

Kildare GAA
Newsletter
May 2018



Cill Dara
KILDARE GAA

Kildare GAA Bits & Bytes

from the Lilywhites



St Conleths Park Re-Development Project

Kildare 2020 Vision



The planning application for the Re-Development project in St. Conleths Park was lodged on Friday 27th April for approval.

The development will consist of the construction of a new 2–storey Covered Main Stand building, with facilities within the Stand, comprising Players and Officials Changing Areas, Spectator Concourses, Toilets Areas, Office, Multi-purpose room, VIP/ meeting areas, Food services/ bar, Stores, Plant Rooms and associated ancillary areas. As part of this project, there will be a new civic plaza at the main entrance area to the stand and the Flood Lighting for the facility.

The following graphics, which depict the stand, VIP area, entry plaza and services within the stand reflect Kildare GAA’s plans for St Conleths Park.

St Conleths Park Re-Development Project

Kildare 2020 Vision



Kildare GAA are delighted to announce Pittman Traffic and Safety as CLG Cill Dara's main sponsor for Kildare's Intermediate Football Championship 2018.

Pittman are the leading experts in traffic and safety equipment in Ireland and the UK, specialising in speed bumps, bollards, bike racks, line-marking as well as portable and fixed barrier systems, as reflected on both their Irish and UK websites; www.pittman.ie and www.pittmantraffic.co.uk.

Pittman are a Kildare based Company and are currently celebrating 10 years in Athy Business Campus. Brendan Pittman, Managing Director, is delighted with this new brand sponsorship and is confident that this partnership will further boost the companies profile in Kildare by reaching out to even more Kildare GAA Clubs and Businesses helping them with their traffic & safety requirements.

pittman

**traffic & safety
equipment**

*New Intermediate Championship
Sponsor Announced*



Welcoming this sponsorship deal, Ger Donnelly, Chairman of Kildare County Board said that having Pittman Traffic and Safety on board emphasised Kildare GAA's attractiveness as a sponsor to our local business community and we look forward to working with Brendan during 2018.

Having such a progressive business sponsoring Kildare GAA's Intermediate Football Championship 2018 reflects our ambition as a GAA county moving forward as we continue to develop our games within Kildare. T

The Pittman Traffic & Safety Intermediate Football Championship 2018 this weekend.



LEINSTER CHAMPIONSHIP FIXTURES

Leinster GAA have confirmed the following dates & times for the Senior Footballers, Minor Footballers & Minor Hurlers opening championship games.

Leinster Senior Football Championship – Quarter Final

Kildare v winner Carlow/Louth

Sunday 27th May, time TBC

Venue: Portlaoise or Tullamore

Leinster Minor Football Championship – Round 1

Kildare v Wexford

Monday 7th May, 2pm

Venue: St. Conleth's Park

Leinster Minor Hurling Championship – Round 1

Kildare v Antrim

Saturday 12th May, 1.30pm

Venue: St. Conleth's Park



Best wishes to all involved in
their preparations over the
coming weeks.



The Senior hurling team take on Roscommon, Mayo and Wicklow in the group stages of the Christy Ring Cup.

The fixtures are as follows:

Round 1 - Saturday 12th May

Kildare v Roscommon

Venue: St. Conleth's Park, 3.30pm

Round 2 - Saturday 19th May

Kildare v Mayo

Venue: James Stephen Park, Ballina, 3pm

Round 3 - Saturday 2nd June

Kildare v Wicklow

Venue: Joule Park, Aughrim, 2pm



Christy Ring Cup
Best wishes to all involved
in the 2018 campaign



JOE MALLON MOTORS RENAULT SENIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP



