

# Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Coiste Chontae Dhún na nGall



# Cluiche Ceannais Sinsear A



# Cluiche Ceannais Sinsear B



Aodh Ruadh Ballyshannon V Gaoth Dobhair





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# CLÚICHÍ CEANNAIS CORN A&B CLG SINSEAR 2023

De Domhnaigh 22ú Deireadh Fómhair - Pairc Sheán Mhic Cumhaill



V



Cluiche Ceannais Sinsear A - 4:00i.n.

GAOTH DOBHAIR V NAOMH CONAILL









V



Cluiche Ceannais Sinsear B - 1:45i.n.

AODH RUADH v GAOTH DOBHAIR



**PLAYER OF THE MATCH** 

Senior A & Senior B sponsored by

MICHAEL MURPHY



# CLÁR AN LAE - Dé Domhnaigh 22ú Deireadh Fómhair 2023

- 13.20 Both Club Secretaries to present Team Lists in Referees Room
- 13.25 Aodh Ruadh amach ar an bpáirc
- 13.27 Gaoth Dobhair amach ar an bpáirc
- 13:30 Oifigigh an Chluiche amach ar an bpáirc
- 13:40 Toss
- 13:45 Tús an chluiche
- 14:20 Leath-am
  - Aodh Ruadh to leave the field immediately on half time whistle

    Gaoth Dobhair to leave the field once Aodh Ruadh have cleared the tunnel
- 14:30 Tús an dara leath
- 15:07 Críoch an chluiche
- 15:10 Presentation of the MAN OF THE MATCH award sponsored by Michael Murphy Sports
- 15:13 Presentation of the Senior B Cup by Fergus Mac Aoidh, Cathaoirleach Bhord an Condae
- 15:20 St. Catherines Band
- 15:20 1998 County Champions assemble in the Stand
- 15:25 1998 County Champions proceed to the pitch
- 15:25 Both Club Secretaries to present Team Lists in Referees Room
- 15:32 Naomh Conaill amach ar an bpáirc
- 15:35 Gaoth Dobhair amach ar an bpáirc
- 15:40 Oifigigh an Chluiche amach ar an bpáirc
- 15:45 Both teams line up for parade.
- **15:50** Toss
- 15:52 Three minute warning before Amhrán na bhFiann
- 15:56 One minute warning before Amhrán na bhFiann:
- **15:57** Amhrán na bhFiann. Players should stand to attention respectfully facing the flag.

  At least 30 seconds will be provided to teams after the anthem, this is to allow for any team huddles or warmups before they are required to get into position for the start of the game.
- 16:00 Tús an chluiche
- 16:35 Leath-am
  - Naomh Conaill to leave the field immediately on half time whistle Gaoth Dobhair to leave the field once Naomh Conaill have cleared the tunnel
- 16:50 Tús an dara leath
- 17:25 Críoch an chluiche
- 17:28 Presentation of the MAN OF THE MATCH award sponsored by Sponsor Michael Murphy Sports
- 17:30 Presentation of the Dr. Maguire Cup by Fergus MacAoidh, Cathaoirleach Bhord an Condae



# **COUNTY CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME**

A Chairde Gael,

Mar chathaoirleach ar CLG Dhún na nGall ba mhaith liom fáilte a chur romhaibh go léir anseo inniú go Páirc Sheáin Mhic Cumhaill chuig na cluichí ceannais peile sa chraobh Sinsear A agus B. Fáilte ar leith roimh na himreoirí, na foirne bainistíochta, na hoifigigh agus lucht tacaíochta ó na clubanna atá páirteach sna cluichí anseo inniú. Ar ndóigh tá Gaoth Dobhair páirteach sa dá chluiche agus Aodh Ruadh Béal Átha Seannaidh sa chluiche tacaíochta agus Naomh Conall sa chluiche Sinsear. Ba mhaith liom fáilte a chuir roimh na meáin chomh maith. Linn anseo inniú tá TG4. RTE Raidió na Gaeltachta, Highland Radio agus Ocean FM chomh maith le na hiriseoirí spóirt ó na nuachtáin áitiúla uilig i nDún na nGall. Tá sé tábhachtach go gcinnteoimid go bhfuil ár gcluichí clúdaithe go maith sna nuachtáin, na meáin shosialta, ar an teilifís agus raidió.

On behalf of CLG Dhún na nGall, I would like to welcome everyone here today to Seán MacCumhaill Park to the finals of the A and B Senior Football Championship which are sponsored by Michael Murphy Sports and Leisure. A big céad míle fáilte to the players, management teams, officials and supporters of the clubs taking part in the two finals here today. In the reserve or Senior B Football final, Aodh Ruadh BAS will lock horns with Gaoth Dobhair while the right to lift the Dr. Maguire Cup will be a mouth watering contest between Gaoth Dobhair and Naomh Conaill.

Both teams taking part in the reserve match today had highly entertaining games in their semi finals. Gaoth Dobhair accounted for Seán MacCumhaills on a scoreline of 3-07 to 2-07 in O'Donnell Park while Aodh Ruadh BAS had four points to spare over Cill Chártha in MacCumhaill Park. We look forward to a good game and may the best team win.

In the Senior decider Gaoth Dobhair take on Naomh Conaill. Gaoth Dobhair hold the joint record of Senior Football Championship wins along with Naomh Adhamhnáin with both having 15 titles to their credit. Naomh Conaill are the proud holders of 6 Senior Football County titles. Naomh Conaill are the defending champions while Gaoth Dobhair last won the Dr.

Maguire Cup in 2018. Gaoth Dobhair with three goals had an impressive victory over Seán MacCumhaills who are one of the up and coming teams in the county in their semi final meeting. Naomh Conaill had two points to spare over Naomh Adhamhnáin in their semi final on a scoreline of 0-11 to 0-09. Both these teams recorded impressive scorelines in their quarter finals with Gaoth Dobhair hitting 5-14 and Naomh Conaill scoring 4-07 in their quarter final wins so both sides have a proven record in scoring goals. In what is sure to be an evenly contested and exciting match go mbeidh an bua ag an foireann is fearr.

On behalf of CLG Dhún na nGall I wish to sincerely thank our many sponsors whose ongoing financial support we greatly appreciate and it is important that our sponsors know how much we value this help.

Míle buíochas to CLG Seán Mhic Cumhaill for all their assistance in hosting today's two football finals.

Sincere thanks to our stewards and everyone who is helping out in any way here today. The work of our volunteers is greatly appreciated and should never be underestimated.

I wish the teams taking part in both finals today the best of luck. I trust that each and every one of you here in MacCumhaill Park will enjoy the two matches today.

Faoi scáth a chéile a mhaireann na daoine agus ní neart go cur le chéile. Tá súil agam go mbainfidh sibh sult agus taitneamh as na cluichí agus bígí cúramach ar bhur mbealach abhaile

> Is mise le meas Fergus MacAoidh Cathaoirleach CLG Dhún na nGall



### ANDREA LONG

Andrea Long is from Ballybofey and is Principal of Illies National School, Buncrana. She has a great love of Irish music and dance and has represented her local Sean MacCumhaill Club at Scór in solo singing

and ceilí dancing. She is honoured to be singing Amhrán na bhFiann at today's game.

# **AMHRÁN NA BHFIANN**

Sinne Fianna Fáil
Atá faoi gheall ag Éirinn,
Buíon dár slua
Thar toinn do ráinig chugainn.
Faoi mhóid bheith saor,
Seantír ár sinsir feasta
Ní fhágfar faoin tíorán ná faoin tráil
Anocht a théim sa bhearna baoil,
Le gean ar Ghaeil chun báis nó saoil
Le gunnascréach faoi lámhach na bpiléar
Seo libh canaigí Amhrán na bhFiann.

# ST CATHERINES ACCORDIAN BAND, KILLYBEGS

St. Catherine's Band provides a great spectacle of music and colour at many events in Killybegs and surrounding areas. The band continues to be a great advertisement for the town of Killybegs and has represented the town in Dallas and Seattle, USA, and London as part of their St Patrick's Day celebrations. They have been invited to participate in the New York City St Patricks Day parade 2024 after having their trip there cancelled in 2020 when Covid19 hit. They are currently organising the trip which in itself is a huge undertaking.

The current St Catherines Accordian Band, on parade here today, mainly

consists of children and young teenagers with 80% of members only having joined in the past year. Their commitment and dedication is greatly appreciated. The band provides an equal opportunity to all children in Killybegs and surrounding areas to access music, drum and majorette lessons.

We are continually grateful for the support the band receives from the people of Killybegs and surrounding areas. There is a wide network of people we can always call on to help out when required. It is local support like this which will ensure St. Catherine's Band continues for generations to come.



# **ENDA MCFEELY – REFEREE SENIOR A**

Refereeing out of the Naomh Mhuire club, Convoy, Enda started to officiate in 2012 and joined the Ulster Academy in 2013. Taking charge of Ulster games at u17, u20 and McKenna Cup. 2022 saw him take charge of the u20
Ulster Final. He recently joined the national referee panel in 2023, subsequently refereeing a number of national league games.

After numerous games and finals, today will Enda take charge of his fourth Senior Final in Donegal.

Enda would like to thank his wife Emer, his son Shane and daughter Olivia, for their support throughout the year. Also for his umpires who have given their time throughout the

year, as well as anyone else who assisted him in any way.

Finally, he would like to wish the teams and officials all the best today here in Páirc Shéan Mac Cumhaill.

# TODAY'S OFFICIALS NAOMH CONAILL V GAOTH DOBHAIR Referee: Enda McFeely Standby Referee: James Connors Linesperson: Ryan Walsh Fourth Official: Jimmy White GAOTH DOBHAIR V AODH RUADH Referee: Connie Doherty Standby Referee: Siobhan Coyle Linesperson: Anthony McCallig Fourth Official: Jimmy White

# **CONNIE DOHERTY – REFEREE SENIOR B**

Connie Doherty started refereeing just over eighteen years ago.

He has been the referee for several underage finals and has refereed Junior A, Junior B and Intermediate Finals

During his playing career with Naomh Conaill. Connie won Division 1 and Division



2 medals as well as an Intermediate Championship medal in 1990.

Connie would like to thank his umpires, who assisted him all year.

He wishes both teams the very best of luck today.

# **MICHAEL JACK'S PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION**

With the club football championships nearing an end, amateur photographers are reminded that the inaugural GAA photography competition in memory of the late Michael 'Jack' O'Donnell is open and inviting entries.

Photographers are invited to submit a photograph on a Donegal GAA theme, or of a Donegal landscape, by 23 October, the day after the county senior football final.

The winning image, to be selected by a panel of judges, will receive the inaugural Michael Jack 'Pandy' Memorial award.

The award was launched in February at the Naomh Conaill GAA club dinner dance by Donegal GAA assistant secretary Ed Byrne who had approached the O'Donnell family, and his beloved partner Bernie, about establishing the award to commemorate Michael and his rich contribution to the Association.

Michael spent more than 40 years on the sidelines capturing countless thousands of images from Gaelic games across the county and the country.

A passionate Naomh Conaill man, Michael was never prouder than when his club won the Dr Maguire Cup, or 'Pandy' as he called it, for the first time in 2005, and was privileged to photograph their victories again in 2010, 2015

and 2019.

Sadly, Michael passed away in May 2021, a few months before Naomh Conaill won the covid-delayed 2020 final. He was aged just 67.

"His body of work, in photographing everything from our biggest days in

Croke Park to the club sports day, captured the essence of our Association and his love for our games.

"We hope this award will inspire photographers to capture an image that encapsulates what the GAA means to them."

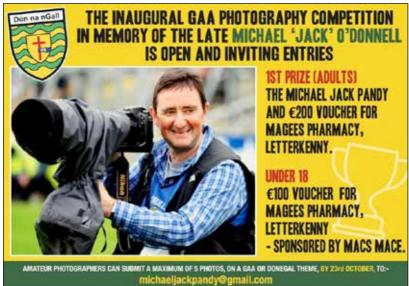
#### COMPETITION RULES

Amateur photographers can submit a maximum of 5 [FIVE] photographs, on a GAA or Donegal theme, to michaeljackpandy@gmail. com by 5pm on Monday 23 October.

Images must be entered by e-mail as attachments in the digital jpeg format, and must be no more than 20mb in size. Hard copies cannot be accepted.

Entries must be accompanied by: the photographer's name, email address, a caption describing the photograph and the location at which it was taken, otherwise your entry will not be considered.

Photographs must have been taken during 2023 and should not have been previously published.





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# **CLUB-BY-CLUB REVIEW**

Sports journalist, Ryan Ferry analyses the performance of each team in the 2023 Senior Football Championship. See who he pitches as their stand out stars.

#### **AODH RUADH**

Manager: John McNulty Group Phase: Won four matches Knock-out stages: Lost in quarter-final

Review: Aodh Ruadh finished on top of the group phase winning all four of their matches. They defeated Four Masters, Killybegs and while they had a big win over Gaoth Dobhair at Pairc Aodh Rua. The lack of seeding probably didn't help them and they were paired with St Eunan's in the quarter-finals. The Ballyshannon men battled to the final whistle but lost by 1-13 to 2-5. John McNulty's team are proving to be a consistent outfit but making that next step to the semi-finals is eluding them at present. Breakout star: Eoghan Kelly

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#### **ARDARA**

Manager: Damian Devaney

Group Phase: Won two matches, lost two Knock-out stages: Quarter-finalists

Review: Ardara didn't have to worry about the relegation dogfight this season, and they played with great freedom throughout the championship. They won their two home games in the group phase which was massive and that sent them into the Preliminary Quarter-final, where they recorded an impressive triumph over Cloughaneely. The Pearse Memorial Park men eventually lost out against Gaoth Dobhair in Falcarragh but they did have a right cut off it and scored 3-11. Young players like KJ Molloy, Cailum Malley, and Charlie Bennett have a bright future.

Breakout star: KJ Molloy

#### **CLOUGHANEELY**

Manager: Denis Doohan

Group Phase: Won two matches, lost two. Knock-out stages: Preliminary quarter-finalists

Review: Cloughaneely impressed during the group stages. They were competitive in defeats against Kilcar and Gaoth Dobhair but got the results at home that they needed against Milford and Four Masters. The Pairc Naomh Fionnan men would have felt that they stood a good chance of making the last eight but they went out tamely against Ardara on a day when ace attacker John Fitzgerald was unavailable. That was disappointing but a first senior win in 12 years will boost them, and their minor side won the Division 2 Championship which augers well for the future. Breakout star: Ciaran Coll.

