



Searcóg  
Shercock



Coill an Chollaigh  
Belleborough



Droim Dhúin  
Drumgoon



Droim an Laoigh  
Drumálee



Cill na Seanrátha  
Killeshandra



Cillín Chéir  
Killinkere



Cill Dalláin  
Kildallon



Loch Gamhna  
Gowra



An Chill  
Kilt



An Dinn  
Denn



Droichead an Bhuiltearaigh  
Butlersbridge



Gaeil an Chabháin  
Cavan Gaels



An Múileann Itraínn  
Swanlinbar



Droichead Úí Dhálaigh  
Mountugent



Gaeil na Sionainne  
Shannon Gaels



Cros ar Loch  
Crosserlough



Lavey  
Lavey



Mullach Odhráin  
Mullohan-St Josephs



Corr na Féinne  
Carnaleen



Muintir Chonnacht  
Muntarconnaught



Coll an Gharraí  
Killybeg



Teampall an Phoirt  
Templeport



Baile Mhic Aodha  
Ballymashugh



Beal Tairbirt  
Bellurbit



Corlach  
Corlough



Ámhobh  
Arva



Mullach Odhráin  
Mullohan



Beal Átha hÉis  
Ballyhaise



Ramhar Aontáithe  
Ramor United



Réalta Dun an Ri  
Kingscourt



Leacan  
Lacken



Cúchulainn  
Cuchullainn

# COISTE BHREIFNE UÍ RAGHALLAIGH



# COMHDHÁIL BLIANTIÚIL 2020



Teampall an Phoirt  
Templeport



Baile Mhic Aodha  
Ballymashugh



Beal Tairbirt  
Bellurbit



Corlach  
Corlough



Ámhobh  
Arva



Mullach Odhráin  
Mullohan



Beal Átha hÉis  
Ballyhaise



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Ramor United



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Kingscourt



Leacan  
Lacken



Cúchulainn  
Cuchullainn

**Cover Pictures:**

**Main:** Raymond Galligan holds the Anglo Celt Cup aloft - Ulster Champions 2020

**Top Row (l-r)** Christopher Conroy, Ciaran Brady, Conor Brady, Conor Madden, Conor Smith  
Thomas Edward Donohoe, Cormac Timoney, Benjamin Kelly.

**2nd Row (l-r)** Evan Fortune, Gearoid McKiernan, Gerard Smith, James Smith, Jason McLoughlin,  
Killian Brady, Killian Clarke, Liam Brady.

**3rd Row (l-r)** Luke Fortune, Martin Reilly, Niall Murray, Oisín Kiernan, Oisín Pierson, Pádraig Faulkner,  
Paul Graham, Stephen Murray.

**4th Row (l-r)** Stephen Smith, Thomas Galligan, Bryan Magee, Caoimhín McGovern, Cormac O'Reilly,  
Danny Cusack, Evan Doughty, Finbar McAvinue.

**Bottom Row (l-r)** Liam Buchanan, Matthew McKenna, Oisín Brady, Paddy Meade, Paul Gilcreest,  
Ryan Connolly, Simon Cadden, Cian Reilly.



**Coiste Bhreifne  
Uí Raghallaigh**

**COMHDHÁIL  
BLIANTIÚIL  
2020**

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A chara,

The Annual Convention of County Cavan G.A.A. clubs will be held on Thursday 10th December 2020 via Teams Meeting

The Convention itself will start at 7.00p.m. sharp.

A full attendance is requested.

**AN CLÁR  
(The Agenda)**

1. Minutes of last Convention.
2. Adoption of Standing Orders.
3.
  - (a) Treasurers Report
  - (b) Secretary's Report
  - (c) Youth Board Report
  - (d) Vocational Schools Report
  - (e) Competition Control Committee Report
  - (f) Hearings Report
  - (g) Cultural Officers Report
  - (h) Coaching Report
  - (i) Children's Officers Report
  - (j) PR IT and Communications Report
  - (k) Ladies Football Report
  - (l) Camogie Report
  - (m) Rounders Report
  - (n) Health and Well Being Report
  - (o) Kingspan Breffni Park Report
  - (p) Referees Officer Report
  - (q) Insurance Report
5. Election of Officers.
6. Chairman's Address

# Orduithe Seasaimh

## STANDING ORDERS

In order that all proceedings of the Convention be carried out without delay, the following standing orders will be observed

1. The proposer of a resolution of an amendment thereto may speak for five minutes, but not more than five minutes.
2. A delegate speaking to a resolution of an amendment thereto must not exceed three minutes.
3. The proposer of a resolution or an amendment may speak a second time for three minutes before a vote is taken, but no other delegate can speak for a second time to the same resolution or amendment.
4. The chairman may at any time consider a matter has been sufficiently discussed call on the proposer for a reply and when that has been given, a vote must be taken.
5. A delegate may, with the consent of the chairman, move "That the question now be put" after which, when the proposer has spoken, a vote must be taken.
6. Standing orders shall not be suspended for the purpose of considering any matter not on the agenda, except by the consent of the majority equal to two-thirds of those present and entitled to vote.

## Minutes Cavan County Board Convention 2019



- Venue: Hotel Kilmore
- Date: 11<sup>th</sup> December 2019
- Time: 7pm

### Welcome:

The Chairman Gerry Brady opened the meeting and welcomed all delegates to the 2019 County Convention.

He made special Mention to East Cavan Gaels, who were attending their first convention as Cavan's newest Club.

Apologies were also recorded from Oliver Galligan, Ulster President, who had intended to be in attendance but due to unforeseen circumstance, would not be here.

Harry Lynch, Chairperson of Killygarry GAA, as host club, officially opened the convention by addressing the crowd and welcoming all delegates.

### 1. Minutes from Convention 2018

*Proposed by Phil Yore and Tony Ryan*

### 2. Standing Orders:

*Proposed by Sean McGahern and Thomas McKenna*

### 3. Presentation from Ulster Council re: Club Audit

Roger Keenan, Ulster Council, address convention re the Club Audit

Larry McCluskey queried why 2 Motions submitted by Cootehill Celtic were not included for decision at Convention.

### 4. Reports

#### Treasurers Report:

Martin Cahill gave a detailed report on the audited accounts presented in the Convention Booklet.

- Martin thanked all those who assisted with Gates throughout the year and acknowledged their work in securing substantial income through Gate Receipts.

- Martin thanked Tom O Reilly re continuing work on securing Peace IV Funding and on the organising of a very successful trip to Croke Park to Dublin earlier in the year.
- Martin informed the meeting that there would be significant rise in Commercial Rates on Kingspan Breffni from 2020, following a revaluation of Rates across the County. He confirmed representations have been made to Croke Park and further appeals will be made to reduce this as much as possible.

Gerry Brady concluded by thanking Martin for a very comprehensive report and commending him for his outstanding work all year

*Proposed by Jim Argue and John Brady*

Gerry welcomed Declan Woods, Ulster PRO, to Convention and wished him the very best of luck in the year ahead

### **Secretary's Report:**

Liam McCabe's Full Report was presented in the Convention Booklet.

### **Other Reports:**

- Youth Board – Brian Seagrave
- Post Primary Schools – James Sherry
- CCC – Gerry McKiernan
- Hearings Committee – Tommy McGibney
- Cultural Officer Report – Eugene Kiernan
- Coaching and Games – Martin McGovern, Coaching Officer
- Children's Officer Report – Anne Fortune

Anne addressed the meeting re Child Safeguarding Statement and Importance of the Risk Assessment that will be carried out by Tusla in the weeks ahead.

Anne also responded to a question from Cootehill Celtic regarding the publishing of Photographs in the public domain.

- PR and Communications – Mark O Rourke
- Ladies Board – Mary Daly
- Handball
- Camogie – Maggie Galligan
- Development Officer's Report – Michael Reynolds
- Health and Wellbeing Report – Gerry Soden
- Kingspan Breffni and Central Council – Kieran Callaghan
- Insurance Officer's Report – Hugh O Reilly

Gerry Brady thanked all of the above.

*Proposed in block by Mark Lawlor and Ronan Bannon*

### **Election of Officers:**

County Secretary Liam McCabe took the constitution of the meeting and confirmed it to be 179. Brendan Young and George Cartwright were proposed as tellers to count the votes alongside Liam.

*Proposed by Pdraig Rudden and Jonathan Kane*

The Election of Officers took place with the following elected:

- Tom Boylan (President)
- Brendan Keaney, Packie Smith, John Andy McCabe, Dan Daly, Jim McDonnell, John Foy, Peter Brady, Phil Smith (Butlersbridge), Paddy Carolan, Gabriel Kelly, Tom Lynch and Peter Galligan (Crosserlough)
- Kieran Callaghan (Chairman)
- Mark O'Rourke (Vice Chairman)
- Angela Hamilton (Asst. Secretary)
- Martin Cahill (Treasurer)
- John Keating (Asst. Treasurer)
- Susan Brady (P.R.O)
- Kevin Reilly (Ulster Council)
- Gerry Brady (Ulster Council)
- Tom O Reilly (Central Council)
- Kevin Shiels (Coaching Officer)
- Eugene Kiernan (Cultural Officer)
- Congress Delegates – Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Central Council Delegate plus 1 other TBD
- Ulster Delegates – Officers and Francis McManus

*Proposed in bloc by Paul O Reilly and Phil Yore*

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### **Motion 1 (Gael an Chabhan)**

Change to County Convention (Rules 3.10 to 3.17 T.O 2019) put forward by Cavan Gaels, as outlined in the Convention Booklet

*Proposed by Michael Sexton and Louis Blessing*

### **Motion 2 (Coill na Gearraí)**

Change to Rial 6.17 T.O 2019 in relation to Age Grades, as outlined in the convention booklet.

Following advice from County Secretary Liam McCabe, in order for a possible passing of this motion to be applied in 2020, Killygarry agreed to withdraw this motion for decision at convention and leave for further discussion, and decision, at the January 2020 Meeting of the County Committee on January 6<sup>th</sup>.

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Presentations were made to Declan Woods, Michael Reynolds, and Martin McGovern in recognition of their work for Cavan G.A.A.

Gowna GAA wished Gerry well as his term as County Chairman comes to an end.

John Duffy addressed convention re Referee Recruitment withing our Clubs.

The 2020 President of Cavan GAA, Tom Boylan (Ballyhaise), addressed Convention.

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### **Chairman's Report:**

Gerry Brady addressed Convention:

A Chairde Gael,

As I give my final address as chairman of Cavan GAA, I welcome you all to our annual convention and I am delighted to see that we have a full house.

### **County Teams**

#### **Minor Team**

Our minor team defeated Fermanagh in the first round of the championship but after suffering defeats to Derry and Donegal they exited the championship. The team management have worked very hard at developing our minor players and I am confident that a number of quality players will progress from this panel and represent Cavan both at Under 20 and Senior level in the years ahead.

I thank Gary Farrelly and his management team for their commitment in 2019 and I wish them good luck and success in 2020.

#### **Under 20**

The Under 20 team had a strong league campaign and had victories over Louth & Derry and drew with Antrim. By doing so they reached the final of the Leo Murphy Cup where they were defeated by Down. They defeated a much-fancied Monaghan team in the first round of the Ulster Championship but suffered a 4-point defeat to Tyrone in the Ulster semi-final. The unavailability of a number of key players for the Ulster semi-final cost Cavan dearly. I am glad to see that this competition has reverted back to springtime in the fixtures calendar.

I thank John Brady and his management team for their work in 2019 and I know they will leave no stone unturned in their efforts to achieve success in 2020.

#### **Senior Team**

Unfortunately, after some strong performances in Division 1 of the Allianz National Football League our senior team were relegated to Division 2 for the 2020 campaign. Lack of commitment or attitude was not responsible for our relegation but poor finishing in a number of games cost us dearly. We still headed into the Ulster Football Championship with great confidence and secured an excellent victory over Monaghan in round 1. This was followed by two top class

performances against Armagh with the team showing great character in both the drawn game and the victory in the replay. So, we were in our first Ulster Final since 2001 and playing a much-fancied Donegal team. Unfortunately, we did not perform to our potential and we suffered a 5-point defeat. We were drawn against Tyrone in the qualifiers where we

suffered a heavy defeat. I thank Mickey Graham, and his management team, for their dedication and commitment and I wish them every success in 2020.

During the past five years I have witnessed first-hand the level of commitment that is required from inter county panellists and management teams and I find it staggering. I, and a large number of my fellow chairpersons throughout the country, have great concerns regarding the number of field sessions, gym sessions, meetings, and games both at county and club that the present inter county panellists have to attend. The physical and mental demands that such a commitment puts on players is enormous and we must remember that these young men are also dealing with the pressure of holding down a job or studying for their third level exams. I feel strongly that we as an association need to seriously look at putting into rule a formula that dictates a maximum number of training sessions allowed per week and that this is policed rigorously by County Boards and Croke Park. I also feel that the GPA should also have a role in this policing under their player welfare policy.

### **Hurling**

The Senior hurling team acquitted themselves well in both the Allianz Hurling League and the Lory Meagher cup. Team manager Michael Carr has decided to step down from his position and I thank him and his backroom team for their contribution to Cavan hurling during the past two years. I welcome the appointment of Ollie Bellew as the new hurling manager and Ollie is currently putting his backroom team in place. I wish him every success in his new role in 2020. We need our club players hurling on a more regular basis and I appeal to all clubs to cooperate with your hurling members and afford them the opportunity to compete in our other national sport.

### **Coaching and Games**

It has been another very busy year for our Coaching Officer Martin McGovern, GDM Dermot McCabe and our full-time coaches. I encourage you all too please read our Coaching Officers report which outlines in great detail the level of activity carried out by coaching & games during 2019. I thank Martin McGovern, Dermot McCabe, and our full-time coaches for your dedicated commitment to providing excellent coaching to the youth of our county. Coaching & Games are engaging with clubs and encouraging all club coaches to avail of every opportunity to attend our coaching workshops and get upskilled to the highest level. By doing so you are ensuring that you are properly equipped to provide quality coaching to the youth in your club. I also welcome the increased involvement with the Second Level Schools in the county and I am glad to say that we are providing 2 coaching sessions per week in all Second Level Schools. As Martin McGovern is stepping down from his position as Coaching Officer, I wish to express my thanks to him for his excellent work over the past two years and wish him well in the future.

### **Kingspan Breffni**

We are all extremely proud of the excellent stadium we have in Kingspan Breffni. Our playing surface and overall spectator facilities are among the finest in the country. I am very pleased to

announce tonight that Kingspan Breffni has been awarded European Healthy Stadia status and Kingspan Breffni is the first GAA stadium outside of Croke Park to be awarded this status. I wish to express my thanks to Kieran Callaghan and his committee for their driving this initiative and securing this status for our stadium.

### **Finance**

On my appointment as chairperson one of my goals was to greatly improve the finances of the board. Thankfully as outlined by our treasurer Martin Cahill our finances are in a very healthy state at present. I wish to say a special word of thanks to you the clubs of the county for your valued contribution as part of the restructuring of our finances. I stress that we must continue to be prudent and keep a tight control on our expenditure at all times. I thank Vice Chairman Paddy Sheanon Club Bréifne Cavan for his work in increasing the membership in 2019, also Breen McInerney and Club Bréifne Dublin for their support. I wish to express my thanks to our main sponsor Kingspan and all our very loyal sponsors for their valued support and I encourage you all to support your club and our county sponsors whenever possible. Thanks to our Treasurer Martin Cahill, assistant treasurer John Keating and match day coordinator Tom Moore and their team of volunteers for their excellent work during the year.

### **Scór**

Thanks to our Cultural officer Eugene Kiernan and his Scór committee for their efforts in promoting Scór na nÓg and Scór Sinsear during 2019. They had great success in increasing the participation levels in this year's Scór na nÓg competition and I encourage clubs to fully participate in Scór Sinsear in the New Year. Scór provides an opportunity for our members to promote our culture of song, dance, music and storytelling in your communities and it is a great source of enjoyment for the club members who participate. Once again, we had a large increase in the number of children who applied and qualified for Gaeltacht scholarships and I thank Eugene for organising interviews and our treasurer Martin Cahill for providing funding.

### **Polo Grounds Centre of Excellence**

At last year's convention I stated that we were in negotiations to purchase 5.5 acres of land adjacent to our existing site which would give us greater and more cost-efficient development potential. I am glad to report tonight that this land has been purchased and I hope that work on the pitch development will commence by mid-2020. As you are aware our house draw fundraiser is now entering the final two weeks. Sales to date have been very strong but we must ensure that every effort is made to maximise the potential of this fundraiser. I ask all our clubs to continue to promote the draw in your communities and ensure that all possible ticket sales are secured. I thank everybody who has worked so hard to guarantee the success of this draw. I say a special word of thanks to Connie O' Reilly and the committee members in New York, Chicago, Boston, San Francisco & Philadelphia for their outstanding support for our draw.

### **Peace 1V Programme**

Thanks to Tom O' Reilly and Dermot McCabe for their work in conjunction with Cavan County Council in organising a number of initiatives during 2019. The trip to the Titanic quarter in Belfast, Croke Park, Dail Eireann and the GPO were a major success with all attendees very complementary of the initiative. This has been a very worthwhile social and financial project and

I look forward to further developments in this area in 2020. I thank all who assisted Tom & Dermot on these trips.

### **Referees**

I thank all our referees and the referee administration committee for the vital role you play in the provision of our fixtures. I congratulate Noel Mooney on referring this year's All Ireland Minor Football final. He also received the referee of the year award at the recent Ulster Presidents Awards. I appeal to players, management, and supporters to respect all our match officials as they carry out their duties.

### **Committees**

Once again our Youth Board had a very busy year and I congratulate Orla O' Reilly and her committee for organising the playing of over 800 games during 2019. It is very encouraging to see this high level of game time being provided by our youth board. I thank the club coaches for your commitment to coaching the youth in your communities by doing so you are guaranteeing the future of your club. Thanks to our children's officer Anne Fortune and the youth board members for organising our very successful half time draw.

I thank our CCC committee under the chairmanship of Gerry McKiernan and Secretary Angela Hamilton for ensuring that all our competitions were run in a timely and professional manner. I wish to thank all the clubs for cooperating with our CCC.

The Hearings Committee did not have a very busy year as we did not have any major disciplinary problems. I thank Tommy McGivney and his committee members for their support.

To Tom O'Reilly, Kevin Reilly and Kieran Callaghan I thank you for ensuring that Cavan GAA has a strong voice at Ulster Council and Central Council, your detailed reports to management and county committee are greatly appreciated.

I thank our Children's officer Anne Fortune for her dedication to her roll. Anne is recognised nationally as one of the most active and professional children's officers in our association.

Thanks to Development Officer Michael Reynolds who has had a busy year assisting clubs and providing training courses for club officers. Michael is stepping down from his role and I wish him well in the future. I wish to thank our Insurance Officer Hugh Reilly for keeping clubs up to date on the national insurance scheme and carrying out risk assessments on club facilities. Hugh is also stepping down from his position and I express my gratitude to him for his professionalism in his role.

To our Health & Wellbeing officer Gerry Soden I say thank you for ensuring that the relevant information and contact details are available to our members at all times and also organising Health & Wellbeing courses.

Thanks to our PRO Mark O'Rourke and his PR committee members for all their work in keeping our gales both at home and abroad up to date with fixtures, results, and activities during the year. Also, for producing excellent match day programmes organising our Breffni All Star selection and banquet and our Jubilee team presentation. I thank all our local media outlets for their support of Cavan GAA during 2019.

## **Staff, Officer's & Committees**

I acknowledge the support and contribution of Liam McCabe and I thank him for his advice and professionalism at all times. To all our staff in Kingspan Breffni I express my thanks for your dedication to your roles. To my fellow officers, members of management and all committee members I say thank you for your commitment to Cavan GAA during my term in office. I congratulate all those elected to office tonight and those reappointed. To those who were unsuccessful I complement you for putting your names forward and I hope you will not be lost to the association.

I am extremely proud and honoured to have spent the past five years as your Chairperson and I have enjoyed every minute of my term. I have met and worked with many exceptional people who are totally committed fostering the aims of our association throughout the county. As I pass on the baton to my successor, I pass on a board that has very strong Finances, excellent facilities, good competition structures, players at its disposal that can compete at all levels and exciting development plans for the future. You our club officers and our members are the lifeblood of our association and I express my sincere gratitude to you all for your dedication and commitment in promoting our games in your communities. I sincerely thank you for your support of our Board and the courtesy and friendship you expressed to me personally at all times.

I thank my wife Mary and my family for your support and encouragement during the past five years without which it would not be possible to carry out my duties as chairperson.

I wish all present and your families a Happy Christmas, and a healthy and successful 2019.

- Mark O'Rourke, incoming Vice-Chairman, addressed convention
- Susan Brady, incoming P.R.O, addressed convention
- Sean Smith, nominee for P.R.O, addressed convention
- Kevin Reilly, incoming Ulster Council Delegate, addressed convention
- Gerry McKiernan, nominee for Ulster Council Delegate, addressed convention
- Kevin Shiels, incoming Coaching Officer, addressed convention
- Paddy Sheanon, nominee for Chairperson, addressed convention
- Tom O'Reilly, Central Council Delegate, addressed convention
- John Brady, Chair of Denn GFC, addressed convention
- Thomas McKenna, Chairman of Laragh Utd, addressed convention
- Kieran Callaghan, incoming Chairman, addressed convention

**REPORTS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF**

**CUMANN LUTHCHLEAS GAEL,  
COISTE BHREIFNE UI RAGHALLAIGH,  
AN CABHAN.**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2020**

**CUMANN LUTHCHLEAS GAEL,**  
**COISTE BHREIFNE UI RAGHALLAIGH, AN CABHAN**

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**CUMANN LUTHCHLEAS GAEL,**  
**COISTE BHREIFNE UI RAGHALLAIGH, AN CABHAN**

**STATEMENT OF MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE'S RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Constitution of Cumann Luthchleas Gael requires Cumann Luthchleas Gael, Coiste Bheifne Ui Raghallaigh, An Cabhan ("The County Committee") to require the Management Committee to prepare Financial Statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the County Committee and of the surplus or deficit of the County Committee for that period. In preparing those Financial Statements, the Management Committee is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the Financial Statements on the going concern basis.

The Management Committee is responsible for keeping proper books of account which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the County Committee. It is also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the County Committee and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.



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**Ciarán Ó Ceallacháin**  
**Cathaoirleach**



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**Mairtin O'Cathail**  
**Cisteoir**

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2020

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF  
CUMANN LUTHCHLEAS GAEL,  
COISTE BHREIFNE UI RAGHALLAIGH, AN CABHAN**

**Opinion**

We have audited the Financial Statements of Cumann Luthchleas Gael, Coiste Bhreifne Ui Raghallaigh, An Cabhan for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020 which comprises of the Income and Expenditure Account, the Balance Sheet and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable Irish law and Accounting Standards, issued by the Financial Reporting Council and promulgated by Chartered Accountants Ireland.

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the County Committee as at 31<sup>st</sup> October 2020 and of its surplus for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with applicable Financial Reporting Standards

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (Ireland) (ISAs (Ireland)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report.

We are independent of the Committee in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Ireland, including the Irish Auditing and Accounting Service Authority ("IAASA") Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

**Conclusions relating to going concern**

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs require us to report to you where:

- the Management Committee use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the Management Committee have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the County committee's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorized for issue.

**Opinions on other matters on which we are required to report**

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- we have obtained all the information and explanations which we consider necessary for the purposes of our audit;
- the accounting records of the Committee were sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited;
- the financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records;

**Responsibilities of management committee for the financial statements**

As explained more fully in the Statement of Management Committee Responsibilities on page 2, the Committee are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Committee determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF  
CUMANN LUTHCHLEAS GAEL,  
COISTE BHREIFNE UI RAGHALLAIGH, AN CABHAN**

**Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (Ireland) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the IAASA website at:

[http://www.iaasa.ie/getmedia/b23890131cf6458b9b8fa98202dc9c3a/Description\\_of\\_auditors\\_responsibilities\\_for\\_audit.pdf](http://www.iaasa.ie/getmedia/b23890131cf6458b9b8fa98202dc9c3a/Description_of_auditors_responsibilities_for_audit.pdf). This description forms part of our audit report.

**The purpose of our audit work and to whom we owe our responsibilities**

This report is made solely to the Management Committee in accordance with the Constitution of Cumann Luthchleas Gael. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the County Committee members those matters that we are required to state to them in the audit report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the County Committee or the Committee members as a body for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed



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Brendan Young, FCA.,  
For and on behalf of:  
McDWYER, LENNON & CO.,  
Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors,  
Esker Place,  
Cathedral Road,  
CAVAN.

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2020

**CUMANN LUTHCHLEAS GAEL,**  
**COISTE BHREIFNE UI RAGHALLAIGH, AN CABHAN**

**STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**ACCOUNTING CONVENTION**

The Financial Statements are prepared under the historical cost convention.

The format of presentation is in accordance with the standard format as recommended by Cumann Luthchleas Gael.

**TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

Fixed Assets are included at cost less accumulated depreciation. Depreciation is calculated with reference to original cost to write off the assets over their estimated useful lives at the following annual rates:

Buildings	2% per annum straight line
Pitch	6.66% per annum straight line
Fixtures & Equipment	12.5% per annum straight line

Depreciation is chargeable on Buildings at 2% per annum on a straight-line basis from 1<sup>st</sup> November, 2004. The Pitch is depreciated at 6.66% per annum. All other land is not depreciated.

**CAPITAL GRANTS**

Capital grants are accounted for in the year in which they are confirmed as receivable and are credited to the Income and Expenditure account on the same basis as the related assets are depreciated.

**CUMANN LUTHCHLEAS GAEL,**  
**COISTE BHREIFNE UI RAGHALLAIGH, AN CABHAN**

**INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2020**

	Schedule	2020 €	2019 €
Income	A	1,199,247	2,093,802
Expenditure	B	(1,191,753)	(1,873,243)
Operating Surplus for the year		7,494	220,559
Exceptional Items	C	768,369	-
Surplus for the year		775,863	220,559



**Ciarán Ó Ceallacháin**  
**Cathaoirleach**



**Mairtin O'Cathail**  
**Cisteoir**

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2020

**CUMANN LUTHCHLEAS GAEL,**  
**COISTE BHREIFNE UI RAGHALLAIGH, AN CABHAN**

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS AT 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2020**

	Notes	2020 €	2019 €
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>			
Tangible Assets	1	5,953,259	5,638,839
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Debtors and Prepayments		294,637	292,206
Cash at Bank and in Hand		781,556	669,128
		<u>1,076,193</u>	<u>961,334</u>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Bank Loans			
– Short Term Portion	4	(100,542)	(120,651)
Creditors and Accruals		(380,542)	(616,275)
		<u>(481,084)</u>	<u>(736,926)</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS/ (LIABILITIES)</b>		595,109	224,408
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		6,548,368	5,863,247
Capital Grants	2	(2,423,514)	(2,494,939)
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>4,124,854</u>	<u>3,368,308</u>
<b>FINANCED BY:</b>			
<b>ACCUMULATED FUNDS</b>	3	3,227,148	2,451,285
<b>BANK LOANS</b>			
<b>- LONG TERM PORTION</b>	4	897,706	917,023
		<u>4,124,854</u>	<u>3,368,308</u>

*Ciarán Ó Ceallacháin*

**Ciarán Ó Ceallacháin**  
**Cathaoirleach**

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> December, 2020

*Mairtin O'Cathail*

**Mairtin O'Cathail**  
**Cisteoir**

**CUMANN LUTHCHLEAS GAEL,**  
**COISTE BHREIFNE UI RAGHALLAIGH, AN CABHAN**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER, 2020**

1.	<b><u>TANGIBLE ASSETS</u></b>	<b>Freehold Land and Buildings €</b>	<b>Pitch €</b>	<b>Fixtures and Equipment €</b>	<b>Total €</b>
	<b>Cost</b>				
	At 1 <sup>st</sup> November 2019	6,597,317	176,384	430,954	7,204,655
	Additions	645,726	-	37,477	683,203
	Disposals	(236,674)	-	-	(236,674)
	At 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2020	<u>7,006,369</u>	<u>176,384</u>	<u>468,431</u>	<u>7,651,184</u>
	<b>Depreciation</b>				
	At 1 <sup>st</sup> November 2019	1,217,350	23,224	325,241	1,565,815
	Charge for the year	92,210	11,759	28,141	132,110
	At 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2020	<u>1,309,560</u>	<u>34,983</u>	<u>353,382</u>	<u>1,697,925</u>
	<b>Net Book Values</b>				
	At 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2019	<u>5,379,967</u>	<u>153,160</u>	<u>105,712</u>	<u>5,638,839</u>
	At 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2020	<u>5,696,809</u>	<u>141,401</u>	<u>115,049</u>	<u>5,953,259</u>
2.	<b><u>CAPITAL GRANTS</u></b>		<b>2020</b>		<b>2019</b>
			<b>€</b>		<b>€</b>
	Balance at 1 <sup>st</sup> November, 2019		2,494,939		2,566,364
	Amortised in year		(71,425)		(71,425)
	Balance at 31 <sup>st</sup> October 2020		<u>2,423,514</u>		<u>2,494,939</u>

**CUMANN LUTHCHLEAS GAEL**  
**COISTE BHREIFNE UI RAGHALLAIGH, AN CABHAN**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2020**

3. <b><u>ACCUMULATED FUNDS</u></b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
	€	€
Surplus for the year	775,863	220,559
Brought forward at 1 <sup>st</sup> November,	2,451,285	2,230,726
Carried forward at 31 <sup>st</sup> October,	<u>3,227,148</u>	<u>2,451,285</u>

4. **BANK ADVANCES**

As security for funds advanced, Ulster Bank Limited hold the following:

- (a) Land Certificate Folio No 16200 Co Cavan comprising 3.16 hectares.
- (b) Title Documents, 12 acres and football grounds including terraces known as Breffni Park, Cavan , Co. Cavan.

5. **CONTINGENT LIABILITY**

Cumann Luthchleas Gael Coiste Bhreifne Ui Raghallaigh, An Cabhan are guarantor to GAA, Pairc An Chrocaigh for Club Loans, with balances outstanding at 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2020 of €160,831.