Fixtures

Confey v Johnstownbridge, Friday 4th May, 7.30pm

Venue: St. Conleth's Park

Castledermot v Celbridge, Saturday 5th May, 2pm

Venue: Manguard Plus Kildare GAA COE

Athy v Maynooth, Saturday 5th May, 3.30pm

Venue: Manguard Plus Kildare GAA COE

Clane v St. Laurences, Saturday 5th May, 5.15pm

Venue: St. Conleth's Park

Naas v Round Towers, Saturday 5th May, 7pm

Venue: St. Conleth's Park

Eadestown v Leixlip, Sunday 6th May, 1pm

Venue: St. Conleth's Park

Moorefield v Carbury, Sunday 6th May, 2.45pm

Venue: St. Conleth's Park

Sarsfields v Raheens, Saturday 12th May, 7pm

Venue: St. Conleth's Park



Joe Mallon Motors Renaults
Senior Football Championship Preview

The Joe Mallon Motors Renault SFC Championship kicks back into gear this weekend as with Confey and Johnstownbridge opening proceedings up with an intriguing clash in St. Conleth's Park on Friday evening.

The Senior and Intermediate Championship has a completely new look to it this year, the sequence begins this weekend with eight first round games after which all 16 teams will go into four groups of four with two winners and two losers from the opening round in each of those groups.

After which the teams that finish first and second will qualify for the knockout stages while the four bottom clubs have to fend off relegation.

Moorefield will be the team to beat and rightly so after they claimed their second Leinster Title at the end of 2017 with that thrilling victory over St. Lomans.

It can also be argued that their county title was every bit as impressive as its very rare that a team beats their three biggest rivals in consecutive rounds.

That's exactly what Ross Glavin's side achieved though by beating local rivals Sarsfields in the quarters, a fancied Athy in the Semis and beating Celbridge in the final with only 13 men for three quarters of the game.

Of the challengers, Sarsfields come next as Newbridge has had a monopoly over the Senior Title in recent years and they will love nothing more than to take down their crosstown rivals.

It will be interesting to see how they go under new management and the early signs are promising after winning the Aldridge Cup and like Moorefield last year the lack of any county player may play to their advantage.

Naas, Celbridge and Athy are three more teams who will have serious aspirations of landing the Dermot Bourke Cup with the latter two striving desperately to break the big two's dominance and build on underage promise.

When you speak of underage promise though you cant look any further than Naas as the County Town are taking everything before them and while this year may be too soon to land the big prize they are definitely the coming team.

Others to come into consideration will be Carbury, Confey, Round Towers, Johnstownbridge and Clane who are all trying to build on fleeting visits to the last 8 and while they may not be good enough to take the overall crown they can definitely take a scalp.

The rest will all be just happy to stay up with the most interesting being Raheens who make their return to the Senior Grade for the first time since 2005.

PITTMAN TRAFFIC & SAFETY

INTERMEDIATE FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP



Fixtures

Ballyteague v Kilcock, Friday 4th May, 8.15pm

Venue: Manguard Plus Kildare GAA COE

Sallins v Suncroft, Saturday 5th May, 3.30pm

Venue: Clane GAA

Nurney v Two Mile House, Sunday 6th May, 4.30pm

Venue: Manguard Plus Kildare GAA COE

Ellistown v St. Kevins, Sunday 6th May, 5pm

Venue: Clane GAA

Allenwood v Rathangan, Sunday 6th May, 6pm

Venue: Manguard Plus Kildare GAA COE

Clogherinkoe v Kill, Monday 7th May, 6.30pm

Venue: Manguard Plus Kildare GAA COE

Kilcullen v Straffan, Sunday 13th May, 1pm

Venue: St. Conleth's Park

Ballymore Eustace v Monasterevan, Sunday 13th May,

2.45pm Venue: St. Conleth's Park



Cill Dara
KILDARE GAA

Intermediate Football Championship
Pittman Traffic & Safety
Preview

For many years Raheens were the stand out team in the Pittman Traffic & Safety IFC but like Johnstownbridge before them just couldn't get over the line and with them now moving up to Senior it now means picking a winner in the Intermediate grade looks an impossible task again.

Kilcock were a team who grew throughout the campaign last year and rather aptly after their excellent showing in last year's final they open this year's action against Ballyteague and regardless of the result Friday night they will be expected to contend as they have the makings of a good young team coming together.

Kilcock are one of about twelve who can have realistic ambitions of winning the title as the Championship lives up to its name.