#### DUNGLOE

Manager: Dessie Gallagher

Group Phase: Won one match, lost three Knock-out stages: Preliminary quarter-finalists

Review: It was a funny type of championship for Dungloe as

they more than held their own, and yet if it wasn't for a last-gasp winner from Conor Greene (who only played two minutes on a quick break home from Australia) in their first match, they would have ended up in the relegation play-offs. Losses to Four Masters, Glenswilly and Gaoth Dobhair were not part of the plan, but they still brought a good performance against the Magheragallon side in the preliminary quarter-finalists. If Darren Curran's effort when the teams were level hadn't been blocked, they may have advanced, but instead a late fisted effort from Eamon McGee brought Dungloe's championship to a halt. Breakout star: Ryan Brennan

#### **FOUR MASTERS**

Manager: Kevin Sinclair

Group Phase: Won one match, lost two, and drew one Knock-out stages: Preliminary quarter-finalists

Review: It has been well documented that Four Masters have a lot of talent coming through and they are learning their trade as they go in the senior championship. For the second year-ina-row they picked up three points in the group phase, drawing with St Michael's and beating Dungloe, but they will rue the defeat against Cloughaneely, where a win would have given them a better seeding in the Preliminary quarter-finals. They ended up being paired with MacCumhaill's and while they ultimately lost that game, three goals set up a nervy finish. Things are definitely on the right path at Tír Chonaill Park. Breakout star: David Monaghan

#### **GLENFIN**

Manager: David Carroll and Hugh Foy Group Phase: Won one match, lost three Knock-out stages: Preliminary quarter-finalists It was a difficult championship campaign for Glenfin. They recorded a good victory on the opening night but the death of former player and manager, Gareth Martin was a huge blow to the club and the community. Defeats to Ardara, MacCumhaill's and Aodh Ruadh meant they were fortunate to squeeze through to the last 12. Glenswilly then proved too strong and Glenfin weren't able to make the impact they would have liked. Breakout star: Jack Long

#### **GLENSWILLY**

Manager: Pauric Bonner

Group Phase: Won three matches, lost one

Knock-out stages: Quarter-finalists

Review: Glenswilly went into the championship in good shape after winning Division 2, and they won their first three group matches against Ardara, St Naul's and Dungloe. They looked well placed heading to Glenties for their final match but lost despite a good start. Glenfin were swatted to one side, but Glenswilly's bid to make the semi-finals was ended by Oisin Gallen and MacCumhaill's. It was a decent campaign for the Pairc Naomh Columba side but there will be regrets about how it ended. Breakout star: Donal Gallagher.

#### **KILCAR**

Manager: Conor Cunningham

Group Phase: Won three matches, drew one

Knock-out stages: Quarter-finalists

Review: Kilcar were never able to quite hit their top form in the Donegal SFC in 2023. Patrick McBrearty was on fire during the group phase and they recorded three wins on the bounce before drawing with MacCumhaill's. That was enough to go straight through to the quarter-finals where Naomh Conaill lay in wait. The Towney side were four points up at half-time but the concession of a sloppy goal early in the second half was hugely disappointing, and they lost their shape as the game went on and were well beaten.

Breakout star: Seanie Boyle

#### **KILLYBEGS**

Manager: Antoine O'Hara Group Phase: Lost four matches

Knock-out stages: Relegation semi-finalists

Killybegs went into the championship without some key men from last season and it showed. They were well beaten by Naomh Conaill on the first day out and it was always an uphill task after that. The Fishermen were competitive against MacCumhaill's, Aodh Ruadh and St Naul's but in the end had nothing to show for their efforts. The relegation play-offs can be a slippery slope but Killybegs were excellent when they met St Naul's again and won in style.

Breakout star: Kevin Boyle

#### **MILFORD**

Manager: James McGinley Group Phase: Lost four matches

Knock-Out stages: Relegated to Intermediate

Review: Milford's six-year stay in senior football is now at an end. They will feel they should have got something from their opening game against Dungloe, but then lost to Cloughaneely, Naomh Conaill, and Ardara. The unavailability of county panellist Dylan Dorrian hurt their chances and they lost against St Michael's and St Naul's. They will be disappointed but going forward, will aim to build up some momentum in the Intermediate Championship.

Breakout star: Finn Coll

#### **SEAN MACCUMHAILL'S**

Manager: Mark O'Sullivan and Darren

O'Leary

Group Phase: Won two matches, lost one and drew one

and diew one

Knock-out: Semi-finalists

Review: MacCumhaill's will look back on this championship with fondness. It got off to a poor start against Gaoth Dobhair but they responded with wins over Killybegs and Glenfin, and then drew with Kilcar. They were made to sweat against Four Masters in the Preliminary quarter-finals before defeating Glenswilly in a cracking contest. The semi-final proved a step too far but

with six teenagers on show, they can be proud of their efforts against Gaoth Dobhair. A special mention has to go to Oisin Gallen, who lit up the championship with stunning displays and was man-of-the-match in six of his seven games.

Breakout star: Sean Martin.

#### ST EUNAN'S

Manager: Rory Kavanagh

Group Phase: Won three matches, drew one

Knock-out: Semi-finalists

Review: A poor second half in Glenties saw St Eunan's draw with Naomh Conaill in the group stages but wins over St Naul's, Ardara and St Michael's had them on the right track heading into the group stages. Aodh Ruadh was a tricky last eight tie, and that set up a crunch semi-final encounter with Naomh Conaill once again. The O'Donnell Park men had high hopes of reaching the semi-finals, but eleven wides on the day proved costly, and they missed out on the final appearance they craved.

Breakout star: Dylan Doogan

#### ST NAUL'S:

Manager: Stephen Griffin

Group Phase: Won one match, lost three Knock-out stages: Survived in Relegation final

Review: Lady luck wasn't on St Naul's side when it came to the draw as they had to play and subsequently lost against St

Eunan's, Glenswilly and Kilcar, and even when they got the better of Killybegs, they just narrowly missed out on the last 12. They were then beaten by the Fishermen in Glenties and that left them under pressure heading into the Relegation Final, but player-manager Stephen Griffin and their county men were to the fore in a fine win over Milford. There is plenty of potential in the group of players if they can keep them together.

Breakout star: Niall Prenderville.

#### ST MICHAEL'S

Manager: Raymond McLaughlin and Cathal Sweeney Group Phase: Lost three matches, drew one. Knock-Out: Survived in relegation semi-final

Review: Injuries to Michael Langan and Daniel McLaughlin undoubtedly had a big impact on St Michael's this year. They lost a tight opener against Glenfin, and while they did pick up a point on the road in Donegal Town, defeats against Kilcar and St Eunan's left them in the relegation play-offs. That was unfamiliar territory for the Creeslough/Dunfanaghy side but when the pressure was on, they delivered against Milford. The timely return of Langan was a boost, and his four-point salvo means they will play senior ball again in 2024.

Breakout star: Paul Johnston.

By Ryan Ferry, Donegal News



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# SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP - PATH TO THE FINAL

Gaoth Dobhair have been consistently in the reckoning for the Dr Maguire for the last decade so to suggest they have travelled to this final under the radar is odd. They started their campaign strongly with a convincing home win against Sean MacCumhaill but came up five points short against Aodh Ruadh in Ballyshannon in Round 2. A hard fought win against neighbours Cloughaneely in Round 3 was followed by a narrow victory against Dungloe in their final group game.

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Round 1	Gaoth Dobhair 1-16	Sean MacCumhaill 0-11
Round 2	Aodh Ruadh 2-8	Gaoth Dobhair 0-9
Round 3	Gaoth Dobhair 1-10	Cloich Cheann Fhaola 0-8
Round 4	An Clochán Liath 0-8	Gaoth Dobhair 0-9
Pre-lim QF	An Clochán Liath 1-6	Gaoth Dobhair 0-10
Quarterfinal	Gaoth Dobhair 5-14	Ard an Ratha 3-11
Semi-final	Gaoth Dobhair 3-9	Sean MacCumhaill 0-11

Dungloe were also the opposition in the preliminary quarterfinals and again a single point separated the sides. While the margin was nine points against Ardara in the quarterfinal, the underdogs led entering the final stages but a whirlwind Gaoth Dobhair finale sealed victory. The impressive football that blitzed Ardara was in evidence when they met MacCumhaills for the second time in the semi-final winning comfortably to set up an intriguing final with Naomh Conaill.

The path to the final was smoother for Naomh Conaill, starting with a comfortable win against Killybegs in Fintra. A sterner test awaited in Davy Brennan Memorial Park with the visit of St Eunans in Round 2 - the game ended all square. Round 3 was a comfortable away win in Milford followed by a four point win against Glenfin in Round 4.

# NAOMH

Round 1	Na Cealla Beaga 1-5	Naomh Conaill 3-12
Round 2	Naomh Conaill 0-9	Naomh Adhamhnáin 0-9
Round 3	Baile na nGalloglach 0-8	Naomh Conaill 1-12
Round 4	Naomh Conaill 0-15	Gleann tSúilí 2-5
Quarterfinal	Naomh Conaill 4-7	Cill Chartha 0-9
Semi-final	Naomh Adhamhnáin 0-9	Naomh Conaill 0-11

Finishing in the top 4 Naomh Conaill progressed straight to the quarterfinals where they cruised past Kilcar to set up a second tussle with Eunans in the semi-final. Again it was a tight affair but the Naomh Conaill hit the final two points to set up today's encounter with Gaoth Dobhair.

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Round 1	Four Masters 0-09 (9)
Round 2	Aodh Ruadh 1-07 (10)
Round 3	Killybegs 1-11(14)
Round 4	Aodh Ruadh 4-15 (27)
Pre-lim QF	Aodh Ruadh 2-14 (20)
Quarter Final	Aodh Ruadh 3-11 (20)
Semi Final	Aodh Ruadh 2-11 (17)

Aodh Ruadh 0-09(9)
Gaoth Dobhair 2-11(17)
Aodh Ruadh 2-18 (24)
Glenfin 1-06 (9)
Naomh Micheál 1-09 (12)
St Eunan's 1-09 (12)
Chill Chartha 0-13(13)

3AOTH DOBHAIR RESERVE

1	Round 1	Gaoth Dobhair 1-13(16)	Sean MacCumhaill's 1-08(11)
	Round 2	Aodh Ruadh 1-07 (10)	Gaoth Dobhair 2-11 (17)
	Round 3	Gaoth Dobhair 4-13 (25)	Cloich Cheann Fhaola 0-06(6)
	Round 4	An Cloichan Liath 1-09 (9)	Gaoth Dobhair 1-16(19)
	Quarter Final	Gaoth Dobhair 4-12 (24)	Gleann tSúilí 0-04(4)
ĺ	Semi Final	Gaoth Dobhair 3-07 (16)	Sean Mac Cumhaill's 2-07 (13),
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lank	Player	G	P	Total Pts	Rani	Player	G	P	Total Pts	Rank	Player	G	P	Total Pts	Rank	Player	G	P	Total Pts	Rank	Player	G	P	Total Pts	Rank	Player	G	P	Total Pts
1	Oisin Gallen	1	56	59	34	Ciaran Moore	1	6	9	67	Niall Friel	0	5	5	100	Kevin McGettiga n	0	3	3	134	Ruairi Coyler	0	2	2	168	Neasan Mac Giolla Bhride	0	1	1
2	Karl Joseph Molloy	4	25	37	35	Daniel Marley	0	9	9	68	Eoin McHugh	0	5	5	101	Caolan Kelly	0	3	3	135	Dylan Sweeney	0	2	2	169	Packie O Neill	0	1	1
3	Stephen Griffin	2	31	37	36	Charles McGuinness	1	6	9	69	Ryan McHugh	0	5	5	102	Jack Long	1	0	3	136	Conor McGinty	0	2	2	170	Michael McGinley	0	1	1
4	Ethan Harkin	1	33	36	37	Daithi Gildea	0	9	9	70	Ryan McShane	1	2	5	103	John Ban Gallagher	0	3	3	137	Stephen McBrearty	0	2	2	171	Connor Gormley	0	1	1
5	Patrick McBrearty	1	32	35	38	Jack McSharry	0	8	8	71	Cian Dolan	1	2	5	104	Matthew Ward	1	0	3	138	Martin Doyle	0	2	2	172	Conor Classon	0	1	1
6	Michael Murphy	3	22	31	39	Diarmaid McInerney	0	8	8	72	Cian McEntee	1	2	5	105	Ciaran McGinley	0	3	3	139	Evan Broderick	0	2	2	173	Micheal Roarty	0	1	1
7	Joel Bradley Walsh	3	19	28	40	Shane O Donnell	1	5	8	73	Joe Campbell	1	2	5	106	Darren Drummon d	1	0	3	140	Declan Duignan	0	2	2	174	Darren McGeever	0	1	1
8	Conor O Donnell Jnr	0	23	23	41	Shane McGrath	0	8	8	74	Shaun McGee	1	2	5	107	Darren Curran	0	3	3	141	Aaron Ward	0	2	2	175	Jason McGee	0	1	1
9	Cathal McGettiga n	0	20	20	42	Darragh Black	1	5	8	75	Cian Rooney	0	5	5	108	Michael Cannon	0	3	3	142	Danny Rodgers	0	1	1	176	Sean Breen	0	1	1
10	Hugh McFadden	1	16	19	43	John Ross Molloy	1	4	7	76	Mark Anthony McGinley	0	5	5	109	David Dolan	1	0	3	143	Peter Boyle	0	1	1	177	Oisin Crawford	0	1	1
11	Gary McFadden	1	15	18	44	Kealan Dunleavy	0	7	7	77	Sean McClaffert Y	0	4	4	110	Paul Walsh	0	3	3	144	Kevin Campbell	0	1	1	178	Oisin Reid	0	1	1
12	Peadar Mogan	1	13	16	45	Daire Boyle	1	4	7	78	Odhran Doherty	1	1	4	111	Mark Bonner	1	0	3	145	Christy Cunningha m	0	1	1	179	Conor Greene	0	1	1
13	Kevin Whyte	1	13	16	46	Eamonn McGrath	2	1	7	79	Donal Gallagher	1	1	4	112	Claran McGeady	1	0	3	146	Aodan Breathnac h	0	1	1	180	Colin McFadden	0	1	1
14	John O Malley	1	13	16	47	Shaun Wogan	1	4	7	80	Brian O Donnell	1	1	4	113	Brian McIntyre	0	3	3	147	Mark McGlynn	0	1	1	181	Kevin McCormack	0	1	1
15	Ciaran Thompson	0	15	15	48	Eamon McGee	1	4	7	81	David Monaghan	1	1	4	114	Oran Doogan	0	3	3	148	Cian Mulligan	0	1	1	182	Donal McBride	0	1	1
16	Shaun Ward	0	15	15	49	Cian Mulligan	1	4	7	82	Eoghan Ban Gallagher	0	4	4	115	CJ Molloy	0	3	3	149	Conor Patton	0	1	1	183	Donal McGuire	0	1	1
17	Ryan Greene	1	12	15	50	Stephen McFadden	1	4	7	83	Dylan Doogan	0	4	4	116	Cathal De Burca	1	0	3	150	Neil McGee	0	1	1	184	Daniel Lyons	0	1	1
18	Seanan Carr	1	12	15	51	Niall O Donnell	0	7	7	84	Peter McEniff	0	4	4	117	Eoghan Kelly	0	3	3	151	Aaron Gillhooley	0	1	1	185	Thomas White	0	1	1
19	John Fitzgerald	2	6	12	52	Ryan Cunningham	0	7	7	85	James Boyle	1	1	4	118	Andrew Kelly	0	3	3	152	Kieran Tobin	0	1	1	186	Ross Marley	0	1	1
20	Killian Faulkner	2	6	12	53	Matthew McClean	0	7	7	86	Richard O Rourke	1	1	4	119	Chad McSorley	0	3	3	153	Mark McAteer	0	1	1	187	Paul Sweeney	0	1	1
21	Kane Barrett	1	9	12	54	Conor Coyle	1	3	6	87	Eoin Dowling	0	4	4	120		0	2	2	154	Ruairi Callaghan	0	1	1	188	Mark McHugh	0	1	1
22	Ryan Connors	0	11	11	55	Anthony Thompson	0	6	6	88	Kevin Kealy	0	4	4	121	Caolan Ward	0	2	2	155	John Rose	0	1	1	189	Mark McDevitt	0	1	1
23	Brendan McDyer	2	5	11	56	Darragh Mulgrew	1	3	6	89	Senan Quinn	0	4	4	122	Ethan O Donnell	0	2	2	156	Conor Morrison	0	1	1	190	Sean Maguire	0	1	1
24	Odhran O Connor	2	5	11	57	Conor Reid	1	3	6	90	James Keegan	0	4	4	123	Martin Breslin	0	2	2	157		0	1	1	191	Alex McCalmont	0	1	1
25	Phillip Patton	0	11	11	58	Darren Ferry	0	6	6	91	Daire Gallagher	0	4	4	124	Jack Gallagher	0	2	2	158	Shane Whyte	0	1	1	192	Eddie Lynch	0	1	1
26	Luke McGlynn	0	11	11	59	Shane Black	0	6	6	92	Eunan Doherty	1	1	4	125	Sean Martin	0	2	2	159	Kenny Doogan	0	1	1	193	Paul Johnson	0	1	1
27	Gavin Mulreany	1	7	10	60	Steven O Reilly	1	3	6	93	Ciaran Coll	0	4	4	126	Mark Harley	0	2	2	160	Shane McDaid	0	1	1	194	Martin O Reilly	0	1	1
28	Sean Curran	0	10	10	61	Niall McCrossan	0	6	6	94	Michael Langan	0	4	4	127	Mark McGinty	0	2	2	161	Michael McKenna	0	1	1		Barry Griffin	0	1	1
29	Odhran Mac Niallais	2	4	10	62	Joe Leape	1	3	6	95	Paul Cunningha m	1	1	4		Kyle Black	0	2	2	162	Aodh O Donnell	0	1	1		Nicolas Maguire	0	1	1
30	Eoin McGeehin	1	7	10	63	Blake McGarvey	0	6	6	96	m	0	4	4	129	Kyle McGarvey	0	2	2	163	Ryan O Donnell	0	1	1	197	Hugh O Donnell	0	1	1
31	Leo McLoone	1	6	9	64	Jeaic McKelvey	0	6	6	97	Michael Carroll	0	4	4	130	Donnell	0	2	2	164	Eamon Doherty	0	1	1	198	Stuart Johnson	0	1	1
32	Caoimhin Marley	0	9	9	65	Gavin McBride	0	6	6	98	Oisin Bonner	0	4	4	131	Martin McElhinne Y	0	2	2	165	Barry Curran	0	1	1	199	Seamus Corcoran	0	1	1
33	Carlos O Reilly	0	9	9	66	Callum Malley	1	2	5	99	Charlie Bennett	0	3	3	132	BOITOR	0	2	2	166	Collum	0	1	1	200	ian Campbell	0	1	1
															133	Jason Morrow	0	2	2	167	Peter Devine	0	1	1					

