



2016

Annual Report of Committees
to Congress 2017

Tuarascáil Bhliantúil na gCoistí
2016 don Chomhdháil 2017



**THE
CAMOGIE
ASSOCIATION**
An Cumann Camógaíochta



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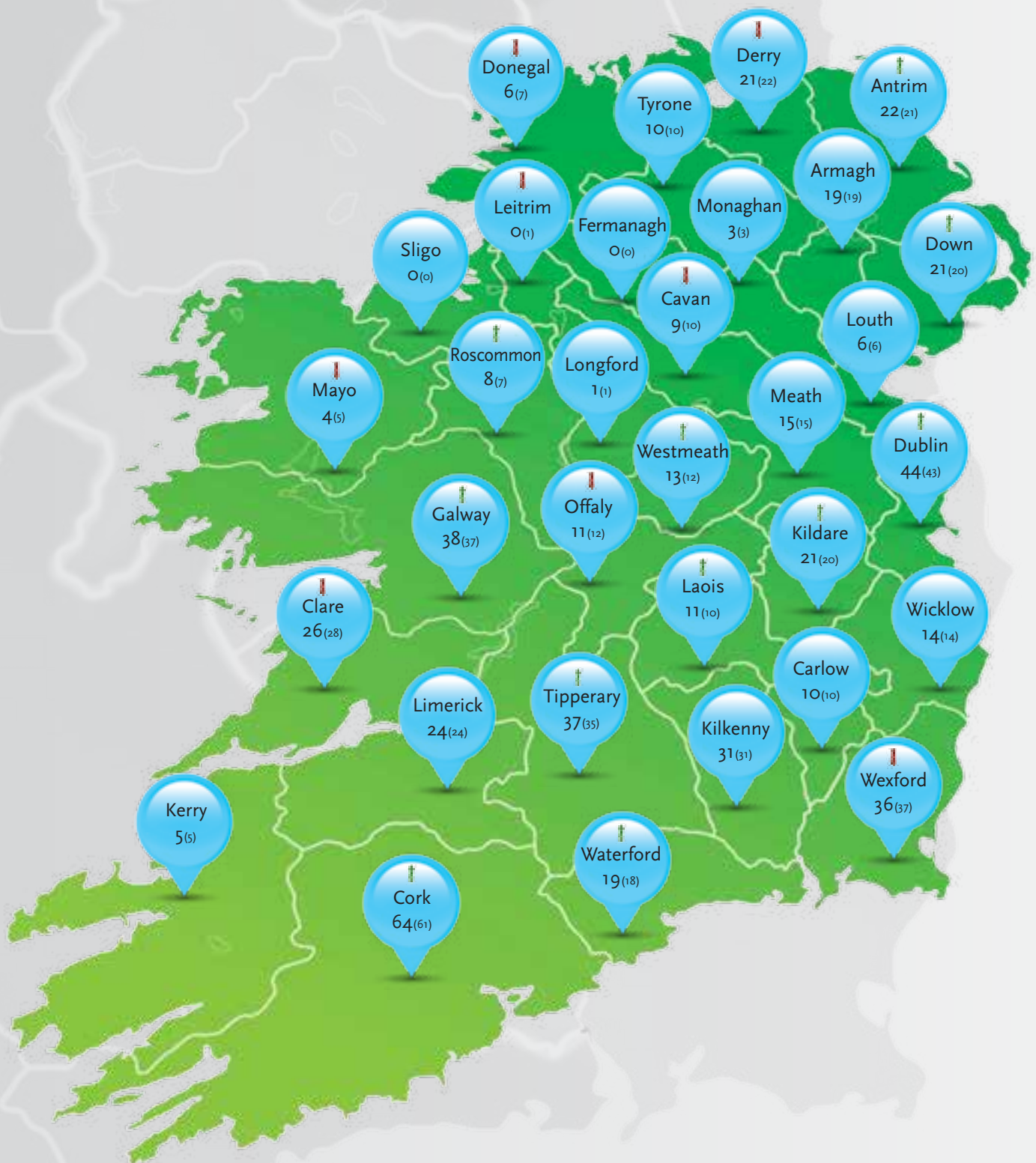


Provincial Council Reports

Figure 1:

Clubs by County 2016

(2015 Data in Brackets)



Comhairle Connacht

TUAIRISC AN RÚNAÍ 2016

| Competition | Winners | Runners-Up |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Connacht Championship | Galway | Roscommon |
| U14 Cup | Galway A | Roscommon |
| U14 Shield | Galway B | Mayo |
| Junior 'B' Club | Liam Mellows, Galway | Na Brideoga, Mayo |
| Junior 'A' Club | Four Roads, Roscommon | Kiltormer, Galway |
| Intermediate | Athleague, Roscommon | Cappataggle, Galway |

It is a privilege to present my first report as Connacht Secretary on the activities of Connacht Council for the past year.

In January 2016, Connacht was represented at the Club All-Ireland Semi-Finals by Killimor and Eyrecourt from Galway at Senior and Intermediate levels respectively against Ulster opposition. Both teams progressed to the All-Ireland Finals in March.

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

Seán Geraghty – Galway

Rosaleen Duggan – Mayo

Geraldine Beattie Greene – Roscommon

In March Killimor and Eyrecourt represented the province at the All-Ireland Club Finals in Croke Park. Killimor played Milford from Cork at Senior level and Eyrecourt were up against Cahir of Tipperary in the Intermediate decider. Unfortunately both teams were beaten by their Munster opposition on the day.

The Province in co-operation with Connacht GAA Council organised the Connacht Poc Fada at the Connacht GAA Centre in Ballyhaunis. This proved to be very successful once again with competitors from Galway, Mayo and Roscommon taking part with Sinéad Skehill from Galway taking the title.

There was also an U16 Poc Fada event held with Sarah Healy retaining her Connacht and All-Ireland titles.

The Connacht Final was won by the Galway Intermediate team.

The Galway senior team representing Connacht won the National Interprovincial competition.

All-Ireland success came to the province at underage level with Galway retaining the U16 A title and winning the U14 A All-Ireland and Mayo winning the U14 Division 5 title.

Roscommon were unfortunate to lose the All-Ireland Minor B Final to Armagh and Galway lost to Tipperary in a replay in the A Final.

Connacht and Galway were represented at the All-Ireland Finals in September when referee John Mc Donagh officiated at the Intermediate Final.

The Connacht Club Cup Finals proved to be very successful with the winners coming from Galway and Roscommon. Liam Mellows from Galway won the Connacht Junior 'B' Cup, Four Roads and Athleague both from Roscommon won the Connacht Junior 'A' and the Intermediate Cup respectively.

St. Bridget's of Loughrea won the All-Ireland Senior Schools and Maeve Muldoon representing Killimor came 3rd in the Féile Skills Competition.

A very successful Camogie 4 Teens programme was held with great participation from the girls involved in Galway and Roscommon.

Sarah Dervan, Rebecca Hennelly and Aoife Donohue (Galway) won All-Stars and Kelley Hopkins (Roscommon) won a Soaring Star.

A new club, Ragoon Newcastle, registered during the year bringing the total number of clubs registered in Galway to 38 and a new club Boyle was formed this year bringing to 8 the number of clubs in Roscommon.

Development

Once again our Regional Development Officer Yvonne Byrne in conjunction with our Development Officer Gerry Dolan deserves huge credit for the time and effort put into developing and promoting Camogie in the province. The Council received development funding of €8,602 with the priorities this year being:

- Growing participation
- Improving performance
- Volunteer development and leadership

Funding was used to provide courses – referees, admin, coaching etc., blitzes in primary and post primary schools and counties etc.

Through the funding received for Development, the Council awarded 3rd level bursaries once again in 2016 with 2 bursaries going to players from Galway and 1 bursary each going to a player from Roscommon and Mayo.

An U16 Club 7-a-side Blitz was held in the Connacht GAA Centre in June 2016. Twenty two teams took part and it was a huge success.

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

1916-2016 Celebrations

At the end of April a Tree Dedication Ceremony and plaque unveiling preceded by Mass was held in Killawalla to honour Seán O'Duffy (1885-1981) who is synonymous with our game of Camogie. Seán O'Duffy was born in 1885 in Killawalla near Westport, Co Mayo. He served as an administrator of the Camogie Association for many years. The O'Duffy Senior Championship Cup is named after him and he was decorated for his actions during the 1916 Easter Rising.

Teagasc in Athenry, Co. Galway had a two day event at its Liam Mellows campus with Athenry and Killimor Camogie clubs participating in a replica game from that era. Highlights from this event were shown on the RTÉ News with some of the game broadcast alongside interviews and information regarding the game from that time.

Congratulations

I would like to congratulate all teams and mentors on their success in 2016 and hopefully that all will continue to bring further success to the Province in 2017.

The final function of the year was the presentation of the Connacht Camogie Awards and the awardees of the Bursaries at a ceremony in Beekan in December. The winners were:

Juvenile Player – Siobhán Mc Grath - Galway
Junior Player – Joanne Beattie - Roscommon
Senior Player – Aoife Donohue - Galway
Administrator – Geraldine Beattie Greene - Roscommon

Thanks

In this, my first year as Connacht Secretary, I would like to thank Galway Camogie Board for their nomination and I would like to thank all my fellow officers for all their help and patience in 2016 as I undertook my duties. It made my job easier with all of the assistance that I received.

