Division 4	15	0	2
Division 5	7	2: Donegal & Louth	
National League Totals	68	2	4

CHAMPIONSHIP 2009			
Grade:	Total No. of Fixtures	Total Withdrawals	Total Walkovers
U-16A	17	0	2
U-16B	17	0	2
U-16C	7	2: Donegal & Louth	2
Senior Championship	15	0	0
Intermediate Championship	10	1: Clare	2
Junior Championship – New Ireland Cup	12	0	0
Junior Championship – Nancy Murray Cup	15	0	2
Minor A Championship	9	0	0
Minor B Championship	10	0	0
Minor C Championship	8	0	4
Gael Linn	8	1: Ulster	
Club Championship	7		
Championship Totals	135	4	14
Overall Totals:	203	6	18

In early 2009 Fixtures Administrator, Regina Gorman, contacted all counties in advance of the Gala All-Ireland Championships requesting that the county board would contact their respective GAA boards regarding the use of the County GAA grounds for home championship games. The response to these requests was overwhelming and credit is due to those GAA county boards that facilitated fixtures in these grounds. While the senior counties were targeted specifically for this initiative many of the intermediate and junior counties also looked for county grounds and on many occasions succeeded. It is important that camogie is played on the best pitches and it is important that our top inter-county teams are playing in top venues.

Thank you also to the following GAA venues that hosted games on behalf of Ardchomhairle Cumann Camógáiochta na nGael in 2009:

- Donaghmore Ashbourne – 12 games including Div 3&4 finals, Minor B semi-final, Minor A, B Championship, New Ireland Championship, Junior Club Finals and Gael Linn
- Naomh Peregrine - Minor A & B Championship, Intermediate semi-final
- Nowlan Park – Senior semi-finals
- Semple Stadium – Minor A Championship Final
- Casement Park – Nancy Murray semi-final
- Clonkill, Co. Westmeath – Nancy Murray semi-final
- Breffni Park – Nancy Murray Final
- Kilmallock – Minor A semi-finals
- Cahir – Minor B semi-final
- Lucan Sarsfields – Minor C semi-final & League Div 2
- Clane – Minor C Championship Final
- Mallow – Minor B Championship Final
- McGrath Park, Bagnelstown – U-16B semi-final
- The Gaelic Grounds – U-16A Final
- Piltown – U-16B Final
- St. Tiernach's Park, Clones – U-16C Final
- Mostrim Wolfe Tones, Edgeworthstown – U-16C semi-finals
- Trim, Co. Meath – U-16B semi-final
- Templederry – U-16A semi-final
- Fingallians, Swords – League Div 2 Halfway Venue
- Nenagh – Intermediate Final Replay
- Clarecastle – All-Ireland Senior Club Final

I thank all of the volunteers, camogie and GAA, at the above grounds who made these fixtures possible and who ensured that everything was in place for the participating teams.

Credit must be paid to the Competitions Management Committee who oversaw the implementation of all of the above fixtures. I would like to thank them for their time, expertise and input in this area.

In November 2009 Ardchomhairle agreed that an All-Ireland Intermediate Club Championship be inaugurated to run alongside existing Junior and Senior All-Ireland Club championships. The addition of this competition will allow more club players the opportunity of aiming for an All-Ireland title, something that will be welcomed by all units.

The following was agreed in relation to grading for All-Ireland Club championships:

Senior Club	Intermediate Club	Junior Club
Cork	Cork (intermediate)	Mayo
Dublin	Dublin (intermediate)	Roscommon
Galway	Galway (intermediate)	Westmeath
Kilkenny	Kilkenny (intermediate)	Louth
Tipperary	Tipperary (intermediate)	Meath
Wexford	Wexford (intermediate)	Carlow
	Derry Senior Club Champions	Kildare
	Offaly Senior Club Champions	Wicklow
	Limerick Senior Club Champions	Cavan
	Antrim Senior Club Champions	Donegal
	Clare Senior Club Champions	Monaghan
	Waterford Senior Club Champions	Tyrone
	Laois Senior Club Champions	Kerry
	Down Senior Club Champions	
	Armagh Senior Club Champions	

The following was also agreed in relation to the All-Ireland Club Championships:

- Each county has the option to grade up e.g. Antrim can opt to play senior club championship.
- Senior graded counties may enter the senior club championship and its intermediate club champions may enter the intermediate club championship
- Counties whose senior club championships may enter the intermediate championship may also enter their second graded team in the junior club championship
- Junior graded counties may only enter one team into the junior club championship unless it opts up to intermediate at which point its second graded champions may enter the junior club championship.
- The championship will follow the existing provincial structure
- Intermediate club championship to be completed by the same dates as the senior and junior club championships
- The structure will be reviewed after one year.

All-Ireland Finals Day – Croke Park

All-Ireland Final Day in Croke Park was another successful occasion both on and off the field with attendance figures of 25,924. The running order of the 2009 finals changed with both the Gala All-Ireland Senior and Junior Finals being played together followed by the U-21 All-Ireland Hurling Final. Congratulations to all teams involved on the day – Offaly, Waterford, Kilkenny and Cork. In particular congratulations to our winners Offaly and Cork. Offaly have followed in the footsteps of Clare and Derry with all counties

losing an All-Ireland Final immediately before winning it. Waterford will take heart in this trend and with appearances in three inter-county All-Ireland Finals and a club All-Ireland Final it is only a matter of time before Waterford start to reap the benefits of playing at this level and bringing home the trophies. Offaly must be commended for the manner in which it has taken advantage of victory in the All-Ireland Final. Tremendous promotional work has taken place in schools and clubs and a number of new schools are already participating in competition as a direct result of this promotion.

Cork retained the O'Duffy Cup for the second year in a row seeing off a very young Kilkenny side led by Ann Downey. The Rebel women have proved unstoppable in recent years and it will take an all round team to conquer this side which has a wonderful mix of youth and experience. Kilkenny will have learnt from the experience of being in Croke Park on All-Ireland Final Day and will be aiming to be back there in September 2010. Of course with the re-introduction of one group for the Gala All-Ireland Senior Championship it is going to be a tough test for teams to get through to semi-finals stages in 2010. The competition throughout the championships in 2009 was excellent and the level of skill and athleticism on



Offaly Captain Marion Crean.



Cork Captain Amanda O'Regan

display in all matches was awesome. Credit is due to the hard work of players, coaches, trainers and managers who spend many evenings and weekends training to achieve the highest standards

Féile na nGael was hosted by Offaly/Laois in 2009. The local organising committee did tremendous work in organising the launch, the school visits and the weekend competitions. Thank you to all host families and clubs and in particular those clubs in Galway and Tipperary that hosted Division 1 teams. Congratulations to all teams that took part and in particular the winners of all divisions.

Poc Fada took place on the August Bank holiday weekend, once again sponsored generously by Martin Donnelly. Patricia Jackman, after a number of years as runner-up, won the competition in style in 29 pocs. Thank you to the local organising committee for their work in organising what is, logistically, a very difficult event.

One of the last fixtures of the year was the Annual Camogie/Shinty tournament which took place in Inverness in October. Ireland won back the trophy for the first time since 2004, the inaugural year of the competition. The panel was made up of representatives from nine counties including participants in the National League and Championship blitz competitions as well as the finalists of the Nancy Murray Cup:

Rosie Crowe	Cavan	Margaret Coady	Carlow
Lorraine Day	Cavan	Roisin O'Connell	Kildare
Margaret McCabe	Cavan	Niamh Breen	Kildare
Rosie McKenna	Monaghan	Bernie Murray	Armagh
Sharon McQuillan	Monaghan	Collette McSorley	Armagh
Anne-Marie Doran	Wicklow	Caroline Connaughton	Roscommon
Karen Walsh	Wicklow	Claire Curley	Roscommon
Pamela Greville	Westmeath	Niamh Coyle	Roscommon
Sandra Greville	Westmeath	Aisling Corr	Tyrone
Valerie Crean	Carlow	Frances Bigley	Tyrone

The team was managed by Ger Moran of Roscommon and Eddie Brady of Cavan joined by Mary Connor, Louth, as a selector. The travelling party also included the Uachtarán Joan O'Flynn and Regina Gorman and Bríd Boylan from head office. Congratulations to all involved and thanks to the Womens Camanchd Association for hosting the competition.

The year came to a glittering end with the Annual Camogie All-Stars in association with O'Neills which took place in CityWest Hotel. The evening, which as always, was an acknowledgement of the players achievements saw the introduction of the "Soaring Star" Awards which were awarded to players from junior graded counties. The introduction of this Awards scheme was a huge success and added greatly to the occasion.

Referees

With 203 games officiated at, fitness assessments at eight centres, 250 newly qualified referees through eight foundation referee courses and six GREEN Card referee courses administered, three newly trained referee assessors and 10 games assessed, 2009 was a busy year both for referees and for the Referees Committee. The implementation of the assessment process is a very positive step for our match officials. Assessment has progressed from fitness assessments to now include match performance assessments, piloted during 2009 and to be further rolled out in 2010, and will soon also involve written assessment. Assessment is now an accepted part of being an inter-county referee. Once the assessment process is fully operational it will then need to be implemented at all levels of the Association.

It is very promising to see that 250 new referees have been qualified during 2009. As outlined in the Referees sub-committee report the details of all of these newly qualified referees have been provided to county boards. It is important that when referees attend and complete courses that they are then provided with matches to referee at an appropriate level.

Development of camogie at all levels usually focuses on players and coaches. However, without match officials we cannot play our game. It is essential that we continue to deliver and expand on training for referees at all levels and offer them the support they need to carry out their duties. Respect for referees is key to enticing people to officiate and to retaining them at all levels. With the launch of the Joint Code of Behaviour, the development of the GAA's RESPECT initiative there is a greater emphasis on the importance of showing respect for officials. In addition a Code of Conduct has also been introduced for referees. We must encourage players, coaches, mentors and supporters at all levels to respect our referees.

Fixtures 2010

A Fixtures 2010 review was held in October 2009 at which counties presented their views on fixtures and the structure of competitions. These views were considered when drawing up fixtures for this year. Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael initiated a meeting between Camogie and Ladies Football in an effort to avoid clashes of fixtures. It is hoped that we can build on this in 2011. The Competitions Management Committee issued the National Fixtures for 2010 in December 2009 to ensure that provinces and county boards could plan well in advance for all fixtures. An official fixtures booklet is now also available and has been distributed to all county boards and provincial councils since February. The process of compiling competition entries can be made difficult when counties fail to return competition entry forms on time. Counties must adhere to the closing date for these forms to ensure that the Competitions Management Committee can compile Fixtures 2011 on a timely basis.

We must also ensure that we are catering for players at every level of the Association as well as players of all abilities. A review of club fixtures was undertaken by two members of the Development Team during 2009 and this clearly showed that club players are not always being catered for with under-age groups sometimes only getting between three and five games in the course of a season. If we want young players to stay playing camogie we must ensure that they are having fun and playing games. While acknowledging that the schedule of inter-county games is extremely demanding on counties it does not give licence to county boards to leave the majority of our players without games in the summer months of June, July and August. It is crucial that girls play during these months, whether it is something along the lines of the North Munster League, the Leinster League or in internal club competition to be played without county players (e.g. summer cup 13-a-side competition).

COMMUNICATIONS, MARKETING AND MEDIA

The Communications and Website Committee has been extremely busy in 2009 with the introduction of a monthly electronic newsletter, camogie's own magazine "On the Ball" and increasing camogie's online profile. With "Facebook", "Twitter", "Linkedin" to name just a few, there are now more opportunities than ever for people to read about camogie and to keep up to speed with what is happening at a national and local level.

The recent appointment of the Camogie Association's Director of Communications and Marketing, Claire Egan, is a very positive move in terms of our commitment to increasing our profile, enhancing the image of the Association and communicating with all audiences, internal and external, in a positive and professional manner. My thanks to Therese O'Callaghan for her work in this area in 2009 and to Máire Uí Scoláí who continued to distribute results to national media on behalf of the Association.

TV, radio and print coverage are still the main media by which any sporting organisation is measuring its profile. We must continue to work to increase our presence across these media. With increasing pressure on space from bigger sports it can be difficult to secure coverage. However, with exciting high quality games and a professional approach we can continue to build.

2009 saw improvements in a number of areas including the following:

- RTÉ live coverage of the Gala All-Ireland Junior final as well as the senior final
- RTÉ Sunday Game coverage - a continuation of the bulletin updates on the Gala All-Ireland Senior Championship
- RTÉ online coverage - all games that were highlighted on RTÉ were available to watch on the GAA Media Player. This became an excellent source of material both TV and radio which RTÉ is constantly adding to (see www.rte.ie/sport)
- RTÉ features including Den TV feature on the Kilmallock Camogie Club prior to Féile and Na Brideoga feature on RTÉ News, RTÉ kids programme "Comon Camán"
- Results and match updates to national print media, national radio, Aertel and sporting websites
- Continued coverage across national print media
- Increased size of Gala All-Ireland semi-finals programme with greater match and player specific content



Claire Egan

Provincial media support for camogie continues to be very strong. PROs at all levels need to ensure that local newspapers and radio stations are being provided with up to date, relevant and newsworthy camogie news on consistent basis. To assist PROs at all levels PRO training is currently being rolled out on a regional basis by the Communications and Website Committee.