# "IT'S ALL ON THE DAY"...... NOT ANYMORE

I was thinking about our great game and all the enjoyment that goes with it, the match of course, the build up, the constant debate, (can I sneak in DL debate there) and of course all the phrases that are part and parcel of our games.

"Take your points, the goals will come"

"Its only the league"

"Let the ball do the work"

"Nobody travels faster than the ball"

"We left it all out on the pitch today"

"He was on fire today" a forward having a great game and the opposite of this "he couldn't hit a cows arse with a banjo"

"There was a shemozzle - But it was handbags at dawn"

"They lost it on the line"

"The breeze won't win it for you"

"The magic sponge"

"They had a siege mentality"

"A wide there was as good as a point"

"It was the full blanket"

"If you don't shoot , you don't score" jaw dropping insight there!

"It was men against boys today"

"It was backs to the wall and we came out fighting"

"We dust ourselves down and go again"

"Ahh ref for the love of God" n yes other ref quotes that aren't printable!

"Sure tog out and we'll see how it goes" that's to an injured player who definitely should not play!

"Its was all on the line today"

I have to include one of the most used by our 92 heros from the Legend of Donegal GAA Brian McEniff "like the waves of Tory men, we will ATTACK ATTACK ATTACK."

Finally one from, Like Brian a brilliant coach and a great GAA man John Morrison (RIP)

"Hit spaces - not faces"

The one from the title "it's all on the day" used to be a huge part of football matches, especially finals, and it could be one of the most used in our 138 years of Gaelic football. I think,



it is now more redundant than ever. Yes mangers and players will still quote it all the time, but all they mean, is that they want their game plan to work to its full capacity on the day, the small percentages. H,ow they perform on the day has been constantly honed, night after night at training, game after game in league and championship, tactics

,formation, coaching, stats! So on the day you have a job to do in a system, you know what it is you have to do, you have done it before now, carry it out again. That's a huge part of Naomh Conaill success over the last 18 years.

Back when these 2 teams met in the epic trilogy of 2019, Gaoth Dobhair were Ulster champions, such things would not bother Naomh Conaill, they were not going to give an inch. Why did it take three games and a one point victory, to finally separate them? Because each talented team had completely bought in to the system, coached to the last on playing the percentages, neither would budge, and it came right down to a single point to separate them in the end, with Naomh Conaill edging it as it has done, on so many occasions in tight encounters.

So who will win? Naomh Conaill who are in a record breaking 7th final or the underdogs from Gaoth Dobhair?

All I can guarantee is that it will be a "game of two halves"

Yes, I have some splinters form "sitting on the fence"

And may the best team win	and	give
Ulster a rattle		

Where the quote will be.....

"We are in bonus territory now" I knew I'd sneak on last one in!!
Good luck to all today.

Brendan Devenney DL Debate

# <u>RÉIDH DO CHOIMHLINT UIMHIR 21</u>

Chífidh a bhfuil i láthair anseo inniu i bPáirc Sheáin Mhic Cumhaill i mBealach Féich an t-aonú coimhlint is fiche (21) craoibhe riamh idir Gaoth Dobhair agus Naomh Conaill (gidh gur Na Gleanntaí a bhí mar ainm orthu do dheich gcinn de na coimhlintí sin).

D'fhéadfá stair an dá chumann a ríomh ó thorthaí na gcoimhlintí céanna sin.

#### THÍOS SEALTHUAS SEAL

Bhain Gaoth Dobhair an chéad deich gceann; faoi dhó i 1939, cluiche ceannais 1941, babhta ceathrú ceannais 1966 agus faoi dhó arís i 1972, 1978 agus 1979. Le linn na tréimhse seo, bhí Gaoth Dobhair i mbarr a réime agus idir na blianta 1935 agus 1955 bhí siad i gcluiche ceannais an chontae 14 uair. Bhuaigh siad 11 de na cluichí ceannais sin.

Ó 2016 ar aghaidh a himríodh an deich choimhlint craoibhe eile. Tá 6 cinn de na coimhlintí sin buaite ag Naomh Conaill; réamhbhabhta 2016, babhta leath cheannais 2017, dara athimirt chluiche ceannais 2019, babhta ceathrú ceannais 2021 agus babhta leath cheannais 2022. Seo an tréimhse a bhfuil Naomh Conaill i mbarr a réime sa chontae agus an cluiche ceannais bainte amach acu don 12ú huair i naoi mbliana déag. Tá 6 cinn de na cluichi ceannais sin buaite acu.

Ar ndóighe, d'éirigh le Gaoth Dobhair seal ceiliúrtha faoi leith a bhlaiseadh le linn tréimhse ceannasaíochta Naomh Conaill. Ba sin i 2018 nuair a fuair siad lámh an uachtair ar Naomh Conaill sna réamhbhabhtaí agus arís sa chluiche ceannais contae, an bhliain a ndearna fir Ghaoth Dobhair éacht nach bhfuil déanta ach ag club amhain eile sa chontae (Naomh Íosaf 1975), craobh shinsear an chúige a thabhairt go Dún na nGall.

Chuaigh an dá fhoireann in adharca a chéile mar a bheadh dhá throdaí trommheáchain ann i 2019 sular thug pointe John O' Malley an bua do Naomh Conaill i ndiaidh trí choimhlint a bhí eipiciúil.

#### **ATHRÚ**

Mar gheall ar an fhonn siúil atá ar aos óg Ghaoth Dobhair, tá fir thábhachtacha nach mbeidh ar an pháirc inniu. Ochtar ón fhoireann a thosaigh an tríú cluiche sin i 2019 a chuir tús leis an chluiche leathcheannais in éadan Oisín Gallen, mo leithscéal in éadan Seán Mac Cumhaill, coicís ó shin. Tá sé d'ádh ar Ghaoth Dobhair go bhfuil glúin nua peileadóirí ag teacht chun cinn agus seisear ón fhoireann a bhuaigh craobh faoi 21 an chontae anuraidh ar bord acu go minic i gcluichí craoibhe na bliana seo; Dáithí Mac Roibeard, Aodhán Breathnach, Domhnall Mac Giolla Bhríde, Cian Mac an tSaoi, Stephen Donna Mac Phaidín agus Cathal de Búrca.

#### **GAN ATHRÚ**

Is cosúil nach bhfuil an fonn fánaíochta céanna ar fhir na



nGleanntach. Bhí triúr déag ón chluiche céanna sin i 2019 ar an pháirc acu ón tús dá gcluiche leathcheannais le Naomh Adhamhnán i mbliana. Cosúil leis an fhíon is ag dul i bhfeabhas le haois atá fearaibh Naomh Conaill. Achan seans go mbeidh ochtar ón fhoireann a bhuaigh craobh 2010 le feiceáil ar pháirc na himeartha roimh dheireadh na

coimhlinte inniu; Stephen McGrath, Anthony Thompson, Eoin Wade, Leo McLoone, Marty Boyle, John O'Malley, Brendan McDyer agus Seamus Corcoran agus an geansaí gorm curtha ar a ndroim ag an chéad chúigear acu sin níos mó ná 100 uair do chluichí craoibhe. Gaisce iontach.

#### **NEIL agus EAMON**

Tá deartháireacha Mhic Aoidh ag imirt do Ghaoth Dobhair ó bhí Dia ina ghasúr ann. Tá an péire acu ar thairseach a gcéadú cluiche craoibhe a imirt dá gclub. Tá 98 imrithe ag Neil agus 97 ag Eamon. Seo an tríú séasúr is fiche ag Eamon i ngeansaí ghlas Ghaoth Dobhair ó d'imir sé a chéad chluiche craoibhe in éadan Seán Mac Cumhaill ar an 8 Iúil 2001. Seo an dara séasúr is fiche ag Neil ó d'imir sé a chéad chluiche craoibhe in éadan Na Piarsaigh (foireann comhnascaithe ó oirthear an chontae) ar an 23 Meitheamh 2002.

Agus ar ndóighe bhí siad beirt ar an pháirc ag deireadh na himeartha nuair a bhain Gaoth Dobhair a gcéad gcraobh shinsear le 41 bliain nuair a bhuail siad Naomh Adhamhnán i gcluiche ceannais 2002.

#### BAINISTEOIRÍ

I lár páirce an lá sin do Ghaoth Dobhair bhí bainisteoir na bliana seo, Rónán Mac Niallais. Bhí sé ar fhoireann buacach 2006 fosta. Tá an t-ábhar maíte céanna ag bainisteoir Naomh Conaill. D'imir Martin Regan mar ionadaí nuair a bhain siad an chraobh den chéad uair i 2005 agus bhí sé i lár páirce ón tús don bhua i 2010.

#### DÍOGRAS

Is é an díogras agus an díocas seo a thugann daoine dá gcumann a thugann an deis dúinne sásamh nach bhfuil inse béil ná scríobh air a bhaint as coimhlintí cuibhrinn cosúil le comhrac an lae inniu.

Trathnóna inniu, beidh Corn an Dochtúir Mhig Uidhir gléasta i nglas agus i mbán den 16ú uair ó bhí 1935 ann nó báite i ngorm agus i mbán den 7ú huair ó bhí 2005 ann.

Caith isteach an liathróid sin!

Joe Ó Gallchóir RTÉ Raidió na Gaeltachta

# **SENIOR PRESS BRIEFING**











# **AODH RUADH JUBILEE TEAM FROM 1998**

Aodh Ruadh won their 12th Donegal senior championship when they overcame Naomh Columba on Sunday, 20th September 1998 in a sunny MacCumhaill Park, Ballybofey.

At the final whistle a goal from Michael 'Sticky' Ward separated the sides with Aodh Ruadh winners by 1-11 to 0-11.

Naomh Columba were appearing in their sixth final of the 1990s, seeking a second crown. But they were deprived by the individual performance of Ward, who finished with 1-4 in a man of the match performance.



They were also helped by a big performance from the mercurial John Duffy. Not for the first time in a final, Naomh Columba were just not able to convert chances with 10 wides over the hour, while Gary Walsh made two great saves for the winners, one in each half.

Aodh Ruadh led by 0-5 to 0-4 at half-time with Val Murray and Noel Hegarty to the fore in the scoring department for either side. In the third quarter Naomh Colulmba took the lead, 0-6 to 0-5, with two Pauric Gillespie points, and the sides were level at 0-8 each after 45 minutes

At that stage tempers became frayed with a fracas in the middle of the field Points from Brian Roper and Michael Ward pushed Aodh Ruadh two clear with seven minutes remaining.



Anthony McGrath

had a goal chance after being put through by player-manager, Sylvester Maguire, after he came in during the second half. Pauric Gillespie cut the lead before Michael Ward closed out the game with the only goal of the game, finishing after a great pass from John Duffy.

Aodh Ruadh: Gary Walsh; Anthony McGrath, Eamonn O'Donnell, Brendan Boyle; Martin McGlynn, Patrick McGrath, Gavin Bourke; Barry Ward (0-1), Stephen Ward; John Duffy (0-2,1f), Niall McCready, Brian Roper (0-1); Michael Ward (1-4), Damien Conlon, Val Murray (0-3).

Subs: Charlie O'Donnell for Conlon (35); Sylvester Maguire for A McGrath (47); Donal Buggy for V Murray (60).

Rest of panel: Kerry Ryan, Paul Roper, Brian Tuohy, Shane McGee, Garrett Blake, Martin Gallagher, Philip O'Reilly, Michael

Gurn, Paul O'Loughlin.

Naomh Columba: Gerard McGill; Hugh Cunningham, John Joe Doherty, Conal Cunningham; Martin Cunningham (0-1), Conal Gavigan, Gerard Cannon; Noel Hegarty (0-6,5f), Noel McGinley; Seamus Carr, Pauric Gillespie (0-3), Enda Gillespie; Michael Byrne, Paddy Hegarty, Eugene Doherty.

Sub: Noel Carr for E Gillespie (56)

Rest of panel: Georgie Doherty, John Kelly, John Doherty, Ciaran McDevitt, Kevin Doherty, Gregory Doherty.

Referee: Liam Brown (Four Masters).



Aodh Ruadh 1998 Team - Back Row: Eamonn O'Donnell, Michael Gurn, Damien Conlon, Anthony McGrath, Gary Walsh, Barry Ward, Brian Touhy, Packie McGrath, Stephen Ward, Brian Roper, Martin McGlynn. Middle Row: Michael Ward, Niall McCready, Val Murray, John Duffy, Brendan Boyle, Gavin Bourke. Front Row: Kerry Ryan, Martin Gallagher, Sylvester Maguire, Charles O'Donnell, Donal Buggy, Garrett Blake, Paul Roper, Philip O'Reilly.

