



**THE
CAMOGIE
ASSOCIATION**
An Cumann Camógáíochta

Ard Stiúrthóir's Report 2014

Tuarascáil an Ard Stiúrthóra 2014

An Chomhdháil Bhliantúil 2015



Annual Congress Croke Park 2015

Congress agenda

Friday 27th March 2015

6.30-7.30 p.m.	Registration
8.00	Fáilte
8.15	Adoption of Standing Orders
8.20	Minutes of Congress 2014
8.30	Establishment of Voting Strength
8.40	Consideration of Playing Rules Motions
10.00	Adjournment of Congress

Saturday 28th March 2015

9.00 a.m.	Registration
9.30	Reports: Provincial, International Units, CCAO, Ard Chomhairle Sub Committees
10.00	Consideration of Audited Accounts of Ard Chomhairle and Provincial Councils
10.30	Ard Stiúrthóir's Report
11.00	Briseadh
11.15	Establishment of Voting Strength
11.25	Consideration of Motions
12.30	Address by Uachtarán Aileen Lawlor
1.00	Lón
2.15 p.m.	Consideration of Motions
3.30	Venue for Congress 2016
3.35	Installation of Uachtarán Nua agus Oráid an Uachtarán Nua, Catherine Neary
4.00	National Anthem
4.05	Críoch
7.15	Mass, Croke Park Hotel
8.15	Congress Banquet, Croke Park Stadium

Buanordaithe/ Standing Orders

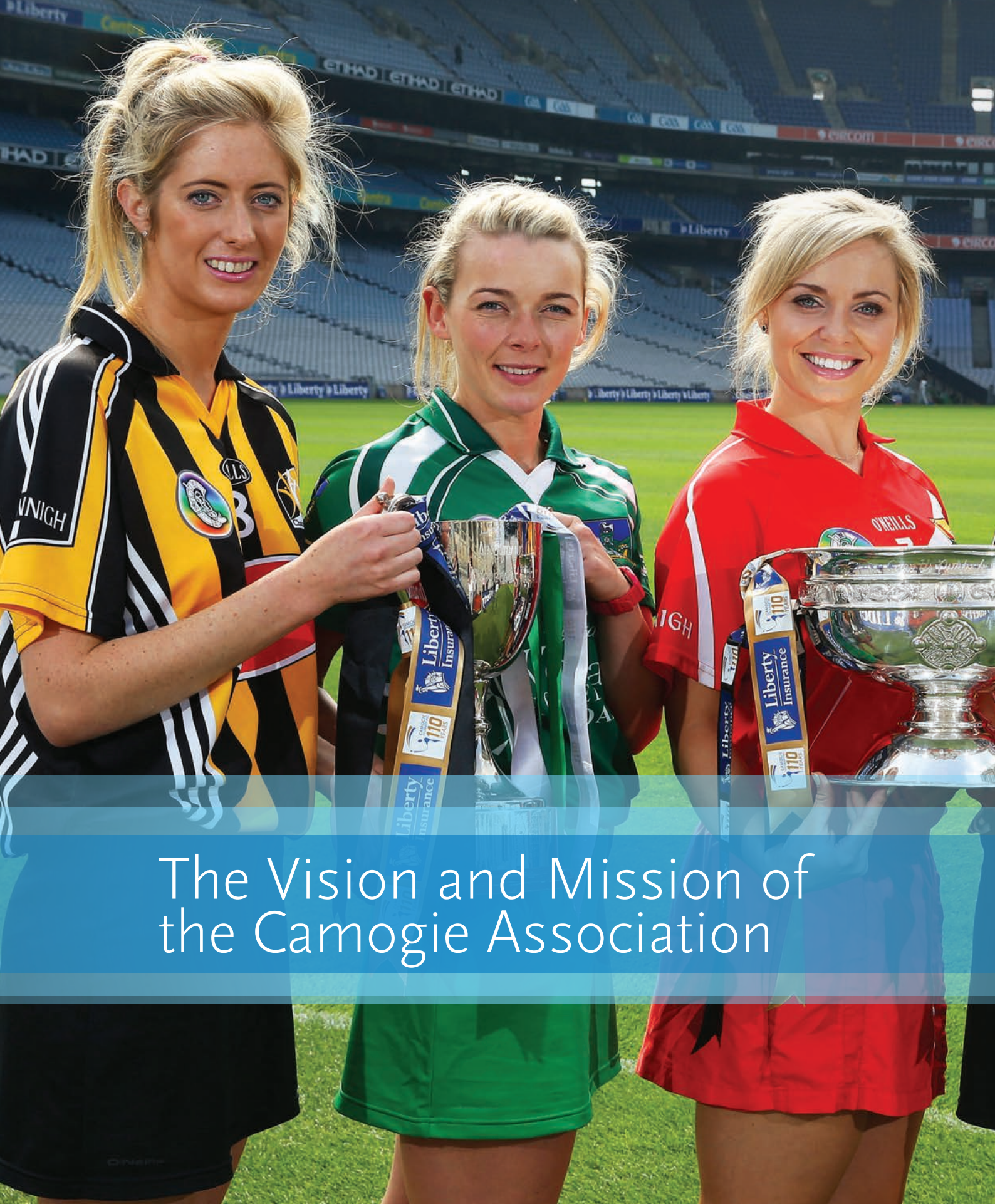
1. The proposer of a resolution or an amendment may speak for five minutes.
2. A delegate speaking to a resolution or an amendment may not exceed five minutes.
3. The proposer of a resolution or an amendment may speak a second time for three minutes before a vote. No other delegate may speak a second time to the same resolution or amendment.
4. An Cathaoirleach may, at any time s/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 listed on An Clár provided s/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.
7. An Cathaoirleach may change the order of items on the agenda with the support of a simple majority of those present, entitled to vote and voting.

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The Vision and Mission of the Camogie Association



Our Vision

To provide an inclusive, enjoyable and lifelong involvement in Camogie, as Ireland's leading female sport, and as a vibrant part of the Gaelic games family, at home and internationally.

Our Mission

To expand opportunities to participate in and enjoy Camogie through building a professional, dynamic and inclusive Association.





Is cúis mór áthais dom fáilte speisialta a chur romhaibh go léir chuig an Chomhdáil Bliantúil 2015. Bhí bliain iontach againn i 2014 agus is féidir le gach éinne atá bainteach le camógaíocht bheith fíorbhródúil as ucht imeachtaí na mbliana.

The Ard Stiúrthoir's Report, the Provincial Reports, the various Committee Reports and the Financial Report included in these papers comprehensively outline the activities of 2014.

Strategic Plan

We have come a long way since the inception of "Our Game Our Passion" in 2010. At the end of this year we will have a new vision to guide us for the next five years. It will I'm sure, present us with new challenges and opportunities to enhance, develop and grow The Camogie Association. Here are some of the 2014 key achievements.

Growth and Participation

The Association boasts an increase of 23% growth in club registration in the last decade. This is phenomenal growth in any sport. The inaugural Level Two Coaching Course was completed last year. These new coaches are now ready to put their knowledge and skills into practice continuing that growth. There are now over six hundred camogie coaches trained at different levels in Ireland and abroad. Camogie continues to grow internationally. The North American Continental Youth Championships increased from one team in 2010 to 13 teams in 2014.

President's Foreword

The adult championships have also shown huge growth with five teams participating in 2010 in one grade, and now, 14 teams in three grades in 2014.

Improving Performance

The National Referees Committee continue to improve standards in refereeing with mandatory fitness and written tests and regular Match Assessments. In 2013 the inaugural Referees Academy was established under the stewardship of Peter Downey chairperson of the National Referees Committee. This initiative has been very successful in encouraging male and female referees to further their ambitions. A very positive result is the increase in the number of female referees on the National Panel from one in 2012 to 13 in 2014. You will have noticed the Junior Camogie final last September had all female officials.

The Camogie Association is committed to creating and maintaining the safest possible environment for all young people who wish to participate in our Game. The joint Gaelic Games Child Welfare initiative *Our Games Our Code* is another example of the unity between the Gaelic Games family. It was launched early in 2014 by the Minister for Children James O'Reilly who highly praised the initiative.

The Association continues to support the tremendous work of our volunteers. Training days for all volunteers who hold elected positions at County, Provincial and National levels have been held regularly. Having a national policy is instrumental to recognising and supporting these valuable people in our association. The annual recognition of volunteers in their home-counties and at national level, through the Volunteers Awards scheme is very well received.

Bringing our game to the public has been an ongoing challenge. Going from very little coverage of Camogie on

television and in newspapers ten years ago, to live coverage on Terrestrial TV of two of the three All Ireland finals in September is a huge improvement.

Last year saw a very imaginative campaign to enhance Camogie's profile a hugely successful *Our Game Your Game* campaign. It featured our inter-county players sharing personal information on how they juggle their lives and careers to participate at the top level. Videos were released throughout the championship eagerly followed by the media and the general public. Social media now has a big part to play in the promotion of our game. It is a vital means for instant sharing of results and minute-by-minute updates of events.

Integration

Over the last three years the Presidents of An Cumann Camógaíochta, Cumann Lúthleas Gael and Cumann Peil Gael na mBan, explored the idea of bringing all three associations under the one umbrella. There was a lot of consultation and work in this area but progress has been slower than we hoped. I believe this is the right step to a more inclusive organisation, facilitating every family member. By working in unity we will have bigger scope and potential for development and growing our membership while catering for the family as a whole. Securing a joint sponsorship with Liberty Insurance and AIB with the GAA and The Camogie Association has been a huge leap forward demonstrating unity between both organisations.

110th celebrations

We had a great year celebrating a fantastic milestone for the Association - 110 years since its foundation. There were numerous events spread throughout the country to mark this special birthday. I had the opportunity to attend lots of them, and I was deeply moved by the organisation

and participation at these events. The Camogie Association announced a *Team of the Decade* as one of the initiatives marking the special year. Congratulations to all the players on that team who were acknowledged in Croke Park on Camogie All-Ireland Day.

Appreciation

I would like to thank two Ard Chomhairle members Marie O'Brien and Liz Howard who have come to the end of their terms and acknowledge the great work they have contributed to the Association.

This Congress sees the conclusion of my term as President. I have enjoyed the journey, and appreciate the trust you put in me to lead the Camogie Association over the last three years. I thank you all for the tremendous support and help I have received in carrying out my role.

Thank you for inviting me into your homes your clubs, counties, provinces and abroad, always making me feel very welcome.

I have no doubt the Camogie Association is heading in the right direction and I look forward to the new vision for the future in the next Strategic Plan.

I wish to thank my fellow Presidents in GAA and LGFA Liam O'Neill and Pat Quill for their support and co-operation during my term, and I wish the incoming Presidents Aogán Ó Fearghail and Marie Hickey best wishes for their terms.

I wish my successor Catherine Neary all the very best in her term as President the Association will be in safe hands and I hope she will enjoy the experience as much as I have.

Eibhlín Uí Leathlobhair

Uachtarán
Eibhlín Uí Leathlobhair



Some key achievements in 2014:

1. Strongly enhanced profile for our game and players through a variety of means, including the *Our Game Your Game* promotional campaign, and commercial partnerships in National League and All-Ireland inter-county and club championships series
2. The attainment of the highest ever number of coaches accredited to coach children throughout the country, now exceeding 750
3. Introduction of common child protection and safeguarding procedures across all Gaelic Games' Associations
4. The development of a new Level 2 Coach Education Course for coaches working with older teenage players and adult club players
5. Ten new clubs established
6. Increased direct funding from central level to clubs, counties and provinces
7. Recognition and celebration of 110th year of Camogie Association
8. The introduction of a new membership registration system
9. U14 Development Squads process established across all counties

These and more are discussed in detail in Sections 1-5 of the Report.

Tuarascáil an Ard Stiúrthóra 2014

Overview

The year 2014 was a milestone one for the Camogie Association, not least as it marked the Association's 110th birthday.

There were significant accomplishments on many fronts and strong progress was seen with particular reference to our priority objectives including:

- Performance
- Participation
- Profile
- Governance and Organisational

This Annual Report provides an overview of these spheres, while also identifying challenges and issues for future discussion and consideration.

Turning first to the game itself, players are fitter, faster and more skilful than ever before.

The Cork v Kilkenny All Ireland Final in September 2014 was a superb demonstration of the competitiveness, tactical nous, physical strength, athleticism and technique of the players.

The other three All Ireland Finals similarly demonstrated the best of skills at Intermediate, Premier Junior and Junior A levels.

As is often the case, the first time people see a Camogie match it makes for a very positive experience. Róisín Ingle relayed this well when writing, in her Irish Times column, about her first visit to Croke Park for the Camogie All Ireland and her first experience of attending any gaelic game.

The depth of pride and passion that the players bring to their game on All Ireland Finals day in September is equally matched, and often surpassed, in club competitions. The All Ireland club finals in March 2014 once again provided memorable experiences with Milford capturing their second senior title in a row while Lismore's first title made them history makers. Later on in November, Kilmessan joined Lismore in the history ranks as they captured their inaugural national title at Junior club level.

It is really heartening to report, that while the standard of play continues to rise, high standards of *fair play* also continue to strongly feature. Given the volume and intensity of some games, there are relatively few serious incidents and the emphasis strongly remains on winning the ball fairly.

The review of our playing rules, being considered at this year's Congress, provides the opportunity to ensure that the rules continue to serve this objective and that of player safety.

These players and teams are the on-the-field high performers of Camogie. They are backed by a huge level of off-the-field organisation, commitment, resources (modest very often), love of the game and generosity of time and effort by the players themselves and by thousands of volunteers.

“*Camogie players are warriors. Fearless and strong and horribly overused but appropriate here, word alert, awesome. Kilkenny lost but they were incredible. Cork won and team captain Anna Geary (who also happened to be the Cork Rose) made a speech so generous and impassioned that I got a bit emotional.*”

Róisín Ingle - Irish Times



This network of people at grass roots and national levels can be proud of the achievements of the Camogie Association last year.

It is important to acknowledge and celebrate our achievements but every year has its challenges of course.

Transforming challenges into plans to overcome them is a key development task. A number of emerging challenges are discussed below:

- (i) getting the balance right between fixtures at various levels i.e. clubs, schools, third level and inter-county to ensure that games programmes are age-appropriate and cater across the spectrum of elite and social players
- (ii) attendances at inter county games
- (iii) recruitment and support to administrators
- (iv) expanding Camogie in urban areas and amongst teenagers
- (vi) Camogie in the wider context.

(i) Getting a better balance across fixtures

At national level in 2014, a total of 240 inter-county games were administered by the Association. This compares to 188 games in 2009* and represents a 28% increase in the number of games administered through the national fixtures programme between 2009 and 2014.

A closer analysis shows that growth in minor inter-county games was the highest, followed by growth in the All-Ireland adult championship series and a 25% increase at U16 inter-county national level. (Fig:1)

Clearly it is positive that there is a strong programme of Camogie games at national level. It is important to provide the platform for players to represent their counties and to play higher levels of competition. This opportunity is also afforded to players through the inter-county games' programme run by the Provincial Councils. In 2014, at least 95 inter-county games from U16 to senior were run at provincial level.

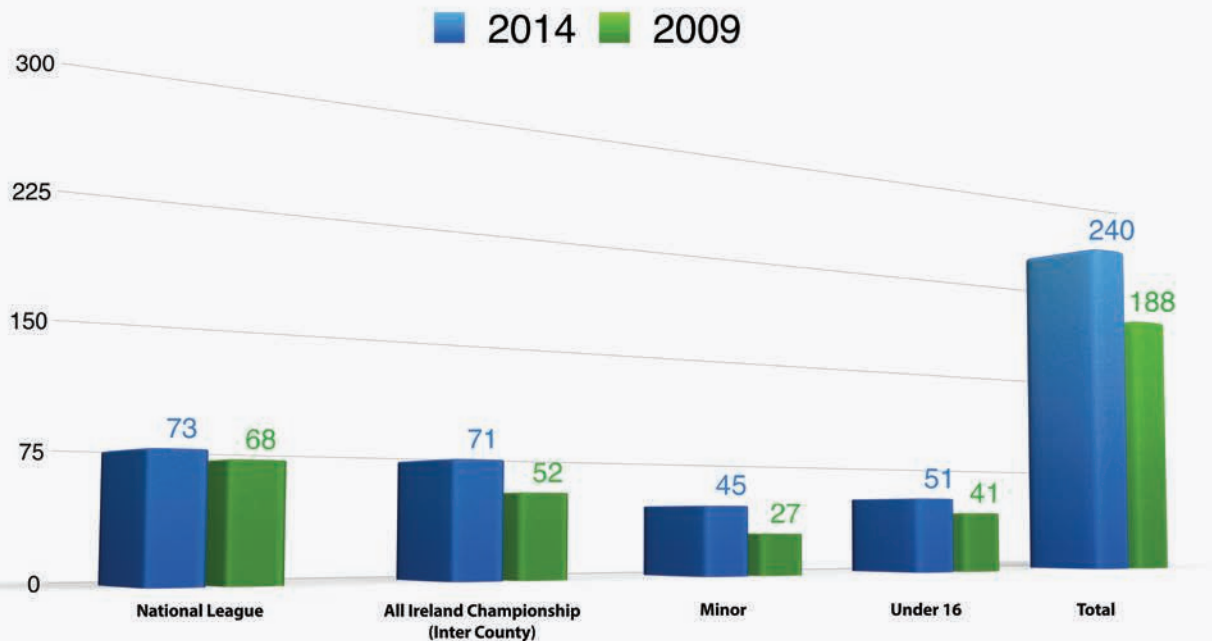
The combined national and provincial inter-county games schedule in 2014 equalled 335 games.

Games are our *raison d'être* so games per se are, of course, not the issue but:

- Could it be that national underage inter-county competitions are displacing the club programme or could it be compensating for a lack of an adequate club programme in some counties?
- Could it be that the current national and provincial inter-county competition and training schedules is contributing to player dropout?
- Is the inter-county schedule supportive or to the detriment of the long term development of players and of the physical, mental and personal well being of young people in our game?
- What impact, if any, does the current schedule of inter-county camogie have on the games programme at *adult club level*, given the relatively high participation rates of minor and U16 camogie players in the adult game?

* Excl. inter Provincial games and All Ireland club championship games

Figure 1: National Games Programme 2009-2014



Hard questions? Perhaps.

The GAA's Minor Review was published recently. While there are differences in competition formats, scheduling and eligibility, there are a number of shared concerns in hurling and Camogie regarding long-term player development and fixtures planning.

I believe a similar Camogie review with the purpose of finding the right 'mix' of fixtures would be extremely useful and timely. Such a review could also help to shape greater integrated planning of national, provincial, colleges, schools and club competitions.

The GAA debate about the playing of the club championship, during the summer months and in the inter-county season, has resonance too in Camogie.

There are different practices in different counties around running Camogie club championships during the All-Ireland series. A number of counties manage to do this well, illustrating that (i) it is feasible given certain conditions and (ii) that clubs and counties themselves hold the solutions to many aspects of this fixtures issue.

Finding dates for the inter-county calendar is the responsibility of the national governing body.

In recognition of the demands on players and administrators around the club/county fixtures dilemma, Ard Chomhairle decided that, for 2015, extra time would prevail in all national games that require an outcome, except for All-Ireland finals.

It also agreed a new process to determine a team's progression from a group when teams finish on equal points.

It will be interesting to monitor the impact of these decisions, taken in an effort to address the calendar issues, and to see if the dates freed up generate a more regular programme of club Camogie during the Summer.

(ii) Attendances at Inter-County

The second challenge is the need to strengthen the Camogie fan base. Sport fans follow their teams in lots of different ways: via radio, press, social media, TV and attending games. The Association

made significant strides in each of these areas in 2014, most notably:

- Very strong photographic coverage across all media
- Substantially increased reporting across all media at national and regional levels
- Significant enhancement of our social media presence and activity levels
- Increased revenue from attendances at inter-county games.

Increasing the number of people who regularly attend Camogie games remains an outstanding challenge. We need to have a better understanding of what actual and prospective fans think of the game and what motivates them or stops them from attending Camogie games.

In 2014 the Camogie Association commissioned market research on this with the general public, supporters at club Camogie games and supporters at inter-county hurling games.

The entertainment, skill level, enjoyment and social aspects of Camogie were recurring themes in the research



findings, with the overwhelming majority admiring the skill of the games.

- There was a very high (94%) awareness of the All-Ireland Championship across Camogie and hurling supporters.
- The need to convert this awareness into bigger attendances is demonstrated by the finding that less than half of those who were aware of the All-Ireland series had previously attended an inter-county Camogie Championship game.
 - Just over a quarter of hurling supporters had previously attended an inter-county Camogie Championship game.
 - Approximately two thirds of club Camogie supporters attend a maximum of one or two inter-county matches a year while just 7% attend more than five inter-county Camogie games.
- Personal relationships (family or friends) with individuals involved in a team is a primary driver of attendance at games for just over

two third of respondents, while support for their county was the second strongest reason.