Mary Moran, current Trustee, former President, and author of a number of Camogie books has undertaken to write the official history of Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael under the terms of reference of the Communications and Website Committee. The committee will oversee the publication of the book.

The Committee is keen to ascertain what written historical material already exists. Some counties may have completed their history while others may have contributed a section to the county GAA history. The committee is looking for articles of interest that appeared in annuals, programmes or special publications in your county. A photocopy of these would be very welcome and can be forwarded to Mary Moran (details on www.camogie.ie).

In recognising the work of the media and our PROs in promoting camogie the 2nd annual Media Awards were held in March of 2009. Congratulations to the winners.

Mick Dunne Memorial Awards 2008 sponsored by RTÉ

PRO of the Year:	Orla Considine, Clare
Photo of the Year:	Stephen McCarthy, Sportsfile
Published Article of the Year:	Seamas McAleenan, Down
Broadcaster of the Year:	RTÉ

Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael Media Awards 2008

Best Match Programme:	Wexford County Final
Best Provincial Newspaper Coverage:	Connacht Tribune
Best Local Radio:	Clare FM



The Uachtarán's visit to Armagh incorporated visits to a number of primary schools.

Throughout 2009 many of you will have met Uachtarán Joan O'Flynn on her visit to your county. The Uachtarán visited 26 county boards during 2009 in a listening and consultation exercise. The feedback from the visits has been extremely positive and a valuable and worthwhile undertaking in terms of consultation with our members at club and county level. Much of what was reflected at these meetings has been taken on board for the Strategic Plan 2010-2015 and the new proposed rules. Many county boards put a lot of effort into this.

FINANCE

The financial situation of any organisation is key to its success. As you will see from the audited financial accounts of Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael we are in the fortunate position of having reversed a prior year deficit in our income and expenditure account.

During 2009 Paula Bruen was appointed Finance Officer of Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael. At a time when funding is decreasing, sponsorship is becoming more difficult to obtain and when finances are stretched it is imperative that we have a dedicated resource to this role and Paula has done an excellent job in her first year in the position.

Affiliation fees

The basic administration costs associated with the day to day running of Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael is now running in excess of €500,000. These are costs that as an Association we need to be covering internally. The increased affiliation fee of €300 per club became effective for the first time in 2009 and has made a significant positive impact on the income of the Association raising it from €33,000 to €120,000. While the amount of €120,000 is still small by comparison to the cost of administering the Association, it is a step in the right direction. However, it is something that we will need to revisit in the near future.

Irish Sports Council

Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael is extremely reliant on funding from the Irish Sports Council – almost 50% of our income in 2009 came from this source. We are exceptionally grateful to the Irish Sports Council for its support. In 2009 The Sports Council managed to protect NGBs from cuts in funding and its work combined with that of the Irish Sports Matters campaign led by the Federation of Irish Sports means that the cut in funding to most NGBs in 2010 has been kept to just 4% despite recommended cuts of more than 30% in the McCarthy Report. The assistance of the many local sports partnerships administered by the ISC is also of huge benefit to many clubs, county boards and our development team.

As well as providing grant aid the Irish Sports Council supports Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael in all other areas – Coaching and Games Development, strategic planning, governance – and I would like to thank John Treacy, Ossie Kilkenny and Erika Murphy, as well as all other team members in the ISC, for the advice, support and assistance throughout 2009.



Paula Bruen

All-Ireland Tickets

2009 saw the introduction of two fund-raising events. The first was the enactment of the rule whereby all clubs must purchase two All-Ireland Tickets. Again, as outlined in our annual accounts, this raised almost €28,000 for Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael. I would like to thank all clubs and county boards for their assistance in collecting the money for these tickets and for their co-operation regarding the distribution of the tickets. However, I must point out that there are still almost 40 clubs that have not yet paid for their tickets. Given that this is our showcase event of the year I think it is imperative that we as an Association support ourselves. If we are not willing to go to our own finals then how can we expect to get good attendances at our games. In addition to this it was disappointing to note that of the 1000 tickets sold through this scheme there were 347 of these tickets that were not used. Many clubs used the tickets in a very positive way by either raffling them between members or by giving them to a club member that had worked hard during the year and deserved the tickets. On the positive side many people came to the finals with these tickets, enjoyed the games and will go again, people who otherwise may not have considered going to Croke Park. We are asking counties, colleges and provincial councils to see the success of this venture and to positively consider the motion on the clár regarding this rule and the request to increase this to three All-Ireland tickets. We must take responsibility for the success of our organisation and constantly strive to improve on what we have achieved on the past. We need to constantly increase our attendance at our showcase event, the Gala All-Ireland Senior and Junior finals, and we must also strive to improve our financial position.

Fundraiser – Camogie Goes to the Dogs

The second fundraising event which took place was “Camogie Goes to the Dogs.” The night took place at Shelbourne Park on September 5th, the evening of the All-Ireland Hurling final. Once again the event raised almost €28,000 and proved a tremendous success. This event will take place again in 2010 on the weekend of the All-Ireland Hurling Final. Details of this event will be available shortly. As well as being a very successful fundraising event this was also a successful PR event, bringing camogie to the attention of a wider and new audience. I would like to acknowledge the support of the following units/businesses that supported the event and thank them for the contributions:

Cumann Lúthchleas Gael	Croke Park Hotel
Comhairle Laighean CLG	Croke Park Stadium
Comhairle Chonnacht CLG	Louis Fitzgerald Hotel
Comhairle Uladh CLG	City West Hotel
Comhairle Chontae na Gaillimhe CLG	OB Sport



Eimear Brannigan and Mary Leacy with Uachtarán Joan O'Flynn at the launch of Camogie Goes to the Dogs.

The event would not have been as successful without the enormous help from Declan Carey of Shelbourne Park. We look forward to an even more successful event in 2010.

Sponsorship

Sponsorship is a core element of the Association's income. Gala, O'Neills and Coillte continue to be fantastic sponsors of Camogie and are to be commended for continuing to support our game even during times of severe financial difficulty for the country as a whole.

Gala enters its fifth year as sponsors and has maintained the same level of enthusiasm and commitment to sponsoring the championships as in year one. The relationship between Gala and Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael is a strong one and a mutually beneficial one. Gala added a new dimension to the sponsorship this year with the introduction of the Gala Performance Award. The overall winner of this award was Chloe Morey of Clare who received her prize from Denise Lord of Gala on All-Ireland Day in Croke Park. Thank you to Gary Desmond, CEO and to Denise Lord, Customer Service Manager for their support throughout 2009.



Denise Lord presents Chloe Morey with her award.



Launch of Coillte U-14 Development Squads.

O'Neills retained its involvement in the Camogie All-Stars event for the sixth year. Thank you to Tony Towell of O'Neills for his support for this venture and throughout the year on many other projects.

Coillte has now been involved in the sponsorship of the U-14 Development Squads for six years. The squad programme has gone from strength to strength. The tutors and coaches rolling this programme out in the participating counties do fantastic work to ensure that the players receive top class coaching. The co-ordinators and mentors involved with the squads are also vital to ensure the

efficient running of the squads. The increasing input of the full-time development team and the Coaching and Games Development Committee into the co-ordination of the squads and the running of regional blitz days for the participating squads has ensured that the results from these squads has continued to improve. The following eight counties participated in the eight week scheme in 2009:

- Armagh
- Cork
- Donegal
- Kildare
- Kilkenny
- Limerick
- Mayo
- Wicklow

The highlight of the development squads supported by this programme is now the annual activity day in Croke Park during which the eight counties involved get a rare opportunity to play in Croke Park. Our thanks to the CCCC and Coaching and Games Development Committee of Cumann Lúthchleas Gael for facilitating this and to Croke Park Stadium for making all of the necessary arrangements. Thank you also to MMI, Kilkenny People, Martin Donnelly and Azzurri for their support during the year.

The Resource Management Committee together with Ardchomhairle has kept a watchful eye over all things financial during 2009. We must ensure that practices and procedures are correct at all times and that controls are being implemented in all areas to ensure that the Association is in the strongest possible financial situation.

THE GAA

2009 saw the fantastic celebrations of the GAA's 125th Anniversary. With an impressive start to the year in Croke Park with its first game under lights the GAA marked the occasion in a variety of ways. Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael marked the occasion at the Gala All-Ireland Camogie Semi-finals where chairperson of the GAA 125th Committee Jarlath Burns was in attendance. 125 children from clubs in Kilkenny and players involved in U-14 development squads were met by Uachtarán Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael Joan O'Flynn and Jarlath Burns on behalf of the GAA. These children represented all codes of Gaelic Games and released 125 balloons to mark the anniversary of the GAA.

Throughout 2009 the GAA continued to support Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael at all levels and in a number of ways. I would like to acknowledge the support of the following units:

- Comhairle Laighean for their support in providing office accommodation for RDO Jenny Duffy and for their financial support for the development of camogie in Leinster
- Comhairle na Mumhan CLG for its financial support for the development of camogie in Munster
- Comhairle Chonnacht CLG for its support in the development of camogie in Connacht
- Comhairle Uladh CLG for its financial and administrative support for Ulster camogie.



I have already mentioned the excellent support that is received by our Regional Development Officers from many of the full-time GAA personnel. In February 2010 the games development personnel of the GAA, camogie and ladies football came together for the first time to familiarise each other with their approach to games development, the work that is happening at present and to map out a way for the Associations to work together. I would like to acknowledge Pat Daly for facilitating this. I believe that there is a lot that each organisation can learn from the other and I hope that this type of working forum will continue and grow over the coming years.

In conjunction with the GAA Coaching Games Development Committee, Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael has prioritised an increased attendance at all VHI Cúl Camps in 2010. The camps provide an excellent opportunity for young players to try camogie for the first time, to improve their skills if they are already playing and give young players a chance to meet inter-county stars involved in coaching. The Coaching and Games Development Committee is incentivising Camogie to achieve the increased attendance by putting in place a reward/dividend system that will benefit those counties that achieve an increased attendance.

Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael continues to work closely with and have representation on GAA Central Committees:

Coaching and Games Development

Poc Fada

Code of Best Practice towards Young People

Code of Best Practice towards Young People

Overseas

National Féile na nGael

Inclusion and Integration

Club and Community

Mary O'Connor, Director of Camogie

Caroline Murray, RDO

Mairéad Ní Mhaoleoin

Joan O'Flynn (chair of the committee)

Joan O'Flynn

Catherine Neary

Germaine Noonan

Alice Dowling

At national level the GAA continues to support Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael both financially and in terms of the provision of office accommodation. I would like to thank the GAA for the additional funding of €75,000 that was announced by Uachtarán Christy Cooney at last year's Congress and for the ongoing core funding that we receive. More recently, the announcement that Camogie will receive funding from the GAA from Croke Park's use by rugby and soccer is a welcome boost to our plans to expand our focus on coaching and games development.

We receive constant support from many members of the GAA full-time team and their advice, assistance and co-operation is greatly appreciated. This has been most evident in the past three years in the joint staging of the Gala All-Ireland Camogie Finals with the Bord Gáis All-Ireland U21 Hurling Final. I would like specifically to thank Croke Park Stadium for their assistance and the ticket office, Ronan Murphy, Emma Tormey and Nora Costello, for their work and support in the staging of the finals.

In 2009/10 our office accommodation was temporarily moved out of Croke Park Stadium by the GAA but it has given commitment that the Association will be facilitated in new office accommodation within Croke Park by 2012.

The relationship between Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael and Cumann Lúthchleas Gael at national level is key to a working and mutually beneficial relationship at all levels of both Associations. The question of integration has come back into the mainstream in recent months with many people wondering where we are going with this. At club level integration often happens naturally. At national level we must decide on a path to take. The ongoing co-operation with the GAA at national level is supported by regular meetings and liaison between the Uachtarán and Ard Stiúrthóir of both Associations. I would like to thank Páraic Duffy and Uachtarán Críostóir Ó Cuana for their advice, support and assistance during the past year.

CONCLUSION

2009 has been another excellent year for Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael. There is a great sense of vibrancy and enthusiasm throughout the Association, a willingness to embrace change, to grow and to try new things and I look forward to 2010.

I would like to thank club, county, provincial and national volunteers for all their work during 2009 – the dedication of volunteers to camogie is inspiring. The voluntary role of president of Cumann Camógaíochta nGael is one of great honour and responsibility. In my role as Ard Stiúrthóir I see, more easily than most, the number of hours that Joan O'Flynn has put into the role in her first year. I would like to commend Joan on her achievements in 2009 and look forward to building on these with her for the good of camogie in 2010.

I would like to thank the development team – Mary, Caroline, Deirdre, Jenny, Eve, Ger, Jennifer and Yvonne – whose work rate, enthusiasm and dedication to their roles is unbelievable. The development team is creative, resourceful and committed to developing camogie everywhere they go. I would like to thank the head office team of Bríd, Regina, Paula and Claire who has recently joined the team – their organisational abilities and willingness to constantly learn mean that the team is growing in ability on a constant basis. They are helpful, supportive and enthusiastic about their work and have formed excellent working relationships both internally and externally. As an overall unit the full-time team is a bundle of energy and enthusiasm for camogie, they are an advertisement for camogie everywhere they go and in everything that they do. They give many hours outside that of a working remit and I thank them for this. With 13 full-time employees now working for the Association I hope that, as a team, we can continue to forge strong relationships with the backbone of this Association, the volunteers and to assist and support them to make camogie stronger than ever.



