



Tuarascáil Bhliantúil na gCoistí 2015 don Chomhdháil 2016



2015 Annual Report of Committees to Congress 2016



**THE
CAMOGIE
ASSOCIATION**
An Cumann Camógáíochta

2015 Annual Report
of Committees



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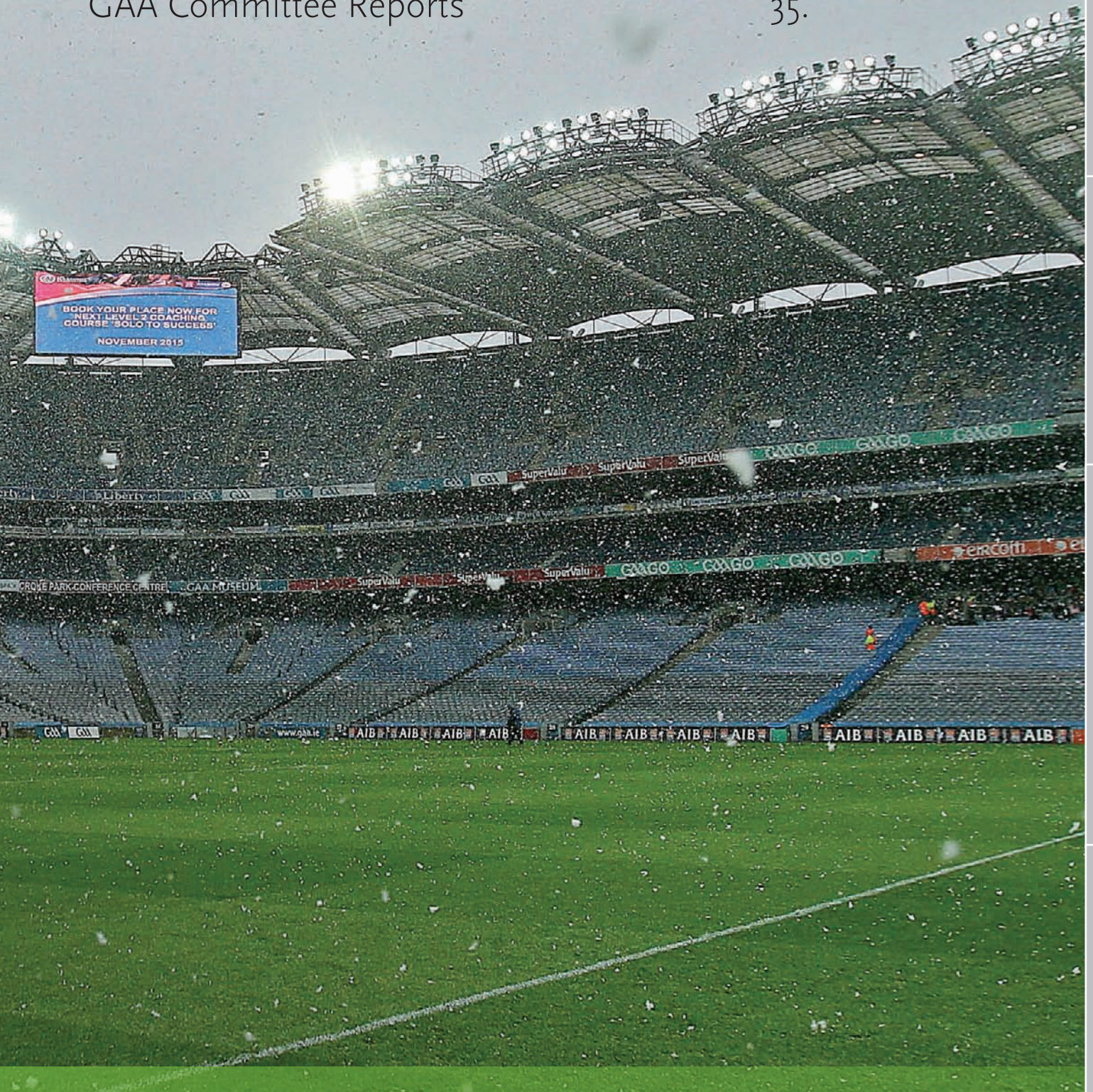
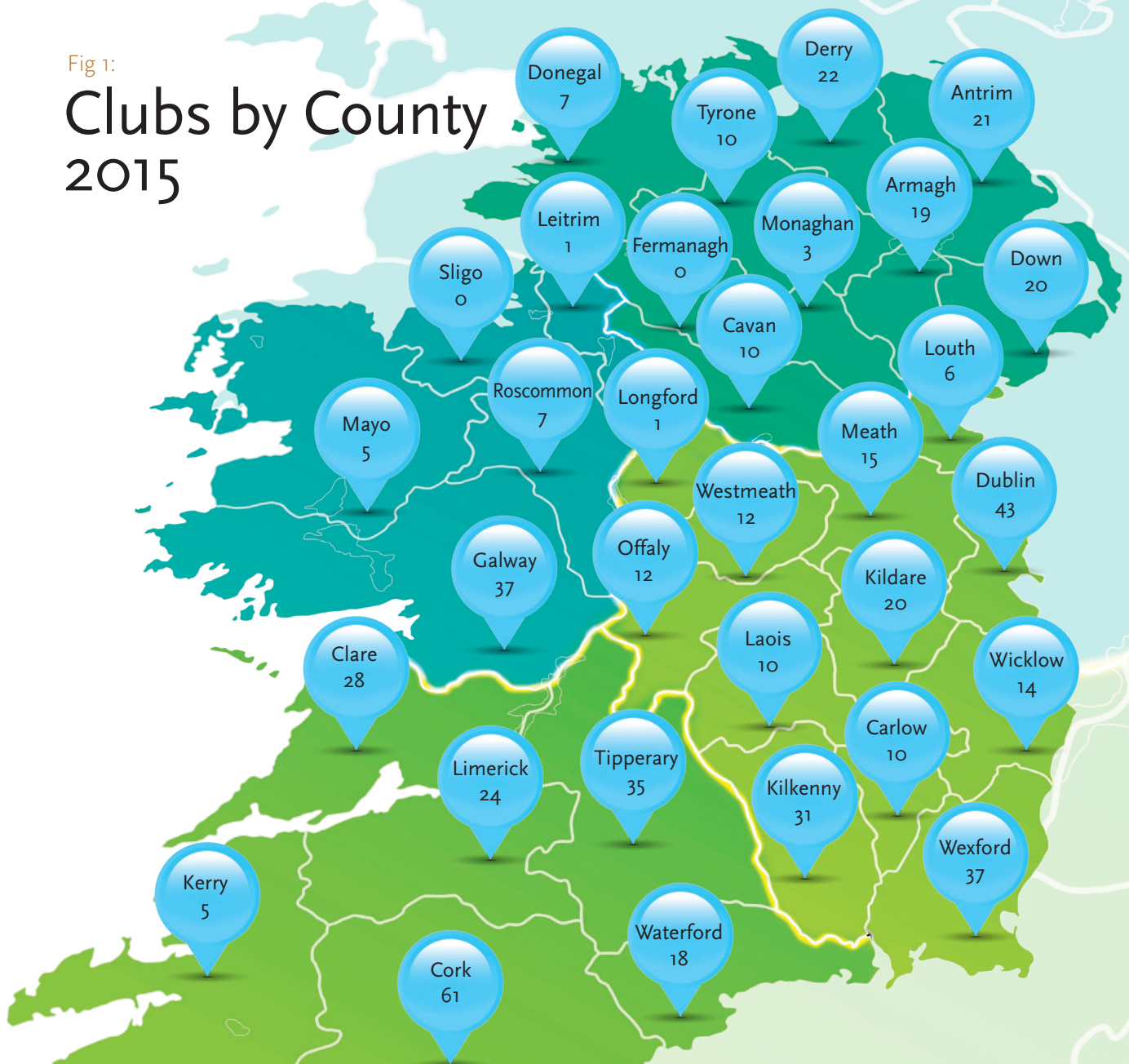


Fig 1:

Clubs by County 2015



Provincial Council Reports

Comhairle Connacht



Winners/Runners Up of Provincial Championships 2015

Competition	Winners	Runners Up
Connacht Championship	Galway	Roscommon
U14 Blitz	Galway A	Galway B
Junior 'B' Club	St. Dominic's Roscommon	Shamrocks, Galway
Junior 'A' Club	Craughwell, Galway	Four Roads, Roscommon
Intermediate	Eyrecourt, Galway	Athleague, Roscommon

In January, 2015 the Council were honoured once again by the Connacht GAA Council when the Junior, Juvenile and Senior players of the Year together with the Administrator were presented with their awards in Castlebar. The winners were Junior Player, Carmel Killeen from Roscommon, Juvenile Player, Louise Brennan, Galway, Senior Player, Heather Cooney and Administrator, Marie O'Brien, Roscommon.

