



**AN CHOMHDHÁIL  
BHLIANTÚIL  
2009**

CUMANN LÚTHCHLEAS GAEL

COMHAIRLE NA MUMHAN





## CONTENTS

Clár na Comhdhála (Agenda), Bun – Órdaithe (Standing Orders) .....	3
Ainmniúcháin (Nominations), Na Rúin (Motions) .....	4
Miontuairiscí Chruinniu den Chomhdháil Bhliantúil 2008 (Minutes of Annual Convention 2008) .....	5
Clár na gCluichí 2009 (Games Programme 2009) .....	11
Cluichí 2008 (Games 2008) .....	14
Tuairisc an Runaí (Secretaries Report) .....	18
Financial Review .....	31
Financial Statements .....	33
Detailed Accounts Schedules .....	43
<b>Sub-Committee Reports:</b>	
Coaching & Games Development Sub-Committee .....	48
Comhairle Iarbhunscoileanna na Mumhan .....	54
Third Level Colleges .....	56
Handball .....	59
Referees .....	61
PR & Marketing .....	65
Club Development Committee .....	67
Physical Development Committee .....	68
Culture .....	69
Scór .....	70
Inter Firm .....	75
Football Review .....	76
Major Grounds & Safety Work Group .....	77

## COMHDHÁIL NA MUMHAN 2009

### A Chara,

Tionófar an 105ú Comhdháil na Mumhan san Woodlands House Hotel, Áth Dara, Co. Luimní, ar an Aoine 6ú Márta, 2009, ag tosnú ag 19:00 (Aifreann san Óstan ag 18:30, Beile ag 20:45).

Tá sé ceadaithe ag gach Condae 6 Teachtaí chomh maith leis an beirt bhall a bhí ar Comhairle na Mumhan anuraidh, a bheith i láthair ag an gComhdháil.

## CLÁR NA COMHDHÁLA

1. Glacadh le Bun-Ordaithe
2. Appointment of Tellers
3. Miontuairiscí na Comhdhála Deiridh ar 29/02/2008
4. Tuairisc an Runaí
5. Tuairisc an Chuntasóra agus Cuntaisí Chomhairle na Mumhan
6. Tuairiscí na gCoistí Scol is na Fó-Choistí eile
7. Óraid an Chathaoirligh
8. Togha na nOifigeach –
  - Cathaoirleach
  - Leas-Chathaoirleach
  - Cisteoir
  - Oifigeach Caidreamh Poiblí
  - Auditors
9. Experimental Playing Rules

## BUN – ÓRDAITHE *Standing Orders*

In order that the proceedings of the Convention are carried out without delay, the following Standing Orders will be observed.

1. The Proposer of a resolution or an Amendment thereto may speak for 5 minutes, but not more than 5 minutes.
2. A Delegate speaking to a resolution or an Amendment thereto may speak for 5 minutes, but not more than 5 minutes.
3. The Proposer of a resolution or an Amendment may speak a second time for 3 minutes before a vote is taken, but no other Delegate may speak a second time to the same Resolution or Amendment.
4. The Chairman may at any time he considers a matter has been sufficiently discussed call on the Proposer for a reply, and when that has been given a vote must be taken.
5. A Delegate may, with the consent of the Chairman, move “that the question be now put” after which when the Proposer has spoken, a vote must be taken.
6. Standing Orders shall not be suspended for the purpose of considering any matter not on the Agenda, except by the consent of a majority equal to two-thirds of those present and entitled to vote.



## AINMNIÚCHÁIN *Nominations*

**Cathaoirleach:** Séamus Ó Gormáin (Portláirge)  
**Leas-Chathaoirleach:** Seán Breathnach (Ciarraí)  
**Cisteoir:** Micheál De Paor (Tiobraid Árann)  
**Oif. Caid. Poiblí:** Séamus Mac Fírbhisig (Corcaigh)  
**Auditors:** PricewaterhouseCoopers  
 P.O. Box 7  
 Bank Place  
 Limerick

## NA RÚIN *Motions*

1. Ciarraí propose that the Club Representatives of Counties that contest either the All-Ireland Senior Football or Hurling Finals be given a bye in Rd 1 of the Senior, Intermediate and Junior Provincial Club Championships. Ciarraí accept that the dates for the Club Championships must be included in the fixtures schedule but request that the draws for these competitions be deferred until the All-Ireland Inter-County Senior semi-finals are completed. (Ciarraí)
2. Where the Counties fail to agree on a central neutral venue for Munster Championship game at Senior level and where two venues have been put forward of equal standing that the venues be rotated every second year between the counties. (Croisín, An Clár)
3. That in line with Riail 111 (T. O. 2008) the Provincial Council (Comhairle Na Mumhan C.L.G.) in compliance with Riail 73 (a) (11) (T. O. 2008) delegate the powers to the Provincial Competitions Control Committee of C.L.G. Comhairle Na Mumhan to appoint match officials for all Games under their jurisdiction, and not further delegate those powers to a Sub-Sub Committee of the Provincial Council in question. (Cuar an Chláir, An Clár)



Full Council Meeting - Cusack Cottage

## MÍONTUAÍRÍSCÍ NA COMHDHÁLA *Minutes of Annual Convention 2008*

**SAN OSTÁN WEST COUNTY, Inis, Co. An Chláir ar 29ú Feabhra 2008**

**The Cathaoirleach, Séamus Ó Gormáin, (Portláirge) presided at the 104th Annual Convention of Comhairle Na Mumhan CLG held in the "West County Hotel", Ennis, County Clare on Friday, 29th February 2008.**

The following members of Comhairle Na Mumhan CLG were also present:

**Seán Breathnach:** Leas-Cathaoirleach  
**Gearóid Ó hÍcí:** Cisteoir  
**Liam Ó Conchúir:** Oifigeach Caidreamh Poiblí  
**Siomón Ó Maolrunaí:** Rúnaí na Comhairle  
**Liam Mac An Airchinnaigh:** Uachtarán Oinigh

### Baill den Chomhairle:

**An Clár:** Roibeard an tSeaca  
 P. S Mac Duabhan  
**Ciarraí:** Teidí Ó Suilleabháin  
 Peadar Twiss  
**Corcaigh:** Proinsias Ó Murchú  
 Piaras P. Ó Murchú  
**Luimneach:** Ruairí Ó Cadhla  
 Pádraig Mac Gearailt  
**Portláirge:** Tomás Ó hAonghusa  
 P. S. Ó Riain  
**Tiobraid Árann:** Micheál de Paor  
 Seán Ó Riain.