The opportunity to reach out to our own clubs to support the inter-county game more strongly is supported by a number of findings.

- There is an overwhelmingly strong identification with county teams in Ireland, with a combined 79% of all supporters stating that their county team is either important or very important to them.
- Convenience of fixtures, access to matches and lack of 'hype' were reported as the strongest barriers to attendance at games for Camogie club supporters, while convenience and lack of hype were predominant amongst hurling inter-county supporters.
- Club fixtures clashing with county games, distance to travel to county games and lack of notice of fixtures were particularly cited by camogie Club supporters.

Convenience of fixtures

The point about convenience of fixtures is telling.

While a small number of Camogie County Boards and clubs have their own playing grounds, the Association's requirements are widely accommodated and welcomed all over the country in GAA playing facilities.

However, from time to time, availability is harder to secure until very shortly before a fixture. This severely impedes the capacity to promote the fixture and can impact negatively on pre-match preparation also.

From time to time it is a challenge for the National Competitions Committee and national office to secure grounds of county standard for high profile games, including national finals and semi finals.

On one occasion last year, a pitch for an All-Ireland semi-final was only secured following 31 different requests to clubs/counties. Ultimately, the game was excellently hosted by Crettyard GAA, Co Laois but this followed the postponement

“ *Increasing the number of people who regularly attend Camogie games remains an outstanding challenge... our market research suggests that the pool of prospective Camogie supporters is significant* ”

of the fixture by a week as a venue was not available for the original fixture.

More recently, a venue for an All-Ireland semi-final was only secured following requests to 17 different clubs/counties by the national office for a ground.

The market research findings strongly suggest that the pool of *prospective* Camogie supporters is significant:

- Our research shows that 81% of respondents showed a willingness to attend inter-county Camogie championship games in future, including 71% of current inter-county hurling supporters.
- The potential to grow support within the camogie club structure is also obvious. The research indicates that just over a third of inter-county supporters currently come from our club base.

This is the first baseline data at national level on behaviour and attitudes towards attending inter-county Camogie games.

It has already informed our communications, marketing and fixtures planning and can also inform

the development of our new National Strategic Plan during 2015.

(iii) Recruiting and supporting volunteers

The recruitment and support to volunteer administrators stands out as requiring a strategic focus in 2015 and beyond. Last year, there were several reports from clubs and county boards of unfilled executive officer positions on officer boards.

Throughout the year this situation was remedied in many cases but not universally, and a number of vacancies remained.

Unfortunately, this experience is not new and it strongly suggests that as an organisation we need to focus our efforts more on recruiting and supporting people involved in administration.

The stronger our collective skills, abilities and expertise, the stronger we are as an Association. Understanding the reasons that volunteers become involved in the first place is key to their recruitment, retention and support. We need to know

more about:

- what attracts people to volunteer as Camogie administrators?
- what supports do administrators need?
- what skills, abilities and interests does the Association need so it can comply with best standards in sports administration?
- what can the Association do at all levels to ensure that units are supported by fully functioning executive committees?

To kick-start the process for developing a stronger support programme to our voluntary administrators, the national office undertook baseline research in 2014. Some initial findings are presented here.

The norm in sport is that men dominate within the volunteer profile. The Camogie Association, contrary to the norm, affords women an exceptional opportunity to be decision-makers in sport.

- Of the 335 respondents in our study, 80% were women.



Our sport is very successful in attracting new personnel into the Association and into administrative roles.

- Almost half of our administrators are Association members for less than 10 years
 - 27% of respondents were members of the Association for 0-5 years
 - A further 21% were members for 6-10 years
 - Over half of respondents (57%) reported being administrators for 0-5 years
 - Almost a fifth (18.7%) of administrators are current Camogie players

The gift of time

The gift of people's time is the distinguishing feature of volunteering in any sector. Camogie administrators are extremely generous with their time as evidenced by the findings below. People's generosity is even greater when consideration is given to the predominantly female profile of volunteers and their experience of combining work/family responsibilities with sports administration.

- Over a third (35.6%) of respondents reported that they complete administration for camogie every day
- 30.5% complete administration 3-4 times a week
- 14.8% complete administration 5-6 times a week
- Almost four fifths (78.6%) reported that time spent on administration has a seasonal element to it and that it may vary throughout the year
- Over a third (37.4%) spent 1-2 hours on Camogie on an average day while over a tenth (13.8%) spent 2-3 hours on an average day.

Motivation for volunteering

Half of respondents said that their child's involvement was one of the primary reasons they got involved as a volunteer with Camogie. 44% of respondents said their involvement was in response to a direct request to take up a particular role.

Training received

Training on child protection, first aid and the playing rules was the most widespread amongst respondents. Training on social media, financial management and PR was the least common training received by respondents.

These findings and more can inform planning in 2015 including the process to develop our next National Strategic Plan.

(iv) Expanding camogie in urban areas and amongst teenagers

Over the past ten years the Association has learned much about Camogie development including the value of:

- pre-development work
- identifying 'champions' locally
- targeted support from full-time staff and volunteer development officers
- outreach in schools and GAA clubs

- parental involvement and upskilling of adults new to Camogie to support their children's participation in the game
- integrating coach education, administration and child protection from the outset
- deploying a range of methodologies and initiatives to appeal across a range of needs and capabilities at club/school level (i.e. one size does not necessarily fit all)
- innovative coaching and development methods.

This approach could now be broadened to adopt a more intensive and targeted initiative in selected urban areas with a focus on recruitment of players and retention of teenage players.

The majority of the national population is urban based and there are several urban areas throughout the country that warrant a more intensive Camogie development focus.

There is a clear trend where Dublin and Leinster counties adjacent to the M50 have experienced significant population growth and have the greatest population density.

Based on data analysis of Fingal and four Leinster counties with the highest and growing populations- Louth, Meath, Kildare and Wicklow - it emerges that Camogie is 'under-reaching' to teenagers in these areas. Only 5% of young girls aged 13-17 in these catchments are registered Camogie members.

Looking to Ulster, of 26 GAA clubs in Belfast, just four have camogie. There is only one Camogie club in the entire Derry City catchment.

During 2015, consultation to develop a special project on this issue will be progressed.

(v) Camogie in the wider context

Was 2014 the best ever year for women in sport?

By my reckoning, it was.

Cork, All Ireland champions in Camogie and Ladies Football, groundbreaking elections of Róisín Jordan and Tracey Kennedy to GAA county administrations, the Irish Women's Rugby Team achievements, Stephanie Roche's wonder goal, and of course Katie Taylor's unerring consistency, are all illustrative of the highest standards of endeavour and achievement in their chosen sport.

More widely, participation rates of women in sport continue to expand. There is a noticeably greater engagement with sports women by the media, commercial partners and the wider public.

The Liberty Insurance and AIB sponsorships of the All-Ireland inter-county and club Camogie and hurling championships are well recognised for their success in supporting Camogie in the mainstream.

This type of integrated commercial partnership is a strong step in the right direction.

It looks like a positive cycle of making sport more inclusive is now in place.

The continuation of this can make a big impact on producing future generations where sport is genuinely for all, regardless of gender or other characteristics.

A viable and stable funding environment is vital to achieve this.

Gaps and challenges remain, particularly in levels of overall investment provided to women in sport including Camogie.

Statutory funding from the Irish Sports Council and Sports NI and funding support from the GAA remains critically important for the Association. The Association is very welcoming of the positive support, from these bodies. A number of years ago the Association was rightly challenged to be stronger in our own self-financing. The introduction in 2014 of an individual membership system within Camogie and the achievement of increased gate revenues last year demonstrate that we rose to this challenge.

The input of clubs in particular was critical to implementing the new membership fees. With better controls and administration we could look to further increase gate revenues in 2015 and potentially this can provide the Association with funds to put in place more direct funding for the growth of Camogie at grassroots level.

From a standing start in Camogie, investment over the last 10-15 years has demonstrated strong returns in participation rates and performance standards of the game.

We need to continue to work to improve the funding and financing of Camogie, so that our mission to expand opportunities to enjoy the game is fully realised.

One Club One Association

Work towards One Association/One Club is in genesis for a number of decades now and was further articulated and progressed during the term of the current Presidents of the GAA, Camogie Association and LGFA.

The level of integration across gaelic games' codes is at different stages depending on whether the benchmark is club, county, Provincial, national or international.

Internationally, the majority of units work from a single administrative model.



At club level, many function in a highly integrated way across the three Associations.

Many other clubs, who are not integrated, continue to express interest in moving towards a 'One Club' model.

From time to time, these clubs make enquiries of us in the national office for guidance on how to become a One Club – a single administrative unit across playing codes.

A practical handbook on establishing and administering a One Club model would provide an immediate resource to clubs that aspire to a more unified way of promoting and administering gaelic games in their communities.

At national level:

- the establishment of a common child protection and welfare code across all gaelic games' Associations
- the Camogie Association's adoption of the GAA Disputes Resolution process
- initiatives such as the annual Coaching Conference, annual Féile

na nGael, annual Poc Fada, skills hubs for teenagers, Cúl Camps and

- shared commercial partnerships are all significant examples of how the national policies and programmes of the gaelic games' Associations are being increasingly aligned.

The experience and learning from these joint initiatives, and from the experience of existing One Clubs, can critically inform the ongoing process to develop a national One Association model that finds agreement across gaelic games' bodies.

WGPA

The recent establishment of the Women's Gaelic Players Association (WGPA) is a new development in the wider context.

Its mission statement undertakes to work in collaboration with the national governing bodies on player welfare and games' promotion.

The Camogie Association exercises an active interest in both of these areas and has had a National Player Welfare

Committee in place since 2009. In 2012, the first research on camogie player welfare was published by the Camogie Association.

The WGPA research on the experiences of inter-county players is a further addition to the emerging body of knowledge about female gaelic players.

As the WGPA establishes itself, I am sure there will be constructive dialogue and discussion between our Associations, motivated by the common interest to improve players' experience of the game and to promote greater player welfare.

Governance standards

As in the wider community and voluntary sector, in sport, there are increasing regulation and compliance requirements.

When an organisation is seen to be governed to a high standard it promotes confidence amongst its members, funders, media and organisations it works with and the wider public. Good governance is critical to the reputation of the Association and leads to better

“The experience and learning from joint Association initiatives, and from the experience of existing One Clubs, can critically inform the ongoing process to develop a national One Association model that finds agreement across gaelic games’ bodies.”

decision making. Bodies that are well administered and comply with legislative and professional governance standards are the best placed to attract funding from the public or private sector.

The Irish Sports Council (ISC) is encouraging all funded bodies to sign up to the Governance Code for Community and Voluntary Organisation. The Governance Code aims to make sure that organisations are run responsibly. The Governance Code clearly outlines the roles, duties and responsibilities of all those who sit on boards and committees.

Sports NI also sets similar governance standards and practices.

The Camogie Association has a Code of Practice for All Officers of the Association which is a key governance document. In light of the ISC and Sports NI developments, it may warrant a future review to reflect current best practice.

The introduction of a new mandatory code on sponsorship, the ongoing review of the mandatory procedures on Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Process (THDC), the review of the

playing rules and a number of proposals before Congress were key governance issues addressed in 2014/5. Other work in governance is outlined in Section 5.

The national Association has several governance policies and procedures in place and is well positioned to move to greater compliance with the Code over the next period.



National Development Priorities

The report now details key activities and issues relating to five national priorities under the national development plan *Our Game Our Passion 2010-2015*. This first relates to games, coaching, refereeing, playing standards and player welfare.

Section 1: Performance

In 2014, the Association administered its highest ever volume of inter-county games. A total of 240 games were played throughout the National League and All-Ireland

Championships. The breakdown of games between adult and under-age inter-county competitions is represented in Figure 2 below:

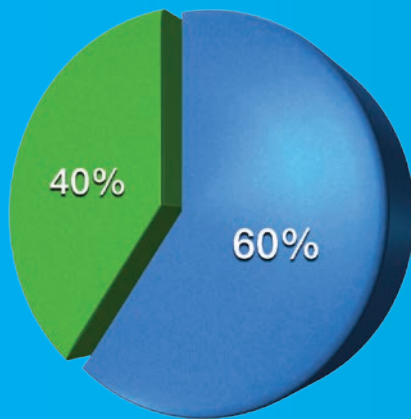


Figure 2: Breakdown of adult and under-age inter county games 2014

Adult Inter-County Games

144 = 60%

Under Age Games

96 = 40%

Number of inter-county games by competition in 2014			
Championship	Number of teams entered	Number of games played	Number of withdrawals/walkovers
All-Ireland Senior	9	22	0
All-Ireland Intermediate	10	23	0
All-Ireland Premier Junior	6	17	2 walkovers
All-Ireland Junior A	8	9	2 withdrawals
Minor A	9	23	0
Minor B	7	10	1 withdrawal
Minor C	6	12	0
U16A	9	19	0
U16B	9	19	0
U16C	9	13	1 withdrawal; 3 walkovers
National League	Number of teams entered	Number of games played	Number of withdrawals/walkovers
Division 1	9	24	1 walkover
Division 2	11	23	1 withdrawal / 1 walkover
Division 3	5	13	0
Division 4	6	13	1 withdrawal



1.1 National competitions

Cork secured the O'Duffy Cup and their 25th All-Ireland senior title in a very competitive final against Kilkenny in September. Cork are now second in the national roll of honour to Dublin, who head the list with 26 All-Ireland titles.

Kilkenny were represented by two teams in Croke Park on All-Ireland Final day. Their intermediate representatives were valiant opponents against a stronger Limerick side, who brought the McGrath Cup back to Shannonside.

The Kathleen Mills Cup was much coveted by Down and Laois, both of whom were recently-beaten All-Ireland Premier Junior finalists. Down were the victors in another competitive game.

The Junior A All-Ireland Final was played in August and paired Carlow against Limerick, with Limerick collecting their second All-Ireland of the year at that stage. Earlier in the season, they captured the All-Ireland Minor A title for the first time after two exciting and high quality games versus Cork. They also secured the Division 4 National League title, making it an exceptional and

memorable year for the county. Waterford achieved a double success with their U16 and minor sides winning All-Ireland titles.

The National League competitions culminated with the Division 1 final being played as a double-header with the Division 1 hurling final in Thurles in May. Clare reached their first national final at this level but found Kilkenny too strong on the day. Cork, Westmeath and Limerick brought home the Division 2, 3 and 4 titles with Down, Dublin and Kerry as runners-up.

The club championships are renowned for their interest, parish pride and toughness.

Milford (Cork) claimed a two-in-a-row at senior level in the final in Croke Park in March 2014. In the intermediate final, part of a double-header, Lismore (Waterford) and Ballyhale (Kilkenny) thrilled with a draw. Lismore went on to win their inaugural All-Ireland title in the replay in Clonmel, later in March.

Kilmessan (Meath) won their inaugural All-Ireland title in November when they captured the 2014 AIB All-Ireland

junior title by defeating Four Roads (Roscommon) in Edenderry.

The post-primary competitions programme is extremely important. Over the years the competitions increasingly cater for a range of standards within the senior and junior grades. This is very welcome and ensures that players are competing at levels that are appropriate to their abilities.

The involvement of teachers remains critical in coaching, refereeing, mentoring and administrative roles.

The extra-curricular work restrictions on teachers are not without impact in these areas. A greater recognition of hours towards the promotion of Gaelic games would be a strong recognition of the link between physical activity and sport to young people's social development and of the role and expertise of teachers in facilitating this, outside the immediate context of the classroom.

The development of a future National Strategic Plan for the Camogie Association provides us with a fresh opportunity to look at strengthening the link between schools Camogie and

“ A greater recognition of hours towards the promotion of Gaelic games would be a strong recognition of the link between physical activity and sport to young people’s social development and of the role and expertise of teachers in facilitating this, outside the immediate context of the classroom. ”

club Camogie and to ensure greater complementarity between these and other representative levels of Camogie.

In the third level sector, Queen’s University successfully hosted the 2014 Ashbourne and Purcell Cup/Shield competitions. By the time Annual Congress comes around, the 2015 Ashbourne and Purcell series will have passed, hosted by Dublin City University.

The 2015 series is notable as the centenary Ashbourne Cup. At the time of writing, a number of commemorative events have already taken place including:

- The publication of a history of the Ashbourne Cup by Mary Moran
- The presentation of a portrait of Agnes O’Farrelly, founder of the Ashbourne Cup competition, by her family to the GAA Museum and
- The presentation to the GAA Museum of five Ashbourne medals, consecutively won with UCD, by Brídín Ó Maolagáin.

A full list of all results of national competitions is outlined in Appendix 3.

1.1.1 Inter-Provincial Cup

Leinster were crowned Gael Linn inter-provincial camogie champions in Rathleague, Co Laois after a thrilling final against Munster. In a close-fought encounter it took extra time to separate the sides with Leinster coming out on top courtesy of a 4-16 to 2-17 scoreline.

1.1.2 Féile na nGael 2014

Ulster GAA hosted the annual Bus Éireann Féile na nGael in 2014, which marked the third time that this prestigious event has ventured north. Representatives from every county competed in the five divisions.

Clubs arrived on Friday 20th June and played the first of their group games against their host club, who provided accommodation throughout the weekend. Following the games, two Opening Ceremony events were held in Owenbeg, Co Derry and Armagh’s Athletic Grounds. The parade of teams brought a terrific excitement and colour to the venues.

A total of 68 Camogie teams participated in the weekend. Every team

made it to quarter-final stages in either shield or cup divisions on the Saturday evening. This ensured that all teams played a minimum of four games over the Féile weekend. Sunday morning saw the semi-finals being played at various venues close to the main finals locations at Owenbeg Centre of Excellence in Derry and Garvaghey, ‘The Home of the GAA in Tyrone’.

In addition, a series of Regional Féile na nGael one-day tournaments took place on Saturday at venues nationwide. The Camogie Association provided new trophies for these new competitions and named them after former players as follows:

The Downey Cup:

(Presented to Regional Féile na nGael winners of 1st placed teams in their county in honour of Kilkenny legends, Angela & Ann Downey

The Pat Moloney Shield:

(Presented to Regional Féile na nGael winners of 2nd placed teams in their county) in honour of Pat Moloney, Cork legend and member of the Camogie Team of the Century in 2004.



The Imelda Hobbins Shield:

(Presented to Regional Féile na nGael winners of 3rd placed teams in their county) in honour of Imelda Hobbins, who has the unique honour of being the first captain from Galway to lift the O'Duffy Cup in 1996

The Máirín McAleenan Shield:

(Presented to Regional Féile na nGael winners of 4th placed teams in their county) in honour of Down's Máirín McAleenan, who was Ulster's first All Star in 2004.

The National Féile Skills competition was won by Ciara O'Looney (Westmeath).

The new Féile format was well received by coaches, parents and children, with the additional participative opportunities a strong feature of that feedback, along with the sportsmanship and high standards of hospitality and facilities.

1.1.3 An Poc Fada

2014 was the 10th anniversary of the Camogie All-Ireland Poc Fada Final. Waterford's Patricia Jackman made her own history by winning her sixth consecutive title. Catriona Daly (Galway)

and Martine McMahon (Limerick) were in second and third place. Patricia also holds the Cooley Mountains course record for the Camogie National Poc Fada.

1.2 Coach Education

Ard Chomhairle decided in 2014 that from 1st of January 2015, all prospective coaches must have a child protection course completed prior to taking part in any of the Camogie Association's coaching courses.

The Association works very closely with Coaching Ireland in the development of a coaching strategy. The Association now has three accredited coaching courses on offer as follows:

Coaching Course Title	
Foundation Level - Camán Get a Grip	Education for coaching children aged 12 and under
Level One - Camán Get Hooked	Education for coaching children/young people aged 12-16
Level Two - Solo to Success	Education for under age inter-county and adult club coaching

1.2.1 Foundation Level - Camán Get a Grip

A total of 40 Camán Get a Grip foundation courses were completed across the country. In all, 694 coaches were awarded their foundation level certificates. This was the highest number of courses administered in a calendar year since the course commenced. The provincial breakdown is outlined in figure 3.

1.2.2 Level One - Camán Get Hooked

Four Level One Camán Get Hooked coaching courses were run during 2014, two in Leinster and two in Ulster. Level One certificates were awarded to 63 coaches.