In February, 2015 the County Volunteer winners were presented with their awards in Croke Park and the winners were as follows: Catherine Kilkelly, Galway, Danny Buckley, Mayo and Caitriona Morris, Roscommon.

Mullagh (Galway) at senior level and Athleague (Roscommon) at Junior level contested the All-Ireland Club finals. Mullagh were beaten by Oulart-The Ballagh Athleague were beaten by Johnstownbridge from Kildare.

The Province in co-operation with the Connacht GAA Council organised the Connacht Poc Fada at the Connacht G.A.A. Centre in Ballyhaunis. This proved to be very successful with competitors from Galway, Mayo and Roscommon taking part. The winner of the event Caitriona Daly went on to represent the Province at the Poc Fada Finals in the Cooley Mountains and achieved runner-up spot again.

There was also an Under 16 Poc Fada event held with Sarah Healy winning the Connacht event and then going on to win the All-Ireland title in the Cooley Mountains. The Connacht Final was won by the Galway Intermediate team. Roscommon in Junior and Galway in Senior reached the All-Ireland finals in September but unfortunately success was to allude them.

However All-Ireland success did come to the province at underage level with Galway winning the Under 16 A final and Roscommon for the first time in their history winning an All-Ireland Minor C final.

The Connacht Club Cup finals proved to be very successful. St. Dominic's from Roscommon won the Connacht Junior 'B' Cup; Craughwell from Galway won the Connacht Junior 'A' Cup and Eyrecourt from Galway won the Intermediate Cup. The Council received development funding of €9801.50 from Ard Chomhairle. This was 70% of the funding granted of €11,384.68 to carry out the following tasks.

- To strengthen existing Clubs in the Province
- Prioritising the growth of camogie in G.A.A. Club areas of Galway and Mayo
- Re-energising Camogie development in Sligo and Leitrim
- Increasing the participation in the education sector
- Strengthening links between education sector and local camogie units
- Coaching workshops in Galway, Mayo and Roscommon
- Funding for Under 14 Development Squads
- Funding for Under 17 Development Squads
- Funding for Induction Workshop for new Club and County Board Officers

Through the funding received for Development, the Council awarded three 3rd level student bursaries once again in 2015. An Under 16 Club7-a-side Blitz was organised and 22 teams took part. It is now hoped that this will be an annual event. However there is a greater need for more people to assist on the day with catering, refereeing and pitch management. Funding was received from Ard Chomhairle for the event.

The Council would like to thank Yvonne Byrne, Connacht Development Officer, the Provincial Development Officer, Gerry Dolan and the County Development Officers for their assistance throughout the past year in developing camogie in new areas and also at 2nd level.

In December 2015 the Council were honoured once again by the Connacht G.A.A. Council when the Junior, Juvenile and Senior players of the Year together with the Administrator were presented with their awards in Castlebar. The winners in December 2015 were Junior Player, Susan Spillane from Roscommon, Juvenile Player, Carrie Dolan, Galway, Senior Player, Niamh McGrath and Administrator, Sean Geraghty, Galway.

Thanks

I would like to thank all my fellow officers for all their help in 2015. It makes my job very easy with all the assistance I receive.

Thanks to the various County Boards for their help; to the Clubs who provided pitches for holding our Club and Provincial finals; to the Referees and all others who helped in any way. As this is my final report as Connacht Secretary having served my 5 years, I would like to thank all the Officers down the years for all their assistance.

Muireann Uí Chonbhuidh
Rúnaí Comhairle Chonnacht

Balance Sheet as at 30th November 2015

	30/11/2015	30/11/2014
	€	€
FIXED ASSETS	2,670	2,670
CURRENT ASSETS		
Debtors/Prepayments	0	0
Stock	0	0
Bank Deposits	6,727	13,601
	<u>6,727</u>	<u>13,601</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Creditors/Accruals	0	0
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS	6,727	13,601
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	9,397	16,271
	=====	=====
Represented By:		
REVENUE ACCOUNT	9,397	16,271
	<u>9,397</u>	<u>16,271</u>
	=====	=====

Comhairle Mumhan

Torthaí na gComórtas

	Winners 2015	Runners-up 2015
Sinsear	Corcaigh	Tiobraid Árann
Sóisear	Ciarraí	Corcaigh
Idirmhéanach	Corcaigh	Tiobraid Árann
Mionúr Fé 18 A	Corcaigh	Tiobraid Árann
Mionúr Fé 18 A Shield	Luimneach	An Clár
U /16 A	An Clár	Corcaigh
U/16 A Shield	Tiobraid Árann	Port Láirge
U /16 B	Corcaigh	Luimneach
U/16 C	An Clár	Port Láirge
Club Sinsear	Milford	Newmarket-on-Fergus
Club Idirmhéanach	Cahir	Lismore
Club Sóisear	Clanmaurice	Murroe/Boher

Inter Provincial Championship – Munster Junior Team

With Ulster progressing past Leinster by 4 points, it was all set for a cracking final. Despite Munster starting well and with the wind, it was Down's Niamh Mallon who put on an exhibition of point scoring and would go on to receive player of the tournament. Munster held a 2 point lead at half time with the wind, but unfortunately had no answer it, and a powerful Ulster unit who powered Thanks also to the management team, who gave it their best shot on the day but in the final the strength of Ulster's side prevailed.

Munster Poc Fada

Munster Long Puck was held in Thurles Racecourse. Patricia Jackman

qualified automatically due to her amazing success in the Poc Fada for the last number of years and again this year won the National Competition in the Cooley Mountains.

Winner of Senior Competition
Caoimhe Bourke (Tipperary) 19 shots

Winner of U16
Aine O'Loughlin (Clare) 17 shots

Fixtures

Comhairle Na Mumhan organized 30 games during the year. Thanks to all the counties who cooperated particularly in the Club Championship when at the 11th hour due to inclement weather the senior and intermediate club games had to be postponed with the senior game going ahead the following day.

We must ensure that our Munster games will be seen as meaningful competitions.

I want to express my thanks to all the counties for their excellent co-operation.

LIT SPORTS MUNSTER SUMMER LEAGUE FINALS 2015

Super League Final Milford (Cork)

Division 1 Final Clanmaurice (Kerry)

Division 2 Cup Final Cashel (Tipperary)

Division 2 Shield Final Newport Ballinahinch (Tipperary)

Division 3 Cup Final Toomevara (Tipperary)

Division 3 Shield Final Tournafulla (Limerick)

Munster Post Primary and Primary Schools Camogie

We are indebted Rob Lotty and to the entire teaching fraternity for the amount of time and effort they put into Colleges and primary schools in the Province. Thanks to the entire teaching community who continue to give freely of their time organizing, training and playing games.

Thanks to Cumann Na mBunscoil for their work also, it is all greatly appreciated. We wish you well in 2016 and hope schools Camogie continue to flourish.

Publicity

From a PR perspective the year was a milestone with our partnership with Irish TV in the live broadcast of our first ever Munster Senior Inter County Final between Cork and Tipperary. Cashel was the venue, and with only a window of 3 weeks to get everything in place, it took a mammoth effort by all involved to get it over the line.

Counties are promoting their fixtures and general news on social and local media, but still, there is always room for

improvement. A number of counties didn't have an active PRO in 2015, but it is hoped that void will be filled in 2016.

Refereeing

Peter Downey RIP

It was my privilege to have known Peter for a long, long time.

The outpouring of grief at his removal and funeral was a reflection of his standing as a self-employed business man and a pillar of the community in Muskerry, but also in GAA and Camogie circles.

Sincere thanks to all the referees who refereed for Munster and at National level throughout the year and sometimes at very short notice. Even though we are the strongest province supplying referees at all levels we are extremely low on the numbers of female referees, here we need to explore why we have this problem. I would suggest we set up a Referee Recruitment Committee and hopefully we will be able to address the lack of female referees and encourage more to participate in the Province. I would emphasize the need for every county to put forward the names of interested female referees in their county and Munster should then put a training course in place early in February before our

Development

We welcome Kathleen Egan to the position of RDO in Munster as we say good bye to the hard working and ever pleasant Ross Corbett. Our Munster Development Officer David Ryan also has a huge amount of work done in development and hopefully all this hard work will prove worthwhile in the not too distant future. Sincere thanks also to all the other people working in development, also thanks to the six County Developments Officers for their huge contribution to our game. Keep up the good work.