SINÉAD NÍ CHONCHÚIR
Ard Stiúrthóir

Comhairle Connacht

Tuairisc 2009

Counties	No. of Clubs 2009	No. of Clubs 2008
Galway	33	34
Mayo	4	4
Roscommon	7	7
Sligo	1	1

Summary Report 2009

The objective in 2009 was to increase participation in the game especially at Colleges level. In 2009 the Province was successful in the Connacht Junior Gael-Linn whilst Galway won the Intermediate Championship and the U-16A championship. Roscommon won its first ever All-Ireland title by winning the Nancy Murray Cup and Mayo Club, Na Brideoga were successful in Division 4 of Féile na nGael.

Development Initiatives 2010

A new Development Officer was appointed at the 2009 AGM so hopes are high that development will take place in Leitrim, Sligo and in other parts of Mayo.

Continue to increase participation in Secondary schools.

Winners/Runners-up of Provincial Championships 2009:

Competition	Winners	Runners-up
Junior Final	Galway	Roscommon
Intermediate Club Final	Four Roads, Roscommon	Kiltormer, Galway
Junior A Club Final	Portumna, Galway	Oran, Roscommon
Junior B Club Final	Shamrocks	St. Dominic's, Roscommon
U-14 Blitz	Galway	Westmeath

Sínithe ag: MEABH NIC EALAIGH
Rúnaí na Comhairle



The 2009 Roscommon team that won the Nancy Murray Cup.

Comhairle Laighean

Tuairisc 2009

Counties	No. of Clubs 2009	No. of Clubs 2008
Dublin	39	38
Kilkenny	33	30
Carlow	5	6
Wexford	33	32
Wicklow	11	11
Offaly	12	11
Laois	7	7
Kildare	19	19
Louth	6	6
Meath	13	14
Westmeath	12	12

Developments 2010

2010 will see a number of new initiatives which will continue to build on the development work facilitated by Leinster Council and the Regional Development Officers in 2008 and 2009. These developments will be in three phases the first of which is the launch of Primary School Squads which will complement the programmes undertaken as part of the Leinster Development Plan. These squads will in the first instance be offered to all the counties who participated in the primary schools coaching programme. The second phase is the delivery of a Foundation Level Coaching Course which will be offered to teachers who express an interest in coaching camogie in the schools taking part in the primary school squads. The aim of the squads and the coaching programme is to bring camogie to a wider audience thereby giving young girls the opportunity to take up the game while at the same time developing the skills of those already playing camogie. The final phase is the organisation of Blitz days which will be organised and run on the basis of maximising the 'fun' aspect of camogie while at the same time giving young players the chance to show off their camogie skills.

The objective of these development plans is to put in place a robust structure which will continue the work that was rolled out in the Leinster Development Plan 2006-2010 thereby instigating and maintaining a strong link with the playing of camogie at primary school level while at the same time creating a heritage which links attending primary school and playing camogie. This will ensure that the developments set out in the original Leinster Development plan continues long after the lifetime of the plan has passed. By training up 72 teachers as Foundation level coaches and creating new primary county development squads, this will be possible.

The purpose of any development plan must be the continuity of any programme and that ownership of all developments should pass those who deliver the plan but with the continued support of the provincial council.

Winners/Runners-up of Provincial Championships 2009:

Competition	Winners	Runners-up
Fé 14A	Kilkenny	Dublin
Fé 14B	Carlow	Westmeath
Fé 16A	Kilkenny	Wexford
Fé 16B	Carlow	Kildare
Minor A	Kilkenny	Dublin
Minor B	Laois	Meath
Junior	Meath	Wicklow
Senior	Kilkenny	Wexford
Junior Club	Harps, Laois	St Laurance's, Kildare
Senior Club	Oulart the Ballagh, Wexford	St Lachtain's, Kilkenny

Sínithe ag: MÁIRÍN UÍ FHULHAM
Rúnaí na Comhairle

Comhairle na Mumhan

Tuairisc 2009

Counties	No. of Clubs 2009	No. of Clubs 2008
An Clár	26	25
Ciarraí	3	5
Corcaigh	58	59
Luimneach	24	23
Portláirge	16	13
Tiobraid Árann	31	35

Summary Report 2009

Achievements 2009

- Cork senior team retained the All-Ireland Championship by defeating Kilkenny and winning their 24th senior title
- Cashel were crowned All-Ireland Senior Club Champions after defeating Athenry. This is the second time that Cashel has won this title
- Munster won the Senior Gael Linn competition by defeating Connaught in the final. Munster Junior Team were defeated by 4-04 to 0-02 in the final
- Douglas Cork, won the Féile Na nGael Division 1
- Kerry won Division 3 Féile na nGael by defeating Kiltale (Meath) by the narrowest of margins 0-4 to 0-3
- Grainne Sheedy (Milford, Cork), Caoimhe Costelloe (Adare, Limerick) and Ann Eviston (Drom/Inch, Tipperary) came 1st, 2nd, and 3rd respectively in the final of the National Skills competition
- Patricia Jackman (Waterford) won her fourth consecutive Munster Poc Fada Final. The Waterford girl was one puck ahead of her nearest rival at the half-way point in the All-Ireland Final and winning the competition by two pucks, she completed the 2.5 Km course in 29 pucks.

Awards

- Jenny Duffy (Cork) received "Player of the Competition" in Gael Linn
- Claire Grogan (Cashel) received "Player of the Match" in the All-Ireland Senior Club Final

- Cork Senior camogie team had twelve players in contention for All-Star Awards, Tipperary three, Clare two and Limerick one
- Denise Cronin received "Manager of the Year" Award
- Áine Lyng and Karen Kelly received "Soaring Star" Awards
- Chloe Morey (Clare) received the "Young Munster Player of the Year Award".

Development Initiatives 2010

- To implement our fixtures schedule in a professional manner
- To raise the profile of camogie by getting more publicity, better attendance at games and better quality programmes for all finals
- To have more schools participating in competitions at all levels
- Continue to promote camogie in 2nd level schools
- Introduction of U-15 Development Squads
- To make our Annual Golf Classic more attractive and in doing so raise additional revenue
- Appoint individual committees to seek sponsorship and fundraise
- In addition to the development plan and its implementation numerous workshops, coaching courses, fun days, blitz days and coaching schemes will be held throughout the province in 2010
- The referees committee plan to hold a discussion with the players/mentors/coaches early in the year
- Appoint an officer to drive initiatives.

Winners/Runners-up of Provincial Championships 2009:

Competition	Winners	Runners-up
Senior	Corcaigh	Tiobraid Árann
Junior	Tiobraid Árann	Luimneach
U-16 A	An Clár	Tiobraid Árann
U-16 B	Portláirge	Corcaigh
Minor Fé 18	Corcaigh	An Clár
Intermediate	Portláirge	Corcaigh
Senior Club	Cashel (Tiobraid Árann)	St. Catherine's (Corcaigh)
Junior Club	St. Anne's (Portláirge)	Clonakilty (Corcaigh)

Sínithe ag: MARION UÍ GREACHÁIN
Rúnaí na Comhairle

Comhairle Uladh

Tuairisc 2009

Counties	No. of Clubs 2009	No. of Clubs 2008
Antrim	21	23
Armagh	17	17
Cavan	9	9
Derry	23	23
Donegal	4	4
Down	21	21
Monaghan	4	4
Tyrone	10	10

Summary Report 2009

Objectives 2009

- Encourage all Counties to build on all their efforts at all levels
- Play more games
- Get more people involved suitable to specific tasks
- Administrative courses run in conjunction with Ulster GAA's Club Maith
- Launch the Ulster Camogie website
- Work with SNI regarding funding and audit
- Continue to encourage the implementation of 'Go Games'
- Set up PR Committee to improve coverage and enhance image
- Improve the event management of Ulster's showcase finals
- Code Of Ethics Courses and Access NI implementation from Ulster Council down
- Continue good working relationship with the Ulster GAA Council
- Build on the double-header option with Ulster GAA
- Develop a positive working relationship with Ladies Football
- Improve school and club associations by building up a database of school coaches to link with clubs
- Run Elite Camps for Ulster's top teens with assistance of the GAA and Kevin Kelly
- Set up an Events & Marketing Committee to increase attendance at our top games.

Achievements 2009

- SNI audit ongoing
- Successful, well organised and marketed Ulster finals day. The Festival of Camogie was attended by over 3,500 people, 100% increase on 2008. A Finals Launch, Poster campaign and DVD built an awareness as well as promotional visits to clubs and county boards
- Improved the Ulster Camogie brand with high profile finals, Cross Community Conservation campaigns, 125 Conservation projects and improved communications with our membership
- New website up and running and reaching a new audience as well as link into site on the home page of Ulster GAA Council
- Media – print, web, online, radio and TV massive improvement using well organised PR
- Programmes for almost all of our County matches and all finals
- Ulster's Elite Camps organised by Kevin Kelly
- Successful Ulster Camogie Féile assisted by Kevin Kelly and Tyrone Co Board
- Cúl Camps catering for Camogie: very successful
- New Ulster GAA Development Coaches catering for girls. This continues to be a key area of benefit for Ulster Camogie
- Ulster Council representation on a number of Ulster GAA Committees including 125, Integration, Coaching, Marketing and IT
- Ulster GAA courses open to all Camogie coaches and administrators. Over 1/3 of courses run were attended by Camogie personnel
- Vastly improved relationship with Ulster Ladies Football. Ulster Camogie Chairperson held a number of meetings and addressed the Ulster Ladies Council in December 2009.

Development Initiatives 2010

- Consolidate what we have achieved to date
- Pass the SNI Audit and draw down funding for a Business Administrator

- Source other Government funding opportunities for areas of Development
- Launch a major fundraising project
- Continue to improve the way we communicate with our members and non-members
- Hold a Players Forum in 2010
- Increase members attendance at Club Maith administration courses
- Introduce an Ulster Club U-16 Féile
- Establish an Ulster Inter-county Intermediate Championship
- Set up selected sub-committees with a 12 month remit for:
Resource Management/Finance, Coaching & Games, Competitions, Events management, Communications & Marketing, Player Welfare, Referee Support & Development, Discipline, Training & Education
- Continue to improve the image and brand of Ulster Camogie
- Work with Ladies Football in areas of commonality and mutual benefit
- Arrange two double headers with Ladies Football
- Continue to work with the Ulster GAA regarding double headers
- Begin an Ulster Club audit in order to gauge and quantify the work of all our volunteers and to address areas of need
- Build closer working relationships with the Education sector, addressing areas of common purpose in a more joined up way
- Build on the very successful Ulster Festival Of Camogie and target an attendance of 6,000 for the Senior and Intermediate Finals day
- Event manage the 2010 Ulster Minor, U-16 and U-14 finals day as a Mini Festival Fun Day For All.

Winners/Runners-up of Provincial Championships 2009:

<i>Competition</i>	<i>Winners</i>	<i>Runners-up</i>
Ulster Senior	Derry	Antrim
Ulster Junior	Tyrone	Monaghan
Minor Cup	Antrim	Derry
Premier League Cup	Coleraine	Slaughtneil
Premier League Shield	Ballymacnab	Eglish
Mid-Ulster League	Derrytresk	Derrylaughlin
Senior 'B' Club Championship	Lavey	Keady
U-16 Cup	Derry	Antrim
U-16 Shield	Armagh	Tyrone
U-14 Cup	Derry	Antrim
U-14 Shield	Armagh	Tyrone
U-14 Blitz		
Section A	Derry	
Section B	Armagh	
Section C	Cavan	
Intermediate Club Championship	Loughgeil, Co. Antrim	Castletara, Co.Cavan



Action from the Ulster Championship 2009.

Australasian Board

Tuairisc 2009

Counties	No. of Clubs 2009	No. of Clubs 2008
NSW	5	4

Club names: Michael Cusacks,
Clan Na Gael,
Central Coast,
Craobh Padraigh
Cormac McAnallens

Summary Report 2009

Sydney remained the main area in Australasia where camogie was played however during the year as a result of increased interest, games were also played in Perth, Brisbane and Melbourne. Approaches were made to the Australasian Board to have a demonstration game played on the morning of the 2009 Australasian Championships in Melbourne. This was readily agreed to with players from four States competing in a match. This game has raised the profile of camogie.

The following is a summary of activities in Sydney, New South Wales:

- All competitions are 7-a-side, there were 5 teams involved this year
- Had a pre-season blitz day in Gosford and also a League and Championship
- Had 108 players registered for the season.