Peter Campbell (Donegal Democrat)

# **AODH RUADH JUBILEE TEAM FROM 1998**

1998 began with many eager for a rematch between Saint Eunans and Aodh Ruadh. However, that possibility was torpedoed when the Letterkenny men were shocked by Naomh Columba in the semi-final.

Newly promoted Burt was a potential banana-skin in round one but the Ballyshannon men successfully navigated a path through to a quarter-final against Kilcar. Played in Ballintra, it looked as if Roger McShane and the McHughs were about to turn back the clock with a vintage performance but with the ship starting to take in water, manager Sylvester Maguire brought on himself and the injured Brian Roper. The wee man bagged 1-1, and Maguire got 0-2, a managerial masterstroke.

Jonathan Boyle and the classy Damian Diver were the key men for Ardara who provided Aodh Ruadh's semi-final opposition. The game was played in rain in Tir Chonaill Park in Donegal

Town, a point separated the sides at the end as John Duffy excelled for Ballyshannon while Ardara squandered some glorious chances at the death.

In the decider it was Naomh Columba who were looking to break an awful run of losing four finals in the '90's who most neutrals would have been cheering for on final day, September 20th, 1998. Aodh Ruadh were seeking to match Gaoth Dobhair's record of 12 titles. the best in the county.

The demons of '97 had to be laid to rest though, and Sylvester's boys were determined to prove they were the best in Donegal. Liam Browne refereed and a young man called Michael Ward stole the show. 1-4 from Sticky and Aodh Ruadh were almost home. Heartbreak for John Joe, Noel Hegarty and Noel McGinley, the Dr Maguire went back to Ballyshannon on a 1-11 to 0-11 scoreline, the joyful captain on that day was Val Murray.

# YOUTH & EXPERIENCE THE KEY FOR RESERVE SIDES

Both Gaoth Dobhair and Aodh Ruadh have reached this decider having been two of the best reserve teams in the county this year.

Gaoth Dobhair went through the league losing just once to top Division 1B while they have since gone through the Senior B Championship in flying form, taking six wins from six games to reach this stage.

Former All-Star Kevin Cassidy has been lining out for the side along with experienced heads of Danny Curran and Christopher Roarty in their ranks to lead the upcoming crop of talent.

From their Under 21 Championship winning side in January, Dónal Mac Íomhar has the majority of that side to call upon aside from five players who have made the jump to the senior team.

Aside from the Comórtas Peile na Gaeltachta held in The Banks this year where they lost to two senior sides in the Junior competition, Gaoth Dobhair have only lost to Aodh Ruadh this year in the reserve league and championship.

So that will give the Ballyshannon men some hope going into the game despite losing 2-11 to 1-7 when the sides met in Páirc Aodh Ruadh in this competition in August.

Aodh Ruadh missed out on meeting Gaoth Dobhair in the Division 1B final due to head-to-head, with Naomh Conaill pipping them to second place.

That game and an earlier loss to Glenfin were their only defeats in the league and they started this championship slow with a draw with Four Masters before their defeat to Gaoth Dobhair.

But they have built up momentum since and with the experience of Michael Sticky Ward and Luke Carr guiding the team along, they aren't in this final just to make up the numbers.

Some of their team have also tasted success this year as they won Division 4 by defeating Pettigo in the final.

Both sides have plenty of experienced heads along with youth that have tasted success in 2023 and it should be a real battle to see who comes out on top.

Dáire Bonnar Donegal News We at Naomh Conaill GAA would like to thank all our many sponsors over the past year who have continued to support us in every way possible. Without you we would not have the amazing facilities and more that we have at our club.

Go raibh maith agat.





Best wishes to the Naomh Conaill Senior team in the County Final from Pat and all the staff at the Highlands Hotel



# **VALUE THE VOLUNTEER - MURIEL HEGARTY**

Molann an obair an fear.... One of the many volunteers within the Naomh Conaill Club. Muriel Hegarty, is no stranger to anyone who visits Davy Brennan Memorial Park. Always there to greet and always getting the work done in a quiet and efficient manner. Muriel has served in the Club as Assistant Treasurer, PRO, Reaistrar and most recently as Secretary. Always just a phone call away, Muriel has covered every aspect possible of being a volunteer over her many years involved with Naomh Conaill. Her presence around the Club house gives a sense of assurance that if anything is needed or questions answered - Muriel will know. One of her many traits is her ability to work with people, and throughout the years, along with an encouraging Executive, they have built a foundation of wonderful people willing to help and an ethos of volunteerism within the Club.

It is the incredible work carried out by the many volunteers, young and old, male and female, which drives this remarkable Club and keeps it fresh, relevant and a critically important part of the lives of the communities of Glenties and Fintown.

Over 20 teams are overseen by volunteers throughout the year. Coaching, registrations, insurances all looked after. Pitches are tended to and groundworks done. Jerseys are washed and meals prepared. Aftermatch refreshments provided and stewards out every weekend. Lottos, raffles and draws – all overseen by trustworthy volunteers with incredible teams of people out knocking on doors, manning tables and selling tickets.

This is only a small sample of the work being done by volunteers in the Club, work that is always done with a smile and time for a chat.

Cinnte, 'molann an obair an fear'.... and it certainly isn't that Muriel or the army of volunteers within the Club are looking for praise, but they certainly deserve all the thanks that can be given.



# **NAOMH CONAILL - A BRIEF HISTORY**

Founded in 1921 the club has served the Glenties, Fintown and Edeninfagh areas very well since then. The club caters for underage football teams from nursery to senior level. There is a very active Ladies branch covering underage and adult teams. We also have been working hard on achieving a Healthy Club status and our Health and Wellbeing team have done tremendous work in running various activities in the club and community during the past two seasons.

In the early days it was the senior players who were mostly catered for. While teams did contest County Finals in the 1920s, 1930s and 1940s no trophies were ever won. It would be 1965 that we saw another team reach a senior final again only to lose out in a replay to a very good St Joseph's (Bundoran/Ballyshannon) team. Indeed, having won the Junior Championship the previous year hopes were high in this senior final, but it was not to be. In the following years there was some success at under-age and Intermediate levels, but it would be forty years before we reached another senior final. In 2005 a very young side reached the final against St Eunan's and after a replay, the Dr. Maguire Cup came to the Parish for the first time. At this time a string of U21 teams also came to the fore, playing in 8 consecutive finals between 2006 and 2013 winning five in all. We reached a senior final in 2009 but lost out to St Eunan's. In 2010 we regained the Dr. Maguire Cup at the expense of Na Cealla Beaga and went to the final of the Ulster Club Championship only to go down to a powerful Crossmaglen team. We lost out in the 2012 final to St Eunan's but when we renewed acquaintance in the 2015 final, the Boys in Blue came out on top. That year we also won the Comortas Peile na Gaeltachta Náisiúnta for the first time when it was played in Ardara and we retained the title in 2016 when the final was played in Co. Corcaigh.

We were back in the Senior Championship final again in 2017 which we lost to Kilcar but we didn't leave MacCumhaill Park empty handed that day as we defeated St. Eunans to win the Senior B final for the first time in the club's history.

We qualified for the final once again in 2018 with Gaoth Dobhair as opposition. The last time these sides met at this stage of the competition was in 1941 when the Machaire Gathlán men were victorious. That trend was to be continued

and Gaoth Dobhair went on to win the Ulster Championship and then advanced to the final of the All-Ireland Club Championship only to be beaten by Corofin. With Gaoth Dobhair as the defending Donegal and Ulster champions, we were to lock horns with them again in the 2019 Co Final. After an exciting trilogy of games, it took the 2nd replay for us to emerge as County Champions. In the Ulster club Championship, we beat Castlerahan and Clontibret before going down to Kilcoo in the final.

In 2020 we were back in the senior county final but due to the Covid-19 pandemic the final against Kilcar was not played until August 2021. The game ended all square after extra time and was decided on penalties where we emerged victorious, thus securing back-to-back county titles (2019 & 2020).

2021 marked the centenary year of our club. On 29th August 1921, men of vision formed our great club at the inaugural meeting in the Market Hall, Glenties and it was fitting that 100 years later, 29th August 2021, the chairman of CLG Dhun na nGall, Mick McGrath was present in our home pitch, Davy Brennan Memorial Park, to present us with the 2021 Division 1 and Division 1B (Reserve) League Cups. During our centenary year we also won the Senior C Championship for the first time in the club's history and reached the senior final where we were well beaten by a rampant St Eunans team.

In 2022 we again met St. Eunans in the Senior A and B Finals which we won to mark an historic day in the club's history. Our Senior B and Third team also won county league titles that year and our senior team also won Comortas Peile na Gaeltachta Sinsear Dhún na nGall but were defeated in the final of CPnG Náisiúnta in Leitir Mór.

2023 has already been a successful year for the club with our Senior men's team winning the county league and Comortas Peile na Gaeltachta titles and our ladies competing in the league final for the first time. The fact that we are here again today competing for the premier GAA trophy in the county for the seventh year in a row is testimony to the hard work, commitment and dedication of our players and coaches – those that are currently involved and those who have worked diligently with our teams and underage teams down through the decades. The fruits of their labours have been plain for all to see for some time now!

# **ULTAN DOHERTY - NAOMH CONAILL CAPTAIN**

Is mór an onóir dom a bheith i mo chaptaen ár fhoireann Naomh Conaill agus muid anseo fá coinne cluiche ceannais na Contae. Ba mhaith liom fearadh na fáilte a chur roimh lucht tacaíochta atá anseo inniu.

County final day is a special day in the GAA calendar. We have been fortunate to contest many finals this last number of years and we are extremely proud to have achieved that again this year.

Today we renew acquaintances with Gweedore who have achieved so much over the years in Donegal club football. Both sets of teams have huge respect for each other and we are aware of the massive challenge we have ahead of us today.



Every game against Gweedore is closely contested and we have been involved in some classic games over the years including the trilogy of games in the 2019 county final. There has been huge work at both clubs in the last number of years at underage level and both clubs are repaying the rewards for all that hard work.

I would like to thank the Naomh Conaill management team and back room staff for all the hard work and professionalism you have shown to get us here today. Finally to all the supporters and spectators at todays county final, I hope you all enjoy todays match and that the game does justice for the great occasion it is. Go raibh maith agat

# **MARTIN REGAN - NAOMH CONAILL MANAGER**

Thar ceann imreoirí agus lucht bainistíochta CLG Naomh Conaill ba mhaith liom fáilte a chur roimh gach duine anseo inniu chuig an ócáid speisialta seo.

Is mór an onóir dom ár bhFoireann Peile Naomh Conaill a threorú go dtí Cluiche Ceannais Sinsir an Chontae anseo i bPáirc Sheáin Mhic Cumhaill.

County Final Day is the pinnacle of club football in the Donegal GAA calendar and it is a huge honour for me to manage our Naomh Conaill Senior Team to this very special day in the Donegal GAA calendar. We have built up a very healthy and competitive rivalry with Gweedore in championship this last number of years, meeting on numerous occasions and every time the game has gone to the wire. Today



will be no different and whatever team comes out on top will know they earned their victory. On behalf of the Naomh Conaill Panel and Management, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our many sponsors for their generous and continued support of the senior team and the Naomh Conaill Board for their backing of the team - knowing we have the

backing of the Club and Sponsors for anything we do or look for is hugely appreciated. Finally, to our supporters - win, lose or draw, we always have your support. The numbers our supporters travel in and the noise you bring to games never goes unnoticed and we thank you for your continued support.

Tá súil agam go mbeidh cluiche breá spórtúil againn agus go mbainfidh sibh uilig sult as an ócáid.Go dté sibh slán abhaile.

# PETER MC KELVEY - NAOMH CONAILL CHAIRMAN

As chairman of Naomh Conaill in this historic year for our club, it is an honour to be afforded the opportunity to acknowledge the many strands within our club that have enabled us to reach this occasion.

Firstly, we need to thank Martin Regan as manager of our senior team since 2015. He has guided our senior teams to many finals over these years and we trust in his ability to steer this year's team to glory once again. Martin's backroom team are as always focussed and committed to providing our players with direction and support in achieving success on the field. As always over the years our players have been fully supported by wives, girlfriends, partners, parents hem all for this. Within our club we are blessed with a vibrant group of underage managers and mentors in both our boys and ladies teams. Their commitment ensures a constant number of players feeding through to our senior teams.

Supporting our team managers and mentors we are fortunate to have a large number of volunteers within the club who give of their time to carry out the day to day tasks required to support a successful GAA club. We thank them and recognise



their efforts that have led us to this historic day. We also gratefully thank our many sponsors who enable us to run the club on a day to day basis. Finally, on this day we are as always hugely thankful to our large contingent of supporters who always provide that extra energy for the team which has helped us over the line on many occasions. We ask you again to raise

your voices and cheer on our lads to victory.

Mar Chathaoirleach fo-chumann Naomh Conaill, is onoir mór dom bheith in ann foireann sinsir a thabhairt chuig cluiche ceannais na bliana seo. Is lá mór e seo do gach duine atá páirteach san ócáid seo agus tá súil agam go mbeidh lá sásúil agaibh uilig.

Naomh Conaill wish to extend our gratitude to the county board and everyone involved in organising this day. We wish good luck to the officials who will be in charge today and look forward to a good contest.

Our opponents Gaoth Dobhair have a proud history and we look forward to a tight encounter as normal. May the best team win.

# **1 MINUTE WITH AJ GALLAGHER**

Club:

Naomh Conaill

Favourite pitch / An pháirc is fearr leat:

Davy Brennan memorial Park

Favourite hobby / An caitheamh aimsire is fearr leat:

Gaelic Football and Golf

Childhood hero / Laoch d'óige: Colm Cooper

Best player you have played with / An t-imreoir is fearr a d'imir leat:

Anthony Thompson

Best player you have played against / An t-imreoir is fearr d'imir i d'aghaidh: Michael Murphy

Best game you have been involved in / An cluiche is fearr inar imir tú:

The Gweedore Trilogy

Which team mate is the worst dresser / Cén ball foirne nach bhfuil faiseanta:

**Hughie Gallagher** 

Favourite film / An scannán is fearr leat: 21

Favourite holiday destination / An áit is fearr chun saoire a chaitheamh inti: Las Veaas

Favourite meal / An béile is fearr leat: Steak, Garlic Spuds and Onion Rings

Biggest influence on career / An duine is mó a raibh tionchar acu ort le linn na gairme? Club Coaches and Family



Club volunteer of note / Oibrí deonach inmholta an chlub: Martin Shanky Smith and Muriel Hegarty

Area of your game you would like to improve / An bhfuil rud ar bith a ba mhaith leat a fheabhsú insa dóigh a n-imríonn tú:

Scoring Points

Sporting hero you most admire / An Laoch Spóirt is mó meas acu orthu:

**Tiger Woods** 

Advice for young players / Comhairle d'imreoirí óga:

Listen to your Coaches

Best thing about the GAA / An rud is fearr faoin CLG:

The Community Spirit

Twitter / Facebook:

Twitter

Instagram / Snapchat:

Instagram

Up early / Lie in:

Up Early

Chinese / Pizza:

Chinese

Playstation / Xbox:

Playstation

Superman/Batman:

Superman

Sock / No Socks - Stocaí / Gan stocaí: Socks



# **Fun Facts**

Five Naomh Conaill
players have played 100
+ senior championship
games Marty Boyle,
Stephen Mc Grath,
Anthony Thompson, Leo
Mc Loone & Foin Waide.