St. Kevin's and Clogherinkoe are two of those teams and apart from Kilcock they pushed Raheens the closest last year and were both leading at different stages against them before going down to defeat so they will have high hopes.

Elsewhere Two Mile House will be looking to make up for a difficult 2017 and look to get back to the final where they agonisingly lost to Round Towers after a replay a year previously and with the talent at their disposal there is no reason they can't.

After relegation Allenwood are back in the Intermediate for the first time in many a year and they will look to get back at the first time of asking to try avoid the fate of the likes of Raheens and Johnstownbridge.

Monasterevan, Suncroft, Rathangan and Ballyteague will look to build on a decent 2017 while of the rest Ballymore take the eye and could be a bolter as they won the junior with such ease that its impossible to see them not making an impact.

Action Shots from the 2017 Club Championship



TOM CROSS

JUNIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP



Fixtures

- Ballykelly v Robertstown, Friday 4th May, 7pm
Venue: Manguard Plus Kildare GAA COE
- Rheban v Caragh, Monday 7th May, 3.30pm
Venue: Manguard Plus Kildare GAA COE
- Grangenolvin v Rathcoffey, Monday 7th May, 5pm
Venue: Manguard Plus Kildare GAA COE
- Castlemitchell v Cappagh, Friday 11th May, 8pm
Venue: Manguard Plus Kildare GAA COE
- Milltown v Grangenolvin, Sunday 13th May, 4pm
Venue: Manguard Plus Kildare GAA COE
- Rathcoffey v Rheban, Sunday 13th May, 5.3pm
Venue: Manguard Plus Kildare GAA COE



Junior Football Championship
Tom Cross

The Junior grade on paper looks to have a real competitive look about it.

With all due respect many people predicted before a ball was kicked that Ballymore would take the title last year and that's how things worked out even if they did get a huge scare against Rheban in the Semi-Final.

Rheban will be one of the teams who will look to take advantage of Ballymore's absence and strike when the iron is hot and if they can repeat what they did last year they won't be far away.

Caragh and Robertstown are two others who had good years in making the last four and Caragh were then subsequently well beaten in the final but the side has a good nucleus to it and if they can get Jake Corrigan in half the form he was last year they will have a chance.

Elsewhere Castlemitchell are back in the Junior grade after a miserable 2017 and its hard to see them making much of an impact but the likes of Milltown and Rathcoffey can't be discounted as they have the ability to cause harm.

The Championship is rounded off with Grange, Ballykelly and Cappagh.

KILDARE GAA NIGHT AT THE DOGS

Thanks to everyone who supported the 'Night at the Dogs' and making it a great success. Many thanks also to Newbridge Greyhound Stadium, for the use of their excellent facilities.

We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to all of the following sponsors for their support.