**Liam de Róiste:** Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe  
**Deasún Ó Cuilleanáin:** Coláistí Tríú Leibhéal  
**Dónal Ó Caoimh & Tomás S. Mac Aogáin:** Comhairle Iar-Bhunscoileanna na Mumhan

An Br. S. L. Ó Duidhíorma:  
Coiste na mBunscoileanna

The following County Delegates were in attendance:

**An Clár:** Micheál Ó Néill (Cathaoirleach),  
 Pádraig Mac Gearailt (Rúnaí),  
 Seán a'Chnoic (Leas Cathaoirleach),  
 Síle Ó Concubhair (Oifigeach Caidreamh Poiblí)  
 P. S. Ó Ceallaigh (Leas Cisteoir) agus Seosamh Ó Ceallaigh.

**Ciarraí:** Éamon Ó Suilleabháin (Rúnaí),  
 Seán Ó Cearbhail (Cisteoir),  
 Seán Mac Mathúna (Cisteoir),  
 Máirín Ó Sé (Oifigeach Caidreamh Poiblí),  
 Pádraig Ó Suilleabháin agus Muiris Ó Mathúna.

**Corcaigh:** Micheál Ó Dubhláin (Cathaoirleach),  
 Diarmuid Ó Suilleabháin (Leas-Cathaoirleach),  
 Roibeard Ó Riain, (Oifigeach Caidreamh Poiblí),  
 Séamus Mac Fírbhisigh, Diarmuid S. Mac Gabhann, (Oifigeach Óige),  
 agus Deaglán Breathnach.

**Luimneach:** Micheál Ó Riordán (Rúnaí),  
 Eoin Ó hAodha, (Cisteoir),  
 Éibhear Ó Déaghaidh (Oifigeach Forbartha),  
 Carmel Uí Riain (Oifigeach Óige),  
 Pádraig Ó Criodáin, (Leas-Rúnaí),  
 agus Gearóid Mac Philip (Oifigeach Oilíúna).

**Portláirge:** Seán Ó Laoire (Rúnaí),  
 Tomás Ó Cuinneagáin (Leas-Cathaoirleach),  
 Pádraig Mac Gráinne, Antóin Breathnach, Pádraig Breathnach,  
 agus Greagóir Mac Fíbhís.

**Tiobraid Árann:** Seán Ó Costigain (Cathaoirleach),  
 Tadhg De Floid (Rúnaí),  
 Diarmuid Ó Rinn, Tomás Ó Meachair,  
 Seán Ó Riain & Micheál Mac Shithigh.

**Iar-Oifigí den Chomhairle:** Micheál Ó Freaghaile (Tiobraid Árann),  
 Dónal Ó Nialláin (Tiobraid Árann),  
 An tAthair Séamus Gairnéar (Tiobraid Árann),  
 Nollaig Breathnach (An Clár),  
 Criostóir Ó Cuana (Corcaigh).

**Daoine Eile í Lathair:** Caoimhín Breathnach (Rúnaí, Fo-Coiste na Réiteoirí);  
 Maria Halvey (Rúnaí, Cumann Peil na mBan);  
 Tadhg Ó Broin (Cumann na mBunscoileanna);  
 S. S. De Lonndra (Cathaoirleach Fo-Coiste na Réiteoirí),  
 Liam Mac Roibín (Tiobraid Árann);  
 Deasún Mac Concró (An Clár);  
 Éamonn de Brún (Cumann Camogaíochta na Mumhan);  
 Liam Ó Rinn (Fo-Coiste Cultúrtha);  
 Éamon Ó Maolrunaí (Cathaoirleach, Comhairle Iar-Bhunscoileanna na Mumhan);  
 Tomás De Búrca (An Clár);  
 Dónal Ó Niallagáin (Leas Rúnaí Tofa, Comhairle na Mumhan);



## MÍONTUAIRÍSCÍ NA COMHDHÁLA DEIRÍDH

Tomás Ó hEaluithe (Coiste Scór na Mumhan); Micheál Ó Riain (Cathaoirleach, Cumann Peil na mBan); Tadgh Ó Riain (Fo-Coiste Forbartha).

### Aifreann na Comhdhála:

Ghabh an Cathaoirleach búiochas leis An tAthair Micheál Mac Conmara agus An tAthair Séamus Gairnéar as Aifreann na Comhdhála a rá le chéile do na Theachtaí agus ar son anamnacha na nGael a fuair bás í rith na mbliana seo caite.

### Fáilte:

Chuir Micheál Ó Néill, Cathaoirleach Coiste Chontae An Chláir, fáilte is fiche don chontae roimh Oifigí, Iar-Oifigí agus baill den Chomhairle agus roimh na Theachtaí uilig. He wished the delegates well in their decision making.

### Glacadh le Bun-Ordaithe:

Glacadh le Bun-Ordaithe na Comhdhála ar moladh R. Ó Cadhla (Luimneach), S. a'Chnoic (An Clár) ag cuidiú leis.

### Appointment of Tellers:

The non-voting representatives of the Handball Council and the schools bodies were appointed as tellers, ar mholadh R. an tSeaca (An Clár), P. Twiss (Ciarraí) ag cuidiú leis.

### Míontuairiscí na Comhdhála Deiridh 2/3/2007:

Glacadh le míontuairiscí na Comhdhála Deiridh, dár dháta 3ú Márta 2007, in Ostán Ballyrafter Country House, Co. Portlárige, ar mholadh R. Ó Cadhla (Luimneach), R. an tSeaca (An Clár) ag cuidiú leis.

### Tuairisc An Rúnaí:

Glacadh le Tuairisc an Rúnaí ar mholadh P. Mac Gearailt (An Clár), M. Ó Néill (An Clár) ag cuidiú leis.

N. Breathnach raised the issue of the changing of the format of the

senior football championship format for 2008 referred to on page 17 of the report. Compliments were paid to the Rúnaí on his final report and on his work for the Council over the previous four years and he was wished well for the future.

### Tuairisc An Chuntasóra agus Cursaí Airgeadais:

The Treasurer's and Auditor's report and the Balance Sheet were adopted ar mholadh R. an tSeaca (An Clár), M. Ó Dubhláin (Corcaigh) ag cuidiú leis. G. Ó hÍcí, Cisteoir dealt with the report page by page and invited questions on any aspect of the accounts and dealt with same. G. Ó hÍcí thanked the County Treasurers and all Stilesmen for their assistance over the previous year. R. Ó Cadhla asked that the schedule of development grants might be included in future report as heretofore.