NAO	мнс	ONAIL	L - PLAYER	PEN PICS
Name	Age	Height	Position	Occupation
Stephen Mc Grath	34	6ft 1	Goalkeeper	Insurance Assessor
Jason Campbell	31	6ft 1	Full Back	Defence Force
AJ Gallagher	33	6ft	Full Back	Safety Instructor
Ultan Doherty	25	6ft	Corner Back	Architectural Technician
Kevin Mc Gettigan	27	5ft 9	Half Back	Network Planner
Anthony Thompson	37	6ft 1	Half Back	Engineer
Ethan O'Donnell	26	6ft	Half Back	Fibre network planner
Leo Mc Loone	34	6ft 1	Midfield	Teacher
Ciaran Thompson	27	6ft 1	Midfield	Teacher
Brendan Mc Dyer	37	5ft 10	Half Forward	Wind Operations manager
Odhran Doherty	23	5ft 11	Half Forward	Defence Force
Eunan Doherty	30	5ft 9	Half Forward	Accountant
Jeaic Mac Ceallabhuí	24	5ft 10	Half Forward	Student
Charles Mc Guinness	26	6ft 3	Full Forward	Coach Driver
John O'Malley	30	5ft 10	Forward	Engineer
Paudie Brennan	36	6ft 4	Goalkeeper	Teacher
Marty Boyle	39	6ft 1	Half Back	Machine operator
Seamus Corcoran	33	6ft	Forward	Garda
Mark Mc Devitt	18	5ft 9	Half Forward	Greenkeeper
Keelan Mc Gill	23	5ft 9	Half Back	Student
Logan Quinn	25	5ft 11	Corner Back	Civil Servant
Eoin Waide	35	5ft 11	Half Back	Ground worker
Dermot Molloy	32	6ft 2	Forward	Construction
Connor Roarty	20	5ft 10	Half Back	Student
Hughie Gallagher	30	5ft 9	Half Back	NCT Technican
Daniel Gildea	20	5ft 9	Forward	Student
Neil Francis Boyle	20	6ft 3	Midfield	Student
Shean Roarty	22	6ft 1	Half Back	Grafter
Stephen Molloy	34	5ft 10	Corner Back	Sales Rep
Shane Mc Devitt	24	5ft 9	Full Forward	Early year educator
Nathan Byrne	22	6ft 3	Midfield	Lanscaper
Jordan Ó Domhnaill	22	6ft 2	Goalkeeper	Site Engineer
Mark Campbell	21	6ft 3	Full Back	Student
Eoin Boyle	29	6ft	Forward	Sales Rep



# Naomh Conaill







Jason Campbell





AJ Gallagher



**Ultan Doherty** 



Kevin Mc Gettigan



**Anthony Thompson** 



Ethan O'Donnell



Leo Mc Loone



Ciaran Thompson



Brendan McDyer



Odhran Doherty



**Eunan Doherty** 



Jeaic Mac Ceallabhuí



Charles McGuinness



John O'Malley

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16 Paudie Brennan 17 Marty Boyle

18 Seamus Corcoran 19 Mark Mc Devitt

20 Keelan Mc Gill

21 Logan Quinn 22 Eoin Waide 23 Dermot Molloy

24 Connor Roarty 25 Hughie Gallagher

26 Daniel Gildea 27 Neil Francis Boyle 28 Shean Roarty

29 Stephen Molloy 30 Shane Mc Devitt 31 Jordan Ó Domhnaill 32 Nathan Byrne 33 Mark Campbell

34 Eoin Boyle







# Gaoth Dobhair



Dáithí Mac Roibéard



Aodán Breathnach



Neil Mac Aoidh



Gary Mac Pháidín



Niall Ó Frighil



Seaghán Ó Fearraigh



Mícheál Ó Rabhartaigh



Dáire Ó Baoill



Domhnall Mac Giolla Bhríde



Stiofán 'Donna' Mac Pháidín



Odhrán Mac Niallais



James Ó Baoill



Ethan Ó hEarcáin



Eamon Mac Aoidh



Cian Mac an tSaoi

16 Gavin Mac Suibhne 4 Fearghal Ó Dúshláine 8 Mícheál Ó Cearbhaill

14 Peadar Mac Aoidh

19 Neasán Mac Giolla Bhríde

21 Cathal de Búrca 22 Gavin Mac Giolla Bhríde

23 Nollaig Ó Ceallaigh

24 Eoin de Búrca

25 Fionnán Mac Giolla Chomhaill 26 Darragh Ó Fearraigh

27 Seán Ó Dochartaigh

28 Ciarán Mac Giolla Easpuig 29 Jamie Mac Aodha

30 Fiachra Mac Giolla Chóill 31 Daniel Ó Rabhartaigh



Ar son ár bpobal agus ár dteanga!

GAOTH	DOB	HAIR -	PLAYER PE	EN PICS
Name	Age	Height	Position	Occupation
Daithí Mac Roibeaird	21	5' 11"	Goalkeeper	Shop assistant
Daire Ó Baoill	25	6ft	Half Forward	Special Needs Assistant
Mícheál Ó Rabhartaigh	23	6ft	Midfield	Technician
Ciarán Mac Giolla Easpuig	26	6' 1"	Half Back	Personal Trainer
Stiofán 'Donna' Mac Pháidín	20	6'1"	Midfield/ Half Forward	Plumber
Neasán Mac Giolla Bhríde	25	6ft	Half Back	Statistician
Niall Ó Frighil	27	5'8"	Half Back	Teacher
Cian Mac an tSaoi	20	5'10"	Half Forward	Scolaire
Nollaig Ó Ceallaigh	33	5'6"	Full Forward	Store Manager
Gavin Mac Giolla Bhríde	27	6'4"	Full Forward	Site Agent
Ethan Ó hEarcáin	24	6'2"	Forward	Machine Driver
Domhnall Mac Giolla Bhríde	21	6'4"	Midfielder/Half Back	Scolaire
Mícheál Ó Cearbhaill	25	6'3"	Midfielder	Electrician
Aidan Breathnach	21	6ft	Half Back	Scolaire
Seaghán Ó Fearraigh	25	6ft	Half Back	Solicitor
Niall Mac Aoidh	37	6'2"	Full Back	Telecom Technician
Gary Mac Pháidín	26	5'11"	Full Back	Múinteoir
Odhrán Mac Niallais	31	6'1"	Midfield	Personal Trainer
Peadar Mac Aoidh	34	6'5"	Midfield	Garda
James Ó Baoill	26	6'	Corner Back	Múinteoir Scoile
Fearghal Ó Dubhshláine	34	5'9"	Half/Corner Back	Telecoms Network Planner
Cathal de Búrca	19	6ft	Wing Back	Scolaire
Eamon Mac Aoidh	39	6'3"	Corner Back	Application Analyst



# **1 MINUTE WITH AIDAN BREATHNACH**

Club: Gaoth Dobhair

Favourite pitch / An pháirc is fearr

leat: Machaire Gathlan

Favourite hobby / An caitheamh aimsire is fearr leat: Gailf

Childhood hero / Laoch d'óige:

Fernando Torres

Best player you have played with / An t-imreoir is fearr a d'imir leat: Eamonn Mac Garbheith

Best player you have played against / An t-imreoir is fearr d'imir i d'aghaidh: Johnny McGroddy

Best game you have been involved in / An cluiche is fearr inar imir tú: Cluiche Ceannais Faoi 21 anuraidh in éadan An Tearmainn

Which team mate is the worst dresser / Cén ball foirne nach bhfuil faiseanta:

Daithi Mac Roibeaird, caithfidh sé ce bith rud atá i gcúl an chairr air

**Favourite song / An t-amhrán is fearr leat:** Amhrán ar bith de Zach Bryan

Favourite film / An scannán is fearr leat: Interstellar

Favourite holiday destination / An áit is fearr chun saoire a chaitheamh inti:
Albufeira

**Favourite meal / An béile is fearr leat:** Chicken Curry

Biggest influence on career / An duine is mó a raibh tionchar acu ort le linn na gairme? Piaras Coyle, John DeBúrca nó Tom Beag

Club volunteer of note / Oibrí deonach inmholta an chlub: Rónán Mac Garbheith agus Éamonn Bóbó Mac Aoidh

**Biggest strength in your game / Láidreacht do Chluiche:** Ag tabhairt an liathróid do
Eamonn Mac Aoidh



Area of your game you would like to improve / An bhfuil rud ar bith a ba mhaith leat a fheabhsú insa dóigh a n-imríonn tú: Shootáil

Sporting hero you most admire / An Laoch Spóirt is mó meas acu orthu: James Néilí Ó Gallachóir

Advice for young players /
Comhairle d'imreoirí óga: Cleachtaigh leis
an dá chos

Best thing about the GAA / An rud is fearr faoin CLG: Ag imirt le do chuid cairde agus an séisiún ina dhiaidh rud éigin a bháint

Twitter / Facebook: Twitter

Instagram / Snapchat: Instagram

Up early / Lie in: Lie in
Chinese / Pizza: Chinese
Playstation / Xbox: Xbox

**Superman/Batman:** Batman



Guímid gach rath agus bláth ar fhoirne Ghaoth Dobhair inniu!

# **NEIL MAC AODH - GAOTH DOBHAIR CAPTAIN**

Is mór an onóir dom é fáilte a chur roimh uilig inniu go Páirc Mhic Cumhaill. Is lá speisialta é nuair a shroicheann club cluiche ceannais craoibhe ach is lá eisceachtúil ar fad é nuair a schroicheann dhá fhoireann ón chlub céanna cluichí ceannais ar an lá céanna. Tá an t-éacht sin bainte amach ao CLG Ghaoth

Dobhair i mbliana den chéad uair ó bhí 2006 ann. Is léir go bhfuil obair iontach á dhéanamh ag oifigigh, bainisteoirí, cóitseálaithe agus baill an chlub agus tá moladh mór tuillte acu.

Ba mhaith liom an deis seo a thapú chun buíochas a chur in iúl dár n-urraitheoirí ar fad agus achan duine a chuidigh linn i rith na bliana. Tá muid faoi chomaoin agaibh uilig as bhur bhfláithiúlacht. Buíochas faoi leith do Shiopa Mhicí, príomhurraitheoir an chlub, agus Falcon Green.

Tugann foireann na sinsear aghaidh ar Naomh Conaill inniu sa



chluiche ceannais den chéad uair ó 2019 nuair a thóg sé trí chluiche muid a scaradh óna chéile. Bhí lámh an uachtar acu orainn in achan cluiche craoibhe ó shin fosta ach tá muid ag súil le deireadh a chur leis an phatrún sin inniu. Tá foireann iontach ag Naomh Conaill agus tá sé dochreidte gur seo a seachtú cluiche ceannais as a chéile.

Tá dúshlán mór romhainn ach bígí cinnte go dtabharfaidh imreoirí Ghaoth Dobhair faoin dúshlán sin le díograis agus le bród.

Ar deireadh, ba mhaith liom go raibh maith agaibh a rá le gach duine as Gaoth Dobhair atá anseo inniu le tacaíocht a thabhairt dúinn. Tá muid uilig iontach buíoch as bhur n-iarrachtaí agus as an spreagadh a thugann sibh dúinn.

Tá súil agam go mbíonn lá ar dóigh ag achan duine atá i láthair i bPáirc Mhic Cumhaill inniu agus go mbeidh dhá chluiche den scoth le feiceáil agaibh ar pháirc na himeartha.

# RÓNÁN MAC NIALLAIS - GAOTH DOBHAIR MANAGER

Tá Gaoth Dobhair ar ais i gcluiche ceannais Chraobh na Contae den chéad uair ó 2019. Ní hamháin sin, ach den chéad uair ó 2006 tá an fhoireann sinsir agus an fhoireann tacaíochta sna cluichí ceannais ar an lá chéanna. Is éacht iontach é seo agus éacht a léiríonn go bhfuil obair dhian ar bun ag oifigigh agus ag baill an chlub. Tá moladh faoi leith tuillte ag na bainisteoirí agus cóitseálaithe faoi aois as an ardchaighdeán imreoirí atá á

bhaint amach acu do na foirne sinsir.

Beidh aghaidh á tabhairt ag foireann na sinsear ar Naomh Conaill inniu sa chluiche ceannais agus is mór an dúshlán atá romhainn. Tá foireann shármhaith ag Naomh Conaill faoi stiúir Martin Regan agus tá meas mór agam ar an dóigh gur féidir leo iad féin a ghríosú bliain i ndiaidh bliana chun pilleadh ar an chluiche ceannais. Seo a seachtú ceann as a chéile agus is gaisce dochreidte é sin!

Mar sin féin, is club éachtach é CLG Ghaoth Dobhair fosta a bhfuil gaiscí go leor bainte amach aige ó 1931 i leith. Is iomaí cluiche ceannais ar imir an fhoireann sinsir ann le linn na tréimhse sin agus, mar a rinne na foirne sin romhainn, tabharfaidh muidinne aghaidh ar an chluiche ceannais seo inniu le bród sa gheansaí ghlas agus déanfaidh muid ár seacht míle dícheall do phobal

Ghaoth Dobhair. Tá moladh mór tuillte ag na himreoirí seo i mbliana as a ndúthracht. Is peileadoirí den scoth iad ach is gasúraí iontacha iad uilig fosta, a bhíonn i gcónaí sásta íobairtí a dhéanamh do gheansaí ghlas Ghaoth Dobhair.

Ba mhaith liom buíochas ó chroí a chur in iúl dár n-urraitheoirí uilig a chuidigh i mbliana linn. Buíochas faoi leith do Shiopa Mhicí, príomh-urraitheoir an chlub, as an dian-tacaíocht a thugann siad do CLG Ghaoth Dobhair. I measc na n-urraitheoirí eile tá Falcon Green, Garáiste Mhic Aoidh, Meitheal Pleanála Teanga an Iarthuaiscirt, Acadamh na hOllscolaíochta Gaeilge, Teach Mhicí, Teach Jack, Teach Sheáin Óig agus Peppers Diner. Buíochas agus moladh fosta don fhoireann bainistíochta a bhí linn i mbliana, tá obair na gcapall déanta agaibh.

Ar deireadh, ba mhaith liom mo bhuíochas a chur in iúl daoibhse, an lucht tacaíochta. Níl lucht tacaíochta sa tír inchurtha libh agus tá súil agam go mbeidh neart trup, calláin agus ruaille buaille inniu arís libh chun ár ngasúraí a spreagadh agus iad i mbun coimhlinte Tá súil agam go mbeidh dhá chluiche bhreátha anseo inniu againn agus go mbainfidh achan duine i láthair i bPáirc Mhic Cumhaill sult as an ócáid speisialta seo.

# DANIEL RUA Ó GALLACHÓIR - GAOTH DOBHAIR CHAIRMAN

Ba mhaith liom fáilte a chuir roimh gach duine anseo inniu. Is ócáid speisialta lá craobh peile na contae. Tá sé thar speisialta inniu do chlub clg Ghaoth Dobhair a bheith páirteach sa chluiche sinsear agus sóisear. An t-am deirneach a tharla sin don chlub nó 2006 agus bhí an bhua ag an dá fhoireann an lá sin.