Thanks

I wish to acknowledge the trojan work our Chairperson James Moynihan has put into the Council for the past 2 years, I trust all Munster Council Officers and delegates will continue to row in behind him as he continues to improve the mechanisms and progress of camogie in Munster.

Sincere thanks to the Officers of Comhairle Na Mumhan C.L.G. and to all county secretaries for their willingness to help during the year.

My thanks also to each county delegate for their commitment throughout the year; we had almost full attendance at all our meetings.

Last but not least thanks also to my fellow officers, Rose, James, David, Joe, Marie, Fiona and Margaret. My sincere thanks to everybody who helped make my task easier during the year. This is the "grand finale" for me as I close a chapter in my life. It has been for most of it an enjoyable experience. To all of you many thanks for the memories and I wish you all continued success for 2016 both on and off the field.

Marion Uí Greacháin Rúnaí

Munster Accounts

Balance Sheet as at 30th November, 2015

	30/11/2015	31/12/2014
	€	€
Fixed Assets	-	-
Current Assets		
Debtors	12,475	6,975
Cash/ Bank	76,807	44,133
	89,282	51,108
Current Liabilities	(5,442)	-
Net Current Assets	83,840	51,108
Total Assets less Current Liabilities	83,840	51,108
Represented By:		
CAPITAL ACCOUNT	83,840	51,108
	83,840	51,108

Comhairle Laighean

Leinster Roll of Honour 2015

Competition	Winners
Senior	Kilkenny
Intermediate	Kilkenny
Junior	Carlow
Minor A Championship	Kilkenny
Minor A Shield	Dublin
Minor B Championship	Meath
Minor B Shield	Dublin
Under 16 A Championship	Kilkenny
Under 16 A Shield	Offaly
Under 16 B Championship	Westmeath
Under 16 B Shield	Meath
Senior Club Championship	Oulart The Ballagh Wexford
Intermediate Club Championship	Tullaroan, Kilkenny
Junior Club Championship	Johnstownbridge, Kildare

2015 was a year that will go down in history for Leinster. It started with a clean sweep of All Ireland Club titles with Kilmessan, Piltown and Oulart -The Ballagh all reaching their glory. Carlow and Laois also reached their goal in securing All Ireland Adult titles, congratulations also to Meath, Laois and Westmeath on picking up under age titles.

What a year for Carlow. 2015 saw Carlow pick up their triple crown firstly winning the Division 3 league, they then went on to win the Leinster Junior title in Nowlan Park and finished off their year with another All Ireland glory beating Kerry in the Junior Championship. Well done to Liam, Linda and all involved in Carlow Camogie and we look forward to seeing what they produce in 2016.

2015 also saw another Leinster person take up the roll as President which just proves again that if we stick together as the largest Province in Ireland we will succeed.

2015 also saw the first Rose Cup Charity Match with the Laois Camogie Team taking on The Rose of Tralee Regional Finalist in May. This was a great promotional game for Camogie, linking us with one of the best known Irish events in the world and getting Camogie on the TV during the festival in Tralee. Well done to all involved in Laois.

May saw the start of our competitions with the under 14 Development Blitz in Rathleague, Portlaoise and I would like to once again thank Pat Martin and all my fellow Officers for

their assistance in making this another successful day out for our Development Squads. Congratulations to all the winners on the day.

Inter Provincials

Once again we shared our day with the Inter-Provincials and it was the Junior competition this year. Unfortunately we were beaten in the semi-final by a strong Ulster side who had been out training for this for a number of weeks and proof was in the pudding for them as they went on to win the competition. I would like to thank Mark Brennan, David Cuddy and Linda Kenny who helped to look after our Junior Squad on the day.

Poc Fada

This year saw big changes to our Poc Fada set up when we ran an Under 16 competition instead of an Under 14 competition. This year's competition was ran in conjunction with the GAA and was held in Dublin hosted by Beann Eadair Gaa Club in the beautiful scenic setting of Howth. The Senior crown went to Elaine Gallery Dublin, this win seeing Dublin do the double within Leinster. The Under 16 and first ever winner of this trophy was Lea Sutton Kildare. Thanks to all involved for making us feel so welcome.

Congratulations

Congratulation also to Johnstownbridge Kildare who went on to represent Leinster in the AIB All Ireland Club Championships after a rushed Leinster Championship beating St Kevins of Louth, Raharney of Westmeath and Kilmessan of Meath all in the space of two weeks. They then cruised through Tara of London in the All Ireland Preliminary round 6 days later. In the semi-final they had a convincing win over Clanmaurice of Kerry which due to inclement weather got postponed by a week which probably gave this amazing side a chance to breath.

Athleague of Roscommon were no match for the Leinster side as they came out of the Final, AIB All Ireland Junior Club Champions with 9 points to spare. Congratulations to all involved.

Congratulations to Kate Kelly Wexford on picking up Leinster's only All Star award in November, congratulations also to Susie O'Carroll, Melissa Lyons Kildare and Jane Dolan Meath on their Intermediate Soaring Stars and Sarah Ann Fitzgerald, Louise Mahony and Laura Marie Maher Laois on their Junior Soaring Stars.

The first ever Camogie Association/WGPA Junior Players' Player of the year went to Kate Nolan Carlow. Congratulations to Kate on this prestigious award.

Thanks

I would like to express my thanks to Michael Reynolds and Leinster GAA for their on-going support. To Laois Gaa, Kilkenny Gaa, Portlaoise Gaa, Clonad Gaa, Rathdowney Gaa, Rathmoylan Gaa and Carlow Gaa for the use of your pitches without these facilities we would not be able to run competitions. Sometimes conditions may be poor but we have little control over these situations and are still grateful as it's not easy to secure top class facilities for all games and can only learn for the future.

Thanks to all the volunteers who helped us out in any way in 2015, especially Martin Quilty and Kilkenny Camogie Board who were on hand this year for all our adult finals in Nowlan Park. To Jimmy Walsh Kilkenny GAA who gave us a pitch when all other pitches were closed.

I would like to thank my fellow Officers and the RDOs for all their work in Leinster in 2015.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish Pat Martin the best of luck in his new role as Chairperson of Leinster Council, his work with development in Leinster over the past couple of years has been excellent and it will be a hard path to follow for his successor.

I would like to thank Mary Connor for all her guidance and words of wisdom to me over the past 3 years, you have volunteered in your Club, County and Province for the past 50 years and it truly was an honour to have had the opportunity to work with you. Finally to Rachel Hogan, you have given 6 years of your life to Leinster Camogie and to that we the Council and County Boards are forever grateful. We would like to wish you the best of luck in whatever path your life leads you from here.

Sorcha Ní Chronaí
Rúnaí

Leinster Accounts

Balance Sheet as at 30th November, 2015

	30/11/2015 €	30/11/2014 €
Fixed Assets	-	-
Current Assets		
Bank Current Account	42,169	24,872
Bank Deposit Account	10,585	10,584
	-----	-----
	52,754	35,456
	-----	-----
Current Liabilities	(0)	(0)
	-----	-----
Net Current Assets	52,754	35,456
	-----	-----
Total Assets less Current Liabilities	52,754	35,456
	-----	-----
Represented by :	-----	-----
Revenue Account	52,754	35,456
	=====	=====

Comhairle Uladh

List of Champions 2015

Competition	Winners
Interprovincial Championship	Ulster
Ulster Senior Championship	Derry
Ulster Intermediate Championship	Armagh
Minor Championship Cup	Derry
Minor Championship Shield	Tyrone
U16 Championship Cup	Antrim
U16 Championship Shield	Cavan
U14 Blitz Section A	Antrim
U14 Blitz Section B	Armagh
U14 Blitz Section C	Cavan
U14 Blitz Section D	Donegal
Ulster Senior Club Championship	Loughgiel
Ulster Junior Club Championship	Loughgiel
Bridie McMenamin Shield	Cargin
Ulster Premier League Cup	Slaughtneil
Ulster Premier League Shield	Ballycran
Ulster Premier League Plate	Madden
2015 Féile na nGael Division One Cup	Loughgiel
2015 Féile na nGael Division One Shield	Ballycastle
2015 Féile na nGael Division Two Shield	Bridini Oga
2015 Féile na nGael Division Three Shield	Keady
2015 Féile na nGael Division Six Shield	St Eunan's

Inter-Provincial Championship

As the saying goes 'Preparation is key' and the Ulster Camog's were definitely proof of this. After a number of trials followed by weeks of gruelling training sessions and challenge matches the Ulster squad approached the Interprovincial competition in Portlaoise confident that they could put up a good fight, the idea of winning the competition was never even thought about. But on the day you couldn't have predicted events that unfolded and the provincial crown made its way to Ulster with the added bonus of Niamh Mallon collecting the Player of the Tournament trophy.