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

Deirdre Burke
Rúnaí

Comhairle Connacht & Balance Sheet Balance Sheet as at 30th November 2016

| | 30/11/2016 | 30/11/2015 |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| | € | € |
| FIXED ASSETS | 2,670 | 2,670 |
| CURRENT ASSETS | | |
| Debtors/Prepayments | 0 | 0 |
| Stock | 0 | 0 |
| Bank Deposits | 4,603 | 6,727 |
| | <u>4,603</u> | <u>6,727</u> |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES | | |
| Creditors/Accruals | 2,779 | 0 |
| | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> |
| NET CURRENT ASSETS | 1,824 | 6,727 |
| TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES | 4,494 | 9,397 |
| Represented By: REVENUE ACCOUNT | 4,494 | 9,397 |

Comhairle Laighean



TUAIRISC AN RÚNAÍ 2016

In January 2016 we welcomed Patrick Martin as he took up his role as Chairperson of Leinster Council for the first of his 3 year term. It was also at this time that we said goodbye to outgoing Chairperson Rachel Hogan who had finished her term as Chairperson and Mary Connor who retired as Ard Chomhairle delegate for Leinster Council. Both gave great service to Leinster counties for the past number of years but they will always remain good friends of Leinster Council.

Congratulations to all involved in Carlow Camogie who claimed the All-Ireland Premier Junior title having made the step up to the level in 2016 on what was a fantastic occasion in Croke Park for all involved.

Kilkenny then completed a triple crown for Leinster counties as Kilkenny went on to do the double by beating Cork in both the Intermediate and Senior Finals. A huge congratulations to the Kilkenny County Board, Management and players for achieving their goals in 2016 and ending a 22-year wait to lift the O'Duffy Cup to add to their National League Division 1 title which they collected in April.

May saw the U14 Development Blitz in Rathleague, Portlaoise and I would like to once again thank Jer O'Donovan and all my fellow Officers for their assistance in making this another successful day out for our Development Squads.

The Interprovincial Competition this year was ran in Abbotstown and this year was the turn of the Senior teams. Thank you to all who contributed to a great day.

Our Poc Fada held ran in conjunction with the Leinster GAA in Beann Éadair Gaa Club in Howth. The winners were:

Senior – Faye McCarthy – Dublin

U16 – Donnagh Mortimer – Laois

Leinster run its inaugural Leinster Skills Star Competition, which was hosted by our Development Officer Jer Donovan in M.W Hire Training Centre, Donmore, Kilkenny in June. A total of 17 girls competed on the day, and the winners were as follows:

1st Grace Mulhall, Kilkenny

2nd Niamh Costello, Offaly

3rd Gillian Doyle, Carlow

Leinster Roll of Honour 2016

| Competition | Winners |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Senior | Wexford |
| Intermediate | Meath |
| Junior | Wicklow |
| Minor A Championship | Offaly |
| Minor A Shield | Kilkenny |
| Minor B Championship | Laois |
| Minor B Shield | Carlow |
| Under 16 A Championship | Kilkenny |
| Under 16 A Shield | Wexford |
| Under 16 B Championship | Dublin |
| Under 16 B Shield – Laois | Laois |
| Under 16 C Championship | Kildare |
| Senior Club Championship | Thomastown, Kilkenny |
| Intermediate Club Championship | Myshall, Carlow |
| Junior Club Championship | Johnstownbridge, Kildare. |
| Leinster League | |
| Division 1 | Lucan Sarsfield, Dublin |
| Division 2 | St Vincents, Dublin |
| Division 3 | Mount Leinster Rangers Carlow. |
| Division 4 | Naas Kildare. |

Congratulations to all of the Leinster Winners of 2016.

Congratulations also to Johnstownbridge Kildare who went on to represent Leinster in the AIB All-Ireland Club Championships and managed to retain their All-Ireland title.

2016 saw a record breaking number of All-Stars and Soaring Stars Awards being bestowed on to our Leinster players. 15 player receiving awards as well as Manager of the Year, Kilkenny's Ann Downey. Leinster players also won all three Player of the Year awards with Denise Gaule of Kilkenny receiving the Senior Award, Ciara Holden of Kilkenny

winning the Intermediate award and Eleanor Treacy of Carlow winning the Junior award. Congratulations to all of these award winners.

I would like to thank all of the volunteers who have contributed to Camogie in Leinster over the past year in particulate the officers of Leinster Council and our Committee Members.

Finally Patsy Murphy steps down this year as Leinster Treasurer having served her 5 years in the role, and I would like to thank her for her volunteerism over that period. The Council would like to wish her the best of luck in the future.

Sarah Conroy
Rúnaí

Balance Sheet as at 30th November 2016

| | 30/11/2016 | 30/11/2015 |
|--|---------------|---------------|
| | € | € |
| FIXED ASSETS | - | - |
| CURRENT ASSETS | | |
| Bank Current Account | 41,947 | 42,169 |
| Bank Deposit Account | 10,587 | 10,585 |
| | <u>52,534</u> | <u>52,754</u> |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES | | |
| Creditors/Accruals | 0 | 0 |
| | <u>0</u> | <u>0</u> |
| NET CURRENT ASSETS | <u>52,534</u> | <u>52,754</u> |
| TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES | <u>52,534</u> | <u>52,754</u> |
| Represented By: | | |
| REVENUE ACCOUNT | <u>52,534</u> | <u>52,754</u> |

Comhairle Mumhan



TUAIRISC AN RÚNAÍ 2016

Accommodating fixtures in the poor weather was a feature in the March to May term along with a lack of available referees.

Cork won the U16A with Tipperary winning the U16B and Limerick won the U16A Shield. Waterford defeated Kerry in the U16C Final in early May.

Cork lost to Clare in the Junior Final, and Cork beat Limerick in the Senior Final in April with Munster GAA Chairperson Jerry O'Sullivan in attendance.

The Senior Interprovincials took place on Sunday May 22nd – the date caused a problem for Cork players who were unable to attend and this area needs attention. Many thanks to the team management on the day.

National Féile na nGael was hosted by Tipperary and Waterford in June with a mind boggling number of fixtures and volunteers involved. A lack of referees was an issue but many thanks to Kathleen Egan for her work in this area.

Tipperary won the Minor A Final with a win over Clare. Limerick won the A Shield over Cork.

Margaret Skehan organised the Poc Fada competition in Thurles and the excellent competition saw Mairéad O'Sullivan of Cork win the U16 title and Lyndsey Condell of Cork won the Senior title.

Liz Cahill co-ordinated the Munster Summer league but the PRO and myself were disappointed with the number of changes from the programme list and the lack of skorts by one team.

Toomevara won Division 2, Mallow won Division 3 and Burgess-Duharra won the Division 1 title. 3 Tier 1 counties participated.

The club championships in October saw De La Salle of Waterford losing to Scariff/Ogonnelloe in the Junior Final who then lost out by a point to Johnstownbridge in the National Final.

Gailltír from Waterford won the Intermediate title beating Nenagh by a point with Trish Jackman accounting for 1-8. Burgess-Duharra beat Inniscarra in the Senior A Final at a packed Cahir venue. Inniscarra had to play their County Final on a Friday and their Munster Semi-Final four days later to superb hosts Inagh/Kilnamona.

On the PR front there were a number of innovative and positive developments. These included:

- New Munster crest
- Club App for tweeting match reports
- Merchandising of t-shirts and wristbands
- O'Neills online shop
- @munstercamogie twitter account
- Media campaign to find club volunteers

It was disappointing that Irish TV did not carry the 2016 Munster Final as they did in 2015.

The Camogie 4 Teens initiative also went very well.

Sourcing Referees was difficult and we need to tackle this area in 2017 as well as the issue of some referees wearing GAA tops when refereeing for Camogie matches.

TÚS employee, Brian McDonnell had began in his role for 12 months from August.

I'd like to congratulate all award winners, Player of the Match recipients, All-Stars and Poc Fada winners from throughout the year and to thank Limerick County Board for hosting the National Congress in 2016.

I wish to thank all who have helped in administering Camogie in Munster during the year.

Fiona Casey
Rúnaí

Balance Sheet as at 30th November 2015

| | 30/11/2016 | 30/11/2015 |
|--|----------------|---------------|
| | € | € |
| CURRENT ASSETS | | |
| Debtors | 8,500 | 12,475 |
| Cash at bank and in hand | 115, 892 | 80, 582 |
| | <u>124,392</u> | <u>93,057</u> |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES | | |
| Trade creditors | 1,200 | 5,442 |
| | <u>123,192</u> | <u>87,615</u> |
| TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES | 123,192 | 87,615 |
| NET ASSETS | 123,192 | 87,615 |
| FINANCED BY RETAINED EARNINGS | 123,192 | 87,615 |

Comhairle Uladh

TUAIRISC AN RÚNAÍ 2016

List of Champions 2016

| Competition | Winners |
|--|---|
| Ulster Senior Championship | Antrim |
| Ulster Intermediate Championship | Antrim |
| Minor Championship Cup | Antrim |
| Minor Championship Shield | Tyrone |
| U16 Championship Cup | Antrim |
| U16 Championship Shield | Tyrone |
| Ulster Senior Club Championship | Slaughtneil (Derry) Runner-Up: Loughgiel (Antrim) |
| Ulster Intermediate Club Championship | Eglis (Tyrone) Runner-Up: Granemore (Armagh) |
| Ulster Junior Club Championship | Tullysaran (Armagh) Runner-Up: St Johns Belfast (Antrim) |
| Ulster Junior B Club Championship Bridie McMenamin Shield | Bridini Oga (Antrim) Runner-Up: Bean Dearg Killeif (Down) |
| Ulster U14 Blitz | Ulster U14 Blitz |
| Section A Derry | Derry |
| Section B Armagh | Armagh |
| Section C Tyrone | Tyrone |
| Section D Donegal | Donegal |
| Marion Mc Stay Intercounty Blitz | Derry |
| All-Ireland U15 'Phase 2' Development Blitz | Tyrone |
| All-Ireland U16 'Progress to Success' Championship | Tyrone |
| All-Ireland Minor C Shield | Tyrone |
| All-Ireland Minor C Cup | Armagh |
| All-Ireland Minor B Shield | Down |
| All-Ireland Minor B Cup | Antrim |

Another year of Ulster Camogie has passed with mixed successes both on and off the field. The one area that never fails to deliver beyond expectations is the relentless time, dedication and passion given by the hundreds of volunteers in the province. From administrators to coaches, managers, referees, mentors and assistants their pool of man hours is phenomenal and must be applauded at every opportunity. With this in mind, it is vital we support our volunteers to ensure that they are provided with the sufficient tools to administer our games across all levels.