Compliments were paid to the Treasurer on his final report and on his work for the Council over the previous three years.

### Tuairiscí na gCoistí Scol is na bFo-Choistí:

The reports of the various Council Sub-Committee's, Schools Committees and associated bodies were adopted unanimously ar mholadh R. Ó Cadhla (Luimneach), P. Mac Gearailt (Luimneach) ag cuidiú leis. The Cathaoirleach thanked the officers and members of all committees and sub-committees for their work over the previous year.

### ORÁID AN CHATHAOIRLIGH (Séamus Ó Gormáin)

*It is with great personal delight that I stand to address my first Munster Council Convention as chairman, an honour bestowed on me in my home town of Lismore just twelve*

*short months ago. This evening we gather again in the heart of the Banner, home of the great Michael Cusack, to reflect on a year that I would consider to have been one of significant progress on many, if indeed, not on most fronts. A year when CLCG in the province once again rose to the many challenges of the day, and a year when collectively and individually this Council made another significant contribution to the overall day to day running of our great Association.*

*In a year of many highlights there were, for me personally, three that most readily come to mind. First there was an absorbing senior hurling championship and most notably that never to be forgotten trilogy between Limerick and Tipperary, a saga that had hurling folk on tender hooks and one that over the three memorable games attracted up to 85,000 spectators and many tens of thousands more television fans. Great, great stuff, in the promotion of the greatest sporting game on earth.*

*Secondly, there was that historic All-Ireland senior football final involving football's greatest rivals, Kerry and Cork, the first time ever for counties from the same province to contest the Blue Riband of football.*

*Thirdly for the first time also in this Council's history receipts have topped the nine million euro mark. That's an achievement of quite monumental proportions, one that hasn't come about by accident but rather through the endeavors and efforts of a whole lot of people including, let it be said, the counties and the county teams. Let me however sound a note of caution on the monetary front. Things will not always be as they were in 2007;*

## MINUTES OF ANNUAL CONVENTION 2008

*lucrative replays won't necessarily present themselves, and the cash will not flow into our coffers as freely and as lucratively as it did last year. As our balance sheet will show expenditure also continues to spiral upwards, and it will require a whole lot of financial prudence on all of our parts to ensure that we remain comfortably in the black.*

### Congratulations:

*While on the topic of championships it would be remiss of me not to make mention of that explosive start we had to the senior hurling campaign when Cork and Clare met in that first round tie in Semple Stadium. Unfortunately before any ball was struck headlines were already in the making following an unfortunate altercation between some players as the teams emerged onto the field. There were repercussions through the imposition of suspensions on some players from both counties, but I do feel, and without wanting to sound overly critical of the media, that the incident in its entirety was blown out of proportion, with the game itself played in true championship spirit. That said however, I have no wish to simply gloss over the whole thing, and its an undisputed fact that what happened should not have happened and none of us would ever want a repeat at any time in the future.*

*A classic Cork/Waterford semi-final followed with Waterford emerging victorious and going on to annex their third provincial title in half a dozen years with victory over Limerick. History will show of course that the Shannonsiders exacted very sweet revenge at the All-Ireland semi-final stage, reversing that Munster final result and going on to contest their first All Ireland final in the grade since 1996. No success for*

*them in that decider but the clearest of clear indicators that the men in green are back as a very formidable hurling force.*

*There seems to be an increasing number of calls for the abolition of the Munster senior hurling championship, but my retort to that is to forget all about it and abandon any thoughts of doing away with one of the most exhilarating and competitive campaigns about. Just try to imagine the year 2007 without a Munster senior hurling championship that truly-electrified a nation.*

### Senior Football:

*In senior football the excitement never measured up to that of its hurling counterpart, although Cork went perilously close to upsetting the Kerry applecart in the final in Killarney. Sadly for me despite all of our best efforts the gulf in standards between the Kingdom and Cork on the one hand and what we loosely term the "weaker four" on the other shows no sign of being bridged. That is not to say that we must, or should, abandon those efforts but the reality of the situation is that for the foreseeable future Kerry and Cork are set to dominate the footballing scene in the province. While I may be perceived as being a hurling*

*chairman given my place of origin, nothing could be wider of the mark. One of my first functions was to set up a football committee involving eminent football people from all of the six counties in Munster to seriously address the imbalanced situation, and I can say with hand on heart that they have been working ceaselessly to bring about an improvement in that overall situation. There is no magic wand that can be weaved but I have no doubt that in time this committee will prove its undoubted worth. I would ask delegates at this convention to take seriously on board the findings from their report and that will be a simple first step on the road to ultimately achieving what all of us want to achieve.*

*One final word on football and it relates to our decision last season to revert to a seeded draw in the senior grade where the finalists of the previous year would be seeded. Many saw this as a deliberate effort to keep Kerry and Cork apart until Munster final day but this is an inaccurate representation of the true situation. I should say too that the decision when it was arrived at was a democratically taken one by the votes of the representatives of the respective counties.*



M. Donnelly Inter-provincial Football Champions 2008: Munster



## MÍONTUAÍRISCÍ NA COMHDHÁLA DEÍRÍDH

### Discipline:

On the question of discipline I am not at all happy about the way the newly created structures to deal with this particular subject are operating. I find myself fully supportive of the views expressed by Ulster Council secretary Danny Murphy who has voiced his disquiet about aspects of the operation of the Disputes Resolution Authority and says that discipline requires acceptance of the facts rather than challenging the integrity of their members and structures to avoid the disciplinary outcome. My belief is that there should be a far greater level of acceptance of the referee's report as he is the person in charge and closest to the situation and therefore best positioned to take the most appropriate decision.

That said however, I must stress that referees, no more than the rest of us, are not infallible, nor am I saying that players should be denied their democratic right of appeal against suspension. However under the present layer upon layer of appeal systems the whole finalisation of penalties are being dragged out to a wholly unacceptable extent, and as all of us know justice delayed can, and often is, justice denied.