**CUMANN LUTHCHLEAS GAEL,**  
**COISTE BHREIFNE UI RAGHALLAIGH, AN CABHAN**

**SCHEDULES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER, 2020**

<b><u>SCHEDULE A</u></b>	<b>Schedule</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
		<b>€</b>	<b>€</b>
<b>Income</b>			
Gross Local Gate Receipts		145,928	402,585
National League Share		30,041	99,983
Commercial Income	<b>A1</b>	287,279	377,903
Fundraising Activities	<b>A2</b>	90,807	262,596
Other Income	<b>A3</b>	338,727	484,455
Income from Associated Bodies	<b>A4</b>	306,465	466,280
		<u>1,199,247</u>	<u>2,093,802</u>
		=====	=====

**CUMANN LUTHCHLEAS GAEL,**  
**COISTE BHREIFNE UI RAGHALLAIGH, AN CABHAN**

**SCHEDULES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2020**

<b><u>Schedule A1 – Commercial Income</u></b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
	<b>€</b>	<b>€</b>
<b>Sponsorship:</b> Kingspan	37,500	75,000
O’ Neill’s	70,000	65,000
Hotel Kilmore	-	22,000
Declan Sheridan – Meadow View	-	8,000
Kiernan’s Service Station	-	7,500
McEvoy’s SuperValu	-	6,000
Streamline Coaches	5,000	5,000
Romar Heating	5,000	7,000
Toureen Group - Denis Nolan	5,000	-
Cully’s Craft Bakery	-	5,000
Michael Fitzpatrick Architects	-	5,000
Farnham Arms Hotel	-	4,000
Martin & Moran Property Advisors	-	4,000
Wilton Waste Recycling	-	3,000
Virginia Logistics Ltd	4,000	-
Rudden Service Station	2,100	2,100
Lavey Inn	-	2,000
Lakeside Manor	-	2,000
Streaming – CavStream	60,000	-
– RTE (Club Final)	5,000	-
Advertising in Kingspan Breffni	37,700	37,505
O’Neill’s–Commission on Sales of Replica Jerseys	30,000	38,750
Ground Rent	20,977	53,551
Programme Sales and Advertising	5,002	15,056
Shop Rent	-	10,000
Project Healthy U	-	441
	<u>287,279</u>	<u>377,903</u>
	=====	=====

**CUMANN LUTHCHLEAS GAEL,**  
**COISTE BHREIFNE UI RAGHALLAIGH, AN CABHAN**

**SCHEDULES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2020**

<b><u>Schedule A2 – Fundraising Activities</u></b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
	€	€
Club Breifne	80,744	106,215
Polo Grounds Ireland	-	55,000
Sponsor a Player	-	50,000
Club Breifne - Dublin	-	23,400
Half Time Draw	5,130	15,630
Polo Grounds USA	-	6,851
Awards Dinner	4,933	3,965
Donations	-	1,535
	<u>90,807</u>	<u>262,596</u>

**Schedule A3 – Other Income**

Cul Camp Fees	83,876	186,032
Kingspan Breffni Development Levy	51,655	123,000
Club Coaching Levy	36,125	63,000
Employment Wage Subsidy Scheme	74,355	-
Cavan County Council – Peace Project	12,861	47,923
Cavan County Council – Restart Grant	10,999	-
Kingspan Breffni Naming Rights	40,000	40,000
Membership	14,924	12,370
Interest Received	7,162	-
Irish Language Collection	-	5,250
Club Affiliation Fees	4,200	4,300
Door Receipts (Scór)	2,570	2,580
	<u>338,727</u>	<u>484,455</u>

**CUMANN LUTHCHLEAS GAEL,**  
**COISTE BHREIFNE UI RAGHALLAIGH, AN CABHAN**

**SCHEDULES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2020**

**Schedule A4 Income from Associated Bodies**

	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
	€	€
<b>Ulster Council:</b>		
Coaching and Games Development	59,385	127,206
Travelling and Hotel Allowances	580	13,488
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	59,965	140,694
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Central Council:</b>		
Annual Distribution	80,000	192,500
Team Expenses	58,175	88,219
Sport Ireland Resilience Funding	50,000	-
Inter-County 2020 Funding	47,000	-
Coaching and Games Development	9,585	26,000
Travelling and Hotel Allowances	-	18,355
Licencing Distribution	1,740	512
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	246,500	325,586
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	306,465	466,280
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

**CUMANN LUTHCHLEAS GAEL,**  
**COISTE BHREIFNE UI RAGHALLAIGH, AN CABHAN**

**SCHEDULES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2020**

<b><u>SCHEDULE B</u></b>	<b>Schedule</b>	<b>2020</b> €	<b>2019</b> €
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Match Expenses	<b>B1</b>	36,243	117,923
County Teams' Administration Expenses	<b>B2</b>	445,877	762,574
Upkeep and Maintenance of Grounds	<b>B3</b>	206,182	235,287
Financial Expenses	<b>B4</b>	42,234	42,188
Administration Expenses	<b>B5</b>	121,414	181,703
Grants and Subscriptions	<b>B6</b>	17,295	67,025
Coaching and Games Development Expenses	<b>B7</b>	261,823	414,346
Depreciation		132,110	123,622
Amortisation of Capital Grants		(71,425)	(71,425)
		<u>1,191,753</u>	<u>1,873,243</u>

**CUMANN LUTHCHLEAS GAEL,**  
**COISTE BHREIFNE UI RAGHALLAIGH, AN CABHAN**

**SCHEDULES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2020**

<b><u>Schedule B1 – Match Expenses</u></b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
	€	€
Medals and Trophies	6,502	17,303
Referee Expenses (net)	3,079	24,906
Security and Parking	6,150	19,600
Programmes	11,470	16,691
Amplification	-	520
Band Expenses	800	1,300
County Final Meals	-	13,414
Match Day Catering	4,559	19,638
Other Match Day Expenses	3,683	4,551
	<u>36,243</u>	<u>117,923</u>
	=====	=====

**Schedule B2 – County Teams’ Administration Expenses**

Team Travelling Expenses	143,477	308,905
Players’ Hotel Expenses	-	21,710
Sports Gear and Equipment	79,730	91,963
Medical Expenses	68,287	106,579
Catering	96,652	162,450
Training Facilities	7,361	13,655
Team Development Costs	46,939	52,748
Team Insurance	3,431	4,564
	<u>445,877</u>	<u>762,574</u>
	=====	=====

**CUMANN LUTHCHLEAS GAEL,**  
**COISTE BHREIFNE UI RAGHALLAIGH, AN CABHAN**

**SCHEDULES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2020**

**Schedule B3 – Upkeep and Maintenance of Grounds**

	2020 €	2019 €
General Maintenance	33,793	55,944
Rates and Water Rates	9,670	17,363
Pitch Maintenance	26,530	39,564
Cavan Institute Training Facility	-	1,110
Wages & Salaries	35,226	58,170
Light & Heat	46,045	52,843
Public Liability and Fire Insurance	48,026	6,358
Hire of Equipment	6,892	3,935
	<u>206,182</u> =====	<u>235,287</u> =====

**Schedule B4 – Financial Expenses**

Bank Interest and Charges	42,234	42,188
	<u>42,234</u> =====	<u>42,188</u> =====

**CUMANN LUTHCHLEAS GAEL,**  
**COISTE BHREIFNE UI RAGHALLAIGH, AN CABHAN**

**SCHEDULES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2020**

**Schedule B5 – Administration Expenses**

	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
	€	€
Wages and Salaries	23,153	46,954
Phone, Postage and Stationery	21,537	24,394
Fundraising Event Costs	-	8,276
Club Breifne	3,766	14,298
Printing and Advertising	14,533	23,624
Travel & Subsistence	13,261	16,500
Audit and Accountancy Fees	6,150	6,150
Professional Fees	667	-
IT Maintenance	13,897	11,079
Meeting & Congress Expenses	5,551	6,678
Expenses of County Board Officers	1,987	4,939
Functions/Presentations	11,448	9,720
Féile	-	1,500
Rent of Hall	350	620
Scór Expenses	2,102	2,919
County Convention	2,762	2,210
Project Healthy U	-	1,842
Sundry	250	-
	<u>121,414</u>	<u>181,703</u>
	=====	=====

**CUMANN LUTHCHLEAS GAEL,**  
**COISTE BHREIFNE UI RAGHALLAIGH, AN CABHAN**

**SCHEDULES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2020**

<b><u>Schedule B6 – Grants and Subscriptions</u></b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
	€	€
Championship and National League Tickets	175	28,338
Membership Fees	12,370	14,952
County Board Grants:		
Vocational Schools	-	4,000
Gaeltacht	-	8,620
Other Donations	1,750	3,500
Peace Project Costs	3,000	7,615
	<u>17,295</u>	<u>67,025</u>
	=====	=====

**Schedule B7 – Coaching and Games Development Expenses**

Wages & Salaries	120,880	192,850
Travel & Subsistence	48,832	53,750
Cul Camps	70,202	130,668
Coaching & Games Expenses	21,909	37,078
	<u>261,823</u>	<u>414,346</u>
	=====	=====

**CUMANN LUTHCHLEAS GAEL,**  
**COISTE BHREIFNE UI RAGHALLAIGH, AN CABHAN**

**SCHEDULES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2020**

<b><u>SCHEDULE C</u></b>	<b>Schedule</b>	<b>2020</b> €	<b>2019</b> €
<b>Exceptional Items</b>			
Surplus on Win the Dream in Dublin 15	<b>C1</b>	556,060	-
Profit on Disposal of Land		212,309	-
		768,369	-
		768,369	-

**Schedule C1 – Win the Dream in Dublin 15**

Ticket Income		1,014,400	-
Expenditure		(458,340)	-
Surplus		556,060	-
		556,060	-

**CUMANN LUTHCHLEAS GAEL,**  
**COISTE BHREIFNE UI RAGHALLAIGH, AN CABHAN**

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER, 2020**

**DETAILS OF CONTRA RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS**

	<b>2020</b>	<b>2019</b>
	€	€
<b>1. NATIONAL LEAGUE GATES</b>		
Gate Receipts	22,192	53,046
Returns to Croke Park	(22,192)	(53,046)
<b>2. ULSTER COUNCIL GRANTS</b>		
Received from Ulster Council	37,900	16,202
Paid out to Clubs	(37,900)	(16,202)
<b>3. GAA INJURY SCHEME</b>		
Received from GAA Injury Scheme	25,829	177,837
Paid out to Clubs & Players	(25,829)	(177,837)
<b>4. CENTRAL COUNCIL GRANTS</b>		
Received from Central Council	75,800	32,403
Paid out to Clubs	(75,800)	(32,403)
<b>5. ULSTER CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP</b>		
Club's Share of Gate Receipts	6,774	9,272
Returns to Participating Clubs	(6,774)	(9,272)

# Secretaries Report 2020



## County Board Officers for 2020

Front Row (l to r)

Anne Fortune Children's Officer, Kevin Shiels, Coaching Officer, Martin Cahill, Treasurer, Mark O'Rourke, Vice-Chairman, Kieran Callaghan, Chairman, Liam McCabe, Secretary, Susan Brady, P.R.O., Tom Boylan, President, Angela Hamilton, Assistant Secretary,

Back row (l to r)

Kevin Reilly, Ulster Council, Eugene Kiernan, Cultural Officer, Gerry Brady, Ulster Council, John Keating, Assistant Treasurer, Tom O'Reilly, Central Council, Kevin Smith, Development Officer.

### **Ulster Senior Football Champions 2020**

### **Ulster Senior Football Champions 2020**

So good I typed it twice.

What a year for Cavan G.A.A. to reclaim the Anglo Celt cup after 23 years. An unbelievable achievement for all concerned. (Match reports will follow)

The year started with the Mc Kenna Cup defeats to Armagh and Tyrone. Next the Allianz National Football league started with a 13-point defeat to Armagh. This didn't auger well for the league but a second half revival against Westmeath turned the tide. Then came victories against Laois and Fermanagh to put us in a great position to return to Div.1 Clare were the visitors to Kingspan Breffni and after a very flat performance from Cavan, Clare took the points. The game against Kildare was due next but we went in lockdown and the game was fixed for 18<sup>th</sup> October. We suffered a four-point defeat but shot a large number of wides in

the process. We staged a great second half display and we unlucky not to gain something from the game. Last up was Roscommon and an awful display sent us to Div3 for the 2021 season.

There was no time to dwell on this as the Ulster Championship v Monaghan was the following Saturday. Well what a turnaround from this team as they came from 7 points down to secure victory after extra time. Next came Antrim and a sluggish performance got us across the line. Semi -final in Armagh v Down was next and Down came out like racehorses and led by 10 points at one stage. A second half display like no other was witnessed and Cavan reached back to back Ulster Finals against the same opposition Donegal. Final fixed for Armagh under floodlights was another exception to the traditional final in Clones. Cavan were written off in all quarters but not in the Cavan camp. They believed they were good enough to lift the Anglo Celt cup and that they did. They gave a brilliant performance to win by 4 points, to set up an All -Ireland semi-final with the five in a row winners Dublin.

Congratulations to the players, management, back room team and all those who helped make this happen.

### **CAVAN 1-13 ARMAGH 2-17 Dr. McKenna Cup Round 1 (Venue: Kingspan Breffni)**

Armagh kicked off their new season in style by handing Cavan a 2-17 to 1-13 thumping in this afternoon's Round 1 Dr McKenna Cup clash at Kingspan Breffni. Conor Turbit netted both goals for the victors, with his second coming in the opening minute of the second half to bump the Orchard men's lead up to 11. Cavan had struck an early goal themselves through Martin Reilly's penalty in the 10th minute, but they'd never lead again as Turbit, Rian O'Neill, Aidan Nugent and Jason Duffy sailed Kieran McGeeney's side back in front. O'Neill (2) and Nugent registered more points to leave the score board reading 1-14 to 1-7 at the break and when Turbit cut through for his second following an O'Neill free early in the restart the points were in the bag for the visitors. Niall Murray came off the bench to fire over three consolation points (one a free) for the lacklustre Breffni men before being sent off on a second caution with four minutes remaining.

Armagh - B Hughes; J McElroy, B Donaghy, A Forker (0-1); M Shields, G McCabe, C O'Neill; N Grimley, O O'Neill (0-3); A Nugent (0-3), S Campbell (0-1), J Hall; C Turbit (2-2), R O'Neill (0-6, 5f), J Duffy (0-1). Subs: J Og Burns for J Duffy, J Morgan for J Hall, S Sheridan for O O'Neill, C McConville for M Shields, M Toal for A Forker.

Cavan - R Galligan; P Meade, P Faulkner, L Fortune; C Brady, B Kelly, O Kiernan; E Fortune, K Monahan; M Reilly (1-2, 1-0open), B Magee (0-1), S Smith; R Connolly (0-1f), C Madden (0-3), C Smith (0-2). Subs: S Murray for B Kelly, C Conroy for K Monahan, N Murray (0-3, 1f) for S Murray, G McKiernan for C Brady, L Buchanan (0-1) for R Connolly.



Front row (l to r) Cormac Reilly, Luke Fortune, Conor Smith, Ciaran Brady, Benjamin Kelly, Padraig Faulkner, Oisín Pearson, Conor Madden, Stephen Murray, Martin Reilly.

Back Row (l to r) Bryan Magee, Ryan Connolly, Chris Conroy, Gearoid Mc Kiernan, Cian Monahan, Oisín Kiernan, Raymond Galligan, Liam Brady, Evaan Fortune, Liam Buchanan, Niall Murray, Paddy Meade.

### **TYRONE 1-16 CAVAN 0-13 Dr McKenna Cup Rd 2 (Venue: Healy Park)**

Cavan suffered another defeat against Tyrone at a gloomy Healy Park as Tyrone put them aside in an impressive third quarter showing. Cavan started strongly but when Tyrone upped their game, Cavan had no answers. At half-time, having played with a strong breeze at their backs, Tyrone were in front by two, 0-8 to 0-6. Cavan started very well and eased into a two-point lead. Conor Madden created both, finding club mate Oisín Pierson with kick passes. Pierson laid on the first for Martin Reilly and was fouled for the second, with Gearoid McKiernan converting the resulting free. Kilpatrick barrelled his way through for Tyrone's opener and the lively Darren McCurry soon sent over a 45-metre free. This nip and tuck pattern continued throughout the half – the sides were level five times before the break – with Kilpatrick adding another after Cavan failed to clear their lines and then Madden slotting over well from a tight angle.

A lovely handpassing move from Tyrone was finished by half-back Conall Grimes but again Cavan got back on level terms, 0-4 apiece, when McKiernan won a loose kick-out and Reilly split the posts off the outside of that trusty left boot. Moments later, the Killygarry man had a similar chance but his effort struck the upright. Cavan were on the front foot, though, and Madden set up his third score of the game when he found Niall Murray, who cut in from the left and swung over a point in trademark fashion.

Tiernan McCann, who was otherwise quiet, sent over a huge point from 45 metres to level matters at 0-5 each on 25 minutes and the trend continued when McCurry and the impressive Madden traded well-taken scores. But Tyrone finished the half the stronger, stringing together four promising attacks which resulted in two wides and two points for McCurry (both frees), with a McKiernan wide from a free all that the Blues could muster in response before the short whistle. Trailing by two, Cavan would have been quite content given the strength of the breeze, although their cause wasn't helped when corner-forward Conor Smith left the field clutching his hamstring. He was replaced by Ryan Connolly, who would go on to land two left-footed points in the second half, but it was all cosmetic as Tyrone moved through the gears and, against the

breeze, looked a cut above the visitors. Cavan needed a fast start, but it was Tyrone who got it. Conall McCann grabbed an attacking mark and converted and then Daniel Kerr slotted over. Then, after a good move (although it looked like a throw-ball infringement), full-forward McCann found the Cavan net and suddenly, from a reasonably promising half-time position, Cavan were in trouble. As they do, Tyrone piled on the misery. Further points from Kerr and David Mulgrew made it 1-12 to 0-6 before Cavan responded with a point from Connolly after a great run from Madden. Mulgrew and Connolly exchanged points to make it double scores, 1-13 to 0-8, with 17 minutes on the clock but to their credit, Cavan – who gained some joy from a high press on the Tyrone kick-out – finished well.

Niall Murray (mark) and McCurry each scored before Cavan strung three points together for the first time through Oisín Kiernan, Murray and Madden (a huge effort from long range).

Sub Niall Sludden and Tiernan McCann each raised white flags on the home stretch before Cavan had the final say when Niall Murray, who battled hard all afternoon, sent over a terrific free from the side-line to round off proceedings.

Cavan: Raymond Galligan, Paddy Meade, Padraig Faulkner, Stephen Murray, Ciaran Brady, Niall Murray (0-4, 1f, 1m), Oisín Kiernan (0-1), Eavan Fortune, Gearoid McKiernan (0-1f), Martin Reilly (0-2), Bryan Magee, Stephen Smith, Oisín Pierson, Conor Madden (0-3), Conor Smith

Subs: Luke Fortune for Brady (temp, 19 mins), Brady for Fortune (28), Ryan Connolly (0-2) for C Smith (ht, inj.), L Fortune for Magee, Kian Monahan for McKiernan (both 51), Paul Gilchreest for S Murray (57), Cormac O'Reilly for Pierson (65)

Tyrone: Benny Gallen, Conor Quinn, Aidan McCrory, Brendan Burns, Liam Rafferty, Rory Brennan, Conall Grimes (0-1), Brian Kennedy, Conn Kilpatrick (0-2), Tiernan McCann (0-2), Kyle Coney, Darren McCurry (0-5, 4f), David Mulgrew (0-2), Conall McCann (1-1, 1m), Daniel Kerr (0-2)

Subs: Niall Sludden (0-1) for Coney (49 mins), Niall Kelly for Quinn (50), Conan Grugan for Kilpatrick (52), Ciaran McLaughlin for Grimes (58), Ben McDonnell for Kennedy (65)

Ref: Paul Faloan (Down)

## **Allianz National Football League Round 1 - Athletic Grounds, Armagh - 25/1/2020**

### **Armagh 2-18 Cavan 1-08**

Debutant Conor Turbitt helped himself to 1-6 as Armagh overwhelmed Cavan at the Athletic Grounds, 2-18 to 1-8. These sides played out two close encounters in the Ulster championship last summer but tonight's game was all one-way traffic, three early Turbitt strikes followed by points from Oisín O'Neill, Aidan Forker, Niall Grimley, Rory Grugan and Stefan Campbell as the hosts led by 0-8 to 0-2 inside 20 minutes. It was 0-10 to 0-5 at the break and Clann Eireann youngster Turbitt netted within a minute of the restart, visiting full back Padraig Faulkner black-carded as the Ulster finalists' night went from bad to worse. Campbell put the game to bed with a 64th-minute penalty and Cavan grabbed a consolation goal via the fist of Faulkner.

Armagh - B Hughes; P Burns, G McCabe, C O'Neill; C Cumiskey, B Donaghy, A Forker (0-1); N Grimley (0-1), S Sheridan; J Duffy, R Grugan (0-3, 2f), O O'Neill (0-3); C Turbitt (1-6, 0-1f), R O'Neill (0-2f), S Campbell (1-2, 1-0pen). Subs: M Shields for J Duffy, J McElroy for A Forker, J Og Burns for P Burns, J Morgan for C Cumiskey, J Hall for R O'Neill.

Cavan - R Galligan; P Meade, P Faulkner (1-0), G Smith; C Brady, B Kelly, O Kiernan (0-2); K Brady, B Magee (0-1f); S Smith, S Cadden, C Smith; M Reilly, G McKiernan (0-2f), C

Madden (0-3). Subs: E Doughty for C Madden, O Pierson for C Smith, J Smith for B Magee, C Conway for M Reilly.

Referee - B Cassidy.

### **Allianz National Football League Round 2 - Kingspan Breffni, Cavan - 01/02/2020**

#### **Cavan 1-17 Westmeath 1-13**

Fourteen-man Cavan came from six points down to dramatically defeat Westmeath by 1-17 to 1-13 at Kingspan Breffni. Beaten by 13 points by Armagh last weekend, it looked grim for Mickey Graham's men when they trailed by 1-11 to 0-8 13 minutes into the second half, an inspired cameo from visiting substitute Luke Loughlin (1-3) having staved off their first fightback of the night. Adrift by 0-8 to 0-3 at the break, with John Heslin (four), Denis Corroon, Lorcan Dolan, Callum McCormack and Ronan O'Toole all on target for last year's Division Three winners, Cavan – who'd had Paddy Meade sent off in the 25th minute - were level within seven minutes of the restart thanks to a scoring sequence starring James Smith, Stephen Murray, Thomas Galligan, goalkeeper Raymond Galligan and Pdraig Faulkner. When Loughlin netted with his first touch and followed up with a couple of points either side of one from Ray Connellan, it looked like Westmeath had steadied the ship. But back came Cavan again with a run of scores from Oisín Kiernan, Thomas Galligan, Gearoid Kiernan and Ciaran Brady. Heslin's point was cancelled out by Evan Doughty and Oisín Pierson made it a one-point game, Loughlin doubling the difference, making it 1-13 to 0-14, after the visitors had O'Toole (their third player to be black carded) sin-binned six minutes from the end. Remarkably, Cavan then hit another purple patch, a decisive one this time, closing out the game with an unanswered 1-3, recently arrived substitute Christopher Conroy netting with his fist in the second minute of injury time after Raymond Galligan had equalised from a free seconds earlier, Ryan Connolly notching their 15th point and Man of the Match Brady (0-3) their last. Crucially, visiting talisman Heslin was off the field when the match was won and lost as he was sent off on 70 minutes for two yellow-card offences inside as many minutes.

Cavan - R Galligan (0-2, 1f, 1'45); P Meade, P Faulkner (0-1), K Brady (0-1); G Smith, C Brady (0-3), O Kiernan (0-1); B Kelly, G McKiernan (0-1); S Smith, M Reilly, E Doughty (0-1); O Pierson (0-2, 1f), B Magee, J Smith (0-1). Subs: T Galligan (0-2) for B Kelly, S Murray (0-1) for S Smith, L Fortune for J Smith, R Connolly (0-1) for B Magee, C Conroy (1-0) for P Faulkner.

Westmeath - E Carberry; J Smith (0-1), R Wallace, B Sayeh; P Holloway, K Maguire, A McGivney; D Corroon, R Connellan (0-2); J Dolan, J Heslin (0-4f), D Lynch; C McCormack (0-1), R O'Toole (0-1), L Dolan (0-1). Subs: L Loughlin (1-3) for L Dolan, N Mulligan for P Holloway, J Halligan for C McCormack.

Referee - S Lavery.

### **Allianz National Football League Round 3 – O' Moore Park, Portlaoise - 16/02/2020**

#### **Cavan 3-10 Laois 1-6**

Two goals from substitute Stephen Murray helped Cavan to an impressive victory over Laois in this afternoon's rescheduled Allianz Football League Division 2 clash at MW Hire O 'Moore Park. On a dreadful day for football, Cavan picked up from where they left off against Westmeath a fortnight ago to make it two wins on the bounce. Mickey Graham's men

were favoured by the elements in the first half but trailed by 1-3 to 0-4 after 23 minutes with Eoin Lowry netting for the hosts following a goalmouth scramble. But Cavan dominated the remainder of the half to take a 1-8 to 1-3 lead into the break. Points from Bryan Magee, Oisín Pierson and Gerard Smith put them in front before an Evan Doughty goal, which clipped the upright on the way in, left them in control at the interval. The momentum remained with Cavan after the restart when half-time substitute Stephen Murray made an immediate impact by scoring their second goal. Magee tagged on another point from a mark before Laois' hopes of mounting a comeback were dealt a blow when Raymond Galligan saved Gary Walsh's penalty. Murray raised his second green flag near the end to wrap up the win for a Cavan side who, after a shaky start to the year, are suddenly feeling a lot better about themselves.

Cavan - R Galligan (0-1f); M Reilly, P Faulkner, K Brady; G Smith (0-3), C Brady, O Kiernan; T Galligan, C Conroy; L Fortune, B Magee (0-3, 2f, 1m), E Doughty (1-0); O Pierson (0-3), G McKiernan, J Smith. Subs S Murray (2-0) for L Fortune, C Madden for C Conroy, L Buchanan for J Smith, P Gilchreest for E Doughty, S Smith for B Magee.

Laois - N Corbett; B Byrne, M Timmons, G Hanrahan; S O'Flynn, R Pigott, P O'Sullivan; J O'Loughlin (0-2), S Byrne; M Keogh, C Murphy, E Lowry (1-0); M Barry (0-1f), K Lillis, E O'Carroll (0-3, 2f, 1'45). Subs: D O'Connor for M Keogh, T Collins for B Byrne, R Munnelly for C Murphy, G Walsh for S O'Flynn, D Whelan for E O'Carroll.

Referee – Niall Cullen Fermanagh

#### **Allianz National Football League Round 4 - Brewster Park, Enniskillen - 22/02/2020**

#### **Fermanagh 1-11 Cavan 2-11.**

Two goals in the space of five minutes clinched this Allianz Football League Division 2 derby match for Cavan against Fermanagh in Brewster Park. Both goals came from high lobbed balls into a shaky looking Erne full backline. The first goal came from a lob into the square where Cavan full-back Pauric Faulkner was unmarked and rocketed the ball to the net.

Faulkner's strike put Cavan in to a 1-09 to 1-08 lead after they had trailed by 1-05 to 0-07 at the break. The second goal came five minutes later from a carbon copy lob with midfielder Thomas Galligan flicking the ball to the net. That score put Cavan into a 2-09 to 1-07.

And even though the wasteful Ernesiders, who hit 12 wides, rallied back, they were not able to salvage a result. Fermanagh started on the front foot and forced Cavan keeper Dermot Galligan to make a smart save from Ciaran Corrigan in the fourth minute.

They had greater joy a minute later when a lightning six man move ended with Ultan Kelm calmly tapping to the empty net after the Breffni defence was spread-eagled.

Cavan's talisman Gearoid McKiernan, whose mother is from Fermanagh, replied swiftly with two well struck points in the eighth and 10th minutes. Oisín Pierson levelled matters from a free in the 11th minute and Oisín Kiernan put the visitors in front with a stupendous effort 60 seconds later. McKiernan then made it 0-5 to 1-0 with a well struck score.

Cavan were on top at midfield, but Fermanagh fluffed five chances before Conal Jones converted a free. Jones levelled matters in the 18th minute, but the home side missed three more good chances before Aidan Breen put them back in the lead after a slick move to put the Ernesiders into a 1-03 to 0-5 lead. Cavan were reduced to 14 men when Evan Doughty was

sin-binned for ten minutes in the 22nd minute. Pierson then hit another superb point and Chris Conroy put the Breffni boys back in front after a forward mark taken on the 13-metre line. But two quick points from the nippy Ciaran Corrigan and midfielder Ryan Jones put the home side ahead by a point on a score of 1-05 to 0-07 at the break.

Shane McGullion stretched the lead for the hosts. Wing-forward Ciaran Corrigan then intercepted a poor kickout by Cavan keeper Raymond Galligan, but he managed to lob the ball wide of an open goal from an angle in the 42nd minute. Fermanagh lost Stephen McGullion to a black card before Cavan pounced for those crucial goals that sealed this affair.

**Fermanagh:** I McGrath; J Cassidy, C Cullen, K McDonnell; D McCusker, R O’Callaghan, J McMahon; E Donnelly, R Jones; (0-2) A Breen (0-1) U Kelm (1-0) C Corrigan (0-3); Stephen McGullion, C Jones (0-3f) Shane McGullion (0-1)

**Subs:** D McGurn for Stephen McGullion (55), D Teague for D McCusker (57), E McManus (0-1f) for C Jones (63) E Shields for K Mc Donnell (65)

**Cavan:** R Galligan; C Madden, P Faulkner (1-0), K Brady; G Smith, C Brady, O Kiernan; (0-2) T Galligan (0-1), C Conroy (0-1f); E Doughty, G McKiernan (0-51f) M Reilly; O Pierson (0-2f) J Smith, B Magee. Subs; S Murray for E Doughty (42) L Fortune for B Magee (50), R Connolly for O Pierson (56) B Kelly for C Madden (62).

**Referee:** S Hurson (Tyrone)

### **Allianz National Football League Round 5 - Kingspan Breffni, Cavan - 01/03/2020**

#### **Cavan 0-14 v Clare 1 -14**

Clare pulled off a surprise at a freezing Kingspan Breffni as they came away with both points against erstwhile table-toppers Cavan. At half-time, the visitors were leading by six, 1-8 to 0-5, and full value for it. Against the wind, Cavan had started fairly brightly and were full of running early on but playing for the third week in a row, they seemed to run out of steam by the end of the first quarter. The hosts opened the scoring with a free from Oisín Pierson, but Clare levelled in the eighth minute with a super long-range effort from Eoin Cleary. Cavan nudged in front again with a 40-metre free from Bryan Magee but the Munster men put some daylight between them when Joe McGann spotted a gap and raced through before burying the ball to the bottom corner of Ray Galligan’s net for a lead which Colm Collins’s side would not subsequently relinquish. They could have extended that advantage but for a great save from Galligan, who denied Dermot Coughlan, but they kicked three points in a row regardless from Cleary (two frees) and a neat effort from Ciaran Russell. Pierson responded with a free for Cavan but Laois were picking them off at ease on the break and the energetic Cian O’Dea, who had a fine game, sent overt to make it 1-6 to 0-3. Clare’s next score summed up Cavan’s malaise; a cheap turnover by the Banner defence was immediately punished with a swift break, Tubridy kicking an excellent point. Pierson and Tubridy traded frees before Cavan’s only score from play of the first half arrived on 35 minutes when centre-back Ciaran Brady strode forward for a trademark effort. Cavan’s best spell arrived immediately after the break. A point from James Smith – which should have been a goal, really – got them going and they pinned Clare back. Oisín Kiernan, sub Stephen Murray and Oisín Pierson also landed quality scores from play and then Pierson knocked over a free; less than three minutes after the resumption, it was a one-point game again. Clare settled the ship with a point from O’Dea after a well-worked

move and when Cleary added another classy effort, it became obvious that the Banner had regained their composure. Ciaran Brady and Ciaran Russell exchanged points, as did Russell and Gearoid McKiernan, but Clare, working hard to create turnovers, landed two crucial efforts in succession, a free from Cleary and a lovely effort from Tubridy, to leave four in the home side eked out two long-range scores from Pierson and Martin Reilly as the crowd came to life and when Pierson converted his fifth free in injury time, it appeared as if Mickey Graham's men might get something from this one. But Clare have been around the block and they didn't panic. After a good move, Tubridy pointed via the upright and when Cavan once more coughed up possession in the dying seconds, their race was run. While the effort was good from Cavan, they looked heavy-legged and did not hit the heights they had shown in previous games and their play was sloppy in attack, where they coughed up the ball countless times.

**Scorers for Cavan:** Oisin Pierson 0-7 (5f), Ciaran Brady 0-2, Bryan Magee 0-1f, James Smith 0-1, Martin Reilly 0-1, Gearoid McKiernan 0-1, Stephen Murray 0-1

**Scorers for Clare:** Eoin Cleary 0-6 (4f), David Tubridy 0-4 (1f), Joe McGann 1-0, Cian O'Dea 0-2, Ciaran Russell 0-2

**Cavan:** Raymond Galligan, Conor Madden, Pdraig Faulkner, Killian Brady, Gerard Smith, Ciaran Brady, Oisin Kiernan, Thomas Galligan, Christopher Conroy, Evan Doughty, Gearoid McKiernan, Martin Reilly, Oisin Pierson, James Smith, Bryan Magee  
Subs: Stephen Murray for K Brady (30 mins), Cormac O'Reilly for Doughty (ht), Benjamin Kelly for Reilly (temp, 48), Ryan Connolly for J Smith (55), Kelly for Magee (63), Conor Brady for Conroy (69)

**Clare:** Stephen Ryan, Kevin Harnett, Cillian Brennan, Gordon Kelly, Sean Collins, Pearse Lillis, Alan Sweeney, Ciaran Russell, Cathal O'Connor, Cian O'Dea, Keelan Sexton, Dermot Coughlan, Eoin Claery, David Tubridy, Joe McGann  
Subs: Gearoid O'Brien for Coughlan (59 mins), Conall O hAinifein for Sweeney (62), Ciaran Downes for McGann (70)

Ref: Jerome Henry (Mayo)

## **Allianz National Football League Round 6 - St. Conleth's Park, Newbridge - 18/10/2020**

### **Kildare 1-21 Cavan 0-20**

Jimmy Hyland scored 0-9 as Kildare eased their Division 2 relegation worries with a win over Cavan in a high scoring affair at St Conleth's Park today. Hyland was the star in a Kildare attack that also saw a hugely promising senior debut from Darragh Kirwan but Jack O'Connor was concerned afterwards with the manner in which his team tired in the final quarter, albeit understandable given the current circumstances. When Fergal Conway's 52nd minute goal was followed by points from Kevin Flynn and Jimmy Hyland, Kildare carried a ten-point lead into the water break, 1-18 to 0-11, but Cavan came storming back in the final stages. Indeed, they had a glorious goal scoring chance in injury time when there were just three points between the sides, but Chris Conroy's pass was just out of the reach of Niall Murray. Cavan also saw a first half penalty saved when Martin Reilly's effort was pushed away by Mark Donnellan so although Kildare were deserving winners in the end Cavan were left to rue those key moments. With Hyland scoring three points, Kildare raced into a 05 to 0-2 lead by the 0-11 minute but led by Gearoid McKiernan, Cavan grew into the game and

were level at 0-8 each by the 26th minute. Kildare kicked on again to lead by 0-13 to 0-9 at half time, although the scores could have been closer had Reilly converted his penalty during that period after Padraig Faulkner had been fouled by David Hyland. Jack O'Connor's men really took hold of the game in the third quarter and outscore Cavan by 1-5 to 0-2 during that spell, and really should have scored more than one goal during that time to really kill off the game. The second half water break came at a bad time for them and when the play resumed Cavan got themselves back within touching, thanks in part to the excellent free taking of Conroy, but their comeback fell just short and both teams now find themselves in a group of six teams separated by two points heading into the final round.