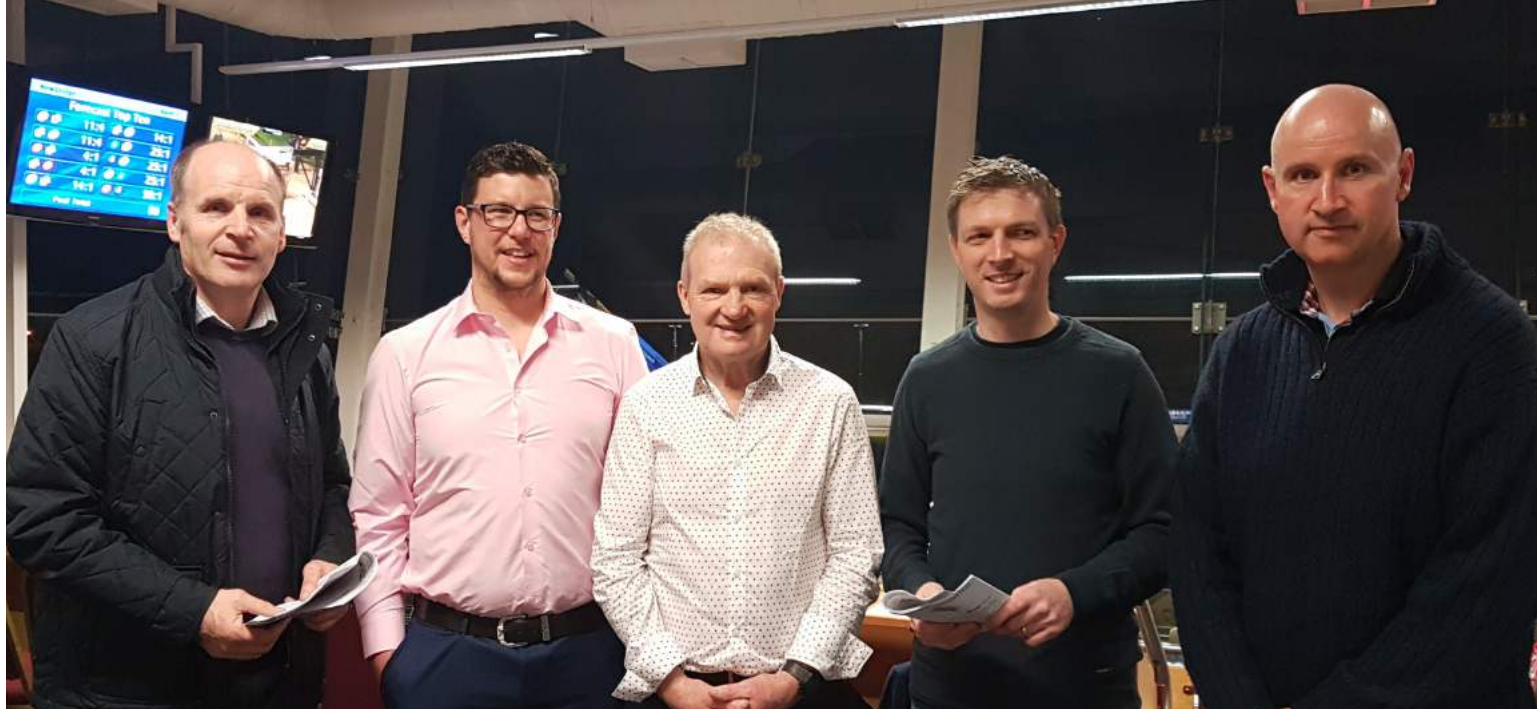
KILDARE GAA NIGHT AT THE DOGS

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LEIXLIP GAA	STEWART RUSSELL	MURPHY DESIGN & BUILD



Thanks to all our sponsors for the continued support!



DEVELOPMENT SQUADS ANNUAL GOLF FUNDRAISER

Thanks to everyone who joined Kildare Coaching & Games at their recent Annual Golf Fundraiser for the Development Squads. Thanks to all our golfers, sponsors, organisers and to Craddockstown Golf Club for the hospitality.



Your support to the development squads is greatly appreciated.



Cill Dara
KILDARE GAA

Results

- 4 Ball K Club - Anthony Mallon
- 4 Ball Palmerstown - Padraig Anderson
- 4 Ball The Heritage - James Dolan
- 4 Ball Mount Wolseley - Sean Fahey
- 4 Ball Citywest - Robbie Reilly
- 4 Ball Tulfarris - Eddie O'Loughlin
- 4 Ball Kilkea Castle - Eugene O'Toole
- 4 Ball Killeen - Paud Malone
- 4 Ball Rathsallagh - Tommy O'Rourke
- 4 Ball Moyvalley - Camillus Walsh
- 4 Ball Naas - James O'Brien
- 4 Ball Killerig - Deckie Hanniffy
- 4 Ball Royal Curragh - Cha Delmar
- 4 Ball Dunmurray Springs - Niall McGovern
- 4 Ball Millicent - John Hill
- 4 Ball Knockanally - Kevin Connor
- 4 Ball Highfield - Brian Dempsey
- 4 Ball Newbridge - Jim McMullen
- 4 Ball Craddockstown - James Devane
- 4 Ball Cill Dara - Paddy McGovern
- 4 Ball Athy - Niall Connelly
- 4 Ball Portarlinton - Dessie Brennan
- 4 Ball Kilcock - PJ Doran
- MD Sports Footballs - Micheal Conneff

Nearest to the pin prizes: Frank O'Connor, Colm Browne, Eamonn Wynne & Julia Farrell.

