

Annual Report of Committees to Congress 2020

**Tuarascáil Bhliantúil
na gCoistí 2019 don
Chomhdháil 2020**



**THE
CAMOGIE
ASSOCIATION**
An Cumann Camógaíochta







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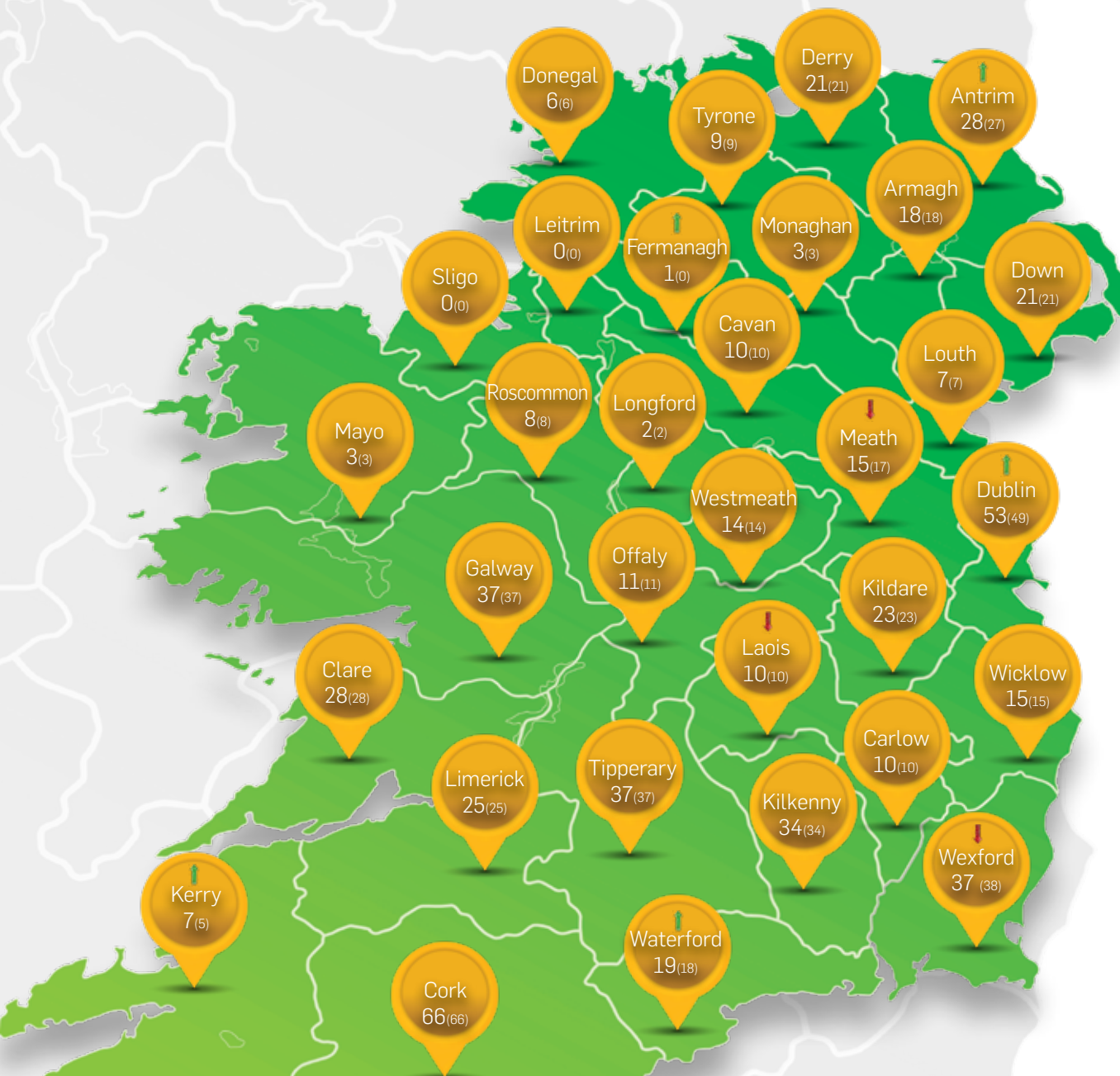
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Photography by Inpho.
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Provincial Council Reports

Figure 1:
Clubs by County 2019
 (2018 Data in Brackets)



	2019	2018	
Connacht	48	48	-
Leinster	231	230	+1
Munster	182	179	+3
Ulster	116	115	+1
TOTAL	577	572	+5

Comhairle Connacht

TUAIRISC AN RÚNAÍ 2019

In January, Connacht was represented by Ardrahan and Craughwell from Galway in the AIB All-Ireland Senior and Intermediate Club Championships Semi-Finals against Ulster champions Slaughtneil of Derry and Clonduff of Down respectively with the Ulster champions proving too strong for both Galway teams.

In February the County Volunteer winners were presented with their awards in Croke Park and the Connacht winners were:

Marita Healy – Galway
Barbara O’ Malley – Mayo
Karina Jones – Roscommon

Galway won the Littlewoods Ireland Camogie Leagues Division 1 Final overcoming Kilkenny in a triple-header in Croke Park at the end of March and in April Annual Congress was held in Ballinasloe, Co. Galway.

The Province in co-operation with the Connacht GAA Council organised the Connacht Poc Fada at the Connacht GAA Centre in Ballyhaunis. This proved to be very successful once again with competitors from Galway, Mayo and Roscommon taking part with the two winners coming from Galway with Caitriona Daly in the Senior category and Katie Gilchrist in the Under 16 category. Both girls went on to win their respective titles in the All-Ireland Poc Fada Finals in the Cooley Mountains in August.

Connacht competed in both the Junior Interprovincial and Under 17 Interprovincial Competitions.

All-Ireland success came to the province at underage level with Roscommon winning the All-Ireland Under 16C title.

The Summer League winners were both winners from Galway with Eyrecourt winning Division 1 and Sarsfields winning Division 2.

The Connacht Club Cup Finals had all three winners coming from Galway. Sarsfields won the Rose Nixon Cup, Ballinderreen won the Pat Barrett Cup and Carnmore won the Fr. Vincent Lawless Cup.

Carrick-on-Shannon hope to register as a club in 2020 and Roscommon have kindly agreed to their participation in their competitions.

Development

Officer Training, Coach Education, Referee courses and various workshops were co-ordinated by John Mullins the Participation and Growth Officer for Connacht at numerous locations in the province. School Development programmes, initiatives and blitzes at Primary and Post-Primary level were run in counties. Gerry Dolan once again co-ordinated the Under 14 Blitz. Development squads from all counties participated at the National Under 14 Blitz and participated in the parade on All-Ireland Finals' day. The Under 17 Development squad participated in the National Blitz comprising players from the three counties.