Féile na nGael

The 2015 Féile na nGael competition took place across Ulster from Friday 19th to Sunday 21st June. All participating and host clubs were fantastic and we can only thank all our volunteers for their assistance in this phenomenal event.

Ulster Camogie were delighted to see 'local' teams come out on top with Saffrons Loughgiel winning the Division One Cup, their Antrim counterparts Ballycastle taking the Division One Shield.

Another Antrim club, Brídiní Óga, took the Division Two Shield title and St Patrick's Keady the Division Three Shield. Donegal's continued camogie development was highlighted by St Eunan's Letterkenny taking the Division Six Shield title.

Talent ID & Coaching Development Coaching Legacy Programme

The Ulster Coaching Academy for Camogie continues to prove an excellent tool for up-skilling and supplying county development squad/senior inter county level coaches which have been feeding into our talent systems across the province for the past two years, with our current uptake for the 2016 programme currently standing at 12, hoping to rise to 15 coaches. This will mean that Ulster Camogie will have graduated up to 37 coaches by the close of 2016.

The impact has been quite evident across the province, particularly in Antrim where two of our first year coaches - Siobhan Poulter and Sean Paul McKillop have played instrumental roles in the rising success of Antrim at youth level in the past two seasons. Indeed Sean Paul, Padraig Groogan and Micheal Murphy (all previous legacy coaches) played a major role in preparing and guiding our Ulster Junior inter provincial squad to All Ireland success earlier this year.

Ulster U16 Elite Camp

Once again Ulster camogie ran a hugely successful Provincial U16 Elite Development Camp in the UUJ facilities in August 2015. We increased our player participation from 22 in 2014 to a 30 player squad for 2015/16 and each girl took part in a series of both practical and class room based training and education such as Team Building, Fitness Testing and understanding the results, Games based pitch sessions, Strength & Conditioning Programme.

Fitness Testing

This was the first year that every one of the 8 active Counties had sent players and the quality across the board did not disappoint.

Follow up mentoring will continue throughout 2016, with the Coach academy workshop providing the bulk of the follow up collective coaching for the group.

Excellent Governance and Organisational Development

- Increased governance assurance from Sport NI
- Increase in funding from Sport NI for period 2013-2017
- Continued development of the Female Sports Forum with IFA, Ulster Hockey, Ulster Rugby and Ulster Ladies Gaelic to improve female leadership and promotion across Ulster. A Leadership Programme within Belfast Metropolitan College commenced with 20 female students participating.
- Joint launch for all codes for Ulster Club and County Championships.
- Increased use of GAA County Grounds for Ulster Finals.

Thanks

I would like to acknowledge the support from Mary O'Connor in her position as Director of Camogie. Mary has been instrumental in building the relationships between National Camogie and Ulster Council and we always look forward to her visits to Ulster. We also look forward to continuing this positive relationship with Ard Stiúrthóir Joan O'Flynn and thank Joan for her openness and continued support. We continue to embark on a positive period for Ulster Camogie and thank Uachtarán Catherine Neary for assisting in and regularly attending events in Ulster.

Thanks must also go to the hard working members of the Ulster Council for their support throughout the year. We have a dedicated Executive Committee who serve Ulster Camogie with the utmost professionalism and their support is invaluable in administering our game.

Sínithe ag: **Roismaire Ní Aodha-Mheraigh**
Rúnaí

Rónán Mac Cárthaigh
Riarachán Bainisteoir

Ulster Accounts

Balance Sheet as at 30 November 2015

	30/11/2015	30/11/2014
	£	£
CURRENT ASSETS		
Debtors	17,060	15,687
Paypal Account	13,008	
Bank of Ireland Keady	6,616	9,451
First Trust Euro (Converted Stg 80%)	32,015	34,621
BOI Keady UCC Awards & Grants	22,244	16,371
	<u>90,943</u>	<u>76,130</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Creditors/Accruals	(17,943)	(19,115)
	<u>73,000</u>	<u>57,015</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		
	<u>73,000</u>	<u>57,015</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		
	<u>73,000</u>	<u>57,015</u>
Capital Account:		
Brought forward from prior year	57,015	47,403
Add surplus for the period	15,985	9,612
	<u>73,000</u>	<u>57,015</u>



International Board Reports





Some of our future stars from the Junior Gaelic Games Academy of Western Australia displaying their Hurling and Camogie skills

Australasian County Board

Camogie continues to develop and prosper in Australasia, with New South Wales (Sydney), Queensland (Brisbane), Western Australia (Perth) and Victoria (Melbourne) running highly competitive leagues. Demonstration and challenge games have also been played in Adelaide, Auckland and Wellington.

At the 2015 Australasia GAA Congress, representatives from our more established Camogie and Hurling playing states offered to help emerging clubs by organising interstate team trips and extending invitations to them to compete in their one-day preseason tournaments.

First Australasian Cúl Camps, Perth

Youth Development is also high on our list of priorities with the Junior Gaelic Games Academy of Western Australia leading the charge.

Over the course of the school holidays in July the Academy ran the first Australasian based Cúl Camps. With assistance from the Leinster Council, Longford Footballer Damien Sheridan travelled to Perth for a month to coach a mix of football, hurling and camogie skills in local primary schools and oversee the running of the 2 week program.

Based on the successful Cúl Camps format, the Perth sessions saw 64 boys and girls aged between 6 and 12 take part (including Niamh Gaughan, pictured left). Damien also hosted a Level 1 Coaching Course for coaches of the Junior

Academy helping them to develop their skills for the ongoing training of the new junior recruits.

Following in the footsteps of Western Australia, New South Wales and South Australia have also invested in Youth GAA Development for both boys and girls under 12.

Some of our future stars from the Junior Gaelic Games Academy of Western Australia displaying their Hurling and Camogie skills

2015 Australasian Gaelic Games, Wellington

In October, the Australasian Gaelic Games were held in New Zealand for the first time in almost 20 years with some teams travelling over 5,300 kilometres to compete. Across the four Gaelic codes, Wellington played host to players from Western Australia (Perth), South Australia (Adelaide), Victoria (Melbourne), New South Wales (Sydney), and Queensland (Brisbane). Wellington and Canterbury (Christchurch) provided New Zealand representation, a first for the newly formed Canterbury Ladies side.

In the words of visiting Uachtarán CLG, Aoghan O'Fearghail, it truly was a fantastic spectacle to see Gaelic Games, particularly Camogie and Hurling, being played in the most Southerly Capital City in the World.

The Camogie competition saw teams from Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria come together for the coveted State Silverware.



Australasian Champions - NSW Camogie Team

Accepting the Camogie Cup for NSW, Captain Kiera Kinahan Murphy.

Over four days, we witnessed some close contests with the Semi Final between Queensland and Victoria proving to be the game of the tournament. Both teams were inseparable up until the dying minutes of the game with Victoria coming out on top 0-06 to 0-05 to earn their first ever appearance in an Australasian Gaelic Games Camogie Final.

However Victoria came up against a stellar New South Wales side who were out to prove their worth after last year's epic Camogie Final where they lost out to Queensland after two bouts of extra time. Despite starting strong, Victoria were no match for the Sydney siders who were the eventual winners 4-10 to 2-03.

Upon accepting the Camogie Cup, NSW Captain Kiera Kinahan Murphy exclaimed that the Australasian Games means everything to her. The NSW Dual Camog and Ladies Footballer has been playing in Australia for almost a decade after emigrating from Kilkenny.

In the Camogie Plate Final Victoria once again faced off against Queensland. But after their tough battle against NSW in the Games Final it was Queensland who snared the silverware winning 2-05 to 0-04.

At the conclusion of the Games, a Camogie All Stars Team was named at the Gala Presentation Ball with Kiera Kinahan Murphy awarded the Camogie Player of the Tournament Award.

The 2016 Australasian Gaelic Games will be held in Brisbane, Queensland.

Jamie Fitzsimons
PRO Gaelic Football and Hurling Association of Australasia



Queensland celebrate after winning the Camogie Plate Final.





Full-back Aisling Fenton, Belgium, coming out with the ball (game vs. Holland Ladies)

European Board

In what may be seen as a somewhat disappointing, stagnate year for Camogie in Europe, with just two clubs competing in a two-round Championship (Craobh Rua Belgium, victors, and competing with two teams and Holland Ladies with one), in fact, 2015 marked a year of transition for us here.

Unfortunately (for Europe) the effects of a stabilising Irish economy resulted in a number of clubs losing core players back to Ireland and consequently an inability to field teams.