**Scorers for Kildare:** Jimmy Hyland 0-9 (5fs, 1m), Darragh Kirwan 0-4, Fergal Conway 1-0, Kevin Flynn 0-3, Ben McCormack 0-2, Kevin Feely, Paul Cribbin, Liam Power 0-1 each.

**Scorers for Cavan:** Chris Conroy 0-8 (7fs), Gearoid McKiernan 0-5 (2fs), and Conor Smith 0-2 each, Oisín Kiernan, Cormac O'Reilly, and Cormac Timoney (m) 0-1 each.

**KILDARE:** Mark Donnellan; Eoin Doyle, Mick O'Grady, Shea Ryan; David Hyland, Con Kavanagh, Kevin Flynn; Kevin Feely, Aaron Masterson; Paul Cribbin, Paddy Brophy, Liam Power; Jimmy Hyland, Darragh Kirwan, Ben McCormack.

**Subs:** Fergal Conway for Power (47), Neil Flynn for Paul Cribbin (58), Keith Cribbin for Kavanagh (61), Eanna O'Connor for Brophy (63), Tommy Moolick for Kirwan (69).

**CAVAN:** Raymond Galligan; Jason McLoughlin, Martin Reilly, Killian Brady; Gerard Smith, Ciaran Brady, Cormac Timoney; Gearoid McKiernan, Padraig Faulkner; Evan Doughty, Oisín Kiernan, Oisín Brady; Cormac O'Reilly, Conor Smith, Chris Conroy.

**Subs:** Conor Madden for Doughty (44), Luke Fortune for O Brady (45), Bryan Magee for Smith (58), and Niall Murray for O'Reilly (70+1).

**REFEREE:** C Reilly (Meath)



portsfile 18 October 2020: Cavan manager Niall Graham talks to his players in the stands at half-time during the Allianz Football League Division 2 Round 6 match between Kildare and Cavan at St Conall's Park in Newbridge, Kildare. Photo by Pádraig Ó Mícheallaigh/Sportsfile

## Half Time vs. Kildare

## Allianz National Football League Round 7 - Kingspan Breffni, Cavan - 25/10/2020

### Roscommon 1-12 Cavan 0-13

Cavan will start next season in Division 3 for the first time since 2014 after suffering yet another defeat at the hands of old rivals Roscommon. Cavan kicked 16 wides in total and never lead in this game but still looked to be safe as Fermanagh eased into a five-point lead against Laois in Brewster Park – but two late goals saw the O'Moore men grab a win there and Cavan's defeat saw them slip through the relegation trap door. In truth, while Cavan were very wasteful, they didn't deserve to win this game. Roscommon, missing eight of their starting team from last week's win over Armagh and 13 of the panel and manager Anthony Cunningham due to a Covid scare, crowded out the Breffni attack and were very impressive on the break, with Donie Smith outstanding. By the time the first water break arrived, the sides were deadlocked at 0-3 apiece. The Rossies opened the scoring five minutes in through a sweetly struck 45 from Donie Smith, which was the first of his five first-half points. Diarmuid Murtagh and Smith (free) were also on the mark in this quarter, with Cavan, despite playing with a strong wind, struggling to break the visitors down and reduced to long-range pot shots. They converted three points from over 40 metres via Martin Reilly, Chris Conroy, and Cormac O'Reilly but the second quarter was dominated by the Connacht men, who built up a useful 0-7 to 0-4 half-time lead. After a great run from Cian McKeon, Fintan Cregg drove over from close range and two well-taken frees from the in-form Smith made it 0-6 to 0-3 on 26 minutes. Rookie Cormac O'Reilly, son of Breffni great Damien, kicked a wonderful point from the right wing but a fisted point from Donie Smith, who was also denied a goal by a terrific Ray Galligan save, saw Roscommon go in at half-time three to the good. They extended that lead to four on the restart with a quick point from Ciarain Murtagh and although Cavan hit back through Gearoid McKiernan, Murtagh and Cathal Cregg registered to make it double scores, 0-10 to 0-5. Sub Oisín Pierson knocked over a free and then Cavan strung together their best move of the match, with Luke Fortune finishing it with a point to leave three between them. But Roscommon's response was immediate as they exploited a mix-up at midfield by Cavan and streamed forward, with Enda Smith arriving late to palm to the net. With sub Thomas Galligan making a difference on kick-outs, Cavan upped their game and pulled back three good points, two from Ciaran Brady and one for Oisín Kiernan. But Roscommon always seemed to be able to find space at the other end and the excellent Donie Smith curled in a beautiful score to get them going again. Ray Galligan and Pierson added frees for Cavan, but Smith curled in another high-quality score. Cavan pressed hard but Roscommon, who had kept five clean sheets in succession coming into this game, didn't look like wobbling and all the Blues could muster was a James Smith point, with a succession of poor shots and weak execution of skills costing them dearly in the closing stages.

**Cavan:** Raymond Galligan (0-1f), Jason McLoughlin, Killian Brady, Killian Clarke, Gerard Smith, Chris Conroy (0-1), Ciaran Brady (0-2), Gearoid McKiernan (0-1), Padraig Faulkner, Oisín Kiernan (0-1), Martin Reilly (0-1), Cormac O'Reilly (0-2), James Smith (0-1), Conor Madden, Niall Murray

Subs: Oisín Pierson (0-2f) for Murray (29 mins), Luke Fortune (0-1) for K Brady (ht), Stephen Smith for Conroy (42), Thomas Galligan for Madden (47), Oisín Brady for C O'Reilly (60)

**Roscommon:** Colm Lavin, Fergal Lennon, Sean Mullooly, David Neary, Padraig Scott, Cathal Cregg (0-1), Conor Devaney, Enda Smith (1-0), Tadhg O'Rourke, Niall Kilroy, Cian McKeon, Finbar Cregg (0-1), Donie Smith (0-7, 3f, 45), Diarmuid Murtagh (0-1), Ciaran Murtagh (0-2, 1f)

Subs: Hubert Darcy for F Cregg (45 mins), Ultan Harney for McKeon (47), Henry Walsh for Devaney (47), Andrew Glennon for D Murtagh (60), Jack Casey for C Cregg (68)

**Ulster Senior Football Championship Preliminary Round – St. Tiernach's Park, Clones  
31/10/2020**

**Cavan 2-15 Monaghan 1-17 (After Extra Time)**



**Gearoid Mc Kiernan brushing aside the challenge of Kieran Hughes**

Cavan came from seven points down to force a draw in normal time and the game looked to be heading for a penalty shoot-out after Rory Beggan pointed a free at the death but a magnificent 55-metre free from Ray Galligan deep in injury time secured the win.

It an extraordinary rollercoaster of a match, the eventual winners were four up, seven down and then two up in extra time before Galligan held his nerve to nail the winner in the 94th minute. Monaghan were in front by one, 0-6 to 1-2, at the first water break after an eventful opening quarter. Cavan opened the scoring when Gearoid McKiernan took a pass from Jason McLoughlin and slotted over under pressure and their lead was doubled when Stephen Smith found James Smith, who steadied and curled in well. Monaghan replied through Micheál Bannigan but Cavan struck for a terrific goal when debutant Cormac O'Reilly did well to lay off to Oisín Pierson, who found the bottom corner of Rory Beggan's net with a terrific finish. Cavan looked the better side at this stage but momentum was stalled as Pierson received treatment for an injury sustained in scoring the goal. When play resumed, Monaghan upped the ante and dominated the remaining half hour.

Cavan looked wide open at the back and but for Ray Galligan – and the woodwork – coming to the rescue on a few occasions, they could have been dead and buried at half-time.

As it was, they found themselves seven down as the Farney men moved through the gears. Galligan saved well from Stephen O’Hanlon but Conor McCarthy reacted quickest to punch over the rebound. Then O’Hanlon, whose pace was causing huge problems, won a pass from Kieran Hughes and pointed and after a spectacular 45-metre effort from Conor McManus and a good score from the wing by Ryan McAnespie, Monaghan were level with 15 minutes played. After a kickout was intercepted, Cavan were forced to foul and McManus, making it look easy, stroked over the resulting free from 44 metres. Stephen Smith replied for Cavan but at the other end, O’Hanlon scorched through and laid off for an easy Bannigan score as Cavan started sending out distress flares. Monaghan broke through for another goal chance, with Galligan again saving smartly, before an O’Hanlon effort caught the face of the crossbar as the Breffni men continued to live dangerously. Kieran Duffy fisted the next before McCarthy got on the end of a brilliant move and saw his rocket of a shot strike the crossbar with Galligan beaten. McManus sent over a long-range point and although Stephen Smith registered at the other end, the goal Monaghan had been threatening arrived when Duffy played McManus in and he tucked away a classy finish. When two Cavan players collided and allowed Fintan Kelly to stroke over an easy point, it seemed to sum up Cavan’s performance as Monaghan went in holding a seven-point lead. The third quarter was nip and tuck. The excellent Oisín Kiernan got Cavan off to a good start but Monaghan were able to maintain a five-point lead for the most part. Outstanding half-time sub Thomas Galligan and Kieran Duffy traded scores, as did Dessie Ward and Luke Fortune, and when championship debutant Fortune sent over his second from 45 metres and Gearoid McKiernan kicked another, suddenly Cavan sensed they could do it. Martin Reilly made it a three-point game with a hooked point over the shoulder and Cavan kept coming, McKiernan, Niall Murray (attacking mark) and then Gerry Smith, with a huge score, making it six points in a row for Cavan and tying the match. Monaghan had a chance but McManus, unusually, was off target with a free. In extra time, Cavan hogged possession but seemed shot-shy against the wind and Monaghan punished them with points from subs Colin Walshe and Andrew Woods. Two down going into the second half of extra time, Cavan got the break they needed when Thomas Galligan rounded a defender and squared for Martin Reilly to palm home and make it 2-13 to 1-15.

Shane Carey, with a mark, and impressive sub Chris Conroy (45), nudged Mickey Graham’s men a point ahead but deep in injury time, Beggan stepped up to nail a free which seemed to ensure penalties. However, there was time for one more play and Thomas Galligan gathered the kick-out and his cousin Raymond did the rest with a 55-metre free-kick to put the seal on an unforgettable win for a Cavan side who were relegated to Division 3 last week.

**Cavan:** Raymond Galligan (0-1f), Jason McLoughlin, Killian Clarke, Killian Brady, Gerard Smith (0-1), Ciaran Brady, Luke Fortune (0-2), James Smith (0-1), Padraig Faulkner, Martin Reilly (1-1), Gearoid McKiernan (0-3), Oisín Kiernan (0-1), Oisín Pierson (1-0), Stephen Smith (0-2), Cormac O’Reilly

Subs: Thomas Galligan (0-1) for J Smith (ht), Niall Murray (0-1m) for Pierson (41), Thomas Edward Donohoe for C O’Reilly (45), Chris Conroy (0-1, 45) for C Brady (45), Paul Graham for K Brady (60), Evan Doughty for Murray (70), Oisín Brady for S Smith (80), Cormac Timoney for McLoughlin (79)

**Monaghan:** Rory Beggan (0-1f), Kieran Duffy (0-2), Conor Boyle, Ryan Wylie, Dessie Ward (0-1), Fintan Kelly (0-1), Karl O'Connell, Darren Hughes, Kieran Hughes, Ryan McAnespie (0-1), Micheál Bannigan (0-2), Drew Wylie, Stephen O'Hanlon (0-1), Conor McCarthy (0-1), Conor McManus (1-4, 2f)

Subs: Dermot Malone for D Wylie (29 mins), Shane Carey (0-1) for McCarthy (60), Niall Kearns for O'Hanlon (60), Christopher McGuinness for K Hughes (66), Colin Walshe (0-1) for Bannigan (70), Andrew Woods (0-1) for Kelly (78), McCarthy for O'Connell (86)

### **Ulster Senior Football Championship Quarter-final - Kingspan Breffni, Cavan 07/11/2020**

**Cavan 0-13 Antrim 0-9**



**Martin Reilly heading for goal**

Cavan eventually sealed their place in the Ulster semi-final, but they were made to sweat for it against a competitive Antrim at Kingspan Breffni. Coming into the game, the Breffni men had lost five of their last six meetings with the Saffrons and at half-time, they had a battle on their hands as they trailed by 0-6 to 0-5. However, Cavan's superior fitness came to the fore in the closing stages; on the home stretch, they turned Antrim over almost at will and the scores belatedly followed as the Blues won the final quarter by 0-6 to 0-3 to march on.

Antrim, who had conceded seven goals against Wicklow three weeks ago, set up very defensively and Cavan mirrored that approach, resulting in a first half which was full of lateral passing, with both sides clearly following the same commandment: Thou shalt not bring the ball into contact. The result was a poor spectacle which was made worse by Cavan's shooting, particularly in the first half when they kicked six wides and dropped a

further three short. Antrim led by 0-4 to 0-3 at the end of a closely contested first quarter. Cavan opened a two-point lead with a punched point from Oisín Pierson and a well-taken score from Oisín Kiernan but Antrim were level by the ninth minute through Dermot McAleese and a free from veteran Paddy Cunningham. Another experienced Saffron, Mick McCann – one of four survivors on the Antrim panel from the side who beat Cavan in the 2009 Ulster SFC semi-final – strolled through for the next which was cancelled out by Ciaran Brady but Antrim were much more economical. McCann and Cunningham combined to set Conor Murray up for an easy attacking mark and when Cunningham curled in from the left via the upright, the visitors were two up and growing in confidence. Cormac Timoney landed his first score at senior level to settle Cavan's nerves, but the missed opportunities kept mounting up. In injury time, half-back Brady landed his second to cut the gap to the minimum at the interval, but Antrim will have been much the happier going for their tea.

The third quarter was similarly attritional. Antrim stubbornly stuck to their system which was always going to require them to convert a high proportion of the chances they created.

They succeeded in carving the hosts open on four occasions but were left to rue three poor wides either side of the second water break and a missed goal opportunity for Patrick Gallagher – denied by a super Ray Galligan save – which could well have been enough for the upset. As it was, Cavan, while making mistakes, worked hard throughout and got their reward. After a patient build-up, Killian Clarke levelled matters and a free from Gearoid McKiernan, after good work from half-time sub Thomas Galligan, and saw Mickey Graham's side hit the front for the first time since the ninth minute. Antrim visibly tired as the game wore on and Cavan stretched their legs when needed. A turnover from Jason McLoughlin began a flowing move which impressive rookie Thomas Edward Donohoe finished with an attacking mark and Oisín Kiernan added the next after a run from Galligan to put three between them, 0-9 to 0-6. Tomás McCann replied with a free before McKiernan made a huge fetch on Cavan's kick-out and pointed. Donohoe and Patrick McBride traded frees as Cavan found themselves reduced to 13 men following black cards for Kiernan and Gerry Smith (Killian Brady had picked one up earlier). Conor Murray had Antrim's last point on 69 minutes, but Cavan finished strongly, Martin Reilly and Killian Clarke coming up with crucial interceptions as Donohoe and McKiernan rounded off the scoring.

**Cavan:** Raymond Galligan, Jason McLoughlin, Killian Clarke (0-1), Killian Brady, Gerard Smith, Ciaran Brady (0-2), Luke Fortune, Cormac Timoney (0-1), Pádraig Faulkner, Martin Reilly, Gearoid McKiernan (0-3, 1f), Oisín Kiernan (0-2), Oisín Pierson (0-1), Stephen Smith, Cormac O'Reilly

Subs: Thomas Galligan for S Smith (ht), Thomas Edward Donohoe (0-3, 1m, 1f) for Pierson (41), Chris Conroy for K Brady (46), Niall Murray for O'Reilly (48)

**Antrim:** Michael Byrne, Patrick Gallagher, Declan Lynch, Kevin O'Boyle, Peter Healy, James McAuley, Niall Delargy, Colum Duffin, Mick McCann (0-1), Kevin Quinn (0-1), Mark Sweeney, Dermot McAleese (0-1), Patrick Cunningham (0-2, 1f), Conor Murray (0-2, 1m), Patrick McBride (0-1f)

Subs: Paddy McCormack for Quinn (ht), Odhrán Eastwood for Duffin (50), Tomás McCann (0-1f) for Cunningham (50), Mark Jordan for McAleese (56), Ruairi McCann for T McCann (61)

Ref: Paul Faloon

**Ulster Senior Football Championship Semi-final - Athletic Grounds Armagh,  
14/11/2020**

**Cavan 1-14 Down 1-13**



**Padraig Faulkner gaining possession from two Down players**

Cavan advanced to their second Ulster final in a row when they came from ten points down to defeat Down by a single point in an extraordinary comeback. Cavan's second-half resurgence was even more sensational considering how out of sorts they were in the opening 35 minutes, when Down ran through them with ease and looked vastly superior.

But Cavan were a different team on the restart, pinching 10 of Down's 12 kick-outs with an effective high press in place as they advanced to a second successive Ulster final for the first time since 1969. At half-time, Down were ahead by 1-9 to 0-4 and were not flattered by their lead. They were better than Cavan in every department and could have had two more goals in the first half, with Padraig Faulkner denying Jerome Johnston with a spectacular block and Ray Galligan saving from Caolán Mooney. At the other end, Cavan were subdued. Down had a lot of bodies back but Cavan's execution of basic skills was poor, and they were relying on scraps throughout. Down got off to a blistering start and were 1-5 to 0-1 ahead at the first water break. Cavan had targeted midfield as an area where they could dominate but the opposite was the case – in very difficult conditions, clean fielding was nigh on impossible and Down dominated the battle on the ground. Johnston opened the scoring from Down's first attack and from their second, they worked a great goal when Paul Devlin and Liam Kerr combined and Ceiliun Doherty finished to the roof of the net from point blank range. Three more points from Johnston (one mark) and a breakaway score from Paul Devlin completed Down's first quarter scoring, with a free from Stephen Smith all that Cavan could muster in response. Donal O'Hare and Killian Brady, who turned in a powerful shift in the engine room

for Cavan, traded scores but two more from Devlin (one free) and a brilliant score from Johnston from the left wing made it 1-9 to 0-2 four minutes before half-time. Cavan seemed dead and buried but the corpse began to twitch when Pdraig Faulkner, who was immense, gathered a skewed free-kick and drove through for a point and then after a scramble in front of the Down goal, McKiernan pointed a free, Cavan went in eight points down. On the restart, half-time sub Conor Madden, who was magnificent, sent over a brilliant point with his first touch and Cavan immediately grew in confidence, with Thomas Galligan, now at full-forward, adding another after a turnover.

Down were pinned back. They mustered a point on a rare foray forward from Donal O'Hare, but the game turned when a Chris Conroy free dropped short and Down full-back Kevin McKernan handled on the ground. Martin Reilly stepped up to nail the resulting penalty and Cavan didn't look back. A superb point from Ciaran Brady was cancelled out by a well-struck O'Hare free to make it 1-11 to 1-7 at the second water break. On the resumption, Madden kicked another sublime point, McKiernan – growing into the game – got a free and Madden sent over another. Cavan's aerial assault on the Down full-back line was paying dividends. Madden turned provider with a perfect pass which Galligan marked spectacularly to tie the game with 10 minutes to go. Down had chances in the closing stages but registered some poor wides as Cavan kicked for home, McKiernan (free), Killian Clarke and Galligan all raising white flags. Down pushed at the end and managed two more points but Cavan were smart in how they managed the clock and ran out winners by the minimum.

**Cavan:** Raymond Galligan, Jason McLoughlin, Pdraig Faulkner (0-1), Luke Fortune, Gerard Smith, Ciaran Brady (0-1), Paul Graham, Killian Clarke (0-1), Killian Brady (0-1), Martin Reilly (1-0, pen), Gearoid McKiernan (0-3f), Oisín Kiernan, Oisín Pierson, Thomas Galligan (0-3, 1m), Stephen Smith (0-1f)

Subs: Chris Conroy for Graham (ht), Conor Madden (0-3) for Pierson (ht), Thomas Edward Donohoe for Smith (51), Cormac Timoney for K Brady (60), 24 for 7, Niall Murray for Reilly (69)

**Down:** Rory Burns, Peter Fegan, Patrick Murdock, Pierce Laverty, Gerard Collins, Kevin McKernan, Daniel Guinness, Caolán Mooney, Jonny Flynn, Barry O'Hagan, Paul Devlin (0-3, 2f), Conor Poland, Jerome Johnston (0-5, 1m), Donal O'Hare (0-4, 1f), Ceilium Doherty (1-0)

Subs: Sheelan Johnston (0-1) for Kerr (49 mins), Dylan Ward for Devlin (51), Corey Quinn for O'Hagan (57), Ryan Johnston for D Guinness (60), James Guinness for Poland (65).

**Ulster Senior Football Championship Final - Athletic Grounds, Armagh  
22/11/2020**

**Cavan 1-13 Donegal 0-12**



**Ciaran Brady shooting for goal in the Ulster Final**



**Water break in the Ulster Final**

Cavan ended a 23-year wait for the Ulster SFC title with an extraordinary performance full of heart, determination, and no little class to topple red hot favourites Donegal.

The two-time defending champions were unbackable favourites pre-match, but Cavan were the better side and thoroughly deserved their win, overcoming some debatable refereeing decisions into the mix. At half-time, Cavan were two in arrears, 0-9 to 0-7, having played

against a slight wind. In the second half, they kicked on. They led by the minimum at the second water break and a goal from Conor Madden late on put the seal on a magnificent performance and result. The official Man of the Match award went to Thomas Galligan, one hero among a team of them. The Blues started superbly and were 0-5 to 0-2 in front after 10 minutes. After a good move, James Smith opened the scoring; Cavan kicked two wides before Peadar Mogan levelled it up. Donegal pressed high on the resulting kick-out but Cavan netminder Ray Galligan went long, his cousin Thomas fielded and found Oisín Kiernan who kicked the next. Wing-back Gerry Smith landed the next from the right wing after good work from Martin Reilly and after Conor Smith won the ball well, Ciarán Brady drove another over to make it 0-4 to 0-1 with seven and a half minutes played.

The otherwise-subdued Michael Murphy replied for Donegal, but Cavan edged in front again when Kiernan sent a long ball to Thomas Galligan, who fed Conor Madden – on as a blood sub – for his first. Cavan then suffered the misfortune of losing Killian Brady to a black card which looked very harsh and Donegal took over while they had the numerical advantage.

Two points for Paddy McBrearty, one for Niall O'Donnell and one for Ryan McHugh saw Declan Bonner's men hit the front. They were beginning to dominate on kick-outs in this spell and although the brilliant Jason McLoughlin pointed off the left, O'Donnell and Michael Langan kicked two more to make it 0-9 to 0-6. Crucially, though, that was the most Donegal led by. Thomas Galligan won a throw-up and was fouled – he needed to go off for treatment – and Gearoid McKiernan sent over the resulting free to leave it 0-9 to 0-7 at the break.

Donegal drew first blood on the resumption with a McBrearty free, but Cavan were hunting in packs, defending like men possessed and using the ball well. A long ball to Thomas Galligan saw him point before Ciarán Brady picked James Smith out for a goal chance which he sent narrowly wide. Smith, though, added the next when he drove at the Donegal defence and split the posts and the sense began to grow that Cavan were not going away and, if anything, were growing in belief. McBrearty converted another free but Ciarán Brady picked out Madden and he sent over another to leave it 0-11 to 0-10 at the water break.

Cavan have finished every match strongly and with 10 minutes remaining, Killian Clarke broke the line, Martin Reilly played a one-two with James Smith and the Killygarry veteran tied it at 0-11 apiece. From the resulting turnover, Cavan forced Donegal to over-carry; the ball was delivered towards Reilly, who was fouled, and McKiernan converted.

Caolán McGonigle sent over a super score to leave it with seven minutes of normal time remaining but Cavan hit the front again when Oisín Kiernan curled in an outrageous score from the left wing. Cavan had another goal chance, but Patton saved smartly from Reilly. Cavan had two wides as they pressed; cool heads were needed, and Thomas Galligan came up with a huge mark. And then came the score that defined the game. McKiernan delivered a long high ball to the Donegal square; Patton got a hand to it, but Madden was in the right place at the right time to smash to the net.

And history was made.

Cavan: R Galligan; J McLoughlin (0-01), P Faulkner, L Fortune; G Smith (0-01), K Clarke, C Brady (0-01); J Smith (0-02), K Brady; M Reilly (0-01), G McKiernan (0-02, 2f), O Kiernan (0-02); C Conroy, T Galligan (0-01), C Smith.

Subs: C Madden (1-02) for C Smith (blood 7-15), for T Galligan (blood 27-33), for C Smith (35+1), N Murray for Conroy (56), C Smith for Reilly (73)

Donegal: S Patton; E Ban Gallagher, N McGee, B McCole; R McHugh (0-01), P Brennan, P Mogan (0-01); H McFadden, C McGonagle (0-02); E McHugh, N O'Donnell (0-02), M Langan (0-01); P McBrearty (0-04, 2f), M Murphy (0-01), J Brennan

Subs: A McClean for P Brennan (45), D O Baoill for E McHugh (56), C Thompson for McBrearty (58), J McGee for O'Donnell



**Oliver Galligan Uachtarin Comhairle Uladh speaking before presenting Anglo-Celt Cup to Raymond**



Galligan

Raymond Galligan raising the Anglo-Celt cup.



**Cavan players celebrate the victory (l to r)  
Gearoid Mc Kiernan, Killian Clarke, Jason Mc Loughlin (partially hidden) Conor  
Madden, Luke Fortune, Cormac Reilly, Liam Brady, Thomas Edward Donohoe, Oisín  
Pearson and (partially hidden) Pádraig Faulkner.**

**All Ireland Senior Football Championship Semi Final – Croke Park, Dublin**

**05/12/2020**

**Dublin 1-24 Cavan 0-12**

Cavan's championship odyssey came to an end at a cold and deserted Croke Park as they were well beaten by six-in-a-row seeking Dublin.

Cavan were well in the game throughout the first half, but alarm bells were ringing by the end of the third quarter when the Dubs led by double scores, 0-16 to 0-8, and the favourites finished in commanding fashion to run out 15-point winners.

At half-time, the home side were leading by 0-12 to 0-7 but Cavan would not have been too disconsolate as they headed down the tunnel.

Their first-half performance was littered with unforced errors – the Breffni men appeared, like so many other sides, spooked by facing the peerless five-in-a-row champions - yet, at five down, they were still in touch.

Cavan started on the front foot, James Smith winning the throw-up and finding Martin Reilly, who opened the scoring just 15 seconds in.

Ciaran Kilkenny levelled matters for the Dubs but after good work from Ciaran Brady, who had an excellent first half, James Smith fired over Cavan's second.

Dublin responded well, Brian Fenton and Robbie McDaid raising white flags, but when Thomas Galligan took a pass from Gerry Smith and sent over a super point, Cavan were level at 0-3 apiece and all seemed to be going according to plan.

However, a strange nervousness seemed to enter Cavan's play in the run-up to the water break. A succession of uncharacteristic mistakes gifted possession to Dublin and Con O'Callaghan and a hat-trick of Dean Rock points (one free).

Fenton and Rock added further scores before Gearoid McKiernan sent over a free after a good run from Ciaran Brady.

Kilkenny raised another white flag, but Cavan replied with a free from Chris Conroy after Johnny Cooper had felled Martin Reilly, but the Blues were forced into some last ditch defending on a couple of occasions as Dublin moved ominously through the gears.

Rock and Small added two more points but Oisín Kiernan, one of Cavan's best performers on the day, sent over a super score to make it 0-12 to 0-7 at the halfway mark.

Cavan needed a fast start to the third quarter, but Dublin got it with three points in succession from O'Callaghan, Fenton and Paddy Small and although Conor Madden fired over a lovely point in reply, Cavan were sending out distress flares all over the field.

Martin Reilly deflected over a certain goal for Kilkenny as Dublin surged further in front.

In the final quarter, Cavan played a lot of long, high ball into the full-forward line but Dublin dealt with it expertly. The impressive Martin Reilly scored two quality points, McKiernan landed a fine one himself and James Smith blasted over from close range to make it a nine-point game with as many minutes on the clock.

But the goal Dublin had been threatening arrived when they forced a turnover and walked it in, McDaid getting the final touch, and Dessie Farrell's charges cruised home with a couple of late points.

### **Senior Football Team**

I wish to thank all 41 panel members on a wonderful achievement and also on giving the County a huge lift in these times. People are so proud of you all, not alone for winning, but for the entertainment given, that has been brilliant. The way the panel has carried themselves is a great tribute to you all.

I want to sincerely thank Mickey Graham, Dermot McCabe, Martin Corry, Darragh Mc Carthy, John Denning, Seamus Mc Cabe, Brian Mc Donald, Felim Reilly, Kieran Dennenhy, Peadar Soden, Ristard Byrne, Dr. Philip Carolan, Andre Quinn, Ollie Martin, Patricia Feeley, Brian Henry, and Niall O Riordan for all the time, effort, commitment, and attention to detail in their achievements. All of them had a particular role to play and it worked out to perfection.

### **Allianz National Hurling League Round 1 – Abbotstown - 25/01/2020 Lancashire 0-15 Cavan 0-8**

Cavan's 2020 National Hurling League campaign opened on a disappointing note at Abbotstown (Dublin) last Saturday when they went under to Division 3B rivals Lancashire. New manager Ollie Bellew led his charges into battle as grave underdogs with memories still relatively fresh of Cavan's 1-7 to 1-27 hammering by Lancashire in the teams' Lory Meagher Cup clash in Ballyconnell last year. The Cavan team that started in Abbotstown last weekend showed no less than 10 changes from the team faced the Exiles in 2019 and in the first half the raging hot underdogs were more than a match for their opponents. Cavan's cause was helped early on by their opponents' profligacy – especially from frees - with five wides in the opening four minutes placing the microscope on Lancashire's finishing power. Lancashire's greatest ball and chain though was the fact that they had to play the final 26 minutes with just 14 men following the sending off centre-back Greg Jacob. To their credit, the Exiles kept their shape, retained their focus and discipline thereafter to deservedly get over the finishing line in pole position. On a perfect day for hurling and on a billiard table-type surface, the would-be winners enjoyed the majority of the possession in the opening quarter without ever really threatening Niall Clerkin's goal with sub. Jack Barry and Caolan Kelly impressing in the Cavan rear-guard and the Sheanon brothers getting onto plenty of ball in the engine room. Indeed, when Cavan's top scorer Diarmaid Carney levelled matters (0-4 to 0-4) with a long range point from play – after good foraging by Cillian Sheanon, Colm Sheanon and sub. Edward Dalton in the 23rd minute - the smart money was on a fight to the bitter end. Sadly, that was to be the last time the blues would gain parity with their opponents in the game as Lancashire eased their way to a 0-6 to 0-4 interval lead with points by Robin Spencer (free) and Tommy Maher (36), off his left side. In between, those two final points of the first half, a fine block by Caolan Kelly to prevent JJ Dunphy from getting in his shot on goal in the 28th

minute and a save (30), at his feet, by Lancashire 'keeper Ronan McAteer, to stop a Darragh Madden daisy cutter reflected the growing intensity of the proceedings. Wind-backed Lancashire caught Cavan napping on the restart and a point apiece from Kevin Fennelly and impressive sub Caoimhín Quigley left it double scores, 0-8 to 0-4, after 38 minutes before a Diarmaid Carney's angled free (36) steadied the Cavan ship somewhat. As the second half progressed, the exchanges became more feisty and yellow cards increasingly pock-marked the play. Then in the 47th minute with Cavan trailing by 0-6 to 0-10, the tide looked poised to shift dramatically with the aforementioned dismissal of Jacob after a high challenge on Anthony Sheridan along the sideline.