Achievements 2009

- NSW committee provided each club with 3 helmets
- The Camogie games were held on a back pitch measuring 100m long which had permanent posts. For final days portable posts were used in order to have finals matches on the main pitch. The championship final provided huge entertainment as it was a very close game
- Five players from different clubs went down to State games and competed with Queensland & Western Australia against Victoria. If camogie developed in State Games NSW would be interested in sending a Camogie team in the future
- A great boost for Camogie in NSW is that the standard of camogie has increased since the start. We now have county players and one of the players is a 5 time All-Star. Hopefully this level will increase in the future.

Development Initiatives in Sydney for 2010

- NSW hopes to keep all 5 teams in the League and Championship and it has been discussed about going to a 10-a-side competition
- Helmets will be compulsory for all players from 2010
- The Playing area for Camogie needs to be improved. The State association is in negotiations with the local council for the renewal of the lease for the grounds.

Australasian Development Initiatives 2010:

There has definitely been an upsurge in activity and with the imminent arrival of helmets and sticks shortly from Ireland (made available with some assistance from the Camogie Association which is greatly appreciated) it is expected that a new competition will start in Perth in March. It is hoped to have similar competitions as a start-up in Melbourne and Brisbane.

Winners/Runners-up of New South Wales Championships 2009:

Competition	Winners	Runners-up
Central Coast	League	Michael Cusacks
Central Coast	Championship	Michael Cusacks

Sínithe ag: GERARD ROE
Rúnaí

London Board

Tuairisc 2009

Counties	No. of Clubs 2009	No. of Clubs 2008
London	7	6

Club names: Bros. Pearse
Croydon
Erin go Bragh
Fr. Murphy's
Green Isle
John Mitchels
Tara

Summary Report 2009

The focus for 2009 was very much on the establishment of a structure to facilitate development of the game in Britain. A development subcommittee was tasked with consulting members and drafting a three year development plan, which has just been adopted. As part of this, much more emphasis was placed on underage structures and we held two successful squad sessions, with great support from Gaelic Games Development Officers and British Provincial Council.

Development Initiatives 2010:

- Continued focus on underage structures, and regular meetings of Children's Officers and Development Officers from all clubs
- Coaching, referees and administration courses
- London county team participation in both National League and Championship.

Winners/Runners-up of Provincial Championships 2009:

Competition	Winners	Runners-up
Senior Championship	Tara	Bros. Pearse
Junior Championship	Tara	Fr. Murphy's
Senior League	Tara	Croydon
Junior League	Tara	Croydon
Junior Reserve Cup	Bros. Pearse	Erin go Bragh

Sínte ag: CÁIT NÍ GHIOLLARÁITH
Rúnaí

NACB Board

Tuairisc 2009

Counties	No. of Clubs 2009	No. of Clubs 2008
NACB	7	6

Club names:	Senior	Boston Éire Óg San Francisco Shamrocks Chicago St Mary's
	Junior	Milwaukee Washington DC
Clubs in embryonic stage		Seiche (did not compete at Championship) Denver (did not compete at Championship)

Summary Report 2009

The Camogie activity for 2009 was once again mainly focused on the finals in Canton with the five clubs from previous years finals again competing. Morgan Conroy and Cathal Egan travelled on behalf of Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael and were an enormous help refereeing games. The distance factor between clubs and the fact that each major centre for Camogie has but one club makes competitive games between teams difficult except for finals weekend. A mini tournament was held in Chicago for which a grant of \$2500 was disbursed by NACB, it proved to be difficult to attract travelling teams but was deemed worthwhile nonetheless by those in attendance. Grading was once again an issue but I think the results of Junior and Senior finals show we got it about right. We had hoped to have Camogie up and running at underage level at CYC in July, where we were delighted to have Joan O'Flynn in attendance, but unfortunately it didn't happen this year. Recruitment of players beyond the extended Irish Communities in the US is difficult because we are still a largely unheard of sporting body and until such time as Gaelic Games are showcased on cable TV here we are fighting a difficult battle. Mary O'Connor attended our convention in November and held a hugely productive meeting of Camogie club delegates where a structure was agreed upon for next year's Championship which will give each club several games over the weekend. The NACB has a coaching/refereeing initiative in place for 2010 which will see all GAA clubs have at least one coaching officer in place. We would like to extend our thanks to all the Representatives of Camogie who visited with us last year.

Development Initiatives 2010:

- Munster/NACB Coach/Referee tutor certification, club GDO certification
- Underage Camogie at CYC
- Expanded NACB Finals games schedule.

Winners/Runners-up of Provincial Championships 2009:

Competition	Winners	Runners-up
Senior	Boston Éire Óg 4-09	Shamrocks 4-02
Junior	WDC 3-02	Milwaukee 0-02
Compromise Junior	St Mary's 7-11	WDC 1-0

Sínithe ag: LIAM Ó MAOLDOMHNAIGH
Rúnaí

European Board

Tuairisc 2009

No. of Clubs 2009	No. of Clubs 2008
4	3*

Club names: Luxembourg
Zurich
Belgium GAA
Paris Gaels

* Zurich fielded players in tournaments for Belgium GAA during 2008 rather than field their own team. They did gain tournament points for this participation. However, the official championship was played between Luxembourg and Belgium.

Summary Report 2009

1. Support development of camogie in GAA clubs – ongoing
 - a. Grow number of clubs playing camogie by 1-2 clubs – first appearance by Paris in some rounds, played 3 tournament rounds and 1 friendly match in Paris
 - b. Had 4 teams in 2 rounds and 2 teams in 1 round
2. Participate in Corn Maire Ni Chinnede and a 7's competition in UK or Ireland – not achieved, 15-a-side competitions and timing of same do not suit. However a team was entered in London 7's competition
3. Have at least one Irish based club play in each European tournament – discussed with H/Q but no entries received
4. Attend relevant training courses/development activities – no attendance due to cost of travel and budgetary reasons.

Development Initiatives 2010:

- Work with Ladies Football Officer to organize some demonstration of camogie at Ladies Football tournaments where there will be a critical mass of dual players to ensure a good demonstration of the sport
- Training of ladies football players in clubs to increase camogie numbers
- Extend invitation for tournament play to anyone in the County interested in camogie, regardless of whether their own club has enough players to form a team (i.e. composite teams)
- Maintain 4 teams in the County
- Ensure 4 rounds of Championship to match hurling schedule
- Ensure no fixtures clash with ladies football to maximize dual players across county
- Extend invitation to Irish teams to participate in European fixtures
- Work with coaching officer to help any team that requires coaching assistance, tutoring, etc
- Work with all the clubs county-wide to ensure anyone that wants to play camogie has the opportunity to travel and do so
- Assist any club in the county with development funds to have a starter kit for camogie (hurls, sliotars, helmets, etc.).

Winners/Runners-up of Provincial Championships 2009:

Competition	Winners	Runners-up
Championship	Luxembourg	Belgium

Sínithe ag: TONY BASS BECKY MATTES
Rúnaí Camogie Officer

CCAO

Tuairisc 2009

No. of Colleges/Institutes 2009

30

No. of Colleges/Institutes 2008

29

Ainmneacha na gColáistí:

University College Dublin	Sligo IT	IT Tralee
St. Pats	Galway Mayo IT	University of Limerick
Limerick IT	Mary I	Garda College
NUI Maynooth	Dublin IT	Waterford IT
Queens University Belfast	Dublin City University	Cavan Institute
University College Cork	Athlone IT	St. Mary's
Trinity College Dublin	Dundalk IT	NUI Galway
Carlow IT	Cork IT	Letterkenny IT
Tipperary Institute	Froebel College	Marino
Crumlin College of Further Education	University of Ulster Jordanstown	UU Coleraine

Summary Report 2009

The key objective in 2009 was the development of a website for 3rd level camogie. An examination on the possibility of such a development was completed in 2008. Following much work during 2009 in developing the website, Uachtarán Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael, Joan O'Flynn, officially launched the third level camogie website, www.ccao.ie at the CCAO AGM held on 26th September 2009.

Development Initiatives 2010:

The key initiative planned for 2010 is to run the two most prestigious competitions in third level camogie, the Ashbourne Cup and the Purcell Cup together over the one weekend in February. This new venture will see the competitions being jointly hosted by one college at the one venue for the very first time and ensures the best players and teams are united in competing for All-Ireland Colleges titles. It is envisaged that this will put a greater spotlight on third level camogie whilst also creating a larger platform from which to showcase the talent that exists at third level.

Winners/Runners-up of Provincial Championships 2009:

Competition	Winners	Runners-up
Ashbourne Cup	WIT	UCD
Ashbourne Shield	NUIG	UL
Purcell Cup	AIT	Mary I
Purcell Shield	QUB	NUIM
Fr. Meagher Cup	IT Carlow	Trinity College Dublin
Fr. Meagher Shield	Sligo IT	Coleraine
Freshers	-	-
Ó Maologáin Cup	-	-
Division 1 League	WIT	UCD
Division 2 League	Mary I	NUIM

Sínithe ag:

EILÍS NÍ FHLOINN
Rúnaí na Comhairle



Katrina Parrock, WIT, in action against Grainne Kenneally, UCC in the Ashbourne Cup Final on 21st February 2010.

Comhairle Chamógaiochta na nIarbhunscoileanna

Tuairisc 2009

Province	No. of Schools 2009	No. of Schools 2008
Cúige Chonnacht	13	17
Cúige Laighean	22	32
Cúige na Mumhan	70	72
Cúige Uladh	38	38

* As the Dublin Colleges entered the All-Ireland Series at the quarter final stage they competed in the Dublin Competitions only and didn't take part in the Leinster competitions which reflects the drop in numbers in Cúige Laighean.

Summary Report 2009

2009 saw six different schools win All-Ireland titles at Junior and Senior level. A large number of Dublin schools had not been competing in the Leinster Post Primary Camogie Competitions recently so a new bye law was enacted bringing the Dublin Colleges winners into the All-Ireland series at quarter-final stage against the Connacht champions. This provided extra games for both sets of competition winners as some Connacht schools were only playing two games before an All-Ireland semi-final, due to the small number of schools competing in Connacht. Dublin Colleges competed on a like for like basis this year i.e. Senior A v Senior A and so on but this will have to be reviewed at the AGM of Comhairle Chamógaiochta Na nIarbhunscoileanna on May 15th 2010 as some of the quarter-finals did not seem evenly matched. This review needs to take place at our AGM as all of the All-Ireland series games should be closely contested and not one-sided affairs.

Development Initiatives 2010:

- Comhairle Chamógaiochta Na nIarbhunscoileanna would like to introduce a Senior D and Junior D/U-16 and a half competition (12/13-a-side) for the weaker schools for the 2010/2011 playing season.
- We would like to get a sponsor for our Senior and Junior competitions and some TV coverage for our Senior A Final.
- In conjunction with the National Coaching Committee help the weak schools with coaching for the teachers and the players.

Winners/Runners-up of Provincial Championships 2009:

Competition	Winners	Runners-up
Senior A	St. Brigid's, Callan	Portumna Community School
Senior B	Blackwater Community School, Lismore	Coláiste Mhic Naosa Garran Tower
Senior C	St. Colm's High School, Draperstown	Grennan College, Thomastown
Junior A	Loreto, Kilkenny	St. Patrick's College, Maghera
Junior B	St. Joseph's, Borrisoleigh	St. Patrick's High School, Keady
Junior C	Hazelwood College, Dromcollogher	St Paul's, Kilrea
Sevens A	Loreto, Kilkenny	Blackwater Community School, Lismore
Sevens B	St. Flannan's, Ennis	Borris Vocational School
Interprovincial	Leinster	Munster

Sínithe ag: PROINNSIAS Ó CRIODÁIN
Rúnaí na Comhairle



Camogie All-Stars 2009

in association with



Back row (l.-r.): Anne Dalton, Kilkenny; Aoife Murray, Cork; Regina Glynn, Galway; Cathriona Foley, Cork; Jacqui Frisby, Kilkenny; Anne Marie Hayes, Galway; Mary O'Connor, Cork; Elaine Aylward, Kilkenny; Briega Corkery, Cork; Rachel Moloney, Cork and Grainne McGoldrick, Derry. Front row (l.-r.): Katie Power, Kilkenny; Geraldine O'Connor, who collected the award on behalf of her daughter Gemma O'Connor, Cork; Sinéad O'Connor, Ard Stiúrthóir Chumann Camógaíochta na nGael; Mary Hannifin T.D., Minister for Social Welfare; Joan O'Flynn, Uachtarán Chumann Camógaíochta na nGael; Tony Towell, MD of O'Neills; Paul Brady, World Handball Champion; Therese Maher, Galway; Aoife Neary, Kilkenny.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

Competitions Management Committee

<i>Members:</i>	Brenda Craig	(Dublin)
	Rachel Hogan	(Wexford)
	Marion Graham	(Tipperary)
	Jenny Cultra	(Down)
	Pauline Mitchell	(Galway)
	Regina Gorman	(Fixtures Administrator)

No. of Meetings held: 6

Terms of reference:

- Prepare and oversee the implementation of an Annual National Fixtures Plan no later than 30th October
- Liaise with other relevant Committees in the development and implementation of the National Fixtures Plan and related matters, specifically the Referees' Committee on fitness and assessment of referees and Provincial Councils on games scheduling
- Make recommendations to Ardchomhairle on sanctions in the event of teams not fulfilling fixtures
- Make recommendations to Ardchomhairle on the appointment of referees for All-Ireland Senior, Intermediate and Junior Championship Finals
- Liaise with the Fixtures Co-ordinator and Ardstiúrthoir on the appointment of referees and the times and venues for other inter-county games
- Maximising the co-ordination of fixtures with ladies football to facilitate players of both codes
- Maximising opportunities for double headers between hurling and Camogie at national and Provincial levels
- Liaise with the Fixtures Co-ordinator, Ardstiúrthóir and Uachtarán on the appointment of venues for major games
- Review and recommend to Ardchomhairle match regulations for National competitions
- Annually review the year's competitions and, as appropriate, make recommendations to Ardchomhairle on the structures and scheduling of national competitions
- Provide progress reports to Ardchomhairle as appropriate and an Annual Report to each Congress

Objectives 2009:

- Ensure that all National Fixtures are completed as per the fixtures schedule
- Create strong working relationship with referee's committee
- Engage with Ladies Gaelic Football Association to ensure reduction of fixture clashes
- When possible – avail of double header fixtures with GAA.