Ba mhaith liom gach uille ráth a ghuí ar na foirne inniu agus go n-imreofar cluichí breá spóirtiúil. Ádh mór ar na réiteoirí, na maoir



líne agus na maoir uilig atá páirteach inniu. Ba mhaith liom buíochas mór a thabhairt do na bainisteoirí agus foireann an chlub a chuir iarracht mhór isteach.

Ádh mór oraibh ar an lá.Buíochas mór do na hurraitheoirí uilig go háirithe na príomh urraitheoirí Siopa Mhicí, Divers Hyundai agus Falcon Green. Míle

buíochas. Focal speisialta don choiste a oibríonn go crua i rith na bliana. Buíochas mór don lucht tacaíochta agus bain sult as an lá.

# **GAOTH DOBHAIR - A BRIEF HISTORY**

Is fochumann láidir Gaelach agus Gaeltachta muid, agus tús áite á thabhairt againn i gcónaí do bhunspriocanna Chumann lúthchleas Gael agus dár dteanga, Ghaeilge.

Bunaíodh fochumann Ghaoth Dobhair ag cruinniú i dtigh Mhaighréad Frainc i mBaile Bhriaghní roimh Shamhain na bliana 1931. Bhí rath ar an triú hiarracht seo le fochumann a bhunú sa pharóiste. Bhí peileadóirí as Gaoth Dobhair ag imirt don Chlochán Liath go dtí gur bunaíodh fochumann Ghaoth Dobhair i nGeimhreadh na bliana 1931. Níorbh fhada go raibh fochumann bríomhar agus foirne láidre ag Gaoth Dobhair. Bhuaigh an chumann a gcéad craobh sinsearach in 1935 agus arís in 1938.

Ach ba linn blianta an chogaidh a tháinig fochumann Ghaoth Dobhair go mór chun tosaigh le ceannasaíocht iomlán againn ag an grád sinsear.

Bhuaigh muid in 1941 agus ansin d'éirí linn éacht iontach a bhaint amach le ceithre craobh contae i ndiaidh a chéile, '44,'45, '46, '47 agus arís in 49. Sin ocht gcraobh i dtréimhse cúig bliana déag.

Tháinig muid arís sna caogaidi in trí i ndiaidh a chéile '53,'54,'55. Ach bhí an imirce ag cur isteach go mór orainn sa tréimhse seo le plúr na n-imreoirí ag tabhairt an aghaidh ar an bhád bán agus an choigríoch. Bhuaigh muid ar ais in 1961 in aghaidh an Chlochán liath i bPáirc Uí Dhomhnaill, ach ní raibh mórán fonn ceiliúradh ar an lucht leannta an trathnóna sin, i ndiadh do Phackie Diver, fear mór de lucht thacaíochta an chlub bás a fháil le linn an chluiche.

Ba iad na blianta idir 1961 agus 2002 blianta an Ghorta Mhóir. Níor baineadh aon Chraobh Shinsearach le linn na blianta fada sin. Ach níor múchadh an lasair i mblianta an dorchadais agus coinníodh ag streachailt go dícheallach in am an anáis. Bhí dlúthbhaint ag Gaoth Dobhair le bunú Chomórtas Peile na Gaeltachta 1969. Bhain siad an Comórtas Náisiúnta trí huaire roimh dheireadh an chéid agus a'fhan dílis dá mbunphrionsabail. Tógadh an Clubtheach breá ag taobh na páirce agus fosclaíodh go hoifigiúil é sa bhliain 1984.

Cuireadh deireadh leis an 'Ghorta' le craobh 2002 in éadan N. Adhamhnáin cluiche a imreoidh in Aibreán 2003 de bharr aighneas. Bhí go leor den fhoireann sin ag teacht go deireadh a gcuid laethe imeartha, ach ina measc bhí Caoimhín Ó Casaide agúis Niall agus Eamonn Mhic Aoidh, triúir a thuilleadh cáil náisiúnta ar pháirc na imeartha sna blianta a bhí le theacht. Bhí an bhuaigh ag foirne óga in 2006, agus iad ag tógail leo an chraobh sinsearach agus tacaíochta, la mór eile in stair an chumann. Bhí muid an dóchasach go raibh muid ar tí ré ghlórmhara eile, leis an mhéid sin de imreoirí óga ag bláthú ach níor tharla sin. Tháinig baicle imreoirí eile den scoith chun cinn san chumann blianta ing dhiadh sin, baicle a thuill an áit féin in stair an chumainn, ní amháin mar aheall ar chraobh 2018 a thabhairt leo ach craobh Uladh chomh maith, éacht nár éiri le aon fhoireann eile sa chontae a bhaint amach go dtí seo.

Tá Fo-chumann Ghaoth Dobhair ar ais ar Pháirc mhic Cumhaill inniu le dhá fhoireann agus an Casaide agus an dá Mhic Aoidh go fóill ansin ag tiomaint glún nua de imreoirí óga chun glóire.



Ádh mór ar CLG Ghaoth Dobhair, tabharaigí abhaile na coirn!

# VALUE THE VOLUNTEER - CÁIT (KIT) NÍ CHRUADHLAOÍCH

Is iomaí duine a tháinig chugainn isteach thar na cnoic agus a chur fúthu I ngleanntáin ghlas Ghaoth Dobhair, ach is beag duine acu a bhfuil an mheas agus an t-urraim céanna ag an phobal díofa is mar atá acu do Cáit (Kit) Ní Chruadhlaoich.

Is in 1998, fiche cúig bliain ó shin, a d'fhag sí An Sciobairín a baile dúchais in iardheiscirt Chorcaigh agus a thug a aghaidh ar an iarthuaiscirt le dul a obair abhus mar bhanaltra sláinte poiblí.

Ní raibh sí ar dhóigh ar bith fuar, falsa nó faiteach agus ní raibh i bhfad go raibh aithne agus cáil uirthi fud fad na pharóiste. D'aithin an pobal ón tús gur bean ábalta chumasach agus díograiseach í a raibh an t-ádh dearg orainn gur againne a roghnaigh sí a theacht.

Bean fosta a bhfuil an chraic agus greann ag baint léi. Bhí sí i gcónaí breá ábalta don scigmhagadh faoin chanúint agus a cuid 'Gaolainn'!

Tugadh faoi deara chomh maith gur bean í a raibh spéis mhór aici sa chumann lúthchleas gael agus ach go airithe iománaithe Chorcaí bhíodh na dathanna i acónaí crochta sa charr aici agus an 'jersey' chaitheamh le bród, 'Rebel' dilís. Tugadh cuireadh dí a bheith páirteach sa chumann i ndiadh tamall sa cheantair, cuireadh a ghlac sí leis go fonnmhar. Thaispeáin sí arís a cumas díograis agus fuinnimh ina cuid rólanna le Bord na nÓg, bí sin ag cóitseáil na bpáistí nó ar an choiste féin nó ag eagrú cluichí nó fiú ag ullmhu an tae agus na ceapairí. Cíbí a bhí le déanamh, bheadh Kit

Is minic a bheadh sí ar an taobhlíne leis na foirne sinsearach chomh maith

sásta cuidiú.

ag cur cóir leighis ar fáil do na imreoirí. Ach is forbairt peil na mban sa chlub is mó atá aitheantas tuillte ag Kit. Mheall sí daoine úra isteach chun cuidiú léi agus spreag sí cailíní le coinneal ag imirt agus iad sna déaga. Bhí sí lárnach i mbunú foireann sinsear na mban sa chlub in 2011. Foireann atá ag gabhail ó neart go neart gach aon bhliain ó shin agus a bhuaigh an chraobh sóisearach anuraidh. Tá fás leanúnach bliain i ndiadh bliain ar líon na mná/cailíní atá anois ag imirt peil do CLG Ghaoth Dobhair agus a dteaghlaigh páirteach sa chlub comh maith, ní beag an t-aitheantas atá le fáil ag Kit Ní Chruadhlaoich do seo.

Tá sí go fóill gníomhach le Bord na nÓg, agus mar Oifigeach Leasa & Sláinte an chlub agus ag feidhmiú mar rúnaí ar choiste contae Chumann Peil na mBan.

Go fada buan tú a 'Kit' agus tá ár mór bhuíochas tuillte go maith agat!



# **VALUE THE VOLUNTEER - CHRIS KELLY**

Chris has been part of the Aodh Ruadh club for nearly 20 years, originally from Dublin, he lives in Ballyshannon with his wife Bernadette and their children Colm, Bronagh, Nathan & Eoghan.



Chris has had many a role over his years being involved, from coaching at underage levels to being a referee in both codes. In recent years, Chris has worked tirelessly on club gear and as you look around the Aodh Ruadh support here today, there is not one piece of gear that has not been designed and sold by Chris and where you may now and again see Chris sporting a Dublin jersey, today he is definitely wearing his Aodh Ruadh colours with pride!!

And as one of his many roles within Aodh Ruadh, today Chris can be found on the sideline, acting as the reserve team medic.

From all at Aodh Ruadh, we thank Chris for all his hard work and dedication to our club!



# Good luck

to Aodh Ruadh today in the Senior County finals

# **AODH RUADH - A BRIEF HISTORY**

The Aodh Ruadh GAA Club was founded on 24th October 1909 at a public meeting called by Father James O'Daly. From the outset it was established as a hurling and football club. Aodh Ruadh has maintained an unbroken existence and this very month sees the club mark 114 years of Gaelic games activity in Ballyshannon.

The first success for the club came in the 1920s with a hurling championship in 1924 with a 5-3 to 0-1 victory over Letterkenny. The first and only football and hurling double in the county was claimed in 1929. Aodh Ruadh footballers won their first title defeating Killygordon 0-7 to 0-5, while the hurlers again defeated Letterkenny.

The 1930s saw the club enjoy continued success on the football front with one of the highlights being three minor successive championships in 1935, 1936 and 1937. Championships in Senior Football were won in 1932, 1937 and 1939. The club also claimed their first ever league title in 1930.

One of the early legends of the club was 'Red' Jack Gallagher who was part of the Ulster team which won the Railway Cup in 1942, the province's first win. Apart from senior football titles in 1942 and 1943, the major highlight of the 40s was the purchase in 1949 for the princely sum of £1,050 of a field at The Rock which was to become the permanent home of the club - Father Tierney Park. The ground was officially opened in 1954 with a challenge game against Armagh.

In 1951 Hugh Daly was elected secretary of Donegal County Board, the start of a term of 23 years in the post He remained as Aodh Ruadh Club Treasurer throughout that period. 1951 also saw Aodh Ruadh defeat Saint Eunan's by 1–6 to 1–5 to win their seventh senior championship. Donegal won a first ever Ulster minor title in 1956 and Aodh Ruadh's Sean McHugh and Owen Roe O'Neill were on the team.

The 1960s saw the start of the Saint Joseph's era when a combined Ballyshannon / Bundoran team played at senior level. Both clubs continued to function as separate entities. It was an era when Ballyshannon players represented the county at all levels and a return to success on the hurling fields. Donegal won their first Ulster under 21 title in 1963 with Michael McLoone a key member of the team. Continuing the area's tradition of service in high office, Harry Carey, a native of Corlea, was President of Ulster Council from 1964 to 1967.

St Joseph's won the first and second unofficial Ulster Club Championships in 1966 and 1967 defeating St John's and Crossmaglen respectively, before winning the first unofficial All-Ireland Club title in 1968, beating Dunmore McHale's of Galway. Donegal's first ever senior Ulster title arrived in 1972 and Alan Kane, Pauric McShea and Martin Carney were on the final team, while Thomas Quinn and Josie Boyle were on panel, with Jim 'Natch' Gallagher as mentor. In 1974 Pauric McShea captained Donegal to second Ulster title with Martin Carney, Alan Kane and Thomas Quinn also on panel with Jim 'Natch' Gallagher again mentor. Saint Joseph's won four Championships in-a-row from 1973 to 1976 and won their first official Ulster Club Championship in 1975. Saint Joseph's wound up in 1977 and in 1979 Aodh Ruadh won the first of four minor titles in a row.

In the 1980s the club had players involved in the winning of three All-Ireland titles, the most notable being the colleges win of De La Salle, while Brian Tuohy was captain of the county All-Ireland winning under 21 side in 1982. On the football front the Championship wins of 1986 and 1987 bridged a 25 year gap, while under 21 titles were claimed in 1981, 1982, 1988 and 1989, and there was unprecedented success at underage level. In 1987 Munday's Field, where Aodh Ruadh's first games were played in 1909, was purchased from Donegal County Council. In 1992, Gary Walsh, Brian Murray and Sylvester Maguire were all part of Donegal's first ever All-Ireland winning team. The 1990s saw success at all levels with Championships won in football (1994, 1997, 1998), hurling (1994, 1996) and camogie (1990, 1998). The decade saw the advent of ladies football with the highlight being winning the Senior Ladies title in 1995.

In 2000 Aras Aoidh Ruaidh, our new club house and media facility was officially opened as the Club's Millennium Year Project. In 2007 Tom Daly was elected Ulster Council President. On the pitch Brian Roper set a Donegal appearances record in 2009. The past decade has seen a rejuvenation in fortunes on the field with league titles in 2016 (Division 3) and 2017 (Division 2), with the club's first ever intermediate title being won in 2020. Off the pitch the club made a bit of history in 2012 with the appointment of our first all-female club executive, Chair Betty McIntyre, Secretary Emma Gaughan, and Treasurer Catherine McKee.

# **DANIEL WARNOCK - AODH RUADH CAPTAIN**

It is a great honour to be captain of this Aodh Ruadh side and to lead this group of players out today on county final day for the first time in 21 years at this grade.

We have had a good season so far, a strong league campaign, narrowly missing out on a league final.

Our performances in the championship have been good and bad, not picking up a win in our first two games wasnt a great start but we've went on a bit of a run since and find ourselves competing for a county title.

We are coming into this final as big underdogs up against a strong gweedore side. We met already in the championship and we were easily second best on that day.



A big thanks to our families, friends and the Ballyshannon support who have showed unbelievable support for us this year and no doubt they will be behind us all the way today and hopefully we do them proud.

A mention for our manager, Brian and his backroom team who have put in a serious amount of work with

this team the past couple of years.

I want to wish Connie Doherty and his team today the very best of luck also.

Finally, good luck to Gweedore and Naomh Conaill who contest the senior final today.

# **BRIAN GILLESPIE - AODH RUADH MANAGER**

A chairde, it is a privilege to be involved with an Aodh Ruadh team on county final day.

It is our first Senior B final since 2002 and we are delighted that today coincides with the honouring of our club's Senior Championship winning team from 1998.

Like a lot of clubs in the county, we have struggled in recent times to find the right balance at this level and a mere two years ago we were struggling to pull a team together and unable to field in a championship match.

As a management team we have worked very hard over the past number of years to ensure that we bring a high level of coaching and energy to the group for us to try to be competitive in every game we play.

We hope that by doing so we can provide our players with a vehicle through which they can develop, remain involved in the association for as long as possible, and hopefully progress to playing senior football for our club.

However, none of this works without the buy-in of the players and in this regard, we are extremely fortunate to work with a group of incredibly motivated and hard-working players. Everything that we have asked of them, they have done.



I would like to acknowledge our senior manager John McNulty and his coaching teams over the past number of years for their support and for their expertise.

To our senior players, the example that you set does not go unnoticed. Munday's field on a Tuesday /

Thursday evening is a great place to be and the town should be very proud of the environment that you have created

Thanks to the club executive and all club officers for their ongoing support. Thank you also to our sponsors, Daiken.