Thanks

I would like to thank all of my fellow officers for all their help and assistance. We had good attendance at all meetings during the year.

I would also like to thank the various County Boards for their help, the Clubs who provided pitches and to those who took gates for holding our Club and Provincial Finals and to the Referees and all others who helped the province in any way.

The Council would like to thank Gerry Dolan, John Mullins and the County Development Officers for promoting the development of Camogie in Connacht. We wish John the best of luck in his new career and thank him for helping to develop Camogie in Connacht for the past few years and as Gerry ends his term of office we thank him for giving so much to Camogie.

I would like to congratulate all of the teams and mentors on their success in 2019 and hopefully more titles will come to the Province in 2020.

A special word of thanks to all of the players who give us so much enjoyment year after year be it Club, School, College, County or Province.

Deirdre de Búrca
Rúnaí

Comhairle Connacht & Balance Sheet
Balance Sheet as at 30th November 2019

	30/11/2019	30/11/2018
	€	€
FIXED ASSETS	2,670	2,670
CURRENT ASSETS		
Debtors/Prepayments	0	0
Stock	0	0
Bank Deposits	8,021	3,634
	<u>10,691</u>	<u>6,304</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Creditors/Accruals	0	0
	<u>8,021</u>	<u>3,634</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS		
	<u>10,691</u>	<u>6,304</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	10,691	6,304
	=====	=====
Represented By:		
REVENUE ACCOUNT	10,691	6,304
	=====	=====



Comhairle Laighean

TUAIRISC AN RÚNAÍ 2019

This report details the activities that took place under the auspices of Comhairle Camógaíochta Laighean during the year and reflects on the many achievements and elements that involve so many people working together for the promotion of Camogie across the province of Leinster.

Overall 2019 can be regarded as another successful year for Clubs and Counties in the Province with national titles won on the field of play by the following:

- Westmeath won the Liberty Insurance All-Ireland Intermediate Championship
- Kildare won the Littlewoods Ireland Camogie Leagues Division 3 title
- Laois won the All-Ireland Minor B Championship
- Louth won the Minor Strike for Glory Development Competition

Congratulations to all the winners and well done to all Leinster counties and clubs on their participation across all grades. The manner in which they represented your clubs, counties and provinces must be commended.

Congratulations to all the Leinster All-Stars and Soaring Stars recipients with special congratulations to Pamela Greville on winning the Intermediate Players' Player of the Year Award.

Congratulations to all the Leinster Volunteer of Year recipients who received their awards in Croke Park in February.

Finance

Finance is needed to ensure that we can be the best in terms of success on the playing fields and in ensuring our future development plans are carried out. Thanks to all counties who returned gates when requested and other fees for competitions and referees. Thanks to all who helped with gates at various venues over the year. Revenue from gates is very important and we thank all patrons for their contributions.

Child Protection & Safeguarding

All clubs and counties were requested to complete and update Risk Assessments and Safeguarding Statements during the year. While this increased the workload on Club and County Children's Officers we need to ensure that all of our players are in a safe and enjoyable environment and our games conducted in a spirit of fair play. Each club across the province was asked to complete Safeguarding

Compliance Forms which had to be returned to both the National and Provincial Children's Officer. While the returns in most Counties were completed in full some counties still have some work to do to ensure full compliance.

Media

Thanks are extended to the personnel in the many print, radio and photographic media outlets that cover our games and activities at Club, County and Provincial level. I would like to thank those involved in an ever-increasing social networking world where information is moving in all directions at incredible speed. Our Provincial Facebook and Twitter accounts were very active during the year. For the first time ever Leinster Camogie provided live streaming of the AIB Leinster Senior & Intermediate Club Finals. The response we received was very positive with viewing figures strong. Prior to the AIB Leinster Senior & Intermediate Club Finals we held a Launch Day at the Rock of Dunmaise where the four club captains attended. This launch helped in the promotion of our Club Finals and is something that Leinster will look at developing further in 2020.

Registrations

I would like to thank all club registrars and secretaries who administered the system in their clubs. This final registration figures for Leinster as of December 12th 2019 were:

TYPE OF MEMBERSHIP NUMBER OF MEMBERS

Youth	25,565
Adult Playing	4,235
Adult – Coaches/Administrators/Referees	4,467
Social	660
TOTAL	34,927

Thanks

We extend a thank you to our THDC for all their dealings with transfers, appeals and disciplinary matters.

A small group of loyal helpers who play an important role at our games and venues are our stewards. In particular we owe a special thanks to all who acted as gate collectors and stewards at venues across Leinster. In order for games to be played in a safe environment for both players and supporters it is necessary to put certain rules in place and we need everyone's support in this matter. A special word of thanks also to all who helped provide refreshments after games and to those who helped with catering at any of our venues.

I wish to pay tribute to all the Referees in the province for the essential job they carry out week in week out for the Association.

I want to particularly thank everyone for their progressive outlook and pro-active approach to all matters undertaken by Leinster Council. The work of county secretaries is thankless and I do hope all counties acknowledge the excellent people we had in these roles across Leinster in 2019.

Thanks also to my fellow officers for your outstanding contribution to Leinster Camogie during 2019 and a special and sincere thanks to you all for your support to me in so many ways over the year.

Linda Ní Chionnaith
Rúnaí

Balance Sheet as at 30th November 2019

	30/11/2019	30/11/2018
	€	€
FIXED ASSETS	0	0
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash at bank and in hand	60,949	99,968
Bank Deposit Account	10,593	10,592
	<u>85,559</u>	<u>74,382</u>
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Creditors/Accruals	0	0
	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
NET CURRENT ASSETS	85,559	74,382
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	<u>85,559</u>	<u>74,382</u>
Represented By:		
REVENUE ACCOUNT	<u>85,559</u>	<u>74,382</u>



Comhairle Mumhan

TUAIRISC AN RÚNAÍ 2019

	Clubs	Members
Clare	28	4,277
Cork	66	12,887
Kerry	7	672
Limerick	25	3,893
Tipperary	37	4,775
Waterford	19	2,392
TOTALS	182	28,896

Congratulations to all of the Munster sides who collected titles and to everyone who picked up awards during the year.