Achievements 2009:

- All matches completed per fixture calendar
- Introduced CMC weekly Conference calls to review / preview weekend fixtures
- Improved working relationship with referees' committee
 - Chairperson Brenda Craig invited to speak to National Referees seminar
- Met with Ladies Gaelic Football Association in December 2009 to discuss fixtures for 2010. Both codes amended fixtures to prevent clashes
- Held National Fixtures Forum in November.

Overall review of 2009:

- There were 203 games played in total in 2009
- There were a small number of walkovers and withdrawals from competitions. The committee is hopeful that there will be a decrease in these numbers due to some structural changes in competitions for 2010
- The referee assessments which were piloted in 2009 were of great benefit and the Competitions Management Committee would like to see that carried on in 2010. The list of Intercounty referees has doubled in the last couple of years and there will be over 50 on the National Panel for 2010 pending the results of the League Fitness Tests.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

Strategic Review Implementation Committee

<i>Members:</i>	Louise Byrne	(Chairperson)
	Geraldine McGrath	(Secretary)
	Joan O'Flynn	(Uachtarán)
	Sinéad O'Connor	(Ard Stiúrthóir)
	Liz Howard	
	Brighidin Heenan	
	Susan Malone	
	Eamonn Browne	
	Sarah O'Connor	

No. of Meetings held: 18

This figure represents Sub-Group meetings and full SRIC meetings. Whilst at the outset it was agreed that the SRIC would be split into 3 sub-groups in order to progress issues, when the work of the Sub-Group B was finished they joined Group A to progress the revision of An Treoraí Oifigiúil. Whilst the Sub-Groups did the initial work on items, all work done was signed off by the SRIC before submission to Ardchomhairle.

Terms of reference:

- Make proposals to Ardchomhairle on the implementation of the recommendations from the Strategic Review of the Association (2009) regarding the reform of the constitution and governance model of the Association.
Sub-Group members: Louise Byrne and Sarah O'Connor.
Develop and recommend to Ardchomhairle proposed revisions to the structure and content of An Treoraí Oifigiúil.
Sub-Group members: Louise Byrne, Joan O'Flynn, Geraldine McGrath, Eamon Browne, Brighidin Heenan and Sarah O'Connor
- Make proposals to Ardchomhairle on the implementation of the recommendations from the Strategic Review of the Association (2009) regarding the re-vitalisation of the role of Provincial Councils
Sub-Group members: Joan O'Flynn, Geraldine McGrath, Eamon Browne and Brighidin Heenan
- Develop and recommend to Ardchomhairle a new Strategic Vision and Development Plan
Sub-Group members: Joan O'Flynn, Liz Howard, Sinéad O'Connor and Susan Malone

Achievements 2009:

- Considered the recommendation from the Morgan Buckley report to incorporate the Association. Consideration included receiving legal advice from John Hogan, Lehman Solicitors on the matter and consideration of the pros and cons of retaining current structures versus incorporation. Recommendation was proposed to and accepted by Ardchomhairle not to incorporate the Association, but rather to retain the current structures, revise An Treoraí Oifigiúil and invest in full insurance audit and legal review of structures and policies
- A revised draft of An Treoraí Oifigiúil was prepared and submitted to Ardchomhairle in early October for its consideration prior to bringing forward to a Special Congress
- A new Strategic Vision and Development Plan was drafted and submitted to Ardchomhairle for approval. Recommendations were made on how to re-vitalise the role of the Provincial Councils and these recommendations were incorporated into the Draft Strategic Vision and Development Plan.

Overall review of 2009:

The SRIC has met its Terms of Reference in so far as we can. It can be seen from the number of meetings alone, a huge amount of personal time and commitment was given by those involved with regard to all aspects of our deliberations. These weren't easy tasks and a lot of soul searching took place in order to reach consensus as to the way forward. Change is always difficult, nothing is perfect, but rather we are all on a road of continual improvement.

I would hope that if delegates are asked to consider or indeed vote on our work or aspects of our work, that you do so in the knowledge that a lot of time has been invested in the process and every aspect was tossed upside down and inside out in order to leave no stone unturned. We accept that everything may not be perfect but the key question is are those aspects that are proposed better than what is there currently and do they lay the foundations for the future growth and success of our Association whilst respecting those who directed the Association to where it is today?

I would like to thank sincerely all members of this Committee for their hard work, insight & foresight. To Geraldine McGrath a special thanks for taking on the role of Secretary. Lastly, whilst not wanting to select out individuals, I must pay tribute to our Uachtarán Joan O'Flynn. Joan's commitment to Camogie and to the future of the Association was foremost in all contributions made by her. As Uachtarán, Joan has played a central role in drafting the Strategic plan and indeed in the revision of An Treoraí Oifigiúil. As an Association we are lucky to have such an inspirational leader.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

Volunteer and Officer Support Committee

Members: Maire Ní Cheallaigh
Grainne Nic Gabhann
Alice Dowling
Catherine Hoare
Peter Cassidy

No. of Meetings held: 3

Terms of reference:

- Oversee the development and implementation of a national policy on volunteers
- Oversee the development and implementation of a five year strategy and annual action plan to support the recruitment and development of volunteers and officers/leaders at all levels of the Association
- Maximise the use of www.camogie.ie to support volunteers, officers and leaders
- Make recommendations on including people of different social and ethnic backgrounds, ages and abilities as volunteers
- Oversee the development and implementation of a regular Club Forum for volunteers and officers
- Make recommendations on a volunteer recognition scheme appropriate to Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael
- Liaise with the GAA and other relevant bodies as appropriate
- Provide regular reports to Ardchomhairle and a report to Annual Congress.

Objectives 2009:

To concentrate on drawing up a policy on Volunteers and to plan for a club Forum.

Achievements 2009:

We have completed a large amount of work on the Policy on Volunteers which we hope to launch at the Club Forum in November 2010.

Overall review of 2009:

The Committee did a lot of preparatory work this year and we feel it will yield results in 2010.



National Coaching and Games Development

<i>Members:</i>	Sheila O'Donohoe	(Chairperson)
	Mary O'Connor	
	Fiona O'Driscoll	
	Bridget Barnaville	
	Damien Young	
	Siobhán Ryan	
	Kitty Fagan	
	Collette Coady	
	Chrissie Doherty	

No. of Meetings held: 4

Shared terms of reference:

- Establish and oversee the implementation of a five year Coaching and Games Development strategy
- Liaise with Coaching Ireland, Irish Sports Council, the GAA and other relevant bodies concerned with coach education, Camogie within the Education sector, participation, inclusion and games development
- Provide regular reports to Ardchomhairle and a report to Annual Congress.

Coaching sub-group terms of reference:

- Oversee the development and implementation of a five year national coaching strategy and annual action plan to strengthen Coach Education at all levels
- Oversee the development and implementation of a Camogie Coaching Plan by each County and Provincial Development Committees
- Implement the National Tutor Training and Coach Education Programmes.

Objectives 2009:

Objectives determined from terms of reference and agreed work-plan with Coaching Ireland:

- Officially launch coaching courses Caman Get a Grip! & Caman Get Hooked!
Target number of courses 2009 – aim to have 3 Foundation (Caman Get a Grip!) courses per province over the year and from that one Level 1 (Caman Get Hooked!) per province over the year
- Target number of coaches – a) aim to achieve a set number of qualified coaches as agreed with Coaching Ireland and b) map existing coach deployment and support by using the database of coaches so as to establish where all qualified coaches are situated county by county; c) cross check with CCnG where all affiliated clubs/schools/colleges are county by county and use this information to identify gaps where there are players and few coaches and vice versa.
- Long Term Player Development – Player Pathway to be launched
- Identify new tutors and consider recertification of inactive tutors
- Monitor impact of coaching qualifications on participation and performance
- Coillte Development Squads – assist CCnG in identification and organisation of development squads.

Achievements 2009:

- Coaching courses launched successfully
- Target number of coaching courses reached
- Target number of qualified coaches reached
- All aspects of agreed Coaching Ireland work-plan completed
- New tutors – discussions have taken place regarding identification of new tutors (1 new tutor now in training) and possible use of GAA tutors.
- Coillte Development Squads assisted CCnG & RDOs in organisation.

Education sub-group terms of reference:

- Oversee the establishment and implementation of an integrated five year strategy for Camogie at primary, post-primary and colleges' levels to meet the needs of all players
- Develop and implement ways to strengthen the links between schools, colleges and clubs
- Review the level of participation by primary schools in Camogie competitions administered by Cumann na mBunscoil and work in partnership to grow this nationally
- Review the level of participation by post-primary schools in Camogie competitions and, in partnership with the

All-Ireland Post Primary Camogie Council, put in place a plan to increase this nationally

- Work in partnership with CCAO to review third level competitions, with a particular focus on competitions appropriate to meet the needs of all players.

Members: Sheila O'Donohoe (Chairperson)
Mary O'Connor
Jennifer Steede
Yvonne Byrne
Mairead O'Callaghan
Noeleen Rooney
Noelle O'Driscoll
Lynn Kelly
Geraldine Kinane

Number of meetings held: 1

Objectives for 2009:

- To enhance communication between the three education groups: primary, secondary and third level
- To gain an insight into the levels of participation at present across the three education groups from which recommendations will be made for the executive body of each group.

Participation, Inclusion and Games Development terms of reference

- Oversee the development and implementation of a five year participation and games development strategy, taking particular account of meeting the needs of new players, developing players, players from a range of social and ethnic backgrounds and abilities and players overseas
- Oversee the development and implementation of an annual Games Development Plan by each County and Provincial Development Committees
- Liaise with the VHI Cúl Camp National Programme with a view to strengthening the presence of Camogie playing opportunities
- Oversee Camogie's involvement in the Annual Shinty tournament with Scotland.

Members: Sheila O'Donohoe (Chairperson)
Katie Forde
Germaine Noonan
Valerie Crean

Overall review of the committee for 2009:

2009 was a year of transition for the committee with the beginning of the new presidential term. New members were appointed and this committee has three sub groups of coaching, education and participation. The coaching group looks forward to 2010 with main aims of completing the CCnG coaching strategy and Coaching Ireland coaching plan, to qualify more tutors and in turn be able to deliver more coaching courses whilst the education group are working on compiling information on participation across all of the education cohorts. The participation and inclusion sub group are due to meet in mid March 2010.

The Donegal team with Tom Byrne, Coillte, and Joan O'Flynn, President of the Camogie Association, at the Coillte Camogie Development Squads 2009 which took place in Croke Park.



SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

Child Protection and Welfare

Members: Mairéad Ní Mhaoileóin Anne O'Brien
Kathleen Woods Maria Grandfield
Marie O'Brien

No. of Meetings held: 3

- Three ordinary subcommittee meetings were held during the year
- Members of the subcommittee attended on behalf of Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael the following; Local Sports Partnerships' Regional Code of Ethics Seminars, Ulster Council and a number of hearings to deal with complaints
- Training courses at a number of venues as requested by clubs and county boards were facilitated.

Terms of reference:

- Oversee the implementation and monitoring of the Camogie, GAA and Ladies Football Joint Code of Behaviour to units at all levels
- In light of the Joint Code above and other standards, review the Camogie Association's Code of Ethics
- Support and promote the implementation of our Code of Ethics to all units with particular regard to maximising the use of www.camogie.ie as an education resource on child protection and welfare
- Ensure that Children's Officers at Provincial and County level are aware of and trained in the standards expected under the Joint Code of Behaviour and the Code of Ethics
- As appropriate, advise on and/or adjudicate on breaches of the Code of Behaviour and Code of Ethics
- Oversee the development and implementation of a programme of Garda clearances and child protection standards (NI) for volunteers who have unsupervised access to underage members of Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael
- Liaise with the GAA, Ladies Football, the Irish Sports Council, Sport Northern Ireland and other relevant bodies concerned with child protection and welfare
- Provide regular reports to Ardchomhairle and a report to Annual Congress.