1.2.3 Level Two - Solo to Success

Last year also saw the pilot of the Camogie Association's new Level Two course, Solo to Success. This four-and-a-half-day course was rolled out in Clonmel in November. In attendance were 12 coaches from Leinster and Munster and 10 tutors. They all completed their

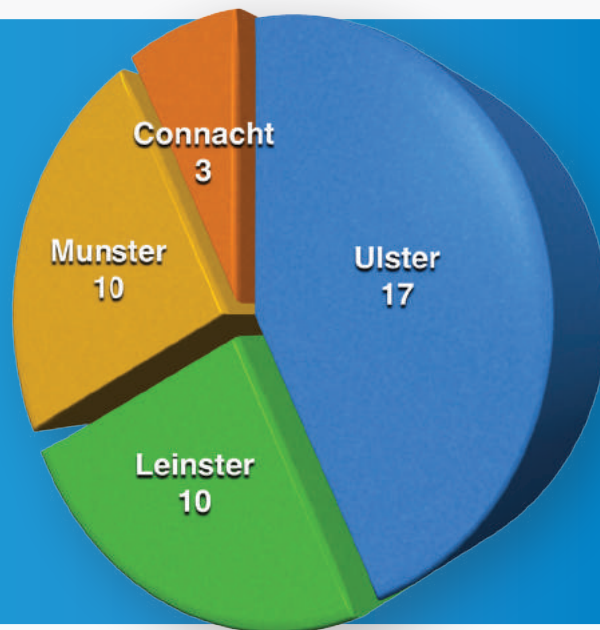


Figure 3: Number of Foundation Courses 2014

assessment in January 2015. Damien Young was instrumental in completing the content of the course and was lead tutor. The inaugural Level 2 coaches and tutors are listed in the Coaching and Games Committee Report.

1.2.4 Player Pathway, Phases of a Camogie Player's Development

This publication, which describes the six steps from beginner to elite level Camogie, was revamped and re-published in 2014 due to demand.

1.3 Referee Development

1.3.1 Gaisce/Transition Year Programme

First Whistle courses are courses available through the Gaisce programme for educating prospective teenage referees. In 2014 such courses took place in Ballinahinch (Down), St Catherine's (Belfast), Our Lady of Lourdes (Ballymurray), St Mary's (Derry), Treaty Gaels (Limerick) and Dublin.

In total, 148 students availed of courses with 98 completing the First

Whistle course and 50 completing the Foundation coaching course.

1.3.2 Referee support and development

The National Referees Committee worked on several initiatives during 2014 including:

- referee fitness testing
- rules testing
- performance assessment
- hosting technical briefings for inter-county referees
- workshops on Camogie rules for GAA referees
- making a submission to Ard Chomhairle on suggestions to amend the playing rules
- hosting a referee forum
- running a number of referee education courses
- hosting the Referees' Academy
- developing a new Referee Pathway

Each area of work is vital to ensuring that referee, coaching and playing performances are on a par.

The Referees' Academy has proven to be a positive experience in supporting referees to transition to the demands of inter county camogie and to progress to the highest levels of competition.

As this Academy draws to a close, new opportunities will emerge for another cohort of referees to enjoy and benefit from the focussed support and expertise that the Academy offers.

The new Referee Pathway document is innovative in setting out the journey from recruitment to retirement and from club to All Ireland levels for prospective and current referees. I am sure it will prove a useful training and education resource and will also usefully inform decisions to improve refereeing standards.

The year was also notable as for the first time in a number of years, the All-Ireland Premier Junior Final in Croke Park in September was officiated by an all-female team.

The standard of play in Camogie continues to improve year-on-year with higher levels of skill, fitness, tactics and strength and conditioning. Players, teams, clubs and counties can also be



generally pleased with the high standards of fair play. There were no widespread disciplinary problems on the pitch and the playing rules continue to emphasise and reward play that focusses on skill and speed.

Behaviour from the sidelines is not always so exemplary. From time to time, there continues to be concern about verbal abuse towards referees and there should be zero tolerance of this. Consistency in interpretation of the playing rules remains an ongoing priority and the work of the Referee Forum and other initiatives aim to improve this.

1.3.3 Presentations to All Ireland medals to referees

The presentation of All medals to referees was once again successfully held in December.

1.4 Player Welfare

1.4.1 Player Lifestyle Camps

There were nine Player Lifestyle Camps run last year for teenage Camogie players. More than 300 girls in nine

counties took part in education and development activities relating to nutrition, advanced training and athletic development.

1.4.2 Player Welfare Information

The Association's website www.camogie.ie included a new section for players detailing contacts related to health and well-being. This work was developed in conjunction with the Association's Player Welfare Committee.

1.4.3 Player Recognition

Through the *Our Game Your Game* campaign and through the promotional activities of our commercial partners, there was increased player recognition in 2014.

This included the introduction of:

- a new Player of the Match Award in the All-Ireland senior championship series, sponsored by Liberty Insurance
- awarding of gift vouchers to 2014 All Star winners, sponsored by Liberty Insurance and O'Neills

- new Player of the Match Awards in the provincial club finals, sponsored by AIB
- awarding of equipment to provincial club finalists, sponsored by AIB.

1.5 Anti-doping

The policy of the Camogie Association is that doping is contrary to the spirit of fair play and all members have a responsibility to ensure that our sport is free of doping.

All members of county panels taking part in the senior championship (O'Duffy Cup) are subject to testing in competition, (i.e. at any senior championship match). It is the responsibility of players and team management to make themselves aware of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) list of prohibited substances and the Irish Anti-Doping Rules, a new version of which were published in January 2015.

They should also be aware that a substantial amount of misinformation exists regarding optimal strategies for achieving peak athletic performance and

“ Players, teams, clubs and counties can be pleased with the high standards of fair play. Behaviour from the sidelines is not always so exemplary. From time to time, there continues to be concern about verbal abuse towards referees. There should be zero tolerance of this. ”

health. Many ‘nutritional’ products are sold under the pretence that they hold the secret to enhancing performance.

However, it must be noted that these typically lack research and sport medicine literature is filled with cases of athletes who have used such products with negative, unintended consequences.

There is no substitute for matching good food intake with nutritional needs. Sports supplements are commonly used by athletes in the hope of maximising the benefits of participating in sport.

Understandably, there is considerable confusion about the issues around sports supplements, but it must always be remembered that there are risks associated with their use and they should never be seen as a substitute for good nutrition.

Several studies have shown that a significant proportion of supplements available on the market are contaminated with substances which are on the WADA Prohibited List. Under WADA’s strict liability rule, players are

responsible for any substance that may be found in their bodies. It does not matter how it got there.

This year, as is practice, the Association was involved in ensuring that senior players and the relevant management teams were informed and educated about anti-doping rules. A link to the Irish Sports Council Anti-Doping information is published on Camogie.ie.

The Association’s Anti-Doping Officer is responsible for the distribution of education materials such as the Wallet Card to our members, and particularly to those who will be affected by the anti-doping programme i.e. senior inter-county players. This is done by facilitating information sessions for senior county panels and their support personnel, before the start of the championship season.

County boards are strongly encouraged to avail of these information sessions in order to ensure all relevant members are suitably informed. A motion is before congress to review to process for dealing with allegations of doping.

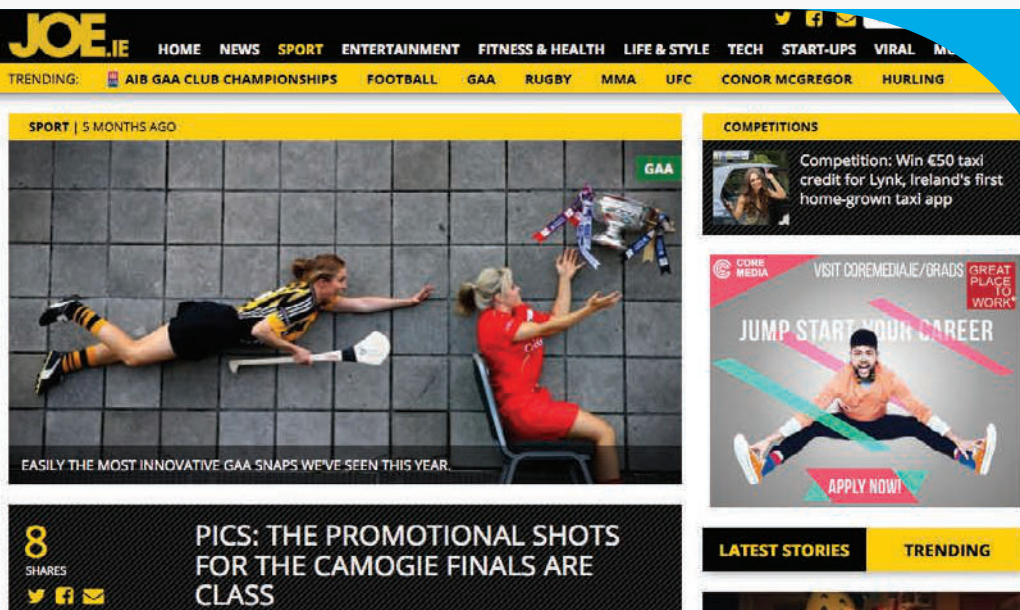


Section 2: Profile



The Camogie Association celebrated its 110th birthday in 2014 with a number of key initiatives undertaken to mark this significant milestone.

The following are key highlights from the year pertaining to the area of communications and marketing and whilst not pertaining exclusively to the 110th year celebrations, this event did inform a significant part of the work, particularly in the latter half of the year.



2.1 'Our Game Your Game'

For the first time the Association developed a dedicated marketing plan to promote the All-Ireland Camogie Championship. This was undertaken in the context of the Association's 110th birthday (see 2.3 below).

Players embody the game and the central tenet of the campaign was to present the players, first and foremost, as athletes who play a superb game, and to convey their personal stories through the medium of print, photography, social media and video.

A new identity of the Camogie Championship was established – called *Our Game Your Game*.

A dedicated photo-shoot with imagery disseminated across social media and syndicated with leading national newspapers, such as the Irish Independent and online agencies such as the Score.ie, formed a core part of the campaign.

Weekly photo coverage in the Sunday Independent of the Liberty Insurance Player of the Match from the All Ireland

championship series and the weekly Throwback Thursday featuring 110th related Camogie nostalgia were very successful elements of the campaign.

The focus on innovation was also reflected in the photography used to launch the All Ireland Finals. The comment from sportjoe.ie above is reflective of the extremely positive response the imagery received.

The photography was further recognised at the year end when the Irish Examiner and the Irish Times included it in their schedule of sports photos of the year. (See page 34.)

The campaign served to change the perception of Camogie and raised the profile of the 2014 championship by having a consistent presence on national publications and social media during the season.

Wexford's Mags D'Arcy, Lorraine Ryan (Galway), Niamh Mulcahy (Limerick), Louise O'Hara (Dublin), Ashling Thompson (Cork) and Eimear Considine (Clare) were the six players who took part in the *Our Game Your Game* campaign.

2.2 Market Research

During the summer 2014, the Camogie Association commissioned the UCD Marketing Department to conduct research amongst Camogie and hurling followers with regards to perceptions of Camogie, the attendance patterns of people at games, the level of interest in the game and the barriers to following/attending the game.

The findings from the research which included focus groups, sampling in cities, and after GAA matches, proved extremely interesting (see Overview section of this report for listing of key findings).

The research strongly points to a need to develop a marketing strategy that reaches out to club Camogie supporters and to county hurling followers.

During the course of 2015, the Association will implement key findings from the research, which will form part of communications and marketing strategies to raise the profile of the game, engage supporters and raise attendances, not only at All-Ireland finals, but so too during the round-robin stages of the championship.

2.3 110th Celebrations

As part of the 110th celebrations, the Association commissioned a commemorative logo that was used on a wide range of marketing and promotional materials during the season by the Association and all units.



2.3.1 Camogie Player of the Decade

The Association also supported the Camogie Player of the Decade, whereby counties chose their respective player of the decade (2005-2014). This proved immensely successful and the players were honoured on All-Ireland Finals day with a special lunch and presentation in Croke Park. Some counties and

clubs also joined in the celebrations and organised Teams of the Decade and other commemorative initiatives. The players of the decade are listed in Appendix 5.

2.3.2 Cairde Camogie

The Cairde Camogie season ticket was developed as a loyalty ticket that entitled the purchaser to access all rounds of the Liberty Insurance All-Ireland Camogie championship, knockout stages and All-Ireland finals at a discounted rate. The ticket proved great value and it is intended to launch the ticket earlier in 2015, to give counties and supporters ample opportunity to purchase in advance.

2.4 Growth of Social Media Profiles

The Association website was upgraded during 2014 to make the user experience more interactive and friendly, with video and photographs playing a prominent role on the site. In addition, a redesign of the homepage and internal pages was undertaken which proved aesthetically pleasing.

2.4.1 Facebook/Twitter growth

One of the many positive developments of 2014 was the growth of our social media profiles, particularly Twitter, and also the development of the Camogie Association YouTube Channel. Notably, Official Camogie Twitter followers have more than doubled since I last reported to Congress. This follows a strategic focus by the national office to grow our followers. See Figure 4 overleaf.

Twitter verification was also achieved in recent weeks. Social media is a vital part of communications and marketing, and generating digital content to disseminate across all of our channels enables the Association to reach a mass audience, providing publicity for our game.

2.4.2 Development News

The introduction of the weekly Development News briefing was very successful. Published on www.camogie.ie and through Facebook and Twitter, it provides regular updates on development activities throughout the country at club, county and provincial levels.



Figure 4: Facebook/Twitter growth

2.5 PR events and activities

Led by the National Communications Committee, the Association's magazine *On the Ball*, continued to be published twice annually.

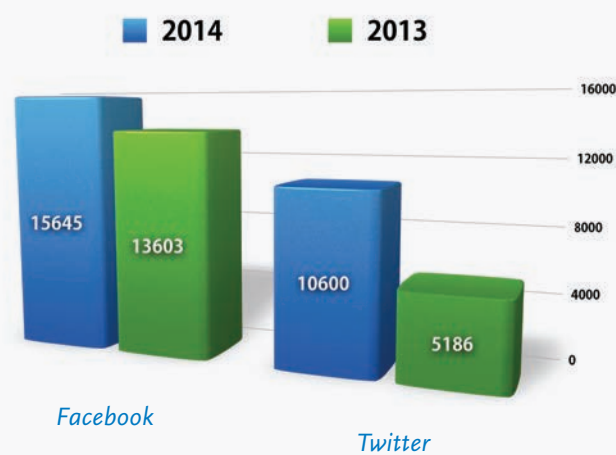
The 5th Annual Golf Classic was also successfully held in Ashbourne Golf Club, Co. Meath. Media Awards.

In a separate initiative a 2015 Camogie Association calendar was published for the first time in December 2014.

2.6 11th All Stars Banquet and Presentation

The 11th All Stars Banquet and Presentation was another great success in November 2014. Hosted at Citywest Hotel, and for the first time in association with Liberty Insurance, the black-tie event was attended by 500 people. The players, as always, were at the heart of the occasion.

From 63 nominations, 33 players were recognised for their individual excellence and presented with specially commissioned sculptures by Jarlath Daly.



A full list of the All Star and Soaring Star winners and Manager of the Year are detailed in Appendix 6.

Fiona Coghlan, captain of the Irish rugby team, and Patrick O'Brien, the then chief executive of Liberty Insurance, joined Association President, Aileen Lawlor in making the presentations.

2.7 Charity partner Make-A-Wish

Make-A-Wish are the Association's charity partner since 2012, with Kate Kelly (Wexford) and Anna Geary (Cork) acting as Ambassadors.

In 2014, along with profiling the charity at the All Stars event, the Association collaborated with Make-A-Wish on its Annual Wrist Band Day in April 2014.

2.8 Annual Media Awards

The Camogie Association's 8th Media Awards and Mick Dunne Memorial Awards were presented at a Presentation Dinner in March 2014. The event honoured the contributions of local and national press and volunteers to the promotion and development of camogie in the previous year.

- Damian Moran of Offaly was honoured PRO of the Year for his outstanding work as Offaly Camogie PRO
- Tullamore Camogie Club received the Camogie Association Special Project accolade following an extensive line-up of events during 2013 to celebrate their 40th anniversary
- Midlands 103FM and the Clare Champion were named as the Mick Dunne Local Radio and Local Newspaper of the Year respectively.
- Brendan Donnelly of Dublin won the Photograph of the Year award for the second year in a row
- The Camogie Association Media Award for Social Media went to Clare Camogie Board for their effective use of social media, while the Mick Dunne award for Match Programmes went to Armagh Camogie Board

2.9 Broadcast coverage

The Liberty Insurance All-Ireland Camogie Championship featured prominently on RTÉ The Sunday Game and RTÉ Saturday Sport, while the finals were broadcast on September 14th with a peak viewing

audience of 289,000 for the senior decider between Cork v Kilkenny, followed by 188,000 for the Intermediate final.

The peak viewing audience for the All-Ireland Sunday Game highlights package was 130,000.

The Association were pleased that the Irish Daily Star Division 1 League final was broadcast as a double-header with the Allianz Division 1 Hurling League final in Semple Stadium, Thurles on TG4 earlier this year.

Increasing broadcast output and column inches in national TV and publications is an ongoing priority. Scheduling Camogie games with GAA games is one means of raising coverage.

Ensuring our fixture schedule and venue selections are feasible for broadcast is another.

Creating content for our own platforms, as alluded to earlier, is an important element of our plans to work to promote our game. This will continue in tandem with work to ensure greater national broadcast coverage for the game.

2.10 Commercial partnerships

The Association is pleased to work closely with Liberty Insurance (All-Ireland Championship and All-Stars), AIB (Club Championships) and the Irish Daily Star (National Leagues) on the sponsorship of our national competitions.

The quality of these partnerships was independently recognised:

- Liberty Insurance won the 2014 Sponsorship Management Award at the Marketing Institute's All Ireland Marking Awards (AIM's) and the European Sponsorship Association Best of Europe Silver Award for their sponsorship of the GAA Hurling and Camogie Championships, in the 2014 ESA Excellence Awards
- AIB sponsorship of the AIB Club Championships won two Irish Sponsorship Awards for Best Sports Sponsorship and Best Use of Social Media in Sponsorship Activation.



“The All-Ireland finals are not only for the counties participating but for everyone who is part of a Camogie club and county and purports to support the game.”

Our valued sponsors also include:

- Torpey Hurleys
- O’Neills
- Into Sport
- the Croke Park Hotel
- Coopers
- Advertrees

It is very satisfying to work with organisations and personnel who are as committed to growing and developing the game as we are and we look forward to building on these partnerships further in 2015.

2.11 New Sponsorship Code

A mandatory code on sponsorship was approved by Ard Chomhairle on November 29th, 2014. It clarifies a number of issues relating to sponsorship and provides a code for all units, outlining the specific criteria for the acceptance of sponsorship.

Some key points include:

- a maximum of only two sponsors’ trademarks/logos per item of clothing
- sponsorship or advertising by

alcohol drink companies, public houses, off licenses, or other predominantly alcohol distributors, of minor or underage field games, gear, events or activities, is not permitted

- the sponsor name or logo may appear on the jersey, front and rear, and on the camogie skirt/skort, in one position only. Sponsorship of playing socks is allowed.

2.12 Licensing

The Camogie Association are pleased to welcome Cúchulainn Sportswear on board as a licensed supplier of the Association. It joins the following suppliers licenced to use the Camogie trademark on playing gear:

- Azzuri
- Into Sport
- Kukuri
- Masita
- O’Neills

It is vital that all units deal only with licensed suppliers to protect the commercial value of our trademark and the quality of playing gear on display.

2.13 Attendance figures at inter-county camogie games

During the course of 2014, the Association worked to establish data on attendance figures at games throughout the course of the season by putting in place more formalised ticketing arrangements at selected games.

This was an important new development as it established baseline data to compare future attendances against over time. It will also allow us to get a clearer picture of the attendance level at round-robin games.

The findings from this will enable us to put in place an effective strategy for raising attendances at round-robin stages during the club, league and championship in 2015 and most importantly, to work with counties to maximise attendances.

Allied to this, the findings from the market research reported in the *Overview* section will enable the creation of a more informed plan.

The Camogie All-Ireland final day is one of the most important days on the Camogie calendar and it is a great opportunity to see the country's top teams in action.

Last year, new incentives were introduced to supporters through adult and juvenile group discounts, pre-sale discounts and the introduction of Cairde Camogie.

The table opposite analyses the group sales by county and compares them to the club membership levels in each county. While group ticket sales are of course not the full picture of who attends the All-Ireland finals, they are one of the primary ways to incentivise Camogie members to support the Finals in Croke Park. The data is just a snapshot of a sample of the attendance at the 2014 All-Ireland Finals in Croke Park.

In summary:

- 71 clubs from competing counties (see figures in bold) purchased group tickets to attend the All-Ireland finals.
- 21 clubs from non-competing counties purchased group tickets
- 11 counties had clubs who did not purchase any group tickets to attend the All-Ireland finals.

Building attendances requires the whole Association working together, a team effort.

The All-Ireland finals are not only for the counties participating but for everyone who is part of a Camogie club and county and purports to support the game.

The Association will be in a much stronger position to promote our games to the wider sporting public when more of our members, in the wider Gaelic games community that we are part of, demonstrate their support by attending more Camogie games more frequently. This is the strongest statement of support that we can give to our players.

At national level we will endeavour to improve the integration of fixtures planning, marketing and ticketing to facilitate and instigate greater public support for Camogie.