### STRIKE:

On a happier note I want to express my personal delight that the protracted impasse on Leaside which escalated into full blown strike action by the Cork senior hurlers and footballers is now over. It was a sad and sorry saga, not just for the great GAA people of the Rebel Count for everyone involved in Cumann Luth Chleas Gaedhael. It's not for me to delve into the rights and wrongs of what essentially was an internal Cork matter, but what I can say, and do say, is that there have been no winners from it, least of all the GAA itself. My hope now is that the

matter is finally and irrevocably over, that everything has been put to bed, and that there will be no future recriminations. Cork is one of our great GAA counties: a county that has and is producing great players and likewise many great administrators. I wish both sides well in the future and let the events of the past few months fade into complete oblivion.

### Club versus County:

On the matter of issues there is one that I want to briefly comment on, and that is the club versus county saga which just will not go away and is in fact a highly vexatious one in virtually every county. The foundations of this Association remain with the club which has a presence in every town land, virtually, nationwide. Under the present intensive training set up in virtually every county it's my belief that the club is the vital unit that is losing out, and it is time that County Board officers take cognisance of this, and of the fact that the clubs are the conveyor belt for all of the county teams. In modern society players need to know where they stand in relation to fixtures and how these can be fitted in with holiday and recreation times. County Board need structured fixtures programmes so that players can themselves plan their own social lives, rather than at present where it seems that no one knows when and where they will next be required for playing purposes. This Council has taken an important start in this matter by allotting dates to every game under its jurisdiction for 2008 with provision also for any replays that may come on stream. We have even scheduled draws and dates for the commencement of all the club championships starting next autumn, and I would urge County Boards everywhere to now go and take a leaf out of Munster Council's book.

### Sub Committees:

Back to the day today business of this Council and I want to take the opportunity this address provides me with to sincerely thank all of our many sub committees who work so assiduously and so unsparingly behind the scenes in dealing with their very heavy and responsible work loads. Under the chairmanship of Sean Walsh and secretary Joey Carton I couldn't possibly overstate the enormity of the work of our Coaching And Games Sub Committee. They are at the very coal face in providing and creating the vital environment for the coaching of our young players, along with the GPO's and GDA's who are providing the necessary back up and finance so vitally important for the continued promotion of our national games. Then there is that most remarkable body of them all the referees without whom there simply would not be any Association. Under the inspirational chairmanship of Jim Joe Landers and secretary Kevin Walsh they have ensured that in every instance young and up and coming referees are being properly coached and tutored to ensure that in the future they will be of the same refereeing caliber as Jim Joe and Kevin themselves were in their respective days. A sub committee to this referees committee was one that I set up within weeks of my assuming office under Sean Fogarty's chairmanship



Presentation to Kevin Walsh

## MINUTES OF ANNUAL CONVENTION 2008

and Muiris O'Sullivan as secretary, knowing as I did the acute shortage of referees throughout the province. I am delighted to be able to report tonight of the significant progress this body is making, and hopefully there will be evidence aplenty of that success over the coming years with the arrival of many new and top class young refereeing recruits.

### Tributes:

As this address draws to its close it's entirely appropriate that I would extend my thanks and indeed my tributes to certain people so closely associated and involved with this Council.



Presentation to Liam Mulvihill

However before doing so I want to refer briefly to the recent retirement of our Director General Liam Mulvihill after twenty nine momentous years in the job. In all of my dealings with Liam I found to him to be a most courteous and efficient officer, a man whose door was always and ever open, a man who was in a word a gentleman. He has had many outstanding achievements to his credit in his time as Director General, but without argument his involvement in the new Croke Park out-strips all others. Today we have probably the finest sporting stadium in Europe and that will forever be a monument to his legacy and to his memory.

Happy retirement Liam, it has been well and honourably earned.

To his successor Paraic Duffy I offer my best wishes too. He will know just how gigantic a task he faces in succeeding a man of Liam Mulvihill's calibre, but if ever a man was fitted out to do just that Paraic is that man. I and everyone in Munster Council will wish him well.

Tonight too marks the departure from their respective offices of two of the most extraordinary GAA people that I have known and been privileged to know in my lifetime. I refer of course to treasurer Ger Hickey from Clare and Kerryman, Willie O'Connor who has been the voice of the council in his role as PRO. Ger has overseen massive change during his time in offices but has always harboured and nurtured the financial affairs of this Council in a most meticulous and efficient way. As an individual there is nothing I could say about him that would be an exaggeration and tonight I am happy and honoured just to salute a truly great GAA man. The very same can be said by me of the genial Willie O'Connor, one of nature's gentlemen and like Ger a quite remarkable GAA man. The manner in which he has dealt with all of the media representatives has reflected immensely on both this Council and on himself as a person, and while no one in this world of ours is irreplaceable Willie, like Ger, come as close as any I know to disproving that.

Finally there's our secretary Simon Moroney, and let it be said that for me personally his impending resignation is the one major disappointment since I assumed office. Succeeding as he did a veritable legend in Donie Nealon, Simon was stepping into big shoes. Yet he has achieved a measure of success that speaks volumes for the qualities of a very talented man, a



Presentation to Ger Hickey

man who brought his own stamp of style and authority on the post of secretary with telling effect. His vision, his foresight, and his attention to detail have been the hallmarks of his secretaryship, and while his tenure of office has been far shorter than I or anyone else on this Council expected or would have wanted he leaves us with a ringing endorsement of all that he has achieved in just four short years. He will, I know, be just a phone call away if ever his advice and guidance is required. I know that I speak on behalf of all of you when I thank Simon from the bottom of my heart and wish him and his family every success and blessing for years and indeed for decades to come.

Finally my thanks to all of the counties, all of the County Board representatives, and all of my fellow officers for making my first year in the chair as enjoyable as it has been. It has been the case of collective responsibility within the Council, each of us having the common objective of furthering the Council's own best interests and the best interests of an Association we are so proud and honoured to serve.

Ar aigh linn cheile leis an obair.

**Séamus Ó Gormáin,**  
Cathaoirleach.



## MÍONTUAÍRÍSCÍ NA COMHDHÁLA DEÍRÍDH

### Togha na nOifigeach

**P. S. Ó Riain** indicated that, though nominated, he was not standing for the post of Cisteoir, leaving only one nominee for the post: Micheál De Paor (Tiobraid Árann). The Cathaoirleach therefore declared the following nominated Candidates elected when each had been formally proposed and seconded as indicated there being only one nominee for each position.