Five minutes later though, the 14-men team almost plundered a goal, but Caoimhín Quigley's ground shot was batted clear by Cavan 'keeper Clerkin for a fruitless '65.

Cavan struggled to create the width and space needed to exploit their numerical advantage and when another Quigley free made it a five-point (0-11 to 0-6) game, the blues' need for a goal was never greater. The relocation of erstwhile sweeper Anthony Sheridan into the full-forward line saw Cavan go for bust in searching for that all-important goal but there was to be no get-out-of-jail card for Cavan. The script would hold good with Lancashire subs Caoimhín Quigley, Danny Connolly and Ronan Crowley all pointing in the run-in.

Lancashire:

R McAteer; K Fennelly, E Kelly, C Larkin; S Moloney, G Jacob, D Power; S Duncan, T Maher (0-1); R Spencer (0-3, 3f), JJ Dunphy, D McKenna; D Maskey, E Kenny (0-2), S Dunne (0-1).

Subs; C Quigley (0-6, 5f) for D Maskey (h-t); L Knocker for C Larkin (52); R Crowley (0-1) for E Kenny (58); C Duggan for R Spencer (58); D Connolly (0-1) for S Dunne (61).

Cavan:

N Clerkin; B Nannery, D Crudden, M Moffett; C Kelly, M Hynes, F Williams; Cillian Sheanon, D Madden; M Hayes, Colm Sheanon (0-1), D Carney (0-4, '65, 2f); A Sheridan (0-2, 2f), L Óg Cooke, F Hughes.

Subs; J Barry for F Williams (inj, 4); E Dalton (0-1) for F Hughes (18); J Holland for L Óg Cooke (h-t); E Shalvey for D Crudden (61); A Baldwin for D Carney (62).

Ref: N Wall (Cork).

### **Allianz National Hurling League Round 2 - Kingspan Breffni, Cavan - 02/02/2020 Cavan 0-17 Fermanagh 0-12**

Cavan tore up the script to collect their first NHL Division 3B points in a frenetic affair at Kingspan Breffni. Following their first-round victory over 2019 Lory Meagher Cup victors Leitrim, the Ernesiders were clear favourites to put pointless Cavan to the sword.

Cavan's opening round defeat to Lancashire very much put the onus on Ollie Bellew's men to get their season up and running and, in leading from pillar to post, they played like a team clearly on a mission. In near perfect conditions, save a greasy sward and a stiffening breeze, this was a game that turned out to as close as pre-match predictions had intimated.

As so often happens at the lower rungs of the hurling ladder, last Sunday's affair was dominated by the respective free-taking skills of Brian Fitzgerald (Cuala) and John Duffy (Fermanagh). Wind-backed Cavan relied heavily on Fitzgerald's expert free-taking in the first half in particular to keep their noses in front. Indeed, it wasn't until the 13th minute that Cavan managed to score from open play with Diarmaid Carney's long-range effort doing the

trick. Of course, allied to Fitzgerald's impressive scoring was a glue-like group of defenders who consistently won their individual battles en route to winning the war for their side. Cavan opened smartly and showed a degree of confidence, self-belief and hurling nous seldom seen from Cavan hurlers. Fermanagh were caught on their heels somewhat at the start of the game and they were trailing by 0-2 to 0-6 when they were awarded a penalty after Cavan's Caolan Kelly was penalised in the 23rd minute after tangling with Fermanagh tyro John Paul McGarry. However, Cavan 'keeper Darren Sheridan dived brilliantly to bat away John Duffy's subsequent penalty at the expense of a point.

Messrs. Fitzgerald and Duffy continued to exchange converted frees while in between times another Cuala clubman, Colum Sheanon, and Mark Slevin (Fermanagh) had gems from play three minutes apart. Playing towards the town end of the pitch in the second half, Fermanagh had the sizeable wind at their backs and looked in the mood to eat into Cavan's 0-10 to 0-7 interval lead. Kinawley clubman Tom Keenan raced through the middle less than 90 seconds into the second half to make it a two-point game but that was as good as it got for the visitors. Cavan worked feverishly to stay in the box seat and a lovely-angled effort by Cillian Sheanon made it a four-point game, 0-12 to 0-8, with 42 minutes on the clock.

It was clear going into the last quarter that Fermanagh needed a goal for them to get something from the match but Fitzgerald's Midas-like touch continued to keep Fermanagh at bay. It was a frenetic stuff right to the death but, in truth, Cavan never looked like letting it slip. As things transpired, a straight red card issued to Fermanagh's top scorer Duffy in the 66th minute provided all the breathing space Cavan needed to copper-fasten their dominant position 'till the close of play and make it a delightful double last weekend for Cavan GAA.

Cavan:

Darren Sheridan; Shane Briody, Caolan Kelly, Bart Nannery; Darragh Madden, Enda Shalvey, Shane Sheils; Jack Barry, Cillian Sheanon (0-2); Matthew Hynes, Diarmaid Carney (0-2), Mark Moffett; Edward Dalton, Brian Fitzgerald (0-12, 11f), Colum Sheanon (0-1). Subs; Joshua Crowe for J Barry (h-t); Gary O'Rourke for B Nannery (h-t); Dominic Crudden for S Sheils (h-t); Sean Keating for S Briody (55); James Coyle for D Madden (62).

### **Allianz National Hurling League Round 3 – Avancard Páirc Seán Mac Diarmada 16/02/2020**

#### **Cavan 0-5 Leitrim 0-13**

Leitrim produced a sleeves-rolled-up display to put NHL Div. 3B hosts Cavan to the sword at the latter's 3G facility. Cavan won the corresponding tie last year but the westerners easily exacted revenge despite playing for 25 minutes with just 13 men. In horrendous weather conditions and on a treacherous, ice rink-like surface, the 2019 Lory Meagher Cup winners never looked in trouble even though corner-forward Jamie Ward (38) and full-back Conor Beirne (45) both saw red. The wind-backed westerners made it 0-3 to 0-2 after 18 minutes when top man Karl McDermott rifled over a 55-metre free leaving an air of inevitability to hang over proceedings thereafter. The Cavan defence came under constant pressure in the first half but fortunately for the hosts Leitrim lacked a killer blow close to goal. Further out the field though, McDermott made excellent use of the foraging of the strapping duo of Colm Moreton and Aaron McDermott in particular. Cavan actually led by 0-2 to 0-1 with 11 minutes on the clock but it would be a further 16 minutes before Gary O'Rourke managed add to the blues' tally. In between times, Leitrim enjoyed the lion's share of possession and the only mystery was that they didn't poach a major in either half. Leitrim easily consolidated their 0-10 to 0-3 at the interval with their greater physicality and superior ball-handling skills

stand-out features of their display. Cavan huffed and puffed in the final quarter but failed dismally to cash in on the subsequent dismissals of Messrs. Ward and Beirne.

Cavan scorers: S Keating (0-2, 1f); M Moffett (0-1); G O'Rourke (0-1); F Hughes (0-1, f)

Cavan:

N Clerkin : B Nannery , D Crudden , J Coyle ; E Dalton, E Shalvey , M Moffett ; M Hynes , C Kelly ; S Sheils , D Carney, G O'Rourke; J Crowe , S Keating, F Hughes .

Subs; J Barry for S Sheils (h-t); L Óg Cooke for J Coyle (40); D Madden for S Keating (46, inj); M Hayes for D Carney (54).

### **Allianz National Hurling League Round 5 - Kingspan Breffni, Cavan - 01/03/2020**

#### **Cavan 3-10 Sligo 4-20**

A brace of goals in the dregs of the first half broke the back of Cavan's gutsy challenge in an entertaining NHL Division 3B tie at the losers' 3G facility. Cavan, with a solitary win over Fermanagh under their belt, looked to conclude their league season on a high but a sprinkling of points sandwiched by the concession of a goal in the 30th minute and another one in first half injury time proved fatal to Cavan's faint hopes of a shock victory. In truth, Cavan had a nightmare run into the half-time break after Cuala clubman Brian Fitzgerald's free in the 24th minute had actually drawn them level (1-7 apiece) for what would be only the second time in the near 80 minutes long contest. Cavan had rebounded well to get on terms after last year's Nicky Rackard Cup winners had opened up a 1-7 to 1-4 gap and, despite being raging hot underdogs, Ollie Bellew's charges continued to give as good as they were getting in the opening half-hour. In taking on the raging hot match favourites and the remnants of Storm Jorge, Cavan actually opened the scoring when Josh Crowe's shot dropped short but was tipped over the bar by Sligo 'keeper Burke. However, the hosts found themselves on the backfoot after Kieran Prior's 5th minute goal helped propel the Yeats County into a 1-4 to 0-1 lead. Cavan re-grouped though and after Josh Crowe's well-taken goal (16), Cavan grew in confidence and looked promisingly comfortable. Sadly for the blues, Sligo proceeded to turn on the after-burners to hit an unanswered 2-6 in the run into the interval with the goals coming from Finnian Cawley and Rory McHugh and some excellent points from go-to attacker Keith Raymond and playmaker-in-chief Rory McHugh. Cavan manfully hung in there after the interval but in Raymond and McHugh, Sligo had the sort of mobility, sharpness and finishing touch that Cavan couldn't match. For all that, Cavan kept nipping away at Sligo's heels as they sought to eat into the Connacht men's sizeable 3-13 to 1-7 interval lead. With the wind at their backs, Cavan showed a lot of spirit, endeavour and work rate as the second half gathered pace but, unfortunately, the punch, pace and panache just wasn't there in the final third to unhinge Sligo. Showing the class and experience associated with a side whose next outing is a Christy Ring Cup meeting with former all-Ireland SHC winners Offaly, Sligo upped the ante as the third quarter raced to a close Keith Raymond's neat, clinical goal (41) all but ending the game as a contest. Now trailing by 1-8 to 4-13, Cavan boss Bellew chose to ring the changes but there was to be no diminution in Cavan's honest efforts to prevent a runaway victory for the Yeats County. A couple of Fitzgerald frees helped to keep Sligo honest and then in the 59th minute substitute Jack Barry got out in front of his marker to meet a delivery from another sub, Anthony Sheridan, and in a jiffy the white flag was raised. An opportunist goal by Fitzgerald from a penalty (60) followed and the blues had the satisfaction of having the final say when Barry had the Sligo net billowing two minutes from time.

**Cavan:** Darren Sheridan; Matthew Hynes, Dominic Crudden, Darragh Madden; Caolan Kelly, Enda Shalvey, Edward Dalton; Bart Nannery, Colum Sheanon; Brian Fitzgerald (1-6, 7 frees), Sean Keating (0-1), Mark Moffett; Joshua Crowe (1-1), Jessie Holland (0-1), Diarmaid Carney. Subs: Jack Barry (1-1) for B Nannery (30); Philip Brady for D Carney (45); Shane Shiels for M Moffett (45); Anthony Sheridan for D Crudden (57); Eugene Hill for J Holland (68).

**Sligo:** Mark Burke: James Weir, Niall Feehily, Niall McDermott; Finnian Cawley (1-1), Liam Reidy, Kieran Prior (1-2); Tony O'Kelly Lynch (0-3), Keith Raymond (1-12, 7f); Brian Shannon, Joe McHugh (0-2), Kevin Gilmartin; Rory McHugh (1-0), Mikey Gordon, Kevin Banks.

Subs; L Cadden for K Gilmartin (40); P O'Grady for N McDermott (44); K O'Kennedy for J McHugh (45); S Brennan for G Connolly (51); D Keavney for K Prior (68).

**Ref:** K Jordan (Tipperary)

### **Lory Meagher Cup Round 2 - Brewster Park, Enniskillen – 31/10/2020**

#### **Fermanagh 0-16 Cavan 1-13**



#### **Ollie Bellew laying down the gauntlet to the Cavan players v Fermanagh in the Lory Meagher cup in Enniskillen.**

In testing conditions at Brewster Park, Enniskillen, the hosts left it late to grab a share of the spoils after trailing for the opening hour. Following their opening round victory over Louth, the Ernesiders needed just a draw to advance to the final and John Duffy's 71st-minute free duly worked the oracle. Fermanagh looked to be on the losing path in the 38th minute though when the red carding of Mark Slevin was followed by Brian Fitzgerald's free seconds later which put Cavan 0-11 to 0-7 in front. Fermanagh played second fiddle to Cavan in the first half and Fitzgerald's accuracy from frees helped propel the visitors into a 0-10 to 0-6 interval

lead. Thanks, in part, to Seán Corrigan's form up front, Fermanagh hung in and they levelled matters on the hour mark when Tom Keenan's snapshot made it 0-12 apiece.

Cavan hit back with interest though with an opportunist goal from Fiachra Hughes in the 62nd minute. But Fermanagh refused to lie down and a tremendous point from Tom Keenan and a brace of frees from John Duffy earned the hosts a place in the decider.

Scorers - Fermanagh: S Corrigan 0-8 (6f); C McShea, C Duffy, T Keenan, J Duffy (2f) 0-2 each. Cavan: B Fitzgerald 0-7 (5f, 1 '65); F Hughes 1-1; Cillian Sheanon 0-2; D Carney, S Keating, E Shalvey 0-1 each.

Fermanagh - M Curry 6; D Bannon 7, A Breslin 7, R Porteous 7; B McPhillips 6, M Slevin 6, F McBrien 7; C McShea 8, C Duffy 8; S Curran 6, L McCusker 6, J Duffy 7; T Keenan 7, S Corrigan 8, C Duffy 8. Subs: A McShea 6 for Curran (34), J Tormey 6 for McPhillips (46).

Cavan - D Sheridan 7; C Kelly 6, D Crudden 6, S Briody 6; A Sheridan 7, E Shalvey 7, M Hynes 6; Colum Sheanon 8, L Óg Cooke 6; S Keating 6, F Hughes 7, D Carney 7; J Barry 6, B Fitzgerald 8, Cillian Sheanon 7. Subs: M Moffett 6 for Cooke (34), F Williams 6 for Crudden (46), P Brady 6 for Barry (50), K Conneely 6 for Hughes (62), D Crudden for Shalvey (65).

Ref - T Conway (Derry)

### Lory Meagher Cup Round 3 - Kingspan Breffni, Cavan -

Cavan 0-16 Louth 1-15



**Cavan captain Matthew Hynes in determined mood leading out the team for the crunch game v Louth.**

Cavan's hurling renaissance hit a roadblock at Kingspan Breffni on Sunday last when they missed out on booking a place in this year's Lory Meagher Cup final. Needing just a draw to seal a date with Fermanagh in this weekend's decider at Croke Park, Ollie Bellew's (Antrim) men gave it their best shot before agonisingly falling short. Louth were reduced to 14 men in the 53rd minute but their resilience and greater division of labour up front proved enough to earn them the win they needed to advance to the decider. Cavan were just a point adrift in injury time in the dregs of the game but as they pushed forward to grab the all-important equalising point, they were hit with a sucker punch with an ice cool free by Louth's top scorer Darren Geoghegan in the 75th minute ending the blues' dream. Raging hot match favourites Louth were the more impressive team in the first half with Messrs. Geoghegan, Paul Matthews and Andrew Mackin constant thorns in the Cavan defence.

Cavan gave as good as they got in the early minutes with Sean Keating and Fiachra Hughes scoring from open play before Geoghegan's fine long range free (16) put the visitors ahead by the odd point in nine. Sadly, for the hosts, it was a lead they would retain through to the final whistle. Louth played with the breeze in the opening half and attacked the town end of the pitch but Cavan – operating with their backs against the ropes – seemed comfortably enough until Andrew Mackin's timely goal (20) – after good work by Matthews – left Cavan clearly winded. The only goal of the game would prove hugely important. Cavan played a gutsy, spirited game of catch-up thereafter but Mackin's opportunist effort nonetheless did much to leave Cavan trailing by 0-7 to 1-10 at the interval lead. On a damp but otherwise pleasant day for hurling, Cavan hung in there though, never looked like being cut adrift and indeed made a real fight of it in the second half. That said, the Wee County still had Cavan at arms' length (1-14 to 0-11) almost 20 minutes after the restart. However, the hosts got a real lift when speedy Louth attacker, David Kettle, was dismissed in the 53rd minute after picking up a second yellow card. Cavan continued to nip away at their opponents' heels with Cuala clubman Brian Fitzgerald aping the accuracy of Louth's Geoghegan's at the other end of the pitch from the dead ball situations. Cavan's grit and determination plus, in particular, Fitzgerald's free taking, eventually saw them eat away at Louth's long-time lead.

The blues were adept at winning the lion's share of the scrummages for possession. However, their lack of options up front was ominous as they sought to gain parity and nick the second draw of the campaign that would have meant an appearance at Croker.

Louth were still on the ropes as the dregs of the game kicked in and Sean Keating's fine over-the-shoulder point (68) from the stand-side left just a goal (0-14 to 1-14) between the sides. Cavan kept up the pressure and after a controversial 'square ball' decision went against Keating another brace of frees by Fitzgerald cut Louth's lead to the minimum with two minutes of the four added-on minutes completed. Drawing on the sort of experience that saw them win the Lory Meagher Cup four years ago and bagged them appearances in several Nicky Rackard Cup finals in recent years, the Leinster side held firm though and Geoghegan's ice-cool finish broke Cavan hearts.

**Cavan:** Darren Sheridan: Caolán Kelly, Dominic Crudden, Bart Nannery; Anthony Sheridan, Enda Shalvey, Fred Williams; Colum Sheanon, Matthew Hynes; Diarmaid Carney, Fiachra Hughes (0-1), Sean Keating (0-2); Philip Brady (0-1), Brian Fitzgerald (0-11, 9f, '65), Cillian Sheanon (0-1).

Subs; Sean McKeogh for F Hughes (h-t); Darragh Madden for B Nannery (h-t); Gary O'Rourke for M Hynes (inj,74).

**Louth:** Donal Connolly; Matthew Fee, Ronan Byrne, Andrew McCrave; Conor Matthews, James McDonnell, Liam Molloy (0-1); Ryan Walsh (0-1), Niall Keenan; Paul Matthews (0-2), Stephen Crosbie, Darren Geoghegan (0-7, 5f); Felim Joyce (0-1), Andrew Mackin (1-0), David Kettle (0-2).

Subs; Gavin Kerrigan (0-1) for A McCrave (40); Sean Costello for S Crosbie (49); Peter Fortune for F Joyce (65); Conor Deane for R Walsh (69).

Ref; C McDonald (Antrim)

### **Senior Hurling Team**

I want to thank Ollie Bellew, Tomas Mannion, John Kearney, Michael Wall, Ciara Maguire and Angela Hamilton for their work and dedication to the County Senior Hurling team.

It took a long time to appoint a new manager and thankfully Ollie filled that void with great gusto. We were very unlucky not to qualify for the Lory Meagher final and the disappointment on the players and Management after that Louth game tells me that Hurling has come a long way in the last year.

We are now competing very well at this level and can look forward to a successful season in 2021.

**04/01/2020**

### **Philly McGuinness U20 Football Dev. League Rd 1 - Athletic Grounds, Armagh**

#### **Armagh 2-18 Cavan 3-13**

Cavan U20 footballers travelled to a cold but dry Athletic Grounds to take on hosts Armagh in the first outing of 2020, the first round of the Philly McGuinness development league. This proved to be a high scoring encounter which saw a first half commanding lead reduced to three at the break. This setup a close second half leaving the result in doubt until the end. The early exchanges were even as Emmett Boylan who had a fine game opened the scoring from a free. Justin Kieran quickly equalised before Armagh full forward Shane Donnelly found the net with a fine finish. The lead was short lived as the visitors responded with a goal of their own in the next attack as a fine treat move was finished by the attacking James Brady. Armagh then went five clear without reply before Cavan pulled one back on the quarter hour mark through Thomas Smith. Armagh who were dominating the midfield exchanges added three more through the impressive Cian McConville. The Breffni lads rallied as half time approached. A superb long-range point from Peter Smith closed the gap to six when Cavan were awarded a penalty which Peter Smith calmly finished to leave three in it at the break, 2-4 to 1-10. Cavan upped the ante and pushed the hosts all the way in the second half. This was aided by a good start when Emmett Boylan finished to the net to equalise in the first minute. Armagh pulled three clear again before another fine effort from Peter Smith who was now operating at midfield closed the gap. The sides traded points through a Cian McConville free and Brandon Boylan from play. This was quickly followed by Armagh's second goal in the nineteenth minute when a fine run from midfielder Ciaran Mackin was

finished low to the net to put them five clear and in reality secured the result even though the Breffni lads kept battling to the end.

The visitors arguably had their best spell of the game as they responded with three unanswered points from Brandon Boylan, James Brady, and Emmett Boylan, all from play to reduce the margin back to two on twenty-five minutes. The sides traded points as the game headed for the final whistle. Cavan may have taken victory if a fine snapshot effort from Thomas Smith low and on target had found its way passed Shea Magill in the Armagh goal (who was introduced at half time) but the keeper was equal to it and the hosts ran out two point winners.

Scorers for Cavan: Emmett Boylan (1-6, 3f), Peter Smith (1-3, 1 pen, 1f), James Brady (1-1), Brandon Boylan (0-2), Thomas Smith (0-1).

Scorers for Armagh: Cian McConville (0-8, 5f), Justin Kieran (0-4, 3f), Ciaran Mackin (1-0), Shane Donnelly (1-0), Tiernan Kelly (0-2, 1f), Caolan Reavey (0-1), Conor Lavery (0-1), Oisín King (0-1), Niall McCorry (0-1).

CAVAN: Lorcan Hammond (Kill Shamrocks), Philip Nulty (Knockbride), Evan Finnegan (Ballinagh), Euan Henry (Castlerahan), Killian Brady (Ramor United), Cian Boylan (Crosserlough), James Brady (Denn), Ryan O'Reilly (Mullahoran), Gareth Mannion (Ramor United), Tiernan Madden (Gowna), Brandon Boylan (Crosserlough), Thomas Smith (Ballinagh), Emmett Boylan (Crosserlough), Peter Smith (Crosserlough), Eoin Brady (Killeshandra).

Subs: Donal Keappock (Drumgoon) for C Boylan (23m), Ryan Galligan (Cuchulainns) for E Brady (HT), Fionnan Brady (Gowna) for D Keappock (46m), Cian Boylan for P Smith (57m), Darragh Tierney (Lavey) for R O'Reilly.

ARMAGH: Caolin McPartland, Oisín King, Paul Martin, Nathan Murphy, Shea Traynor, Justin Kieran, Liam Finnegan, Ciaran Mackin, Niall McCorry, Tom Weir, Tiernan Kelly, Ryan Duffy, Cian McConville, Shane Donnelly, Lewis Hughes.

Subs: Tomas McCormack, Lorcan Curran, Donal Conlon, Pearse Hughes, Diarmuid Loney.

Referee: Conall James Roberts.



## **Cavan U20 Team 2020 vs. Armagh - Philly McGuinness U20 Football Dev. League Rd 1**

**11/01/2020**

### **Philly Mc Guinness U20 Football Dev. League Rd 2 - O Raghallaigh Park Kingscourt**

#### **Cavan 1-08 Monaghan 1-05**

On a heavy O'Raghallaigh Park, which was cleared to play 15 minutes before throw-in, John Brady's charges show battling qualities to get over neighbours Monaghan with three points to spare. Having suffered defeat in a high scoring round one clash with Armagh this was all about getting the win and Cavan played accordingly. Monaghan started with a strong side as county senior players Aaron Mulligan, Jason Irwin and Andrew Woods made up the white and blue half forward line. The man of the match in Monaghan's opening McKenna cup game Mulligan, started the scoring after three minutes with a point from play. Thomas Smith levelled the side with a free after eight minutes as both sides tried to adjust to the difficult underfoot conditions. Mattie Maguire sent over a dead ball to give Monaghan back the lead and the Maguire should have had the game's first goal after a super pass by Jason Irwin, but the crossbar denied. Cavan backs stepped up after that warning and became the foundation for building attacks as they produced a number of turn-over. Colleges All-Star Oisín Brady started a fast break from the Cavan defence getting the ball to Emmett Boylan. Boylan lobbed a pass in front of Thomas Smith who was taken down in the box for a penalty. Peter Smith stepped up for the second week in a row and hit the inside of the butt of the post before crossing the line.

Cavan now leading 1-1 to 0-2 continued to win dirty ball but were unable to make the work transfer to the score board. Monaghan centre forward Andrew Woods broke through the Cavan defence once more but his shot on goal soared over under pressure from Killian Brady. Cavan finished the half stronger as Emmett Boylan sent over a free won by Evan Finnegan and a direct run at goal by Gareth Mannion set up Thomas Smith for a point. As the sides broke for tea Cavan held a 1-3 to 0-3 lead. Monaghan looked to wipe out Cavan's lead in one strike as Mattie Maguire played Jack Brannigan through for a goal, but Aaron Smith saved from close range. It took ten minutes for the for score of the restart to come as the game became scrappy. Oisín Brady sent over a self-won free to settle Cavan minds back on the task. Full-forward Peter Smith then combined with club mate Brandon Boylan for a point as Cavan's control became more evident. The gap was closed to four points with Aaron Mulligan's second but Tiernan Madden cancelled it with a super outside of the left strike from 35 meters. After Maguire sent over one for the Farney, a well worked team move saw them through on goal for the third time but Brendan Og Duffy's shot was saved again by Aaron Smith in the Cavan goal. Cavan came back with a goal chance of their own but had to settle for a Mannion point leaving five between the sides with seven minutes to go. Monaghan changed tactics as a high ball sent to sub Niall McKenna in-front of goal was gathered well and in refusing the mark laid off to the supporting Woods who finished low to the far corner. With just two points between the sides a tense finish was in store. The Cavan defence came under pressure but frustrated the Monaghan attack over and over resulting in a red card for Jason Irwin on the 30<sup>th</sup> minute of the second half. Three minutes into injury time Emmett Boylan sealed the win for Cavan with a beautifully hit '45.

Cavan now face Westmeath away in the final group game next Saturday with all four teams tied on two points after two rounds.

Cavan: Aaron Smith(Shercock), Killian Brady(Ramor Utd), Peter Smith(Lavey), Fionnan Brady(Gowna), Evan Finnegan(Ballinagh), Ben Smith(Ramor Utd), Cian Boylan(Crosserlough), Gareth Mannion(Ramor Utd)(0-1), Brian O'Rourke(Ballyhaise), Tiernan Madden(Gowna)(0-1), Thomas Smith(Ballinagh)(0-2,1f), Brandon Boylan(Crosserlough)(0-1), Emmett Boylan(Crosserlough)(0-2,1f,1'45), Peter Smith(Crosserlough)(1p-0), Oisín Brady(Killygarry)(0-1f). Subs: Philip Nulty (Knockbride) for P. Smith, Daryl McGurran (Drumlane) for E. Finnegan, Eoin Brady (Killeshandra) for B. Boylan, Cian O'Reilly (Killygarry) for D McGurran, Patrick Lynch (Crosserlough) for B O'Rourke.

Monaghan: Ciaran Duffy, Jack Brannigan, Paudie Hughes, Cormac McKenna, Darragh McElearney, Sean Treanor, Tiernan McCourt, Tiernan Duffy, Gavin McPhillips, Aaron Mulligan(0-2), Andrew Woods(1-1), Jason Irwin, Tiernan McSkeane, Brendan Og Duffy, Mattie Maguire(0-2,1f). Subs Niall McKenna for T McCourt, Oisín O'Neill for P. Hughes.

18/01/2020

## Philly McGuinness Cup U20 Football Dev. League Rd 3 – Moate, Co Westmeath

### Westmeath 1-16 Cavan 1-7

Westmeath's U20 footballers bowed out of the Philly McGuinness Cup on Saturday afternoon last despite producing an impressive performance when defeating an understrength Cavan side by a deserved nine-point margin in pleasant conditions at Moate.

Apart from the concession of a preventable goal in the 28<sup>th</sup> minute and a ropey period in the opening five minutes of the second moiety, this was a fine all-round display from Damien Gavin's troops. Ironically, despite Westmeath finishing with a superior scoring difference to Monaghan, it is the young Farney County men who progress to the final of the competition on the 'head-to-head' rule, having pipped the Lake County in their first-round robin game thanks, in small measure, to the Ulster lads scoring a soft goal.

However, the 1995 Tom Markham Cup recipient and his backroom team (which includes two colleagues from that never-to-be-forgotten minor campaign from 25 years ago in David Martin and Tom Stuart Trainor) are sure to be happy overall with their three-match January programme ahead of a difficult trip to Portlaoise on February 15 for a knockout Leinster championship encounter with the O'Moore County.

TJ Cox opened the scoring from a 'mark' in the third minute, but Cavan immediately equalised with a neat point from Patrick Lynch. Sam McCartan, who had a particularly good first half, nudged the home team ahead at the end of a patient move, but Cavan's energetic midfielder Gareth Mannion levelled the scoring again with exactly ten minutes elapsed.

Both of the maroon and white-clad wing backs registered a point by the end of the opening quarter – Darragh Seery (a fisted effort) and Eoghan Bracken (a delightful finish from a tight angle via the upright). The ever-dangerous Cox was unlucky to see his rasping shot come back off the junction of the crossbar and upright, with an alert McCartan on hand to slot over a point from the rebound. Marc Eivers' neat point in the 18<sup>th</sup> minute put his team ahead by 0-6 to 0-2. Four minutes later, exquisite skill by Cox was rewarded with a point when his lob could easily have landed in the net. The same player soon added a point from a free, after Bracken's 'mark' attempt had been illegally foiled. A terrific first half display was spoiled somewhat in the 28<sup>th</sup> minute when Trevor Martin failed to hold Lynch's high shot and the ball was awkwardly bundled home from point-blank range by Emmet Boylan. However, Westmeath still led by 0-8 to 1-2 at the break.

Just 40 seconds after play resumed, Boylan pointed from a 'mark'. Cavan then failed to convert their third '45' of the contest, but a point apiece from Lynch and Boylan had the Breffni men on level terms with 35 minutes elapsed. Two minutes later, a well-judged free from Cox landed on top of the net to edge the winners ahead before eye-catching play by Mannion precipitated a fine equalising point from Boylan.

Approaching the end of the third quarter, Cox put his side into a lead they never looked like relinquishing. Influential sub Sam Maxwell then doubled Westmeath's lead, before Jack Torpey teed up Cox for a goal chance which was deflected over the Cavan crossbar. The latter player slotted over a free and his club colleague McCartan rounded off a wonderful move with the Lake County's 14<sup>th</sup> point in the 51<sup>st</sup> minute.

Goalkeeper Martin twice did well to clear his lines under pressure, and the young men in their traditional blue and white strip rounded off their tally when Boylan pointed in style with four minutes of normal time remaining. Moments later, Cavan sub Cormac O'Reilly blazed the ball wide after Ben Smith's effort had come back off the crossbar.

Westmeath added points via a converted free from Cox and a lovely score in added time from substitute Sean Fox. Maxwell put the icing on the cake when he netted in the last action of an enjoyable contest after fine approach work by another sub Tristan Graham and the mercurial Cox.

Scorers:

Westmeath: TJ Cox 0-8 (4f, 1m), S Maxwell 1-1, S McCartan 0-3, E Bracken, D Seery, M Eivers and S Fox 0-1 each.

Cavan: E Boylan 1-4 (0-1m), P Lynch 0-2, G Mannion 0-1.

Westmeath

Trevor Martin; Ciaran Daly, Charlie Drumm, Jenson Nagle; Eoghan Bracken, Eoin Mulvihill, Darragh Seery; Jack Murtagh, Adam Flanagan; Sam McCartan, Jason Coughlan, Marc Eivers; TJ Cox, Tommy Ryan, Aaron Nugent. Subs used: Jack Torpey for Nugent (inj., 14), Shane Allen for Coughlan (35), Tristran Graham for Seery (39), Sam Maxwell for Ryan (39), Sean Fox for Daly (46), Colin Murphy for Eivers (55), Pauric McKenna for Flanagan (56), Jordan McDonnell for McCartan (60 + 2).