2014 group tickets sold by county (All Ireland finalists in bold)		
County	No. of clubs in 2014	No. of clubs who bought group tickets
Antrim	18	1
Armagh	18	4
Carlow	10	1
Cavan	11	0
Clare	28	0
Cork	61	28
Derry	22	0
Donegal	6	2
Down	20	11
Dublin	45	5
Galway	37	0
Kerry	5	0
Kildare	19	3
Kilkenny	33	20
Laois	10	2
Leitrim	1	0
Limerick	27	10
Longford	1	0
Louth	5	0
Mayo	5	0
Meath	15	1
Monaghan	3	1
Offaly	12	1
Roscommon	7	2
Sligo	1	0
Tipperary	35	0
Tyrone	10	0
Waterford	19	0
Westmeath	12	1
Wexford	37	0
Wicklow	14	3



Gravity-defying camogie players by Cathal Noonan (Inpho)

This article is courtesy of the Irish Examiner Sport 2015, Camera Classic 2014.

The story behind the picture?

This photo came about after the Camogie Association asked us to come up with an idea to launch their Liberty Insurance All Ireland Camogie Finals day which would include the captains from the Junior, Intermediate and Senior finalists. Usually photocalls for finals can be very uninspiring as there are only so many ways you can photograph players with a cup. In this case it was a matter of sitting down as a team and coming up with different ideas.

Once we knew the set-up we wanted, it was just a matter of figuring out how to execute it. The location was picked a few days in advance as nothing is left to chance when planning something like this. Luckily we found a spot that would work just inside turnstiles at Croke Park.

What equipment were you shooting with?

The photo was shot on Canon 1Dx with a 24-70mm lens with camera settings set at 1/500 sec, f6.3 ISO 1250.

As it happened, did you know you'd made the picture or were you shooting blind and hoping?

Setting up the picture was not straightforward. Getting the players lying down on their sides is not only uncomfortable and very unnatural but it feels very silly, as the girls found out very fast. In fairness, and great credit to the players, they never complained once even after my many requests for another take. I was stationed two flights up looking down to get the desired effect while my boss Billy Stickland was on the ground level with the players helping to organize the different poses and positions.

How does it compare to other notable pictures you've taken or admired?

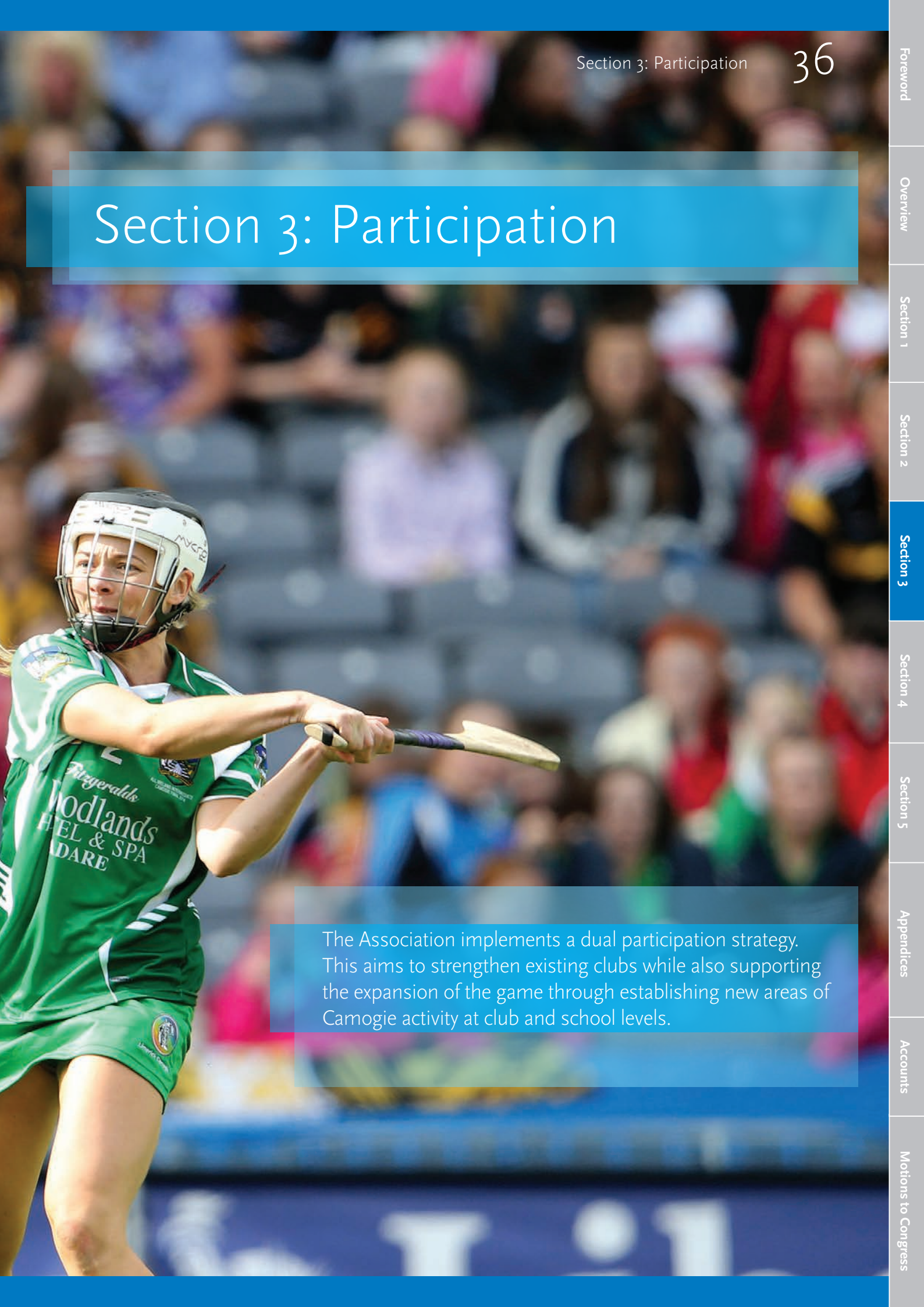
The reason I think the picture works is because of the unusual perspective that it creates of players flying through the air and players sitting on chairs, to give the illusion that these players are grounded while others are performing gravity defying jumps. It was great to see the photo get used across all the national papers as it brought more exposure to the amazingly talented players involved in camogie.



Cathal Noonan



Section 3: Participation



The Association implements a dual participation strategy. This aims to strengthen existing clubs while also supporting the expansion of the game through establishing new areas of Camogie activity at club and school levels.

Figure: 5

Clubs by County 2014





Figure 6. International Units 2014

The establishment last year of ten new clubs is indicative of the ongoing appeal of the game. Interestingly, nine of these are in Leinster. The full list is as follows:

- Dromintee, Armagh
- Carlow Town
- Clontarf, Dublin
- Beann Éadair, Dublin
- Stars of Erin, Dublin
- Banríon Gaels, Laois
- Blackrock, Louth
- Brosna Gaels, Offaly
- Éire Óg Greystones, Wicklow
- Tara Rocks, Wexford

The overall distribution of 547 clubs in Ireland in 2014 is represented in the map opposite.

On the international front, the game continues to expand as illustrated in the Figure 6. The report from the international units in Tuarascáil na gCoistí details the ongoing vibrancy of the game abroad.

3.1 Membership

The data on clubs can now be complemented by data on our membership. For the first time we are able to establish baseline membership data and early analysis of this throws up some interesting facts.

- While Cork has the highest number of clubs in the Association, Dublin has the highest number of members
- 86% of the Association's membership are players
- The composition of our youth membership is strongest amongst the youngest category (U12s) followed by U14s; U16s and Minor.

In the next National Development Plan the Association will need to consider how best to strengthen the retention of players from childhood camogie into youth level Camogie at all the transition points - U12 to U14, U14 to U16 and U16 to minor.

3.2 Participation initiatives

Over the past number of years the Association's participation initiatives have become well-established. Each year the initiatives are enhanced and/or expanded and 2014 was no different as the summaries below describe.

3.2.1 Camán to Croker & Provincial Blitzes

Camán to Croker in association with Torpey Hurleys took place in October. A total of 64 clubs attended this year's event as part of the 110th anniversary celebrations of the Camogie Association. This was the third year of the initiative which catered specifically for U12 camogie teams.

Provincial Blitzes

137 clubs took part in the provincial events in total.

The Camán to Connacht event took place in June in Pearse Stadium and 26 teams took part.



Cúl Camps Participation 2014

Province	Total number of Cúl Camps	Total number of male participants	Total number of female participants
Connacht	157	7,951	5,000
Leinster	350	20,367	11,804
Munster	351	18,010	10,021
Ulster	193	7,601	5,921
Totals	1,051	53,929	32,746

The Camán to Clones event for Ulster clubs took place in August at St Tiernach's Park in Clones and 27 clubs from all over the province took part. Camán to Thurles took place in Semple Stadium in and 47 clubs took part. Camán to Tullamore took place in O'Connor Park, Tullamore in August for Leinster clubs and attracted 37 clubs.

3.2.2 Hurl Smart Week

Hurl Smart Week ran very successfully with significantly higher participation in 2014. 50 Camogie clubs nationwide took part in the designated week in June.

Hurl Smart Week aims to increase activity levels of all ages in the community, male and female, by providing a programme of events in the local Camogie club for the week.

Example of activities that clubs ran over the week included fundamental sessions, obstacle courses, Poc Fada, Mum & Me events, family fun days, crossbar challenge and nutritional talks. Of the clubs that ran successful Hurl Smart Weeks, 10 played in the Camán to Croker event in Croke Park in October. In 2015, Hurl Smart Week will run from June 1st to 7th.

3.2.3 Cúl Camps

Over a thousand (1,051) Kellogg's Cúl Camps were held last year. A total of 86,675 underage players took part with an average of 82.46 children taking part at each camp.

Notably, 37.1% (32,746) of children were female. The breakdown of 2014 participation in Cúl Camps is detailed in the table opposite.

“Over the past number of years the Association’s participation initiatives have become well-established. Each year the initiatives are enhanced and/or expanded and 2014 was no different”

3.2.4 You & Me Play Camogie

The ‘Thank You’ fund from Coca Cola provided the funding for this initiative in early 2014. A total of 74 camogie clubs applied to be part of the programme. Eight (two from each province) were randomly selected to participate in it.

The participating clubs were Oran (Roscommon) and Westport (Mayo) from Connacht; St Rita’s Fethard (Tipperary), and St Colum’s (Cork) from Munster; Lucan Sarsfields (Dublin) and Donard Glen (Wicklow) from Leinster; and Castlewellan (Down) and Drumgoon (Cavan) from Ulster.

The project encouraged parents of girls (aged 12-14) to come and try out Camogie with their daughters. The Camogie Association provided a tutor to deliver a six-week programme with the parents in the club. Over the six weeks they learned the basic skills of the game while also being physically active themselves. The programme also encouraged practising the skills with their daughters at home, so continuing the habit of regular physical activity. Each participating club in the programme received a module on healthy eating for sports participation. This module is vital so that both the daughters and

parents realise the importance of healthy nutrition for sports performance and for general well-being.

3.2.5 Mum & Me Programmes

Mum & Me is growing every year with 15 programmes rolled out nationally this year involving a total of 246 mothers taking to the field to learn the skills of the game. Mothers and fathers accompany their daughters to their training session.

3.2.6 Spórt Agus Spraio Programme

Spórt agus Spraio events take place in third level universities and colleges around the country.

The programme involves girls attending an open day in the third level college and enjoying coaching sessions with the college Camogie team and a small-sided blitz against other participating second level schools.

The Camogie Association were involved in delivering four programmes in 2014 in Queen’s University Belfast, NUIG, DCU and Tralee IT with more than 700 girls taking part.

A number of other programmes were also run as some third level institutes and colleges have taken these initiatives on as annual calendar events.

3.2.7 Legends 2014

The Association works to ensure that players of all abilities are catered for. The Legends Tournament was developed to provide competition and networking for former inter-county players. The 2014 tournament took place on Saturday March 1st in St Brigid’s GAA Club in Dublin.

Six counties competed for the Biddy Phillips Trophy in this 7-a-side tournament - Tipperary, Cork, Galway, Dublin, Down and Offaly. Tipperary, Biddy’s native county, won the trophy for the first time, beating Dublin in the final.

The 2015 tournament was held recently in Na Fianna, Dublin.



3.3 Underage inter-county Development at U14, U15, U16 and U17 levels

2014 started with each province running a workshop for all county underage team managers and coaches. The workshops focussed on the implementation of Schools of Excellence (SOE), coach selection, player selection, player tracking, player welfare and content of coaching sessions.

3.3.1 U14

The Cooper U14 All-Ireland Championship blitz competition was held in Dublin in September. This was the third year of the competition.

30 counties and 46 teams took part with over 1100 girls participating.

Kilkenny defeated Galway in the Division 1 final. Waterford defeated Dublin in the Division 2 final, Westmeath defeated Carlow in the Division 3 decider while Cavan defeated Mayo in the Division 4 final and Longford defeated Sligo in the Division 5 final.

Each U14 team that participated in the competition on Saturday paraded at the Liberty Insurance All-Ireland Camogie Finals in Croke Park on the 14th of September.

3.3.2 U15

The national Blitz for U15 squads in Phase 1 counties took place in Rathleague, Portlaoise in August. This was the inaugural year of a competitive tournament at this age group.

12 teams took part in the event from Dublin, Kilkenny, Cork, Limerick, Clare, Galway, Wexford, Antrim, Meath and Tipperary. Cork won the Cup competition, defeating Kilkenny in the final, while Antrim won the Shield, defeating Dublin in the final.

The National Blitz for U15 squads in Phase 2 counties took place in October in Rathleague, Co Laois. Westmeath won the Cup on the day with Carlow winning the Shield final.

As well as the national competitions run at U14 and U15 level, the Provincial Councils and counties ran numerous blitzes throughout the year that were

excellently attended by a great number of counties and squads.

3.3.3 U16

An U16 inter-county development blitz was held in Fermanagh GAA Training Grounds in Lisson in October. The purpose of the blitz was to give developing counties the opportunity to play similar counties in an effort to help return them to national competitions in the future. Monaghan won the Cup on the day after defeating Donegal in the final.

3.3.4 U17

An inaugural programme for U17 County Development Squads took place at two Munster venues on Saturday the 1st November.

6 counties took part, Cork, Limerick and Clare squads participated in the University of Limerick (UL) with Waterford, Kilkenny and Wexford taking part in Waterford Institute of Technology (WIT).

The programme began with coaching sessions focusing on: primary possession

“*Camogie for All workshops, that support the development and implementation of adapted Camogie to facilitate the inclusion of people with disabilities, were held in third level colleges*”

and breaking ball, striking and shooting and tackling, hooking and blocking.

A workshop on lifestyle choices for optimum Camogie performance covering sleep, nutrition, hydration and recovery then took place in both venues. The day ended with a round-robin blitz in each venue where each county got to play each other.

3.4 Camogie in the Education Sector

In 2014 the Association continued to undertake active outreach in primary schools.

We actively liaise with Cumann na mBunscol to promote Camogie activity to all schools in every county. Particular attention is paid to schools in areas with a current Camogie club.

The activities include introducing Camogie to girls; providing or facilitating coaching particularly to all-girls schools; administering Go Games; targeting initiatives to girls in the senior cycle of primary school.

4,736 girls participated in initiatives across 32 counties.

In the post-primary sector, the Association promoted a player-tracking document, which allows older players to track their progress in Camogie skills development. The very popular Teenage Diary, which encourages teenage players to record and monitor their nutritional intake and fitness and exercise behaviours, was also promoted.

A number of in-school development initiatives were also completed. A total of 2,256 girls participated in the range of development actions including those relating the Gaisce Programme and the Spórt agus Spraoi reported elsewhere in this Report.

In the third level sector, a student-placement programme involving five third level institutions supported the establishment of a club/school link in a number of areas. The support of Waterford IT, Queen's University, Carlow IT, Limerick IT and Athlone IT was instrumental in running ten programmes that provided coaching in schools and clubs.

The Association is indebted to the ongoing support and interest of teachers at all levels who instill a love of camogie in young children and support them in acquiring interest and knowledge on developing healthy lifestyles.

Camogie for All workshops, that support the development and implementation of adapted Camogie to facilitate the inclusion of people with disabilities, were also held in third level colleges for sports students to aid their development.



Section 4: Volunteer Support And Development

Volunteers within the Association fulfil many roles including refereeing, coaching, mentoring and administration.





Section 2 of this report details work in 2014 relating to the support and development of referees and coaches.

The Overview to this Report provides headline findings from new research that profiles Camogie Association administrators.

This section details work undertaken in 2014 to support volunteer administrators.

Recruitment to administrative positions remains a challenge in some instances and, as an Association, we will certainly need to look at more innovative ways of addressing this over the next number of years.

In 2010, the Association adopted a 'five-year rule' limiting the maximum term a person can hold an officer position. Consequently, at the end of 2015, there will be a significant changeover of personnel in officer roles.

In anticipation of this, Ard Chomhairle funded each Provincial Council in 2014 to support the development of actions to assist in this changeover.

New technologies and interactive teaching and learning methodologies offer many different ways to support administrators. Such a strategy is emerging as a clear and immediate need at all levels.

4.1 Resources for Administrators

During 2014 a number of initiatives were put in place to support administrators in their officer roles.

These included:

- A national workshop for Treasurers, and from this, a handbook for Treasurers is currently in development. This will partner the PRO Handbook and the Volunteering Handbook already in place.
- A Secretary's Handbook is also in development.
- A resource on chairing effective meetings and on pre-AGM procedures was developed in 2014 along with an updated description of the County Development Officer Role.

All of these are downloadable on www.camogie.ie/administration.

4.2 Networking

Sharing and learning from each other's experiences is one of the great benefits of networking. The county and provincial Chairs and Secretaries Network met twice in 2014 and will meet on three occasions in 2015.

The annual networking meeting of the Chairs of Ard Chomhairle Sub Committees was also held in 2014 and 2015.

An inaugural national network of county and provincial PROs was established in January 2015 with a follow up meeting scheduled for later in the year.

4.3 Volunteer Awards

The Annual Volunteer of the Year Awards continued to provide an important public recognition and thanks to people for their efforts in promoting Camogie.

Volunteers of the Year 2013/14**Leinster**

Offaly	Mary Spollen
Kildare	Brendan Kenny
Laois	Mary Dunne
Carlow	Linda Kenny
Westmeath	Jackie Jackson
Wexford	Ray Quigley
Dublin	Aoife Maguire
Louth	Anne Harrington
Meath	Christy Mangan
Kilkenny	Teresa Dillon

Munster

Tipperary	Emily Hayden
Clare	Breda Daffy
Limerick	Sr Joan O'Regan
Cork	Deirdre Coleman

Ulster

Antrim	Ciara McShane
Armagh	Bebe Devlin
Tyrone	Leona Gallagher
Down	Louise Clarke
Cavan	Charlie Galligan
Derry	Maria Bradley
Donegal	Nuala Lafferty

Connacht

Mayo	Danny Buckley
Galway	Frank Duane
Roscommon	Ciara Moran

People are recognised at national level and in many cases at county level also. The 2013 Awards were presented in Croke Park in February 2014 to the county nominees as detailed in the table opposite.

The Síghle Nic an Ultaigh Award is a prestigious award for distinguished service to the Association. Roscommon and Connacht's Marion Conway received the 2013 award at the 2014 Congress in Armagh for her long and sterling service in various capacities over a long number of years.

Patsy Powell from St. Brigid's Club in Dublin received the GAA President's award for Camogie in 2014.



Section 5: Governance And Organisational Development

Good governance is increasingly referred to in the context of sport. In part, this arises from the increasing public interest in sport, including its growing commercialisation, growing media interest, expanding responsibilities of public authorities in sport and an expanded interest by people involved in playing sport to be part of its decision-making processes.



Sport and particularly grassroots sport relies hugely on a volunteer base.

The challenge for governing bodies, like the Camogie Association, is to put in place standards that reflect and promote good governance and that can also be upheld and promoted by a volunteer structure.

During 2014, the Association at national level continued to strengthen its approach to governance and organisational development.

5.1 Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Committee (THDC) Procedures

The Official Guide and its component parts are key governance documents for the Association at all levels. The THDC procedures are an important element of the Guide.

Four consultations were undertaken with members of THDCs during 2014. These focussed on getting input on revised draft THDC procedures which were developed earlier in the year. The procedures are currently before Ard

Chomhairle and it is expected that they will be ratified and become effective later in 2015.

An orientation programme to familiarise units with the new procedures will be put in place prior to the procedures taking effect.

5.2 Playing rules

The Official Guide provides for consideration of motions every three years to amend the playing rules. The motions to this year's Congress are listed elsewhere in this Report.

Interestingly, the vast majority of the listed playing rule motions are generated by Ard Chomhairle, and not by the County and Provincial units.

5.3 Investing in clubs, counties, Provinces and national development

The receipt of monies from the new individualised membership fees boosted the Association's resources not alone at central level but also more widely.

This financial injection allowed Ard Chomhairle to provide a rebate to members/units for a range of services/activities and to fund new initiatives. A number of these are detailed in the table opposite and in appendix 4.