Longest Drive 8th - William Mulhall

Longest Drive 18th - Liam Kennedy



SOUTHBOARD UNDER 9'S APRIL MATCH REPORTS

St. Laurences V Castledermot: A game played in blustery conditions, but this didn't stop the quality passing and scoring of our lads. A great team performance on the day. The team was Erin Dooley, Cormac Clifford, Leon Butler, Greg O Shea, Cian Keogh, Tadhg O Gorman, Tadhg Murnane, Alex Clare, Finn Deering, Jake Byrne, Oisin Deering. Scorers Cian Keogh, Greg Kelly, Tadhg O Gorman, Oisin Deering, Jake Byrne, Tadhg Murnane.

Castledermot V Rathangan: Well done to Castledermot and Rathangan under 9s who played an absolute cracking game of football. Both teams from beginning to the end traded scores and displayed great skill on the ball. Strong goalkeeping from Harry Bryan. Great defence displayed by the backs Ethan Farrell, Killian Hammerton, and Harry Ó Gorman. Winning the ball in midfield and some outstanding scoring from hardworking midfielders Torin Flood and Finn Deering. Great play up front and scores by the forwards led by Callum Dowling, Oisín Deering, and Alex Farrell.



SOUTHBOARD UNDER 9'S APRIL MATCH REPORTS

Ballymore v Milltown: Ballymore hosted Milltown for the third game of the u9 Southboard league. The conditions were very windy but both teams soon got to grips with the weather. The wind favoured Milltown in the first half and they took full advantage. There were plenty of long range attempts with a lot of them resulting in scores. Ballymore were behind at half time but they too used the wind to extend their range and had good success with their efforts. It wasn't all long ball though and some tidy short passes created opportunities for both sides. Overall it was a tough encounter for both sides but played in the right spirit.



Moorefield v Robertstown: Some very good displays of skills by both teams with no quarter give by either side in the tackles. Both teams played very well. Best for Moorefield were captain Oisin Doyle with a solid display in defence and Alex Murphy in the forwards with some excellent scoring.

The KWETB Féile Football Finals were played last weekend in Manguard Plus Kildare GAA Centre of Excellence.

There were great crowds, atmosphere & brilliant football played throughout the weekend.

Congratulations to all who took part in the weekend and to all the winning teams.



Feile A Football Final Raheens 2-10 Naas 3-6



Feile A Football Shield Final Sarsfields 4-17 Clane 1-8



Feile B Football Final St. Laurences 5-7 Moorefield 3-6



Feile B Football Shield Final Kilcock 6-9 Rathangan 5-6



Feile C Football Final Eadestown 2-14 Milltown 2-9



Feile C Football Shield Final Newtown Gaels 3-13 Carbury 2-3



Feile D Football Final Castlemitchell 5-11 Suncroft 2-12



Feile D Football Shield Final Ellistown 8-14 Aylmer Gaels 7-12



Feile E Football Final Grangenolvin 5-15 Castledermot 5-6



Feile E Football Shield Final Cappagh 3-21 Raheens 1-6



Feile F Football Final Celbridge 9-12 Naas 0-7



Feile F Football Shield Final Maynooth 4-7 Sallins 1-3

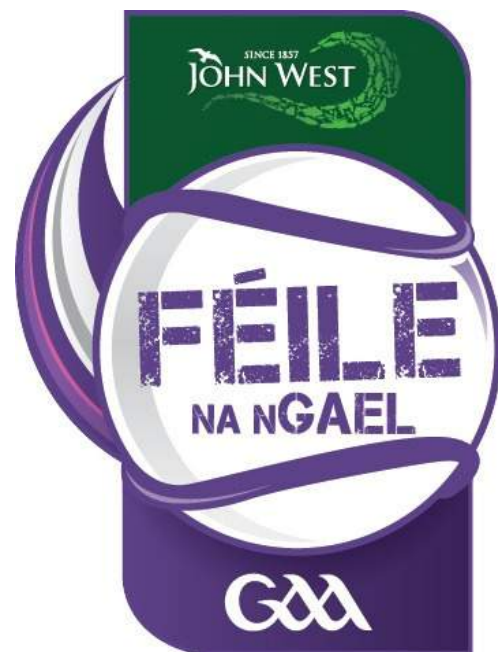


The Feile Hurling Finals took place the weekend of 14th/15th April.