NWP Sponsorship

Ulster Camogie are fortunate to have secured main sponsorship from NWP Waste Management and their continued support enables us to run our championships to a high standard. NWP also sponsor our highly recognised Ulster Awards which we run every year to recognise our players, volunteers and administrators for their dedication to our sport. We extend our sincere gratitude to NWP for their continued support.

Sport NI (SPNI)

One of the biggest challenges Ulster Executive had to face this year was the application for continued funding from SPNI. With the present initiative "Performance Focus" running out in 31.3.2017 the Ulster Executive had to submit a new application for consideration with the new title "Effective Organisations and Sporting Clubs".

At this early stage, we have received an offer from SPNI which was the continued funding of two full-time posts.

The development of Ulster Camogie continues beyond the pitch as we continue to receive high level ratings for Governance and Culture.

Integration within Ulster

Ulster Camogie is thankful to the Ulster GAA for its continued support. The strength of integration in Ulster was again highlighted this year with several high-profile double-header matches, the best of which was the Ulster Senior Camogie and Hurling Finals in the Armagh Athletic Grounds. Slaughtneil's success in Camogie, Hurling and Football was an unbelievable achievement. The drawn match between the Senior Camogie finalists of Slaughtneil and Loughgiel showcased how exciting and skillful Ulster Camogie is with the added passion and athleticism of the players and mentors, this resulted in a replay for us all to relish and savour.

All-Stars

Congratulations to the 2016 All-Stars nominees from Ulster. This year Antrim Raquel McCarry was an Intermediate Soaring Stars Nominee.

Armagh received 5 Junior Soaring Stars nominations; Ciara Donnelly, Bernie Murray, Eimear Hayes, Colette McSorley and Rachael Merry. Ciara and Bernie both received awards.

Gaelic Life Newspaper Awards

This was the first year of the Gaelic Life Camogie All-Stars Awards and a fantastic awards Ceremony was held in Monaghan with over 400 in attendance to recognise all male and female codes together. The winners were: Jolene Bradley (Slaughtneil), Laura Connolly (Loughgiel), Brona Cassidy (Slaughtneil), Josine McMullan (Slaughtneil), Ciara McGready (Eglis), Aoife Cassidy (Slaughtneil), Eimear Hayes (Tullysaran), Shauna Jordan (Eglis), Shannon Graham (Slaughtneil), Una McNaughton (Loughgiel), Eilis Cassidy (Slaughtneil), Rachael Merry (Granemore), Mary Kelly (Slaughtneil), Racquel McCarry (Loughgiel), Ciara Donnelly (Eglis).

Education Sectors

Through support for blitzes and coaching in schools the participation numbers in competitions continue to increase. Throughout the year, Ulster Camogie and Ulster Colleges are in regular contact and continue to work hand in hand, particularly through Social Networking.

Empowering Female Sport Conference

The continuous development of our coaches, administrators and referees is a key focus within the overall *Buille Go Bua* Strategic Plan. 2017 has started with a flurry of courses being rolled out and the outcome will be a huge boost to clubs and counties in Ulster. In March, Ulster Camogie will have delivered the very first 'Empowering Female Sport' conference alongside Ladies Gaelic and Handball.

We would like to express our gratitude to Mary O'Connor, Director of Camogie on her continuous support to Ulster Camogie. We hope to continue this relationship and build links to enhance our position at National Level. We wish all outgoing Officers our thanks for their hard work and dedication to the Association and to those taking up positions, best wishes and good luck in your roles.

Rosemary Hughes Merry
Rúnaí

Balance Sheet as at 30th November 2016

| | 2016 | 2015 |
|--|----------------|---------------|
| | £ | £ |
| CURRENT ASSETS | | |
| Debtors | 8,131 | 17,060 |
| Paypal Account | 15,842 | 13,008 |
| Bank of Ireland Keady | 16,380 | 6,616 |
| First Trust Euro (Converted Stg 74%) | 41,641 | 32,015 |
| BOI Keady UCC Awards & Grants | 25,501 | 22,244 |
| | <u>107,495</u> | <u>90,943</u> |
| CURRENT LIABILITIES | | |
| Creditors | (15,810) | (17,943) |
| | <u>91,685</u> | <u>73,000</u> |
| NET CURRENT ASSETS | | |
| | <u>91,685</u> | <u>73,000</u> |
| TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES | | |
| | <u>91,685</u> | <u>73,000</u> |
| Capital Account: | | |
| Brought forward from prior year | 73,000 | 57,015 |
| Add surplus for the period | 18,685 | 15,985 |
| | <u>91,685</u> | <u>73,000</u> |

International Board Reports





International Board Reports



Asia

Gaelic Football & Hurling Association of Asia

The Asian County Board has taken several steps to develop Camogie in the region. The first was to create a standalone Camogie and Hurling tournament in 2016 and we wish to improve on this in 2017. Additionally, at our major tournament, the FEXCO Asian Gaelic Games, we had 3 teams participate in an excellent competition. We invited the Live Life Lisa Orsi Camogie team to participate in the Camogie tournament and this addition was excellent for promoting the game. We have also purchased equipment for clubs that aspire to establish a Camogie team (Seoul Gaels).

Presently, we have only 2 established teams (Hong Kong GAA and Singapore GAA) due to the transient nature of people in Asia. We have Camogie players through Asia and we hope to encourage them to promote the code in their area.

2017

We will strive to have more teams compete in the ACB Camogie and Hurling tournament this year and encourage independent players to attend and play and help motivate them to promote the game. Additionally, the ACB will attempt to co-ordinate independent players throughout Asia so as that they can create a team to participate in the 2017 Asian Gaelic Games.

In conclusion, based on limited demographics we do struggle to maintain a competitive environment for Camogie but we will continue to encourage its promotion through tournaments and the County Board's commitment to equality across all GAA codes.

Emily Ward
Rúnaí



Action from 2016 Asian Gaelic Games

Australasia

Gaelic Football & Hurling Association of Australasia

Buoyed by Australasia's success at the 2016 Etihad World Games and the rollout of new youth development initiatives, Camogie continues to develop and prosper in Australasia.

2016 Etihad GAA World Games, Dublin

Australasia were delighted to be a part of the Etihad GAA World Games in August, where over the course of the week more than 1,700 Gaelic footballers, hurlers and Camogie players from 10 regions around the globe travelled to Ireland.

At the 2015 World Games the Australasian Ladies solely represented the region, but this time around in 2016 we were fortunate to be able to send a full contingent across all four playing codes, with players earning their spot on the panel following the 2015 Australasian Games All-Stars Awards.

This provided us with a fantastic opportunity to showcase and promote the standard of Gaelic Games in our region to the rest of the world. From the get go the Australasian Camógs proved they were a force to be reckoned with, comfortably seeing off some of the other major teams en route to the Camogie Final in Croke Park. They faced off against Tara whom they defeated to lift the trophy.

From the initial throw-in, the girls were cool, calm and collected. Confident in their natural skills, they took centre stage and were nothing short of a pleasure to watch, sticking to the plan of action and thoroughly enjoying the once in a lifetime experience at hand.

2016 Australasian Gaelic Games, Brisbane

In October, Queensland hosted the Australasian Gaelic Games with Camogie teams travelling from as far as Perth in Western Australia to compete. Unfortunately, our counterparts in New Zealand were unable to travel across this time around, leaving New South Wales (NSW), Victoria, Western Australia and hosts Queensland to fight it out for the Camogie silverware.

Over four days, the sides battled it out on the pitch with NSW and Victoria earning their place in the Finals. Victoria were keen to knock NSW off their winning streak and the game was pretty even with both teams level with ten minutes to go. However, NSW gained the upper hand eventually taking the win 0-13 to 1-08, retaining the Camogie title.



The victorious Australasian Camogie Team at the GAA World Games, Croke Park



Australasian Champions, NSW GAA



In an Australasian first, all Finals were streamed live online with supporters tuning in from across the region as well as back in Ireland. The 2017 Australasian Gaelic Games will be hosted by Western Australia in Perth.

Youth Development

With the growing number of young Irish families in the main Australian and New Zealand capital cities, youth development continues to be a major priority for the association, with a number of states now actively engaged in various youth initiatives.

Championed by the Gaelic Games Junior Academy of WA in Perth in 2015, NSW GAA (Sydney) and Victoria GAA have established youth training camps over the course of the 2016 season, with large numbers of both primary school-aged boys and girls attending the sessions.

In Sydney, a mixed children's team played a "Grassroots" curtain raiser game to the NSW GAA League Finals in July.

It is encouraging to see such a healthy level of interest in the games at Grassroots level.

The Gaelic Games Junior Academy of WA continues to grow from strength to strength thanks to the hard work of local parents and volunteers. Following on from last year's success, the Academy once again ran with the popular Cúl Camps during the school holiday period featuring Football, Hurling and Camogie.

Jamie Fitzsimons

PRO

Gaelic Games Europe

2016 was a year of growth for European Camogie, building upon the hard work done by the committee and clubs in recent years.

Our season ran from April to October, with five rounds played in three countries (two more rounds than the previous year). The longer season led to a more competitive championship, with Craobh Rua Belgium winning three rounds, Holland Ladies winning two, and new teams Germany and the Swiss Amalgamation each reaching a Final.

The second week of August saw twelve of our Ccamogie players attend the GAA World Games. The team comprised

of players from six clubs, and Europe put in a strong performance over the four days.