5.3.1 Once-off equipment fund for clubs/club rebate

In 2014, Ard Chomhairle decided that a once-off national fund of €100,000 be designated to support clubs to purchase equipment. This fund is in recognition of the support and co-operation of clubs in implementing the new affiliations fees' system in 2014.

To be eligible for funding, clubs have to complete a survey, the findings of which can inform discussions on the next National Development Plan.

Clubs will also have to demonstrate that they have active Foundation and/or Level 1 coaches working with their underage teams.

On satisfactory completion of both these requirements, every club will be given a €200 credit with a Camogie

Range of investments in Camogie Development in 2014

Activity	Investment/subsidy
Coaching course subventions for Foundation Level participants	Reduced from €30 per person (pp) to €20 per person
Coaching course subvention for Level 1 course participants	Reduced from €70 pp to €60 per person
Allocation of €5,000 to Provincial Councils – 250 coaches to benefit	Ringfencing of funds from Provincial Council Development Funding to subsidise the provision of Level 1 Coaching Courses
Waiving of fees to Féile na nGael for developing counties and/or counties with less than 10 registered clubs	Granted to Kerry, Laois, Carlow, Mayo, Roscommon, Wicklow, Louth, Sligo, Donegal, Fermanagh, Longford and Leitrim
Size of start-up grants to clubs	Increased from €500 to €1,000
Price of All-Ireland Final club levy tickets	Reduced from €30 each to €25 each
National Servicing Officer for All-Ireland post-primary schools' competitions	100% payment by Central Council (previously part funded by Provincial Councils)
Waiving of Annual Congress venue hire costs	100% payment by Central Council (previously built into Congress delegate rate)
Reduction in costs to adults of admission to the All-Ireland Championship games	Reductions ranging from 20-33% to adult and student/OAP admissions to Intermediate, Premier Junior and Junior A championship games
Introduction of discounted loyalty season ticket to supporters for the All-Ireland series	Cairde Camogie ticket costed at €40 for whole of championship season including the All-Ireland Final and providing a 20% rebate to counties for sales from within their county
Increased fees for Coach Tutors delivering Foundation and Level 1 courses to ensure Tutor availability to meet demand	Foundation Course Tutor payment increased to €200 (course duration 8 hours) Level One Tutor payment increased to €600 (course duration 2.5 days)
Restoration of mileage rates for national level volunteers and referees on the national panel	Restored to 50c per mile
Additional investment in membership registration system	Design and development costs of new integrated payments module absorbed by Ard Chomhairle along with initial transaction costs for payment of affiliation fees
Increased staff resources	Operations Co-ordinator recruited; employment of RDO to national staff team, following request from Ulster Camogie Council

Association licensed supplier as a contribution towards the purchase of Camogie gear/equipment.

5.3.2 Capital grants

Throughout 2014, capital grant payments were issued to clubs and counties as part of a Capital Grants Fund of €100,000 that was put in place a number of years ago. This

scheme closed in 2014. The full list of beneficiaries is listed in Appendix 4.

Unspent monies from the Capital Fund were diverted to a new small capital fund of €25,000, approved by Ard Chomhairle in 2014. This fund was restricted to county field developments and allocations were approved as follows:

- Clare County Board for Fr. McNamara Park, Ennis: €10,000
- Cork County Board for Cork Camogie Grounds, Mahon €7,500
- Galway County Board for Galway Camogie Grounds, Kilreekil €7,500



5.3.3 Provincial development grants

For several years Provincial Councils have been grant-aided by Ard Chomhairle to fund provincial development actions supportive of the priorities of the National Development Plan 2010-2015, *Our Game Our Passion*.

This funding continued in 2014. Since its introduction the Provincial Development Fund has been €50,000 each year.

In the context of the new financial resources available to the Association, at various levels from the new individualised membership system, and in the context of the Provincial Development Fund being in place for several years, Ard Chomhairle agreed to undertake a review of the Provincial grants process. At the time of writing the report of the review is being finalised.

5.3.4 All-Ireland Finalists' grants

Since 2009, Ard Chomhairle has awarded grants to the finalists in the adult All-Ireland Championship Finals.

This continued in 2014.

A detailed listing of investment/grants by the Association is outlined in Appendix 4.

5.4 Financial management

The Association's audited accounts for 2014 are presented elsewhere in this Report.

The accounts demonstrate the success in the past year of achieving increased income from our affiliations and increased sponsorship and gate revenues, compared to 2013. Gate revenues are further discussed below.

The greater capacity of the Association to be more self-financing is very important and is a key outcome achieved following guidance from the Irish Sports Council (ISC) to do so.

In 2014 over half (52%) of our income was self-generated (see Figure 7) compared to 44% in 2012.

The accounts also, for the first time, present expenditure that is aligned to the strategic priorities of the National

Development Plan *Our Game Our Passion*. This clearly shows the balance of expenditure between priorities and usefully allows us to map over time how expenditure changes as priorities change.

5.4.1 Gates' collection

In 2014, there was a more formalised system of gate collections undertaken at a range of games and particularly championship games. This included stronger controls such as a formal count of attendances and more detailed analysis of revenues.

In 2014, there were increased revenues from gate collections. This is a notable achievement, particularly in the context of the introduction of reduced admission charges to games and with the All Ireland Finals in September producing a reduced income.

The known attendances at senior championship games range for 240-400 for round-robin games, over 850 for quarter-finals and more than 1200 for semi-finals. This data is useful to measure progress over time and to assess the impact in the medium-to-

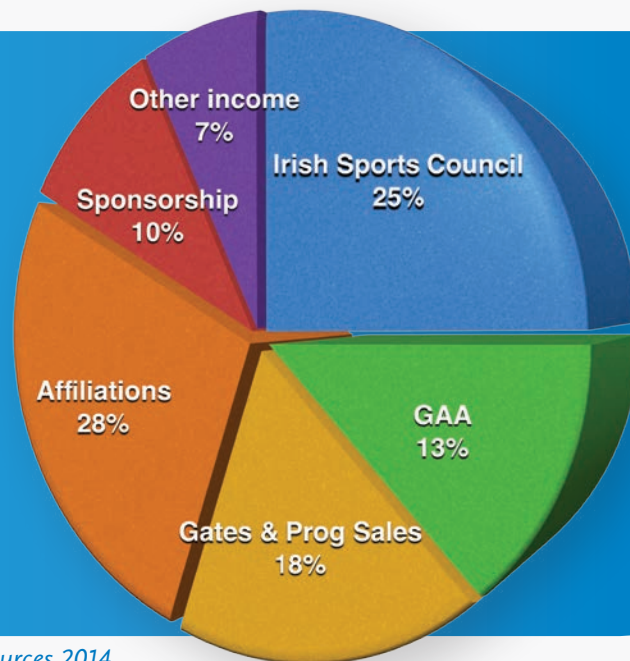


Figure 7: Income Sources 2014

long term of greater marketing and promotion of the All-Ireland series.

In the short-to-medium term, I think it could be beneficial to consider the provision of a share of gate revenues to competing counties and host venues.

This could be used to invest in local development and running costs. It could be a way of offsetting the costs associated with hosting fixtures and of acknowledging the voluntary input of this. If the upward trend in gate collections can be maintained it may be timely to consider formalising a national policy on this.

5.4.2 Best value for money

There was an emphasis in 2014 on extending and formalising procurement processes, with a view to getting best value for money for the supply of goods and services to the Association. This included the appointment of a new auditor, Ronan Leech & Co. The long-serving role of former auditors, Pat Kennedy & Co is acknowledged and appreciated.

5.5 Risk management

The Association initiated a risk management process. In 2014, it progressed work on a health and safety statement; on a working alone policy; a driving at work policy and a policy on handling cash.

5.6 Child protection

The adoption of a common process of to deal with allegations of the breaches of the Code of Behaviour on Working with Underage members, *Our Game, Our Code* was a very notable achievement in 2014. It will enable a consistent way of protecting children regardless of what Gaelic code they play.

An updated version of the Code was launched by the Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, James Reilly TD and widely disseminated.

The child protection area is one where there is increasing public policy activity with new legislation pending.

As an Association of community-based members, these developments

have important implications for how volunteers are equipped and supported to comply with legal requirements and with best practices and procedures in these matters. These procedures include proposed changes to the vetting of people working with children and young people.

It remains a concern that not all units have appointed Children's Officers. This is contrary to the Official Guide, and requires urgent attention in units where this is the case. This will be monitored closely in 2015.

5.7 Ard Chomhairle governing body

During 2014, Ard Chomhairle held nine meetings dealing with a wide range of issues and governance matters.

At the 2014 Congress, Eamonn Browne was elected as the Coaching and Games representative to Ard Chomhairle when Sheila O'Donohoe's term in this role concluded.

Bróna McIntyre was elected as the Communications and PR representative

when Miriam O'Callaghan's term in this role concluded.

Miriam O'Callaghan was elected as Treasurer when Phyllis Breslin's term in the role concluded.

Phyllis Breslin and Marion Graham were deemed elected as the Association's Trustees in November 2014 while outgoing Trustee Liz Howard notified Ard Chomhairle of her retirement from the role.

The full list of Ard Chomhairle members in 2014 and their attendance at meetings is outlined in Appendix 1.

5.8 Staff management

At the time of writing, the Association has a 15-person national-staff team while Ulster Council employs two staff.

Appendix 2 provides a staff listing. In the course of 2014, the national staff team expanded with the recruitment of an Operations Co-ordinator, Cian Nelson.

Long-serving team member, Deirdre Murphy, resigned from her role as Munster RDO and Ross Corbett now serves in that capacity. As one of their earliest employed Development Officers in the Association, Deirdre made an invaluable contribution to defining that role. I wish her well in her new role in the University of Limerick.

In 2015, RDO Lisa McAliskey was welcomed to the national staff team, having previously served as an Ulster Council-employed RDO.

The Association, with the guidance and support of the Irish Sports Council, moved to implement a Performance Management and Review System (PMRS) in 2014/15. Staff workshops to introduce the system were completed in 2014 and the PMRS system is effective from January 2015.

In 2014 the opportunity was taken to upskill and accredit staff in particular competencies.

Seven staff were awarded Event Management FETAC accreditation while two staff were awarded Train the Trainer FETAC accreditation.

5.9 Appreciations and conclusion

Annual Congress 2015 concludes Aileen Lawlor's term as President of the Association. Aileen has a life time involvement in our game and served an extremely busy and successful three years leading the Association.

I have worked alongside Aileen for the last 16 months of her term and see the hours and attention that Aileen has generously given to issues at all levels of the Association. My sincerest thanks to Aileen for her support. I extend to Aileen my deepest appreciation and best wishes to her, Dónal and family for the future.

Incoming Uachtarán Catherine Neary takes up Presidential Office at Congress 2015 and I look forward to working with Catherine during her term.

Thank you to all Ard Chomhairle members and to the Chairs and members of all the Association's National Committees and working groups.

The diligence and hard work of people in these roles is often unseen by the wider Association but is central to keeping the Association set in the right direction and to growing Camogie. I am indebted to each member for their input and generosity.

During the course of the year, there is regular contact with many members from clubs, counties and provinces.

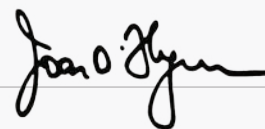
Thank you for your ongoing commitment to the game and for your courtesy in your dealings with me and the Association staff team.

There continues to be very positive relationships between the Associations of the Gaelic games family. Particular thanks to Liam O'Neill and Pat Quill as they conclude their Presidencies and to Ard Stiúrthóirí Páraic Duffy and Helen O'Rourke.

The day-to-day running of the Association at national level is greatly enhanced by the calibre of staff working for the Association. There is genuine and strong collaboration and teamwork, underpinned by a commitment to be the best we can be, and by the passion and love of Camogie.

I thank each person on the team for their dynamic and valued contributions every day.

I look forward to continued working with volunteers and staff, to build on the progress to date and to formulating the next National Development Plan, our roadmap to the future.



Joan O'Flynn
Ard Stiúrthóir





Appendices



Appendix 1: Ard Chomhairle members and 2014 attendance at meetings

Name	Role	Number of meeting attended
Aileen Lawlor	Uachtarán	9
Catherine Neary	Uachtarán Tofa (from Congress 2014)	7
Marie Kearney	Secretary and Munster Council Delegate	7
Miriam O'Callaghan	Treasurer	8
Marie O'Brien	Vice President and Connacht Chair	8
James Moynihan	Vice President and Munster Chair (from Congress 2014)	6
Bridghidin Heenan	Vice President and Ulster Chair	8
Rachel Hogan	Vice President and Leinster Chair	6
Phyllis Breslin	Trustee	8
Liz Howard	Trustee	4
Mary Connor	Leinster Delegate	8
Kathleen Woods	Ulster Delegate (from mid-year 2014)	5
Geraldine McGrath	Connacht Delegate	8
Eamonn Browne	Coaching & Games Representative (from Congress 2014)	7
Bróna McIntyre	Communications and PR Representative (from Congress 2014)	4
Sheila O'Donohoe	Coaching and Games Representative (until Congress 2014)	2
Marion Graham	Munster Delegate proxy	1
Joan O'Flynn	Ard Stiúrthóir	9

Appendix 2: Staff

National Association	
Ard-Stiúrthóir	Joan O'Flynn
Director of Camogie Development	Mary O'Connor
Director of Communications & Marketing	Claire Egan
Finance Director	Paula Bruen
Operations Co-Ordinator	Cian Nelson
National Competitions Administrator	Liz McGuinness
Office & Communications Administrator	Caroline Fitzsimons
Projects and Initiatives Co-ordinator	Caroline Murray
Donegal, Fermanagh, Derry, Antrim, Monaghan RDO	Lisa McAliskey
Louth, Cavan, Armagh, Down, Tyrone RDO	Gerard Gribben
Dublin, Wicklow RDO	Eve Talbot
Laois, Carlow, Kilkenny, Wexford, Kildare RDO	Patrick Mullaney
Westmeath, Meath, Longford, Offaly RDO	Lizzie Flynn
Connacht RDO	Yvonne Byrne
Munster RDO	Ross Corbett
Occasional Roles/Volunteers	
Garda Vetting Officer	Ray Quigley
Match-Day Co-ordinator	Bronagh Gaughan
National Children's Officer & Anit-Doping Officer	Mairéad Ní Mhaoileoin
Match Results Co-ordintator	Bríd McNamara
Student Placement 2014/15	Mary Brady, Emer Clarke, Anna Gallagher
Ulster Camogie Council employed staff	
Administration Manager	Ronan McCarthy
Talent ID and Coaching Officer	Niall Jackman

Appendix 3 Torthaí na gComórtas/Competition Results 2014

Competition	Winners	Runners-Up
Senior Championship	Cork 2-12	Kilkenny 1-09
Intermediate Championship	Limerick 1-12	Kilkenny 0-10
Premier Junior	Down 1-12	Laois 1-08
Junior A	Limerick 2-08	Carlow 1-06
Minor A Replay	Limerick 3-10	Cork 1-10
Minor B	Waterford 4-06	Derry 0-02
Minor B Shield	Antrim 6-11	Dublin 3-10
Minor C	Meath 1-13	Armagh 0-05
U16A	Tipperary 3-13	Galway 1-07
U16B	Waterford 6-17	Derry 3-05
U16C	Laois 2-08	Kildare 1-04
Gael Linn	Leinster 4-16	Munster 2-17
National League Division 1	Kilkenny 1-15	Clare 0-04
National League Division 2	Cork 1-12	Down 2-06
National League Division 3	Westmeath 3-07	Dublin 1-05
National League Division 4 Replay	Limerick 5-05	Kerry 1-10
All Ireland Senior Club 2013 Final	Milford 0-06	Ardrahan 0-05
All Ireland Intermediate Club 2013 Final Replay	Lismore 3-08	Ballyhale Shamrocks 0-07
All Ireland Junior Club Final	Kilmessan 2-08	Four Roads 1-06
Ashbourne Cup	UL 0-12	WIT 1-08
Ashbourne Shield	University College Dublin 2-13	University Ulster Jordanstown 1-12
Purcell Cup	UCC 1-11	D.I.T 0-07
Purcell Shield	Cork IT	NUIM
Fr. Meachair Cup	Carlow IT 1-09	St. Patrick's Drumcondra 1-05
Fr. Meachair Shield	St. Mary's Belfast 0-08	Athlone Institute of Technology 1-03
O'Maolagáin Cup	GMIT 1-06	LIT 1-05
O'Maolagáin Shield	University Coleraine 1-07	St. Patrick's Thurles 0-04
2nd Level Senior A	Presentation Kilkenny 2-09	St. Mary's Maherfelt 0-09
2nd Level Senior B	Our Lady's Templemore 2-14	Calas Sanctus Oranmore 1-06
2nd Level Senior C Replay	St. Joseph's Doon 2-09	Maryfield College 2-07
2nd Level Senior D	Glanmire Community College 0-12	Dominican College 0-11
2nd Level Junior A	St. Brendan's Birr 1-06	St. Mary's Charleville 2-02
2nd Level Junior B	Coláiste Dún Iascaig 6-20	Calas Sanctus Oranmore 3-09
2nd Level Junior C	St. Joseph's Lucan 3-06	St. Joseph's Tulla 2-07
2nd Level Junior D	Mercy Convent Roscommon 5-09	Presentation Waterford 1-05
Kilmacud 7s	St. Ibar's Shelmalier (Wexford) 5-5	Oulart-The Ballagh (Wexford) 3-8
Pan Celtic Senior A	Ballycastle	Slaughtneill
Pan Celtic Junior	Na Magha	Brídiní Óg
Pan Celtic U16 A	Inagh Kilnamona	Ballinascreen
Pan Celtic U16 B	Brídiní Óg	Granemore
Poc Fada	Patricia Jackman, Waterford	

Referee	Player Of The Match
John Dolan Ray Kelly Liz Dempsey John Horgan	Eimear O’Sullivan Niamh Mulcahy Niamh Dollard Lisa Scanlon
Aiden O’Brien Liz Dempsey Julie O’Neill Jenny Byrne	
Owen Elliot Peter Dowd Rosemary Hughes Merry	Beth Carton Aishling O’Dea
Mike O’Kelly	Sarah Fitzgerald
Ger O’Dowd Ray Kelly John McDonagh John Thompson	Denise Gaule Caroline Sugrue Mairead McCormack Elaine Kennedy
Alan Lagrue John Dolan Ger O’Dowd	Ashling Thompson Caithriona McGlone Megan Thynne
Owen Elliot Sean McGuigan Eamon Cassidy Martin Quilty Julie O’Neill Kevin Brady Philip Cullen Eamon Cassidy	Cait Devane Katrina Mackey
Ger O’Dowd Aiden O’Brien Michael Ward Louise Smith	
Ray Kelly John Thompson Richard McNicholas Jenny Byrne	

Appendix 4: Investing in clubs, counties and provinces

Throughout 2014, Ard Chomhairle continued to invest in clubs, counties and provinces. A number of funding initiatives are detailed below.

4.1 Start-up Grants Paid to New Clubs

€1,000 each paid to the following:

Omagh, Co. Tyrone
Banríon Gaels, Co. Laois
Midleton, Co. Cork
Nemo Rangers, Cork City
Tralee Parnells, Co. Kerry.

Total: €5,000

4.2 Féile Grants Paid

Paid to the following counties/representative teams (where no county board):

Kerry, Laois, Carlow, Mayo, Roscommon, Wicklow, Louth, Sligo, Leitrim, Fermanagh, Longford

Total: €2,100

4.3 Provincial Council Development Funding

Based on funding applications received from the Provincial Councils, the following allocations were approved:

Connacht Council: €11,384
Munster Council: €13,663
Leinster Council: €9,015
Ulster Council: €10,938

The balance of €5,000 was allocated across Provinces to financially support running of appropriate volunteer and administration training.

Total: €50,000

4.4 Capital Grants

In 2011, Ard Chomhairle agreed to implement a €100,000 capital funding scheme to financially support the development of playing and related facilities in camogie/GAA units. In all, 22 grants were awarded, with 17 of those grants paid/committed, to the value of €74,463 with final payments made in 2014. This scheme then closed. The list of grants paid/committed is as follows:

GALWAY CAMOGIE BOARD	5,110
TIPPERARY CAMOGIE BOARD	4,808
DUBLIN CAMOGIE BOARD	3,595
CORK CAMOGIE BOARD	14,350
INNISCARRA, CORK	6,600
CLARA, OFFALY	6,500
KILMALEY, CLARE	5,000
ORAN, ROSCOMMON	3,000
AN RÍOCHT, DOWN	3,000
ST COLMAN'S, GORT	3,000
CLONOULTY ROSSMORE, TIPPERARY	3,000
BALLINHASSIG, CORK	3,000
BUNCLODY, WEXFORD	3,000
DERRYLAUGHAN, TYRONE	2,500
GOOD COUNSEL CAMOGIE, DUBLIN	2,000
ST DOMINIC'S GAA, ROSCOMMON	2,000
NAOMH ÉANNA GAA, ANTRIM	2,000
RAHARNEY, WESTMEATH	2,000
TOTAL	€74,463

In 2014, Ard Chomhairle agreed to invest the unspent funds from the above allocation to implement a €25,000 capital funding scheme for county field developments. Three grants were awarded.