Objectives 2009:

- Training for Children's Officers to be run and attendance needs to be mandatory for County Children's Officers
- That it will be mandatory for referees and coaches from foundation level up to attend a Basic Awareness course before being fully certified
- Update the Code of Ethics to take cognisance of changing legislation
- Up skilling / re skilling of subcommittee members needs to be given priority so as we can act as a resource to Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael at all times in matters of child protection and welfare
- Garda Vetting of all volunteers should be mandatory.

Achievements 2009:

- A number of sections in code of ethics have been updated and new versions uploaded on www.camogie.ie. Updated sections of the code of ethics were distributed to County Children's Officers at GAA seminar
- Garda Vetting has been added to recruitment procedures and a number of counties have commenced the Garda Vetting of volunteers.
- Guidelines for Referees have been formulated
- A training seminar was held in Croke Park by GAA and a large number of Children's Officers from Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael attended
- Two members have attended training with ISC and another is hoping to attend in near future.

Overall review of 2009

2009 saw a number of initiatives in Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael which help towards ensuring our clubs provide safe, enjoyable and fun places for all our members:

- A joint Code of Behaviour was agreed between Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael, Ladies' Gaelic Football and the GAA
- Garda Vetting is in the process of being rolled out county by county. Host families and participating mentors were all successfully vetted for Féile na nGael
- Some sections of our Code of Ethics were updated and uploaded to www.camogie.ie for easy access to all our members
- We had a number of County Children's Officers attend the GAA Child Welfare and Protection Information Day in Croke Park. But we also have a number of areas where there could be improvement:
- The appointment of Children's Officers is an essential element in the creation of a quality atmosphere. They act as a resource with regard to children's issues. We do not have active fully trained Children's Officers appointed in every club and county
- All of our mentors are not fully aware of the Joint Code of Behaviour. It has not been signed up to by all our clubs
- All adults including coaches have a crucial leadership role to play in sport. The trust implicit in coach-child relationships in sport places a duty of care on all coaches to safeguard the health, safety and welfare of the child while taking part in Camogie activities. It is of the utmost importance that all coaches attend the Basic Awareness training in order for them to have the necessary support and knowledge to ensure this
- The most efficient way of ensuring that all coaches attend this training is to tie attendance at the Basic Awareness with the Get a Grip foundation level course.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

Referees' Support & Development

<i>Members:</i>	Dermott Connolly Una Kearney Rosie Merry Pat McGivern	Cathal Egan Aileen Lawlor Frank McDonald Fintan McNamara
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No. of Meetings held: 3

Terms of reference:

- Recruit suitable personnel to officiate as referees at national level
- Organise regular training courses, seminars, meetings for National Referees, Umpires and Lines officials
- Regularly review, update and implement procedures for fitness testing of referees and advise Fixtures Committee and Provincial Councils of outcomes
- Regularly review, update and implement written examinations National Referees and advise Fixtures Committee and Provincial Councils of outcomes
- Establish procedures for assessing referees, as a way of supporting, achieving and maintaining a high quality of refereeing standards and advise Fixtures Committee of outcomes
- Liaise with relevant Committees such as Fixtures Committee on appointment of referees
- Liaise with the Coaching and Games Development, referee tutors and Development Team on developing and implementing a programme of referee education and training
- Liaise with the Green Card initiative at post-primary level
- Oversee the development of promotional material on refereeing and referees as a key group of volunteers within the Association for use at national, provincial and local level
- Oversee the development and implementation of a code of conduct towards referees for use at national, provincial and local level
- From time to time, brief county team managers on the application of the rules and hear feedback from them
- Recommend to Ardchomhairle on the use of appropriate technology that will benefit the referee and other match officials during national competitions
- Support and advise Provincial and County Boards on developing referees, particularly female referees
- Provide regular reports to Ardchomhairle and an annual report to Congress.

Objectives 2009:

Referee Courses

- Increase the number of Foundation, Green Card and Advanced Referee Courses being facilitated
- Offer support to Jennifer Steede and Yvonne Bryne (2nd level Development Officers) in facilitating Green Card Courses to T.Y. students
- Review and update all referee courses based on feedback
- Inform County Boards of participants contact details from courses
- Devise and regularly update a national database on participants from Referee courses
- Inform GAA Referees of the differences between Camogie and Hurling.

Recruitment

- Recruit new referees at club and Inter-county level
- Recruit new referees from the GAA
- Liaise with Cumann na Bunscoil regarding new initiatives – Young whistlers.

National Referees

- Hold a meeting for all National Referees prior to start of League
- Ensure all National Referees acquire a minimum standard of fitness for both the League and Championship
- Review fitness testing and minimum fitness standards
- Ensure all referee are wearing the Camogie Referees' uniform correctly
- Ensure all games are started on time
- Implement a written assessment on the Playing Rules
- Introduce a pilot scheme on assessing games.

General

- Liaise with the Child Protection & Welfare Committee to devise a Code of Conduct for Referees
- Review the Referees Report form.

Achievements 2009:

Referee Courses

Eight Foundation Courses were held last year. The following counties hosted courses:

Leinster: Meath, Westmeath and Wexford. *Munster:* Cork, CIT and Tipperary. *Ulster:* Armagh and Down.

- From the above list four counties did not host a course the previous year
- An information session was held for all GAA & Camogie Referees who were officiating at Féile
- Six Green Card Courses have been in the following counties:
Antrim, Clare, Down, Limerick, Tipperary and Wexford, with approximately 148 students successfully completing the course
- All county secretaries were notified and supplied with contact details of new qualified referees
- All new referees names and contact details were added to a National database
- A review of the Green Card Course and Foundation Course was held with J. Steede and M. O'Connor. DVD clips from '09 matches are currently being included on the referee courses
- Difference between Camogie and Hurling Playing Rules has been updated on a regular basis and all participants at courses and Inter-County Referees have been supplied with this leaflet
- Information sessions on the difference between Camogie and Hurling Playing Rules have also been held in some counties.

Recruitment

- Through Foundation and Green Card Courses approximately 250 new referees at Club level
- Seven new Inter-county Referees on the National list.

National Referees

- A national seminar for referees was held in January with An Uachtarán, Ardstúirthóir and Director of Camogie in attendance
- Eight Fitness assessments were held in various locations to ensure Inter-County Referees had acquired the minimum level of fitness for both the League and Championship campaigns
- The vast majority of match officials wore the referees' uniform correctly
- Seven new Inter-County referees were match officials in 2009
- An assessment pilot scheme was started in July and finished with the Club Finals.

General

- A Code of Conduct has been devised and was submitted to Ardchomhairle
- Referees Report Form has been amended and will be submitted to Ardchomhairle.

Overall review of 2009

The Terms of Reference for the Referees' Committee entails a wide spectrum of all aspects of the game; while progress may not be significant in every area it certainly has been steady. Referee Tutors facilitate courses in most provinces and courses are reviewed and updated regularly. Fitness tests for National referees are now the accepted norm. The fitness requirements are reviewed annually. National Referees are kept up to date with new rules, rule changes, new initiatives etc via the Referees Newsletter.

The assessment pilot scheme started in July. This is a huge step forward with regards to improving the quality of officiating at our games. Three assessors were trained under the guidance of Frank McDonald (GAA Assessor). This will also assist the Competitions Management Committee appoint referees in the future. Approximately ten games were assessed from U16 Finals to Junior Club Finals. It is envisaged that assessment will take place throughout the League and Championship campaigns in 2010.

Through Pat McGivern (Cumann na Bunscoil representative) we are kept up to date on new initiatives which may benefit our game. One initiative that is currently being piloted in four counties is RESPECT. Over the course of the coming season the committee will be briefed on its progress.

Some areas of concern for the committee are:

1. Starting games on time

It is important teams are out on the pitch, with their jerseys on before the start of the match. This will allow the referee time to call the two captains and let photographers take team pictures. Too often teams go out for their warm-up then go back into the changing rooms. Sometimes when they come out again they start another short drill or have another team talk. Despite calls from match officials these are ignored. This all has a knock-on effect with regards to late starting time. Hence valuable media coverage may be lost due to limited time slots.

2. Goal Umpires

Referees travel the length and breadth of Ireland to officiate matches. We recognise that some referees on occasion may not have umpires. It is not an ideal situation to be in as a referee. The merits for an Inter-county umpires database is currently being investigated

3. Abuse of Referees

This is the main reason cited by participants at referee courses for leaving refereeing. Hopefully with the RESPECT initiative and rule changes concerning abusing match officials it will help to alleviate these problems.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

Communications and Website Committee

Members: Eoghan Corry
Liz Howard
Shane D'Arcy
Mary Burke
Mary Moran
Niamh Archibald
Gerry O'Sullivan
Alan Aherne

No. of Meetings held: 5

Terms of reference:

- Oversee the development and implementation of a five year Communications Strategy and annual action plan
- Review and advise on the presentation of fixtures in national competitions
- Review and advise on the content and layout of match programmes for national fixtures, taking particular account to reflect the diverse composition of the membership of Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael
- Liaise with other national Committees with a view to maximising the use of www.camogie.ie as a communications and public relations resource to our membership and the general public
- Develop a monthly electronic bulletin to members on news, development initiatives and decisions at national level that impact on the membership
- Oversee and adjudicate the annual Media Awards
- Oversee the publication of an official history of Camogie
- Explore the feasibility of a twice-yearly magazine and act as its editorial committee
- Liaise with relevant bodies as appropriate
- Provide regular reports to Ardchomhairle and a report to Annual Congress.

Objectives 2009:

The work of the committee was made easier by the groundwork that had already been done, an attractive and functional website, external communications initiatives such as well run, well-organised launch events, a presence on the Sunday Game and web broadcasts of championship matches, access to the high calibre photographs on the Sportsfile picture agency and established links of communications with major national media. The main objectives for 2009 were:

- Produce a monthly ezine
- Increase web presence
- Produce a detailed programme for the All-Ireland Semi-Finals
- Begin work to produce a published Camogie History
- Work on planning formal PRO training days
- Review the Media Awards
- Review presentation of fixtures.

Achievements 2009:

- During the past year the Communications and Website Committee has started the process of providing high quality match programmes for major events, including the Gala All-Ireland Semi-Finals and Gala All-Ireland Senior and Junior Finals
- Published the first of a series of twice-yearly print magazines
- Produced an online monthly ezine
- Enhanced camogie's presence on social media
- Commissioned an initial history of the Association
- Initiated the redesign of camogie.ie
- A reassessment of the media awards is currently in progress in consultation with the full-time communications and marketing manager of Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORT

Player Welfare

<i>Members:</i>	Sally O'Grady	(Waterford)
	Jane Adams	(Antrim)
	Aoife Lane	(Galway)
	Rena Buckley	(Cork)
	Elaine Dermody	(Offaly)
	Susan O'Carroll	(Kildare)
	Aileen Donnelly	(Meath)
	Áine O'Mahony	(Laois)
	Paula Rankin	Head of Sports Science, Carlow IT

No. of Meetings held: 4

Terms of reference:

- Oversee the development and implementation of a five year strategy and Annual Action Plan on Player Welfare
- Maximise the use of the Camogie Website as a promotional and information resource on Player Welfare
- Review the adequacy and appropriateness of the various player insurance schemes in operation with Camogie and make recommendations to Ardchomhairle
- Oversee the establishment of an injuries database with a view to collecting objective evidence on injuries in Camogie
- Liaise with the GAA, Ladies Football and relevant national and international bodies concerned with player welfare, particularly for female athletes
- Keep abreast and advise Ardchomhairle of new developments in player welfare appropriate to Cumann Camogaiochta na nGael
- Provide regular reports to Ardchomhairle and report to Annual Congress.

Objectives 2009:

- Maximise the use of Website as an information resource on anti-doping education in conjunction with Mairead Ni Mhaoileoin, Anti-Doping officer
- The establishment of an Injuries Database
- Liaise with the relevant National and International bodies concerned with player welfare
- Examine the compulsory wearing of helmets for all Senior Camogie players which has already been implemented in the GAA.

Achievements 2009:

- Successful meeting with Mairead Ni Mhaoileoin, Anti-doping Officer, Sinéad O'Connor, Ard Stiúrthóir and Officers from the Sports Council Anti Doping Committee
- Final stages of compiling in-depth questionnaire for the Injuries Database which we are hoping to run in three centres
- Ongoing communication with National and International bodies concerned with player welfare
- Plan in place to examine Player Insurance Schemes in conjunction with Camogie Association, Croke Park
- Submitting recommendation to Convention on compulsory wearing of helmets.

Overall review of 2009:

All objectives are continuing as works in progress. Next meeting scheduled for last week in February.

Rúin (Motions)

1. All-Ireland Competitions

That Rule 9.8 be amended to read as follows:

The following All-Ireland competitions shall be held on an annual basis:

- Senior, Intermediate, Junior and Minor A, Minor B and Minor C, Under-16A, Under-16B and Under-16C championships:
- National Leagues
- Inter-provincial senior and/or junior championships
- Senior, Intermediate and Junior Club Championships

– *Ardchomhairle*

2. All-Ireland Competitions

That Rule 9.11 be amended to read as follows:

All-Ireland quarter-final, where applicable, semi-final and final, open or other draw pairings and venues shall be decided by Ardchomhairle. All-Ireland Senior, Junior, Intermediate, Senior, Intermediate and Junior Club Championship games to be played at neutral venues with the two semi-finals to be played on the same day.