#### Cathaoirleach:

**Séamus Ó Gormáin** (Portlárige)  
*Ar mholadh:*  
 Proinnias Ó Murchú (Corcaigh)  
*Cuidithe le:*  
 R. an tSeaca (An Clár)

#### Leas-Cathaoirleach:

**Seán Breathnach** (Ciarraí)  
*Ar mholadh:* S. Mac Mathúna (Ciarraí)  
*Cuidithe le:* S. S. Ó Cearúil (Ciarraí)

#### Cisteoir:

**Micheál De Paor** (Tiobraid Árann)  
*Ar mholadh:*  
 S. Ó Costagain (Tiobraid Árann)  
*Cuidithe le:*  
 T. De Floid (Tiobraid Árann)

#### Oifigeach Caidreamh Poiblí:

**Séamus Firthisigh** (Corcaigh)  
*Ar mholadh:*  
 M. Ó Dubhláin (Corcaigh)  
*Cuidithe le:* R. Ó Riain (Corcaigh)

#### Cuntasoirí:

**Appointment deferred to Management & Finance Committee**

*Ar mholadh:*  
 S. Ó Gormáin (Portlárige)  
*Cuidithe le:* E. Ó Suilleabháin (Ciarraí)

All officers were congratulated on their election and thanked those for placing their trust in them.

#### Na Rúin:

The three motions on the Clár were ruled "out of order" by the Cathaoirleach.

Motion number 1 was ruled "out of order" on the basis that rules 122 and 71 clearly confer on the provincial Council (not Convention) the organisation and management of the Provincial Championships.

Motion number 2 is a matter for consideration by the Management & Finance Committee.

Motion number 3 was ruled "out of order" as it was not, as required under rules 56 and 68, on the circulated agenda for the Waterford County Convention nor was it carried at the convention. It cannot therefore be considered by Provincial Convention.

### Bank Account Mandates:

The meeting approved revised bank mandates for all the Council bank accounts to include the Cathaoirleach, the Rúnaí, the Rúnaí Tofa and the newly elected Cisteoir as signatories (any two): ar mholadh R. Ó Cadhla (Luimneach), P. Ó Suilleabháin (Ciarraí) ag cuidiú leis.

#### New Staff:

The Cathaoirleach introduced the new C.E.O. / Rúnaí Tofa, Pádraig Mac Gearailt and the new Deputy C.E.O./ Rúnaí, Dónal Ó Niallagáin both of whom will commence employment with the Council on 1st April 2008.

#### Buíochás:

Prior to the conclusion of the Convention the Cathaoirleach paid particular tribute to the staff and management of the "West County Hotel" for the arrangements for Convention.

#### Amhrán na bhFiann agus Críoch na Comhdhála:

Ghabh an Chathaoirleach buíochas le gach éinne a ghlac páirt in imeachtaí agus diospóireachtaí na comhdhála: leis an Ostán as ucht na heagraí a rinneadar don Chomhdháil agus cuireadh críoch leis an gComhdháil le canadh "Amhrán na bhFiann".

## CLÁR NA GCLUICHÍ 2009

### Games Programme 2009

Senior Hurling					DATE	VENUE
QF	1	Tiobraid Árann	v	Corcaigh	31/05	Semple Stadium
SF	2	Luimneach	v	Portlárige	14/06	Semple Stadium
SF	3	1	v	An Clár	21/06	Limerick/Semple Stadium
Final		2	v	3	12/07	TBC

Senior Football					DATE	VENUE
QF	1	Corcaigh	v	Portlárige	24/05	Dungarvan
QF	2	Luimneach	v	Tiobraid Árann	24/05	Semple Stadium
SF	3	1	v	Ciarraí	07/06	Killarney
SF	4	2	v	An Clár	07/06	Ennis/Semple Stadium
Final		3	v	4	05/07	TBC

Intermediate Hurling					DATE	VENUE
QF	1	Tiobraid Árann	v	Corcaigh	31/05	Semple Stadium
SF	2	Luimneach	v	Portlárige	14/06	Semple Stadium
SF	3	1	v	An Clár	21/06	Limerick/Semple Stadium
Final		2	v	3	22/07	TBC

Junior Football					DATE	VENUE
QF	1	Corcaigh	v	Portlárige	24/05	Dungarvan
QF	2	Luimneach	v	Tiobraid Árann	24/05	Semple Stadium
SF	3	1	v	Ciarraí	07/06	Killarney
SF	4	2	v	An Clár	07/06	Ennis/Semple Stadium
Final		3	v	4	25/06	TBC



Award Recipients



### CLÁR NA GCLUICHÍ 2009

### GAMES PROGRAMME 2009

U21 Football						
					DATE	VENUE
QF	1	An Clár	v	Luimneach	13/03	Cooraclare
QF	2	Corcaigh	v	Ciarraí	14/03	Pairc Uí Rinn/Chaoimh
SF	3	1	v	Tiobraid Árann	21/03	Ennis/Thurles
SF	4	2	v	Port Láirge	21/03	Pairc Uí Rinn/Dungarvan
Final		3	v	4	28/03	TBC

U21 Hurling						
					DATE	VENUE
QF	1	Tiobraid Árann	v	Corcaigh	03/06	Semple Stadium
SF	2	Luimneach	v	An Clár	15/07	Ennis
SF	3	1	v	Port Láirge	15/07	Walsh Park/Pairc Uí Rinn
Final		2	v	3	29/07	TBC

Minor Hurling						
					DATE	VENUE
QF	1	Luimneach	v	Tiobraid Árann	29/04	Luimneach
QF	2	Port Láirge	v	An Clár	29/04	Dungarvan
Play-off	3	Loser 1	v	Loser 2	06/05	TBC
SF	4	Winner 1	v	Corcaigh	24/06	Pairc Uí Rinn/Luimneach
SF	5	Winner 3	v	Winner 2	25/06	TBC
Final		4	v	5	12/07	TBC

Minor Football						
					DATE	VENUE
QF	1	An Clár	v	Port Láirge	15/04	Dungarvan
QF	2	Tiobraid Árann	v	Ciarraí	15/04	Thurles
QF	3	Corcaigh	v	Luimneach	15/04	Pairc Uí Rinn
Play-Off	4	Losers 1	v	Loser 3	20/04	TBC
Play-Off	5	4	v	Losers 2	25/04	TBC
SF	6	3	v	5	13/05	TBC
SF	7	2	v	1	01/05	TBC
Final		6	v	7	05/07	TBC