Cavan

Lorcan Hammond; Euan Henry, Cian Boylan, Fionnan Brady; Philip Nulty, Ben Smith, Killian Brady; Gareth Mannion, Peter Smith; Darragh Tierney, Thomas Smith, Brandon Boylan; Emmet Boylan, Patrick Lynch, Tiarnan Madden. Subs used: James Brady for Tierney (21), Cormac O'Reilly for T Smith (h-t), Ryan O'Reilly for B Boylan (51), Eoin Brady for P Smith (59).

Ref

Marius Stones (Offaly).

## **Ulster U20 Championship Quarter Final - Cavan 0-8 Down 1-11**

**(Venue: Kingspan Breffni)**

Cavan conceded 1-3 in the final six minutes of the game without laying a glove on Down in return in an intriguing but low-quality Ulster U20 FC quarter-final tie at Kingspan Breffni.

Cavan were gritty and resilient, and their six points defeat flattered their opponents but Down deserved to make the semi-finals of the competition.

In the testing ground and weather conditions, Down – managed by All-Ireland SFC medallist Conor Deegan – started the game with a swagger but, as is the wont with a lot of Mourne county teams, they flattered to deceive and Cavan always looked a decent bet to come out on top.

Indeed, when the otherwise subdued Paddy Lynch (Crosserlough) arrowed over a free in the 57th minute to level the scores (0-8 to 0-8) for the sixth time in the match, Cavan had the look of possible winners even though they continued to labour against the remnants of Storm Dennis.

Down began with a swagger and carbon copy points from Dean Rice inside the opening 75 seconds seemed to suggest that Cavan were in for a long afternoon.

However, two equally fine points from Ballinagh's Thomas Smith helped Cavan to gain parity (0-3 apiece) by the 23rd minute.

Sadly, for all Down's promising opening salvo, it was their fabulous finale which made all the difference as they left their best wine 'till last to leave Cavan punch drunk and out of the championship.

In a game which was predictably more perspiration than inspiration, extra-time looked on the cards only for the visitors to finish with a flourish, goaling on the hour mark and adding three unanswered points to leave a shell-shocked Cavan sunk without trace.

Wind-aided Cavan defended the 3G side of the pitch in the first half but mostly played second fiddle without ever looking like being cut adrift.

Defending in numbers, Cavan looked compact and their counter-attacking policy served them well and in the 15th minute they almost sneaked in for a goal with Emmett Boylan's vision setting up Thomas Smith for a goal chance but the latter saw his goal-bound shot blocked by Down full-back Lorcan Toal.

Cavan continued to give as good as they were getting and the impressive Cormac O'Reilly curled over the best point of the half in the 26th minute to give the blues the lead (0-4 to 0-3) for the first time in the match.

However, Down gave a hint of things to come, stepping on the gas in the run into the interval with a point apiece from the elusive Cathal Gorman and an exocet from strapping midfielder Cormac O'Rawe leaving Cavan trailing by 0-4 to 0-5 at the interval.

On the restart, the odds favoured the wind-aided leaders but Cavan worked feverishly against the elements and O'Reilly's inspirational points, Oisín Brady's forays and similarly heroic efforts at the back by 'keeper Smith and full-back Smith seemed to frustrate if not demoralise Down, albeit temporarily.

For all that, Down looked the more threatening in the final third and after great work by galloping midfielder Ryan McEvoy, impressive sub. Eoghan Byrne notched a peach of a point to regain the lead for Conor Deegan's men two minutes from the end of normal time.

Cavan desperately tried to spring a get-out-of-jail card but seconds into injury time, Down hit the jackpot with a golden goal.

A brilliant Down turnover in their own half saw a fluid move involving O'Rawe, McCormack and Johnston end with a palmed goal by sub. Conal McNulty.

Cavan were left numbed and before they came to their senses, further injury-time points by Messrs. Johnston and McCormack poured more salt into the hosts' gaping wound in the dregs of the game.

Cavan:

Aaron Smith; Donal Keappock, Peter Smith, Killian Brady; Philip Nulty, Ben Smith, Evan Finnegan; Cormac Donoghue, Gareth Mannion; Brandon Boylan, Oisín Brady, Cormac O'Reilly (0-3); Emmett Boylan (0-1, 1f), Paddy Lynch (0-2, 2f), Thomas Smith (0-2).

Subs: Tiernan Madden for D Keappock (18); Cian Boylan for E Finnegan (h-t); Ryan O'Reilly for B Boylan (42); Daryl McGurran for E Boylan (47); Enda Maguire for T Smith (62).

Down:

Jack Hazard; Callum Fitzsimons, Lorcan Toal, Jamie O'Hagan; Patrick Brooks, Billy Campbell, Tiernan Fettes; Cormac O'Rawe (0-1), Ryan McEvoy; Ruairí McCormack (0-1), Tim Prenter, Cathal Gorman (0-5, 1f); Dean Rice (0-2), Ruairí O'Hare, Shealan Johnston (0-1).

Subs: Eoghan Byrne (0-1) for D Rice (51); Conal McNulty (1-0) for C O'Rawe (25); Ryan Connolly for T Prenter (58).

Ref: K Eannetta (Tyrone)

### **Under 20 Team**

Thanks to John Brady and his team of:

Louis Lyons, Noel O Reilly, Tommy Connolly, Anthony Murray, Jim Brady, James Brady, Peter Byrne, and Angela Hamilton for their efforts this year.

Thanks to all the players for their work in 2020 and I wish them well in their future careers.

Damien Donohoe has been ratified for the coming year and I wish him well in his role.

## **Dale Farm Protein Milk Ulster Minor Football League Rd 1 – Garvagh 29/02/2020**

### **Tyrone 0-4 Cavan 2-10**

Cavan's Ulster minor league campaign got off to a flying start when they travelled north to face Tyrone at the latter's Centre of Excellence in Garvagh. The game was played in tough weather conditions with snow and a swirling wind throughout but there is no doubt that Cavan adapted better, especially in the second half. Tyrone had the wind at their backs in the first half but too often they were reluctant to let the ball do the work and get it into the full forward line quickly. As a result, their four-point interval advantage looked short of a total needed for victory. Cavan failed to trouble the umpires at all in the first half, but the second half proved to be a totally different story as once they opened their account inside sixty seconds they never looked back. Gary Farrelly's lads were prepared to move the ball forward at pace at every opportunity and when they found the net twice in as many minutes the game was effectively over as a contest. Tyrone struggled to make any impact at all in the second

period against the elements and like their opponents they failed to raise a single flag throughout the half. With the wind at their backs in the first half it was Tyrone who dominated in terms of possession, but they struggled to put scores on the board. Ruairi Canavan opened the scoring with a neat effort from out on the right wing in the 6th minute. The home side were very wasteful in front of goal and added to the wides count before Canavan made amends with another point in the 18th minute. Moments later Tyrone's cause wasn't helped when they lost midfielder Danny McHugh to a black card. A well taken score from distance by corner forward Patrick McCann added to Tyrone's tally but it was already clear that their lead wasn't going to be enough as they struggled to break down a well-disciplined Cavan defence. As the game slipped into injury time Canavan knocked over a free before the half came to a close with Cavan rarely threatening at the other end of the field. Tyrone were due to go back up to their full complement of players for the second half but before it began, they had centre half forward Cormac Devlin black carded for an incident as the players came back onto the field. Within 60 seconds of the restart Cavan opened their account via corner back Cormac McKeogh after he had received a pass from Shane Tynan. Tynan then closed the gap further from a free and with Cavan pressed up on the Tyrone kick outs it already looked as though the red hand side were in trouble. As Tyrone were restored to their full complement, it was Cavan who continued to make all the running with a superb score from out on the left wing from Turlough Farrelly reducing the deficit to the minimum. At the end of the third quarter Cavan got their noses in front for the first time and they drove on, when substitute Daire Madden hit the net from close range after he had profited from a long delivery in from Liam McEntee. Less than two minutes later Cavan had a stranglehold on proceedings as wing half back Sean Og McGearty exchanged passes with Madden before his shot looped over the head of Tyrone keeper Niall Robinson and into the net. Cavan's pressure on the Tyrone kick out was immense and when the ball was touched on the ground Madden knocked over the resulting free to leave it 2-4 to 0-4 with a dozen minutes left to play. Tyrone couldn't get their hands on the ball for long enough to try and get a foothold in the game as Cavan continued to dictate the pace. In the 52nd minute a rare Tyrone attack almost

produced a goal but substitute Enda McCaffrey's shot was well saved by Cavan keeper Jake Norris. In the closing minutes Cavan really stepped on the gas to clinically put their opponents to the sword. Man of the match Tynan converted a long range free before landing an outstanding score from a side-line ball on the right. Everything that Cavan touched now turned to gold with right half back Alex Sweeney getting forward to get his name on the scoresheet. Madden kicked two quality frees from distance off the ground either side of another conversion from Tynan as an impressive Cavan side won with plenty to spare.

Tyrone: Niall Robinson, Adam Toner, Tiernan Teague, Michael Rafferty, James Donaghy, Lorcan McGarrity, Fionbharr Taggart, Oran McGrath, Danny McHugh, Conor McGillion, Cormac Devlin, Sean O'Donnell, Ruairi Canavan (0-3, 1f), Shea Quinn, Patrick McCann (0-1) Subs: Enda McCaffrey for McGillion, Dan Muldoon for Quinn, Blaine Ryan for McGrath, Matthew McCarney for McHugh, Callan Devlin for Rafferty

Cavan: Jake Norris, Caolan Smith, Ryan Brady, Cormac McKeogh (0-1), Alex Sweeney (1), Caolan McCabe, Sean Og McGearty (1-0), Phillip Smyth, Ben Monahan, Emmanuel Shehu, Shane Tynan (0-5, 4f, 1s/l) Cormac Brady, Liam McEntee, Conor Casey, Turlough Farrelly (0-1f) Subs: Kevin Lovett for Monahan, Daire Madden (1-2f) for Shehu, Caolan O'Reilly for Casey, Darragh Lovett for McEntee, Ben Tierney for McKeogh.

## **Electric Ireland Ulster Minor Football Championship Round 1 – Clones 17/10/2020**

**Monaghan 1-8 Cavan 1-7**



**Liam Fay in action vs. Monaghan in the UMFC**

There was heartbreak for Cavan minors in their Ulster Championship clash against Monaghan as they conceded an injury time goal in Clones.

The Breffni boys were in a strong position at half-time as they led by 1-5 to 0-2, the goal coming from Liam Fay just before the break after good work from Conor Casey, but Monaghan rallied well in the second half.

The 63rd minute goal from Stephen Mooney saw Gary Farrelly's charges crash out and they can consider themselves unfortunate, with a few decisions going against them on the day.

Cavan led from the opening two minutes right through until injury time at the end of the game. Early scores from Cormac Brady, Shane Tynan and Caolan McCabe helped Cavan into a useful lead and a point from play from joint-captain Philip Smyth and a free from Tynan saw them six up at half-time.

However, Stephen Mooney, who finished with 1-7, was keeping the home side in touch with frees. He registered six white flags in the second half, with Tynan (free) and Ryan Brady, with an excellent point, responding for Cavan, who had a 'goal' ruled out due to a square ball.

Cavan were still three up deep in injury time but Cremartin man Mooney came up with a free and then the all-important goal to seal the win.

**Cavan:** Jake Norris, James McBreen, Ryan Brady (0-1), Cormac McKeogh, Sean Óg McGearry, Caolan McCabe (0-1), Alex Sweeney, Caoláin O'Reilly, Philip Smyth (0-1), Turlough Farrelly, Shane Tynan (0-3, 2f), Cormac Brady (0-1), Liam McEntee, Conor Casey, Liam Fay (1-0)

Subs: Darragh Lovett for C O'Reilly (34 mins), Emmanuel Shehu for C Casey (46), Kevin Lovett for S McGearry (51), Evan Brady for L McEntee (53), Mark McDermott for T Farrelly (59)

**Monaghan:** Daragh Croarkin, Ruairi Treanor, Louis Kelly, Hugh McDonald, Nathan Lavery, Dylan Byrne (0-1), Ethan Graham, Connor Eccles, Tiarnan O'Rourke, James Slevin, Stephen Mooney (1-7, 6f), Diarmuid Marron, Michael Hamill, Dan McCahey, Niall Rice

Subs: Cian Conlon for D McCahey (59 mins), Thomas Keenan for E Graham (60)

### **Minor Team**

The season was disrupted, and I thank the players for their dedication to training during lockdown. This wasn't an easy thing to do but it was done by all concerned.

Thanks to the following who looked after the U/17 team in 2020.

Minor Backroom Team:

Gary Farrelly - Manager

Liam Maguire - Selector

Jack Wharton - Coach

Seanie Johnson - Coach

Paul Brady - psychologist

Ciaran Flynn - GK Coach

Steven Ivers/Andre Quinn - S&C

Caroline Smith - Physio

Cillian O'Reilly - Physio

Ciaran Tierney/Dan Wharton - Stats

Angela Hamilton - Co-ordinator

Mossie Cullen - Kitman

It was a fractured season for this group and against Monaghan, with a little bit of luck, a victory could have been secured. Gary has agreed to stay on, and we wish him well in 2021.

## Cavan Results 2020

### **Football**

#### **Bank of Ireland McKenna Cup**

Rd 1 Cavan 1-13 Armagh 2-17

Rd 2 Tyrone 1-16 Cavan 0-13

#### **Allianz Football League Division 2**

Rd 1 Armagh 2-18 Cavan 1-8

Rd 2 Cavan 1-17 Westmeath 1-13

Rd 3 Laois 1-6 Cavan 3-10

Rd 4 Fermanagh 1-11 Cavan 2-11

Rd 5 Cavan 0-15 Clare 1-14

Rd 6 Kildare 1-21 Cavan 0-20

Rd 7 Cavan 0-13 Roscommon 1-12

#### **Ulster Senior Football Championship**

Rd 1 Monaghan 1-17 Cavan 2-15 (AET)

Qtr. Final Cavan 0-13 Antrim 0-9

Semi Final Cavan 1-14 Down 1-13

Final Donegal 0-12 Cavan 1-13

#### **All Ireland Senior Football Championship**

Semi Final Cavan vs. Dublin

#### **U16 Ulster Football League**

Rd 1 Tyrone 1-9 Cavan 0-1

#### **Dale Farm Protein Milk Ulster U17 Football League**

Rd 1 Tyrone 0-4 Cavan 2-10

### **Electric Ireland Ulster Minor Football Championship**

Rd 1 Monaghan 1-8 Cavan 1-7

### **Philly McGuinness Cup U20 Development League**

Rd 1 Armagh 2-18 Cavan 3-13

Rd 2 Cavan 1-8 Monaghan 1-5

Rd 3 Westmeath 1-16 Cavan 1-7

### **Ulster U20 Football Championship**

Qtr. Final Cavan 0-8 Down 1-11

### **Hurling**

#### **Allianz Hurling League Division 3A**

Rd 1 Lancashire 0-15 Cavan 0-8

Rd 2 Cavan 0-17 Fermanagh 0-12

Rd 3 Leitrim 0-13 Cavan 0-5

Rd 5 Cavan 3-10 Sligo 4-20

#### **Lory Meagher Cup**

Rd 2 Fermanagh 0-16 Cavan 1-13

Rd 3 Cavan 0-16 Louth 1-14

### **Club Championships 2020**

The club championships were played under the threat of Covid. A few games at the start were postponed for a few days but after that, it was full steam ahead, some with spectators and some with none. This championship was the first to have the club games played before the Inter-county season began. There was great excitement growing as the championship progressed. I would say that in my opinion county panellists really stood out in most games, which may not have happened in recent years. Crosserlough reached the Holy Grail after a replay and 48 years of waiting. Cavstream done great service to the supporters with their streaming of our games. Thanks to them, we also made up some financial loss. Thanks also to R.T.E. who televised the senior final live and what a game they got. It put Cavan club football up there with the best of them. Congratulations to Crosserlough and let us not forget Kingscourt who gave all they had in the two games. No Ulster Club competitions this year due to Covid.

In the Intermediate championship, Ballinagh came out winners and now return to the senior ranks.

In the Junior Championship we got to the final stage with Denn to play Templeport in the final. Unfortunately, this didn't take place, but will be played in the New Year.

### Hotel Kilmore Senior Championship Results 2020

<u>Date</u>	<u>Round</u>	<u>Home Team</u>	<u>Goal</u>	<u>Point</u>	<u>Away Team</u>	<u>Goal</u>	<u>Point</u>
01/08/2020	Rd 1	Killygarry GAA Club	0	12	Cavan Gaels	1	10
01/08/2020	Rd 1	Kingscourt Stars	1	13	Lacken GAA	0	10
02/08/2020	Rd 1	Crosserlough	1	14	Lavey	0	7
02/08/2020	Rd 1	Mullahoran GFC	3	15	Laragh Utd	0	9
02/08/2020	Rd 1	Gowna	1	11	Ramor United	2	11
05/08/2020	Rd 1	Castlerahan GAA	1	18	Searcóg/Shercock	0	9
07/08/2020	Rd 2	Killygarry GAA Club	0	17	Kingscourt Stars	2	13
08/08/2020	Rd 2	Cavan Gaels	1	20	Mullahoran GFC	1	4
08/08/2020	Rd 2	Gowna	0	18	Lavey	1	15
09/08/2020	Rd 2	Castlerahan GAA	4	12	Lacken GAA	1	15
09/08/2020	Rd 2	Searcóg/Shercock	0	10	Ramor United	1	9
09/08/2020	Rd 2	Crosserlough	1	13	Laragh Utd	1	10
14/08/2020	Rd 3	Mullahoran GFC	0	11	Castlerahan GAA	0	15
14/08/2020	Rd 3	Kingscourt Stars	3	15	Laragh Utd	1	7
15/08/2020	Rd 3	Searcóg/Shercock	0	12	Lavey	1	14
15/08/2020	Rd 3	Cavan Gaels	0	11	Ramor United	2	14
15/08/2020	Rd 3	Lacken GAA	0	14	Crosserlough	3	15
16/08/2020	Rd 3	Killygarry GAA Club	2	11	Gowna	2	12
23/08/2020	Rd 4	Ramor United	3	9	Crosserlough	3	11
23/08/2020	Rd 4	Lacken GAA	2	7	Killygarry GAA Club	0	13
23/08/2020	Rd 4	Laragh Utd	0	13	Cavan Gaels	2	14
23/08/2020	Rd 4	Gowna	2	11	Castlerahan GAA	1	14
23/08/2020	Rd 4	Mullahoran GFC	0	14	Lavey	1	17
23/08/2020	Rd 4	Searcóg/Shercock	0	12	Kingscourt Stars	3	12
28/08/2020	Quarter Final	Ramor United	0	15	Cavan Gaels	2	19
29/08/2020	Quarter Final	Castlerahan GAA	3	13	Lavey	0	21
30/08/2020	Quarter Final	Crosserlough	2	19	Gowna	3	10
30/08/2020	Quarter Final	Kingscourt Stars	0	22	Mullahoran GFC	2	15
20/09/2020	Semi Final	Cavan Gaels	0	10	Kingscourt Stars	2	12
20/09/2020	Semi Final	Castlerahan GAA	0	16	Crosserlough	2	16
26/09/2020	Final	Crosserlough	2	12	Kingscourt Stars	2	12
03/10/2020	Final Replay	Crosserlough	0	13	Kingscourt Stars	0	8



**Senior Champions 2020 - Crosserlough**

## Senior Hurling Championship 2020

<u>Date</u>	<u>Round</u>	<u>Home Team</u>	<u>Goals</u>	<u>Points</u>	<u>Away Team</u>	<u>Goals</u>	<u>Points</u>
20/09/2020	Final	Mullahoran St Joseph's	2	9	Cootehill Celtic GAA	1	11
07/09/2020	Semi Final	Pearse Ogs	1	7	Mullahoran St Joseph's	1	11
07/09/2020	Semi Final	East Cavan Gaels	2	9	Cootehill Celtic GAA	3	8



**Mullahoran St. Josephs Senior Hurling Champions 2020**



**Intermediate Champions 2020 - Ballinagh**

## Hotel Kilmore Intermediate Championship Results 2020

<u>Date</u>	<u>Round</u>	<u>Home Team</u>	<u>Goal</u>	<u>Point</u>	<u>Away Team</u>	<u>Goal</u>	<u>Point</u>
31/07/2020	Rd 1	Drumgoon	2	12	Killinkere CLG	2	12
01/08/2020	Rd 1	Ballymachugh	2	7	Cornafean	0	10
01/08/2020	Rd 1	Drumlane	1	8	Butlersbridge G.A.A	1	11
02/08/2020	Rd 1	Killeshandra	2	8	Bailieborough	1	18
02/08/2020	Rd 1	Belturbet Rory O'Moores	4	15	Ramor United	4	6
02/08/2020	Rd 1	CLG Cuchulainn	0	13	Ballyhaise	2	10
05/08/2020	Rd 1	Arva	1	12	Ballinagh GAA	1	13
08/08/2020	Rd 3	Cornafean	1	13	Drumlane	2	13
08/08/2020	Rd 3	Cootehill Celtic GAA	3	12	Butlersbridge G.A.A	3	13
14/08/2020	Rd 2	Ramor United	2	8	Drumgoon	2	6
15/08/2020	Rd 2	Killinkere CLG	2	15	Arva	0	15
15/08/2020	Rd 2	CLG Cuchulainn	1	13	Cornafean	0	8
16/08/2020	Rd 2	Drumlane	1	11	Cootehill Celtic GAA	0	10
16/08/2020	Rd 2	Killeshandra	1	7	Ballyhaise	0	17
16/08/2020	Rd 2	Ballinagh GAA	3	9	Ballymachugh	0	10
16/08/2020	Rd 2	Bailieborough	0	10	Belturbet Rory O'Moores	1	14
21/08/2020	Rd 4	Butlersbridge G.A.A	2	21	Ramor United	1	5
21/08/2020	Rd 4	Killeshandra	0	7	Ballymachugh	0	11
22/08/2020	Rd 4	Ballyhaise	3	20	Cornafean	0	5
22/08/2020	Rd 4	Bailieborough	4	16	Drumgoon	1	11
22/08/2020	Rd 4	Cootehill Celtic GAA	2	12	Arva	0	8
22/08/2020	Rd 4	Belturbet Rory O'Moores	1	14	Killinkere CLG	0	12
23/08/2020	Rd 4	CLG Cuchulainn	0	12	Ballinagh GAA	0	9
30/08/2020	Rd 5	Butlersbridge G.A.A	2	17	Arva	2	15
30/08/2020	Rd 5	Drumgoon	1	9	Ballymachugh	4	17
30/08/2020	Rd 5	Belturbet Rory O'Moores	1	7	Ballinagh GAA	1	23
30/08/2020	Rd 5	Bailieborough	2	13	Drumlane	0	12
30/08/2020	Rd 5	Killinkere CLG	0	16	CLG Cuchulainn	0	14
30/08/2020	Rd 5	Ballyhaise	3	16	Ramor United	1	5
30/08/2020	Rd 5	Killeshandra	1	14	Cootehill Celtic GAA	3	13
04/09/2020	Quarter Final	Ballyhaise	2	15	Cootehill Celtic GAA	1	9
05/09/2020	Quarter Final	Bailieborough	1	17	Ballymachugh	3	10
06/09/2020	Quarter Final	Butlersbridge G.A.A	2	21	Killinkere CLG	3	16
06/09/2020	Quarter Final	Ballinagh GAA	2	15	Belturbet Rory O'Moores	1	8
20/09/2020	Semi-Final	Ballinagh GAA	1	17	Ballyhaise	1	13
20/09/2020	Semi-Final	Butlersbridge G.A.A	3	12	Bailieborough	2	6
27/09/2020	Final	Butlersbridge G.A.A	0	11	Ballinagh GAA	0	23



**Thomas Moore, Captain of the winning Ballinagh team**

### **Cully's Craft Bakery Junior Championship Results 2020**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Round</b>	<b>Home Team</b>	<b>Goal</b>	<b>Point</b>	<b>Away Team</b>	<b>Goal</b>	<b>Point</b>
08/08/2020	Rd 3	Maghera MacFinns	0	7	Templeport St. Aidan's GAA	4	13
09/08/2020	Rd 3	St Mary's GAA, Swanlinbar	2	12	Drung	1	13
14/08/2020	Rd 1	Mountnugent	0	16	Kill Shamrocks GAA	1	14
15/08/2020	Rd 1	Redhills	2	11	Templeport St. Aidan's GAA	2	16
15/08/2020	Rd 1	Shannon Gaels	1	10	Knockbride	2	11
16/08/2020	Rd 1	St Mary's GAA, Swanlinbar	1	9	Denn	1	18
16/08/2020	Rd 1	Drung	1	12	Drumalee	0	12
16/08/2020	Rd 1	Kildallan G.A.A. Club	0	7	Munterconnaught	1	12
21/08/2020	Rd 2	Kildallan G.A.A. Club	3	10	Redhills	0	14
21/08/2020	Rd 2	Munterconnaught	5	15	Maghera MacFinns	0	5
22/08/2020	Rd 2	Shannon Gaels	0	13	Drumalee	1	8
22/08/2020	Rd 2	Denn	1	10	Knockbride	1	6
23/08/2020	Rd 2	Mountnugent	0	10	St Mary's GAA, Swanlinbar	2	10
23/08/2020	Rd 2	Templeport St. Aidan's GAA	2	16	Kill Shamrocks GAA	0	10
28/08/2020	Rd 4	Munterconnaught	0	9	Denn	0	10
28/08/2020	Rd 4	Drumalee	0	16	Mountnugent	2	12
28/08/2020	Rd 4	Shannon Gaels	1	13	Drung	2	4
29/08/2020	Rd 4	St Mary's GAA, Swanlinbar	1	16	Kill Shamrocks GAA	1	17
29/08/2020	Rd 4	Redhills	2	15	Knockbride	3	13
30/08/2020	Rd 4	Kildallan G.A.A. Club	3	29	Maghera MacFinns	3	5
06/09/2020	Rd 5	Shannon Gaels	6	29	Maghera MacFinns	1	10
06/09/2020	Rd 5	Munterconnaught	1	6	Knockbride	4	11
06/09/2020	Rd 5	Denn	0	22	Redhills	1	12
06/09/2020	Rd 5	Drung	2	14	Mountnugent	3	7
06/09/2020	Rd 5	Kildallan G.A.A. Club	1	12	Kill Shamrocks GAA	0	19
06/09/2020	Rd 5	Drumalee	2	10	Templeport St. Aidan's GAA	5	15
11/09/2020	Quarter Final	Templeport St. Aidan's GAA	2	12	Drung	0	11
12/09/2020	Quarter Final	Knockbride	2	13	Kill Shamrocks GAA	1	6
13/09/2020	Quarter Final	Denn	3	19	Kildallan G.A.A. Club	0	14
13/09/2020	Quarter Final	Shannon Gaels	2	14	Munterconnaught	0	8
27/09/2020	Semi Final	Knockbride	0	14	Templeport St. Aidan's GAA	1	13
27/09/2020	Semi Final	Denn	3	18	Shannon Gaels	1	9



**Denn team.**



**Templeport team.**

## Farnham Arms Hotel U17 Championship 2020

<b>Division 1</b>							
<b>Date</b>	<b>Round</b>	<b>Home Team</b>	<b>Goal</b>	<b>Point</b>	<b>Away Team</b>	<b>Goal</b>	<b>Point</b>
18/07/2020	Rd 1	Southern Gaels	4	17	Ballyhaise	3	6
18/07/2020	Rd 1	CLG Cuchulainn	2	13	Lough Oughter Gaels	1	8
18/07/2020	Rd 1	Bailieborough	0	11	Lavey	0	8
23/07/2020	Rd 2	Lough Oughter Gaels	2	9	Bailieborough	0	8
23/07/2020	Rd 2	Ballyhaise	0	11	CLG Cuchulainn	5	12
23/07/2020	Rd 2	Lavey	1	16	Drumloman Gaels	7	7
01/08/2020	Rd 3	Drumloman Gaels	1	16	Lough Oughter Gaels	0	14
01/08/2020	Rd 3	Lavey	0	8	Southern Gaels	6	12
01/08/2020	Rd 3	Bailieborough	1	11	Ballyhaise	3	7
11/08/2020	Rd 4	Drumloman Gaels	1	11	Bailieborough	2	6
11/08/2020	Rd 4	Southern Gaels	1	20	CLG Cuchulainn	2	4
11/08/2020	Rd 4	Lough Oughter Gaels	7	6	Lavey	0	17
25/08/2020	Rd 5	Ballyhaise	1	12	Lough Oughter Gaels	1	10
25/08/2020	Rd 5	CLG Cuchulainn	1	11	Bailieborough	2	8
25/08/2020	Rd 5	Southern Gaels	3	12	Drumloman Gaels	0	6
29/08/2020	Rd 6	Ballyhaise	2	13	Lavey	1	7
29/08/2020	Rd 6	Drumloman Gaels	2	11	CLG Cuchulainn	1	13
05/09/2020	Rd 6	Lough Oughter Gaels	0	7	Southern Gaels	2	8
11/09/2020	Rd 7	Bailieborough	0	0	Southern Gaels	0	0
12/09/2020	Rd 7	CLG Cuchulainn	4	11	Lavey	2	8
12/09/2020	Rd 7	Ballyhaise	1	11	Drumloman Gaels	1	14
19/09/2020	Semi Final	Ballyhaise	1	15	Drumloman Gaels	2	9
19/09/2020	Semi Final	CLG Cuchulainn	1	8	Southern Gaels	1	12
30/09/2020	Final	Ballyhaise	2	5	Southern Gaels	5	13

<b>Division 2</b>							
<b>Date</b>	<b>Round</b>	<b>Home Team</b>	<b>Goal</b>	<b>Point</b>	<b>Away Team</b>	<b>Goal</b>	<b>Point</b>
18/07/2020	Rd 1	Laragh Utd	5	9	Killinkere CLG	6	13
18/07/2020	Rd 1	St Joseph's	4	7	St Finbarr's	3	8
18/07/2020	Rd 1	Cavan Gaels	4	13	Castlerahan GAA	3	9
18/07/2020	Rd 1	Killygarry GAA Club	4	14	Ramor United	1	11
01/08/2020	Rd 2	St Finbarr's	4	6	Laragh Utd	4	13
01/08/2020	Rd 2	Castlerahan GAA	1	12	Killygarry GAA Club	2	12
01/08/2020	Rd 2	Killinkere CLG	5	12	St Joseph's	2	4
01/08/2020	Rd 2	Ramor United	3	10	Cavan Gaels	2	13
11/08/2020	Rd 3	Killygarry GAA Club/CLG C	7	13	St Finbarr's	3	10
11/08/2020	Rd 3	Laragh Utd	3	9	Cavan Gaels	3	12
11/08/2020	Rd 3	Ramor United	5	15	Killinkere CLG	3	13
11/08/2020	Rd 3	St Joseph's	3	9	Castlerahan GAA	3	16
25/08/2020	Rd 4	Killinkere CLG	4	10	St Finbarr's	3	8
25/08/2020	Rd 4	Castlerahan GAA	2	14	Laragh Utd	4	5
25/08/2020	Rd 4	Ramor United	2	11	St Joseph's	3	7
25/08/2020	Rd 4	Cavan Gaels	0	5	Killygarry GAA Club	2	12
05/09/2020	Rd 5	Laragh Utd	0	0	Killygarry GAA Club	0	0
05/09/2020	Rd 5	Killinkere CLG	3	9	Castlerahan GAA	4	8
05/09/2020	Rd 5	St Finbarr's	0	0	Ramor United	0	0
05/09/2020	Rd 5	St Joseph's	4	7	Cavan Gaels	5	17
12/09/2020	Semi Final	Cavan Gaels	4	10	Castlerahan GAA	1	9
12/09/2020	Semi Final	Killygarry GAA Club/CLG C	2	12	Ramor United	2	11
29/09/2020	Final	Cavan Gaels	1	7	Killygarry GAA Club	1	8

<b>Division 3</b>							
<b>Date</b>	<b>Round</b>	<b>Home Team</b>	<b>Goal</b>	<b>Point</b>	<b>Away Team</b>	<b>Goal</b>	<b>Point</b>
18/07/2020	Rd 1	Cootehill Celtic GAA	5	16	Drumlane	1	8
18/07/2020	Rd 1	Blackwater Gaels	6	3	Belturbet Rory O'Moores	4	7
18/07/2020	Rd 1	Crosserlough	5	8	Kingscourt Stars	0	10
19/07/2020	Rd 1	Templeport St. Aidan's GAA	1	6	Knockbride	1	15
23/07/2020	Rd 2	Belturbet Rory O'Moores	2	11	Ballinagh GAA	1	16
23/07/2020	Rd 2	Drumlane	4	17	Blackwater Gaels	6	7
23/07/2020	Rd 2	Crosserlough	4	14	Templeport St. Aidan's GAA	0	8
23/07/2020	Rd 2	Kingscourt Stars	3	8	Cootehill Celtic GAA	5	16
01/08/2020	Rd 3	Knockbride	0	21	Kingscourt Stars	3	5
01/08/2020	Rd 3	Drumlane	4	16	Templeport St. Aidan's GAA	1	5
01/08/2020	Rd 3	Ballinagh GAA	2	11	Cootehill Celtic GAA	5	9
01/08/2020	Rd 3	Belturbet Rory O'Moores	6	5	Crosserlough	2	10
11/08/2020	Rd 4	Kingscourt Stars	1	15	Templeport St. Aidan's GAA	4	9
11/08/2020	Rd 4	Cootehill Celtic GAA	4	19	Blackwater Gaels	0	9
11/08/2020	Rd 4	Knockbride	3	14	Crosserlough	6	11
11/08/2020	Rd 4	Belturbet Rory O'Moores	0	11	Drumlane	0	12
25/08/2020	Rd 5	Ballinagh GAA	1	15	Kingscourt Stars	2	1
25/08/2020	Rd 5	Knockbride	4	11	Belturbet Rory O'Moores	0	7
25/08/2020	Rd 5	Templeport St. Aidan's GAA	2	10	Cootehill Celtic GAA	4	10
29/08/2020	Rd 6	Knockbride	5	15	Blackwater Gaels	3	8
29/08/2020	Rd 6	Drumlane	2	13	Ballinagh GAA	3	11
05/09/2020	Rd 7	Templeport St. Aidan's GAA	0	9	Belturbet Rory O'Moores	4	10
05/09/2020	Rd 7	Cootehill Celtic GAA	5	11	Knockbride	3	13
05/09/2020	Rd 7	Blackwater Gaels	2	6	Ballinagh GAA	6	14
05/09/2020	Rd 7	Kingscourt Stars	0	0	Drumlane	0	0
12/09/2020	Rd 8	Crosserlough	5	15	Ballinagh GAA	6	6
19/09/2020	Rd 5	Blackwater Gaels	4	9	Crosserlough	2	17
26/09/2020	Playoff A	Knockbride	4	7	Ballinagh GAA	1	13
03/10/2020	Playoff B	Ballinagh GAA	2	6	Drumlane	2	16

<b>Division 4</b>							
<b>Date</b>	<b>Round</b>	<b>Home Team</b>	<b>Goal</b>	<b>Point</b>	<b>Away Team</b>	<b>Goal</b>	<b>Point</b>
18/07/2020	Rd 1	Kildallan G.A.A. Club	0	0	Naomh Brid	0	0
18/07/2020	Rd 1	Drumgoon	11	16	Southern Gaels	0	6
01/08/2020	Rd 2	Kildallan G.A.A. Club	1	6	Drumgoon	6	17
01/08/2020	Rd 2	Naomh Brid	0	0	Ballyhaise	0	0
11/08/2020	Rd 3	Southern Gaels	5	9	Naomh Brid	4	9
14/08/2020	Rd 3	Ballyhaise	5	19	Kildallan G.A.A. Club	4	15
25/08/2020	Rd 4	Naomh Brid	5	8	Drumgoon	3	14
25/08/2020	Rd 4	Ballyhaise	3	7	Southern Gaels	4	11
05/09/2020	Rd 5	Southern Gaels	6	10	Kildallan G.A.A. Club	4	19
05/09/2020	Rd 5	Drumgoon	8	8	Ballyhaise	1	9
13/09/2020	Semi Final	Naomh Brid	5	13	Southern Gaels	1	3
13/09/2020	Semi Final	Drumgoon	5	13	Ballyhaise	0	4
22/09/2020	Final	Drumgoon	5	10	Naomh Brid	5	11

## Clubs

2020 was an unreal year. The effects of COVID 19 over the past 10 Months will be felt by all for many years to come. By Mid-March, life as we know it, GAA and beyond, had changed past recognition and remains in turmoil to this day. Clubs, especially, were affected significantly, with loss of training, competitive games, use of facilities, outlets for fundraising and sadly, in some cases, unimaginable loss.