The Liberty Insurance All-Stars Awards was held in the City West Hotel Dublin on October 19th. Congratulations to all of the girls who received a nomination especially Beth Carton (Waterford), Lorraine Bray (Waterford), Amy O'Connor (Cork), Soaring Stars Sabrina Larkin (Tipperary), Laura Shinnors (Tipperary) and Patrice Diggins (Kerry) who collected awards on the night.

Munster was in hard luck to lose out to Ulster in the Final of the Interprovincial Championship. This is a great competition and all enjoyed the day with great displays of Camogie played on the day. Well done to all involved.

Waterford hosted the Shinty Competition in WIT, which is a great competition. The weather on the day was horrible, but the Munster girls did not let that stop them as they fought hard and it paid off on the day as they beat Scotland and get to travel to Scotland next year to play in this competition. Well done to all management and players.

The Munster Poc Fada was held in Thurles Racecourse. Each county had one Senior and two Under 16 competitors. Each competitor was required to complete one round of the Racecourse with the least numbers of pucks in accordance with the rules of the competition for Poc Fada. Thanks to all the counties in Munster for taking part in the competition and the officers of Munster Council who officiated as scorekeepers. Andrea O Keffe (Clare) won the Senior title and Meamh Óg Ring (Cork) won the Under 16 title.

The National Féile Competition took place in Cork on June 7th to 9th. This was a very well run competition. Well done to Cork in hosting.

Congratulations to all the referees in Munster and at national level. A special congratulations goes to Andrew Larkin of Cork who did a fantastic job refereeing the 2019 All-Ireland Intermediate Final.

Munster Council is very lucky to have a Development Officer in Rob Lotty and Stuart Reid Munster Participation and Growth Co-ordinator, for the amount of development work they both do.

Munster Council is at present working on having a new website up and running in the near future. Mike Ryan of Tipperary is helping with this.

A special word of thanks goes to Bríd McNamara who has had to step down as PRO due to work commitments. Bríd has done a lot of PRO work for Munster Camogie down through the years winning several national awards.

A special thanks to all of the local radio and media for their continued and growing coverage of our game.

Munster Camogie Council sincerely thanks Munster GAA for again giving a generous grant to Munster Camogie. Without this grant Munster Camogie would not have done the amount of work in development that has been done over the last year and will continue to do in 2020.

Thanks to all of my fellow officers and our County Secretaries for their support and hard work over the last year.

Carmel Harkin
Rúnaí

Balance Sheet as at 30th November 2019

	30/11/2019	30/11/2018
	€	€
FIXED ASSETS	0	0
CURRENT ASSETS		
Cash at Bank and in Hand	60,949	99,968
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Creditors/Accruals	1,201	1,201
NET CURRENT ASSETS	59,748	98,767
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	59,748	98,767
Represented By: REVENUE ACCOUNT	59,748	98,767



Comhairle Uladh

TUAIRISC AN RÚNAÍ 2019

Ulster Camogie continued to have a very busy year both on and off the field of play whilst having to apply major focus and energy on the requirements of Sport NI for target achieving, development and reporting necessary to retain the funding.

The Council remains faced with major challenges to retain the funding which is now on an annual basis. The most important target Ulster Council has is the 'Club Maith' numbers. The effort required for this target is mammoth and the support of the Clubs and Counties for putting themselves forward to go through the process is vital if we are to retain our funding going forward.

Without this funding the roles of Administration Manager and Growth & Participation Officer would be in jeopardy. The Council would not be in a financial position to continue to fund both full-time positions as well as run out development, education and training initiatives.

Sport NI

Sport NI continues also to be central in the outstanding developments being made by Ulster Camogie. The continued funding of the staff posts has seen Ulster Camogie flourish. The development of Ulster Camogie continues beyond the pitch as we receive the high level ratings for Governance and Control. This could not have been achieved without the hard work of all the Council Officers and Administration Manager Julie O'Neill.

Ulster Camogie Council had a further Financial Audit in 2019 from Sport NI which imposed stronger controls and updating of Policies & Procedures for the Council to ensure the necessary requirements are met.

Our finances are in a strong position with us retaining the 'Robust' standard enabling the funding to be drawn down in advance of the spend.

Integration within Ulster

Ulster Camogie is again thankful to the officers and staff of Ulster GAA for their continued support for the games and development of our sport and volunteers. The strength of integration in Ulster remains high in 2019 particularly many high-profile double-headers taking place.

We also have had greater levels of co-operation with GAA County Boards and clubs in regard to securing

facilities for our games and we thank all counties for hosting Camogie games again in 2019. It is important that we provide the best facilities for our players to showcase their skills.

Ulster Championships

Down and Antrim did battle in this year's Senior Final played as a double-header to Ulster GAA football Championship with Down retaining their crown of Ulster Senior Champions.

Ulster Club Championships

Slaughtneil won the Ulster Senior Club Championship in a fine display against Loughgiel.

Ulster Camogie is very proud of Slaughtneil being crowned All-Ireland Senior Camogie Club champions for the third successive year.

Clonduff winning the Ulster Intermediate Club Championship for the second year in a row and then claiming the Ireland Champions title was another fantastic achievement.

Interprovincial Championship

2019 was the turn of the Junior Ulster Squad who retained their All-Ireland title to make it three All-Ireland Junior titles in-a-row. The Ulster Under U17 squad also had success winning the Shield competition.

National Competition

Ulster was well represented on the national stage in both League and Championship with Tyrone winning the Under 16C title.

Coaching & Games

Coach Education built on the success achieved in the previous year and continued to deliver courses across the province with good attendance to help build on the database of qualified coaches.

The benefits of full-time staff to support volunteers and provide education opportunities will continue to have positive benefits to our game. The Participation & Growth Co-ordinator when recruited again will be invaluable to Clubs and County Boards.

For Camogie in Ulster to reach higher we need to continue to educate our coaches and administrators

THDC

With a new committee in place in 2019 they were called into action and showed nothing but professionalism and empathy to all before them. Many thanks to them for their time and dedication to their role on this committee.

Awards Lunch

The Awards Lunch again held in Armagh City Hotel was another huge success. This celebrates all that is good about our game from our players, administrators and volunteers. It was important to recognise not only our elite players but also our coaches and Referees. Congratulations to all of the winners and well done to those nominated from all over the Province.

Moving Forward

Although 2019 was a mixed bag for Ulster Camogie the talent is present to build and get stronger both on and off the field. Each county must grow and expand on the year before.

Thanks must 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.

To all the match officials of our sport we extend our deepest thanks and congratulations on a job well done. Best wishes for 2020 and hope you will continue to assist Ulster Camogie.