Countered with that, the spread of Hurling across the continent has brought with it an appetite for Camogie in these regions. Combined with significant investment by the Board in 2015 in assisting clubs with the purchase of equipment, we are likely to see the emergence of new clubs and teams in 2016, with strong interest forming amongst clubs in Germany and Spain.

In a further effort to grow and develop Gaelic Games in Europe, 2015 also saw the Board undertake a twinning initiative, twinning European clubs with clubs in Ireland.

The aim is that clubs would mentor one another, sharing knowledge, best practices, advice and sporting and cultural experiences, competing in regular challenge matches against one another. The initiative is still in its fledgling stages and any club interested in this can contact the European Secretary, Marie-Thérèse Dockery at secretary.europe@gaa.ie for more information.

As we move into 2016, we look forward to welcoming new clubs and our established clubs, Paris Gaels, Zurich Inneoin and Gaelic Sports Club Luxembourg back to an exciting new extended five-round Championship, beginning mid-April in Luxembourg and ending in October in Dresden.

Of course we also look forward to the 2016 World Games in Dublin later this year, in August, and we hope to compete with at least one European Camogie team.

We thank the Camogie Association for all of their assistance during the year and we look forward to working together again in the development of our Games.

Marie -Thérèse Docherty
Secretary



Holland Ladies team, Den Haag tournament, April 2015

Britian Camogie Board

Club names:

Brothers Pearse, Croydon, Erin Go Bragh, Fr. Murphy's, Fullen Gaels, Green Isle, John Mitchels, Liverpool Wolfe Tones, Tara

Summary Report 2015

2015 was another busy year for Camogie and included below are some of the main highlights;

- London County Camogie Board was reconstituted as 'Camogie Board Britain' to more accurately reflect the geographic spread of our clubs in London, Warwickshire and Lancashire.
- The Michael Cusack's club in London was dissolved, however we were delighted to welcome a new club, Liverpool Wolfe Tones, who captured the Junior Championship in their inaugural year.
- All 2015 competitions were completed; with a fixtures schedule of 71 games, 45 games actually took place. This is a high percentage of walkovers though, and an issue we are addressing.
- Erin go Bragh and Tara held two very successful one day tournaments to ease the clubs back into action in the early part of the year.
- A new competition was introduced in 2015 - the 'Spring League'. This replaced the Senior League, and had both senior and junior teams taking part. Clubs with senior and junior teams played mixed teams to even out the standard.
- Junior clubs in Lancashire and Warwickshire amalgamated as Shire Gaels to compete in the Senior Championship; as a fourth team, they added greatly to the competition and reached the final which was a great achievement given the impracticalities of training together.
- Tara, as senior champions, travelled to Ireland to take part in the All-Ireland Junior Quarter-Final, being beaten by Johnstownbridge of Kildare.
- Camogie was represented at the All-Britain Championships (ABC) and we were delighted to have Uachtarán Catherine Neary, Ard Stiúrthóir Joan O'Flynn, and Director of Camogie Development Mary O'Connor join us over the weekend. The ABC is a three-day event which saw almost 400 games being played; sadly, less than 30 of those were hurling/camogie games. The state of the game of hurling in terms of underage development is a concern in Britain, and is a major issue for us as we strive to put development structures in place.
- Our colleagues at Provincial Council of Britain GAA have been pursuing the formation of a cross-association body

to act as a National Governing Body for Gaelic Games in Britain. Much progress has been made over the past few months, and we are closer to having that structure in place.

- There was an increased use of technology to logistically allow meetings and discussions at both Executive and full Board level to take place, given the geographical spread of clubs.

2016 Goals

Some of our main objectives and initiatives for 2016 include the following;

- Increased participation: the number of walkovers is still very high (63% of games played in 2014 and 2015), and we've restructured our competitions in an attempt to address this and provide a more level playing field (introducing a third intermediate grade).
- Renewed focus on underage structures: starting with London clubs and with the guidance and support of Mary O'Connor, our aim is to have a stronger presence at the ABC in July.
- Improving the standard of refereeing and number of referees: we will be running a course in the early part of the year.
- Achieve recognition from Sport England, Scotland and Wales: through the formation of a National Governing Body, being the Gaelic Games Council of Britain (where we will have equal representation alongside the GAA and LGFA), we hope that formal recognition will follow.
- Improved use of digital and social media platforms: starting with the launch of a new website.
- World Games participation: we are looking forward to sending a team / teams to the games in August.

Conclusion

We have a busy year ahead with some significant hurdles to overcome, particularly in our efforts to put underage development plans in place. We have a strong board in place for 2016, and look forward to a successful year on and off the pitch.

Competition	Winners	Runners Up
Senior Championship	Tara	Shire Gaels
Junior Championship	Liverpool Wolfe Tones	Tara
Junior League	John Mitchels	Tara
Spring League	Division 1 — John Mitchels, Division 2 — Green Isles	Division 1 — Fullen Gaels, Division 2 — Tara [Rovers]

North American County Board (NACB)

Camogie continues to grow at an encouraging rate all across the country. We saw an increase in the overall number of teams participating at the NACB finals from twelve in 2014 to fifteen in 2015.

Junior: St. Mary's Chicago, Seattle, St. Louis, Hoboken, Washington D.C., Twin Cities

NACB Final Result: Twin Cities 6-5 to Seattle 1-7

Intermediate: Indianapolis, Vancouver, Atlanta, Baltimore, Toronto and San Francisco

NACB Final Result: Vancouver 2-9 to Atlanta 2-3

Senior: St. Mary's Chicago, Hoboken and Toronto

NACB Final Result: Hoboken 3-14 to Toronto 3-9

There was also a successful shield competition at the NACB finals at junior level. The shield games provide clubs an assurance that they will have at least two matches over the finals weekend. The Hoboken Guards were a new addition to the NACB this year, participating in junior and senior grade.

The 2015 NACB finals saw it's first Poc Fada Competition in which the majority of the participants were women, Irish and American. It was a fun way to finish the weekend and an American girl from the Atlanta team took home the trophy for the longest puck.

Chicago was lucky to have a visit from Mags D'Arcy at a tournament in May. Ladies from Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Louis and Indianapolis were able to take advantage of her mini-camp and a Q&A session. She spoke of the importance of team building and proper training. We all took a lot away from it and we are grateful.

New Developments

There are new clubs forming in Nashville, Orlando, Akron, Cumann na mBan in Virginia, to name a few. Clubs are becoming more present on social media (Facebook, YouTube, club websites) and are reaping the benefits in numbers. There is an ever increasing number of tournaments taking place across the country. The "pub league" format has proven to be very successful for many cities. When not participating in tournaments, they run a co-ed league with the hurling side of their own clubs. It offers a non-threatening introduction to the game, dramatically increases the skill level of beginners much faster, and keeps the interest of players by having a consistent number of matches.

Youth

Fourteen teams participated at the CYC this past summer: none at U8, 3 at U10, 4 at U12, 4 at U14 and 3 at U16. The Cúl Camps and school programs have been very successful for recruitment. Getting Gaelic Games into a school P.E. program is major objective of the youth committee. Several cities have it in place already and adult clubs are actively forming youth divisions within their clubs. We would like to see more single-city teams participating at the CYC instead of multiple cities combining to form one team, but for now it is important that everyone is getting a game. There are a lot of great volunteers in the youth ranks and it will only continue to grow.

Goals for 2016

- Re-Formation of an ACTIVE Camogie Development Committee with regular calls and a functional website
- Resources for new clubs getting off the ground and older clubs re-energizing long time members and rebuilding lost numbers
- A mandatory camogie module in all referee courses.
- Increase of single-city teams (non-amalgamated) to enter CYC
- More media attention for camogie (Women in Sport Day, Fitness Expo, etc)
- Increase in qualified, dedicated coaches
- Sending a team to the World Games

Annie Redmond

Camogie Development Committee



Education Council Report



Comhairle Chamógaíochta Ard Oideachais (CCAO)

No. of Colleges/ Institutes 2015	No. of Colleges/ Institutes 2014	Increase/ Decrease
27	27	0

Ainmneacha na gColáistí

UCC, UCD, UL, NUIG, UUJ, WIT, CIT QUB, DCU, NUIM, DIT, Mary I, AIT, St Pats Drumcondra, Trinity, IT Carlow, IT Tralee, St. Marys, Cavan Institute, Marino, DkIT, St. Pats Thurles, IT Sligo, LIT, GMIT, UU Coleraine, UU Magee

The CCAO elected a new committee for the 2015/2016 season. Many thanks must go to the previous president Shane Darcy who has done tremendous work. NUIG was elected to be the host college for the 2016 Ashbourne Cup weekend. After some unrelenting weather conditions the semi finals were moved and played in the Connacht Centre of Excellence in Bekan, Co. Mayo whilst Gort GAA club hosted the finals.