2016 also marked our partnering with Leinster Camogie, and we were happy to welcome four representatives to the 3rd Round of our Championship. Our sincere thanks go to Leinster for their support this season, and for providing us with gear and equipment.

Gaelic Games Europe spans fifteen countries and eighty-four active Clubs. Geography works against us as we try to organise tournaments in clubs across five countries and recruit players from ten more. In 2017 we will retain the five-round structure to look forward to a competitive season and increased participation. Our focus for 2017 is recruitment, and supporting the development of the sport in our other European GAA clubs.

Gaelic Games Europe were proud to welcome Uachtarán an Cumann Camógaíochta, Catherine Neary and an Ard Stiúrthóir, Joan O'Flynn to our Finals in Dresden. We thank the Camogie Association for their continued support, and look forward to working together closely this season.

Gráinne Corry
European Camogie Officer

Camogie Board Britain

2016 was another busy year for Camogie Board Britain and included below are some of the main highlights;

- Completing the successful reconstitution of London County Camogie Board as 'Camogie Board Britain' to more accurately reflect the geographic spread of our clubs in London, Warwickshire and Lancashire.
- We were delighted to welcome a new club in 2016, Thomas McCurtains of London, who captured the Junior Championship and League in their inaugural year, as well as the Junior Tara 7s title.
- All 2016 competitions were completed, with the exception of the Mixed League Division 2 Final, which is to be concluded in 2017.
- Erin go Brágh and Tara held two very successful one day tournaments to ease the clubs back into action in the early part of the year.
- A new Intermediate Championship was introduced to accurately reflect the differing levels of teams in Britain.

A Junior Championship and League remained, as did a Senior Championship. The Mixed League (formerly 'Spring League' in 2015) remained, with both Senior and Intermediate teams taking part, playing mixed teams to even out the standard.

- Camogie Board Britain were well represented at the GAA World Games 2016 in Dublin with five teams present — Croydon, Fr.Murphys, Tara, Thomas McCurtains and a Native British Team.
- Tara, as Senior champions, took on All-Ireland Junior Champions Johnstownbridge of Kildare in the All-Ireland Quarter-Final played in Greenford, London. Tara were beaten by a 5 point margin after a gallant effort.
- Our colleagues at Provincial Council of Britain GAA have been pursuing the formation of a cross-association body to act as a National Governing Body for Gaelic Games in Britain. Much progress has been made over the past year, and we are closer to having that structure in place, with the Chairperson and Secretary to be Directors of the new Gaelic Games Council of Britain.
- In October, we had a visit from Uachtarán Catherine Neary, and Ard Stiúrthóir Joan O'Flynn, who met with all clubs to get an understanding of the current landscape and discuss plans for the future.

Some of our main objectives and initiatives for 2017 include the following:

- Increased participation: the number of walkovers is still very high, within our Junior teams in particular, and also in the Mixed League competition as a whole. We have already asked clubs for feedback on the current competitions restructure and will address at the first Executive meeting, restructuring the competition structure if necessary.
- Renewed focus on underage structures: Denis Neenan continues to make great strides with underage development in Birmingham, but there is lots of work to do in London.
- Improving the standard of refereeing and number of referees: we will be running a course in the early part of the year.
- Achieve recognition from Sport England, Scotland and Wales: through the formation of a National Governing Body, being the Gaelic Games Council of Britain (where we will have equal representation alongside the GAA and LGFA), we hope that formal recognition will follow.
- Improved use of digital and social media platforms: starting with the launch of a new website.

Conclusion

2016 was a challenging but successful year, and in particular it was pleasing to hear of clubs' positive response to the restructuring of competitions (by adding an Intermediate grade).

We have a busy year ahead with some significant hurdles to overcome, particularly in our efforts to put underage development plans in place. However, we have a strong board in place again for 2017, and look forward to a successful year on and off the pitch.

| Competition | Winners | Runners Up |
|---------------------------|---|--|
| Senior Championship | Tara | Croydon |
| Intermediate Championship | Croydon | Fr.Murphys |
| Junior Championship | Thomas McCurtains | Brothers Pearse |
| Junior League | Thomas McCurtains | Brothers Pearse |
| Mixed League | Division 1 — Fr Murphys Division 2 — TBC (to be played between Tara Ogs and John Mitchels) | Division 1 — Croydon Celts Division 2 — TBC |

Joni Traynor
Rúnaí

Middle East GAA

It has undeniably been another successful year for Camogie within the Middle East. With numbers of players at an all-time high this year, it has been the year in which the "Social League" has been introduced allowing players of all standards to pick up a Hurley or even start the game for the first time! We have seen many players from all over the world playing in our Social League here and it has been a tremendous and fun league for many girls throughout the year and we hope the interest will continue from year to year.

The Senior league has been as competitive as ever this season, with three rounds of the Middle East league already done and dusted, the winning status is wide open. For the first time ever in the Middle East league, three different teams have won the three consecutive league tournaments so far. With Abu Dhabi Na Fianna 'A' winning the opening tournament of the year, Sharjah Gaels winning back-to-back titles (2015 & 2016) at their home tournament in the second tournament this season, notably a huge achievement for the Gaels as the club only began playing Camogie in September 2015, and Dubai Celts 'A' coming through strong in a tightly contested Final against Sharjah Gaels in Bahrain it has been a great year for Camogie in the region. This shows the high level of competition and skill in our game throughout the region. Our league continues with the next round in Al Ain on February 17th and finally a round of championship in Abu Dhabi on March 9th.

Two Middle-East All-Star Camogie teams were lucky enough to also display their talent as a curtain-raiser to the 2016 GPA/Opel All-Stars tour in Abu Dhabi which was a huge honour for our girls.

Seán O'Sullivan
Rúnaí

Canada County Board

From a youth perspective in Canada, Éire Óg Ottawa Hurling Club increased their number of girls playing the game. They held a "Hurl with Me" course and joined with the Girl Guides of Ottawa to run weekly sessions over a three month period. Éire Óg continued to develop their schools programme and had a guest coach over from Ireland. The club sent two Camogie players to CYC where they guested with Boston and won silver in U14 and gold in U16.

For Senior teams in Canada, the Vancouver ISSC JP Ryans Camogie team's academy was a great success for encouraging beginners to play. Building on the success of a 2015 Chicago USGAA Championship, they saw increased numbers at training and at two 'Games Days' against Seattle. The team travelled to the USGAA Finals with 23 players, where they lost out in the Final to a strong New York side.

For the Toronto Camogie Club, not only did they travel to the USGAA Finals, the Club represented Canada at the World Games 9-a-side tournament. They were unfortunate to lose by a point to the Middle East in the Plate Final. 16 players travelled to Seattle for the USGAA Finals who were unable to overcome Hoboken in the Senior competition.

2016 saw the official formation of the Calgary Chieftain's Camogie team under the persuasive watch of Clodagh Toomey and Niamh Golden. A concerted effort was made to rouse the small ball girls from around the City. The ladies formed part of the Chieftains travelling contingent to their season opener in San Diego at the West Coast 7's. They were undoubtedly the team of the tournament, winning 3 out of 3 competitive matches and displaying the complete skill set. Training and recruitment continued throughout the summer and culminated in 40 girls turning out for an interclub match in July. In essence, Camogie was the success story of the year for the Calgary Chieftains and throughout Canada too.

John O'Flynn
Rúnaí

USGAA

2016 was a year of continued growth for Camogie in USGAA. Renewed focus on development work, led by our 4 GDAs,, resulted in an increase in the number of registered clubs – while Shamrocks Club (Western Division) disbanded, this was more than offset by the affiliation of new clubs in Milwaukee, Naperville and Philadelphia. This momentum has continued into early 2017 with the formation of Cú Chulainns Camogie club in San Francisco.

As always, the key metric is “How many people are playing games”, and in that regard it was pleasing to see our playing base increase by 12% to almost 400 registered players – particularly noteworthy is that 85% of these players are non-Irish born, which aligns with our long-term vision of realising untapped potential outside the traditional Irish base.

For the first time in USGAA history, the USGAA County Finals took place in the Pacific Northwest, at Seattle's Magnusson Fields. Over the 3-day weekend 12 teams competed for 3 Championship Grades – this included invitational teams from Canada and New York.

As the inclement Irish-like weather of Friday gave way to glorious sunshine on the weekend, the standard of Camogie on offer was of a high standard and drew large crowds to observe the dedication and commitment of the players.

After a number of very competitive games, the following were crowned 2016 USGAA Champions:

Senior: Liberty Gaels (New Jersey)

Intermediate: Baltimore (Mid-Atlantic)

Junior: Seattle Gaels (Northwest Division)

Going forward, the 3 key goals for 2017 and beyond should include:

- A. Assisting the Youth Programs in establishing Camogie across all age grades in the Continental Youth Championship;
- B. The integration of Youth Players into our adult teams. The success of the Continental Youth Championship must be leveraged by giving these Youths a platform to participate as adults;
- C. Attracting new adult members. The fact that 85% of our playing population is non-Irish, demonstrates the appeal to those who have not been exposed to the game as youths, and is largely an untapped potential playing base.

In addition, there are number of tactical areas that we will be looking at in the near-term, such as Referee Training and Coach Tutoring.

Finally, we would like to thank the Camogie Association for their ongoing support and commitment to promote the games in the US, and particularly for the attendance of Executive Members at our various events. With your support, we look forward to promoting and growing the game of Camogie to new heights in 2017.

Paul Keane
Rúnaí



New York

2016 has been a very progressive year for all involved with Camogie in New York.

At child and youth level participation numbers have continued to increase with a good number of girls attending the Hurling/Camogie Cúl Camp at Gaelic Park. Over the course of the year, various blitzes and competitions have improved girls skills level through a games format.