I wish all Provincial, County and Club Officers best wishes for 2020.

Roismaíre Ní Aodha-Mheraigh
Rúnaí

Balance Sheet as at 30th November 2019

	30/11/2019	30/11/2018
	£	£
FIXED ASSETS	0	0
CURRENT ASSETS		
Debtors	19,192	10,725
Cash at Bank and in Hand	115,525	116,679
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	134,717	127,404
	<hr/>	<hr/>
CURRENT LIABILITIES		
Creditors/Accruals	16,957	15,326
	<hr/>	<hr/>
NET CURRENT ASSETS	117,760	112,078
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	117,760	112,078
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
Represented By: REVENUE ACCOUNT	117,760	112,078
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>



International Board Reports





International Board Reports

Gaelic Football & Hurling Association of Australasia

Overall Camogie remains in a good position in Australasia despite having the smallest player numbers of the four Gaelic Games disciplines played. The two brightest spots of the year were the Australasian success at the World Games with the Camogie teams showing an increasing junior interest in the game. Scarcity of trained coaches remains a barrier to the development of greater player numbers at all levels of the sport.

Youth Development

Youth Camogie activities have taken place in Brisbane, Melbourne, Perth and Sydney. These events are generally mixed. Across these states there have been regular junior events as well as one-off special activities and youth camps. The focus is on participation, learning and fun rather than competition.

The scene in Melbourne is now particularly strong with two different groups operating. Activities have also expanded to new suburban locations around the city providing more opportunities for youngsters to participate. There have been occasional beach events that, through being very much in keeping with the Australian lifestyle, have been extremely popular.

Camogie around the regional affiliates

New South Wales remains the strongest Camogie state in Australasia with five viable teams. Player numbers remained at a record high level and this is expected to continue into 2020. Camogie is played in pre-season competitions starting February which then lead into the league season. Players are then selected for the NSW team to represent the state at the Australasian Championships.

Victoria has three camogie teams with a total player base of around 75. Off-field issues affected all Gaelic Games in Victoria last year and it is hoped that numbers will improve as better administrative arrangements are established.

Queensland (Emeralds) and Western Australia (Western Swans & St Gabriels) each have two active Camogie teams with a total player base of around 80. Several games are played during a season and then a Final. Extra teams

are often found for pre-season tournaments, generally January to March, as the numbers (7s and/or 9s) represent a lower bar to putting a side on the park. The arrival of women from Ireland to Brisbane and Perth has reduced to a trickle and added to that, in 2019 a large number of long-term players returned to Ireland. Efforts are being made to recruit locals and this has been a success to some extent with the Emeralds Camogie Club in Brisbane being able to continue fielding two teams in 2019 thereby ensuring that Camogie is still part of the programming. Total player base in each state is around 40. Being able as a host state to field a team in the 2019 Australasian Championships was also a huge incentive for the Queenslanders.

Camogie is played mostly on a social basis in Wellington and Canterbury (both New Zealand). This year Wellington has also seen growth with 10 new players in 2019. Wellington and Canterbury/Southern were able to hold an exhibition Camogie match during Feis due to the growth in players. Wellington expects to see a further growth in 2020 due to a successful recruitment drive during their summer social tournament. They also have in Heather the first native born Foundation level coach.

Australasian Championships

Three state representative teams - Victoria, NSW and Queensland - competed for the Camogie trophy in 2019 in Brisbane, Queensland. Western Australia reported that they were unable to gain enough players for the tournament due to the distance (4,000km) and the cost of travel.

The tournament was of a high standard and featured a round-robin before an elimination Final and Final. The Final proper was live-streamed and remains available on the Australasia GFHA's YouTube channel.

NSW retained their title in extra-time against Victoria in front of special guest Breandán Ó Caollaí (Ambassador of Ireland to Australia).

Administration and Management

- Referee courses were held and more are planned for 2020 to meet expected demand.
- All Camogie teams are part of larger clubs that compete in other disciplines. Camogie receives a reasonable share of publicity on social media accounts and the images are popular.
- Ground resources and equipment are adequate for the

amount of Camogie being played in Australasia but the costs including freight are becoming prohibitive.

- States have become good at scheduling to accommodate dual players in Camogie. The dual issue is more difficult at the Australasian Championships where due to time limitations many games need to be squeezed into just a few days.
- Camogie remains very much dependent on immigrant flows to and from Ireland and this leads to a 'natural' ebb and flow in the number of players and teams in Australia.
- There is increasingly a very positive environment for women's sport in Australia. Camogie benefits indirectly from general promotion of active lifestyle and for the acceptability of women being involved in physical and contact sports. Funding through various levels of government is also supporting women in sports leadership and better sportsground facilities.
- Junior development programmes hold out the promise that within 5-10 years we may see the first 'native' players graduating to senior competition. There will be many challenges along the way but the Australasia GFHA stands ready to do what it can to support their journey.

GAA World Games

Based on the competing teams from the Australasian Championships, a representative Camogie team (Irish-born) was sent to the GAA World Games in Ireland in July/August. The Australasian team won all of their games including a close Final. Defender Karen Jones was named Player of the Tournament.

The team attracted a lot of positive attention on Australasia's social media channels so it is hoped that this will be beneficial for Camogie. All players are now aware of what a great experience it was and are keen to follow in their footsteps all the way to Croke Park. Australasian GFHA would also like to thank the World Games organisers for a very well-run tournament.

Alan Whykes
PRO

Gaelic Athletic Association of Canada

The Gaelic Games scene in Canada continues to thrive and Camogie continues to grow in a very positive direction.

All three divisions across the country field teams at adult level and there is continued interest and activity in growing the game at youth level. This past year saw very competitive Camogie games within each of the Divisional Championships.

Canada GAA was delighted to send eight teams to the GAA World Games in Waterford in 2019. Of the eight teams that travelled, seven were comprised of native-born players which is a testament to the work being done to attract non-Irish born players to Gaelic Games. Canada sent an Irish born Camogie team and a native-born Camogie team who thoroughly enjoyed the competition and the experience. The memories of the trip have left an indelible mark on the players who are anxious to continue to grow the game.

Canada GAA had the pleasure of hosting Ard Stiúrthóir Sinéad McNulty and Coach Education & Development Co-ordinator Niall Williams in November. They travelled to Ottawa, Montreal and Toronto where Niall delivered coaching courses to a number of our players and team managers. Thank you to both Sinéad and Niall for taking time out of your busy schedules to meet with our members.

We are sincerely grateful for the guidance and assistance provided by the Camogie Association.