Senior Club Hurling						
					DATE	VENUE
QF	1	Tipperary	v	Cork	01/11	Tipperary
SF	2	Waterford	v	Clare	15/11	Waterford
SF	3	Limerick	v	1	15/11	Tipperary/Cork
Final		2	v	3	29/11	TBC

Senior Club Football						
					DATE	VENUE
QF	1	Clare	v	Limerick	08/11	Clare
QF	2	Kerry	v	Cork	08/11	Kerry
SF	3	Waterford	v	1	22/11	Waterford/Limerick
SF	4	Tipperary	v	2	22/11	Cork/Kerry
Final		3	v	4	06/12	TBC

Intermediate Club Hurling						
					DATE	VENUE
QF	1	Clare	v	Tipperary	01/11	Clare
QF	2	Cork	v	Kerry (Senior)	01/11	Cork
SF	3	Limerick	v	1	08/11	Clare/Limerick
SF	4	Waterford	v	2	08/11	Waterford/Kerry
Final		3	v	4	22/11	TBC

Intermediate Club Football						
					DATE	VENUE
QF	1	Limerick	v	Clare	08/11	Limerick
QF	2	Waterford	v	Kerry	08/11	Waterford
SF	3	Cork	v	1	15/11	Clare/Limerick
SF	4	Tipperary	v	2	15/11	Tipperary/Kerry
Final		3	v	4	29/11	TBC

Junior Club Hurling						
					DATE	VENUE
QF	1	Tipperary	v	Waterford	15/11	Tipperary
SF	2	Kerry	v	Cork	22/11	Kerry
SF	3	Limerick	v	1	22/11	Limerick/Waterford
Final		2	v	3	13/12	TBC

Junior Club Football						
					DATE	VENUE
QF	1	Kerry	v	Clare	22/11	Kerry
QF	2	Limerick	v	Tipperary	22/11	Limerick
SF	3	Cork	v	1	29/11	Kerry/Clare
SF	4	Waterford	v	2	29/11	Waterford/Tipperary
Final		3	v	4	13/12	TBC



## CLUICHÍ 2008 *Games 2008*

### Waterford Crystal Cup S.H.

DÁTA	IONADA	FOIREANN	SCÓR	SCÓR	FOIREANN
02/01	St. Molleran's	Portlárige	2-15	1-10	Waterford I.T.
06/01	Meelick	An Clár	0-20	1-13	University of Limerick
12/01	Ballyheigue	Cork I.T.	2-13	0-04	Ciarraí
13/01	Meelick	Limerick I.T.	3-12	0-11	An Clár
13/01	Nenagh	Tiobraid Árann	1-18	1-05	University College Cork
16/01	St. Molleran's	Portlárige	5-14	2-05	Tralee I.T.
19/01	Templemore	Tiobraid Árann	4-14	0-15	Cork I.T.
20/01	Fraher Field	Portlárige	3-12	2-13	Limerick I.T.
27/01	Templemore	Tiobraid Árann	3-13	0-13	Portlárige

### McGrath Cup S.F.

06/01	Fraher Field	Portlárige	2-09	1-15	University of Limerick
06/01	Sráid na Cathrach	An Clár	0-09	0-04	University College Cork
13/01	Cooraclare	University of Limerick	1-07	1-13	An Clár
13/01	Cahir	Tiobraid Árann	1-04	0-09	Cork I.T.
13/01	Moyvane	Luimneach	2-11	1-07	Tralee I.T.
15/01	Aglis	Waterford I.T.	0-07	1-10	Limerick I.T.
19/01	Limerick I.T.	Luimneach	0-14	0-06	Limerick I.T.
20/01	Cooraclare	An Clár	2-11	0-06	Cork I.T.
27/01	Cooraclare	An Clár	1-6	0-08	Luimneach

### Cadbury's Munster GAA U21 F.C.

15/03	Ardfinnan	Tiobraid Árann	1-09	1-07	An Clár
15/03	Austin Stack Park	Ciarraí	0-18	1-08	Luimneach
22/03	Austin Stack Park	Corcaigh	0-10	0-15	Ciarraí
22/03	Ardfinnan	Tiobraid Árann	2-07	1-06	Portlárige
05/04	Ardfinnan	Tiobraid Árann	2-07	0-15	Ciarraí

## CLUICHÍ 2008 (GAMES 2008)

### ESB Munster M.F.C.

DÁTA	IONADA	FOIREANN	SCÓR	SCÓR	FOIREANN
09/04	Gaelic Grounds	Luimneach	0-10	2-13	Corcaigh
09/04	Cusack Park	Ciarraí	1-10	0-06	An Clár
16/04	Fraher Field	Portlárige	0-08	3-09	Tiobraid Árann
16/04	Cusack Park	An Clár	1-05	1-09	Luimneach
23/04	Bruff	Portlárige	0-11	1-13	Luimneach
14/05	Páirc Uí Rinn	Corcaigh	0-11	0-13	Ciarraí
14/05	Semple Stadium	Tiobraid Árann	2-08	0-09	Luimneach
06/07	Páirc Uí Chaoimh	Tiobraid Árann	1-09	1-09	Ciarraí
12/07	Cusack Park	Ciarraí	2-12	0-08	Tiobraid Árann

### ESB Munster GAA M.H.C.

30/04	Semple Stadium	Tiobraid Árann	3-20	1-12	Luimneach
30/04	Páirc Uí Chaoimh	Corcaigh	2-16	2-17	An Clár
30/04	Fitzgerald Stadium	Ciarraí	0-03	8-15	Portlárige
07/05	Páirc Uí Chaoimh	Corcaigh	0-23	1-11	Luimneach
25/06	Semple Stadium	Tiobraid Árann	2-12	1-10	An Clár
25/06	Walsh Park	Portlárige	1-06	4-13	Corcaigh
13/07	Gaelic Grounds	Tiobraid Árann	0-18	0-19	Corcaigh

### Munster GAA S.F.C

25/05	Cusack Park	An Clár	0-09	0-07	Portlárige
25/05	Fermoy	Luimneach	1-08	1-05	Tiobraid Árann
15/06	Fitzgerald Stadium	Ciarraí	1-14	0-05	An Clár
15/06	Gaelic Grounds	Corcaigh	2-09	0-12	Luimneach
06/07	Páirc Uí Chaoimh	Corcaigh	1-16	1-11	Ciarraí