Clare Camogie Board	10,000
Cork Camogie Board	7,500
Galway Camogie Board	7,500
Total	€25,000

4.5 Grants Paid to Third Level Administration and Scholarships

CCAO Administration	€2000
CCAO Scholarships	€3000
Total	€5000

4.6 Grants Paid to 2014 All Ireland Finalists

All-Ireland senior finalists Cork/Kilkenny:	€1,000 each
All-Ireland intermediate finalists Kilkenny/Limerick:	€750 each
All-Ireland premier junior finalists Laois/Down:	€500 each
All-Ireland junior finalists: Limerick/Carlow:	€500 each
Total	€5,500

4.7 Travel Grant

Paid to Clanmaurice, Limerick county champions to participate in All Ireland Premier Junior quarter final in London.

Total	€2,000
--------------	---------------

Appendix 5: County Players of the Decade 2005 to 2014

County	Player
Antrim	Jane Adams
Derry	Claire O'Kane
Armagh	Bernie Murray
Down	Catherine McGourty
Monaghan	Siobhan McKenna
Tyrone	Julie Lagan
Tipperary	Clare Grogan
Clare	Deirdre Murphy
Cork	Mary O'Connor
Limerick	Sile Moynihan
Waterford	Patricia Jackman
Louth	Connie Crehan
Meath	Aileen Donnelly
Kildare	Susie O'Carroll
Dublin	Louise O'Hara
Carlow	Mary Coady
Kilkenny	Catherine Doherty
Offaly	Elaine Dermody
Wexford	Kate Kelly
Westmeath	Pamela Greville
Laois	Louise Mahony
Roscommon	Annette McGeeney
Galway	Therese Maher
London	Roisin O' Neill

*Appendix 6: 2014 All Stars, Soaring Stars and Manager of the Year***All Stars**

Position	Player	County
Goalkeeper	Aoife Murray	Cork
Right full back	Joanne O'Callaghan	Cork
Full back	Máire McGrath	Clare
Left full back	Sarah Dervan	Galway
Right half back	Eimear O'Sullivan	Cork
Centre back	Gemma O'Connor	Cork
Left half back	Collette Dormer	Kilkenny
Centre field	Rena Buckley	Cork
Centre field	Anne Dalton	Kilkenny
Right half forward	Jennifer O'Leary	Cork
Centre forward	Orla Cotter	Cork
Left half forward	Briege Corkery	Cork
Right full forward	Michelle Quilty	Kilkenny
Full forward	Ursula Jacob	Wexford
Left full forward	Katriona Mackey	Cork

Manager of the year

Joe Quaid, Limerick

Soaring Stars

Player	County
Laura Dunne	Laois
Karen Tinnelly	Down
Ciara McGovern	Down
Deirdre Johnstone	Dublin
Eimear Delaney	Laois
Lisa McAliskey	Down
Fionnuala Carr	Down
Dinah Loughlin	Westmeath
Karen McMullan	Down
Annette McGeeney	Roscommon
Sarah-Anne Fitzgerald	Laois
Catherine McGourty	Down
Niamh Mallon	Down
Niamh Dollard	Laois
Kelley Hopkins	Roscommon

Intermediate Soaring Stars	
Niamh Mulcahy	Limerick
Caoimhe Costello	Limerick
Catherine Foley	Kilkenny



2014 Cuntais Airgid



AN CUMANN CAMÓGAÍOCHTA
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31ST DECEMBER 2014

AN CUMANN CAMÓGAÍOCHTA
PÁIRC AN CHRÓCAIGH,
ÁTH CLIATH 3.

INDEX TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31st December 2014

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Ard Chomhairle's Responsibilities	71.
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Income Account	74.
Expenditure Account	75.
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STATEMENT OF ARD CHOMHAIRLE'S RESPONSIBILITIES

The Ard Chomhairle are responsible for preparing financial statements in accordance with applicable Irish Law and Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland, including the accounting standards issued by the Accounting Standards Board.


The Ard Chomhairle is required to prepare financial statements which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the association at the reporting date and of the surplus or deficit in the period reported on.

In preparing these financial statements the Ard Chomhairle is required to:

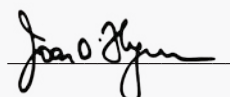
- (i) Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- (ii) Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- (iii) Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the organisation will continue its activities.

The Ard Chomhairle is responsible for keeping proper books of account which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the association.

The Ard Chomhairle is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the association and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.



Eibhlín Uí Leathlobhair
Uachtarán



Joan O'Flynn
Ard Stiúrthóir

REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2014

	Page	2014 €	2013 €
INCOME			
Grants An Chomhairle Spóirt	74.	378,519	384,283
Grants Cumann Lúthchleas Gael	74.	200,000	250,000
Other Income	74.	956,293	570,275
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total Income		1,534,812	1,204,558
EXPENDITURE			
Total Expenditure	75.	(1,500,971)	(1,125,223)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
SURPLUS OF INCOME OVER EXPENDITURE			
		33,841	79,335
Exceptional Items	79.	26,247	-
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		60,088	79,335
BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD			
		535,198	455,863
		<hr/>	<hr/>
BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD			
		595,286	535,198
		=====	=====

Eibhlín Uí Leathlobhair

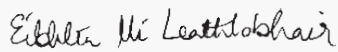
Eibhlín Uí Leathlobhair
Uachtarán

Joan O'Flynn

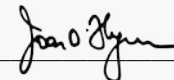
Joan O'Flynn
Ard Stiúrthóir

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2014

	Note	2014		2013	
		€	€	€	€
FIXED ASSETS	1.		-		-
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors/Prepayments	4.	161,770		147,284	
Stock		668		2,039	
Bank Deposits		741,841		734,875	
		<u>904,279</u>		<u>884,198</u>	
CREDITORS (amounts falling due within a year)					
Creditors and Accruals	5.	308,993		349,000	
		<u>308,993</u>		<u>535,198</u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			<u>595,286</u>		<u>535,198</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			<u>595,286</u>		<u>535,198</u>
REPRESENTED BY:					
Revenue Account			<u>595,286</u>		<u>535,198</u>
			<u>595,286</u>		<u>535,198</u>



Eibhlín Uí Leathlobhair
Uachtarán



Joan O'Flynn
Ard Stiúrthóir

INCOME ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2014

	2014	2013
	€	€
Affiliation Fees	426,450	130,700
Grants An Chomhairle Spóirt (Note 7)	378,519	384,283
Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Grants (Note 6)	200,000	250,000
Open Draw Championships (Note 8)	231,812	223,483
National Leagues	18,718	13,000
Programme Sales	18,204	24,800
Fines/Appeals	6,340	9,100
Sponsorships	152,070	102,890
Deposit Interest	9,977	11,838
Fundraising	3,042	3,739
Course/Workshop Fees/Merchandising	49,305	22,339
Licencing Income	39,992	25,992
Sundry Income	383	2,394
	-----	-----
TOTAL TO REVENUE ACCOUNT	1,534,812	1,204,558
	=====	=====

EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2014

	Note	2014		2013	
		€	€	€	€
Wages & Salaries	2.	555,413		505,357	
Staff Travel Expenses		69,238		64,735	
			624,652		570,092
Growing Participation					
Initiatives, Programmes & Grants					
International Development		62,822		29,486	
		14,164		4,992	
			76,968		34,478
Improving Performance					
Administration of Fixtures		202,756		190,118	
Coaching Events & Merchandising	2.	38,401		16,272	
Coaching Education Development		23,030		1,165	
Referee Development		16,487		5,403	
All Ireland Grants		8,750		4,000	
			289,425		216,958
Volunteer Development & Leadership					
Volunteer Development & Leadership			10,438		3,097
Enhancing Camogie's Profile					
All Star Awards		40,696		29,409	
Marketing and Public Relations		81,022		52,696	
Promotional Material		10,336		16,160	
Website		2,251		2,897	
			134,305		101,162
Strategic Grants					
Provincial Council Development Grants		85,005		50,000	
Club Equipment Grants		100,000		-	
			185,005		
Governance and Organisation Development					
Congress & Ard Chomhairle & Sub-Committee Expenses		72,304		67,328	
Child Protection Administration	2.	11,537		9,390	
Audit & Professional Fees		4,305		17,219	
Bank Interest & Charges		2,455		2,456	
Legal Fees		7,132		7,679	
Information Technology		33,813		13,259	
Stationery and Office Expenses		24,287		17,248	
Telephone		6,637		6,676	
Postage		5,500		3,000	
Staff Training & Development		6,376		2,177	
Sundry Expenses		4,017		3,003	
Bad Debts		1,798			
			180,161		149,435
TOTAL TO REVENUE ACCOUNT			1,500,971		1,125,223

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

BASIS OF PREPARATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting standards generally accepted in Ireland. Accounting standards generally accepted in Ireland giving a true and fair view are those issued by the accounting Standards Board.

ACCOUNTING CONVENTION

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention.

STOCKS

Stock is valued at cost.

FIXED ASSETS

Fixed assets are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation.

DEPRECIATION:

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

Equipment 20% Straight Line

PENSIONS

An Cumann Camógaíochta 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 and are included in the wages and salaries expense line.

GRANTS

In line with a directive from the Irish Sports Council, grants underspent by An Cumann Camógaíochta are treated as deferred income and accounted for separately in the balance sheet.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31st December 2014

1. FIXED ASSETS:

	Total €	Equipment €
Cost		
Opening Balance	48,556	48,556
Closing Balance	<u>48,556</u>	<u>48,556</u>
Depreciation		
Opening Balance	48,556	48,556
Closing Balance	<u>48,556</u>	<u>48,556</u>
Net Book Value 31st December 2014	-	-
	=====	=====
Net Book Value 31st December 2013	-	-
	=====	=====

2. STAFF NUMBERS AND COSTS

	2014	2013
The average number of employees was	14	14
	=====	=====

Staff Costs comprise of:

	2014 €	2013 €
Staff Wages & Salaries	490,392	442,641
Coaching, Tutors and Child Protection	11,910	10,851
Employer's PRSI Costs	53,532	48,777
Employer's Pension Contributions	12,424	13,102
	<u>568,258</u>	<u>515,371</u>
	=====	=====

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (contd.....)**For the year ended 31st December 2014****3. STOCKS**

	2014	2013
	€	€
Kay Mills Replica Cups	668	2,039
	=====	=====

4. DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS

	2014	2013
	€	€
Sponsorship	87,500	113,750
Grants	50,000	-
Licencing Income	14,521	13,328
Other Debtors	7,709	10,838
Prepayments	2,040	9,368
	-----	-----
	161,770	147,284
	=====	=====

5. CREDITORS**(amounts falling due within one year)**

	2014	2013
	€	€
Creditors	35,840	139,676
Grants	181,832	112,310
Accruals	49,350	29,231
PAYE & USC	7,484	10,146
PRSI	6,487	12,288
Sundry Creditors	2,820	167
Deferred Income Coca Cola Fund	-	10,000
Players Welfare Scheme	13,500	13,500
Insurance Rebate	11,680	21,680
	-----	-----
	308,993	348,998
	=====	=====

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (contd.....)

For the year ended 31st December 2014

6. CUMANN LÚTHCHLEAS GAEL

	2014	2013
	€	€
Ard Chomhairle	200,000	200,000
Development	-	50,000
	<u>200,000</u>	<u>250,000</u>
	=====	=====

7. AN CHOMHAIRLE SPÓIRT (Irish Sports Council)

The grant received from An Chomhairle Spóirt was €378,519. This was wholly expended during the year for the purpose for which it was intended by An Chomhairle Spóirt.

8. OPEN DRAW CHAMPIONSHIPS

	2014	2013
	€	€
Inter County	160,338	155,612
Club	43,664	34,131
Club Levy All Ireland Tickets	27,810	33,740
	<u>231,812</u>	<u>223,483</u>
	=====	=====

9. EXCEPTIONAL ITEMS

Prior year provisions of Provincial County Grants €20,470 and Insurance Rebates €10,000 were written back during the year. There was also an accrual re additional 2013 All Ireland Final expenses €4,223.

10. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

There were no capital commitments or contingent liabilities at 31st December 2014.

11. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS

The accounts were approved by Ard Chomhairle on 7th February 2015.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT

To the Ard Chomhairle An Cumann Camógaíochta

We have audited Financial Statements of An Cumann Camógaíochta for the year ended 31st December 2014 which comprise the Revenue Account, Income and Expenditure Accounts, Balance Sheet and related notes. 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, An Cumann Camógaíochta. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Ard Chomhairle those matters which we are required to state to them in an auditor's 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 Ard Chomhairle, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or the opinions we have formed.

Respective Responsibilities of Ard Chomhairle and Auditors

The Ard Chomhairle of An Cumann Camógaíochta is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with applicable accounting policies.

Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and Auditing Standards issued by the Auditing Practising Board in Ireland and the United Kingdom.

We report to you 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 An Cumann Camógaíochta's Balance Sheet and Income and Expenditure account are in agreement with the books of account and returns.

Basis of Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) issued by the Auditing Practices Board. 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 organization, 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, An Cumann Camógaíochta, 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.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS REPORT (cont.....)**To the Ard Chomhairle An Cumann Camógaíochta****Qualified Audit Opinion Arising from Limitation in Audit Scope**

Except for any 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 the state of affairs of An Cumann Camógaíochta as at 31st December 2014 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 An Cumann Camógaíochta.

The financial statements are in agreement with the books of account



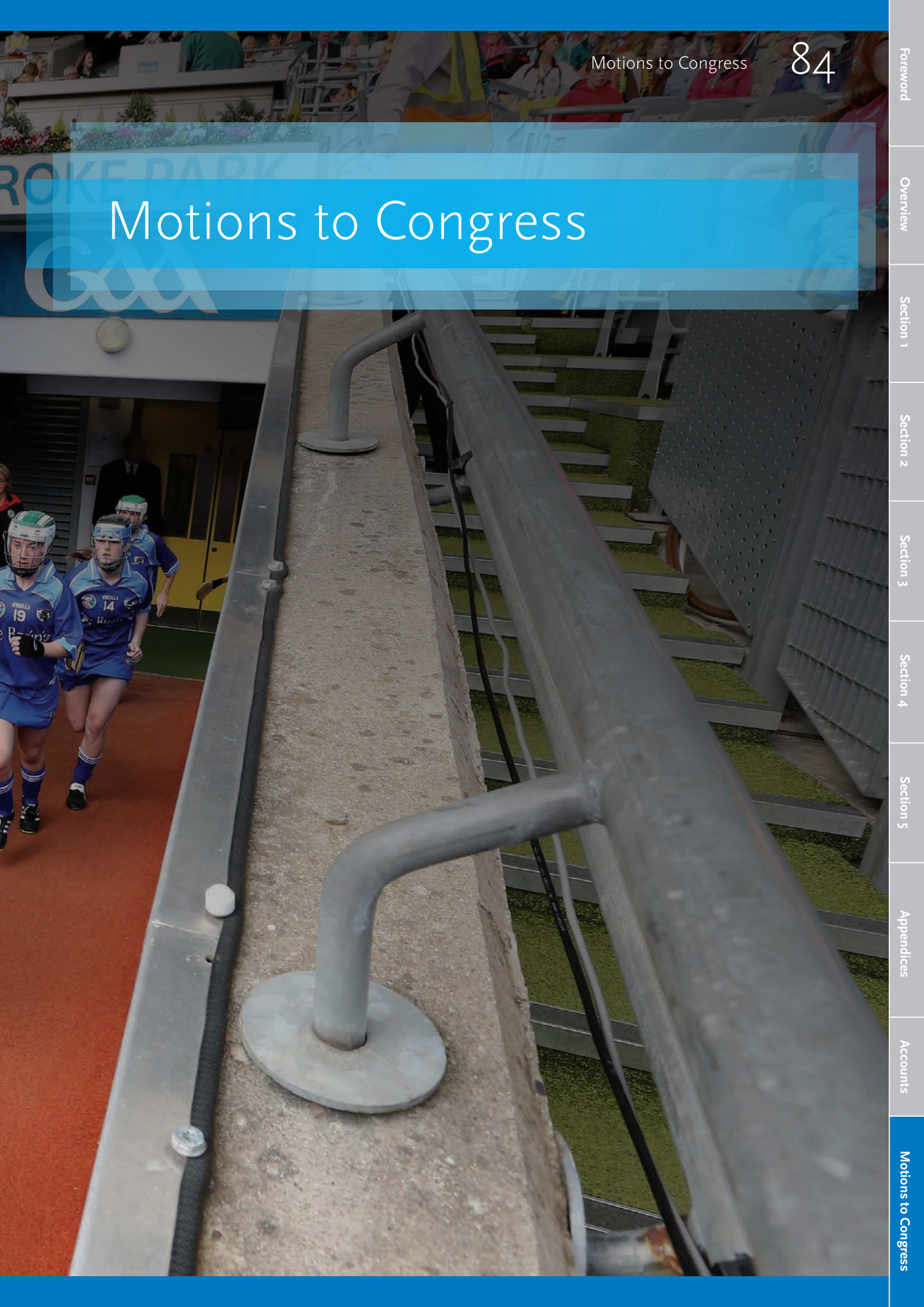
Ronan Leech
For and on behalf of:
Ronan Leech & Company
Statutory Auditor

Hill House
26 Sion Hill Road
Drumcondra
Dublin 9

Date: 7th February 2015



Motions to Congress



Na Rúin/Motions

A. Motions to amend the Official Guide Part 1

Please note that the wording of amendments to existing rules is shown in **bold**.

Wording of a proposed new rule is shown in *italics*.

A ~~strikethrough~~ is used to denote the deletion of a word or words.

1. That Rule 3.4: (under Section 3 Basic Structure of the Association)

Each Unit under Ard Chomhairle must have an Executive Committee to run its affairs. The members of the Executive Committee are elected at the Unit's Annual General Meeting or Convention.

The Executive Committee at club, county and provincial levels, must be comprised of the following core Officers: Cathaoirleach (Chairperson), Leas Cathaoirleach (Vice- Chairperson), Rúnaí (Secretary), Cisteoir (Treasurer), Cláraitheoir (Registrar), Oifigeach Caidreamh Poiblí (P.R.O.), Oifigeach na bPáistí (Children's Officer), Oifigeach Forbartha (Development Officer) and Delegate(s) to the higher Unit. The Children's Officer must be appointed by the Executive Committee. All Officers must be members of the Association and are entitled to vote at meetings by virtue of that office. No delegate to the higher unit is required for National Education Councils or International Units.

is amended to read:

1. Each Unit under Ard Chomhairle must have an Executive Committee to run its affairs. The members of the Executive Committee are elected at the Unit's Annual General Meeting or Convention.

The Executive Committee at club, county and provincial levels, must be comprised of the following core Officers: Cathaoirleach (Chairperson), Leas Cathaoirleach (Vice- Chairperson), Rúnaí (Secretary), Cisteoir (Treasurer), Cláraitheoir (Registrar), Oifigeach Caidreamh Poiblí (P.R.O.), Oifigeach na bPáistí (Children's Officer), Oifigeach Forbartha (Development Officer) and Delegate(s) to the higher Unit. The Children's Officer must be appointed by the Executive Committee. All Officers must be members of the Association and are entitled to vote at meetings by virtue of that office. No delegate to the higher unit is required for National Education Councils or International Units.

If a unit fails to elect a full complement of Executive Committee members at an AGM, and following at least one re-convened AGM (see also Rule 18.9), the unit may make interim arrangements and must notify these to the higher unit

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

2. That Rule 4.2: (under Section 4 Membership)

Persons wishing to become members (playing/non-playing) of the Association will pay to the Club, an annual membership fee. The fee will be decided at the Annual General Meeting. On payment of a membership fee, the person will be registered as a member of the Association and will have a right to vote, subject to Rule 5.3, at meetings and at the Annual General Meeting or Convention of the Unit concerned.

is amended to read:

4.2 Persons wishing to become members (playing/non-playing) of the Association will pay to the Club, an annual membership fee. The fee will be decided at the Annual General Meeting. **On receipt of club affiliation at national level, membership of the Association is established and a member** will have a right to vote, subject to Rule 5.3, at meetings and at the Annual General Meeting or Convention of the Unit concerned.