But despite all of that, it was GAA Clubs across the County who were first to step up and respond so positively to the situation our communities found themselves in, most especially

for those alone and vulnerable throughout towns, villages and rural areas. Among those many initiatives were the Cavan Community Response, in conjunction with Cavan County Council. This ran 7 days a week and provided a host of services in an organised, safe and incredibly effective manner, and I would like to sincerely thank all those involved in both the County Council, who manned the phones and coordinated the response, but most especially those who worked within each and every community, and provided this much needed support.

From June, attentions thankfully turned to a return to training and games, which brought with it considerable, additional work for our volunteers. Hand Sanitiser, Health Questionnaires, Signage, Covid Officers and Covid Supervisors all became the normal way of life, for Club and County, but as we reflect on the events of November 22nd, as Cavan were crowned Ulster Champions, all of it was very much worthwhile. Within our own County also, the Club Championships give a much-needed boost to those few who could attend games and to those to watched from home. There has been much debate as to whether Sport was necessary, whether it should have gone ahead at all, considering the risks, but the GAA, from headquarters down to each and every County, led by example, and provided welcome relief from the reality of life during this pandemic.

Looking ahead, 2021 will unfortunately prove to be another difficult year, but with light at the end of the tunnel. With confirmation of a vaccine and roll out of same very much a priority, it is hoped our lives will return to some semblance of normality from early in the New Year. While it will be difficult, if we got through 2020, I have no doubt we will get through whatever comes next. I want to thank Clubs for their understanding while still paying fees to the County Board and hope it is thought we acted fairly to all during these difficult times. I want Clubs to be reassured that the County Board is here to assist in whatever way possible and hope all Clubs will continue to support Cavan GAA where needed also. We are all in this together, and will come out of it together, with much better days, no doubt, ahead of us all.

### **Kingspan Breffni**

Kingspan Breffni hosted a large number of games in 2020 albeit most of them behind closed doors or with small attendances. We hosted 2 Ulster Championship matches (Cavan v Antrim and Donegal v Armagh), 3 senior ladies championship games, including an All-Ireland semi-final (Dublin v Armagh). We also had 2 All-Ireland Camogie finals (Down v Antrim and Cavan v Armagh). All these games are giving great exposure to our Sponsor Kingspan, who really appreciate all we are doing for them in this department.

### **House Draw**

Back in late December, the house draw was completed, and it proved a very successful project.

Thanks to all the County Board members especially Paddy Sheanon and Martin Mc Govern who contributed to this and worked hard on the last couple of days to ensure that the sales were maximised.

Thanks to Connie Reilly and P.J. Smith all his workers in America who contributed greatly to its success.

Thanks to Alan O Mara

Big thanks also to Richard Stafford, Catherine Fox, Enda Gallen, Carol Kiernan, Michelle Smith, and Terry Hyland



### **Jumping for Joy!!**

#### **Covid Test Centre**

Kingspan Breffni was used by the H.S.E. as a test centre for a few months and they were very grateful to the G.A.A. for that. It was an ideal location with a drive through but when the football finally started, they moved to Ballinagh. Thanks to the H.S.E. for their contribution to Cavan G.A.A in acknowledgement.

#### **Launch in Croke Park**

A very successful night was held in Croke Park on Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> March, launching the new Friends of Cavan G.A.A committee who will oversee our corporate sponsorship going forward. Also, on the night, Chairman Kieran Callaghan spoke about plans to further Player Education and how we can assist our players with this. Covid halted progression on both, but we look forward to revisiting both initiatives in 2021.

#### **Mazars**

Early in 2020, we invited GAA Auditors Mazars to come to Cavan and conduct a comprehensive audit of all areas of finance and administration within Cavan County Board. This proved to be a very successful undertaking and following numerous consultations, we were presented with a small number of recommendations to consider but overall, were deemed to be in pretty good shape.

Thanks to Eileen in the office and Martin Cahill, who met with the auditors, along with myself. It was very encouraging to receive such a positive report.

## **Media**

The media as always are a big part of our games. This year we had to be content with Radio and TV for the coverage of the games and I thank all for that. Thankfully, our local press and radio had a great year and thanks to them for the wonderful coverage of our games during the journey.

This year, with the absence of spectators, we were provided with excellent coverage by Cavstream. A large number of games were streamed to the public and I want to thank them for this service. We also received a large sum of money from the proceeds of this venture. Cavstream are a great addition to our coverage and we look forward to working with them in 2021. Thanks also to R.T.E. for their coverage of the senior final.

## **Referees**

Mark O Rourke was appointed to chair a new Referees committee for 2020. Foundation courses were organised and 13 were signed up to become new referees. Only 2 of the three night were completed and to date, the last section has still to be completed. 4 Regional meeting were organised with clubs but again only 1 took place. It is hoped to have them in 2021.

Thanks to John Duffy for his work in 2020 as referees Adm. John attended nearly all the games in Kingspan Breffni Club and County.

Thanks to Mark and the committee for their work.

Committee members are:

Mark O Rourke, John Duffy Referees Administrator, Martin Brady, Brian Crowe, Angela Hamilton, Joe Mc Quillan, Noel Mooney, Gerry Sheridan C.C.C. and Orla O Reilly Youth Board.



**Senior Championship Final Referee Oliver Og O Reilly (Mullahoran), and his team of umpires, ahead of the game on September 26<sup>th</sup> in Kingspan Breffni.**

### **Club Breifne**

We had a big push to get new members for 2020. Unfortunately, as with all aspects of the G.A.A. we were curtailed in what we could do. I want to thank the members of Club Breffni for their continued support and understanding of the current situation. Hopefully, next year will be different. Thanks to Gerry Brady who took on the role as Chairperson of Club Breffni this year and also Michael O Reilly, for their efforts all year.

### **C.C.C. Committee**

We had a new committee for 2020 and I don't think anyone envisaged what a year it would be.

The championships were run with great efficiency during these times and the games themselves proved to be great spectacles for most part. I want to thank the Chairman Gerry Sheridan, Secretary Rosemarie Caffrey, Gary Robins, Tom Moore, Fergal Hartin, Tony Ryan, Damien Brady, and Geraldine Lynch. Thanks to Angela Hamilton who worked closely with the committee and passed on her vast knowledge of fixtures to the members.

### **Hearings Committee**

Thanks to the Hearings committee for their work in 2020. I would suggest that there were fewer hearings in the year due to a shorter season, but the committee went about their business in a very fair manner. Thanks to Tommy McGibney, Chairman, Aidan Smith Secretary, Patrick Clarke, Greg Mc Govern, Jim Sherry, Paddy Reilly, and Jaqueline Maloney.

### **Youth Board**

A big thank you to Orla O Reilly, Chairperson, Brian Seagrave, Secretary, and the Youth board committee, consisting of Thomas McKenna, John T Gilsean, Fergal Hartin, Kathryn Flynn, Matt Kiernan, Gavin Brady and Dessie Reilly, for the running of fixtures in 2020. This year was a huge challenge to the Youth Board and its great credit to them to have gotten so many games played.

### **Health and Wellbeing**

Thanks to Gerry Soden and Mark O Rourke for their work in 2020. Thanks to all the committee comprising of Gerry Soden, Mark O Rourke, Anne Fortune, Susan Brady, James Moynagh, Philip Smith (Crosserlough) Nicola Fortune, Philip Smith (Kingscourt) Sinead Tormey, Carol Kiernan, and Michelle Smith. They had a busy year and came up with the idea of planting a Tree of Hope in each Club in Cavan as well as in Kingspan Breffni to commemorate all who died during the pandemic.



### **Tree of Hope planting Ceremony in Kingspan Breffni**

#### ***I want to thank my fellow officers for their contribution in 2020***

Kieran Callaghan, Chairman, had a baptism of fire in his first year, from Covid to winning the Ulster Championship. From January to March all was moving along nicely until Covid struck. A lot of tough decisions were taken during this time, some of which were not popular with the staff. However, work continued and hopefully we're getting through it.

Mark O Rourke, Vice Chairman, was of great assistance in his role and was Chairman of the referees committee. He also gave great assistance to Gerry Soden in the health and wellbeing department. Unfortunately, a number of tragedies took place this year and the clubs involved were very grateful to Mark and Gerry for their assistance and understanding.

Angela Hamilton, Assistant Secretary has done so much work behind the scenes helping me and giving me more time to pursue other parts of my role that I didn't have time to do before this. Thanks also for the assistance in putting this report together.

Unfortunately, a number of projects were started and had to stop, but hopefully they will be starting again in the New Year.

Thanks to Martin Cahill and John Keating for again looking after the finances of the Board. An unusual year for finance was had. Some gate receipts were received, but a large portion of our revenue was lost. However, Cavstream came to the rescue and provided us with much needed funds.

Tom O Reilly, Central Council Rep, didn't get to Croke Park for many meetings but was at all the Teams meetings for Central Council.

Gerry Brady and Kevin Reilly were our representatives on the Ulster Council for 2020 and due to Covid, a lot of the normal workings were curtailed. They still represented us on the hearings and fixture committees.

Kevin Shiels, Coaching Officer in his first year, was again up against it, as no normal meetings could be held. Still, he got through and hopefully next year will be more normal, and Coaching & Games will prosper.

Anne Fortune, Children's Officer, like those in all other positions, was restricted in what she could do. However, when issues arose, they were dealt with in the usual, efficient manner.

Susan Brady, P.R.O - Thanks to Susan and all the PR committee, consisting of Mark O'Rourke, Colleen McCabe, Gavin Brady, Barney Cully, Adrian Donohoe, Caoin McCabe, Peadar Soden, Greg Meehan and Stephen King, for their work in 2020. Thanks also to Susan for all her assistance in putting together this report.

I'd like to thank our IT Officer, Tommy Mc Gibney, for his continued work with clubs on registration and IT. This particular role is everchanging and Tommy keeps us up to speed on all the new guidelines.

Thanks to Kevin Smith for his work with all clubs in 2020. Again, due to Covid, all grants were suspended. Kevin continues his work with Clubs on the upgrading of their facilities.

Thanks to Eugene Kiernan in his final year as Cultural officer. Due to restrictions, only Junior Scór was completed. Eugene will be replaced by Micheal McGibney from Cornafean. We wish both of them good luck.

Gerry Soden, Health and Wellbeing, with the assistance of Vice Chairman Mark O Rourke, unfortunately had a busy year as a number of tragedies took place in different clubs. Gerry and Mark had meetings with the clubs who were very grateful for their advice and input.

Damien Galligan was given the role as COVID-19 officer for Cavan G.A.A. He has done and continues to do a fantastic job, guiding Clubs and County safely through these very difficult times, and ensuring all the required protocols are in place, with the safety of players, and all involved in our games, paramount. This was a big undertaking, but Damien excelled in his position. He was and still is so relaxed in the job and nothing was a problem to him. Unfortunately, the role is ongoing but in Damien's hands we can trust.

Tom Moore, Peadar Maguire, and Philip Smith form the rest of the management committee and I would like to thank them for their contribution also.

As a group, the Management Committee began the year undertaking a County Executive Team Programme, but due to COVID-19, this has not yet been completed. We hope to pick up where we left off early in 2021.

Thanks to our Insurance Officer, Thomas Brady, who was appointed in 2020. Thomas took on this role, and as with all other committees, had a trying time in 2020.

I want to thank Dermot Mc Cabe, Games Development Manager, for his work in 2020 in very trying times for himself and his coaches. Lockdown proved difficult but great credit must be given to the staff for their continued work. The Cúl camps were the most successful camps in Ulster, and possibly Ireland, and that's a testament to the coaching staff of Dermot, Aiden, Jack, Dan, Chris, Keith, and Andy. Nevin O Donnell took time out to travel in 2020. Andy Mc Govern has moved on and I want to thank him for 12 great years of service and dedication to Cavan G.A.A. I wish him well in his new surrounds.

Thanks to Peadar Soden and Andy Tully for all their work in 2020.

Peadar is now also a vital member of the senior football backroom team.

Thanks to Keith Greene and Emmet Conlon for their work on the promotion of Hurling. Unfortunately, in the year that was, the fixture calendar was greatly curtailed. We look forward to 2021.

I would like to thank other sub-committees for their contribution during the past year.

Finance Committee

Commercial Committee

Ladies Football Board

Coaching & Games Committee

Scór Committee

Cumann Na mBunscoil

Camogie Board

Post Primary Schools Committee

Rounders Board

Handball Board

### **Sponsorship**

In the year that was in it, we took no sponsorship from any of our associate sponsors, as a lot of businesses were struggling during the pandemic. Kingspan continued to sponsor our team and naming rights.

They also contributed a large sum of money to us for winning the Ulster final and we are very grateful to them for that.

Thanks to the following sponsors:

**Kingspan**

**Kilmore Hotel**

**Meadow View,**

*Kiernan's Service Stations*

*Romar Heating*

*Michael Fitzpatrick, Architects*

*Farnham Arms Hotel*

*Lavey Inn*

*Wilton Waste Youth Board Sponsor*

*O Neills*

*Cullys Craft Bakery*

*Lakeside Manor Hotel.*

*Streamline*

*Martin and Moran Property Advisors*

*Clonarn Clover (O Egg)*

*Lakeland Dairies*

*Pauric McEvoy, SuperValu, Virginia.*

*Padraigh Rudden Service Stations*



I want to thank the Community employment and Breffni Integrated workers for their great contribution in 2020.

Thanks to Catherine McGovern, Maureen Duffy (now retired) and Joe Mc Quillan, Supervisors, for their help and co-operation in 2020.

Thanks to Seamus Galligan and all the caretakers for their continued contribution to the upkeep of the Stadium. They have been busy this year, with a large number of games in Kingspan Breffni. Also, when the Covid testing was happening, all the workers moved over to the 3G.

Thanks also to our evening caretakers Michael O Reilly, Matthew Mc Sherry and Brendan Sweeney who look after all activities in Kingspan Breffni each evening and at weekends.

I want to say a big thank you to the stewards in Kingspan Breffni and also at the 3G pitch. Thanks to Damien Galligan, Event Controller, Carmel O'Neill and Mickey Graham, Head Stewards, and Philip Smith, Safety Officer, for their work on match days. Also, to Claire Johnston for the refreshments. Finally, thanks to the Denn Club for the smooth running of the car parking.

The Gardaí, under the leadership of Jimmy Coen (who retired in November), Cora Early and James Gallagher, continue to liaise with the Kingspan Breffni committee on traffic management, on big match days. Every day is a new challenge, and we are thankful for their help and co-operation. Jimmy Coen has retired, and we wish him well in his retirement. We had a great working relationship with Jimmy and look forward to working with his successor.

Thanks to John Maguire and the Civil Defence, for their help and contribution to match days this year, especially during Covid.

Eddie McDonald (who has retired) who kept us up to date on the Scoreboard and was an integral part of match days in Kingspan Breffni.

Thanks to Eileen Clarke in the office for her work and for making my job that bit easier.

Finally, thanks to my wife Bernie for her continued support.

### **Comhbhrón.**

This year was so sad, as so many lost loved ones in 2020 and I offer our sympathies to all bereaved families. It was a very hard on families with no wakes or attendances at the services.

There were so many funerals that we would have attended, only for the circumstances.

I will not name anybody this year, only offer our sincere sympathies to all.

## **Youth Board Report 2020**

The fixture plan was in place and the 2020 season for the Youth Board commenced. Little did we think that we would get one Under 17 League game played and that was it till July 2020. Covid-19 took over and a decision to cancel all football in the county on 12<sup>th</sup> March was taken. We all felt this would only be for a couple of weeks but it was extended and extended until we got the green light to start playing on 18<sup>th</sup> July.

After much discussion and the backing of the clubs we went with the championship in the three age grades. We proposed to run 5 games in each but the bye round caused issues with us so the competition dates had to be amended and extended! We started off with the Under 17 Championship and congratulations to Division 1 winners Southern Gaels, Division 2 winners Killygarry and Division 4 winners Naomh Brid. Unfortunately the Division 3 competitions was not completed due to Covid-19 restrictions. Thanks to our sponsors for the Under 17 Farnham Arms Hotel and Rossa Lighting for the Man of the Match Award for the Division 1 Final.

Under 15 Competition had not reached semi Final stages with the Under 13 Competition at Semi Final and Final stages. All competitions not completed due to Covid-19 restrictions will be reviewed in early 2021. Thank you to our sponsors of Lavey Inn and Wilton Waste and for their continued support to Cavan Youth Board.

Thank you to our committee Thomas McKenna, Fergal Hartin, Dessie Reilly, Kathryn Flynn, Matt Kiernan, Gavin Brady and John T Gilsean for their time and dedication to the smooth running of the fixtures. To all the referees who had a busy period that you for accommodating and getting all games played. We would also like senior board Kieran, Liam, Mark, Angela, Martin and Susan for their help and support. We are very grateful to them for allowing us to host our finals in Kingspan Breffni. Also to the stewards on the evenings had an important role of the safety of every presence at the venue.

To you the clubs, the chairperson, the secretary, players and parents thank you for your understanding in these difficult times. To the Covid Officers in every club thank you very much in making sure everyone was safe at our games. Thank you to Damien Galligan our County Board Covid Officer for all his help and knowledge with dealing with Covid related cases.

Lets hope 2021 will be a better year on and off the playing field but in the meantime we wish you all a very Happy Christmas and peaceful new year and more importantly stay safe.

Orlaith Ni Raghallaigh & Brian Sugru

## **Report for Convention 2020**

2020 has been an extremely challenging year for all involved in GAA in our Post Primary schools. Currently there are no schools competing in Ulster Schools GAA competitions due to restrictions in place because of the covid 19 pandemic.

As things stand there have been some tentative indications that there may be some truncated competitions run after christmas but that is very much dependent on schools being able to operate within government and HSE guidelines.

In normal circumstances we would also be seeing the completion of our local competitions around this time of year and whether such competitions are played after christmas will once again be dependent on government guidelines and the goodwill of principals and deputy principals facilitating staff involved with teams, given how most schools are stretched to their absolute limits due to the added pressures of covering for staff due to illness and self isolating measures.

In Ulster we had some notable success in the past twelve months with St Mogue's Bawnboy retaining their ulster title when their senior boys team defeated Breifne College Cavan in the final of the Ward cup. The final was notable for being played in the fantastic setting of Kingspan Breffni park on March the 12<sup>th</sup>, hours before the first lockdown was announced. Everyone involved in post primary schools gaa would like to thank the county board for providing the use of kingspan breffni and the 3G facility to us over the course of the year whenever it was requested, and we all look forward to seeing our schools teams playing out there once again sometime in the future.

We acknowledge the work done by the Games development team and our visiting coaches who help out in our schools. They do a lot of good work in conjunction with our teachers and we appreciate their efforts. Thanks also to the county board for their continued support in facilitating their availability to the schools.

Finally we would like to extend our congratulations to Mickey Graham, his players, and management team, and to the county board, on their recent success in winning the Ulster senior football championship. It was a wonderful achievement and has brought much happiness and delight to our schools in these difficult times. It has also been a source of great pride for many teachers involved in gaelic games at post primary level to see so many past pupils involved in the senior county panel.

James Sherry

Chairman

## **C.C.C. REPORT 2020**

In February 2020 a year of hope commenced on the football fields with the start of the U/20 Spring League. This competition was to provide football for players between the age of 17 and 20. However despite the best intentions of the County Board and the Clubs, circumstances outside their control were to dictate the agenda for the year ahead.

After a number of rounds of the U/20 competition the Country went into a National lockdown in March thus bringing all sporting activity to a halt for the foreseeable future.

As the year drifted into June everyone was wondering would they see any football or hurling games again for the rest of the year. In July the go ahead was given for limited sporting activity and a reduced Football League competition was commenced with all clubs guaranteed 4 games. The League commenced on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2020 with games at Senior, Intermediate, Junior, and Reserve level. All teams that entered played a number of games prior to the start of the various championships

The Hurling League commenced on Monday 20/7/20 with Mullahoran St Josephs and Pearse Ogs qualifying for the final.

The Hotel Kilmore Senior and Intermediate Championships and commenced on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> July 2020.

The Cullys Craft Bakery Junior Championship commenced on Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> August 2020.

The Championships continued in the format of previous years with 4 League Rounds by open draw and the top 8 teams qualifying for the knockout stages.

The Championship continued to be extremely competitive with excitement, passion and lots to talk about.

Due to Government restrictions the attendance of supporters was limited to small numbers.

The continued use of club grounds for championship games was a huge success as clubs put on an impressive show hosting the games under the Government guidelines and Health restrictions.

As many games as possible were played in Kingspan Breffni in an effort to give every club a chance to play there.

We wish to thank sincerely all the clubs for their cooperation and help in providing venues to the C.C.C.

Where possible in 2021, the C.C.C will endeavour to ensure that all clubs will get at least one championship game in Kingspan Breffni prior to the knockout stages of the various championships.

A special word of thanks to all the clubs who accommodated us for the championship draws and looked after us so well despite the difficult circumstances.

The Hotel Kilmore Senior Championship final took place on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> September between Kingscourt Stars and Crosserlough and was televised by RTE Sport.

The replay of the Senior Championship final took place on Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> of October with Crosserlough emerging victorious.

The Hotel Kilmore Intermediate Championship final took place on Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> September between Ballinagh and Butlersbridge with Ballinagh emerging victorious.

The Cully's Craft Bakery Junior Championship final between Templeport and Denn was due to take place on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> October but due to Covid Guidelines and Public Health Restrictions the game was postponed and deferred until 2021.

The Reserve Championship commenced in September and has not been completed due to COVID restrictions.

Following consultation with the 4 senior hurling clubs the Senior Hurling Championship took place with Mullahoran St Josephs emerging victorious.

There are a number of issues in relation to the Hurling competitions that need to be addressed and scheduling poses challenges for 2021 due to the cross over of dual players and the number of clubs involved. Players must be released to play hurling with their various clubs without fear of being dropped etc if they do so.

A decision was taken by the C.C.C not to play the U20 championship as this competition had not commenced.

The U20 league, Adult Leagues, Reserve Leagues, Reserve Championship and Hurling League Final which commenced in 2020 have been deferred to 2021 and will be reviewed bearing in mind Government Restrictions, COVID, and Public Health Guidelines.

The C.C.C wish to thank Chairman Kieran Callaghan, County Secretary Liam McCabe, Assistant Secretary Angela Hamilton and all the Officers of Cavan County Board for their help and support throughout an extraordinary and unprecedented year. Thanks also to Martin Cahill and Tom Moore with whom we work closely for their help and support throughout the Championship competitions. Thanks also to Eileen in the office, Seamus and all the staff in Kingspan Breffni who do so much to assist us and the County Board during the year. Thanks also to all the Stewards who gave up their time freely in trying and difficult circumstances to ensure all games ran smoothly.

To Orla and the Youth Bord, Thank you for all you help.

We would like to sincerely thank all of our Referees for their commitment and dedication. We would like to thank Referees Administrator John Duffy for his assistance throughout the year, to Mark O'Rourke, Brian Crowe and Martin Brady for all they do to help and support our Referees and us on the C.C.C. Thanks also to the Referees Committee chaired by Jimmy Galligan.

Finally, to the clubs of Cavan we offer our sincere thanks for your help and cooperation throughout a difficult year.

I would like to say a special thank you to all members of the C.C.C. To Tony Ryan, Damian Brady, Tom Moore, Fergal Hartin, Geraldine Lynch, Rosemarie Caffrey and Gary Robbins thanks for all your help and patience throughout an eventful but enjoyable year.

Gearóid O Síoradain

Cathaoirleach

Choiste Cheannais na gComórtaistí

## **Report of Hearings Committee to Convention 2020**

The Hearings Committee in 2020 comprised six members: Tommy McGibney, Chairperson (Cornafean), Aidan Smith, Secretary, (Mullahoran), Jacqueline Maloney (Cavan Gaels) Paddy O'Reilly (Shercock), Pat Clarke (Killinkere) and Greg McGovern (Swanlinbar)

During the year, the Committee's longest serving member Jim Sherry (Denn) retired having given great service to the Committee for many years. I thank Jim for his dedicated and wise service over the years and wish him and his family the very best for the future.

The function of the Hearings Committee is to adjudicate on disciplinary matters where a Hearing is prescribed and requested, relating to enforcement of rules. It also has responsibility to hear and adjudicate on appeals against decisions of the County Committee, most commonly those relating to player transfer requests in accordance with the County Committee Transfer bye-laws.

Any member may seek a Hearing where they do not accept a disciplinary penalty proposed by the Competition Controls Committee (CCC). The CCC is duty bound to propose an appropriate penalty in accordance with the Official Guide when an infraction is noted in a referee's report and may propose a penalty in certain other limited circumstances.

In each case, the Hearings Committee, having considered the evidence put forward by the defending party, may or may not impose a sanction. Under rule a referees report, including any clarification thereto, is presumed to be correct in all factual matters and may only be rebutted where unedited video or other compelling evidence contradicts it. The Committee may decide to impose a lesser sanction where it is satisfied that an infraction was proven but was of a less serious nature than that considered by the CCC.

2020 was a year dominated by Covid-19 and its associated restrictions. I thank the many club officials and members who co-operated with us throughout the year in relation to the holding of remote and socially distanced Hearings.

I wish to thank my fellow Committee members for their attendance at Hearings throughout the year, sometimes at very short notice. Sincere thanks also to the CCC, particularly Chairman, Gerry Sheridan and Secretary Gary Robins for their co-operation, including attendance at Hearings, during the year.

Tomás MacGibhne  
Cathaoirleach  
Coiste Éisteacha An Cabháin

## **Cultural Officers Report**

Coiste Scór an Chabháin.

Secretary's Report 2020

In the County both Scór na nÓg and Scór Sinsear were highly successful in 2020. Twenty five clubs entered Scór na nÓg while a total of ten clubs were represented in Scór Sinsear.

Congratulations to the Scór na nÓg team from Cornafean who won the All Ireland Final in Tráth na gCeist in Killarney. This was their third year in a row to win so great credit to the team and their mentors. Congratulations, also, to Cian Murray from Gowra who reached The All Ireland Final in Solo Singing.

In Senior Scór the competition was postponed at the Ulster Final stage because of Covid !9. Cavan had qualified for this in Ballad Group (Drumlane), Instrumental Music (Erne Eagles) Set Dancing (Drumlane) and Tráth na gCeist (Cornafean).

On the promotion of the Irish Language, interviews for the Gaeltacht Scholarships were cancelled.

We would like to thank all the officers of the County Scór Committee and Irish Officers for all their help and support during the last year. A sincere word of thanks also to County Secretary Liam McCabe and Eileen in Breifne Park for their assistance and courtesy to us at all times. We look forward to another successful year at Scór and Cultural events in the near future.

Eoghan Mac Tighearnáin

(Oifigeach Cultúrtha)

Gearóidín Ní Dhugáin (Rúnaí Scór)

## **Coaching and Games Report**

As an extremely difficult 2020 draws to a close, Cavan Coaching and Games wishes to thank everybody who helped in the running of the various activities that have taken place this year. Due to the amount of help and cooperation, both before and during Covid19 lockdowns, that we have received it will not be possible to name everybody individually in this report, but we would like to acknowledge the great support that we have received from all Clubs Coaches, Primary and Post Primary Teachers and Cul Camp staff this year.

This year the coaching and games has been overseen by County Games Development Manager Dermot McCabe and the County Coaches Aidan McCabe, Andy McGovern, Keith Greene, Chris Conroy, Jack Wharton, Dan Wharton and Athletic Development coach Andre Quinn. Coaching Officer for 2020 was Kevin Shiels from the Kingscourt Club.

Andy McGovern as recently departed and will be missed by all the team. Andy started working as a Coach for Cavan GAA in September 2008 and his presence has been felt across every aspect of Cavan Football since then - primary & secondary schools, coaching courses, summer camps, Academy Squads, workshops and clubs.

Throughout his time, Andy has brought a real professionalism to his work and has coached thousands of players across the different strands of football in Cavan. His deep knowledge of the game and innovation in his coaching methods were always evident in his coaching as well as always being approachable - as anyone who have worked with Andy can testify to. All the staff in Cavan Coaching Games wish you all the best on your new adventure.