On today's game, Aodh Ruadh v Gaoth Dobhair is a brilliant match up and will no doubt conjure images of famous battles over the years between two great clubs. Gaoth Dobhair are strong favourites for today and rightfully so after comfortably moving through the championship unbeaten.

As a group, we are fully focused on delivering a performance that we can stand over and, if we can deliver that performance, we know we won't be far away come the final whistle.

We wish all involved in both games today well and best wishes also to referee Connie Doherty and his team of officials.

# WILLIAM DOOGAN - AODH RUADH CHAIRPERSON

As Chairman of the Aodh Ruadh Club, it is a great honour to have our senior reserve team in today's County Final. I wish to acknowledge the hard work and commitment of this panel of players to date. I would also like to acknowledge the tremendous time, effort and dedication put in by all the underage managers who provide a pathway for players to have the opportunity to play on days like today.

I would like to thank Daikan for their sponsorship of our



reserve team over the last number of years.

Best of luck to reserve manager Brian Gillespie & his back-room team for today's game.

Thank you to all who have travelled here for today's game and hopefully we are treated to a great game of football befitting the occasion, at the end of which,

Aodh Ruadh prevail!

Finally, best wishes to the referee and match officials for today's game.

# 1 MINUTE WITH COLM MC GLOIN

Club: Aodh Ruadh

Favourite pitch / An pháirc is fearr

leat: Fr Tierney Park

Favourite hobby / An caitheamh aimsire is fearr leat:

Procrastinating

Childhood hero / Laoch d'óige:

Michael Murphy

Best player you have played with / An t-imreoir is fearr a d'imir leat: Luke Carr

Best player you have played against / An t-imreoir is fearr d'imir i d'aghaidh:

Kieran Gillespie

Best game you have been involved in / An cluiche is fearr inar imir tú: 2019 U16 County Semi Final y Milford

Which team mate is the worst dresser / Cén ball foirne nach bhfuil faiseanta:
Dan Warnock

Favourite song / An t-amhrán is fearr leat: A Million Miles Away, Rory Gallagher

Favourite film / An scannán is fearr leat:
Pitch Perfect

Favourite holiday destination / An áit is fearr chun saoire a chaitheamh inti:

Albufeira

Favourite meal / An béile is fearr leat: Turkery Burgers

Biggest influence on career / An duine is mó a raibh tionchar acu ort le linn na aairme? Parents

Club volunteer of note / Oibrí deonach inmholta an chlub:

Lisa Mc Ternan & John Hughes

Biggest strength in your game / Láidreacht do Chluiche: Shooting

Area of your game you would like to improve / An bhfuil rud ar bith a ba mhaith leat a fheabhsú insa dóigh a n-imríonn tú:

Weak Foot

Sporting hero you most admire / An Laoch Spóirt is mó meas acu orthu: Jim Mc Guinness



Advice for young players /
Comhairle d'imreoirí óga: Practice
weak foot

Best thing about the GAA / An rud is fearr faoin CLG: Community

Twitter / Facebook: Twitter

Instagram / Snapchat: Snapchat

Up early / Lie in: Lie In

Chinese / Pizza: Pizza

Playstation / Xbox: Playstation Superman / Batman: Batman

Sock / No Socks - Stocaí / Gan stocaí:

Socks



AO	DH RI	JADH	- PLAYER PEN	PICS
Name	Age	Height	Position	Occupation
Aaron Cullen	19	5'8	Goalkeeper	Student / Bartender
Aidan Sweeny	18	5'11	Corner Back	Physiotherapy Student
Aonghus Sweeny	18	6'3	Midfield	Student
Caelan Drummond	25	6'0	Half Forward	Civil Engineer
Cathal Kelly	32	5'9	Corner Forward	Teacher
Cian Mc Kenna	18	5'9	Forward	Apprentice Plumber
Ciaran Slevin	34	5'7	Back	Primary School Teacher
Colm Mc Gloin	20	6'2	Midfield	Student
Conor Foy	20	6'2	Corner Back	Student
Damian Weber	19	6'0	Corner Forward	Student
Daniel Warnock	25	5'9	Half Back	HR & Recruitment Specialist
Darragh Flood Dolan	19	6'1	Wing Forward	Carpenter
David Mc Gurrin	27	6'0	Centre Forward	Biotech Associate
David Roper	18	5'10	Corner Forward	Student
Diarmuid Flood Dolan	20	6'2	Midfield	Student
Donagh Mc Intyre	34	6'1	Full Forward	Senior Project Manager
Gary Carty	31	6'0	Half Back/Half Forward	Automation Systems Engineer
James Gallagher	36	5'8	Defender	Student
Jason Granaghan	25	5'10	Defender	Soldier
JJ Cassidy	32	5'9	Forward	Production Manager
Johnny Gethins	28	5'11	Half Back	Soldier
Karl O'Brien	42	6'0	Goalkeeper	Office Administrator
Kerry Ryan	40's	6'2	Forward / Coach	Defence Forces
Luke Carr	37	6'0	Full Back	Accountant
Mardy Mc Garrigle	20	6'0	Forward	Student
Michael Ward	35	6'0	Full Back	Civil Engineer
Michael 'Sticky' Ward	40's	5'9	Corner Forward	Building Contractor
Mitch Mc Laughlin	19	5'9	Wing Back	Student / Barman
Odhran Mc Garrigle	22	6'2	Midfield	Student
Oisin Kerr	25	5'11	Full / Wing Back	Fiber Optic Splicer
Rory Gettins	21	5'8	Full Forward	HSE Supplies Officer
Ryan Daly	18	6'0	Corner Forward	Student
Ryan Keenaghan	19	6'0	Full Back	Student
Senan Rooney	21	6'0	Wing Back	Student
Shane Mc Gloin	18	6'2	Back	Student
Tiernan Dolan Flood	22	6'3	Wing Half Forward	Solar Panel Installer







#### **Aaron Cullen**







Ryan Keenaghan

Michael Ward

Aidan Sweeney







**Gary Carty** 

Ciaran Slevin

Daniel Warnock





Odhran McGarrigle

Colm McGloin







Darragh Flood Dolan

David McGurrin

Tiernan Flood Dolan







Damian Weber

Donagh McIntyre

Michael 'Sticky' Ward

- 16. Carl O'Brien
- 17. JJ Cassidy
- 18. Cathal Kelly
- 19. Oisin Kerr
- 20. Mardy McGarrigle
- 21. Senan Rooney
- 22. Luke Carr
- 23. Shane McGloin 24. Johnny Gallagher
- 25. Jason Granahan
- 26. Aonghus Sweeney
- 27. Caelan Drummond 28. James Gallagher
- 29. Cian McKenna 30. Johnny Gethins
- 31. Conor Foy
- 32. Rory Gethins
- 33. David Roper
- 34. Mitch McLaughlin 35. Diarmaid Flood Dolan







## Gaoth Dobhair



Gavin Mac Suibhne



Seán Mac Pháidín



Seán Ó Gallachóir



Eamonn Mac Giolla Bhríde



Jamie Mac Aodha



Darragh Ó Fearraigh



Johnny Ó Dónaill



Adam Mac Íomhair



Fiachra Mac Giolla Chomhaill



Cathal Mac Giolla Easpuig



Eoin De Búrca



Fionnán Mac Giolla Chomhaill



Stiofán Mac Pháidín



Caomhín Ó Casaide



Mark Mac Pháidín

FIR IONAD

16 Daniel Ó Rabhartaigh 17 Criostóir Ó Rabhartaigh

18 Michéal Ó Loinsigh 19 Danny Ó Curráin

20 Seán Ó Dochartaigh

21 Jamie Ó Dochartaigh 22 Cian Mac Giolla Bhríde -

22 Cian Mac Giolla Bhride 23 Dónal Mac Lochlainn

24 Liam Mac Giolla Bhríde

25 Roan Ó Tuirc

26 Mikey Ó Baoill

27 Darragh Mac Aodha 28 Seosamh Mac Aodh

29 John Ó Fearraigh 30 Dylan Clift 31 Eamonn Mac Gairbheith

32 Ryan Ó Dochartaigh 33 Owen Ó Dónaill



GAOTH DOE	HAIR	- PLAYER PEN	PICS
Name	Age	Position	Occupation
Gavin Mac Suibhne	23	Goalkeeper	Student
Seán Mac Pháidín	19	Corner Back	Student
Seán Ó Gallachóir	20	Full Back	Student
Eamonn Mac Giolla Bhríde	20	Full Back	Student
Jamie Mac Aodha	25	Half Back	Student
Darragh Ó Fearraigh	19	Half Back	Student
Johnny Ó Dónaill	19	Half Back	Student
Adam Mac Íomhair	19	Midfield	Student
Fiachra Mac Giolla Chomhaill	21	Midfield	Student
Cathal Mac Giolla Easpuig	22	Half Forward	Student
Eoin De Búrca	21	Half Forward	Student
Fionnán Mac Giolla Chomhaill	20	Half Forward	Student
Stiofán Mac Pháidín	22	Full Forward	Student
Caomhín Ó Casaide	42	Full Forward	Bar Manager
Mark Mac Pháidín	23	Full Forward	Student
Daniel Ó Rabhartaigh	20	Goalkeeper	Student
Criostóir Ó Rabhartaigh	36	Full Back	SNA
Michéal Ó Loinsigh	26	Goalkeeper	Student
Danny Ó Curráin	33	Half Back	Teacher
Seán Ó Dochartaigh	31	Midfield	Student
Jamie Ó Dochartaigh	20	Half Forward	Student
Cian Mac Giolla Bhríde	20	Half Forward	Student
Dónal Mac Lochlainn	24	Full Forward	Student
Liam Mac Giolla Bhríde	34	Half Forward	Teacher
Roan Ó Tuirc	20	Full Back	Student
Mikey Ó Baoill	25	Full Back	Student
Darragh Mac Aodha	18	Half Forward	Student
Seosamh Mac Aodh	22	Half Forward	Student
John Ó Fearraigh	26	Half Back	Student
Dylan Clift	19	Goalkeeper	Student
Eamonn Mac Gairbheith	22	Full Forward	Student
Ryan Ó Dochartaigh	19	Half Forward	Student
Owen Ó Dónaill	19	Half Forward	Student

## 1 MINUTE WITH STEVEN MAC PHÁIDÍN

Aois:

21

Post:

Oibrí Beáir

Caithimh Aimseartha:

Peil

Ceol:

Kid Cudi nó Tame Impala

Bia:

Stobhach mo mháthair

Deoch:

Guinness nó Captain Morgan

Scannán:

Superbad

Clár Teilifíse:

The Walking Dead

Ainmhí:

Madadh

Podchraoladh:

Theo Von, This Past Weekend

Spórt is fearr leat taobh amuigh do peil gaelach:

MMA

Foireann Sacair:

Liverpool

**Bainisteoir is fearr:** 

Tom Beag Mac Giolla Easbuic nó Eoin Mac Giolla Easbuic

Imreoir is fearr a d'imir tú le agus in éadan:

Eamon Mac Gairbheith agus Shane Ó Domhnaill

Páirc is fearr + is measa a d'imir tú ar:

Machaire Gathlán agus Páirc na Rossa

Duine is fearr + is measa le suí in aice le ar an bhus:

Jamie Ó Dochartaigh an duine is fearr agus Johnny Óg Ó Domhnaill an duine is measa!



**Luis Suarez nó Fernando Torres:** Luis Suarez

Ceol Beo nó DJ:

DJ

Beoir nó Biotáille:

Beoir

Gailf nó Rugbaí:

Rugbal

Laoch:

Gary Mac Pháidín nó Padraig Sailor Mac

Suibhne

Oíche amuigh:

Teach Jack

Cuireadh chuig cóisir:

Jack Grealish

Laethanta saoire:

Liverpool

Seanfhocal:

Ní bhíonn in aon rud ach seal!



## ADAM MAC ÍOMHAIR - GAOTH DOBHAIR CAPTAIN

Tá se iontach deas bheith anseo ar lá mór Craobh an Chontae agus dhá fhoireann as Gaoth Dobhair sna cluichí ceannais, an chead uair ó 2006 don chlub. Tá mé iontach brodúil bheith mar chaptaen ar an fhoireann seo, tá iarracht mór curtha isteach ag na h-immreoirí agus an bainistíocht i mbliana. Is seo an cúigiú cluiche ceannais do chuid mhór den fhoireann seo i mbliana idir faoi 21. an Ghaeltacht × 2, agus an sraith sóisir. Tá súil againn cuir leis an cúpla corn atá buaite againn, ach tá fhios againn go bhfuil dúshlán mór romhainn inniu in éadan Aodh Ruadh, tá imreoirí de scoith acu agus fuair

siad an bua orainn sa sraith níos luaithe sa bhliain, fuair muid an lámh in uachtar orthu sa chraobh ansin ach ní raibh sé furast, beidh orainn imirt go maith agus is a thig linn leis an corn a thabhairt na bhaile inniu. Ba mhaith liom buíochas mór a

thabhairt do Donal Ivers agus Daithí Mac Roibeaird, agus achan nduine a chuidigh. Buíochas mór do Siopa Mhicí agus Terrance Diver a rinne urraícht orainn I mbliana. Buíochas mór do lucht tacaíochta Ghaoth Dobhair a bhí linn i rith na bliana, tá súil agam go mbeidh lá ar doigh agaibh agus go mbeidh muid ag ceiliúradh libh níos moille.

## DÓNAL MAC ÍOMHAIR - GAOTH DOBHAIR MANAGER

Ba mhaith liom mo bhuíochas ó chroí a ghabháil le lucht tacaíochta CLG Ghaoth Dobhair atá linn i rith na bliana idir an sraith, comórtas peil na Gaeltachta agus an Craobh.

Tá iarracht mór curtha isteach ag an foireann tacaíocht agus an foireann sinsear agus is cinnte go bhfuil sé soiléir go bhfuil luach a saothar bainte amach againn inniu agus muid sna cluichí ceannais. Buíochas lenár urraitheoir Divers Hyundai agus do na

gnóanna áitiúil uilig a thug tacaíocht dúinn uilig i rith na bliana.

Go pearsanta ba mhaith liom mo bhuíochas a ghabháil le Rónán agus Francie a ghlac an traenáil i rith na bliana agus le Dáithí agus na daoine

uilig eile a chuidigh linn.

Tá súil agam go mbeidh taispeántas maith peile idir na foirne uilig ar an lá agus go mbainfidh sibh uilig sult as.



#### **SENIOR PRESS BRIEFING**











#### **ALL STARS – A GOLDEN ERA OF DONEGAL FOOTBALL**

Colm Keys, writes for the Irish and Sunday Independent. He is one of the country's top sports writers. Here he takes an overview of the inter county careers of Michael Murphy and Neil McGee, and the impact they had on a great Donegal team.

When Neil McGee and Michael Murphy announced their intercounty retirements within a couple of months of each other in the second half of 2022, it felt like the most glorious chapter in Donegal's GAA history was finally at an end.



Magee and Murphy were among the chief protagonists in that story, one that incorporated

the county's second All-Ireland senior title but also doubled the number of Ulster titles to 10. Records show that Donegal's first participation in an Ulster Championship came in 1906 and it took them 86 years to accumulate the first five. The next five were added in just nine years between 2011 and 2019, reflecting the impact that the pair had.