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

3. That Rule 4.2.1:

There will be four types of membership

- (i) Full membership for persons who are players and have reached the age of 18 years
- (ii) Youth membership for persons who are players and have not reached the age of eighteen years
- (iii) Administrators/Coaches/Referees who are non-players
- (iv) Social membership; may be granted to persons, who subscribe to and undertake to further the aims and objectives of the Club and the Camogie Association, but who do not seek to take part in the administrative or games related affairs of the Club. These members will have full voting rights as per rule 18.3.a.

is amended to read:

4.2.1 There will be four types of membership

- (i) Full membership for persons who are players and have reached the age of 18 years
- (ii) Youth membership for persons who are players and have not reached the age of eighteen years
- (iii) Administrators/Coaches/Referees/**Team Mentors at all levels of the Association** who are non-players
- (iv) Social membership; may be granted to persons, who subscribe to and undertake to further the aims and objectives of the Club and the Camogie Association, but who do not seek to take part in the administrative or games related affairs of the Club. These members will have full voting rights as per rule 18.3.a.

Rules affected Rule 4.2.2

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

4. That Rule 4.2.2:

Before April 1st a club must submit annually affiliation/membership fees as outlined in the table below:

Affiliation Fee/ Membership Type	Affiliation Fee per Member to County Board
Youth Members (Players)	€13
Full Members (Adult Players)	€23
Full Members (Coaches/Administrator/ Referees)	€3
Social Members	All Revenue to Club

Before April 30th each County Board must annually forward on behalf of each affiliated club within the county to the Provincial Council, fees as outlined in the table below and retain the balance:

<i>Affiliation Fee/ Membership Fee</i>	Amount of Affiliation Fee sent to Provincial Council	Retained by County Board
Youth Members (Players)	€8	€5
Full Members (Adult Players)	€18	€5
Full Members (Coaches/ Administrator/ Referees)	€3	€0
Social Members	€0	€0

Before May 15th each Provincial Council must annually forward on behalf of each affiliated club within the Province to Ard Chomhairle, fees as outlined in table below and retain the balance:

<i>Affiliation Fee/ Membership Fee</i>	Amount of Affiliation Fee sent to Ard Comhairle	Retained by Provincial Board
Youth Members (Players)	€6	€2
Full Members (Adult Players)	€16	€2
Full Members (Coaches/ Administrator/ Referees)	€3	€0
Social Members	€0	€0

is deleted and replace with new rule 4.2.2:

4.2.2 Before 30th April each year a club must submit affiliation/membership fees as outlined in the table below. Once a club is affiliated, its members remain registered until 29th April of the following year.

<i>Affiliation Fee/ Membership Type</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Affiliation fee per member to county board</i>	<i>Affiliation fee per member to Provincial Council</i>	<i>Affiliation fee per member to Ard Chomhairle</i>
<i>Youth Members (Players)</i>	€ 13	€ 5	€ 2	€ 6
<i>Full Members (Adult Players)</i>	€ 23	€ 5	€ 2	€ 16
<i>Full Members (Coaches/Ad- ministrators/Referees)</i>	€ 3	€ 0	€ 0	€ 3
<i>Social members</i>	<i>All revenue to club</i>			

Rules affected: 5.4, 6.5, 6.6, 7.5

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

5. That Rule 6.4h: (under Section 6 County Boards)

Each County Board is required to:....

h. Appoint a Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Sub-Committee to hear and adjudicate on transfers, objections and to independently investigate irregularities and have autonomy to suspend, fine or disqualify clubs or individuals for games breaches of the Rules of the Association or any bye-laws made thereunder in accordance with the Disciplinary Code. The committee will act in accordance with the procedures agreed and issued by Ard Chomhairle.

is amended to read:

Each County Board is required to:....

h. Appoint a Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Sub-Committee to hear and adjudicate on transfers, objections and to independently investigate irregularities and have autonomy to suspend, fine or disqualify clubs, individuals or **debar units** for games breaches of the Rules of the Association or any bye-laws made thereunder in accordance with the Disciplinary Code. The committee will act in accordance with the procedures agreed and issued by Ard Chomhairle.

Rules affected: 7.4h; 8.1d; 9.2d; 10.8

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

6. That Rule 10.2f: (under Section 10 Ard Chomhairle)

Ard Chomhairle is comprised of...

f. Two trustees who shall be appointed by Ard Chomhairle for a period of four years is deleted.

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

7. That Rule 10.3:

Ard Chomhairle will elect a secretary for a three year term from within its existing membership is deleted and rules are re-numbered accordingly

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

8. That Rule 10.2g:

g. Three members elected by Congress for a three year term as follows:

- coaching and games development representative: a member with demonstrated Coaching & Games Development expertise, nominated by at least one County Board, Provincial Council, International Board or National Education Council, who will also serve on the National Coaching and Games Development Sub- Committee;
- PR and communications representative: a member with demonstrated communications and marketing expertise, nominated by at least one County Board, Provincial Council, International Board or National Education Council who will serve on the National Communications and marketing Sub-Committee.
- Treasurer: a member with demonstrated financial expertise, nominated by at least one County Board, Provincial Council, International Board or National Education Council, who will serve on the National Resource Management Sub-Committee

is amended to read and rules thereafter are re-numbered accordingly:

Ard Chomhairle is comprised of...

g. **Four** members elected by Congress for a three year term as follows:

- coaching and games development representative: a member with demonstrated Coaching & Games Development expertise, nominated by at least one County Board, Provincial Council, International Board or National Education Council, who will also serve on the National Coaching and Games Development Sub- Committee;
- PR and communications representative: a member with demonstrated communications and marketing expertise, nominated by at least one County Board, Provincial Council, International Board or National Education Council who will serve on the National Communications and marketing Sub-Committee;
- **Secretary: a member with demonstrated administrative experience, nominated by at least one County Board, Provincial Council, International Board or National Education Board, who will serve on the National Resource Management Sub-Committee;**
- Treasurer: a member with demonstrated financial expertise, nominated by at least one County Board, Provincial Council, International Board or National Education Council, who will serve on the National Resource Management Sub-Committee.

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

9. That Rule 21.1: (under Section 21 Fees and Charges)

Every club affiliated to An Cumann Camógaíochta is required to purchase two adult tickets for the All Ireland Camogie Finals in Croke Park

is amended to read:

21.1 Every club affiliated to An Cumann Camógaíochta is required to purchase tickets for the All Ireland Camogie Finals in Croke Park, to the value of two full priced adult tickets.

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

10. That Rule 26.3: (under Section 26 Anti-doping Compliance)

The ordinary disciplinary and appeals procedures, as set out in An Treoraí Oifigiúil will not apply in cases of alleged violations of the Anti-Doping Rules. In accordance with the Anti-Doping Rules Ard Chomhairle will appoint a Disciplinary Panel, which will hear alleged violations of the rules and determine the consequences of Anti-Doping Rule violations to be imposed pursuant to the Anti-Doping Rules. The composition and jurisdiction of the Disciplinary Committee and the procedures to be followed in hearings, will be in accordance with the Anti-Doping Rules. Appeals against the decisions of the Disciplinary Committee must be pursued in accordance with the Anti-Doping Rules

is amended to read:

26.3 The ordinary disciplinary and appeals procedures, as set out in An Treoir Oifigiúil will not apply in cases of alleged violations of the Anti-Doping Rules. **The anti-doping rules of the Camogie Association are the Irish Anti-Doping Rules as amended from time to time. Any anti-doping rule violation will be dealt with under the Irish Anti-Doping Rules.**

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

11. That Rule 27.8: (under Section 27 Rules and Disciplinary Enforcement Powers)

27.8. Disciplinary hearing timeframes

Timeframes for dealing with disciplinary matters are as follows: Executive Committee referral to the Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Sub- Committee within three days of suspected breach being brought to their attention. Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Sub-Committee must initiate a hearing and/or investigation within seven days of receiving referral Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Sub-Committee must issue its decision to the party or parties no later than 21 days from the original notification of the breach. (Ref Rule 44 and 45 re penalties)

is amended to read:

27.8 Timeframes for dealing with disciplinary matters are as follows: Executive Committee referral to the Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Sub- Committee within three days of suspected breach being brought to their attention. Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Sub-Committee must initiate a hearing and/or investigation within seven days of receiving referral. **The** Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Sub-Committee must issue its **final** decision to the party or parties no later than 21 days from the original notification of the breach. (Ref **Section** 44 and **Rule** 45 re penalties)

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

12. That Rule 28.2: (under Section 28 Player Eligibility)

In Inter-County Competition a player is automatically eligible to represent her native County. If the County in which a player is registered is not her native County, she may declare for her adopted County in Inter County competition.

Such declaration must be made on Official Form C.C.3., properly completed in duplicate, and lodged with the Ard Stiurthoir by 31st January each year. However where the adopted County is outside of Ireland then a player may still declare for her adopted County in Inter-County competition after this date.

This declaration will become effective three days after acknowledgement by the Ard Stiurthoir. A player will not represent more than one County in the same season.

is amended to read:

28.2. In Inter-County Competition a player is automatically eligible to represent her native County. If the County in which a player is registered is not her native County, she may declare for her adopted County in Inter County competition.

Such declaration must be made on Official Form CC3, properly completed in duplicate, and lodged with the Ard Stiurthoir by 31st January ~~each year~~. However where the adopted County is outside of Ireland then a player may still declare for her adopted County in Inter-County competition after this date.

This declaration will become effective three days after acknowledgement by the Ard Stiúrthóir. A player will not represent more than one county in the same season.

Once permission to declare for an adopted county is granted to a player, it is not necessary to repeat application, unless the player wishes to declare back to her native county.

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

13. That Rule 28.7:

Combination or divisional teams may not enter the provincial and All Ireland Club Championship competitions. In the case where a combination/ divisional being county champions, the beaten finalists will represent the county. In the event of the finalists being two divisional/combined teams the beaten semi-finalists will play off to represent their county

is deleted.

TÍR EOGHAIN

14. That Rule 29.1: (under Section 29 Player Grading for Club Competitions)

Any player who plays a higher graded Championship is not eligible thereafter to play in a lower graded league or championship. This applies to all graded competitions e.g. adult and under-age A, B and C competitions.

is amended to read:

29.1 Any player who plays a higher graded Championship is not eligible thereafter to play in a lower graded league or championship **in the same year**. This applies to all graded competitions e.g. adult and under age A, B and C competitions.

CORCAIGH

15. That Rule 29.3:

A player may apply to the County Board, by a date specified by the Board, to be re-graded in the following year. A player's application must specify the reason for her grading request. The County Board may delegate responsibility for dealing with applications for Re-grading to a Sub-Committee. The Re-Grading Sub Committee must make a recommendation to the County Board for ratification. If a re-grading application is unsuccessful, within five days, the player must be personally notified in writing of the reasons

is amended to read:

29.3 A player who fails to make the higher grade team in her club for championship competition is automatically re-graded to play in a lower grade competition.

CORCAIGH

16. That Rule 30.1: (under Player Grading for Inter-County Competitions)

Any player who plays a higher graded Championship is not eligible thereafter to play in a lower grade championship or national league. Grading of players for inter-county competitions will be defined as follows:

Senior

- a. Any player who plays senior championship is only eligible thereafter to play division 1 national league and senior championship. For re-grading see Rule 30.2.
- b. An All-Ireland senior medal winner who has played senior championship will not be eligible to apply for re-grading for a further two years. For re-grading see Rule 30.2.
- c. An All-Ireland senior medal winner who has not played senior championship will be eligible to apply for re-grading for the following year. For re-grading see Rule 30.2

Intermediate

- a. Any player who plays intermediate championship is only eligible thereafter to play division 1 and 2 national league and intermediate championship. For re-grading see Rule 30.2.
- b. An All-Ireland intermediate medal winner who has played intermediate championship will not be eligible to apply for re-grading for a further two years. For re-grading see Rule 30.2
- c. An All-Ireland intermediate medal winner who has not played intermediate championship will be eligible to apply for re-grading for the following year. For re-grading see Rule 30.2

Junior

- a. Any player who plays at a higher level in the All-Ireland junior championship is only eligible thereafter to play higher level junior championship or higher level national leagues. For re-grading see Rule 30.2
- b. An All-Ireland junior medal winner who has played junior championship will not be eligible to apply for re-grading to a lower junior graded for a further two years. For re-grading see Rule 30.2
- c. An All Ireland junior medal winner who has not played junior championship will be eligible to apply for re-grading for the following year. For re-grading see Rule 30.2.

Minor (Under 18)

An U-18 player will be eligible to represent her County in the All-Ireland Minor Championship. She may participate in adult competitions, including the All-Ireland Senior Championship, without prejudice to her eligibility for Minor competition.

Under 16

An U-16 will be eligible to represent her County in the All-Ireland Under 16 Championship and Minor Championship.

is amended to read:

30.1 Any player who plays a higher graded Championship is not eligible thereafter to play in a lower grade championship or national league. Grading of players for inter-county competitions will be defined as follows:

Senior

- a. Any player who plays senior championship is only eligible thereafter to play division 1 national league and senior championship. For re-grading see Rule 30.2.
- b. An All-Ireland senior medal winner who has played senior championship will not be eligible to apply for re-grading **for a year**
- c. An All-Ireland senior medal winner who has not played senior championship will be eligible to apply for re-grading for the following year. For re-grading see Rule 30.2

Intermediate

- a. Any player who plays intermediate championship is only eligible thereafter to play division 1 and 2 national league and intermediate championship. For re-grading see Rule 30.2.
- b. An All-Ireland intermediate medal winner who has played intermediate championship will not be eligible to apply for re-grading **for a year**.
- c. An All-Ireland intermediate medal winner who has not played intermediate championship will be eligible to apply for re- grading for the following year. For re-grading see Rule 30.2

Junior

- a. Any player who plays at a higher level in the All-Ireland junior championship is only eligible thereafter to play higher level junior championship or higher level national leagues. For re-grading see Rule 30.2
- b. An All-Ireland junior medal winner who has played junior championship will not be eligible to apply for re-grading to a lower junior graded for a further two years. For re-grading see Rule 30.2
- c. An All Ireland junior medal winner who has not played junior championship will be eligible to apply for re-grading for the following year. For re- grading see Rule 30.2.

Minor (Under 18)

An U-18 player will be eligible to represent her County in the All-Ireland Minor Championship. She may participate in adult competitions, including the All-Ireland Senior Championship, without prejudice to her eligibility for Minor competition.

Under 16

An U-16 will be eligible to represent her County in the All-Ireland Under 16 Championship and Minor Championship.

COMHAIRLE CHONNACHTA AGUS AN GAILLIMH

**17. That Rule 33.6:
(under Section 36 Competitions Management and Administration)**

At all levels of the Association, where competitions are run on a league basis, whether on a single or a double round system two points will be awarded for a win and one for a draw

is deleted and re-number rules thereafter

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

**18. That Rule 33.7:
(under Section 36 Competitions Management and Administration)**

All levels of the Association, where competitions are run on a league basis, whether single or double round system, a play-off match is required

- when two or more teams top the League Table on points at the end of a competition and where only one team can progress to the next stage of the competition.
- where only one team can be deemed a winner of the competition

is deleted and re-number remaining rules in Section 33.

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

19. That Rule 34.5: (under Section 34 All Ireland Inter County Competitions)

The Finals of All-Ireland competitions must be played on or before the dates specified hereunder:

- Senior, Premier Junior and Junior Championships: the last Sunday in September;
- Intermediate Championships: the last Sunday in October;
- Minor Championships: the last Sunday in October;
- Under 16 Championships: the last Sunday in October;
- National Leagues: the last Sunday in May;
- Senior & Junior Inter-Provincial Championships: the last Sunday in November;
- Senior, Intermediate and Junior Club Championship: the 17th March of the following calendar year

is amended to read:

34.5. The Finals of All-Ireland competitions must be played on or before the dates specified hereunder:

- Senior, Premier Junior and Junior Championships: the last Sunday in September;
- Intermediate Championships: the last Sunday in October;
- Minor Championships: the last Sunday in October;
- Under 16 Championships: the last Sunday in October;
- National Leagues: the last Sunday in May;
- Senior & Junior Inter-Provincial Championships: the last Sunday in November;
- **All Ireland club series is finished in the calendar year**

LOCH GARMAN

20. That Rule 35.2: (under Section 35 All Ireland Club Championships)

The grading of Counties for the All-Ireland Club Championship(s) will be decided by Ard Chomhairle

is amended to read:

35.2 The grading of counties for the All Ireland Club Championship(s) will be decided by County Boards.

Rule affected 10.60

DOIRE

21. That Rule 41.2: (under Section 41 Duties and powers of the Referee)

The Referee will:

- Decide whether ground or other conditions are suitable for play; (also see Rule 33.5.)
- Deal with the intrusion of unauthorised persons on to the playing pitch;
- Record and report the names of players or officials interfering during the course of a match;
- Ensure the game starts on time and report teams that fail to comply. (Also See Rule 39.2)

is amended to read:

41.2 The Referee will:

- Decide whether ground or other conditions are suitable for play; (also see Rule 33.5.)
- Deal with the intrusion of unauthorised persons on to the playing pitch;
- Record and report the names of players or officials interfering during the course of a match;
- **Take the name of the offender and request him/her to go outside the pitch area, when a team mentor or known team partisan is adjudged by the Referee to have been abusive or behaving in a threatening manner to any Match Official. The nature of the abuse must be included in the Referee's Report**
- Ensure the game starts on time and report teams that fail to comply. (Also See Rule 39.2)

- **Temporarily suspend play for a serious injury to a player, sudden deterioration in the weather, broken goalposts, pitch invasion or for any other matter/incident that s/he feels warrants such a decision.**

Play should be temporarily suspended for a maximum period of 15 minutes. If the issue cannot be resolved during this period, then the match should be abandoned. The referee, having decided to temporarily suspend play, should simultaneously inform team officials from both teams that play is being suspended. Teams may retire to their dressing rooms and if the issue is resolved within the specified period, play will be resumed within 5 minutes of the team managers of both teams being informed by the referee that the issue has been resolved.

As the referee so instructs team officials from both teams, the sideline official should inform the public announcer (PA) of this, where operable, so that spectators may be informed what is happening.

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

22. That Rule 41.3: (under Section 41 Duties and powers of the Referee)

The Referee must keep a record of the match and must lodge with the Committee in charge a report of the match including the score and commencing and finishing time of each half. Such report must be submitted on Official Form CC5, together with signed Team Lists, on or before the sixth calendar day after the date of the match. The Referee's report must be considered as final except where the Committee in charge is satisfied beyond all reasonable doubt that the match was not refereed in accordance with the Rules. Failure of a referee to submit a report does not render the game null and void.

is amended to read:

41.3 The Referee must keep a record of the match and must lodge with the Committee in charge a report of the match including the score and commencing and finishing time of each half. Such report must be submitted on Official Form CC5, together with signed Team Lists, on or before the sixth calendar day after the date of the match. The Referee's report must be considered as final except where the Committee in charge is satisfied beyond all reasonable doubt that the match was not refereed in accordance with the Rules. Failure of a referee to submit a report does not render the game null and void.

For a trial period, should Ard Chomhairle so decide, a Referee or Goal Umpire may seek and/or obtain a clarification, from the officially sanctioned Score Detection System where operable, that a sliotar has gone between the posts for a point or outside the posts for a wide. The protocols for the operation and use of the system must be in accordance with the specific provisions determined and authorised by Ard Chomhairle.

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

23. That Rule 41.5: (under Section 41 Duties and powers of the Referee)

The Referee must:

- Give a final decision on scores or wides where the Goal Umpires disagree, or where there is only one Goal Umpire or no goal umpire. The Referee must not over-rule the joint decision of both Goal Umpires;
- Give a final decision on side-line pucks and may over-rule the decision of a Line Umpire. In the absence of a Line Umpire, the Referee's decision must be final.
- The Referee may consult the Goal and Line Umpires on any matter during the course
- of the match

is amended to read:

41.5 The Referee must:

- Give a final decision on scores or wides where the Goal Umpires disagree, or where there is only one Goal Umpire or no goal umpire. The Referee must not over-rule the joint decision of both Goal Umpires;
- Give a final decision on side-line pucks and may over-rule the decision of a Line Umpire. In the absence of a Line Umpire, the Referee's decision must be final.