### **Club Program**

Up to first lockdown on March 12<sup>th</sup>, County Coach had contacted club coaches from U7 to U13 and reviewed their club in the following areas and identified key requirements: -

- Session requirements for each age group
- Planned session for time of year (In and Out of competition)
- Parents queries
- Planning session of different ability
- Common goal amongst the Club and their coaches
- SWOT Analysis

After March 12<sup>th</sup> Cavan C&G met and tried to ensure the club coach was keeping in contact with their players and to help Cavan C&G would make every effort to assist them in doing so.

We completed this in the following ways: -

- Create a database of every Club Coach name and mobile from U7 to U17

- Provide each coach with age appropriate skill challenge, training programme direct to all coaches so simply could forward to player's parents. These were provided weekly in Video and/or text format video What'sApp, text and/or email. We had over 200 coaches were involved, and we thank you greatly for your efforts
- Skills league: Clubs were invited to participate in skill challenge recording times and executions and with this information we formed league tables and provided small prizes for winners and draw for participants.
- Training programme: For the older age groups we asked club players to provide details using MapMyRun App. From this data we put together running programmes base on those results.

### Go Games Blitzes.

As restriction were reduced, we contact all clubs regarding GO Games Fixtures. The following expressed interest at U9 & U11 age groups and games were arranged: -

<b>U9 Teams</b>			
<b>14 or under Players</b>	<b>15-20 Players</b>	<b>20-25 Players</b>	<b>25+ Players</b>
Killeshandra	Drung	Ramor	Cuchulainns
Ballymachugh	Castlerahan	Butlersbridge	Kingscourt
Lavey	Ballyhaise		Mullahoran
Mountnugent	Knockbride		Killygarry
Cornafaen	Belturbet		
Gowna	Munterconnaught		

<b>U11 Teams</b>		
<b>14 or under Players</b>	<b>15-20 Players</b>	<b>20+ Players</b>
Lavey	Drung	Crosserlough
Cornafaen	Castlerahan	Bailieboro
Arva	Drumalee	Kingscourt
Killeshandra	Munterconnaught	Ramor
Ballymachugh	Killygarry	Cavan Gaels
Templeport	Mountnugent	Ballyhaise
Shercock	Cootehill	
Belturbet	Mullahoran	
Gowna	Lacken	
Knockbride	Denn	
Drumgoon		
Redhills		

## Hurling

Emmett Conlon continued his role as Regional Hurling Officer for Ulster GAA for 2020 while Keith Greene was still employed as HDA. Between them they put together a plan for 2020. The aim being to give as many children the opportunity to try Hurling as possible through national and secondary schools coaching along with Super Game Centers, Academy Squads and Club Sessions.

### **Super Games Centers/Go Games Blitzes**

These had been planned to take place in different locations each month but with Covid restrictions this unfortunately was unable to be completed

**U7/9**

**U11/13**

**U15**

### **Development/Academy Squads**

In 2020 the plan was for Cavan to have Academy squads at U13, U15 and with the U17 Squad to compete in the Celtic Challenge Competition again this year.

Patrick Delaney along with Pat O'Flaherty and Michael Boyle took charge of the U17s for 2020 taking over from Mark Hayes who along with his various management teams worked with the lads over the previous 5 years. Training had just got underway when restrictions came into place and the competition was cancelled for the year. There were another 4 trainings before the second lockdown but unfortunately the lads did not get to complete in 2020.

The U13 & U15 squads started off training in February with promising numbers attending the 3 sessions but again these lads unfortunately saw no further action due to restrictions.

### **Workshops**

Hurling Workshops this year like everything else reverted to taking place in online Webinar Form, there have to date been over 10 workshops from Cavan, Ulster and national Hurling Development Manager Martin Fogarty. All workshops have been well attended by Cavan coaches and from feedback they have seemed to enjoy the new format

### **Club Work**

With Club meetings scheduled for Mid-March club work again took to social media platforms with skills challenges been set and sent out to club players throughout the first lockdown period. Keith and Emmet would have had contact with club players throughout the national schools since they resumed along with some of the secondary schools.

## Schools

In 2020 we have been working in schools associated with the following Clubs

East Cavan Gaels

Cootehill Celtic

Mullahoran St Josephs

Woodford Gaels

Butlersbridge

St Felims

The planned 1<sup>st</sup> year coaching with a blitz played on November 11<sup>th</sup> 2019 on the 3G In Kingspan Breffni.

Was unfortunately unable to be played this year

## Competitions

U13/15 Tain Og

Planned to be ran again and finals to be played in KBP in June but unfortunately could not take place

## U11/U13 Cross County Leagues

There were some challenge games played at these levels as all clubs were not available due to the pandemic

## Development Squads.

All Development Squads had commenced work in January 2020 coordinated by volunteer\coaching staff involvement. C&G view development squads as an opportunity to develop playing and not entirely based on winning games at the cost of developing. From Mid-March most contact was via MS Teams and Training programmes.

Age groups as follows: -

Age Group	Total	Pitch Sessions	Athletic Dev	MS Teams + Programmes
Under 16	41	16	6	16
Under 15	56	8	2	16
Under 14	Open	6	1	6

## After Schools | Super Games Centre programmes

In 2020, Cavan C&G introduced our SGC targeting those children in their final year of Primary school. These proved very popular and venues below were completed prior to lockdown dates. Unfortunately, with restrictions this programme in West Cavan & Drumgoon were not completed. A resumption of this programme took place in September in venues Bailieborough, Kilnaleck, 3G and Ramor but were unable to continue due to restrictions after 1-week completion.

<p><b>Venue: VIRGINIA COLLEGE</b>  <b>1</b>  <b>Schools Invited:</b>  St. Clares BJD  Castlerahan  Virginia  Knocktemple  Carrickabruise  Mountnugent  Cross  Mullagh</p>	<p><b>Venue: MULLAHORAN</b>  <b>2</b>  <b>Schools Invited:</b>  Cornea/Corliss  Ballinagh  Mullahoran  Ballnarry  Gowna  Lacken  Arva  Killashandra  Drumkilly  Kilnaleck  CROSSERLOUGH  Bruskey</p>
<p><b>Venue: KILLINKERE</b>  <b>3</b>  <b>Schools Invited:</b>  Billis  Killenkere  Aughnadreena  Killyconnan  St. Anne's  Ballinamoney  Model  Vale</p>	<p><b>Venue: BREIFNE COLLEGE</b>  <b>4</b>  <b>Schools Invited:</b>  Killygarry  Crubany  Corlurgan  St. Felims  Farnham  Gaelscoil  Drumcreve  Crosskeys  Butlersbridge  Redhills  Cavan No.1  Castletara  Ballyhaise</p>

**Primary Schools Coaching.**

Over a long number of years Cavan Coaching and Games have worked with Primary Schools and this year more than any the cooperation and acceptance of coaches is greatly appreciated. Our programme consisted of: -

<b>Coaching and Games National Schools</b>		
	<b>Junior to 2nd Class</b>	<b>3rd to 6th Class</b>
<b>Week 1</b>	ABC's Through Fun Games	ABC's Through Games
<b>Week 2</b>	ABC's Through Fun Games	ABC's Through Games
<b>Week 3</b>	ABC's Through Fun Games	ABC's Through Games
<b>Week 4</b>	ABC's Through Fun Games	ABC's Through Games
<b>Week 5</b>	ABC's, Basic Skills	Fundamental Movements, Hand pass, Cond Game
<b>Week 6</b>	ABC's, Basic Skills	Fundamental Movements, Hand pass, kick pass, Cond Game
<b>Week 7</b>	ABC's, Basic Skills	Fundamental Movements, Pick Up, Cond Games
<b>Week 8</b>	ABC's, Basic Skills	Fundamental Movements, Catch, High, Body, Low & Cond Games

In 2020, our School's programme ran from January 7<sup>th</sup> to March 12<sup>th</sup> and from Sept 15<sup>th</sup> to December 11<sup>th</sup>. Schools were broken into blocks and we were visited on alternative weeks. Below is a breakdown of both blocks and over 7000 children received coaching. On our September return we have ensured that all Covid guidelines are adhered too and our Coach remains outdoors throughout their visit.

Primary Schools	
Block 1	Block 2
Cross NS	Cabra Central
Shercock NS	St. Annes NS
Ballinamoney NS	St. Josephs NS
St. Killians NS	Virginia NS
Ballinary NS	Drumkilly NS
Kilnaleck NS	Crosserlough NS
Mullahoran NS	Killygarry NS
Arva NS	Aughnadreena NS
St Clares BJD	Crubany NS
Crubany NS	Castlerahan NS
Cootehill NS	Ballinagh NS
Corlurgan NS	Dernakesh NS
Killyconnan NS	Killygarry NS
Crosserlough NS	Bruskey NS
Creaghrahan NS	Butlerbridge NS
Milltown NS	Swanlinbar NS
Killeshandra NS	St. Felims
Killeshandra No.2	Corliss NS
Gaeliscoile	St. Josephs NS
Virginia NS	Carrigabruise NS
Ballyconnell NS	Ballyhaise NS
The Vale NS	Killinkere NS
Castletara NS	Redhills NS
Farnham NS	Clifferna NS
Laragh NS	Gowna NS
Mountnugent NS	Cornea NS
Drung NS	Blacklion NS
Kill NS	Glan NS
Corlough NS	Model NS
Drung No 2	Cavan No 1
Lisboduff	Kildallon
	Convent Belturbet
	Belturbet Boys

### Post Primary Coaching.

For the Autumn 2019 – March 2020, through cooperation with Schools and teachers we have been able to greatly increase our activities within Post Primary Schools. In the main all Post Primary schools are receiving sessions in the following 3 forms: -

1. Field Session
2. Athletic Development Session
3. TY Program

Since Autumn 2020 we have recommence in Breifne College, Bailieborough & Kingscourt and further planned for Virginia, Ballyjamesduff and St. Patricks.

### Kellogs GAA Cúl Camps

Cavan Coaching & Games were delighted to commit and run Cul Camps in 21 Venues. This year amidst all restrictions we had huge numbers of almost 2,300 attending our camps. The camps were hugely successful and provided a long-awaited outlet for both Children and Parents. Strict guidelines were followed throughout the camp and we will appreciate the patience of all parents and drop-off and collection points. A special thanks to all Cul Camp Co-ordinators, 65 Summer Staff and Full time Staff for all their help in both the run up to the Camps and during the summer. Venues and numbers were as follows: -

Name	Children	Name	Children
Kingspan Breffni	120	Killygarry	160
Kingscourt	160	Cornafean	160
Killinkere	93	Kildallan	52
Shannon Gaels	60	Drumalee	60
Cuchulainns	80	Mullahoran	124
Laragh	94	Bailieboro	86
Drumlane	80	Butlersbridge	124
Munterconnaught	96	Ramor	80
Denn	80	Lavey	118
Cootehill	124	Cavan Gaels	55
Crosserlough	160	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2262</b>
Belturbet	96		

## Coach Education

In total this year we have run 7 courses in either hurling or football. We have trained in excess of 170 newly trained and advanced coaches. These courses were 4 x Foundation and 1 x Level 1 along with 2 x eLearning Foundation Dual courses.

## Workshops

### **Mobility & Warm Ups Workshop**

This will focus on the areas of Mobility & Warm-Ups took place on the 3G Kingspan Breffni on Monday 27th Jan. 43 Club Coaches there with our U16 squad acting as the players on the night

### **Gaelic Start Programme & Fundamental Skills for the U7 age group**

Indoor Workshop focusing on Gaelic Start Programme & Fundamental Skills for the U7 age group on Monday, 3 Feb in Killinkere, Ballyhaise and St. Patrick's Hall, Arva. 90 coaches attended our Gaelic Start & Fundamentals Workshop across the 3 different venues

### **Cavan GAA Coaching & Games Workshop: U15 - U17s**

Outdoor workshop taken place on the 3G Pitch observing conditioned games & drills appropriate for the 15 - 17 age groups on Saturday, 15 Feb.

### **Cavan GAA Coaching & Games Workshop: U11 - U13s**

Outdoor workshop taken place on the 3G Pitch observing conditioned games & drills appropriate for the 13 - 11 age groups on Saturday, 7 March. 50 Club Coaches attended.

## Webinars

Cavan Coaching held Webinars during 2020.

### **May:**

"Attacking Play" with Martin Corey. A very well received webinar with 117 coaches viewing

"Will things ever be the same again? Strategies for staying sane and focused during Covid19" with Paul Gaffney. Huge attendance of 122.

Many thanks to Martin and Paul.

### **November:**

All Autumn webinars were delivered by Cavan Coaching & Games Coaches with over 250 coaches attending:

- U7 & U9 Player Pathway
- U11 Player Pathway
- U13 Player Pathway
- U15 & U17 Player Pathway
- National Schools Teachers - Fundamentals for Junior Cycle

- Nutrition for Teenagers
- National Schools Teachers - Games & Skills for 3rd to 6th Class
- Winter Programme for 15 – 17 years olds

**Link below shows all items from workshops, webinars, coaching clips and Club Coach Support: -**

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1\\_isVBwMA6HHuD37RoPdlw](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC1_isVBwMA6HHuD37RoPdlw)

**Thanks:**

Finally, I would like to thank all Coaching & Games staff for their work throughout 2020. This has been extremely difficult year for you, but you all can be very proud of your efforts. All preparation of material for Club Coaches, Club Players, Academies, Schools Coaching, Webinars and all they great work you completed for a hugely successful Cul Camps programme. At times there was always a degree of uncertainty and at no stage did work levels drop and again thank you all the efforts.

## Coaching Officer report to Cavan GAA Convention 2020

I am honoured to be writing my first Coaching Officer report to Cavan GAA Convention. It has been a difficult year for everyone but our Cavan Senior footballers have showed us all, that through adversity and challenging times, when you have the correct mix of talent and sheer hard work and determination, anything is possible.

Despite long periods of inactivity on the football field throughout 2020, it has been a very busy first year in office. After my election at the 2019 Convention I set about developing a Coaching & Games Committee. I want to thank the following for agreeing to join my committee and for their valued input throughout the year:

Anthony Forde [Laragh United]

Jack Brady [Ramor United]

Frank Lovett [Killygarry]

Kieran McGovern [Swanlinbar]

Dallan Reilly [Killdallan]

Donal Clarke [Bailieborough Shamrocks]

Pat Shalvey [Crosserlough]

Orla O'Reilly [Youth Board] [Redhills]

Keith Greene [Hurling Development Administrator] [Mountnugent]

Dermot McCabe [Games Development Manager] [Gowna]

From the outset I felt that it was needed to give Hurling its own platform in the County and therefore its own committee. I think it is important that Hurling people run Hurling. I want to thank the following for their input in helping to develop a Hurling strategy at the beginning of the year:

Willie Gaughan [East Cavan Gaels]

Kathryn O'Flynn [East Cavan Gaels]

Pat O'Flaherty [East Cavan Gaels]

Patrick Delaney [Cootehill Celtic]

Michael Boyle [Cootehill Celtic]

Martin Magahran [Woodford Gaels]

Stephen Kellegher [Butlersbridge]

James Gallagher [Butlersbridge]

Sean McGuinness [Castlerahan]

Michael Wall [Pearse Og's]

Alan Lonergan [Mullahoran]

Emmett Conlon [Regional Hurling Development Officer] [Ulster GAA]

Keith Greene [Hurling Development Administrator] [Mountnugent]

I would like to thank my predecessor Martin McGovern, for all his advice in the lead up to me taking on this role and for checking in with me throughout the year.

January 2020 was a month spent in meetings, workgroups and phone calls putting together a detailed 12-month plan for Coaching & Games. This plan was presented to the County Management Committee, the Youth Board AGM and at the County Committee meeting in early February. Little did we know at the time that many of our best laid plans were to be scuppered by the Covid-19 Pandemic.

### Coaching & Games department

We are very lucky in Cavan to have the quality of coaches that we do within our Coaching & Games Staff. Unfortunately, at the beginning of the year Nevin O'Donnell had made the decision to travel for the year and therefore was not at our disposal. Now at the end of the year we have lost our most experienced coach in Andy McGovern. Andy was a top-quality coach with a wealth of experience, and he will be sorely missed within Coaching & Games and by our young players in schools and clubs. I would like to wish Andy the very best in his new career and I am sure he still has a part to play in Cavan GAA in the future.

In our remaining coaches, Aidan McCabe, Chris Conroy, Dan Wharton, Jack Wharton, and Keith Greene our Hurling Development Administrator, we have so much coaching talent, enthusiasm, and experience to help continue to improve coaching standards in Cavan. Andre Quinn our Athletic Development coach has brought that side of the game to new heights within Cavan and with the opening of our new purpose-built gym facility he can perform his excellent work to an even greater standard. Dermot McCabe, our Games Development Manager brings all these different aspects of our Coaching & Games department together. I would like to thank them all for their work throughout what was a challenging year and to also thank each of them for welcoming me into Coaching & Games as Coaching Officer.

#### Coaching Plan 2020

As with any officer role there should always be a plan for the year, and with any plan there must be a review process and accountability. Although the Covid-19 Pandemic accounted for many of our plans I would like to review what we set out to do against what we achieved.

#### Games Programme

Goal: We had set out to achieve the most extensive juvenile games programme for Cavan GAA in recent years. This was to be achieved by playing Juvenile games u13 – u17 every other week from March to October. This would have provided clubs with up to 20 fixtures per team at each age grade. For u9 – u11, monthly blitzes and Go Games were to be arranged, with the highlight being a blitz for every club in Kingspan Breffni.

Result: We had started our u17 fixtures as planned in March but then all games were called to a halt and did not resume until late July. Championships were run off for u13, u15 and u17 but unfortunately many grades were at finals stage when once again games were called to a halt.

Under 9-11's were provided with fixtures over a 2-month period and regional blitzes were organised in September for u11's. These were very successful with up to 30 clubs taking part in some form or another.

#### Super Games Centres

Goal: Implementation of an After-School's programme.

Result: This was rolled out to regional locations on a 4-week block basis and was a huge success. Once again this had to cease. A new plan was devised for September onwards where the After-School programme was 'ramped-up' to 4 locations per week. This was again proving to be a huge success before the 2nd lockdown arrived.

#### 5\* Centres

Goal: Increase the number of 5\* Centre National Schools from 15 to 25.

Result: Unfortunately, this project never got going.

#### Teacher involvement

Goal: To empower teachers with the skills to provide GAA coaching to children in the schools in the absence of our Coaches.

Result: Roll out of online webinars specific for National School coaching targeting teachers and backed up with resources.

#### Review the effectiveness of National School Coaching

Goal: Review what is working and what is not in terms of our structures within the National School's.

Result: Unfortunately, with the schools closed early this was not undertaken and it was felt from September it was important that our Coaches go back into the schools to give the kids some form of normality in a 'new-normal' school environment.

#### Development Squads

Goal: Develop a traceable and accountable player pathway for each player entering the development squad system. To bring in numerous club coaches to help with the coaching and to use it as an upskilling tool for those coaches.

Result: With the limited playing season all development squads were stood down for the year.

There were many more aspects to the plan, and I will address this below in work undertaken. From the above we were certainly on the correct path before everyone's world was turned upside down.

## Work Undertaken

### Coach database

An important starting point in communicating with coaches within the clubs was to create a 'Cavan Club Coaches' database of email addresses. This started off by going through my contacts, searching websites and online platforms, and eventually has grown to almost 500 individual contact email addresses of coaches, teachers, club secretaries, juvenile secretaries and all those wishing to receive up to date coach education information.

I would communicate with this group 2-3 times per week on average with all things education and what was going on.

On top of this, the C&G coaches would communicate to club coaches directly via WhatsApp and post details on Twitter. We would be confident therefore that our message is being received by all who are willing to receive it.

### Coach Education

This is in my view the single most important aspect to our Coaching & Games strategy. A handful of coaches, no matter how capable and qualified can only do so much. With the year that has been, coach education has taken centre stage.

An extensive 'Coach the Coaches' schedule was laid out in our plan for the year. As with most of our plan this was halted primarily due to Covid-19 but back in February we were so unlucky with the weather that a few workshops were postponed. The workshops that we did run were as follows:

- Award 1 Coaching – Kingspan Breffni
- Hurling CPD – Breifne College
- Workshop – Mobility & Warm-ups – Kingspan Breffni 3G
- Gaelic Start & Fundamentals
- Arva
- Killinkere
- Ballyhaise
- Foundation Coaching – Kingscourt
- Workshop – u11's / u13's – Kingspan Breffni 3G
- Workshop – Hurling pitch session – Kingspan Breffni 3G

Online education has come to the fore since March and the following webinars were run by Cavan C&G

- Attacking Play with Martin Corey [18/05/2020]
- Strategies for staying focused during Covid 19 with Dr Paul Gaffney [25/05/2020]
- Under 7/9 Player Pathway – C&G [13/10/2020]
- Under 11 Player Pathway – C&G [19/10/2020]
- Under 13 Player Pathway – C&G [27/10/2020]
- Under 15/17 Player Pathway – C&G [02/11/2020]
- Fundamentals for Junior Cycle (Jnr Infants to 2nd Class) – C&G [13/10/2020]
- Nutrition for Teenagers – C&G [16/11/2020]
- Managing and Improving a Hurling Team – C&G [23/11/2020]
- Games & Skills for 3rd to 6th Class – C&G [24/11/2020]
- Winter Programme for 15 – 17 Year Old's – C&G [30/11/2020]
- Online Foundation Course – Ulster GAA / C&G [Sept / Nov]
- Online Foundation Course – Ulster GAA / C&G [Nov / Dec]

Through the 'Cavan Club Coaches' we were able to reach out to a large audience. The October webinars onwards have been uploaded to an updated Cavan C&G YouTube Channel and the links to the recordings can be sent out. I feel it is important to provide the resources for our club coaches to self-educate. In this regard, I was not afraid to circulate webinars run by other counties and organisations. Ulster GAA and Monaghan GAA organised some fantastic relevant webinars during the first lockdown. National GAA ran

twice weekly webinars and I believe that these webinars helped keep us in touch with coaches but also helped coaches stay in touch with football and importantly, upskill themselves.

#### Work during the Pandemic Lockdown #1

Our coaches were faced with a difficult situation in that they could not do what they are ultimately trained to do, i.e. coach. They adapted and organised various skills challenges for u9-u13 teams which culminated in a skills league being run in May and June.

More specific work around S&C was communicated to u15 & u17 teams and Academy squads.

#### Cúl Camps

It looked almost for certain, even in June, that Cúl Camps would not proceed. In Cavan, not only did they proceed from the new start date of 20 July, but C&G expertly ran 22 camps in a 6-week period that facilitated 2,400 kids. Great credit must go to our County Coaches and all the coaches for an excellently run Cúl Camp season in challenging circumstances.

Cavan outperformed every other county in Ulster when it came to running camps and numbers of children. Remarkably, despite losing 3 weeks of camps and having the numbers restricted at each camp, the numbers in Cavan only dropped by 29%. This is one of the best results in the whole Country. Many Counties dropped by 70-90% in terms of numbers and activity.

#### National Schools

Before the first County Committee meeting of 2020 a request was submitted by Bailieborough Shamrocks asking for a review of the effectiveness of our National School's programme. As mentioned earlier in this report this was relatively high on my agenda for the year. Unfortunately circumstances throughout the year prevented us from initiating this review (which was supposed to begin in April 2020). From September, it was felt that given the upheaval in the children's lives over the past 6-9 months it was important that where possible the National School's coaching would continue as before in order to provide a normality for the kids and also activities while at school. I can assure Bailieborough Shamrocks, that this review will take place when the time is right in the very near future.

#### Secondary Schools

Before the first lockdown our Coaches were doing some excellent work in our Secondary Schools. Disappointedly since September, our access to Secondary Schools has been limited at best. This is of not a reflection on C&G but of the wider societal situation.

#### Development Squads

Last year our Chairman, Kieran Callaghan appointed Anthony Forde to an oversight role over the Development Squads. With little activity amongst our squads this year, his work was limited. I feel it is very important that our Development Squads are used as a coach education tool as well as an elite player development model. Volunteer coaches must be brought in to assist our County coaches in running these squads. These squads will then have the dual purpose of sending better players and coaches back to our clubs. I look forward to working with and assisting Anthony in his role for the coming year.

#### Hurling

As mentioned above, I met with all Hurling personnel at the beginning of the year to develop a strategy. Importantly it was continually stressed from my perspective and from Coaching & Games and the Youth Board that Monday night is and will remain Hurling night.

A very positive step this year was that Cavan would enter an extra team into the TAIN Og intercounty league. This would have provided more 13-year olds with invaluable game time. Hopefully moving into 2021 the TAIN Og and Celtic Challenge competitions can be organised in full. Through the 'Cavan Club Coaches' we were able to distribute some excellent resources to our Hurling clubs on coach education.

#### Coaching Conference

We had pencilled in a date of 18 April 2020 for a Cavan GAA coaching conference, with Mickey Graham as guest speaker, Marty Corey giving a pitch session and Andre Quinn an S&C session. I am committed to running a conference for Cavan coaches in 2021 should restrictions allow.

#### Under 19 / 20 age grade

In Cavan we operate odd age grades and National GAA looks set to implement this nationwide. There will be 1 further age grade between u17 and senior. Whether that is u19 or u20 (as Cavan voted early this year), I would urge all clubs to field a team at this level. Even if you may not have your best u19 or u20 player available due to County or senior club commitments, it will provide invaluable game time to all other players and keep these young men involved in the GAA for as long as possible. This should not be about winning at this level, this is about player development, and a platform for players leaving u17 and transitioning to senior.

#### Ulster GAA

Part of my role as Coaching Officer means that I sit on the Provincial Coaching & Games Committee in Ulster GAA. This committee makes recommendations on various matters, including age grades, Féile, Intercountry underage competitions and games programmes.

Ulster GAA are a great resource for us in terms of advice and support. As mentioned previously, Ulster GAA ran and continue to run meaningful coach education webinars. Recently they have rolled out a Club Coaching Programme which provides additional support to what our Coaching & Games also provide to clubs. In 2019 we had 2 clubs enrolled onto this programme. The feedback from these clubs was excellent. This year we have 6 clubs enrolled and currently engaging on the programme with a further 6 registered and waiting to go. This is an excellent response and brings Cavan to be one of the main recipients of this club support from Ulster GAA. As Coaching Officer, I will always urge clubs to take all the support they can from all resources available.

#### County Management Committee

As Coaching Officer, I sit on the County Management Committee. This has been an extremely difficult year for this Committee. Some very tough decisions had to be made and nobody could have foreseen the situation that this committee was put in. As volunteers, we did not want to be in that position, but ultimately, we had a responsibility to Cavan GAA, and we would like to think we can see the light at the end of the tunnel.

#### September plan

As previously mentioned, a new plan was drawn up for September going forward to Christmas. This was a plan that I could stand over and back. It was full of coach education, Club Work, Super Games Centres and not neglecting the school's coaching. This was drafted when Cavan was in Level 2, but unfortunately, we moved swiftly into level 3, 4 then 5. Having said that, I was disappointed that certain aspects of this plan was not implemented in accordance with the schedule at a period when it was viable to do so.

Since moving to level 5 an excellent series of Coach Education Webinars have been run by Cavan C&G covering topics that are relevant to our coaches in the clubs. These webinars have been excellently presented by our County coaches and have been very well received.

#### Strategic plan

I had hoped to organise regional forums to develop a 5-year strategic coaching plan for the County. This was not able to take place and hopefully 2021 will provide us with more success as we want to get as much input to a coaching plan from Cavan coaches and those from further afield. We must utilise our 2020 Ulster Senior Championship win to build and keep the momentum within Cavan to ensure that this success is not isolated.

#### Committees

The Coaching & Games Committee will now stand down and I thank them for their valued input, help and advice throughout the year. In 2021 I will go about setting up a new Coaching & Games Committee. Clarity as to the role and remit of this committee, of which the GDM is Secretary, must be established by the County Management and County Committee's to ensure that decisions made by that committee are fully implemented and measured. Communication is key between all committee members but especially between Coaching Officer and Games Development Manager. I would like to see in 2021 improved

communication between Coaching Officer and GDM that will involve weekly phone calls / meetings to update on all things C&G and to provide assistance and advice to each other.

Looking forward to 2021

Times remain uncertain for all of us and the GAA is no different. Currently our young players can train but with regards to 2021 providing a full season, that remains to be seen. In 2021 I would like to see the following:

- Extensive Juvenile games programme as per our 2020 plan
- County coaches timetabled to clubs so as Clubs know when they will have access to a County Coach in their club
- Weekly coach education practical workshops for January – March at regional venues, feeding into Club work for the remainder of the season
- Extensive Super Games Centres for u11 players in the form of After School's programme for both Hurling and Football
- Various Super Game Centres for u13 and u15 players throughout the season
- A panel of volunteer coaches assisting our Development Squads, leading to a coaching pathway
- More volunteers drafted into our Hurling Clubs to allow existing coaches help out at Development Squad level
- Continuation of bi-weekly webinars targeting specific areas of interest feeding from feedback from club coaches
- Coaching conference
- Development of a 5-year strategic coaching plan.

Kevin Shiels

Oifigeach Óiliúna | Coaching Offic

## **Children's Officer Report**

Our "GAA We All Belong" Manifesto was never more appropriate and relevant than in the past year. Being there for each other on the pitch and off, looking out for each other, trying to prevent harm coming to our community and providing support through Community initiatives are all very much at the heart of the Manifesto and were very much part of our everyday lives during this year of Covid19.

In providing assistance and support to our wider communities, our GAA clubs made life easier for everyone and should be acknowledged and commended for the incredible work that was undertaken. The welfare of Children is paramount and the main aim of a GAA Children's Officer. In helping families and communities this year, all our GAA members helped greatly in that aim.

## **Ulster GAA Club Audit Report 2020**

This year Ulster GAA under Uachtarán Comhairle Uladh Oliver Galligan, undertook an extensive audit of its clubs over the whole Province. Areas such as Coaching, Games, Volunteerism, Membership, Facilities, Scor and Irish Language were covered. Club Governance included Safeguarding. Findings from the audit show that more than 90% of Cavan clubs have completed the Safeguarding Risk Assessment, and, almost all of those that have that done so have also displayed the Safeguarding Statement.

The proportion of club volunteers who have been Garda vetted is highest for those roles which are considered most essential such as Chair, Secretary, Treasurer, Children's Officer and Coach. As in previous years, Ulster GAA will shortly provide details of all in our clubs who are currently Garda Vetted and have up to date Safeguarding. This will enable all our clubs to identify gaps and to ensure that all who deal with our young people are Safeguarding and Garda vetting compliant. It is imperative that all Coaches are compliant.

## **GAA Safeguarding Training (SG1, SG2, SG3)**

Our Face-to-Face Courses came to an end in early March due to Covid. Cavan GAA did manage to run a Face-to-Face course for our Cul Camp Coaches within the restrictions.

The National Child Safeguarding Training committee met the challenge of Covid head on in devising and launching in record time, the full Three hour Safeguarding 1 as an online course. The course continues online at present but hopefully a return to Face to face is on the horizon for early 2021. Any backlog of courses will be dealt with then.

**Safeguarding 2** - This course for Children's Officers was held on 5<sup>th</sup> March in Kingspan Breffni. Thank you to the course tutor Bernie Fox. At present, the Safeguarding 2 course is planned as an online course and details are expected to be released shortly.

**Safeguarding 3** - This course for Club DLP's is currently suspended. There is no plan to present Safeguarding 3 as an online course. We must await the return of a Face-to-face SG3 course.

## **GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation)**

The new Games Management System, called Foireann replaces the old Servasport system and introduces new features for Clubs and members such as self-service registration for individuals and families, streamlined communications, event creation and team management. In particular, simple processes for communication with individual teams or other contacts are provided. Individual messages can be sent for free in a manner fully compliant with GDPR and Children First Legislation. Training in this new system is available.

## **Gender Diversity Working Group**

The focus of this working group is to address, develop and bring to the Coiste Bainistí, policies for the pillars of gender diversity in the Gaelic Games Association. The LGBTQ+ community is the target group for the first policy to address the needs of our members. This work is currently at draft policy stage.

## **Buíochas**

I wish to acknowledge and thank all who fulfil the role of Children's Officer and Club Designated Officer and all who support them in their work in clubs. Thank you to my fellow officers on various committees, to Coaching and Games, to Liam McCabe, Angela Hamilton and Eileen Clarke for your support and assistance. Thank you to everyone involved in the half time draw- we have had a quiet year but look forward to better times ahead. Thank you to SG1 Tutor Barbara Fortune.