– *Ardchomhairle*

3. Equipment

That Rule 20.9 (b) of An Treoraí Oifigiúil be amended to read as follows:

In all Camogie games and training sessions it is mandatory for all players to wear an approved, i.e. NSAI Standard IS 355, helmet with facial guard. If not complied with in camogie games the referee will firstly caution the player for dissent. If the player continues to refuse to wear a helmet she will be dealt with in accordance with Rule 19.14 (c) for dissent.

– *Ardchomhairle*

4. Equipment

That Rule 20.9 (b) of An Treoraí Oifigiúil be amended to read as follows:

In all camogie games and training sessions it shall be mandatory for all players to wear a helmet with facial protection. Failure to comply with Rule 20.9 (b) shall be dealt with under Rule 19.14 (c).

– *Ceatharlach*



Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael



REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2009

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For the year ended 31st December 2009

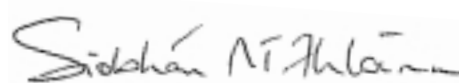
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REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2009

	Note	2009 €	2008 €
INCOME			
Grants An Chomhairle Spóirt	6	468,858	479,000
Other Income		653,817	383,912
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Income		1,122,675	862,912
EXPENDITURE			
Total Expenditure		(1,007,555)	(1,117,173)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
SURPLUS/(DEFICIT) OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE		115,120	(254,261)
BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD		394,072	648,333
		<hr/>	<hr/>
BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD		<u>509,192</u>	<u>394,072</u>



Sineád Ní Chonchúir
Ard Stiúrthóir



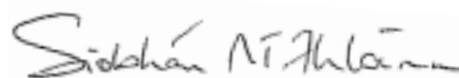
Siobhán Ní Fhloinn
Uachtarán

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER 2009

	Note	31.12.09		31.12.08	
		€	€	€	€
FIXED ASSETS	4		-		-
INVESTMENTS	2		127		127
CURRENT ASSETS					
Prepayments		133,397		97,912	
Stock	1	7,520		1,410	
Bank Deposits		606,285		453,367	
		<u>747,202</u>		<u>552,689</u>	
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Creditors		125,183		116,581	
Accruals		102,687		28,554	
Paye/Prsi		10,267		10,311	
Bank Overdraft		-		-	
Short Term Lease		-		3,298	
		<u>238,137</u>		<u>158,744</u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			509,065		393,945
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			<u>509,192</u>		<u>394,072</u>
Represented By:					
REVENUE ACCOUNT			509,192		394,072
			<u>509,192</u>		<u>394,072</u>



Sínead Ní Chonchúir
Ard Stiúrthóir



Siobhán Ní Fhloinn
Uachtarán

INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2009

	Note	2009 €	2008 €
Grants An Chomhairle Spóirt	6	468,858	479,000
CLG Overseas Grant		15,000	15,000
Open Draw Championships		179,658	137,443
National Leagues		10,099	13,252
Fines/Appeals		500	1,970
Statutory Funding		20,490	3,900
Sponsorships		104,000	123,460
Affiliation Fees	5	121,120	35,740
Ard Chomhairle CLG Grant		50,000	50,000
Deposit Interest		23,640	2,539
Profit on Sale of Stock		(742)	608
Fundraising		27,056	–
All-Ireland Tickets		27,996	–
CLG Development Funding		75,000	–
		<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL TO REVENUE ACCOUNT		<u>1,122,675</u>	<u>862,912</u>

EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 2009

	2009	2008
	€	€
Salaries/Pension/PRSI Administration	187,793	184,827
Salaries Coaching/Development	297,271	256,962
Office Administration Expenses	16,405	19,100
Ex-Gratia Payment	-	109,608
Expenses for Ard-Chomhairle & Sub-Committees	33,180	15,784
Coaching/Development	19,842	11,293
Insurance	3,602	3,377
Audit & Accountancy Fees	3,993	3,645
Bank Interest & Charges	1,815	2,636
Revenue Interest	955	214
Postage & Stationery	19,117	7,981
Administration of Fixtures	51,832	65,545
Depreciation – Office Equipment	-	-
Special Budgetary Measures Administration	84,634	103,943
Special Budgetary Measures Development	87,780	74,114
Women in Sport	-	3,900
Strategic Planning	6,851	27,502
Credit Card Commission	1,155	732
Computer Maintenance	10,323	15,392
Promotional Material	4,726	12,465
Media Costs	70,783	95,336
Shinty/Overseas	19,003	8,552
All Star Banquet	43,203	33,138
Sundry Expenses	22,116	20,342
Lease Interest	998	663
Telephone	7,957	8,193
Ulster Council	-	24,124
Staff Training	3,622	-
Other Core Activities	8,599	7,805
	<hr/>	<hr/>
TOTAL EXPENDITURE TO REVENUE ACCOUNT	<u>1,007,555</u>	<u>1,117,173</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31st December 2009

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES:

1.1 ACCOUNTING CONVENTION

The accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention.

1.2 STOCKS

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost or net realisable value.

1.3. DEPRECIATION:

Depreciation is calculated to write off the assets over their useful lives as follows;

Equipment 20% Straight Line

2. INVESTMENTS

Investment in GAA Development Fund is stated at cost.

3. PENSIONS

Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael operates a defined contribution pension scheme for a number of its employees. The contributions are charged to the expenditure account in the period in which they are made.

4. FIXED ASSETS:

	Total €	Equipment
Opening Balance	48,556	48,556
Closing Balance	<u>48,556</u>	<u>48,556</u>
Depreciation		
Opening Balance	48,556	48,556
Charge for period	-	-
Closing Balance	<u>48,556</u>	<u>48,556</u>
NET BOOK VALUE 31.12.2009	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
NET BOOK VALUE 31.12.2008	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

The written down value of equipment on lease amounts to € Nil

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31st December 2009

5. AFFILIATION FEES

	<i>Affiliation Fees</i>	€
	<i>No.</i>	
ULOIDH		
Aontroim	23	5,520
Árdmhacha	17	4,080
An Cabhán	8	1,920
Doire	23	5,520
An Dún	21	5,040
Dún na nGall	3	720
Fearmanach	0	0
Muineachan	4	960
Tír Eoghain	10	2,400
	-----	-----
Sub-Total	109	26,160
	=====	=====
MUMHA		
Corcaigh	58	13,920
An Clár	26	6,240
Luimneach	24	5,760
Tiobraid Árann	31	7,440
Portláirge	16	3,840
Ciarraí	3	720
	-----	-----
Sub-Total	158	37,920
	=====	=====

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31st December 2009

5. AFFILIATION FEES

	<i>Affiliation Fees</i>	€
	<i>No.</i>	
LAIGHIN		
Ceatharlach	5	1,200
Áth Cliath	39	9,360
Cill Dara	19	4,560
Cill Chainnigh	33	7,920
Laois	7	1,680
Longphort	0	0
An Lú	6	1,440
An Mhidhe	14	3,360
Úibh Fháighle	12	2,880
Iarmhidhe	12	2,880
Loch Garman	33	7,920
Cill Mhantain	11	2,640
Sub-Total	<u>191</u>	<u>45,840</u>
CONNACHTA		
An Ghaillimh	33	7,920
Roscomain	7	1,680
Muigheo	4	960
Leitrim	0	0
Sligeach	1	240
Sub-Total	<u>45</u>	<u>10,800</u>
Coiste Londa		100
Comhairle na nIarbhunscoileanna		50
CCAO		50
Comhairle Mheiriceá Thuaidh		100
Europe		100
TOTAL AFFILIATION FEES		<u><u>121,120</u></u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31st December 2009

6. AN CHOMHAIRLE SPÓIRT (Irish Sports Council)

	<i>Grant Received</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
	€	€
Administration & Support	173,500	199,395
Strategic Planning	5,000	7,101
NCDP	2,000	25,394
Other Core Activities	6,500	8,598
Women in Sport	31,858	38,267
Special Budget Measures Administration	169,000	346,534
Participation Initiatives	67,000	82,931
Quality Initiatives	14,000	12,698
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	468,858	720,918
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

The above expenditure also includes salary costs

Quality initiatives include a grant of €7,000 towards Administration Training Course for Facilitators which was underspent by €6,545.

An Chomhairle Spóirt has authorised the inclusion of this expenditure in 2010.

7. ALL-IRELAND FINALS

The 2009 GALA All-Ireland Finals were played in conjunction with the Under-21 Hurling Final. CLG covered operational costs of Croke Park.

8. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS

The accounts were approved by The Resource Management Committee on 17th February 2010.

P.S.KENNEDY & ASSOCIATES

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT

To the Ard Chomhairle Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael

We have audited the Ard Chomhairle's Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2009 which comprise the Income and Expenditure Account, Balance Sheet and related notes 1 to 9. These financial statements have been prepared on the basis of the accounting policies set out therein.

This report is made solely for the Ard Chomhairle Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Árd Chomhairle those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors report and for no other purpose.

To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Árd Chomhairle as a body for our audit work, for this report, or the opinions we have formed.

Respective Responsibilities of Árd Chomhairle and Auditors

The Ard Chomhairle of Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the accounting policies.

Our responsibilities, as independent auditors, are established in Ireland by statute, auditing standards as promulgated by the Auditing Practices Board in Ireland and by our profession's ethical guidelines.

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view and are properly prepared in accordance with the accounting policies. We also report to you whether in our opinion proper books of accounts have been kept. In addition we state whether we have obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of our audit and whether the Cumann's Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure account are in agreement with the books of account.

Basis of audit opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with the auditing standards issued by the Auditing Practices Board and generally accepted in Ireland. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimate and judgements made by the Ard Chomhairle in the preparation of the financial statements and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the organisations circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or irregularity or error. However the evidence available to us was limited as, Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael, in line with other similar organisations derives a portion of its income from receipts which are outside its control until received and entered in the accounting records. The completeness of such income is therefore not susceptible to independent audit verification.

In forming our opinion we evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

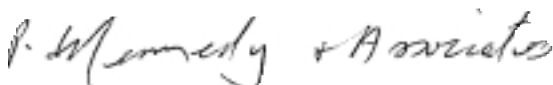
Qualified Audit Opinion Arising from Limitation in Audit Scope

Except for and adjustments that might have been found necessary had we been able to obtain sufficient evidence concerning income not subject to independent audit verification, in our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the surplus for the year and state of affairs of Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael as at 31st December 2009 and have been properly prepared in accordance with the accounting policies therein.

In all respects, with the exception of the matters stated above,

- 1) We have obtained all the information and explanations we considered necessary for the purpose of our audit and
- 2) In our opinion proper books of accounts have been kept by Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael.

The financial statements are in agreement with the books of account



P.S. Kennedy & Associates
Incorporated Public Accountants,
Registered Auditors,
55 The Moorings,
Malahide,
Co. Dublin.

Date: 18th February 2010

Camogie Development

The Camogie Association is phasing in a unified and structured national underage development model for inter-county Camogie players from U-14 to U-17. Camogie is committed to developing players at underage level in every county regardless of tradition or strength of the game currently.

This programme will be phased in as policy over the next 3 years as follows:

- 2010 Create an awareness of the underage Development model
- 2011 All counties to have an u14 school of Excellence
- 2012 All counties to have an u14 and u15 School of Excellence
- 2013 All counties to have an u14 and u15 School(s) of Excellence and an U-17 Development Squad(s)

This programme will increase the skill level and standards of the game of a very important age group for the Association. Counties will be supported in their efforts to organise Schools of Excellence and Development Squads through workshops on organisation and session content.

I have outlined below the role of the county development officer and the outline of the underage development model. The Development team and I look forward to working with counties to implement this development model which will improve skill level of players and help retain more teenage players.

*MARY O'CONNOR
Director of Camogie Development*

Camogie County Development Officer

ROLE PROFILE

Position: Camogie County Development Officer

Role description: The overall role of the County Development Officer is to ensure that Coaching & Games Development Activities are coordinated within their county. He/she should be chairperson of the County Coaching & Games Development Committee.

Reports/accountable to: An Cathaoirleach/County Executive Board/Camogie Regional Development Officer

Responsibilities:

1. To chair the County Coaching & Games Development Committee (Please see below Guidelines for the composition of County Camogie Games Development Committee).
2. To ensure that Coaching & Games Development Activities are implemented in line with Camogie Association Policy.
3. Development officer or nominated member of development committee to sit on GAA coaching and games committee in the county.
4. To liaise with regional development officer on development plan for county under the 6 headings outlined below:
 - Games Programme at Child, Youth and Adult Level
 - Primary School Autumn and Spring programmes
 - Camp Programme – Easter, Summer (Cúl Camps) and Halloween
 - Talent Academy Programme (Schools of Excellence U-14/15 Development Squads U-16/U-17)
 - Coach Education - Child, Youth, Adult
 - Referee Education - Child, Youth, Adult
5. To report to the County Convention on Games Development Activities in the County.