Angela Ó Muirí
Rúnaí

Gaelic Football & Hurling Association of the Middle East

Camogie in the Middle East has gone from strength to strength over the past five years. This year we've now got over 250 registered members. We currently have seven Camogie clubs in the Middle East: Dubai Celts, Abu Dhabi Na Fianna, Sharjah Gaels, Jumeirah Gaels, Al Reem Shamrocks, Oryx Na hEireann (Qatar GAA) and Al Ain.

This year saw the introduction of three new clubs in Al Reem Shamrocks, Qatar GAA and Al Ain which are a fantastic addition to Camogie in the region.

The Senior Camogie Division is made up of Sharjah Gaels, Dubai Celts, Abu Dhabi Na Fianna and Jumeirah Gaels. The standard at Senior level is tremendously high and continues to go from strength to strength each season.

Last season Abu Dhabi Na Fianna, Sharjah Gaels and Dubai Celts all finished in a tie for first place. Abu Dhabi came out victorious on a countback with the most appearances in tournament finals.

All seven clubs now have a team competing at Intermediate level. To date this season (which runs from October 2019 – March 2020) the Finals have been closely contested with Abu Dhabi currently the favourites to claim the league title. The Final tournament takes place in Abu Dhabi on March 12th bringing a close to a thrilling 2019/2020 season.

During the summer, the Middle East sent a Camogie team to participate in the World Games in Waterford and Dublin. This team comprised of the top players chosen from the clubs throughout the region at the end of the 2018/19 season, with the selection of players determined following a number of trial matches played in difficult conditions in April and May of 2019. The Middle East stormed through the group stages and won a tough Semi-Final against

Vancouver which guaranteed them a place in Croke Park. The team displayed magnificent skill and determination against Australasia in front of a great crowd at GAA HQ but lost out to a slightly stronger Australasia outfit. It was a tremendous achievement and credit goes to joint managers Sheila O'Donnell and Meave Carr and all of the players involved for the incredible effort put in over the summer to get to the Final.

Seán O'Sullivan
Rúnaí

Gaelic Football & Hurling Association of the USA

Camogie has been steadily increasing in numbers in the US. In 2019, there were Camogie clubs in eight of the ten divisions in the US. In those eight divisions, there are fifteen clubs in total with five of those clubs in the Heartland Division, and three in the Mid-Atlantic.

The Camogie Development Committee has been tasked with continuing to grow Camogie within the US.

Some of the key tasks accomplished in 2019 were:

- Growth of USGAA Camogie Facebook page has grown to more than 200 likes and more than 200 follows
- Playing highlights:
 - Multiple Camogie teams from the USGAA travelled to the GAA World Games – some club teams, divisional teams, and conglomerate teams from across the US
 - Twin Cities Robert Emmet's won the Intermediate Camogie title and will move up to Senior Camogie in 2020
 - 17 Camogie teams at USGAA Finals (12 are in the USGAA)

Established a 2019/2020 Budget Request plan that involves:

- Multiple Camogie blitzes (Camogie play combined with upskilling of referees and coaches)
- Creation of a promotional video that all Camogie clubs can use
- Assistance to primarily hurling clubs to expand into Camogie

Our goals for 2020 are to continue to determine where the Camogie players are

- Utilising the USGAA Secretary, USGAA Camogie Facebook page, and the Camogie Development Committee to reach out to all clubs and designate a Camogie contact in all hurling and Camogie clubs
- Put into action approved pieces of the Budget Request Plan

Paul Keane
Rúnaí

Camogie Board Britain

2019 was a year of transition in Britain as we looked to set up four Senior teams playing at the top level to get more competitive games.

Tara of London won the Senior Championship in Britain with a close match against Manchester's Fullen Gaels.

John Mitchells of Birmingham took intermediate honours with a comprehensive win over Liverpool Wolf Tones.

2020 has seen the arrival of two new Clubs; Roger Casements of Coventry and Ceann Creige from Glasgow Scotland. This will see the rise of the total number of clubs from nine to 11.

In 2020 we will also have four teams competing at Senior and Intermediate and then seven teams competing at Junior Level.

At our AGM, it was agreed to really push for new players to play the sport. Key to this for London is the major push at the St. Patrick's Day parade, where 'Women in Sport' will be the theme of this year's festival in support of the Federation of Irish Sport's 20x20 campaign. The Grand Marshall for the world-renowned parade on Sunday will be Dublin Camogie player Laura Twomey.

We would like to thank the Provincial Committee and Head office in Dublin for all of their help during the season.

Eoin Kelly
Rúnaí

Gaelic Games Europe

With two Camogie Training Days, 56 European Camogie matches played, two European Camogie Teams representing Gaelic Games Europe in the GAA World Games, four new clubs sending players to various rounds of the Gaelic Games Europe Camogie Championship and two exciting new venues for the championship - it has been an exciting season.

We continue to enjoy a good relationship with the Camogie Association and we thank them for their support throughout the 2019 season. In particular, we would like to thank James Heffernan, the Camogie Association Youth Development Co-ordinator, who together with Michael Dempsey provided an invaluable GGE Camogie and Hurling training day organised by the Coaching Officer for Gaelic Games Europe, Nicole McDermott, and hosted by Hamburg GAA, to the benefit of many up and coming European players. We would particularly like to thank the Camogie

Association for their attendance at the final round of the 2019 season in Dresden. Plans are in place to address the developing status of European Camogie within the framework of the Camogie Association development plan and we look forward to working closely with the Camogie Association in the coming year.

Camogie remains the most developing code among the four established codes of Gaelic Games Europe. The varying strength and skill levels between well-established Clubs and new/developing Clubs results in many challenging Camogie games throughout the season, that build a unique resilience and help to develop skill levels. That resilience must be fostered and the Development Shield at this year's Finals, aimed to encourage those teams, that continue to fight and develop at every round of the Championship, despite the match defeats that they face.

The World Games brought home to each and every European player, how we can all further develop as athletes, awakened a hunger in each of us to simply play better, train harder and revealed to us how much our skill level improves in playing against strong teams. The further development of camogie in Europe, given the pronounced non-Irish player population amongst squads deserves attention.

Thank you to the Camogie officers across the Gaelic Games Europe region. Your sustained efforts are what will ensure that the framework exists for Camogie to not only continue, but also to continue to grow and develop in Europe.

This next year I will continue to focus on growth and development and with that, I would appeal to all Clubs to ensure that increased focus is placed on Camogie, be it from ensuring that all clubs have size 4 Camogie sliotars, that all Camogie players are welcome and strongly encouraged to attend Camogie/hurling training or that all clubs have a qualified Camogie referee etc.