The formats of the competitions were changed somewhat with the Ashbourne Cup extended out to 8 teams and quarter finals were introduced. The three shield competitions were voted out unanimously.

The semi finals of the Ashbourne pitted 2015 winners WIT v 2014 winners UL whilst the second semi final seen UCC up against surprise package Mary Immaculate. UL and UCC emerged to produce a classic final in which UCC took the lead deep in injury time, only to be denied by the last puck of the game from UL.

Cork IT became the 7th different college in 8 years to claim The Purcell Cup, beating Maynooth University in the process and proving yet again to be a very competitive grade. Trinity College claimed the Fr Meachair Cup for the first time beating a gallant Athlone IT team in the final.

Both the Ó Malolgáin Cup and the Intermediate championships will be run off shortly and in total will see 34 teams take to championship level at third level for the current season.

Stiofáin Ó hÓra Cathaoirleach





Ard Chomhairle Sub-commitee Reports



National Resource Management Committee

Members: Catherine Neary (Uachtarán), Marie Kearney (Ard Chomhairle Secretary), Miriam O'Callaghan (Ard Chomhairle Treasurer), Fiona Hamilton (Connacht Council Chairperson), Rachel Hogan (Leinster Council Chairperson), James Moynihan (Munster Council Chairperson), Kathleen Woods (Ulster Council Chairperson), Brendan Kenny (Kildare), Aileen Pierce (Dublin), Geraldine Beattie-Greene (Roscommon), Joan O'Flynn (Ard Stiúrthóir), Paula Bruen (Director of Finance).

No. of Meetings held: 7

Achievements in 2015

- Made recommendations to Ard Chomhairle on 2015 Annual Budget and monitored control of budget performance
- Considered draft Audited Accounts for 2015
- Developed financial procedures for county, provincial and educational units
- Undertook indebtedness review of county and provincial units
- Reviewed elements of the Employee Handbook
- Commenced staff pay policy review process.



National Competitions Management Committee

Members: Hilda Breslin (Kildare) (Cathaoirleach), Jennifer Cultra (Down), Fiona Godfrey (Limerick), Maeve Healy (Roscommon), Liz Mc Guinness, National Competitions Administrator.

No. of Meetings held:

Onsite meetings: **8** Conference call meetings: **30**

Achievements in 2015

- Implementation and review of the 2015 National Fixtures Plan
- Preparation of the 2016 National Fixtures Plan. The committee made recommendations to Ard Chomhairle for consideration on the 2016 competition structures and scheduling of games

Plans for 2016

- Implementation of the 2016 National Fixtures Plan
- Consultation with the National Referees' Committee on the standard and assessment of Inter county referees
- Continued consultation on appropriate competition structures
- Continued focus on fixtures planning that maximises promotion of the game

Volunteer and Officer Support, Training and Development

Members: Eilís Kavanagh (Wexford) (Cathaoirleach), Roberta Farrell (Kildare), Máire Ní Cheallaigh (Dublin), Eve Talbot (Regional Development Officer).

No. of Meetings held: 2

Achievements in 2015

- Liaised with previous committee to discuss areas of priority and how best to utilise this committee.
- Identified Chairperson and Secretary training and Rules Awareness training as areas of priority
- Established strong links with GAA Officer Training Programme with a view to drawing on expertise in module content and delivery

Plans for 2016

- Set up Officer Training Schedule through Provincial Councils
- Establish a panel of workshop facilitators who can deliver officer training, drawing on experienced former officers
- Design and deliver workshops with a strong emphasis on participation and practicalities
- Use feedback from workshops to improve future delivery
- Build on work already begun on a Secretary's Handbook
- Examine how www.camogie.ie can maximise its potential as a learning resource for members
- Liaise with other Sub-Committees to determine training needs/personnel that may be supported/utilised by our committee
- Continue with Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Committee (THDC) training, begun in 2015
- Thanks to those counties who participated in the Volunteer of the Year Awards and congratulations to the winners. Thanks also to the staff at the National Camogie Office for coordinating entries and the Awards ceremony.



National Coaching and Games Development

Members: Eamonn Browne (Tipperary) (Cathaoirleach), Sheila O'Donohoe (CCAO), Lynn Kelly (Limerick), Brigid Barnville (Kilkenny), Siobhan Poulter (Ulster Council Development Officer), Gerry Dolan (Connacht Council Development Officer), David Ryan (Munster Development Officer), Pat Martin (Leinster Development Officer), Mary O'Connor (Director of Camogie), Yvonne Byrne, Regional Development Officer.

No. of Meetings held: 6 and 5 other activities related to Development (Presentation and Blitz)

Achievements in 2015

A number of very successful blitzes were organised and run by members. Foundation, Level 1 and Level 2 courses were organised and ran by Yvonne. Our thanks to the Facilitators of these courses and also to the Tutors. 30 Foundation, 10 Level 1 and One Level 2 courses were completed in 2015 and approximately 650 Coaches were qualified.

Coaching DVD – We were very lucky to have been offered the services of a lady passionate about our game who offered to put a lot of voluntary work into compiling and producing a coaching video which was very much required. With the help of some staff members and an experienced County Coach this project is almost completed and should be available in the near future. We thank everyone that was involved in this venture.

Plans for 2016

To oversee the completion of the Coaching DVD. To engage more with the people involved on a day to day basis promoting our game within the organisation. To progress Camogie Development to best of our ability in conjunction with the Regional Development Officers (RDO'S).

My thanks to all the Committee members for your help and assistance during the past 12 months.



National Child Welfare and Protection Committee (NCWPC)

Members: Mary Connor (Louth) (Cathaoirleach), Kathleen Woods (Ulster Council Cathaoirleach), Marie O'Brien (Connacht Council Children's Officer), Margaret Skehan (Munster Council Children's Officer), Barbara Ryan (Leinster Council Children's Officer), Cian Nelson, Operations Co-ordinator with responsibility for child welfare

Former Member: Úna O'Halloran (Ulster Council Children's Officer)

No. of Meetings held: 4

Achievements in 2015

An audit was conducted amongst all counties to establish the levels of Child Protection compliance undertaken within clubs within each county. This covered compliance with Garda Vetting, Basic Awareness Workshops including the requirement to have these completed in advance of undertaking Camogie Coaching Courses; First Aid Courses completed etc.

The responses to this audit were mixed and highlighted the need for increased training across all counties.

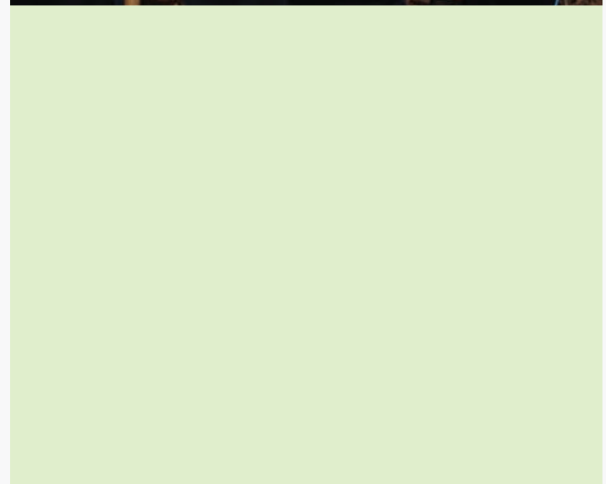
All Garda Vetting applications were fully up-to-date at the year end.

Plans for 2016

The committee is arranging four provincial 3-hour County Children's Officer Workshops in conjunction with the GAA.

These are new courses which are to be rolled out in the first quarter of 2016. These workshops will also include attendance from County Chairpersons and Secretaries, with the aim to upskill all parties in Child Protection and raising awareness around the importance of Child Protection.

There are also challenges relating to awareness around child protection and welfare in the use of social media and online activities. The Committee will also look to address in 2016.



National Referee, Support and Development Committee

Members: Peter Downey RIP (Cathaoirleach to November 2015). Aileen Lawlor (Westmeath) (Cathaoirleach from February 2016), Walter Cole (Cork), Alan Lagrue (Kildare), Louise Reilly (Cavan), John McDonagh (Galway), Frank McDonald (Armagh), Jenny Byrne (Dublin), Lizzie Flynn, Regional Development Officer

Achievements in 2015

2015 referee development kicked off in January with the national referee forum taking place in Croke Park and also included the referee written assessment on the day. The annual fitness test also took place in two separate venues before the league campaign began.

Over the course of the year a number of referee courses took place including First Whistle courses in Westmeath and Mayo in addition to Foundation courses in Galway, Clare, Limerick, Cork and Kilkenny.