### Munster GAA J.F.C.

25/05	Cusack Park	An Clár	1-10	2-04	Portlárige
25/05	Fermoy	Luimneach	0-13	0-11	Tiobraid Árann
15/06	Fitzgerald Stadium	Ciarraí	2-09	1-07	An Clár
15/06	Gaelic Grounds	Corcaigh	1-10	1-07	Luimneach
25/06	Páirc Uí Chaoimh	Corcaigh	1-09	1-11	Ciarraí



### CLUICHÍ 2008 (GAMES 2008)

Munster GAA S.H.C.					
DÁTA	IONADA	FOIREANN	SCÓR	SCÓR	FOIREANN
01/06	Gaelic Grounds	An Clár	2-26	0-23	Portláirge
08/06	Páirc Uí Chaoimh	Corcaigh	1-13	1-19	Tiobraid Árann
22/06	Semple Stadium	Luimneach	1-16	4-12	An Clár
13/07	Gaelic Grounds	Tiobraid Árann	2-21	0-19	An Clár

Munster GAA I.H.C.					
DÁTA	IONADA	FOIREANN	SCÓR	SCÓR	FOIREANN
01/06	Gaelic Grounds	An Clár	1-16	0-18	Portláirge
08/06	Páirc Uí Chaoimh	Corcaigh	0-17	1-21	Tiobraid Árann
22/06	Semple Stadium	Luimneach	1-16	0-15	An Clár
23/07	Semple Stadium	Tiobraid Árann	2-12	2-16	Luimneach

Bord Gáis Munster GAA U21 H.C.					
DÁTA	IONADA	FOIREANN	SCÓR	SCÓR	FOIREANN
05/06	Walsh Park	Luimneach	2-18	1-07	Portláirge
17/07	Semple Stadium	Tiobraid Árann	1-13	0-15	Luimneach
21/07	Páirc Uí Chaoimh	Corcaigh	1-11	1-20	An Clár
30/07	Cusack Park	Tiobraid Árann	1-16	2-12	An Clár

AIB Munster GAA Club S.H.C.					
DÁTA	IONADA	FOIREANN	SCÓR	SCÓR	FOIREANN
02/11	Páirc Uí Chaoimh	Na Sairsealaigh	0-26	0-10	Cluain Lara
16/11	Páirc Uí Chaoimh	De La Salle	0-18	0-16	Na Sairsealaigh
16/11	Gaelic Grounds	Ath Dara	1-11	0-10	Tuaim Uí Mheara
30/11	Semple Stadium	De La Salle	1-09	0-10	Ath Dara

AIB Munster GAA Club S.F.C.					
DÁTA	IONADA	FOIREANN	SCÓR	SCÓR	FOIREANN
09/11	Páirc Uí Chaoimh	Raonaithe Nemo	2-12	0-12	Ceirín Ó Rathaille
23/11	Quilty	Fanaithe na nGailtí	0-04	2-06	Cill Mhuire Uí Bhreachain
23/11	Gaelic Grounds	Dromcollachair/Beal An Atha	0-07	0-06	Raonaithe Nemo
07/12	Gaelic Grounds	Dromcollachair/Beal An Atha	0-06	0-05	Cill Mhuire Uí Bhreachain

### CLUICHÍ 2008 (GAMES 2008)

AIB Munster GAA I.H.C.					
DÁTA	IONADA	FOIREANN	SCÓR	SCÓR	FOIREANN
02/11	Lerig	Cill Mhaoile	0-07	3-09	An Bhlárna
02/11	Scarriffe	Ath Leathan	2-13	2-12	Teampall Doire
09/11	Meelick	Ath Leathan	4-13	2-13	Brú na Deise
23/11	Bruff	Ath Leathan	0-03	2-07	An Bhlárna

AIB Munster GAA I.F.C.					
DÁTA	IONADA	FOIREANN	SCÓR	SCÓR	FOIREANN
09/11	Clonmel Sports Grounds	Naomh Mhichíl/Fhaill Mhór	1-10	1-05	Cluain Meala Óg
09/11	Castletown/Ballyagran	Cill Mhichil	0-10	0-06	Baile Stiabhne
16/11	Caherciveen	Micheál Mac Craith, Tra Mhór	1-07	2-15	Naomh Mhichil/Fhaill Mhór
16/11	Kilmihill	Barra Naofa	0-08	1-09	Cill Mhichil
30/11	Mallow Sports Complex	Cill Mhichil	0-07	2-13	Naomh Mhichil/Fhaill Mhór

AIB Munster GAA J.F.C.					
DÁTA	IONADA	FOIREANN	SCÓR	SCÓR	FOIREANN
16/11	Kenmare	Cill Garbháin	3-11	3-10	Imleach
16/11	Coachford	Druipseach	3-17	0-12	Maigh Dheilge
23/11	Charleville	Móin a Gé	1-06	2-12	Druipseach
14/12	Mallow Sports	Cill Garbháin	1-03	2-11	Druipseach

AIB Munster GAA J.H.C.					
DÁTA	IONADA	FOIREANN	SCÓR	SCÓR	FOIREANN
23/11	Cashel	Eire Óg	0-15	2-11	Ceapach na bhFaoiteach
23/11	Ballyduff	Baile Dubh Uachtar	1-08	0-05	Cill Disirt
29/11	Portamagee	Fanaithe na Sceilge	3-16	1-04	Baile Dubh Uachtar
30/11	Bruff	Brú na Deise	1-07	1-06	Ceapach na bhFaoiteach
14/12	Mallow Sports Complex	Brú na Deise	0-07	0-11	Fanaithe na Sceilge



## TUAIRISC AN RUNAÍ *Secretaries Report*

**Is mór an phribléid dom Thuairisc an Rúnaí a chur ós comhair Chomhdháil Comhairle na Mumhan CLG don bhliain 2008. Ba mhaith liom buíochas a ghabháil do gach éinne a raibh páirteach le hobair an Chomhairle l rith 2008. Go raibh míle maith agaibh go léir.**

I am deeply honoured and privileged to be in a position to present to you, the Gaels of Munster my first report to our Annual Convention 2009. While the report itself is a reflection of events and happenings on and off the field in 2008 I must begin by paying a warm and sincere tribute to my predecessor Siomón Ó Maolrunaí. Simon served this Council with distinction during his term and put in place many structures and practices which will serve this Council in good stead for many years to come. He also treated Daniel, and me, with the utmost courtesy and co-operation to ensure a smooth transfer when we took over from him. Many thanks, Simon, and your words of encouragement and advice, will always be welcome.