The Referee may:

- **consult the Goal and Line Umpires on any matters during the course of the match**
- **apply the appropriate penalty when his/her attention is drawn to a rule infringement by a Goal/Line Umpire (see Rules 42.2 and 42.3)**

ARD CHOMHAIRLE**24. That Rule 41.9e: (under Section 41 Duties and Powers of the Referee)**

41.9. The Referee must dismiss a player from the field of play in the following instances:...

- e. A player dismissed from the field of play in a, b, c, or d above stand suspended until they appear before the relevant Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Committee which will decide on the action to be taken (Ref Rule 27 and Rule 44). This meeting must be held within sixteen days of the date of the match in question.

is amended as follows:

41.9. The Referee must dismiss a player from the field of play in the following instances:...

- e. A player dismissed from the field of play in a, b, c, or d above stand suspended until they appear before the relevant Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Committee which will decide on the action to be taken (Ref Section 27 and Section 44). ~~This meeting must be held within sixteen days of the date of the match in question.~~

ARD CHOMHAIRLE**25. That Rule 43.2: (under Section 43 Duties and powers of Line Umpires)**

43.2 The Line Umpire must:

- make a decision on where the sliotar crosses the side-line and which team is entitled to the consequent side-line puck;
- indicate decisions to the Referee with the following signals:
- raising a flag and pointing it in the direction in which the side-line puck is to be taken; pointing to the spot from which the side-line puck is to be taken;
- raising the flag upright in the event of a clashed sliotar, or if unable to decide which team put the ball out of play; pointing to the spot at which the Referee should throw in the sliotar;
- give the Referee any assistance she/he may seek in relation to play;
- draw the Referee's attention to any rule infringements.

is amended to read:

43.2 The Line Umpire must:

- make a decision on where the sliotar crosses the side-line and which team is entitled to the consequent side-line puck;
- indicate decisions to the Referee with the following signals:
- ~~raise~~ a flag and ~~pointing~~ it in the direction in which the side-line puck is to be taken; ~~pointing~~ to the spot from which the side-line puck is to be taken;

- raise the flag upright in the event of a clashed sliotar, or if unable to decide which team put the **sliotar** out of play; pointing to the spot at which the Referee should throw in the sliotar;
- draw the Referee's attention to any rule infringements by raising the flag;
- give the Referee any assistance she/he may seek in relation to play

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

26. That Rule 44.1.2: (under Section 44 Penalties)

44.1.2. The following mandatory penalties apply in the following circumstances:

- Persistent dissent by a player or team official towards a referee's decision
 - An automatic two match ban for the player or official in the competition that the offence took place.
- To use abusive or threatening language, gestures or behaviour, (including but not limited to anything which could be construed as sectarian, racist or homophobic), towards a referee, match official, any player or team official.
 - An automatic two match ban applicable to all official competitions sanctioned by the committee in charge that the player or official is involved in. For the purposes of
 - a match ban tournaments and challenge/friendly games are not considered official competitions.
 - The Unit which the player/official was representing in competition will be fined
 - €100 for a first offence. The fine will increase by €100 for each subsequent guilty offence within the calendar year, i.e. for the 3rd guilty offence in same year the fine will be €300
 - Should the Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Sub-Committee adjudge the offence sufficiently serious, it may disqualify the offender's team from the competition in question.
- Punching, hitting (without a hurley) or kicking a player in a manner that the referee deems non-accidental
 - An automatic three match ban applicable to all official competitions sanctioned by the committee in charge that the player or official is involved in.
- Kicking, hitting or striking of a match official by a player or team mentor or known partisan in a manner that the Referee deems non-accidental.
 - An automatic 48 weeks suspension from all camogie membership and activity.
- Striking a player with a hurley in a manner that the Referee deems non-accidental.
 - An automatic three match ban applicable to all official competitions sanctioned by the committee in charge that the player or official is involved in.

In the case of a. to e. above, all penalties will carry over from one season to the next until the ban is fully served.

is amended to read:

44.1.2. The following mandatory penalties apply in the following circumstances:

- a. Persistent dissent by a player or team official towards a referee's decision
 - An automatic two match ban for the player or official in the competition that the offence took place.
 - b. To use abusive or threatening language, gestures or behaviour, (including but not limited to anything which could be construed as sectarian, racist or homophobic), towards a referee, match official, any player or team official.
 - An automatic two match ban applicable to all official competitions sanctioned by the committee in charge that the player or official is involved in. For the purposes of
 - a match ban tournaments and challenge/friendly games are not considered official competitions.
 - The Unit which the player/official was representing in competition will be fined
 - €100 for a first offence. The fine will increase by €100 for each subsequent guilty offence within the calendar year, i.e. for the 3rd guilty offence in same year the fine will be €300
 - Should the Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Sub-Committee adjudge the offence sufficiently serious, it may disqualify the offender's team from the competition in question.
 - c. Punching, hitting (without a hurley) or kicking a player in a manner that the referee deems non-accidental
 - An automatic three match ban applicable to all official competitions sanctioned by the committee in charge that the player or official is involved in.
 - d. Kicking, hitting or striking of a match official by a player or team mentor or known partisan in a manner that the Referee deems non-accidental.
 - An automatic 48 weeks suspension from all camogie membership and activity.
 - e. Striking a player with a hurley in a manner that the Referee deems non-accidental.
 - An automatic three match ban applicable to all official competitions sanctioned by the committee in charge that the player or official is involved in.
- In the case of a. to e. above, all penalties will carry over from one season to the next until the ban is fully served.

In the case of an offence undertaken in games under Ard Chomhairle auspices, an automatic match ban refers to all official competitions (e.g. championships, league, other competitions) sanctioned by Ard Chomhairle as the committee in charge.

In the case of an offence undertaken in games under Provincial Council auspices, an automatic match ban refers to all official competitions (e.g. championships, league, other competitions) sanctioned by Provincial Council as the committee in charge.

In the case of an offence undertaken in games under County Board auspices, an automatic match ban refers to all official competitions (e.g. championships, league, other competitions) sanctioned by County Board as the committee in charge.

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

27. That Rule 44.2.2:

44.2.2. The following penalties will be imposed by the Unit in charge of the competition on a Unit adjudged guilty of fielding an illegal or suspended player, players or team:

- The team must forfeit the match to its opponents and may be disqualified from the remainder of the competition in question;
- Team Officials responsible will, if knowledge of the circumstances be proven, be suspended for at least three months;
- Unit Officers will, if knowledge of the circumstances be proven, be suspended for at least three months.

is amended to read:

44.2.2. The following penalties will be imposed by the **Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Committee (THDC)** on a Unit adjudged guilty of fielding an illegal or suspended player, players or team:

- The team must forfeit the match to its opponents and may be disqualified from the remainder of the competition in question;
- Team Officials responsible will, if knowledge of the circumstances be proven, be suspended for at least three months;
- Unit Officers will, if knowledge of the circumstances be proven, be suspended for at least three months.

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

28. That Rule 44.2.3:

44.2.3 Where a competition is confined to a specific under age-group, the following penalties will be imposed by the Unit in charge of the competition on a Unit adjudged guilty of fielding an illegal player, players or team:

- The team must forfeit the match to its opponents and may be disqualified from the remainder of the competition in question;
- Team Officials responsible will, if knowledge of the circumstances be proven, be suspended for at least six months;
- Unit Officers will, if knowledge of the circumstances be proven, be suspended for at least six months.

is amended to read:

44.2.3 Where a competition is confined to a specific under age-group, the following penalties will be imposed by the **Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Committee (THDC)** on a Unit adjudged guilty of fielding an illegal player, players or team:

- The team must forfeit the match to its opponents and may be disqualified from the remainder of the competition in question;
- Team Officials responsible will, if knowledge of the circumstances be proven, be suspended for at least six months;
- Unit Officers will, if knowledge of the circumstances be proven, be suspended for at least six months.

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

B. Motions to amend the Official Guide Part II Playing Rules

Please note that the wording of amendments to existing rules is shown in **bold**.

Wording of a proposed new rule is shown in *italics*.

A ~~strikethrough~~ is used to denote the deletion of a word or words.

1. That Rule 6 Playing Gear:

- Teams are required to wear distinctive colours. In all instances all members of the same team must be uniformly dressed.
- Playing gear must be of Irish manufacture if possible. It must consist of:
 - Skirt/skort/divided skirt, sports jersey with long or short sleeves, knee socks and boots. Bodywear may also be worn.

Goalkeepers may wear team tracksuit in all competitions other than national finals.

The crest of the An Cumann Camógaíochta must be displayed on the team jersey and skirt/skort/divided skirt.

is amended to read:

- Teams are required to wear distinctive colours. In all instances all members of the same team must be uniformly dressed.
- Playing gear must be of Irish manufacture if possible. It must consist of:
 - Skirt/skort/divided skirt, sports jersey with long or short sleeves, knee socks and boots. **A base layer ('skins')** may also be worn.
- Goalkeepers may wear team tracksuit in all competitions other than national finals.
- The crest of the An Cumann Camógaíochta must be displayed on the team jersey and skirt/skort/divided skirt.

Players may not wear jewellery of any kind while playing/training.

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

2. That Rule 6 Playing Gear:

- Teams are required to wear distinctive colours. In all instances all members of the same team must be uniformly dressed.
- Playing gear must be of Irish manufacture if possible. It must consist of:
 - Skirt/skort/divided skirt, sports jersey with long or short sleeves, knee socks and boots. Bodywear may also be worn.

Goalkeepers may wear team tracksuit in all competitions other than national finals.

The crest of the An Cumann Camógaíochta must be displayed on the team jersey and skirt/skort/divided skirt.

is amended to read:

- Teams are required to wear distinctive colours. In all instances all members of the same team must be uniformly dressed.
- Playing gear must be of Irish manufacture if possible. It must consist of:
 - Skirt/skort/divided skirt, sports jersey with long or short sleeves, knee socks and boots. Bodywear may also be worn.

Goalkeepers may wear team tracksuit in all competitions other than national finals.

The crest of the An Cumann Camógaíochta must be displayed on the team jersey and skirt/skort/divided skirt.

Penalty: If not complied with, the referee will firstly caution the player/players for dissent. If the player/players continue to refuse to comply with Rule 6 as outlined above she/they will be dealt with in accordance with Rule 41.9 (c) for dissent.

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

3. That Rule 6 Playing Gear:

- Teams are required to wear distinctive colours. In all instances all members of the same team must be uniformly dressed.
- Playing gear must be of Irish manufacture if possible. It must consist of:
 - Skirt/skort/divided skirt, sports jersey with long or short sleeves, knee socks and boots. Bodywear may also be worn.

Goalkeepers may wear team tracksuit in all competitions other than national finals.

The crest of the An Cumann Camógaíochta must be displayed on the team jersey and skirt/skort/divided skirt.

is amended to read:

- Teams are required to wear distinctive colours. In all instances all members of the same team must be uniformly dressed.
- Playing gear must be of Irish manufacture if possible. It must consist of:
 - Skirt/skort/divided skirt, sports jersey with long or short sleeves, knee socks and boots. Bodywear may also be worn.

Goalkeepers may wear team tracksuit in all competitions other than national finals.

The crest of the An Cumann Camógaíochta must be displayed on the team jersey and skirt/skort/divided skirt.

Exception to this is in games up to under 12 Go Games where the player may wear a pair of shorts instead of skirt/skort/divided skirt

CHILL CHAINNIGH

4. That a new rule 6.1 is enacted as follows:

The wearing of shinguards be introduced as compulsory for all ages up to and including U14

UÍBH FHAILÍ

5. That a new rule 8.2 is enacted to read:

8.2 It is acceptable to play Camogie matches on synthetic pitches, if both teams are agreeable.

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

6. That Rule 9.2:

The referee will commence or recommenced play in each half by rolling the sliotar along the ground on the halfway line between the four centre-field players who must stand one behind the other on their own defensive side of the half-way line. All other players must remain in their respective positions at least 7 metres from the referee until an attempt to strike the sliotar has been made.

is amended to read:

9.2 The referee, **facing the players**, will commence or recommence play in each half by **throwing** the sliotar along the ground on the halfway line between the four centre-field players who must stand one behind the other on their own defensive side of the half-way line. All other players must remain in their respective positions at least **10** metres from the referee until an attempt to strike the sliotar has been made.

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

7. That Rule 9.3:

The referee will recommence play after any stoppage (other than 9.4 below) by rolling the sliotar on the ground between two players while facing the nearer sideline. Where the throw in is too near that sideline or in the event of a clashed sideline ball, the referee faces the field of play. No other player may approach within 10 metres until an attempt to strike the sliotar has been made.

is amended to read:

9.3 The referee will recommence play after any stoppage (other than 9.4 below) by **throwing** the sliotar on the ground between two players while facing the nearer sideline. Where the throw in is too near that sideline or in the event of a clashed sideline ball, the referee faces the field of play. No other player may approach within 10 metres until an attempt to strike the sliotar has been made.

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

8. That Rule 9.4:

When play is stopped due to an injury away from play to an opposing player the team in possession of the sliotar retains possession when play recommences by being granted an indirect free.

is amended to read:

9.4 When play is stopped due to an injury away from play, to an ~~opposing player~~ the team in possession of the sliotar retains possession when play recommences by being granted an indirect free.

AN CLÁR

9. That Rule 9.5:

The sliotar is in play once it has been thrown in by the referee, or struck by a player after the referee has signalled to restart play.

The sliotar is out of play when:

- (a) The referee signals a stop
- (b) The sliotar has passed completely over the side/end line
- (c) The sliotar has been prevented from going over side/end line, when touched in play by a referee, match official, team mentor or flag
- (d) When a score occurs

is amended to read:

9.5 The sliotar is in play once it has been thrown in by the referee, or struck by a player after the referee has signalled to restart play.

The sliotar is out of play when:

- (a) **When a score occurs**
- (b) The referee signals a stop
- (b) The sliotar has passed completely over the side/end line
- (c) The sliotar has been prevented from going over side/end line, when touched in play by a **non-player** or flag
- (d) **The sliotar touches any non-player on the field of play. Play is restarted by throwing in the sliotar at the place concerned or on the 20 metre line if inside the 20 metre line.**
- (e) **If the sliotar touches any non-player on the field of play from a free puck; the free must be re-taken from where the free was originally awarded.**

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

10. That a new Rule 9.6 (i) is enacted:

A player may...

- (i) *hand pass the sliotar to score*

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

11. That Rule 10.1 (i): (under Section 10, 10.1 Technical Fouls)

A player may not...

- (i) Take the ball out of play by covering or lying of the sliotar

is amended to read:

A player may not...

- (i) Take the sliotar out of play by covering or lying on it.**

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

12. That a new Rule 10.1 (q) is enacted: (under Section 10, 10.1 Technical Fouls)

A player may not...

- (q) *Retaliate, between the awarding of a free to her team and the free puck being taken*

And that 10.1 (Penalty) is amended to read:

Penalty: A free to the opposing team from where the foul occurred. If foul occurs inside the 20 metre line the free will be given on the 20 metre closest to where the foul occurred; **except for breaches of 10.1 (q) when the following penalty applies, the free puck is cancelled and the referee throws in the sliotar where the original foul occurred but not within the 20 metre line.**

13. That Rule 10.2 (e) (under Section 10 10.2 Rough Play, Dissent and Abusive Language):

A player may not....

10.2 (e) Use the hurley to 'dig' an opponent

is deleted from this section and enacted as a new rule 10.3 (k)

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

14. That 10.2(i) (under Section 10 10.2 Rough play, Dissent and Abusive Language):

A player may not.....

10.2 (i) Use abusive or threatening language or gestures to a referee, match officials, players or mentors

is deleted from this section and enacted as a new rule 10.3 (j) in Section 10, 10.3 Aggressive Fouls and Dangerous Play

Rules affected Official Guide Part 1 Rule 44.1.1.a(iii)

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

15. That the title of Section 10.2 is amended as follows:

The title of Section 10.2 Rough Play, Dissent and Abusive Language is amended to read Section 10.2 Rough Play and Dissent.

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

16. That the title of Section 10.3 is amended as follows:

The title of Section 10.3 Aggressive Fouls and Dangerous Play is amended to read Section 10.3 Aggressive Fouls, Dangerous Play and Abusive Language.

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

17. That 10.2 (j) (under current Section 10 10.2 Rough play, Dissent and Abusive Language):

A player may not.....

10.2 (j) Interfere with an opponent's ~~ZW~~ ~~VW~~

is deleted from this section and enacted as a new rule 10.3 (l) in Section 10, 10.3 Aggressive Fouls and Dangerous Play. Rules in Section 10.2 are re-numbered accordingly.

Rules affected Official Guide Part 1 Rule 44.1.1.a(iii)

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

18. That a new rule (number dependent on motions above) be enacted in Section 10.2 as follows:

A player may not...

Retaliate, between the awarding of a free to her team and the free puck being taken

And that the penalty is amended as follows:

Penalty: For a first offence, a player has her name and jersey number taken by the referee and is given a warning from the referee indicated by a yellow card. For a second offence, a player has her name and jersey number taken by the referee, a second yellow card is issued and followed by a red card and the player dismissed from the field of play (see Rule 41.9/41/10 An Treoir Ofigiúil). A free is given to the opposing team where the foul occurred. If the foul occurs inside the 20 metre line the free is given on the 20 metre line closed to where the free occurred. **In the case of a breach of 10.2 (x above) the free puck is cancelled. The referee throws in the sliotar where the original foul occurred but not within the 20 metre line. If the degree of retaliation warrants it the original penalty should be applied.**

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

19. That Rule 11.1 Playing Advantage:

In the event of a foul by a player(s) on an opponent who is in possession of/in the act of playing the sliotar, the referee may allow the play to continue if she/he considers it to be to the advantage of the offended team. The referee must indicate that advantage has been allowed by raising one hand above her/his head. Having allowed play to continue, the referee may not subsequently award a free for that foul. The referee must, during the next stoppage in play, apply to the offending player(s) the appropriate sanction in accordance with Rule, where she/he deems such is warranted.

is amended to read:

11.1 In the event of a foul by a player(s) on an opponent who is in possession of/in the act of playing the sliotar, the referee may allow the play to continue if she/he considers it to be to the advantage of the offended team. **S/he must signal that advantage by raising an arm upright and must allow the advantage to run by maintaining her/his arm in the upright position for up to five seconds after the foul or for less time if it becomes clear that no advantage has accrued. If s/he deems no advantage to have accrued, she/he may subsequently award a free for the foul from where it occurred, or a subsequent foul if more advantageous to the offended team.**

The referee must, during the next stoppage in play, apply to the offending player(s) the appropriate sanction in accordance with Rule, where she/he deems such is warranted.

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

20. That Rule 11.7:

No player may approach within 10 metres of the free-taker until an attempt to strike the sliotar has been made, and no player may physically or verbally distract a free-taker. (A player holding her hurley upright does not constitute as interference.

Penalty: A free must be awarded from a point 10 metres nearer to the offending player's goal but not within the 20 metre line of that goal.

is amended to read:

11.7 No player may approach within 10 metres of the free-taker until an attempt to strike the sliotar has been made, and no player may physically or verbally distract a free-taker. (A player holding her hurley upright does not constitute as interference.

Penalty: A free must be awarded from a point 10 metres nearer to the offending player's goal but not within the 20 metre line of that goal.

Should a player on the team awarded a free puck stand or move nearer than 10 metres to the sliotar before it is struck the referee must apply the following penalty:

Penalty: A free puck to the opposing team from where the foul occurred.

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

21. That a new Rule 12.4 be enacted:

12.4 For a side-line puck, once the sliotar has been placed by the player at the spot indicated by the Referee or line-umpire, and the whistle blown, the sliotar may not be re-set except with the express permission of the Referee.

Penalty: If a player advances the ball deliberately from the place at which a side-line puck is to be taken, the side line puck is cancelled. The Referee must throw in the sliotar where the foul occurred as per Rule 9.3 of the Playing Rules. If the breach is within the 20 metre line, the Referee must throw in the sliotar on the 20 metre line.

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

22. That Rule 13.1:

When the sliotar is played over the end-line, i.e. wide, by the attacking team or from a clashed sliotar crossing the end line, the referee must award a puck-out from within the small parallelogram to the defending team.

is amended to read:

When the sliotar is played over the end-line, i.e. wide, by the attacking team or from a clashed sliotar crossing the end line, the referee must award a puck-out from within the small parallelogram to the defending team. **A player may go outside the end line for a run-up to a puck out.**

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

23. That Rule 13.2:

A player taking the puck-out must strike the sliotar from her hand

is amended to read:

13.2 A player taking the puck-out **may** strike the sliotar from her hand.

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

24. That Rule 13.4:

A player may not puck out the sliotar from outside the small parallelogram except after a score. After a score the player must puck out the sliotar without crossing the 13 metre line

Penalty: 45 metre free to the opposing team from a point opposite to where the foul occurred.

is amended to:

13.4 A player may not puck out the sliotar from outside the small parallelogram except after a score. After a score the player must puck out the sliotar without crossing the 13 metre line **and from within the large parallelogram.**

Penalty: 45 metre free to the opposing team from a point **on the 20 metre line** opposite to where the foul occurred.

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

25. That Rule 13.5:

For all puck outs the players of the opposing team must remain outside the 20 metre line until an attempt to strike the sliotar has been made

is amended to:

13.5 For all puck outs all players must be outside the 20 metre line until **the sliotar has been struck by the goalkeeper, or the player taking the puck out, if other than the goalkeeper.**

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

26. That Rule 15.4:

When the sliotar is played directly over the crossbar from a sideline ball, the score will be worth two points

is amended to read:

15.4 When the sliotar is played directly over the crossbar from a sideline ball, the score will be worth two points, **provided it is not touched in flight by any player on the attacking or defending teams.**

ARD CHOMHAIRLE

27. That a new Rule 16 Limitations of Liability be enacted as follows:

These Rules shall not impose on any Referee, Line Umpire, Goal Umpire, Sideline Official, Team Official or Unit any legal duty of care or legal responsibility. Such duty of care shall remain with individual players and, if relevant, parents, guardians or other persons legally responsible for them.

ARD CHOMHAIRLE



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