Best practice for development

Guidelines for the composition of County Games Development Committee

- The **County** Games Development Committee should be comprised of:
 1. A Secretary
 2. A primary school teacher whose school is involved in Cumann Na mBunscol comp
 3. A primary school teacher whose school is involved in Post-Primary Schools comp
 4. Where applicable an active representative from a Third Level Institution.
 5. Two club coaches/club development officers
 6. Two adult club players
- Where a member of the County Coaching and Games fails to attend 3 consecutive meetings, he/she may be replaced by the committee by co-opting another active member in consultation with the relevant body
- The members from Cumann na mBunscol, Secondary Voluntary, Secondary Vocational and Third Level must be selected by their own County Governing Body and be fully aware of fixtures schedules of meetings
- The Games Development Committee have the right to nominate for co-option, up to a maximum of four, suitable persons, with coaching qualifications/experience for ratification by the County Committee.



Camogie Underage Intercounty Development Model

**Schools of Excellence (U-14/15)
Development Squads (U-17)**

Programme Definition Schools of Excellence

- ◆ For U-14 and U-15 players
- ◆ Players are selected from clubs within the county that are judged to have the potential to excel in the future.
- ◆ Player selection is on an **inclusive** basis and all clubs must be represented.
- ◆ Players will participate in 3 blitz days over an 8 week period.
- ◆ The Schools of Excellence must be led by a coach within a minimum of a Level 1 coaching qualification.

U14 and u15 Schools of Excellence

No. of clubs in county	No. of players selected from each club	No. of schools of excellence in each county
1 – 5 clubs		1 school of excellence
5- 10 clubs	4 players from each club	2 schools of excellence
10-20 clubs	3 players from each club	3 schools of excellence organised on a divisional/regional basis
20 – 30 clubs	3 players from each club	4 schools of excellence organised on a divisional/regional basis
30 – 40 clubs	3 players from each club	6 schools of excellence organised on a divisional/regional basis
40 – 60 clubs	3 players from each club	8 schools of excellence organised on a divisional/regional basis

U14 and u15 Schools of Excellence General Principles

- ◆ Panels limited to 22 players
- ◆ All players to play
- ◆ Roll on/Roll off substitution
- ◆ No player to play more than 120 mins over course of blitz day
- ◆ All Squads to have qualified level 1 coach
- ◆ Squads must not interfere with Club Games Programmes
- ◆ Players must be up to the age
- ◆ Under-14 – No National Day
- ◆ 3 Blitz Days to remain limit
- ◆ Counties with 1 to 2 schools of excellence to play counties with similar squads
- ◆ Counties with 3 schools of excellence play 2 internal blitz days and one blitz day with another county with 3 schools of excellence.
- ◆ In counties with 3 to 8 schools of excellence 3 blitzes to be run within the county.

U16

Provincial and All Ireland competitions at this age group.

No additional schools of excellence/development squads required

Programme Definition

U-17 Development Squad

- ◆ These squads and academies are designed to assist players with levels of ability in reaching their potential within the Association.
 - ◆ Player selection is on an **exclusive** basis.
 - ◆ These squads are for the U-17 age group only.
 - ◆ Squads will be organised on a divisional/regional or county basis.
 - ◆ Players will participate in 3 blitz days and 2 challenge matches.
 - ◆ The Development Squads must be led by a coach with a minimum of a level 1 coaching qualification.
- ◆ **Under-17**
- ◆ National Blitz Day, Minimum of 2 Games of 30 mins a side
 - ◆ 2 Challenge Games included in plan + 3 Blitz Days including National Day

U17 Development Squads **General Principles**

- ◆ Panels to be limited to 21 players
- ◆ All players to play
- ◆ Roll on/Roll off substitution
- ◆ No player to play more than 120 mins over course of blitz day
- ◆ All Squads to have qualified level 1 coach
- ◆ Squads must not interfere with Club Games Programmes
- ◆ Players must be up to the age

U-17 Development Squads

No. of clubs in county	No. of development squads in each county
1 – 5 clubs	1 development squad
5- 10 clubs	2 development squad
10-20 clubs	3 development squad organised on a divisional/regional basis
20 – 30 clubs	4 development squad organised on a divisional/regional basis
30 – 40 clubs	6 development squad organised on a divisional/regional basis
40 – 60 clubs	8 development squad organised on a divisional/regional basis

U-17 Development Squad **National day**

- ◆ Counties with 1 development squad to play counties with similar squads
- ◆ Counties with 3 to 8 development squads play 2 internal blitz days and select 30 players from this blitz day for one blitz day with another county
- ◆ If necessary select 10 players from each squad in a county with 3 squads
- ◆ In a county with 4 squads select 7/8 players from each squad and so on

Recommended Guidelines

Player Identification Guidelines:

- ◆ **TIPS---**
 - **T**echnique
 - **I**ntelligence
 - **P**ersonality (willingness to listen & learn)
 - **S**peed

Programme Content

- ◆ **Link** to the Camogie Association Long Term Player Development (Player Pathway)
- ◆ **Sessions**
 - Small Sided Games/15 - a-side games/Wall Ball Session/Skills Test?
- ◆ Technical(**inc Playing Rules**)/Tactical
- ◆ Lifestyle Skills (**Bring own water bottle to sessions**)
- ◆ Nutrition/Rest/Conditioning/Injury Prevention & Management
- ◆ Goal Setting/Mental Preparation (simple tips)

Coach Identification & Recruitment

- ◆ Minimum Qualifications
- ◆ Time of year/no. of sessions/duration of sessions/no. club games fixed on this day
- ◆ Facilities---Outdoor and indoor on standby
- ◆ Equipment; Sliotars/Sample Hurleys for Sizing/Cones/Bibs

Roles and Areas of Responsibility

- ◆ Role of the County Board
 - Create guidelines session programme
 - Organise coach education & code of ethic courses as required
 - Create a database of players and coaches
 - Garda vetting of co-ordinators and coaches

Roles and Areas of Responsibility

- ◆ Role of the Club---select players and encourage club coaches to attend to learn themselves
- ◆ Role of the Coach
 - Coach Qualifications (High level of technical knowledge)
 - Implement programme
 - Provide technical feedback
 - Suggest individual practices suitable to improve weaknesses

Roles and Areas of Responsibility

- ◆ Role of the Co-ordinator:
 - Player Details/Panel Details Sheet/Panel Attendance Sheet
- ◆ Role of the Player
- ◆ **Possible Reviews**
- ◆ Squad Evaluation by players/coaches/coordinator

Karen Kelly, Waterford, in action against Lorraine Kenna, Offaly during the 2009 Gala All-Ireland Junior Camogie Championship Final in Croke Park.



Torthaí na gComórtas 2009

Competition 2009	Winners	Runners Up	Referee	Player of the Match
Senior – O’Duffy Cup	Cork 0-15	Kilkenny 0-07	Úna Kearney, Armagh	Aoife Murray, Cork
Intermediate	Galway 3-10	Cork 1-05	Karl O’Brien, Dublin	Caroline Kelly, Galway
Junior – New Ireland	Offaly 3-14	Waterford 2-08	Pat Walsh, Armagh	Elaine Darmody, Offaly
Junior – Nancy Murray	Roscommon 1-07	Armagh 0-07	Karl O’Brien, Dublin	Niamh Coyle, Roscommon
Minor A	Kilkenny 5-10	Clare 3-08	Julie O’Neill, Armagh	Denise Gaule, Kilkenny
Minor B	Limerick 3-10	Waterford 1-15	Dermot Connolly, Galway	Naomi Carroll, Limerick
Minor C	Laois 3-05	Carlow 2-03	Rita Coen, Galway	Sarah Anne Fitzgerald, Laois
U-16A	Galway 2-11	Tipperary 2-07	Fintan McNamara, Clare	Clodagh McGrath, Galway
U-16B	Wexford 2-11	Waterford 1-12	Donal Leahy, Tipperary	Susie McGovern, Wexford
U-16C	Westmeath 6-09	Tyrone 5-03	Karl O’Brien, Dublin	Louise O’Connor, Westmeath
Gael Linn Senior	Munster 0-07	Connacht 0-02	Ciarán Quigley, Kildare	Jenny Duffy, Munster
Gael Linn Junior	Connacht 4-04	Munster 0-02	Malachy McToal, Derry	Catherine Glynn, Connacht
National League – Div. 1	Wexford 2-12	Tipperary 0-11	Frank McDonald, Armagh	
National League – Div. 2	Wexford 2-10	Antrim 0-11	Ciarán Quigley, Cill Dara	
National League – Div. 3	Down 0-15	Laois 2-08	Joe Kennedy, Louth	
National League – Div. 4	Kildare 3-07	Westmeath 1-10	Donal Ryan, Dublin	
National League – Div. 5	Wicklow 2-07	Monaghan 1-01		
Junior Championship Blitz	Cavan 0-05	Wicklow 0-04		Rosie Crowe, Cavan
All-Ireland Senior Club Final	Cashel 0-11	Athenry 0-09	Fintan McNamara, Clare	Claire Grogan, Cashel
All-Ireland Junior Club Final	Lavey 1-13	St. Anne’s 0-07	Éadhmonn Mac Suibhne, Dublin	Attracta McPeake, Lavey
Ashbourne Cup	Waterford IT 1-09	UCD 1-06		Stacey Redmond, WIT
Ashbourne Shield	NUIG 1-14	UL 2-10		
Purcell Cup	Athlone IT 3-13	Mary Immaculate 2-10		Carina Roseingrave, Mary Immaculate
Purcell Shield	NUI Maynooth 2-03	Queens University 0-11		
2nd Level Senior A	St. Brigid’s, Callan 1-11	Portumna CS 1-06		
2nd Level Senior B	Blackwater CS, Lismore 4-05	St MacNissi’s, Garron Tower 3-04		
2nd Level Senior C	St. Colm’s, Draperstown 1-07	Grennan College, Thomastown 0-09		
2nd Level Junior A	Loreto, Kilkenny 2-07	St. Patrick’s, Maghera 0-09		
2nd Level Junior B	St. Joseph’s, Borrisoleigh 5-07	St. Patrick’s, Keady 2-02		
2nd Level Junior C	Hazelwood College, Drumcollogher 5-15	St. Paul’s, Kilrea 0-0		
Féile na nGael Div 1	Douglas, Cork 1-07	St. Vincent’s, Dublin 2-02		
Féile na nGael Div 2	St. Brenda’s, Armagh 2-04	O’Moore’s, Laois 2-02		
Féile na nGael Div 3	Kerry 0-04	Kiltale, Meath 0-03		
Féile na nGael Div 4	Na Brídeoga, Mayo 5-03	Seir Kieran, Offaly 0-01		
Féile Skills	Gráinne Sheehy Cork			
Kilmacud 7’s	Cashel 3-09	Athenry 4-05		Claire Grogan, Cashel
Gala Performance Award Winners 2009		Rachel Moloney, Cork; Anne Griffin, Dublin; Jacqui Frisby, Kilkenny; Una O’Dwyer, Tipperary; Kate Kelly, Wexford; Breda Hanney, Galway; Niamh Mulcahy, Limerick; Aoife Murray, Cork		
Gala Performance of the Year Award Winner 2009		Chloe Morey, Clare		



Important Dates 2010

6th March	Senior 2nd Level Colleges Final
20th March	Junior 2nd Level Colleges Final
10-11th April	Pan Celtic
11th April	National League Div 3 & 4 Finals National League Div 1 Semi-Finals
24th April	National League Div 1 & 2 Finals
8th May	U16 A,B,C Championship Finals
16th May	Gael Linn Senior Interprovincial
12th June	Beginning of Gala Senior & Intermediate Championships
19th/20th June	Féile na nGael
25th July	All-Ireland Minor A Championship Semi-Finals
7th Aug	Gala All-Ireland Senior Championship Play Offs All-Ireland Minor A Championship Final Gala All-Ireland Premier Junior Championship Semi-Finals Gala All-Ireland Junior A Championship Semi-Finals
8th Aug	Gala All-Ireland Junior B Championship Final
14th Aug	Gala All-Ireland Senior Championship Semi-Finals
21st Aug	Gala All-Ireland Intermediate Championship Semi-Finals
28th Aug	Gala All-Ireland Junior A Championship Final All-Ireland Minor B Championship Final
4th Sept	All-Ireland Minor C Championship Final
12th Sept	Gala All-Ireland Senior & Premier Junior Championship Finals
18th Sept	Gala All-Ireland Intermediate Championship Final
30th Oct	Shinty International
6th Nov	All-Star Awards
14th Nov	All-Ireland Club Championship Semi-Finals
28th Nov	All-Ireland Club Championship Finals

Cumann Camógaíochta na hEirann

Camogie Soaring Stars 2009

in association with



Back row (l.-r.): Audrey Kennedy, Offaly; Fiona Stephens, Offaly; Eimear Moynan, Laois; Karen Brady, Offaly; Karen Tinnelly, Down; Michaela Morkan, Offaly; Louise Donoghue, Meath; Louise Mahony, Laois; Niamh Coyle, Roscommon.

Front row (l.-r.): Arlene Watkins, Offaly; Catherine McGourty, Down; Áine Lyng, Waterford; Joan O'Flynn, Uachtarán Chumann Camógaíochta na nGael; Susie O'Carroll, Kildare; Karen Kelly, Waterford; Elaine Dermody, Offaly.