At the All Ireland Finals, national referees engaged with the Hawkeye Detection System in Croke Park for the first time.

All referees were briefed and trained in the use of the system and its protocols and the support of the GAA in this is acknowledged and appreciated.

Plans 2016

The inaugural Referee Academy came to its conclusion in 2015. The Academy has been a great success with 2016 being earmarked for the next phase with the second Academy to get underway. The National Referees Committee continue to work towards a greater balance in the number of male/female referees looking after our games.

At the last Congress the Referee Pathway was launched. This provides a clear structure for referees to ensure progress through performance. A structured approach to recruitment, training and monitoring of potential referees must be provided for. This model of development will be implemented over an agreed timeline with all key stakeholders.

The ultimate goal of the Referees Pathway is to provide club, Counties, Provinces, the Country and the growing International Camogie Community with a pool of dedicated and proficient referees to administer fair play so that all can gain enjoyment from the great game that is Camogie.



National Communications and Marketing Committee

Members: Fiona Casey (Kerry) (Cathaoirleach), Olive Leonard (Westmeath), Monica Beresford (Dublin), Sarah Conroy (Laois), Gerry O'Sullivan (Dublin), Brona McIntyre (Communications and PR representative to Ard Chomhairle), Claire Egan (Director of Communications and Marketing until February 2016), Caroline Fitzsimons (Office and Communications Executive)

No. of Meetings held: 3

Achievements in 2015

The remit of the Committee was quite detailed, and given our first meeting was held in June of 2015, we felt it best to work on one specific project at a time.

'Back to Basics' was presented at the Leinster and Ulster Conventions in January 2016 after a number of months work by the Committee. It involved speaking to every county PRO in the country, but as the project unveiled, not all counties had active PROs or in name only.

12 of the 28 counties had a named PRO.

A number of similar issues were raised by the officers we spoke with, including workload, lack of technology

understanding, basic reporting templates, and club co-operation.

The findings prompted the Committee to set up a support network across the country using the Whatsapp tool, and to date 24 PROs are engaged on this. It is proving to be a very worthwhile networking tool. From presenting our findings I'm delighted to report, a number of counties who did not have a county PRO on the executive, have now filled the position.

The Annual Media Awards also took place. The standard of entries was very high, but not surprisingly entries were less than hoped for. Congratulations to the winners in each category.

Two editions of the On the Ball Magazine was also something we also contributed to but hope to improve on this going forward.

Plans for 2016

- Continue to work with and support our PROs new and existing, tailored regional workshops
- Further engage with sports media personalities as guest speakers at the workshops
- Have a standard match report template and match program template on the National Website.
- My thanks to the Committee for all their efforts over the past number of months. I look forward to the year ahead with great enthusiasm.



All-Stars Committee

Members: Sheila O'Donohoe (CCAO) (Cathaoirleach), Sheila Coen (Galway), Alice Dowling (Laois), Marion Graham (Tipperary) Patsy Hetherton (Dublin), Rachel Hogan (Wexford), Maura McCloy (Derry)

No. of Meetings held: 4

Achievements in 2015

- Modification of the selection criteria to more accurately capture players contribution consisting of: skill level (30%) (40% in 2014), effectiveness (35%) (from 30% in 2014), work rate (20%) (from 15% in 2014) and role model/sportsmanship (15%) (same as in 2014).
- Coverage of 95% of the all matches from the National League finals to All Ireland finals across all adult competitions by the committee.
- Changes were made in the number of awards at the Intermediate grade (increased from 3 to 6) and for the Soaring Stars (reduced from 15 to 6) both reflecting the changing composition of the respective championships.

Plans for 2016

The Committee reviewed the structure and administration of the All Stars and following this it is finalising recommendations to Ard Chomhairle. Pending Ard Chomhairle's decisions the new format and structure will be announced during 2016

We welcome the introduction of the Camogie Association/ WPGA Players Player of the Year.



National Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Committee (NTHDC)

Members: Richard Mulholland (Kilkenny) (Cathaoirleach), Joe O'Donnell (Clare), Deirdre Mitchell-Canning (Galway), Noeleen McCarthy (Westmeath), Grainne McIntyre (Offaly) (until Nov 2015), Germaine Noonan (Dublin) (until Nov.2015) Miriam Murphy (Cork) (from January 2016), Roisin Walsh (Kildare) (from January 2016)

No. of Cases Referred: 14

2015 has proven to be a very busy year for the NTHDC resulting in more hearings than would normally be expected. Thank you to all the members of the NTHDC, including the people who kindly agreed to be co-opted, for their help and co-operation in the past year.

National Finals Appeals Committee

Members: Cian Kelly (Limerick) (Cathaoirleach), Mairéad Finn (Meath), Marian McCarthy (Cork), Eilís Kavanagh (Wexford)

No. of Meetings held: Two committee meetings were held in 2015 and two final appeals were heard.

Achievements in 2015

By its nature the NFAC meets on an intermittent basis when required to listen to, consider and determine appeals of a final nature.

The infrequency of our meetings this year is testament to the members of the Camogie Association at every level, but in particular the Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Committees ("THDC") at county, Provincial and national level. We thank them for their great work throughout the year. We met with National THDC in June 2015 to discuss and agree on processes which would promote and maintain consistency and transparency within our Committees.

Plans for 2016

Our plans for 2016 is to continue to facilitate appeals in an objective and impartial manner while giving each member of the Camogie Association the rights afforded to them under the concepts of natural justice and fair procedures.

We also aim to increase our visibility and interaction with THDCs and indeed clubs and county boards by notifying them of any decision which we reach that may affect the interpretation of the rules or procedures under the Official Guide. This communication will be strictly limited to general outcomes of appeals and will not deal with specific details relating to the individuals involved.



All Ireland Post Primary Schools Committee

Members: Máire Ní Cheallaigh (Dublin) (Cathaoirleach), Brendan Williams (Leinster), Cathy Mulholland (Ulster), Donna Fitzgerald (Munster), Ciarán Ó Murchú (Dublin)

Meetings: 2

Achievements 2015

The Post Primary Schools Competitions comprise five provinces, with Dublin designated as such for games administration.

The 2015 All Ireland Post Primary games schedule was run off efficiently with improved PR on the Camogie Association's website and social media platforms. O'Neills Irish International Sports continued their sponsorship of the All Ireland stages of the competition and provide training tops for all the national winners.

In a new initiative, all the 2015 All Ireland post primary championships finalists were invited to the All-Ireland Club Finals in Croke Park in March. The Senior Champions in the four grades Senior A-D were introduced on to crowd during the Finals.

Bronagh Gaughan took over as National Servicing Officer from Paul Beecher who served in the role for 5 years. Paul's contribution enhanced the administration of the national stages of the competition and his work is much appreciated. Mairéad Ní Mhaoileoin stepped down from the Chair of the Committee and Máire Ní Cheallaigh commenced in the role in 2015.

Plans for 2016

Schools' Camogie greatly helps to increase school spirit and we will continue to administer competitions at all levels so that all schools can take part and progress to All Ireland level.

We aim to encourage more schools to become involved at all levels. Most girls will look back on their school Camogie as one of the highlights of their time in school and we aim to give that opportunity to as many girls as possible.

Schools Camogie can only function with the co-operation and commitment of the staff in the schools. We aim to improve communication with them so that there can be certainty with regard to fixtures for the schools involved.

Schools Camogie is very important for the future development of the game so we aim to ensure that it is an enjoyable and rewarding experience. We congratulate those schools that have won the All Ireland competition but equally we thank all who took part in all the matches and we wish them well in the future.







Reports from Camogie
Representatives on GAA
Committees

National Child Welfare and Protection Committee

Camogie Representative: Marie O'Brien (Roscommon)

A new edition of the Code of Behaviour - Underage, which is section 3 of Our Games Our Code was published and launched at the Child Welfare Information day held in Croke Park on 29th August.

74 Children's Officers attended with representatives from all the Gaelic Games family.

Guidelines for dealing with breaches of the Code have been drawn up following legal consultation.

The Child Protection in Sport Awareness Workshop was revised and published in August 2015. Amendments to the course were made following consultation with TUSLA. Tutor training for the revised course was conducted and 78 tutors are now available to deliver the course to all units of the Gaelic Games family.

A new 3 hour Children's Officer course has also been completed and roll out of the course has now commenced following two very successful pilots in Dublin and Tipperary. Work is ongoing on a number of areas including: Revision of remaining sections of Our Games Our Code, agreeing guidelines with TUSLA on dealing with allegations of abuse, setting up a website to aid the implementation of the Children First Act and a review of the Tackling Bullying course.