Congratulations to all of the clubs that took part and to all the winning teams.

Great skills on the display.

The future of Kildare hurling is very bright.



Feile A Hurling Final Naas 1-11 Eire Óg Corra Choill 2-4



Feile A Hurling Shield Final Maynooth 6-10 Celbridge 1-0



Feile B Hurling Final Broadford 6-7 Clane 2-9



Feile B Hurling Shield Final Cappagh 3-11 Rathangan 2-5



Feile C Hurling Final Two Mile House 3-6 Coill Dubh 2-13





Scór Update

Cill Dara
KILDARE GAA

Once again, 2017/2018 saw Kildare at the forefront in promoting Scór in Leinster.

Sunday 3rd December saw a great afternoons entertainment in Allenwood. Young talent from across the county took part in this year's Scór na nÓg county final. It was refreshing to see a great increase in terms of both clubs and numbers participating.

Well done to Maynooth, Allenwood, Milltown, Naas, Rathcoffey Club, Éire Óg Corra Choill, and Eadestown on taking part.

Bualadh bos mór to Maynooth GAA on deservedly winning Club of the Year.



Well done to all our County Champions:

Tráth na gCeist/Quiz: Maynooth

Rince Foirne/Céilí Dancing: Maynooth

Amhránaíocht Aonair/Solo Singing: Eadestown

Rince Seit/Set Dancing: Maynooth

Aithriseoireacht/Recitation: Milltown

Bailéad Ghrúpa/Ballad Group: Milltown

Ceol Uirlise/Instrumental Music: Maynooth

Léiriú Stáitse/Stage Presentation: Milltown

With the exception of Maynooths Quiz Team (who went through to the All Ireland final), all other acts went on to the Leinster Semi Final in Oulart, Wexford. All acts represented club and county with distinction with Milltown (Léiriú) and Maynooth (Set Dancing) going through to the Leinster final in the Wexford Opera House. While not taking home the ultimate crown on the day, both groups of young people did our county proud and certainly gave it their all. Maith sibh! It also needs to be said that the choice of Wexford Opera House for the Leinster final was inspired. Parents and kids alike were really impressed with the professionalism and quality of the setup on the day. Going forward, in our efforts to promote Scór, we should look to showcase our finals in similar venues in the future.

Maynooth represented the county in the All Ireland final quiz. They performed well on the day, but Cavan came out on top.

In Senior Scór, our county champions were:

Solo Singing – Frank Roche, Cappagh

Set Dancing – Maynooth

Recitation – Liam McDonald, Cappagh

Léiriú – Milltown

Céilí Dancing – Maynooth

Question Time – Milltown

Well done to all clubs who took part (Cappagh, Maynooth, Éire Óg Corra Choill, Allenwood, Milltown and Rathcoffey). Congratulations to Milltown on winning Club of the Year for the second year running.

Milltowns' Quiz Team went straight through to the All Ireland final in Sligo. All other champions went through to the Leinster Semi final with Milltown (Léiriú) and Maynooth (Set Dancing) going through to the Leinster final in The Helix. While both represented the county with pride, we didn't have luck on the day.

Milltown represented the county in the All Ireland final quiz. They performed well on the day, but Kerry came out on top.





The Kildare GAA Celtic Challenge squad began their Celtic Challenge journey Wednesday 2nd May with a 3-16 to 3-11 victory over Meath.

They will continue their campaign on Wednesday 16th May against Carlow in Fenagh at 7.30pm and then play on Wednesday 23rd May against Westmeath in Kinnegad at 7.30pm.

Their last game of the campaign is a home game against Wicklow on Wednesday 6th June at 7.30pm.