Furthermore, we continue to welcome applications to host tournaments from new clubs, that have not previously hosted and as always, the spreading of our games and the development of up and coming clubs, especially ones that develop both hurling and Camogie teams, remains at the forefront of the Camogie and hurling officer roles. While the distinct efforts of many clubs to establish Camogie teams are thoroughly appreciated, a further drive is needed to ensure the continued development of camogie in Europe. If we want our games and our code to develop, we have to nurture them and the people behind them. With the help of all Clubs and GGE, that message will spread through the actions of the coming season.

Sal Hartnett
European Camogie Officer

Education Council Reports







Comhairle Camógaíochta na nIarbhunscoileanna (Post-Primary Camogie Council)

No. of Meetings held: 4

No. of meetings attended:

Committee Member Name	Role	Number of meetings
Brendan Williams	Cathaoirleach	4
Sr. Mairéad Ní Fhearnáin	Leas Cathaoirleach	4
Teresa McAvinchey	Rúnaí	4
Proinsias Ó Críodáin	Cisteoir	2
Mairéad Ní Mhaoileóin	Clárathóir	3
Séamas McAleenan	Oifigeach Caidreamh Poiblí	1
Ciarán Ó Murchú	Oifigeach Forbartha	4
Geraldine Clarke	Oifigeach na bPáistí	4
Cathy Mulholland	Toscaire Cúige	3
Fiona Paige	Toscaire Cúige	3
Michael Nash	Toscaire Cúige	2
Jerry Drennan	Toscaire Cúige	0

We have successfully sought nominations for members to serve on our THDC. Thankfully to date we have not had to use them.

Much use was made of online communications between committee members throughout the year which saved having to travel for extra meetings.

The Interprovincial 7's Blitz was held at Dunganny, Trim on October 16th and was very well co-ordinated by our servicing officer Michelle Boyle assisted by Liam Clancy, Club and Education Support Co-ordinator. The winners on the day were: A - Loreto Kilkenny, B - Castletomer CS Kilkenny, C - CD Cahir.

Unfortunately there was no Interprovincial this year as the date set did not suit most of the schools. Possibly reverting back to the original date may be something Comhairle Camógaíochta na nIarbhunscoileanna may have to consider.

The Senior and Junior Finals are scheduled for February 22nd and March 7th. The All-Ireland Junior and Senior Quarter-Finals and Senior Semi-Finals have been held at the time of writing. The Comhairle Camógaíochta na nIarbhunscoileanna All-Ireland competitions were renamed the Tesco All-Ireland Post-Primary Schools Championships this year. Comhairle Camógaíochta na nIarbhunscoileanna are looking forward to hearing how they are to be sponsored by Tesco.

The AGM for Comhairle Camógaíochta na nIarbhunscoileanna is fixed for Saturday May 9th 2020. As with all sectors of our Association we need new officers and administrators in order to keep the sector, which is important in the long-term development and promotion of our game, moving forward and continuing to develop. This is the age at which we either lose or retain our players so hopefully we will have members who are active in this sector coming forward for election.

The teachers who give their time to coach and look after Camogie players in our second level schools cannot be thanked enough. Without them second level Camogie would not exist. The level of commitment and passion that is on display at our competitions from mentors, coaches, administrators and players is fantastic to see and to be a part of.

Teresa McAvinchey
Rúnaí

Comhairle Camógaíochta Ard Oideachais (CCAO)

Members:

Michelle Molloy - Cathaoirleach
Shannon Kavanagh – Leas Cathaoirleach
Jennifer Norris - Rúnaí
Jack Dunphy - PRO
Katie Redmond - Joint-Treasurer
Jacqui O'Connor - Joint-Treasurer

Achievements in 2019

The 2019/2020 season for Third Level Camogie was certainly our busiest ever to date, with participation figures continuing to grow.

We kickstarted the year with our annual Fresher's Blitz hosted by UCD. Congratulations to UL who won the Division 1 and 2 competitions respectively.

The League followed which hosted a number of games for all players. Congratulations to our winners:

Division 1: UL
Division 2: IT Carlow
Division 3: AIT
Division 4: GMIT

All roads led to the WIT Arena during storm Denis when the CCAO and WIT Vikings GAA co-hosted the UPMC Ashbourne, Purcell, Fr. Meachair and Ó Maolagáin Cups.

Over three days we saw 10 games with 14 teams and players from over 252 clubs around Ireland playing Third Level Camogie.

Congratulations to our winners, UL who secured five titles in-a-row in a comprehensive win over UCC. UCD were crowned Purcell Cup winners and last year's finalists Trinity College came back and won the Fr. Meachair Cup. Marino Institute were crowned winners of the Ó Maolagáin Cup which sadly was the first Ashbourne weekend without our honorary president Brídín Uí Mhaolagáin, who the Cup is named after.

This year was the first time the Championship had a title sponsor with UPMC coming on board. The sponsorship secured extra coverage before, during and after the weekend and provided a platform to host a launch night ahead of the weekend. UPMC also provided merchandise to all finalists and contributed to the All-Stars and costs of the programmes.

For the third year running we live streamed the Ashbourne Final and one of the biggest successes for us this year was the increase in coverage captured by our PRO Jack Dunphy who has done trojan work to promote our games. We now have an Instagram page and we have more results, more photos, more match reports and move coverage in press and online titles. It has allowed us to showcase the best of Third Level Camogie.

This year was the first time that colleges could enter second teams into the Championship and proved quite successful as our participation rate grew, this has now replaced our intermediate blitz, resulting in players getting more frequent games instead of a one day blitz.

We are looking forward to continuing to build on this year.