New York teams at CYC competed well, with 6 teams participating including the first U16 Camogie team from New York which shows fantastic progression at underage level.

Armagh native Ger Lavery was also honoured at CYC by the Camogie Association by being awarded the Volunteer of the Year Award which was well-deserved for all her years of work in promoting Camogie in the big apple.

New York also had their very first Hurling/Camogie academy at U13 with 51 participating over a 6 week programme.

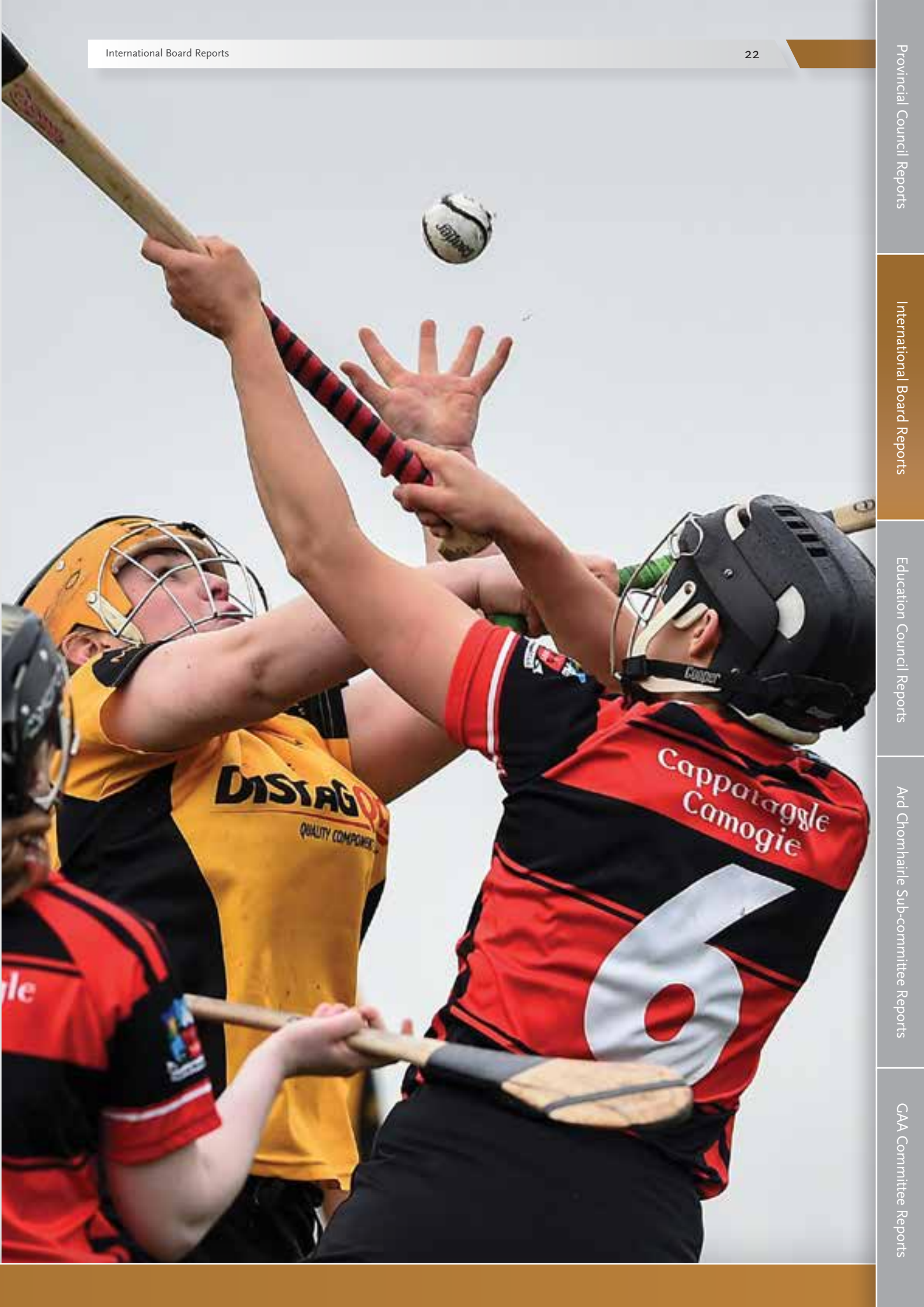
At Adult level the Liberty Gaels team represented New York in the North American Championships in Seattle with a Senior and Junior team. The Senior team were crowned champions while the Junior team lost in the Final to the hosts.

At Club level we had a very successful Mary Cosgrove 7-a-side Blitz which was won by the Liberty Gaels and saw a first ever appearance in Adult competition from Rockland which hopefully can continue to develop.

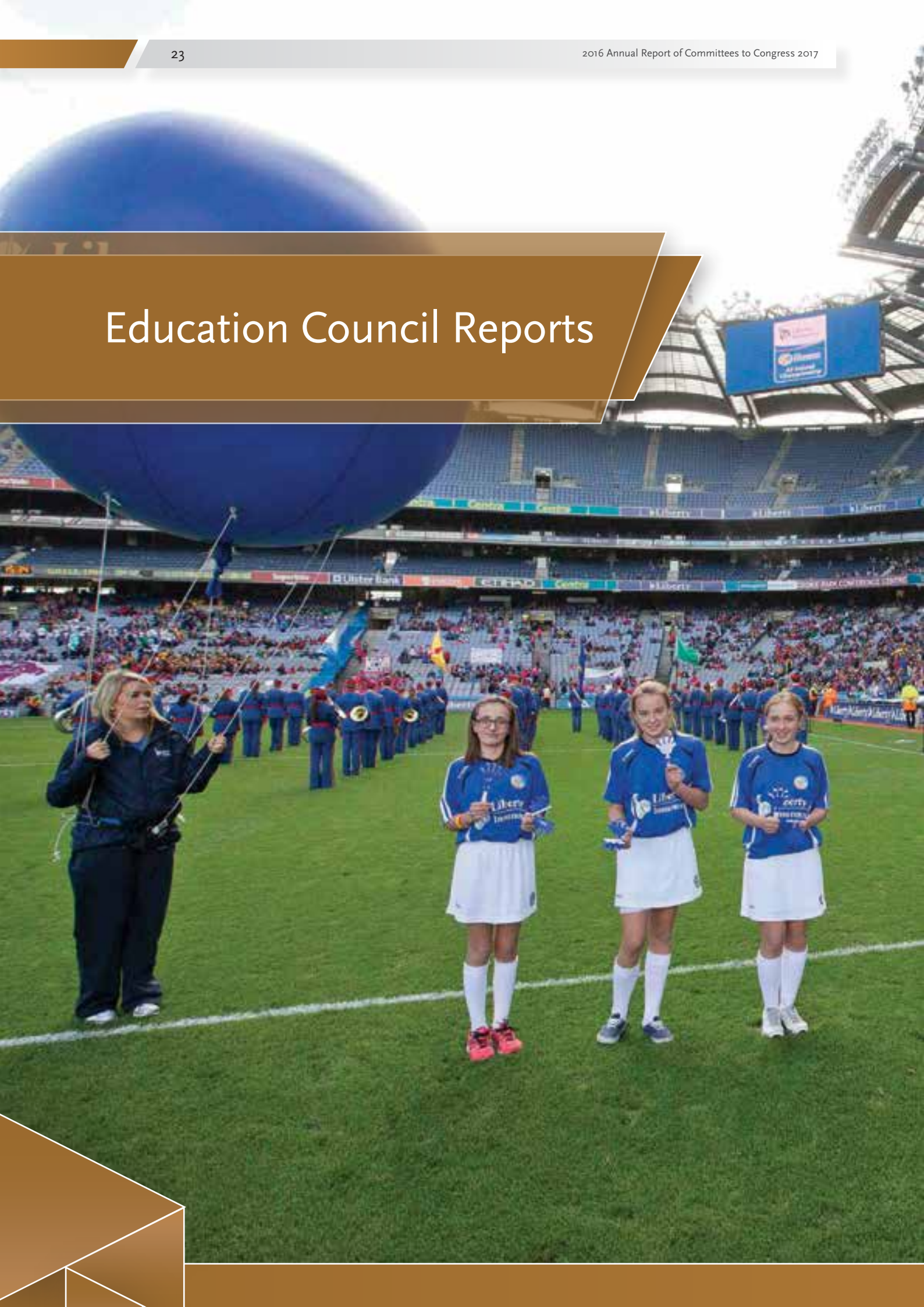
It was a historic year at county level with a New York county team going back to Ireland to compete in the GAA World Games in Dublin with the team winning the Shield Final captained by Offaly native Aisling Daly.

For 2017 New York Camogie are aiming to publish their strategic development plan that will set out their aims and hopes for the short, medium and long-term future to further develop the game.

Seán O'Sullivan
Rúnaí



Education Council Reports







Comhairle Camógaíochta na nIarbhunscoileanna (Post Primary Camogie Council)

Members: Cathy Mulholland, Mairéad Ní Mhaoileóin, an Sr. Mairéad Ní Fhearnáin, Brendan Williams, Paul Beecher and Ger Donovan.

No. of Meetings held: AGM + 2 Reconvened AGMs, meeting with Uachtarán and Ard Stiúrthóir & EGM.

No. of meetings attended:

| Committee Member Name | Role | Number of meetings |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Cathy Mulholland | Iar-Leas Cathaoirleach | 4 |
| Mairéad Ní Mhaoileóin | Rúnaí | 5 |
| An Sr. Mairéad Ní Fhearnáin | Cisteoir | 4 |
| Brendan Williams | Clárthóir | 3 |
| Paul Beecher | Oifigeach Cumarsáide Poiblí | 3 |
| Ger Donovan | Oifigeach Forbratha | 1 |

Achievements in 2016:

The Council has been reformed after a number of years as a Sub-committee. The members felt that the second level sector would be better served by having a council and a voice of their own at Congress.