All Ireland Poc Fada Committee

Camogie Representative: Eve Talbot

No. of Meetings held: 5

Achievements in 2015

This year saw the introduction of an Under 16 camogie competition for the first time. This brought the number of competitors at the national event to ten – 6 at senior level (4 provincial winners, last year's winner & the Soaring Star keeper for 2014) and 4 at U16 level (4 provincial winners).

More of our county Poc Fada competitions were aligned with GAA competitions (including 3 provincial) which gives better profile to the event.

The number of counties taking part in Poc Fada totalled 24 and as encouraged by the National Chair Humphrey Kelleher many competitions took place away from the field and in environs more akin to the national competition which is held in the Cooley Mountains.

Senior Results

- Patricia Jackman (Waterford/2014 winner) 27 Pocs 34 metres
- Caitriona Daly (Galway/Connaught) 27 pocs 32 metres
- Catherine McGourty (Down/Ulster) 29 pocs 6 metres
- Aisling Corbett (Clare/Munster) 29 pocs 4 metres
- Elaine Gallery (Dublin/Leinster) 31 pocs 39 metres
- Laura Dunne (Laois/Soaring Star Keeper 2014) 34 pocs 9 metres.

U16 Results

- Sarah Healy (Galway/Connaught) 32 pocs 33 metres
- Aine O'Loughlin (Clare/Munster) 35 pocs 38 metres
- Ciara O'Looney (Westmeath/Leinster) 36 pocs 30 metres
- Ann-Marie Smyth (Down/Ulster) 37 pocs 35 metres

Plans for 2016

This year 2016 will see the introduction of a National Camogie Poc Fada Steering Committee. It is hoped this committee will help to grow Poc Fada further by issuing guidelines for the running of county/provincial poc fadas, review the current rules at county/provincial and national competitions and have a liaison officer with the GAA committee.

Féile na nGael Committee

Camogie Representative: Caroline Murray

No. of Meetings held: 11

Achievements in 2015

The Féile na nGael competition took place on the 19th 20th and 21st June. In total 117 clubs and 2800 girls played in the Féile competition in 2015. The National Féile competition took place in Ulster with regional Féile blitzes in Tipperary, Kilkenny, Galway and Laois on Saturday 20th June.

National Féile

There were 6 divisions played in Ulster with cup and shield finals at each grade. 84 camogie teams took part in total in Ulster. Results of the 6 divisions were as follows:

Division 1 Cup Final:

Loughgiel Shamrocks (Antrim) 5-6 Newbridge (Derry) 1-0

Division 1 Shield Final:

Ballycastle (Antrim) 4-3 Kilruane Mac Donaghs (Tipperary) 0-2

Division 2 Cup Final:

St Rynagh's (Offaly) 2-3 Lusmugh/Drumcullen (Offaly) 1-1

Division 2 Shield Final:

Bridíní Óga (Antrim) 5-2 Clonkill (Westmeath) 0-2

Division 3 Cup Final:

St Brigid's (Carlow) 1-5 Camross (Laois) 1-2

Division 3 Shield Final:

Keady (Armagh) 1-6 Glenullin (Derry) 0-5

Division 4 Cup Final:

St Brigid's (Laois) 4-3 Cillard (Kerry) 1-0

Division 4 Shield Final:

Westport (Mayo) 5-3 Madden (Armagh) 0-0

Division 5 Cup Final:

Cois Fharraige (Galway) 2-4 Castleblayney (Monaghan) 0-0

Division 5 Shield Final:

Paulstown/Goresbridge (Kilkenny) 0-6 Borris-Ileigh (Tipperary) 1-0

Division 6 Cup Final:

Cratloe (Clare) 1-1 Castlegar (Galway) 0-3

Division 6 Shield Final:

St Eunan's (Donegal) 2-4 Dungiven (Derry) 2-1

Regional Féile

In the regional blitzes 1st, 2nd 3rd and 4th placed teams from Galway, Tipperary, Kilkenny, Cork, Clare, Dublin, Limerick and Wexford took part in a blitz with the first placed Waterford club also taking part in regional Féile. First placed teams participated in Tipperary venues, 2nd placed in Kilkenny, 3rd placed in Galway and 4th placed in Laois. 33 clubs teams took part in the regional Féile blitzes this year in total. Results from the 4 regional Féile locations were as follows:

Tipperary: Downey Cup:

Gailltír (Waterford) 5-7 Thomastown (Kilkenny) 4-5

Kilkenny: Pat Moloney Shield:

Lucan Sarsfields (Dublin) 4-1, Young Ireland's (Kilkenny) 1-2

Galway: Imelda Hobbins Shield:

Craughwell (Galway) 1-3, Cuala (Dublin) 0-5

Laois: Mairin McAleenan Shield:

Killenaena Feakle (Clare) 1-3 Oliver Plunketts (Dublin) 0-3

Féile Skills Competition

The Féile Skills competition took place on a separate weekend than National Féile and took place in Rathleague, Portlaoise on Saturday 6th June. 25 counties were represented on the day for the Camogie Skills competition. First place on the day went to Hannah Kelly from Kilkenny with 205 points (out of possible 230). Joint second with 180 points- Roisin McCormack (Antrim) and Jennifer Murphy (Cork). Third with 175 points was Megan Dowdall (Westmeath).

Plans for 2016

The National Féile Competition will be hosted by Tipperary/Waterford in 2016 and will take place from Friday 17th June until Sunday 19th June. A number of regional locations will also take place on Saturday the 18th June. The Féile Skills Competition will take place on a separate weekend to National Féile with date to be confirmed.

Hurling Development Committee

Camogie Representative: Mary O'Connor

The Hurling Development Committee is tasked with developing the game of hurling for all ages in all counties.

The primary objective of the HDC in its first months of tenure was to devise a three year Action Plan for Hurling Development. The Action Plan was developed having regard for the work undertaken by the previous HDC through the National Hurling Development Plan (2012 – 2015), the Hurling 2020 Review Group as well as the Association's Strategic Plan (2015 – 2017). In December 2015 the HDC finalised and launched the Action Plan on foot of extensive consultation with a variety of stakeholders including GAA Management Committee, GAA Central Council, the Provincial Councils and the various County Steering Committees as well as An Cumann Camógaíochta.

Hurling Development Action Plan 2015 - 2018

For the next three years, the overarching goal of the Action Plan is to increase the number of opportunities for people to play the game of Hurling - at all ages and across all Counties.

The games opportunities provided must be meaningful, age-appropriate and reflective of developmental need. The intended outcome of this goal is that participation in Hurling will be maximised and the standard of playing performance will be optimised.

The HDC and the Camogie Association will continue to work together to ensure collaboration on programmes (where relevant) to develop the game of hurling and Camogie achieving the goal of providing more meaningful, age-appropriate games opportunities with the standards of playing performance being improved.

Actions 2016

While a number of projects have already commenced and others are due to commence shortly, some of the key actions for 2016 that include Camogie are as follow:

- Deliver 8 Hurl with me programmes with GAA staff 2 per province
- To deliver four Hurling Development Coach10/MVA Roadshows - in conjunction with the Provincial HDC/ Work Groups and Camogie.
- To conduct research into the use of Wood Technology in the engineering and manufacturing of hurleys.
- To oversee the introduction of a standardised sliotar core.

Towards the 150th Anniversary of the GAA

Camogie Representative: Mary O'Connor

This committee was set up to envisage what the GAA might and should look like in 2034, the year of the GAA's 150 Anniversary Celebrations. It met for the first time in May 2015.

The committee, which was appointed following Congress 2015 and will submit a report before the course of its three-year term, has been charged with the following tasks over the course of its tenure:

- Assess current GAA values and strategic direction in line with An Treoir Oifigiúl, Strategic Plan 2015-18, recent strategic plans and Ard Stiúrthóir reports.
- Chart where the GAA should be in 2034 under the headings: Games, Clubs, Competitions, Governance, Finance, Facilities and the Gaelic Games family. Other headings may and will emerge.
- Elicit the views of a wide cross section of the GAA and others in society on this issue making full use of modern media initiatives.
- Consult with an tUachtarán and Ard Stiúrthóir on progress and direction of the committee.
- Prepare a strategic document for the GAA, based on views received and the committee's deliberations on where the GAA should be in 2034 and how we should prepare.

Amongst the issues discussed by the committee to date are the following:

- Mission, Vision and Values of the GAA
- GAA and Identity (GAA as symbol of Irishness, GAA and the Diaspora, an increasingly fragmented Irish society etc)
- Governance issues within the GAA – key principles of GAA governance, decision-making etc
- Workload of Officers and Volunteers
- Amateur Status
- One Club Model
- International GAA
- Marketing of the GAA
- Youth Dropout







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