Michelle Molloy
Cathaoirleach

Ard Chomhairle Sub-Committee Reports







National Resource Management Committee

No of Meeting held: 7

No. of meetings attended:

Committee Member Name	Role	No. of meetings
Kathleen Woods	Uachtarán	5/7
Aileen Pierce	Ard Chomhairle Treasurer and RMC Chairperson	7/7
Sheila O'Donohoe	Ard Chomhairle Rúnaí until Spring 2019	1/2
Niamh Kilmartin	Ard Chomhairle Rúnaí from Spring 2019	5/5
Jennifer Cultra	Ulster Chairperson	6/7
Marion Graham	Munster Chairperson	7/7
Pat Martin	Leinster Chairperson until Spring 2019	0/2
Hilda Breslin	Leinster Chairperson from Spring 2019	4/5
Geraldine McGrath	Connacht Chairperson	7/7
Geraldine Beattie Green	Committee Member	3/7
Frances Leavy	Committee Member	4/7
Gareth Yore	Committee Member	2/7
Sinéad McNulty	Ard Stiúrthóir from June 2019	4/4
Paddy Boyd	Interim Ard Stiúrthóir until June 2019	3/3
Brendan McCabe	Finance Manager	7/7

Achievements in 2019

- Considered draft 2018 financial statements and met with auditors to discuss Association's financial performance and implementation of financial controls.
- Made recommendations to Ard Chomhairle on revised 2019 budget and on 2020 budget submitted to Sport Ireland.
- Proposed and submitted a Reserves Policy for the Association, which was subsequently approved by Ard Chomhairle.
- Monitored Association expenditure against 2019 budget, monitored unbudgeted expenditure, and tracked projected financial outcome as the year progressed.

- Advised Ard Chomhairle on financial matters throughout the year.
- Supported the Association's management with HR decisions and advised Ard Chomhairle in relation to HR issues.
- Oversaw planned approach and initial implementation of reviewing compliance with mandatory procedures, including selection of Units for review in early 2020.
- Review of Employee Handbook and contracts is ongoing.
- Worked with the Association's Finance Manager to strengthen financial procedures and reports.

Aileen Pierce
Cathaoirleach

Volunteer and Officer Support, Training and Development

No. of Meetings held: 1

No. of meetings attended:

Committee Member Name	Role	No. of meetings
Eilís Kavanagh	Cathaoirleach	1
Linda Kenny	Committee Member	1
Olive Leonard	Committee Member	1

Achievements in 2019

Only one meeting was held since Congress and other communications have been by phone call discussion. As our committee is quite small, and we have been without a staff member for almost a year, we decided to focus our attention on counties that request training or assistance. This was done in early summer through an online survey which unfortunately had a very poor response.

Subsequent to the appointment of the new Learning and Development Co-ordinator I would envisage a schedule of meetings and workshops that can be delivered through the Camogie Association and the GAA. I think our energies would be best invested in co-ordinating our Learning and Development focus with the GAA Club Leadership Development Programme (CLDP). This programme is moving more towards a set of online workshops, portal resources and webinars as well as the

traditional face-to-face workshops which will always have a place in any learning programme.

Eilís Kavanagh
Cathaoirleach

National Competitions Management Committee

No. of Meetings held: 6 Meetings and 20 Conference calls

No. of meetings attended:

Committee Member Name	Role	No. of meetings
Hilda Breslin	Cathaoirleach	6
Rachel Hogan	Committee Member	5
Marie Porter	Committee Member	5
Michelle Smith	Committee	5
Caroline Halton	National Fixtures Administrator (from September)	3
Lizzy McGuinness	National Fixtures Administrator (until September)	3

Achievements in 2019

- Implementation of the 2019 National Fixtures Plan involving over 300 fixtures. This work includes the scheduling of games, venues and appointment of match officials.
- A review of the 2019 National Fixtures Plan resulting in recommendations to Ard Chomhairle for consideration on the 2020 Competition Structures and the scheduling of games.
- Preparation of the 2020 National Fixtures Plan subject to Ard Chomhairle approval.

I would like to thank all of the members of the committee for their tireless work and commitment into the successful management of national competitions. The Committee would like to express our gratitude to all the County officers, grounds personnel and match officials who have co-operated with the Committee ensuring the successful completion of our programme of games. Finally, I'd like to thank the staff of the Camogie Association for their ongoing support to our Committee.

Hilda Breslin
Cathaoirleach



National Coaching and Games Development Committee

No. of Meetings held: 6

No. of meetings attended:

Committee Member Name	Role	No. of meetings
Ailish Whitty	Cathaoirleach	6
Niall Williams	Rúnaí	6
Sheila O'Donohoe	Committee Member	5
Brigid Barnaville	Committee Member	5
Lynn Kelly	Committee Member	4
Rob Lotty	Munster Development Officer	2
Angela Gahan	Leinster Development Officer	6
James Heffernan	Youth Development Co-ordinator	6
Louise Conlon	Technical Development & Participation Manager	6

Achievements in 2019

- Coach Education – 54 Foundation Courses delivered. 800 Camán get a Grip coaches accredited. 11 Level 1 Camán get Hooked courses delivered with 160 coaches accredited. 1 Level 2, Solo to Success course delivered with 16 coaches accredited.
- Introduction to Gaelic Games Coaching – The Camogie Association, LGFA and GAA have worked together on this new introductory coaching programme common across all Associations.
- Coach Developers – 3 new Coach Developers accredited with Sport Ireland Coaching. 2 current Coach Developers have become Coach Developer Assessors.
- Coaching Bubble Podcast – Continues to grow and develop with 4,000 coaches engaged with 20 episodes reaching out to 25,000 listeners.
- National Provincial Hurling & Camogie Workshops – In conjunction with the GAA these were held in each province.
- Coach Learning and Development Booklet – Recently launched as a resource for coaches, clubs and schools.
- Intercounty Underage Development programme – Over 2,000 players engaged. Under 14: 56 teams and 28 Counties. Under 15: 24 teams, 20 Counties. Under

17: 4 Provincial teams played with players representing 20 Counties. Increase of 10% in teams competing in Under 15 in 2019.

- Increased playing opportunities for Tier 2 & 3 Counties.
- Production of calendar of Blitz dates once received from counties and provinces.

During 2019 a significant amount of progress has been achieved due to the help and commitment of our hard-working staff in conjunction with the Committee on many levels. At national level it is a great achievement in Coach Education to have a programme that will ensure that beginner coaches of any of our codes will come together and engage in a common programme within our separate coach education frameworks.

Thank you to our Coach Developers for their hard work and commitment. I wish to acknowledge and thank our staff, the GAA, Sport Ireland Coaching and our hardworking Committee.

Ailish Whitty
Cathaoirleach

National Finals Appeals Committee (NFAC)

No. of Meetings held: 2

No. of meetings attended:

Committee Member Name	Role	No. of meetings
Eilís Kavanagh	Cathaoirleach	2
Lorraine McCartan	Committee Member	2
Mary Burke	Co-opted Committee Member	2

The NFAC met just twice in 2019 which is a credit to our County, Provincial and National THDCs who deal with the vast bulk of Transfers, Hearing and Disciplinary issues in a fair and timely manner.

Thanks to our co-opted members who assisted this year when required.