After a shaky start where the AGM had to be reconvened twice a committee has now been formed. We have sought (and got one to date) nominations for members to serve on the THDC. When we have our first ordinary committee meeting we will appoint a Children's Officer.

A successful interprovincial 7-a-side blitz was held in Donaghmore Ashbourne CLG in October where the facilities were excellent thanks to the local club. This was very efficiently organised by National Servicing Officer, Bronagh Gaughan. The winners were: A - Ursuline Thurles, B - Sacred Heart Clonakilty and C - Borrisokeane.

The C competition was a straight Final which was not a satisfactory day out for either the Munster or Ulster representatives. They should both be credited with

travelling on the day. There must be more effort made next year to have all 4 provinces represented.

The 2nd level Finals are fixed for 4th March, (Senior) and 18th March, (Junior).

Plans for 2017 (subject to approval by Ard Chomhairle):

The AGM of Comhairle Camógaíochta na nIarbhunscoileanna is fixed for Saturday May 20th and hopefully we will have members who are active in this sector coming forward for election. We also need people who are committed to working together to strengthen the whole area with the association. Those who are tasked with administering the sector must be prepared to be open and work together to promote the whole sector. Ní neart go cur le chéile.

Mairéad Ní Mhaoleoin
Rúnaí

Comhairle Camógaíochta Ard Oideachais (CCAO)

Members:

| | |
|----------------------|------------------|
| Cathaoirleach: | Stephen Hoary |
| Vice Chairperson: | Helena Jacob |
| Secretary: | Gráinne Ryan |
| Assistant Secretary: | Ian Mitchell |
| Treasurer: | Sarah Fryday |
| Assistant Treasurer: | Mairí Moynihan |
| PRO: | Ann Marie Guinan |

No. of Meetings held: 10

Achievements in 2016

Participating Teams: DCU-Dóchas Éireann, CIT, UCC, NUIG, UL, MIC, WIT, UCD, DIT, MU, TCD, ITC, UUJ, QUB, St Marys Belfast, GMIT, ITT, AIT, LIT, DCU-St Pats, Marino, DKIT.

The CCAO elected a full committee for the 2016/17 season. This year it was decided that the CCAO would host the prestigious event that is the Ashbourne, Purcell and Fr. Meachair Cup Semi-Finals and Finals weekend. The CCAO are honoured to host this event in the GAA's National Games Development Centre. The Ó Malolgáin Cup and the Intermediate championships will be run off and in total will see 34 teams take to championship level at third level for the current season.

Plans for 2017 (subject to approval by Ard Chomhairle):

The CCAO are hoping to hold their next AGM in April with the bid to have the incoming executive in place before the 3rd level year begins, thus ensuring a bigger window for matches, and more flexibility regarding exams and 3rd level events. The CCAO would hope to continue their endeavours in attempting to raise the profile of our game, in all colleges.

Gráinne Ryan
Rúnaí

Ard Chomhairle Sub-committee Reports







National Resource Management Committee

Members: Catherine Neary (Uachtarán), Sheila O'Donohoe (Ard Chomhairle Secretary), Miriam O'Callaghan (Ard Chomhairle Treasurer), Fiona Hamilton (Connacht Chairperson), Pat Martin (Leinster Chairperson), James Moynihan (Munster Chairperson), Kathleen Woods (Ulster Chairperson), Aileen Pierce (UCD, Dublin), Geraldine Beattie-Greene (Roscommon), Brendan Kenny (Kildare) (until October 2016), Joan O'Flynn Ard Stiúrthóir, Paula Bruen (Director of Finance).

No of Meeting held: 7

Achievements in 2016

- Made recommendations to Ard Chomhairle on 2016 Annual Budget and monitored control of budget performance
- Considered Draft Accounts for 2016
- Commenced indebtedness review of county and provincial units
- Recommended Remuneration Policy to Ard Chomhairle
- Recommended revised staff configuration to Ard Chomhairle
- Recommended number of new risk management policies to Ard Chomhairle including cash handling, lone working and driving at work

National Competitions Management

No. of Meetings held:

6 Meetings and 24 Conference calls

No. of meetings attended:

| Committee Member Name | Role | No. of meetings |
|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Hilda Breslin | Cathaoirleach | 6 |
| Jennifer Cultra | Committee Member | 5 |
| Maeve Healy | Committee Member | 6 |
| Fiona Godfrey | Committee Member | 6 |
| Liz McGuinness | National Competitions Administrator | 6 |

Achievements in 2016

- Implementation of the 2016 National Fixtures Plan, including scheduling of games, venues and appointment of referees.
- A review of the 2016 National Fixtures Plan resulting in recommendations to Ard Chomhairle for consideration on the 2016 Competition Structures and scheduling of games.
- Preparation of the 2016 National Fixtures Plan subject to Ard Chomhairle approval.

Plans for 2017 (subject to approval by Ard Chomhairle):

- Implementation of the 2017 National Fixtures Plan.
- Consultation with the National Referees' Committee on the standard and assessment of Intercounty referees.
- Continued consultation on appropriate competition structures.
- Continued focus on fixtures planning that maximises promotion of the game.

Thank you to all the counties, volunteers, grounds and committee members whose continued commitment supports vibrant intercounty fixtures.

Hilda Breslin
Cathaoirleach

Volunteer and Officer Support, Training and Development

No. of Meetings held: 4

No. of meetings attended:

| Committee Member Name | Role | No. of meetings |
|-----------------------|---|-----------------|
| Eilís Kavanagh | Cathaoirleach | 4 |
| Roberta Farrell | Committee Member | 4 |
| Eve Talbot | Officer Training and Support Co-ordinator | 4 |

Achievements in 2016

We made little progress on our stated aims for 2016, due to a number of factors. However, the structure of workshops for County Chairpersons and Secretaries, as well as for Club Chairpersons and Secretaries have been prepared.

Plans for 2017 (subject to approval by Ard Chomhairle):

- Pilot workshops for Club Chairpersons and Secretaries in Spring 2017.
- Develop a Secretary's and Chairperson's handbook, with some material available online.
- Proceed with Provincial and County Chairperson and County Secretary workshops.
- Develop training workshops for all Officer Roles in Club and County, to be delivered in Autumn/Winter 2017.
- Regional THDC workshops for County THDCs.
- Thanks to those counties who participated in the Volunteer of the Year Awards and congratulations to the winners.
- Thanks also to the staff at the National Camogie Office for co-ordinating entries and the Awards ceremony.

Eilís Kavanagh
Cathaoirleach



National Coaching and Games Development Committee

No. of Meetings held: 7

No. of meetings attended:

| Committee Member Name | Role | No. of meetings |
|-----------------------|---|-----------------|
| Éamonn Browne | Cathaoirleach | 6 |
| Bridget Barnaville | Secretary | 5 |
| Sheila O'Donohoe | Committee Member | 4 |
| Lynn Kelly | Committee Member | 4 |
| Siobhán Poulter | Committee Member | 5 |
| Rob Lotty | Committee Member | 6 |
| Gerry Dolan | Committee Member | 3 |
| Ger O'Donovan | Committee Member | 6 |
| Mary O'Connor | Director of Technical Development and Participation | 7 |
| Yvonne Byrne | Coach, Education and Development Co-ordinator | 3 |

Achievements in 2016

2016 was a busy year and thanks to the Committee for their help and support during the past 12 months. While there was some movement on various matters, it would be a source of disappointment that some matters didn't progress as we would have hoped.

Thanks to Melanie Dunne for her work on the coaching skills video and the work of those assisting her, which we hope to progress in 2017.

We are satisfied with the Under 14/15 Blitzes although the Under 14s have evoked much discussion at various meetings. We reached a compromise with it and hopefully after extremely good debate from people on the ground it will run this year without any hitches.

Following the Under 14 survey results I would be concerned with the coaching qualifications of those entrusted in looking after development squads. We must ensure that those in charge meet the agreed criteria.

Plans for 2017 (subject to approval by Ard Chomhairle):

- Completion of the coaching skills DVD.
- A successful Féile 2017 in Carlow, Kilkenny and Wexford.
- Roll-out of school club link.
- Roll-out of coaching conferences provincially.
- I believe that we are very lucky with the quality of people who have the capacity to deliver excellent coaching and we must endeavour to the best of our ability to avail of same.

Hopefully the coming year will be a very successful one for Coaching and Games.

Éamonn Browne
Cathaoirleach

National Child Welfare and Protection Committee (NCWPC)

Former members: Jim Mullen, Margaret Skehan

No. of meetings attended:

| Committee Member Name | Role | No. of meetings |
|-----------------------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| Mary Connor | Cathaoirleach | 3 |
| Marie O'Brien | Camogie GAA Representative | 3 |
| Kathleen Woods | Committee Member | 2 |
| Jim Mullen | Former Committee Member | 2 |
| Margaret Skehan | Former Committee Member | 2 |
| Barbara Ryan | Committee Member | 3 |
| Caroline Fitzsimons | Operations Co-ordinator | 3 |

Achievements in 2016

A number of workshops were rolled out in the first quarter of 2016. These were rolled out in Leinster, Ulster and Connacht to County Children's Officer. These workshops were in conjunction with the GAA with the aim to upskill all parties in Child Protection and raising awareness around the importance of Child Protection. A national Child Welfare

Information Seminar was held in Croke Park in the last quarter of the year which proved to be very successful.

Plans for 2017 (subject to approval by Ard Chomhairle):

Aim to deliver the new Children's Officer Workshop to as many counties as possible by year end. GAA Child Welfare will include Camogie at County Board level when e-mailing counties regarding dates for the new Children's Officer Workshop, but each County Board must first share the relevant contact information with their GAA County Board, to ensure inclusion in this notification.