Best of luck to all involved #TomorrowsHeroes



KILDARE GAA ROLLOUT NEW GO GAMES REFEREE COURSE

Kildare GAA in consultation with Leinster Gaa personnel have begun the rollout of their new Go Games Referee Course throughout the province recently. Go Games have become best practise for underage games in counties with teams involved from Under 7 up to and including Under 11. To continue the development of both the referee and the player Leinster Gaa upgraded the Pathway for young referees to reflect the need for clarity and independence in each county.

In order to best prepare those who are attending the course all participants complete the county specific "Go Games Rules Quiz" online through the Gaa Learning Portal before arriving for the workshop. This promotes interest and participants come to the course with a minimum level of knowledge regarding the rules and conditions of the Go Games in Kildare.



"We want our Go Games Referees to be friendly guides instead of rule enforcers"



Cill Dara
KILDARE GAA

A brief Module Overview of the new course is described below:

- An Introduction and brief description of the philosophy of the Go Games model.
- Participants explore the qualities of a good referee.
- The identification of the “ Tools of the Trade” and what is required for them to perform the role of a referee.
- A demonstration of the “GPS” method of recording scores.
- Introduction of the “Give Respect Get Respect” Programme and how this is reflected on and off the pitch.
- Reflecting on and understanding the responsibilities of safeguarding the welfare of all players.
- Show how effective communication can increase the quality of the game
- Provide the skills and knowledge on how to deal with dissent and lack of discipline.
- An overview of the difference between Go Games Referees and full referees.
- Best practise videos on signalling, communication and game management.
- Recap on Kildare Gaa specific rules.
- Conclusion and Q & A

Each module is tutor led and supported by resources including a Power Point presentation, partner and group led discussion, videos and visual aids supporting key principles and practical tasks to underpin and show the benefits of effective communication.

All participants must be aged 16 or over and all clubs are asked to identify those within their club best suited to become regular Go Games Referees. This is the first step in the Gaa Referee Education Pathway and will give young referees the confidence and know how to make the “Go Games” experience fun and enjoyable for all.

Kildare Gaa Coaching & Games personnel have delivered four Go Games Referee courses to date in South board venues, St Conleths Park and Kilcullen Gaa and North board venues, Allenwood Gaa and Rathcoffey Gaa. Over 100 potential Go Games Referees attended. Thanks to those clubs for generous use of their facilities.

GAA 5 STAR INITIATIVE



The GAA 5 Star initiative aims to support and recognise Primary Schools that provide pupils with 60 minutes of moderate to vigorous Gaelic Games activity per week in a manner that ensures the children will experience fun, friendship, fairness and ultimately improve their fitness.

What is a GAA 5 Star Centre? Recognition as a “GAA 5 Star Centre” is awarded to Primary Schools that undertake to deliver a programme of Gaelic Games activity that is age-appropriate and meets the developmental needs of children within the school. In order to receive recognition as a “GAA 5 Star Centre” a Primary School must provide for the flexible delivery of the following activities over the course of a school-year:



Who will deliver the activities at a GAA 5 Star Centre?

The activities will ideally be delivered by the Teacher/s in the school. Recognising that Teachers have different levels of competence and confidence when it comes to the organisation of Gaelic Games, the GAA's full-time Games Development personnel will act in a support capacity and will provide assistance, training and up-skilling to Teachers.

Why has the GAA 5 Star Centre been developed?

The GAA 5 Star Centre is a key initiative of the GAA's Play to Stay WeLL (Wellbeing & Lifelong Learning) Programme. The 5 Star Centre has been developed by the GAA's National Games Development Department for two reasons.

Firstly, the GAA 5 Star Centre is a means of encouraging and rewarding schools that provide pupils with 60 minutes of moderate to vigorous activity per week. This is important as it is currently estimated that 18% of Primary School pupils receive 60 minutes of moderate to vigorous activity per day and 1 in 9 Irish children are now classified as overweight (CSPPA, 2010).