But their impact goes beyond titles and medals. In the decade or so that Murphy was in his prime the question was often asked as to whether there was a more influential player for a county than the Donegal captain.

That's an imprecise measurement of course but the sense was that Donegal without Murphy would be more bereft than any other county without a particular player. The early 2023 struggles perhaps embellished that view.

There are still a couple of championship seasons to run but if the GAA decided to honour a team of the first quarter of a century of the 2000s, there'd be a strong argument for the inclusion of the two of them.



Karl Lacey brought defensive versatility but as a specialist full-back, Neil McGee would be difficult to displace. For three of the four years between 2011 and 2014 he was the Allstar No 3, commanding respect and even instilling fear in opponents with his forceful and physical approach in pursuit of the ball. Who can ever forget his collision with Tyrone's Stephen O'Neill in the 2013 Ulster Championship game in Ballybofey? It said everything of a static McGee in



possession as O'Neill, in full flight, bounced back off him and hit the deck. Or his curtailment of Bernard Brogan in that epic 2014 All-Ireland semi-final? Some of his greatest one-to-one battles were with Monaghan's Conor McManus.

While he had protection from the system in place in those years it's clear that he would have been a full-back suited to any era and there can be no bigger compliment than that given how some of his predecessors dominated their patch. There was scarcely a psychological head-to-head he didn't prevail in and while his latter years were injury blighted, his commitment to ensuring a competitive Donegal never waned.

Murphy was always destined to play for Donegal, having spent his formative years as a wide-eyed fan travelling the country watching the team play in an era that fell between the two All-Ireland titles.

In 2006 he travelled to Australia as part of an U-17 international rules team that put him in the shop window for a host of AFL clubs who made enquiries.

But Murphy wasn't for moving. Donegal was his destiny and one he was determined to fulfil quickly, accepting then

manager Brian McIver's invitation to join the senior squad while still eligible for minor in 2007.

By the summer he had made the team for a qualifier against Leitrim. Two games later, against Westmeath, he was delegated to take a penalty and missed. But it barely knocked him off his stride and within minutes he was swinging over a difficult point from an acute angle, unbowed



Similarly a missed penalty in the 2010 All-Ireland U-21 final

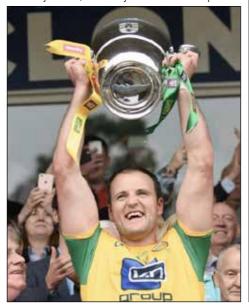
against Dublin didn't weigh on him, especially when he stepped up to score from a penalty in the following year's Ulster final against Derry as Donegal bridged a 19-year provincial gap.

By then he was captain, a position Jim McGuinness entrusted him with when he was aged just 21, and one he would keep until his surprise retirement last November.

The All-Ireland final was the peak for both players and for Murphy that early goal against Mayo remains one of the most

iconic on Gaelic football's biggest day.

He was operating in a more customary full-forward role in those early minutes, a role many felt he should have operated



in more often.

But the temptation to bring him further outfield where his leadership, fielding ability and vision could be used to great effect was always there too.

He won three Allstars, 2012, 2014 and 2019, and while the first two came in the years that his Donegal team reached All-Ireland finals, there is an argument that 2019 was actually his best season. Donegal didn't get out of their quarter-final group but Murphy had been imperious, both as orthodox full-forward and around midfield/half-forward in the Ulster Championship and through three 'super eight' games.

Without doubt he is Donegal's greatest player and one of the most celebrated footballers in this century, one who could carry out duties in any position.

Between them they played 372 times for Donegal, McGee 195 times, Murphy 177 times, over 34 years. McGee went from 2005 to 2022, Murphy came in two years later and stayed for 16 with very few gaps.

It's an incredible record of service, shaping a legacy out of which there will be benefits for years to come.

Donegal will scarcely have two like them again.

Colm Keys Irish Independent





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Slobhan Coyle.

# SIOBHAN THE MIDDLE

#### Donegal official on the rewards of refereeing

By Clodagh Traynor

EFEREES shoulder the critical responsibility of ensuring fairness, accuracy, and upholding order in a game. When games deviate from our expectations, they often bear the brunt of criticism and so become the focal out of it. I expected to ref at some underage point of blame.

Despite the critiques from spectators, a referee's rote remains both crucial and demanding, requiring a thick skin and a strong character. Without such dedicated officials, chaos would likely ensue with the potential of jeopardising the very integrity of a game.

Among those to step up to such a role, is Provisional and National referee, Slobhan Coyle.

Slobhan began her journey as an official around 12-years ago, "not expecting major things to come out of it". But when she was informed that her club needed more referees, she decided to step up to the challenge.

More than a decade later, the referee from Donegal has established herself as one of the best in the game. Across her officiating career, Slobhan's highlights include refereeing two LGFA county Att-Ireland finals and embarking on international journeys to referee games in as

far as the USA, Asia and Canada.

"I started off as a referee because my club needed some," Siobhan explained. "I was asked to give it a go-because I was involved in coaching at the time. I agreed to do the course for the club, not expecting major things to come games and blitz. I never expected it to take me to where I am today."

Despite only being in the limeight during big games, like players. constant training and hard work epes on behind the scenes for referres

"The biggest thing is being fair; you: must have a serious interest in the sport," Slothan Insists, "I don't think you could do it without that. Also, if you want to keep up with the game and be a top referee, fitness is key. As a National and Provisional referee, I must pass filmess tests twice a year for both. If you don't pass those you won't be on the panel or be given the top games at county level.

"We are also required to pass multiple rules tests a year for each. We must be constantly revising the rules. it's a matter of learning as I go along and even now I am constantly referring to the handbook to double check things

"I am also a delegate for congress for Donegal, so if there are changes, I go to Congress and listen to the discussions, so I'm aware of changes as they're coming through. That helps as well.

"We are lucky with LGFA, there naven't been that many significant changes but for the men's game there have been huge changes to be aware of and get used to. For me, I am officiating with two codes. For example, I could officiate a ladles' game in the morning and a men's game in the evening so I have to make sure I know the different rules for each."

In 2020, the Donegal referee was chosen to officiate the All-Ireland Junior final, but due to the covid-19 lockdowns, Slobhan missed



## "I look back to learn from mistakes and ensure I don't make the same mistake again".

out on a chance to experience taking charge at Croke Park. However, last year marked a significant mitestone in her career as she reached "the pinnacle," securing the chance to officiate in a second All Ireland final, but this time in Croke Park.

"To be able to referee an All-Ireland was brilliant, but to do it in Croke Park was massive for me," she said.

"The build up to the game can be nerve wracking but once the game starts. I begin to focus like it's a normal game, I worked on the line at Croke Park twice previously in 2017 and 2019.

Before those games, I dian't know what to expect, even from the crowd and the noise. But doing that helped to know the routine and what to do; it gave me a bit of understanding and a chance to plan ahead.".

Throughout her officiating career, Siobhan has discovered that receiving criticism is an inherent part of the role. However, with experience, she has learned to "block it out" and not let it affect her performance.

\*There were times at the very start that I would allow criticism to affect me," Slobhan admitted.

"But talking and asking for advice from other referees helped me. I can blank it out now as experience and I can focus on the game. It is hard at times; and the same as a player on the pitch, I make mistakes too, I do make mistakes. But I look back and can see how far I've come and developed as a referee.

"I look back to learn from those mistakes. and I evaluate what I can do next time to ensure I don't make the same mistake again. Practice makes perfect."

While the role of a referee can sometimes seem solitary, Siophan emphasises that one of the most rewarding aspects is "being a part of a team,"; knowing that she has the support of linespeople and umpires.





isolating but you have that team to help you get those opportunities. out," she explains.

the role; she hasn't looked back stating that the good thing is the smaller pitches. There it afforded her opportunities that she "never are a lot of Irish people in those countries, so could have imagined".

"I have been very lucky that refereeing. "It's a great way of meeting new people, has allowed me to travel. I got to referee in. I've met so many people from all over the Toronto, the USA and even Kuala Lumpur, world because of refereeing."

"For me, you are part of a team, you. I'm very lucky that way that I've also got go there, and you have lines people and trips abroad as part of being a national umpires - people think it's completely referee. Most people don't know wouldn't

"It can be hard to referee in 30-degree heat, The referee asserted that since taking on and the humidity is high. It is tough going but the standard is quite good.

#### HISTORY OF THE DR. MAGUIRE CUP

Dr. Edward Maguire was born in Inver on 10 February 1857. He was educated at Mr. McIntyre's Classical School, Ballyshannon. He entered Maynooth on 15 January 1874. He was ordained a priest in Letterkenny, on 8 December,

1879. He became a Professor at St. Patrick's College, Maynooth In 1883 He moved back to Donegal in 1896 and ministered in Inver, Gweedore and Letterkenny.

On 23 October, 1905, the First County Board Meeting of Donegal GAA was held in Mountcharles and he was elected chairman. He also represented Donegal on The Ulster Council of the GAA.

He became the first president of St. Eunan's College, Letterkenny when it opened In 1906, a position he held until 1910. He was appointed Parish Priest of Fanad in 1910. During his time in Fanad he was given sabbatical leave and he wrote:

erected on his grave.
There is also a window
dedicated to him in the
church in Carrick. In
August 1926, the Donegal
County GAA Board issued
an appeal for funds
in order to purchase
a "Memorial Cup" in
memory of Dr. Maguire.



In 1927 a cup was purchased and The Dr. Maguire Cup and was awarded to the Senior Football Championship winners in Donegal.

> This cup was mislaid and in 1966 and a replacement Cup was donated to The County Board, Donegal G.A.A., by **Bishop Anthony** McFeely, Bishop of Raphoe. The Senior Football Championship of 1966 was not completed and therefore no presentation took place for 1966. In 1967 the new cup, was presented, for the first time to St. Eunan's winners of the 1967 Senior Football Championship.

"A History of Raphoe Diocese"

"St. Adhamhnán"

"The History of Letterkenny"

"The History of Ballyshannon"

He was appointed Parish Priest of Carrick in 1923. He died on, age 69, on 7 July 1926 and was buried in the church ground, Carrick on Friday and 9 July.

In 1928 a large Celtic Cross, donated by the teachers of Donegal, was



Team	Wins	Winners of The Senior Football Championship (Years prior to the presentation of The Dr. Maguire Cup are shown in red)
Gaoth Dobhair	15	1935, 1938, 1941, 1944, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1949, 1953, 1954, 1955, 1961, 2002, 2006, 2018
Naomh Adhamhnáin	15	1948,1956, 1960, 1967, 1969, 1972, 1983, 1999, 2001, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2012, 2014, 2021
Aodh Ruadh	12	1929, 1932, 1937, 1939, 1942, 1943, 1951, 1986, 1987, 1994, 1997, 1998
Naomh lósaef	7	1965, 1968, 1970, 1973, 1974, 1975, 1976
An Clochán Liath	7	1930, 1931, 1933, 1936, 1940, 1957, 1958
Na Cealla Beaga	6	1952, 1988, 1991, 1992, 1995, 1996
Seán MacCumhaill		1959, 1962, 1963, 1964, 1971, 1977
Cill Chartha		1925, 1980, 1985, 1989, 1993, 2017
Ard an Rátha		1923, 1926, 1928, 1981, 2000, 2004
Naomh Conaill	6	2005, 2010, 2015, 2019, 2020, 2022
Réalt na Mara	3	1920, 1934, 1979
Gleann tSuilí		2011, 2013, 2016
Na Ceithre Máistrí		1982, 1984, 2003
Naomh Columba	2	1978, 1990
Baile Dhún na nGall	1	1924
Caisleán na Finne		1922
Letterkenny Rovers		1927
Killygordon		1921
Finals not played	2	1950, 1966

## **Ground Regulations**

- 01. All persons entering this ground are admitted only subject to the following Ground Regulations and to the Rules and regulations of Cumann Luthchcleas Gael. Entry to the ground shall be deemed to constitute unqualified acceptance of all these Rules and Regulations.
- 02. Fireworks, smoke canisters, gas- horns, bottles, glasses, cans, flags, banners, poles and other similar articles or containers, including anything which could or might be used as a weapon, are not permitted within the ground and any person in found to be in possession of such an article or container may be refused entry or ejected from the ground
- 03. The consumption of alcohol is not permitted within the ground and spectators are not permitted to bring alcohol into the ground.
- 04. The unauthorized climbing of any structure, walls or buildings in this ground strictly forbidden.
- 05. Unnecessary noise from the use of radio sets, gas-horns and behaviour likely to cause confusion Of nuisance of any kind, including foul or abusive language, is not permitted in any part of the ground.
- 06. Under no circumstances is it permitted to throw any object the pitch.

- Unauthorised persons are not permitted to enter upon the field of play.
- Any person who fails to comply with the instruction from a Garda or Steward may be ejected from the ground.
- 09. In general, the right of admission is reserved to the Ground Management.
- The Ground Management reserves the right to refuse admission to or eject any person who refuses to be searched by a member of the Garda Siochana.
- 11. Any person who remains in or obstructs a gangway or circulation area may be ejected from the ground.
- 12. The Ground Management reserve the right for it's servants or agents to remove from the ground any person who does not comply with the Ground Regulations or whose presence In the ground could reasonably be construed as constituting a source of danger, nuisance or annoyance to other spectators.
- 13. All persons in the grounds are reminded of their obligation under Section 18(3) of the Fire Services Act 1981 to ensure that their behaviour does not present a danger from fire to anyone using the grounds.

#### "MOLLOY" AND THE "WEE MAN"



Sports journalist Gerry
McLaughlin will be
situated in the Press Box
today, but did you know
that Gerry is also a poet.
This is a poem he penned
in honour of his greatest
Donegal GAA heroes.



No need for first names-for there are only two
Who wore the quiet splendor of their own Hills
Like Gaelic chiefs on that great September day in 1992
When the mountain men walked in the shadow of Paradise.
And we saluted our own "Big Two"
Molloy, the bounding boy from Leim An Ghabhra
Where the wind sings the secrets of Noreen Ban
And the mountains lie like sleeping gods
Said 'Sam's for the Hills"-

Said 'Sam's for the Hills"And we cried rivers of green and golden joy till the dawn.
The first cup is the sweetest and for days
We drank deep from the rich red wine of victory
The Dubs drowned in the dark waves of defeat
It was Donegal's day, in Ireland's greatest field of dreams
And the Wee Man from Bavin had magic in his feet.
McHugh went to 'Towney' on the pale-faced Keith Barr
He had the courage to go into the dark.
And will be forever remembered by this fan
And the ghost of Big Frank O'Donnell from Bogagh is smiling
In another Kilcar, on Molloy and the Wee Man.

By Gerry McLaughlin

## MÍLE BUÍOCHAS!

Thank you to the clubs for their work in submitting items for today's programme. We have many contributors who make this a memorable piece and a keepsake for years to come. To Gemma for all her hard work and professionalism in putting this together. She is a great asset to Impacto Print. Thank you, Sammy and Sam for keeping me to a deadline and producing, once again, a programme that we can be proud of.

I would also like to thank my editorial team who help me overview and decide on content. It is not possible to get everything we would like into fifty or so pages, but I hope it makes for good and informative reading.

Finally, a big thank you, to Frankie for his knowledge of how things are done, collecting programmes, and organising sellers. We value those who volunteer and I hope that this sentiment is captured throughout the programme. Good luck to all the teams today. I hope that all supporters have an enjoyable day.



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