The Basic Awareness workshop can be booked by counties via the Camogie Association's Child Welfare Committee on request.

It is hoped that the Camogie Association will move to an E-Vetting System in the first half of 2017.

The Committee has identified the need for more Child Welfare Training Workshops for the forthcoming year.

Mary Connor
Cathaoirleach



National Referee, Support and Development Committee

No. of Meetings held: 4

No. of meetings attended:

| Committee Member Name | Role | No. of meetings |
|-----------------------|--|-----------------|
| Aileen Lawlor | Cathaoirleach | 4 |
| Frank Mc Donald | Committee Member | 4 |
| Walter Cole | Committee Member | 4 |
| Louise Reilly | Committee Member | 4 |
| Alan Lagrue | Committee Member | 3 |
| Jenny Byrne | Committee Member | 4 |
| John Mc Donagh | Committee Member | 4 |
| Lizzie Flynn | Referee Education and Development Co-ordinator | 4 |

Achievements in 2016

- Held fitness and written tests for National Referees for National League and Championship 2016.
- Held forums for National Referees including updates in any rule changes.
- Commencement of the 2nd Camogie Association Referees Academy 2016-2018
- Trained four new Camogie assessors and upskilled existing assessors
- Trained five new Camogie tutors to deliver referee courses nationally.
- Delivered 26 referee courses nationally which includes Go Games, First Whistlers, Foundation, Conversion Courses and Féile specific in :

Munster: Clare, Cork, Waterford, Cork Colleges, Tipperary, Limerick

Leinster, Wexford, Dublin - Whistle 4 Féile referees course, Wexford - Whistle 4 Féile referees course, Kilkenny - Whistle 4 Féile referees course

Ulster, Derry, Tyrone, Antrim, Donegal, Armagh, Cavan, Down

Plans for 2017 (subject to approval by Ard Chomhairle):

The Committee will continue to work in 2017 as set out in its Terms of Reference.

- Continue to roll out the Camogie Association Referees Academy 2016-2018.
- Continue to hold forums to update current National referees on changes of rules post-Congress.
- Continue to prepare and test National Referees in fitness/written tests.
- Continue to assess/advise the match performances of National Referees.
- Continue to train all match officials.
- Continue to give referees courses nationally.
- Continue to recruit and support referees.
- Continue to train and support referee tutors.
- Continue to work with the Camogie Association staff and all volunteers to deliver the goals as set out in the National Development Plan *Our Sport Our Future* 2016-2019.

Aileen Lawlor
Cathaoirleach

National Communications and Marketing Committee

No. of Meetings held: 2

No. of meetings attended:

| Committee Member Name | Role | No. of meetings |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Fiona Casey | Cathaoirleach | 2 |
| Bróna McIntyre | Committee Member | 1 |
| Sarah Conroy | Committee Member | 2 |
| Olive Leonard | Committee Member | 2 |
| Gerry O'Sullivan | Committee Member | 2 |
| Monica Beresford | Former Committee Member | 0 |
| Cian Nelson | Communications Manager | 1 |

Achievements in 2016

- A Whatsapp group was established and worked very well for all PROs throughout the country, as a point of contact, networking, and sharing information such as templates for match programmes and facilities at pitches.
- A strong Social Media Policy was ratified by Ard Chomhairle and will be circulated to all counties. This covers all aspects such as responsibility, actions, dos/don'ts and will provide a reference point for any Unit in relation to queries which they may have on compliance.
- The Media Awards were tweaked for 2017, with the changes to categories as well as the introduction of a new 'Best Media Innovation' category which had a number of entries in its first year. There were many strong entries across all categories this year in particular, with the Committee having a tough task in deciding the winners. Our thanks to Cian Nelson for all of his work on this project

Plans for 2017 (subject to approval by Ard Chomhairle):

- Training in PR and related areas to become mandatory, given that it's a forever moving industry with new technology constantly being launched. Roll-out to happen as early as possible.
- Review of the Media Awards to see if changes have been beneficial and if further adjustments are required.
- Continue to support existing and new PROs in their roles via initiatives such as the Whatsapp group etc.

Fiona Casey
Cathaoirleach



All-Stars Committee

No. of Meetings held: 5

No. of meetings attended:

| Committee Member Name | Role | No. of meetings |
|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Sheila Coen | Cathaoirleach | 5 |
| Sheila O Donohoe | Secretary | 4 |
| Alice Dowling | Committee Member | 5 |
| Marion Graham | Committee Member | 4 |
| Patsy Hetheron | Committee Member | 4 |
| Rachel Hogan | Committee Member | 3 |
| Maura McCloy | Committee Member | 5 |
| Linda Mellerick | Committee Member | 4 |

Achievements in 2016

- Coverage by the committee of 95% of all matches from the respective National League Finals to All-Ireland Finals across all adult competitions.
- Changes were made in the number of nominations at the Intermediate and Premier Junior grades, reflecting the changing composition of the respective championships.
- The Committee worked in conjunction with the WGPA in shortlisting for the Players' Player of the Year Awards.
- Modification of the criteria for the Manager of the Year award which is similar to the criteria for players.

Plans for 2017 (subject to approval by Ard Chomhairle)

- Coverage of games to include National League Semi-Finals.
- Revisit the number of nominations for Intermediate and Premier Junior awards with a view to selecting one overall team of 15 from these nominations.
- Reconsider the name 'Soaring Stars' for 2017.

Sheila Coen
Cathaoirleach

National Transfers, Hearings and Disciplinary Committee (NTHDC)

Members: Richard Mulholland - Cathaoirleach, Joe O'Donnell, Noeleen McCarthy, Deirdre Mitchell Canning, Róisín Walsh, Miriam Murphy and Rachel Hogan.

No. of Cases Referred: 24

2016 has proven to be even busier than last year and so Rachel Hogan joining the committee was timely.

There were 22 hearings held this year, on two occasions extra members had to be co-opted due to a lack of availability or conflicts of interest. I would like to thank the members for their patience and dedication, it is not often recognised publicly that as well as the actual hearings the members put in time in order to decide if a hearing is in order and then prepare for that hearing.

There were some issues that arose over the year and this along with possible solutions have been fed back to the Ard Stiúrthóir for consideration. It still noticeable that while Leinster, Munster and Connacht are represented on the committee there is still no representative from Ulster.

Richard Mulholland
Cathaoirleach

National Finals Appeals Committee (NFAC)

Members: Eilís Kavanagh - Cathaoirleach, Mairéad Finn, Cian Kelly, Marian McCarthy, Jackie Brien (Co-opted)

No. of Meetings held: 1 appeal was heard in 2016

Achievements in 2016

The NFAC meets as required to consider and determine appeals at the final stage. Only one appeal was heard and ruled upon in 2016 which is a credit to our Camogie membership and also to County, Provincial and National THDC personnel.

Plans for 2017 (subject to approval by Ard Chomhairle)

The NFAC will continue to facilitate appeals as required in 2017.

Eilís Kavanagh
Cathaoirleach





Reports from GAA Committees
that have Camogie representation





GAA National Child Welfare and Protection

Members: National GAA Committee - Marie O'Brien, Camogie Association Representative

Achievements in 2016

Vetting: The introduction of e-vetting for GAA applicants proved very successful. The number of applicants increased and waiting times were reduced to an average of 8 days. Discussions with the LGFA and Camogie Association will see both organisations availing of the GAA online vetting system in 2017.

Children's Officer Training: The Children's Officer Workshop was piloted and finalised and is now available to Children's Officers in all the Associations in the GAA family. Fifteen new tutors attended Club Children's Officer Tutor training in November, this increase in the pool of tutors will ensure counties seeking courses will have shorter waiting periods.

Work commenced on a Designated Liaison Person workshop and a Cúl Camps assistants training programme, both to be completed in the first quarter of 2017.

A successful Child Welfare Information seminar was held in Croke Park on November 19th. Topics covered included; Consequences of Social Media, Underage Player Welfare, Update on Children First Act, Vetting, Scenarios relating to breaches of the Code of Best Practice, the role of Children's Officers and Devising an action plan for 2017.

Plans for 2017

A number of priorities have been identified by the Committee for the coming year:

- Completion of Designated Liaison Person and Cúl Camps Assistants training programme
- A Club and County audit of compliance with Child Welfare legislation and Code of Best Practice
- Review of the Tackling Bullying workshop
- Mentoring Tutor Development Programme
- Updated edition of *Our Games - Our Code*

Marie O'Brien
Camogie Association Representative

All-Ireland Poc Fada Committee

Members: National GAA Committee - Eve Talbot, Camogie Association Representative

No. of Meetings: 10

Achievements in 2016

This was the second year of the new structure to Poc Fada with 10 competitors qualifying for the National Competition. A total of 6 at Senior level (4 provincial winners, last year's winner & the All-Star Goalkeeper for 2015) and 4 at U16 level (4 provincial winners). More of our county Poc Fada competitions were aligned with GAA competitions (including 3 provincial) which gives better profile to the event. Many competitions took place away from the field and to more relative environs applicable to the national competition which is held in the Cooley Mountains on the August bank holiday weekend. Even without the participation this year of reigning Poc Fada champion, Patricia Jackman, the standard of the competition overall far exceeded previous years as is evident in the results.

Senior Results:

1. Aoife Murray (Cork/All-Stars Goalkeeper 2015)
2. Lyndsey Condell (Cork/Munster)
3. Faye McCarthy (Dublin/Leinster)
4. Susan Earner (Galway/All-Stars Goalkeeper Nominee 2015)
5. Ciara Donnelly (Tyrone/Ulster)
6. Sinéad Skehill (Galway/Connacht)

U16 Results:

1. Sarah Healy (Galway/Connacht & 2015 winner)
2. Mairéad O'Sullivan (Cork/Munster)
3. Donna Mortimer (Laois/Leinster)
4. Ann-Marie Smyth (Down/Ulster)

Plans for 2017

New criteria was issued by the National Committee to all counties and provinces this year and will be implemented in 2017. The new criteria will require any county or province holding a Poc Fada event:

- To have at least eight (8) competitors participating.
- The event cannot be played on a playing pitch, beach, racecourse, road or breen.
- The minimum number of pucks to be taken by any competitor will be twenty five.