I wish Andy McGovern every success in the future and thank him for his work as a SG1 Tutor. Andy will be greatly missed by those he coached but hopefully his talent and skills are not lost to Cavan GAA. Thanks to Shane McCann, Ulster Safeguarding Manager who replaces Bernie Fox while she is on maternity leave and congratulate Bernie on the recent birth of her baby girl Ella. To Gearoid O Maolmhcíl and Michelle Harte for all their work and support, thank you. Finally, to all members of the Cavan GAA Management committee, led by our Chairman Kieran Callaghan, thank you for your constant support and commitment to Safeguarding.

Aine Uí Fhoirtchéirn

Oifigeach na Páiste.

## **PR and Communications Report 2020**

As we approach the end of 2020, we reflect on year that has been like no other. Covid -19 changed our games in a way that no one would have ever have perceived. Grounds were closed fixtures were suspended and all GAA activity ceased temporarily. When we eventually “return to play” it was with restrictions, masks, sanitisers, no fans, restricted panels and regulations for everything this became the new norm and our grounds became eerie quiet place’s on match days. However this year has probably presented us with the best club championships that we have ever had and county campaign that we will never forget.

Every emotion that could ever be felt has been experienced this year, sadness, sorrow, heartbreak, joy, jubilation failure and success. Our senior football team were relegated to division 3 of the Allianz Football League, and then after what was the most exciting heart stopping Ulster Championship campaign in years we make history and are once again back where we belong Kings of Ulster the 2020 Ulster Champions. Huge congratulations and thanks has to be awarded to this fantastic group of young men who are brilliant ambassadors for our county and our clubs, and to Mickey Graham and his brilliant back room team. Thank you for putting Cavan GAA back on the football map, Cavan are the 2020 Ulster Champions. Our senior hurlers competed well in Allianz League and Lory Meagher the change in Cavan hurling has been phenomenal under the Management of Ollie Bellew and his backroom team and I believe 2021 will bring deserved silverware. Our U20s and U17’s were beaten in the first round of the Ulster championship unfortunately there was no U17 hurling Celtic Challenge campaign this year. Our secretary’s Report has match reports on all county games.

We congratulate all competition winners in every code. Congratulations to Crosserlough Ballinagh and Mullahoran St Josephs for winning their respective Championships and unfortunately our Junior Championship final winner has yet to be decided. This year’s club championship’s will be recorded as one of the best, competitive and most exciting in a very long time.

To the clubs, especially Chairpersons, Secretaries, PROs and team managements. Thank you for sending in team-lists for programmes throughout our championships and for the excellent promotion of our games. I thank all clubs who hosted championship games and for their help and professionalism in doing so.

Social media now plays a big role in the promotion of our games and activities. Between Clubs and County Board there are now over 100,000 followers on our combined club and county platforms.

Traditional media continues to play a large role in promotion of our activities. I thank the Anglo Celt especially sports editor, Paul Fitzpatrick and local radio Northern Sound with Dave Hooper, Sean McCaffrey and the two local lads Damien Donohoe and Mickey Brennan for their continued support. ‘We are Cavan’ continues to grow especially to our friends living abroad and the weekly podcasts have become very popular. This year saw the conception of a new platform with in our media setup as streaming became a new way to access our games. I would like to thank Cavstream for providing us with a professional platform to allow spectators to see and experience the games as streaming became a lifeline to our supporters during a time when the sitting room became the new stand. I want to thank photographer Adrian Donohoe for his invaluable help and patience.

Thanks to all who supplied articles and editorials for match programmes, Paul Fitzpatrick, Damien Donohoe, Owen McConnon, George Cartwright and Kevin Carney.

To our county team managements, I thank you for your cooperation and willingness to provide information in a timely manner and a special thanks to John Denning and Angela Hamilton for their help and assistance all year.

I thank my fellow officers for their continued great work covering all aspects of the GAA and for all the help you have given me in my first year as PRO. Well done to Kieran Callaghan on his first year as Chairman and Mark O'Rourke as Vice Chairman in what has been a very tough year, you met all the challenges head on, and dealt with all the difficulties this year presented in a professional and dignified manner. A huge thank you to our PR committee of Mark O' Rourke, Colleen McCabe, Gavin Brady Barney Cully, Adrian Donohoe, Caoin McCabe, Peadar Soden, Greg Meehan and Stephan King for all your help, advice and support and to Tommy McGibney for all his IT help and guidance.

I thank Angela Hamilton, Eileen Clarke and Liam McCabe in the office for their help with match programmes, particularly during the busy times and John Duffy for his help on matchdays, to Seamus Galligan and the staff in Kingspan Breffni for their ongoing help. To Larry McGinn who printed our match programmes. Thanks for your patience.

I wish all clubs, our teams and team managements and committees every success in the year ahead. I thank the GAA community in Cavan and beyond for their constant support in my first year. Hopefully in 2021 normality will return to our games and our grounds will come alive again.

Finally, I wish you all a healthy happy and peaceful Christmas and wish you all every success in 2021.

## **Cavan Ladies Football**

The fortunes of football in 2020 was determined in early March by the virulent spread of Covid 19 and subsequent health concerns as the pandemic grew in severity .

A new normal ensued in the months after and this reflected on club and county activities within Co Cavan with procedural policies and Corona Etiquette taking precedence as we grappled to regain some semblance of continuity within the ranks.

Return to play forms ,Health Questionnaires ,sanitisation areas ,social distancing now play an integral part of our organisation.

Concern in the early part of March as to whether there would be a return to play in any capacity circulated, but when the smallest chink of opportunity presented in early June, our fixtures committee under the guidance of Stephen Hughes delivered a modified fixtures plan following a collaborative approach between all GAA families to maximise pitch and referee.

Club Grounds roared back into action and we enjoyed exciting and competitive games albeit through the medium of live streaming .

Endeavour was not wanting and the appetite and importance of our games was truly heightened as the weeks rolled on.

The scramble for the elusive limited match day tickets at times proved problematic but with the cooperation of our clubs, common sense prevailed and we enjoyed a seamless Senior Championship at all grades and exciting fun filled underage competitions

Senior Champions Lacken

Intermediate Champions Drumlane

Junior Champs Crosserlough

Lacken had progressed to The Ulster Club Championship semi-final until it was shelved in the very fluid evolving pandemic

The County Teams also fell victim to lockdown with the National League postponed for the Seniors and the u14,u16 and minor competitions not getting off the ground in any capacity .

Where 2020 was the strangest of years on the playing fields our members were busy helping those cocooning, showing the very important role the GAA family play in our communities.

Ensuring accommodation of fixtures for all codes and age groups within a very short timeframe when restrictions were relaxed required a coordinated and combined effort from all codes, and showcased the excellent working relationship which we enjoy in Cavan. We want to thank most sincerely the Cavan Gaa for all their assistance in 2020 and we look forward to a happy healthy and sporting year in 2021

Mary Daly

An Rúnaí

Cavan Ladies Gaelic Football

## **Cavan Camogie Report**

### **SENIOR LEAGUE TEAMS** - Crosserlough, Denn & Laragh

Rd 1 Crosserlough 2-6                      Laragh 0-1                      Rd 2 Laragh 2-13                      Denn 0-12

Rd 3 Crosserlough 2-6                      Denn 1-6

#### **Senior League final**

**Crosserlough 4-10                      Laragh 0-08**

### **INTERMEDIATE LEAGUE** - Kill, Lacken, Castletara, Ballinagh

Rd 1 Lacken 3-11                      Kill 0-3                      Castletara 3-8                      Ballinagh 1-2

Rd 2 Castletara 1-13                      Kill 0-5                      Lacken 4-11                      Ballinagh 0-2

Rd 3 Kill 4-6                      Ballinagh 1-2                      Lacken 2-9,                      Castletara 2-4

#### **Intermediate League final**

**Lacken 2-17                      Castletara 5-03**

### **JUNIOR LEAGUE** - Drumgoon, Denn, Laragh, Crosserlough

Rd 1 Drumgoon 2 1                      Crosserlough 1 3                      Denn 10- 9                      Laragh 1-1

Rd 2 Castletara 0-6                      Drumgoon 1-2                      Crosserlough 4-4,                      Denn 1-5

Rd 3 Drumgoon 8-8                      Denn 2-5                      Castletara 5-6                      Laragh 1-5

Rd 4 Crosserlough 5 - 4                      Castletara 0 -3                      Laragh 0 - 0                      Drumgoon 12 - 14

#### **Junior League A Final FT Score**

**Drumgoon 4- 17                      Castletara 1-02**

#### **Junior League B Final FT Score**

**Crosserlough 1-06                      Denn 2-08**

### **SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP** - Crosserlough, Denn & Laragh

Rd 1 Crosserlough 0-12                      Laragh 0-4

Rd 2 Crosserlough 1-11                      Denn 0-08

Rd 3 Denn 3-11                      Laragh 0-5

#### **Senior Camogie Championship Final**

**Crosserlough 3-19                      Denn 1-7**

### **INTERMEDIATE CHAMPIONSHIP** - Kill, Lacken, Castletara, Ballinagh

Rd 1 Kill 1 - 2                      Castletara 5 – 8                      Lacken 1 - 8                      Ballinagh 1 - 3

Rd 2 Kill 1 - 10                      Ballinagh 6 – 3                      Castletara 1 - 5                      Lacken 1 – 8

Rd 3 Castletara 5-8                      Ballinagh 0-2

#### **Intermediate Camogie Championship Final**

**Castletara: 0-6                      Lacken: 1-12**

## **JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP - Drumgoon, Castletara, Laragh, Crosserlough**

Drumgoon 4 - 12

Laragh 1 - 1

Castletara 1 - 5

Crosserlough 2 - 10

### **Junior Championship final**

Drumgoon 0-11

**Crosserlough 3-5**

### **Junior B Championship final**

Laragh 0-3

**Castletara 2-4**

## **U15 League & Championship Winners**

U15 League Div 1 - Laragh

U15 League Div 2 - Bailieboro

U15 Championship Div 1 - Laragh

U15 Championship Div 2 - Lacken

## **Sponsorship**

Cavan County Board welcomed Peter Egan of Elegant Gems as Championship sponsors for 2020 and we thank Peter and staff for their continued support.

**County Team** Cavan Camogie team are hungry for more in their first year back after almost a decade in the wilderness. What a year 2020 has been for Cavan Camogie. Since the appointment of Lake County's Jimmy Greville by the Cavan Camogie Board, Camogie in Cavan has flourished after nearly a decade of not competing at County Level. The rollercoaster started off in early November, just over a year ago. From gym sessions to fitness tests, the Breffni girl's journey had only begun. National League competition started in February and Cavan were playing in Division 3 along with Limerick, Offaly, Tyrone, Roscommon, Wicklow in group 1 and Carlow, Louth, Down, Armagh, Clare in group 2.

The girls in Blue first challenge was against Roscommon in Templeport. The Breffni girls were due to start their new chapter at Breffni Park against Limerick two weeks before but instead, they did so by going head-to-head with Roscommon. Cavan 2-11 Roscommon 0-02. Next up, the camógs from Limerick. Unfortunately, it wasn't Cavan's day as the Treaty County came away with a 5 point victory in Templeport. Cavan 0-08 Limerick 1-10. Cavan's next adventure moved to Greencastle GAA, as Eamon Cassidy's full time whistle awarded Cavan a comfortable win. Tyrone 0-07 Cavan 2-08

Jimmy Greville's side continued training to a professional level. However, the Family based team didn't let the professionalism push aside the hobby based sport. The jokes and laughter were still had, but when the going got tough the tough got going.

Breffni girl's first game for the Nancy Murray took place on Saturday 17th October against Tyrone in Omagh. Cavan came away convincing winners on the day with a score line of 3-11 Tyrone 0-05. Cavan's second outing was Saturday 31st October against Louth at home in Kingspan Breffni. Another win for the Cavan Camogs on the day with a score line of Cavan 5-15 Louth 1-00. Cavan's keyword of "PUSH" pulled the girls through to comfortably win against The Wee County. Cavan Camogie was then put proudly on the Camogie map as they reached the Nancy Murray Cup final 2020 which took place on Saturday 14th in Inniskeen, Grattans GAA. Haven met Tyrone previously before, the O'Neill County were a strong opponent to encounter. Scores from Sinead McKenna, Roisin O'Keeffe and Shanise Fitzsimons not only helped the Blue and White become Nancy Murray champions but also secured a place in the All Ireland Premier Junior Semi final against The Rossies on Roscommon soil.

A year passed and the Breffni girls were still as fired up as ever. Some Camógs had come and gone, but that didn't change the team's family bond. Not only growing a strong bond with those inside the camp but with those who supported them throughout the year, The County Board, Friends, Family and Fans.

Cavan put on the after-burners in the second half to leave Athleague with a resounding 2-16 to 1-6 success over the hosts in the Liberty Insurance All-Ireland Premier Junior Semi-Final. Roscommon opened the scoring with a goal. However, Cavan's attitude and reaction to the early goal showed it wasn't the end. Points from Sinéad McKenna and Shanise Fitzsimons helped the Junior A champions draw level at the interval, 0-6 to 1-3. It was Cavan's day as they came out winners on a scoreline of 2-16 to 1-6.

For the Camogs it is Armagh who stands in their way of an All Ireland Premier Junior title. To see Cavan only make a return back to senior competitive action this year after almost 10 years of not fielding to then be crowned Nancy Murray Cup Champions in October 2020 and then to reach an All Ireland Premier Junior Final in the same year, it's only a story you'd dream of.

**GAA** I would like to take this opportunity to thank Cavan GAA County Board and all the Clubs throughout the county for the use of their pitches and facilities. Without their support we would not have been able to play our fixtures in 2020. Congratulations to the clubs who won in this year's Club Championships – Crosserlough & Ballinagh and to the Senior County team on winning the Ulster Championship in 2020.

A special word of thanks to Liam McCabe and Angela Hamilton, and all the officers of Cavan GAA Board for their cooperation and assistance in 2020.

Is mise le meas,

Maggie Galligan

Runai

## Erne Eagles Report 2020

In a year where everything has been turned on its head we have functioned well and operated within the confines of this “new normal” as well or better than anyone else.

### Scor

Our Senior Scor team of Darryl, Sinead, Aaron, Jack and Shane were victors and took the Music Group Award for the Ulster Scor back to Mullahoran.

### Juvenile

In February we held a Juvenile registration night which was a huge success. We had 75 Kids aged between 6-16 register. Unfortunately due to the current pandemic all Juvenile competitions in GAA Rounders were cancelled for the year. However we continued to train within COVID guidelines and had a great summer of Rounders for the kids.

### Senior

Our Senior registration was up again this year with up to 50 Senior ladies & men registering with the club.

On the field we had a couple of disappointing results in the senior Mens championship which ultimately seen the men fail to progress from the group stage. However this was balanced somewhat by a boost in the number of players participating at that level and it was particularly satisfying to be able to see 2 full senior Mens teams being able to play an internal challenge game.

On the field also the senior ladies had a more successful campaign with a second place group stage finish and an all Ireland semi final appearance against Glynn Barntown. Unfortunately the ladies were unable to overcome a strong Wexford outfit but ultimately a good performance over the course of the year.

Finally the mixed team have made it to the All Ireland final and it will be all shoulders to the wheel whenever the final rolls around to hopefully bring home the Dympna Reilly cup. At the beginning of 2020 National Rounders Council decided to rename the Senior mixed Cup in honour of the late Dympna Reilly a dedicated member of our club. The All Ireland Final was due to be played 10<sup>th</sup> October but Due to COVID-19 they have been postponed until Further notice.

The Club was also due to Host the All Ireland Intermediate finals on Sunday the 11<sup>th</sup> October.

### **Dympna Reilly Cup**

Dympna Reilly (38) was a member of Erne Eagles Rounders Club (South Cavan). She was an energetic, friendly and infectious person with a great sense of fair-play. She was our Chairperson, Development Officer and PRO at various times and kept the club going when it was struggling. Dympna also served as PRO on National Rounders Council for many years.

Dympna was involved in Rounders for 30 years. On the field of play she won five All-Stars, two Senior Women’s All Ireland’s, two Senior Mixed All-Irelands and numerous National, Provincial and County Community Games medals. Dympna started playing Rounders when she was just nine and played u13, u15, Minor and Senior Rounders for the club. She had many trips to Mosney for the Community Games Finals and progressed to helping coach the younger age groups while we were still a Community Games club and has been involved in coaching and looking after teams ever since.

She loved playing the game and could play in nearly any position, winning her All-Stars at third base, shortstop and left outfield.

Dympna was our most decorated and longest serving female player, featuring every year there was a team to play in.

Dympna did a huge amount of coaching and development work around Ulster and the rest of the region and in 2015 received the first ever Ulster GAA Presidents Award presented to a member of the Rounders community for her contribution to the game.

She brought our youngsters to Croke Park for the GAA Go Games, ran Rounders skills workshops for the kids, ran Recreational Rounders events in Breffni Park, refereed for Cumann na mBunscoil events and tirelessly rounded up players to keep our Senior Mixed Team running, for years when it was the only team we had. Testament to this, is that the Cavan Rounders Cumann Na mBunscoil trophy is named after her.

Dympna also represented the club as an All-Star in a number of Exhibition matches in Croke Park and took great satisfaction from having played in Croker.

Our club benefitted greatly from Dympna's journalistic skills, as she spent many hours scripting match reports. Most of the write-ups for the Club in the local papers were from articles written by Dympna.

Dympna had great enthusiasm and passion for everything she loved in life and could spend hours on the phone talking to you about Rounders and anything else she was interested in.

Dympna did so much for our Club. We are very thankful for the massive contribution she made. She had a unique personality that endeared her to everyone she met.









## **Health and Wellbeing Report**

The GAA Health and Wellbeing Programme continues to evolve and change to meet the needs of the GAA Community at National, Provincial, County and Club level. Never was the Health and Wellbeing Programme more important to the GAA community and indeed Irish Society than during the difficult and challenging year that was 2020.

COVID - 19 arrived on our island in early March and changed the way we would live our lives and continues to pose huge challenges for us all going forward into 2021.

The GAA as a community organisation has been to the fore in all counties and clubs helping out in practical ways and providing assistance to the most vulnerable. Simple but very practical tasks like helping with shopping, collecting prescriptions from local pharmacies or checking on older neighbours were but just a few of the many jobs undertaken by club volunteers.

The Healthy Club Project continues to go from strength to strength. It helps GAA clubs explore how they support the holistic health of their members and the communities they serve. GAA clubs already contribute to the health and wellbeing of their members by providing opportunities to develop their physical, social, emotional, and psychological health.

The project aims to help GAA clubs identify what they are already doing well, identify areas where they can or would like to improve, and empower them to ensure that everyone who engages with their club benefits from the experience in a health-enhancing way, be they players, officers, coaches, parents, supporters, or members of their local community.

Four more Cavan Clubs, Bailieborough Shamrocks, Laragh United, Drumalee and Kildallan successfully joined the project in January 2020 and joined the other Cavan clubs, Cavan Gaels, Killygarry, Crosserlough, Lacken and Kingscourt Stars. We wish all of them well in their journey. They are all great ambassadors for Cavan GAA at Provincial and National Level. The application for the next phase of the Healthy Club Project will not commence until late summer 2021.

Cavan GAA continue to benefit hugely from our partnership with the HSE in Cavan / Monaghan. Never was this more important than during 2020 when local families, clubs and communities suffered tragedy and heartbreak with the death of much loved family members and we offer the sincere sympathy of Cavan GAA to all affected by these sad events. Using the GAA Critical Incidence Response Plan (CIRP) the Cavan Health and Wellbeing Committee (CHWC) were able to respond and help the club and communities at a time of grief and stress. Without the help of Emer Mulligan and the HSE Psychology team who provided expert and professional medical advice at all times, this response would not have been possible.

Presently the GAA CIRP is being updated and the Cavan CHWC will be assisting all clubs in early 2021 in adopting a CIRP for the benefit of each club.

The Ireland of 2020 has many social issues to contend with and that affects all areas of society. The misuse of illegal substances is now a huge problem and is having a dangerous impact in all communities. At the start of 2020 a number of clubs held information evenings on this very important subject. Garda Sergeant Mick Kearney from the Cavan Monaghan Drugs Unit and Tim Murphy from the North Eastern Drugs Task Force gave very interesting presentations. Other similar events were planned but due to COVID-19 this was not possible. Hopefully at some stage during 2021 these can go ahead.

Gambling addiction is also a huge problem and can have very serious consequences for anybody unlucky enough to get caught up in this lifestyle. This is another area of the Health and Wellbeing Programme that the HWC will be working on in 2021.

During October, our committee promoted the Green Ribbon Campaign which aims to end mental health stigma and encourage people to talk about mental health. We thank our county camogie, ladies footballers, mens footballers and hurlers for their support. Further information on [www.seechange.ie](http://www.seechange.ie)

Through the kind sponsorship of Brackley Landscaping in Bawnboy, our committee has donated a native oak tree to each club ground in the county including Kingspan Breffni. The tree signifies remembrance as we think of loved ones who have passed and also to give hope & joy as we look forward into 2021 and beyond. The tree in Kingspan Breffni is located in the right hand corner - just off the walking track. Feel free to visit. We sincerely thank the new Bishop of Kilmore Martin Hayes and Church of Ireland Dean Nigel Crossey for attending and for their blessing.

I would like to thank the members of the Cavan GAA Health and Wellbeing Committee (HWC) for their outstanding work during what was a very challenging year.

The members of the Committee include Mark O'Rourke (Vice-Chairperson) who is Chairperson of the HWC, Susan Brady (PRO), Anne Fortune (Childrens Officer), Kevin Smith (Development Officer), Carol Kieran (Chairperson Cavan LGFA), Michelle Smith (Chairperson Cavan Camogie), Dr Nicola Fortune, Sinead Tormey (Healthy Cavan), Philip Smith (Kingscourt Stars), Philip Smith (Crosserlough) and James Moynagh (Lacken).

Thanks to our County Board Chairperson Kieran Callaghan, Secretary Liam McCabe and all officers for their help and advice at all times.

Colin Regan the GAA Community and Health Manager based in Croke Park continues to lead the GAA Health and Wellbeing Programme and is ably assisted by Aoife O'Brien, Collette Coady and Blánaid Carney. I would like to thank all of them for their advice and help during the year. Special thanks to our own Blánaid Carney who worked very closely with the Cavan HWC during 2020.

At Provincial level help and assistance is always available from Maura McMenamin the Ulster GAA Community Health and Wellbeing Manager.

Everybody involved in Cavan GAA are so proud of Mickey Graham, his team management and most of all a very special group players led by their inspirational Captain Raymond Galligan. Thank you for the huge boost you have given to the Health and Wellbeing of all of us.

Finally, to you the Club Officers for your help and support in helping to promote the GAA Health and Wellbeing Programme. You perform a very important function and please continue to do so during 2021.

Le meas,

Gearoid O Sodain,

Cavan County Board GAA Health and Wellbeing Officer.

## **Kingspan Breffni Report**

A Chairde,

2020 was a challenging year at Kingspan Breffni with many matches played behind closed doors or to reduced capacities. We had the unusual events of hosting two Ulster Championship matches in November. Despite the November dates the surface of Kingspan Breffni was in excellent condition and was remarked upon by competing players and managers.

Kingspan Breffni is recognised as one of the premier grounds in the country and this is reflected in the matches that were played at the venue during the year. An Ulster Senior Championship Semi Final, an All Ireland Ladies Semi Final and All Ireland Camogie Finals were held in Kingspan Breffni. We also had the honour of hosting the Ulster Colleges Markey Cup Final which was won in a penalty shootout by Virginia College.

The surface and general upkeep of the grounds are excellent and this is due to the hard work of Seamus Galligan, Brendan Sweeney, Mickey Reilly and Mattie McSherry, in association with the workers from FAS and Breffni Integrated.

I would like to thank the Ulster Council, An Garda Siochana, Cavan Fire Service and Cavan Civil Defence for their assistance in hosting events at Kingspan Breffni during 2020. I would also like to thank all the match day stewards, the Denn stewards and the County Executive for their assistance throughout the year.

Finally I would like to congratulate the Cavan Senior team and management on their success in winning the Ulster Senior Championship. I would also like to thank them for their assistance during the homecoming event.

I look forward to 2021 and the return of spectators to matches in Kingspan Breffni.

Damien Galligan  
Event Controller

## **Referees Advisory Committee Report 2020**

During the course of county convention in Dec 2019 our incoming chairman Kieran Callaghan promised to put the issues of referee recruitment high on his agenda for the coming years.

Mark O'Rourke was appointed as chairperson and a committee was swiftly put in place. The committee is to assist with referee recruitment, umpire training, assessors, the young whistler programme and to share with the clubs, the role of the referee, revision of rules, the give respect get respect programme and to ensure everyone works well together.

Committee: Chairperson Mark O'Rourke, Referees Administrator John Duffy, Advisory Brian Crowe and Martin Brady, Youth Board Orla O'Reilly, CCC Gerry Sheridan, Angela Hamilton, Noel Mooney and Joe McQuillan.

The realisation of 2019 was that a total of 1441 adult and youth board games had taken place with a total of 43 referees to officiate, this did not include Ladies football.

Recruitment / Foundation: A total of 18 clubs who had no referees were asked to provide suitable persons for training foundation course. To date of those recruited 13 have completed 2 nights of the 3 night course, however we were unable to complete this due to covid, currently we are waiting for Croke Park to resume these and hopefully we can complete it as soon as possible.

We will be going ahead with recruitment 2021 and this will proceed so now is the time for clubs to seek suitable candidates.

Young whistlers: The target area for recruitment would be through schools, the course would include an introduction to refereeing, rules and control of the game. On completion these young whistlers will be allowed officiate juvenile and Go-Games within their clubs.

Referees In-service: This is for existing referees, the contents of the course include rules refresher also update to rule changes, a health screening was provided by Cavan Civil Defence and we thank them for this service. All referees must complete annual in-service.

Regional meetings: Our aim was to undertake four regional meetings throughout the county to meet up with clubs to bring awareness to the duty and care of the referee and match day assistance, rule clarification and AOB. Unfortunately, we only got to complete one of these nights (Bailieborough) but will hopefully resume in 2021, we welcome club officials, team managers, coaches (adult and juvenile) and players to attend.

Pre-Championship: Brian Crowe delivered a very well attended Umpire training course, this is available to all referees and clubs who will have trained personnel for ACFL games. Future dates will be confirmed for 2021.

Referee Advisory: To assist with a referees' progress they depend on advisory match reporting, Brian and Martin undertake this role, unfortunately two advisors is not near enough so again we will be recruiting to this role. Advisory course will go ahead in 2021.

In what has been an unforeseen year dominated by the unknown Covid, Gaelic games resumed in July. All our referees attended a refresher outlining Covid protocols which included return to play health checks, guidelines for refereeing and attending matches. In what has been a very challenging year, referees played a huge role in delivering championship football at adult and youth board level. We wish to thank all referees who made themselves available to assist throughout the championship and congratulate all match officials who were appointed to our finals.

And finally, in truly what has been an unprecedented year we will look forward to 2021 and with the assistance of your club we can increase our number of referees. No referee - No matches.

We thank our committee and the county board for their support throughout the year and wish you all and your families a Happy Safe and Peaceful Christmas.

Is le meas,

John Duffy (Referees Administrator)

Mark O Rourke (Chairman Cavan RAC)

## **Property & Liability**

Clubs in Cavan have carried out significant infrastructural developments in recent years. I would remind clubs that it is essential they maintain a watchful and responsible look out for potential risks. In this way premiums can be kept down and the trauma of a claim and the loadings that can accrue can be eliminated.

With this in mind clubs should always ensure competent planners and contractors are used on all new builds and maintenance work. It is also essential that excluded or prohibited activities do not take place on Club property and that all non GAA users of meetings rooms, indoor halls, function rooms, bars playing fields, walkways, playgrounds, all-weather facilities and gyms have their own insurance in place and that they can produce it. If any doubt exists, it is essential to have cover verified by our insurers.

The log of the facilities in each club in the county enables a pro rata spread of the premium based on facilities and risks. Clubs should ensure this list is up to date and all additions or alterations to club facilities need to be notified to ensure all areas are properly covered. Clubs should always contact myself Sinead Levey or Ciara Clark in Croke Park for advice before organising any events or one-off activities.

It is important to remember that any incident which may give rise to a claim must be reported immediately to ensure policy indemnity is available to the club. In the event an indemnity is not provided in respect of a claim, the club will be responsible for appointing their own legal advisors and for the entire associated claim costs.

The issue around insurances for players and Property & Public Liability is a continued challenge for the association and it is imperative that all units remain diligent in ensuring that they are operating on the strictest of basis in the use of their facilities and have a Risk Assessment/Management system in place and updated regularly.

## **Player Injury Fund**

I wish to remind Clubs that the GAA entered into Preferred Medical Provider Agreements with a network of hospitals and clinics countrywide in October 2017 and has obtained service commitments from these Preferred Medical Providers which will help in delivering quality healthcare to our registered members and enhance our commitment to Player Medical Welfare.

The key aim here was to help reduce medical costs and to deliver quality healthcare to our registered members through the GAA Injury Benefit Fund. This initiative continues to be in operation, so please notify your Club Insurance Officer when they receive a medical claim that they ensure that the player receives a quote from the medical provider and that they advise GAA registered member with Club. The agreed prices will reflect a 5 - 10% saving against prices charged to players prior to the introduction of this initiative and both players and club officers can now contact the relevant medical providers as regards obtaining the agreed price for a surgery for that a person.

Always important to be aware if you have private medical insurance e.g. VHI, Laya Health Care, Irish Life Health, etc. or cover under any Personal Accident policy, a claim must be made with your private medical \ personal accident provider for both inpatient and outpatient medical expenses.

Therefore, you must submit all of your original medical receipts to your private medical insurer \ personal accident provider. Once you submit your original medical receipts, your private third party medical insurer will assess your claim and provide you with an inpatient \

outpatient statement of account clearly stating the benefits that they have covered or not covered. A copy of this statement of account must be submitted under the GAA Injury Benefit fund.

## **Fund Raising Events**

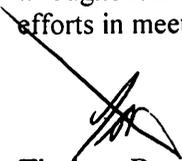
ALL clubs are requested to notify the Insurance office and Croke Park of all types of Fund Raising activity no matter how big or small. While some clubs were very efficient in terms of notification, this is an area where by improving notification, we can all help to reduce claims and strive to reduce our future insurance premiums.

## **Club Insurance Officer Training**

We hope to run a seminar early 2021 for Club Insurance Officer training and will be in touch with all Clubs in due course closer to the date. All clubs (Insurance Officer or representatives) will be asked to attend.

## **Conclusion**

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Chairman and Officers of Coiste Breffni O'Raghallaigh and to the staff in the County Board offices for their continued assistance and support throughout 2020. I would like to thank in particular all the clubs within the county for their continued efforts in meeting safety and insurance requirements.



Thomas Brady  
Insurance Officer

## List of Nominations 2020

**Uachtarán: (President)**

Dan Daly (Maghera)

**Leas Uachtarán: Vice President:**

Brendan Keaney, Packie Smith, John Andy McCabe, Tom Boylan, Jim McDonnell, John Foy, Peter Brady, Paddy Carolan, Gabriel Kelly, Tom Lynch, Peter Galligan (Crosserlough), Paddy O Reilly (Cavan Gaels)

**Cathaoirleach: (Chairman)**

Kieran Callaghan

**Leas-Cathaoirleach: (Vice Chairman)**

Mark O'Rourke

**Leas-Runaí: (Asst. Secretary)**

Angela Hamilton

**Cisteóir: (Treasurer)**

Martin Cahill

**Leas Cisteóir: (Asst. Treasurer)**

John Keating

**Oifigeach Caipreamh Poiblí: (P.R.O)**

Susan Brady

**Teachtaí do Comhairle Uladh:**

**(Ulster Council Reps) (2)**

Gerry Brady, Kevin Reilly

**Teachtaí do Árd Comhairle:**

**(Central Council Rep.)**

Tom O'Reilly

**Oifigeach Óiliúna:**

**(Coaching Officer)**

Kevin Shiels

**Oifigeach Cultúir:**

**(Cultural Officer)**

Micheál McGibney

**Congress Delegates**

Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Central Council Delegate, Gerry Brady

**Ulster Convention**

Officers



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