Eilís Kavanagh
Cathaoirleach

National Child Welfare and Protection Committee (NCWPC)

No. of Meetings held: 3

No. of meetings attended:

Committee Member Name	Role	No. of meetings
Mary Connor	Cathaoirleach	3
Marie O'Brien	Connacht Children's Officer	2
Anne-Marie O'Gorman	Munster Children's Officer	3
Liz Donoghue	Leinster Children's Officer	1
Kathryn Bradley	Ulster Children's Officer	2
Barbara Ryan	Committee Member	3
Mark Hassett	Committee Member	2
Kitty Morley	Ard Chomhairle Representative	2
Roberta Farrell	National Safeguarding Officer	3

Achievements in 2019

- Safeguarding 2 Workshops delivered in all Provinces.
- Club Children's Officer engagement in seven counties.
- Two Camogie volunteers trained as GAA Safeguarding 1 Tutors.
- Increased attendance by County Children's Officers at National Safeguarding seminars held in Croke Park.

The Committee would like to thank the County and Club Children's Officers for their continued support throughout the year ensuring that all Child Safeguarding measures were in place. I want to thank Roberta Farrell, the National Safeguarding Officer for all of her work and her constant contact with Counties in relation to Child Welfare. I also thank my fellow Committee members for all of the work achieved in 2019.

Mary Connor
Cathaoirleach



National Referees, Support and Development Committee

No. of Meetings held: 5

No. of meetings attended:

Committee Member Name	Role	No. of meetings
Aileen Lawlor	Cathaoirleach	5
Frank McDonald	Committee Member	5
Walter Cole	Committee Member	4
Rosemary Hughes Merry	Committee Member	4

Achievements in 2019

- Referees Courses were delivered at all levels in Counties, Provinces and nationally.
- Young Whistlers courses delivered.
- Commencement of the third Peter Downey Referees Academy.
- National Referees Awards and presentation night held in Croke Park Hotel in November 2019.
- Championship fitness testing for national Referees took place in Athlone IT in May 2019.
- League fitness testing of national Referees panel took place in January 2020 in AIT and also an online written test in preparation for the 2020 season.
- A forum for national Referees took place in May 2019.
- Games were assessed throughout the League and Championship in 2019.
- These assessments provided ongoing constructive support in an advisory capacity to improve standards of our national Referees.
- National Assessors attended in-service training.
- 41 games were assessed by our national assessors in League and Championship in 2019/2020.

We as an Association need to actively recruit more Referees. We have a fantastic game which is growing with more competitions being provided year-on-year. We have very valid concerns that our Referees pool is not growing to meet the game's requirements. It continues to be an uphill struggle to recruit new Referees. I urge all Clubs, Counties and Provinces to make a special effort in 2020

to identify and encourage new recruits. We cannot hold any game without these valuable officials in our game.

Aileen Lawlor
Cathaoirleach

Governance Committee

No. of Meetings held: 3

No. of meetings attended:

Committee Member Name	Role	No. of meetings
Sheila O'Donohoe	Cathaoirleach	3
Melanie Ní Dhuinn	Committee Member	3
Niamh Kilmartin	Committee Member	3
Catherine Neary	Committee Member	3
Tom Daly	Committee Member	3

Achievements in 2019

These include:

- Supporting the submission of the Governance work plan to Sport Ireland.
- Mapping of the 74 Governance recommendations from Sport Ireland arising from the Governance Review Group Final Report for the FAI and submission of these to Ard Chomhairle.
- Revising terms of reference for outstanding national Committees and the role of Ard Chomhairle members in respect of compliance with governance requirements as set out by Sport Ireland. The latter is expected to be completed by April this year.

The Governance Committee will continue to advise and make recommendations to Ard Chomhairle in respect of organisational governance and best practice to ensure that the Camogie Association is fully compliant with legislative requirements in relation to the management and governance of the organisation.

Sheila O'Donohoe
Cathaoirleach

All-Stars Committee

No. of Meetings held: 2

No. of meetings attended:

Committee Member Name	Role	No. of meetings
Sheila Coen	Cathaoirleach	2
Rachel Hogan	Committee Member	2
Patsy Hetheron	Committee Member	2
Sarah Leahy	Committee Member	2
Mary Connelly	Committee Member	2
Maura McCoy	Committee Member	2
Bonnie McGreevy	Committee Member	2
Helena Jacob	Committee Member	1
Mary Burke	Committee Member	2

Achievements in 2019

There were no changes to the format in the selection of All-Stars, Soaring Stars and Manager of the Year in 2019; 15 All-Stars from 45 nominees, 15 Soaring Stars from 36 nominees and 1 Manager of the Year from 3 nominees,

The Committee worked in conjunction with the WGPA in the shortlisting for the Players' Player of the Year Awards in the three intercounty grades.

Sheila Coen
Cathaoirleach

National Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Committee (NTHDC)

Members:

Fiona Hamilton - Cathaoirleach
 Mona O'Sullivan – Rúnaí
 Noeleen McCarthy
 Deirdre Mitchell-Canning
 Miriam Murphy
 Róisín Walsh

No. of Cases Referred: 30

There were 30 cases referred to the Committee this year which resulted in 36 teleconference calls and 16 hearings.

The matters dealt with included Appeals (4), Red Cards (10), Referee Reports of verbal abuse by mentors (6) and other investigations.

I would like to thank Marian McCarthy, Richard Mulholland and Charlie Galligan who were co-opted onto the NHTDC during the year by an Uachtarán and approved by Ard Chomhairle.

My sincere thanks to the members of the NTHDC Committee, to the staff of the Camogie Association, Provincial and County Boards and Match Officials for their ongoing support, expertise and dedication.

Fiona Hamilton Cathaoirleach

Risk Committee

No. of Meetings held: 5

No. of meetings attended:

Committee Member Name	Role	No. of meetings
Geraldine McGrath	Cathaoirleach	5
Brendan McCabe	Finance Manager	5
Hilda Breslin	Committee Member	4
Fiona Hamilton	Committee Member	4
John Greene	Committee Member	4
Tom Hayes	Committee Member	4
Louise Byrne	Committee Member	4

Achievements in 2019

- Sub-Committee formed for the first time for the Association.
- Risk Register completed.
- Top 10 Risks reported to Ard Chomhairle for each of their meetings.

I would like to thank all the members of the Committee for their hard work and commitment in getting the Risk Registrar completed in 2019. Also, I would like to thank all of the staff within the Camogie Association who we met with and identified the risks in each of their areas.

Geraldine McGrath Cathaoirleach





The Camogie Association thanks the following for their support





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