Eve Talbot

Camogie Association Representative

Féile na nGael Committee

Members: National GAA Committee - Caroline Murray, Camogie Association Representative

No. of Meetings held: 10

Achievements in 2016

The National Féile Competition in association with John West took place in Tipperary and Waterford from Friday June 17th until Sunday June 19th 2016. 76 camogie teams took part in National Féile (38 host and 38 travelling).

Results of the Finals in the 5 divisions in Camogie were as follows:

| Division | Winners | Score | Runners-up |
|-------------------|--|-----------|--|
| Division 1 Cup | Sarsfields, Cork | 1-3 v 0-3 | Thomastown, Kilkenny |
| Division 1 Shield | Knockavilla Donoskeigh Kickhams, Tipperary | 2-6 v 1-1 | Éire Óg Annacarty Donohill, Tipperary |
| Division 2 Cup | Wolfe Tones Bellaghy, Derry | 1-5 v 0-3 | Ballina, Tipperary |
| Division 2 Shield | Michael Davitts Swatragh, Derry | 2-5 v 1-4 | St Anne's, Waterford |
| Division 3 Cup | Naas, Kildare | 1-3 v 1-1 | Myshall, Carlow |
| Division 3 Shield | Camross, Laois | 1-3 v 0-4 | Fethard, Tipperary |
| Division 4 Cup | Cill Aird, Kerry | 2-7 v 2-4 | Eglis, Tyrone |
| Division 4 Shield | Burgess, Tipperary | 2-0 v 0-5 | Westport, Mayo |
| Division 5 Cup | JK Brackens, Tipperary | 4-4 v 2-0 | San Francisco |
| Division 5 Shield | St Eunan's, Donegal | 1-2 v 0-0 | Cappoquin, Waterford |

On Saturday June 18th four regional Féile events also took place. 26 teams competed across the 4 regions. Results are as follows:

| | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Downey Cup: | Ballinora, Cork 2-6 | Carnmore, Galway 0-2 |
| Pat Moloney Shield: | Ardrahan, Galway 2-1 | Galbally, Limerick 1-0 |
| Imelda Hobbins Shield: | Sarsfields, Galway 2-4 | Pilltown, Kilkenny 2-1 |
| Mairín McAleenan Shield: | Bridíni Óga, Antrim 4-6 | Lusmagh/Drumcullen, Offaly 2-2 |



In total 2,450 U14 girls played Camogie as part of Féile na nGael over the weekend.

Féile Skills Competition

The Féile Skills Competition took place on Saturday June 11th in the GAA Games Development Centre in Abbotstown. There were 27 counties represented from Camogie on the day.

Eimear Heffernan (Tipperary) won the skills competition with Aoife Fitzgerald (Waterford) second and Maeve Muldoon (Galway) in third position.

Plans for 2017

The National Féile Competition will be hosted by Wexford, Carlow & Kilkenny in 2017 and will take place from Friday June 16th until Sunday June 18th. A number of regional locations will also take place on Saturday June 17th. The Féile Skills Competition will take place on a separate weekend to National Féile on Saturday June 10th.

Caroline Murray
Camogie Association Representative

Hurling Development Committee Report

Members: National GAA Committee – Mary O'Connor
Camogie Association Representative

In 2016 the National Hurling Development Committee was focused upon the delivery of key objectives contained in the Action Plan, which was launched in December 2015. The projects implemented under the auspices of the Action Plan included:

- The review and conclusion of the Hurling Mentoring Programme;
- The implementation of a joint initiative with the Camogie Association i.e. the Hurl with Me Programme;
- The standardisation of the sliotar core.

Review and Conclusion of the Hurling Mentoring Programme

One of the objectives outlined in the HDC Action Plan was to review and to wind-up the operation of the current Hurling Mentoring Programme.

While the HDC sees merit in the concept of the Mentoring Programme it is suggested that any future iteration would

be implemented on a smaller scale in selected counties to address specific challenges/deficits.

Joint Initiative – Hurl with Me Programme

Through collaboration with the Camogie Association the 'Hurl with Me Programme' was rolled out in six venues nationwide. This programme was for boys and girls aged 7 to aged 10 years old and their parents/guardians. In each venue the programme ran for 6 weeks and each week a tutor coached the basic skills of Hurling and Camogie to the parents/guardians who accompanied their children to the training session.

It proved to be a successful way of recruiting parents as volunteer coaches. The feedback from parents was that they enjoyed the practical side of the programme and it was a good way of meeting other parents in the club and becoming more involved. The participants enjoyed learning how to coach new skills and were keen each week to go home and practice with their children, which was the overall objective of the Programme.

The Standardisation of the Sliotar Core

The underpinning rationale of standardising the sliotar core is to protect the integrity of the game, ensure that quality sliotars are available at a reasonable price and to eliminate the current level of variability from a quality control perspective as well as to eliminate the possibility of child labour where the production process is concerned. In 2016, a Work Group was appointed, which comprised of experts from a legal, marketing and technical perspective.

As of December 2016 it is intended to have proof of concept testing completed by Easter 2017 with a launch date in 2018.

Priorities 2017 – 2018

Further to significant discussions the HDC have identified the following priorities for the remainder of its term:

- To develop and grow the Celtic Challenge for 2017 and beyond;
- To reformat the current U21 B Hurling Championship;
- To address inequities around the Minor A Hurling Championship;
- To regenerate Gaelic Games in Belfast;
- To align the role of the National Hurling Development Manager with the HDC Priorities.

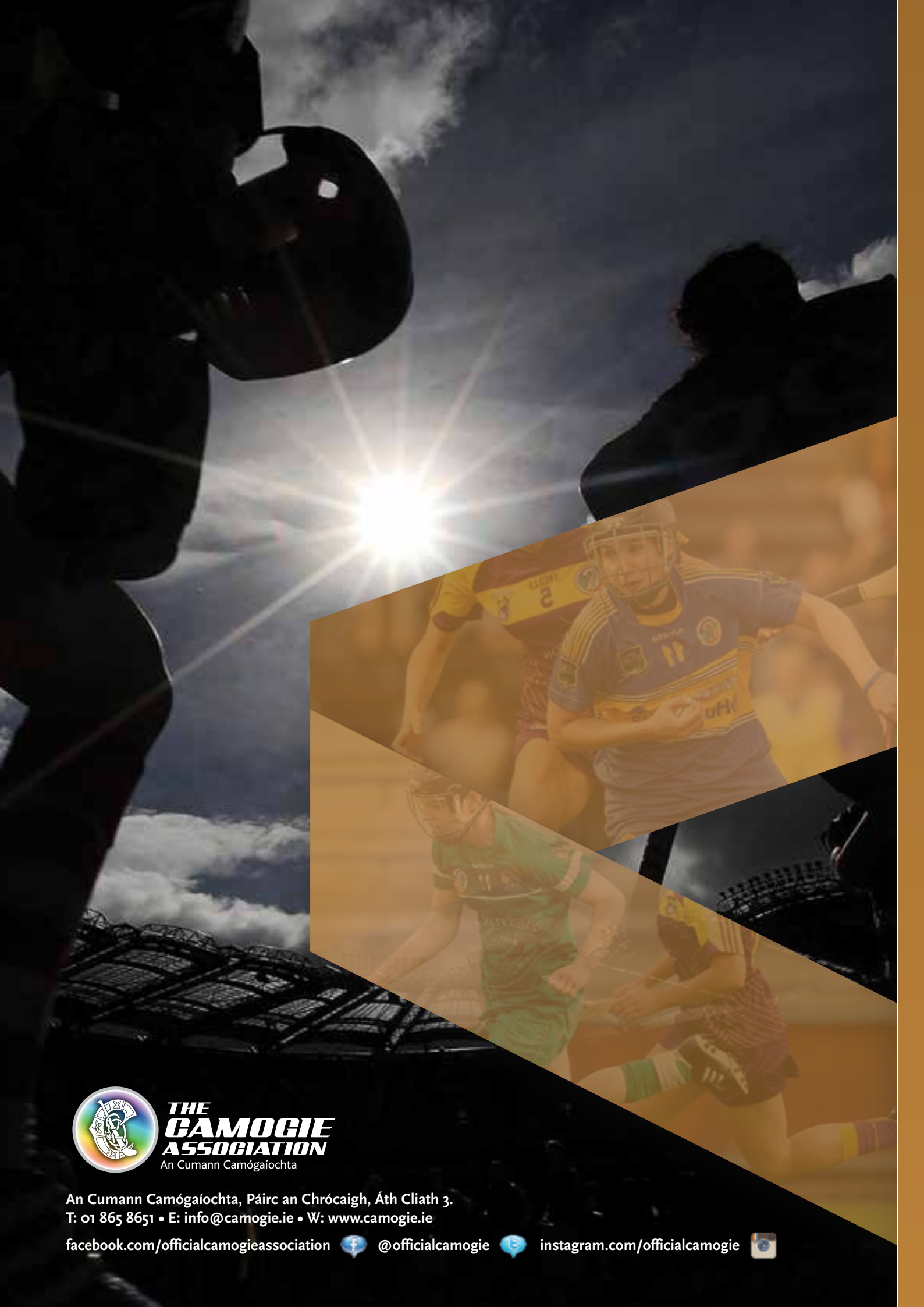
Mary O'Connor
Camogie Association Representative







The Camogie Association thanks the following for their support





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