Secondly, the GAA 5 Star Centre is a means of recognising the pivotal role that Primary Schools and Primary School Teachers have played in the promotion and development of Gaelic Games and Irish Cultural Heritage since the foundation of the GAA in 1884. Teachers have been hugely influential in the development of intrinsic motivation among primary school children and in providing them with the sense of competence, confidence and resilience, which benefits from and contributes to the development of effort and growth mind-set. This contributes in no small way to lifelong engagement with the promotion of community and sporting wellbeing.



How can your School become a GAA 5 Star Centre?

A Primary School can apply online to become a GAA 5 Star Centre. Applications for registration as a GAA 5 Star Centre will be accepted until July 31st for the following school year. Applications will be a two-step process to include online registration and a planning meeting with a member full-time Games Development personnel. If your Primary school is interested Please register online: <http://learning.gaa.ie/5star>.



Under 8 Players From Across Kildare GAA Descend On Croke Park: The following clubs played in Croke Park as part of play & stay Straffan, Rathcoffey, Carbury, Robertstown, Sallins Hurling, Rheban, Clane, Two Mile house and St Laurences Hurling. The young players went home with memories to last a lifetime – togging out in a dressing room under the Cusack Stand; running out through the tunnel onto the pitch; taking part in a game of Gaelic football or hurling on the hallowed surface; and then climbing the steps of the Hogan Stand to lift the cup!



Talent Academies Update
Kildare Hurling

Cill Dara
KILDARE GAA

Our development program for hurlers in Kildare is up and running once again. Our program is designed to equip the players with the best possible knowledge in the areas of technical skills, tactical awareness, physical education, psychological focus, nutrition, and injury prevention to name a few.

We also offer our squad coaches the opportunity to partake in coach education workshops such as, the GAA 15 warm up, Resistance Training for youths, Award 1 and Award 2 coaching courses. Guest speakers are often arranged to speak and to provide their expertise on specific topics.

The Squads

We have just concluded our trial sessions for the u14 and U15 Panels for 2018 and both panels are now busy preparing for the year ahead.

Under 14's: Our U14 trials began with approximately 105 players representing 17 different hurling clubs in Kildare. This Panel will be reduced to a size of 80 players over the coming days. The panel of 80 will play their first games of the year in Dunganny Co. Meath this bank holiday Monday against 3 Meath development teams.

This promises to be a good morning of hurling for all involved.

Under 15's: After completing the winter resistance training in Brady's Gym, our U15's returned to field action in April for trials. Clubs were invited to send in players that had not been on the panel from the previous year for trials. The trials proved successful with a number of new additions being added to the panel for the year ahead.

The panel travelled to Blessington last weekend 28/4/2018 to play their first match of the year. A tough game was played out with all players getting lots of game time and proved a very worthwhile exercise.

Both U14 and U15 squads will partake in Leinster GAA organised Blitz days on the 12th of May.

Under 16's: The U16 players that are not sitting exams are playing for Kildare in the Celtic Challenge competition which commenced on the 2/5/18. This is a national tournament which provides an excellent program of meaningful games to players of the U16/17 age group.

The U16 academy squad will reconvene in July after the exams and their season will begin then with a program of games and training.

The total playing numbers will be the largest group of players ever to be involved in the Kildare Hurling Talent Academy program. Between the 3 age groups, approximately 130 players will be participating throughout the 2018 season.

Kildare GAA

Kellogg's GAA Cúl Camps 2018

The Kellogg's Cúl Camps take place in Kildare from 2nd July, 2018 – 24th August, 2018.

A fun action packed week where children aged 6–13 learn and play GAA games with qualified coaches.

Kids can make friends for life and get a free GAA jersey, training top and backpack.

#Cul4Life #KelloggsGAACulCamps



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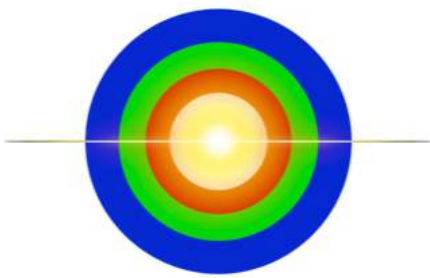
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