For me, one of the biggest challenges, was to accept the fact that essentially I was no longer a volunteer in the true meaning of the word, and as I believe strongly and passionately in a volunteer led amateur Association, being paid for any work within the Association was something I never envisaged.

This report will, I hope, give a true and accurate account of Comhairle Na Mumhan activity in 2008 and will give the reader an insight into how this Province manages its affairs within the rules and ethos of our great Association.

2008 was another very successful year for Comhairle na Mumhan. Our

championship games attracted large attendances in Senior Hurling and Football. Our underage competitions were well contested and in the main the standards were high. Our Senior Hurling championship saw the return of Tipperary to the honours list after a seven year wait. In Senior Football, Cork provided the upset of our championships beating Kerry in the final at Pairc Uí Chaoimh in a hotly contested final played in terrible weather conditions.

### National Strategic Plan

At National level Cumman Luthchleas Gael produced a Strategic Plan covering the years 2009 – 2015. This plan encompasses many aspects of our activities and must guide our actions, and our thinking in the years ahead. It sets out targets and timeframes for all areas of activity and identifies the role of the various units in their delivery. Many Gaels from this Province contributed to the development of this Plan and now we must ensure that we play our part in making it happen. For our part we are currently embarking on a Provincial Strategic Plan which will encompass the targets and actions laid out in our National Plan and identify specific initiatives which are necessary in Munster. A Strategic Plan is only a paper commitment to action, our responsibility is to ensure, that not only do we meet the targets as set out, but identify our own priorities and actions which will make a real positive contribution to the development and promotion

of our games and activities. The real challenge for our Association at all levels is to support our clubs to provide quality coaching to our young players in a safe and sporting environment while at the same time encouraging new volunteers to assist these clubs. The GAA club of the 21st century must provide meaningful activity for our players and members, must be welcoming in their approach to new and prospective members, must be positive and progressive in their thinking and also must use all and every means to get their message across. All of our Counties must play their part, the development of a County Strategic Plan which puts the development and promotion of our games as its focus is the most important task facing all county committees. When looking at expenditure on adult county teams we must realise that we are looking for short term gain with little or no long term benefit in most cases. Yes, it is important that our County adult teams do well but can we justify the type of expenditure incurred on some of the activities involved when measured against the expenditure committed to ensuring that we provide the proper coaching support and coach training in our clubs. Now is the time to put in place a coaching plan for clubs, delivering support, guidance and expertise to each and every club coach working with young players, especially those from the under ten age group down. Only when we have the expertise working at this level to a coordinated

## SECRETARIES REPORT

County/Club specific coaching method can we feel confident that the resources we are committing can deliver into the future. With the new coaching personnel and structure at County level, funded at no cost to the Counties this should be an attainable goal in all of our Counties. At Provincial and National level we must ensure that the personnel now employed are working with a focus on delivering this kind of expert support to our clubs and use the new merit based funding to deliver to those that are, and be strong enough to refuse those that are not.

### Economic Environment

2008 saw a huge change in the economic climate in our country, the Celtic Tiger now seems a distant memory with our members and supporters being made redundant in ever increasing numbers. Now more than ever, from Club, County, Provincial and National level we need to look at how we can help these members get employment and keep them from the emigration trail so that they can continue to participate and enjoy playing our National Games in their own country. Other sports seem to operate through a

business network at this level, maybe we should develop a similar network.

This economic downturn also has implications for attendances so we must be ever mindful of costs and admission charges to our games. With this in mind the Council have agreed to increase family ticket allocations for the Counties to all of our games. The recent innovation of a Season Ticket at National level, in which our Province is participating, will act as a forerunner to a more extensive and comprehensive loyalty scheme in years to come.

### Inter County/Inter Club Championships 2008

Roll of Honour 2008	
GRADE	TEAM
Inter-County Senior Hurling	Tipperary
Inter-County Senior Football	Cork
Inter-County Intermediate Hurling	Limerick
Inter-County Junior Football	Kerry
Inter-County Fé 21 Football	Kerry
Inter-County Fé 21 Hurling	Tipperary
Inter-County Minor Hurling	Cork
Inter-County Minor Football	Kerry
Waterford Crystal Cup 2008	Tipperary
Waterford Crystal Cup 2009	Clare
McGrath Cup 2008	Clare
McGrath Cup 2009	Cork
Inter-Club Senior Hurling	De La Salle (Waterford)
Inter-Club Senior Football	Dromcollogher/ Broadford (Limerick)
Inter-Club Intermediate Hurling	Blarney (Cork)
Inter-Club Intermediate Football	St. Michael's Foilmore (Kerry)
Inter-Club Junior Hurling	Dripsey (Cork)
Inter-Club Junior Football	Skellig Rangers (Kerry)

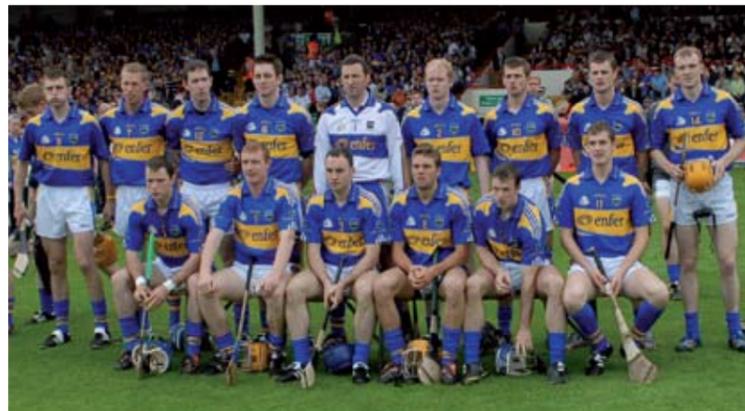


### Munster GAA Senior Hurling Championship

**Official Sponsors:**  
Guinness | Etihad Airways | RTE Sport

Our Senior Hurling championship continues to capture the interest and imagination of the sporting public not only in our Province but throughout the country and beyond. In 2008 near capacity attendances were the order of the day for all but one of our games. Some might claim that standards have dropped but while this argument might have some merit we are still getting quality games and plenty of excitement in most of our hurling competitions. The bite still remains and the lure of winning a Munster Senior Hurling Championship medal is still a major ambition for all our inter county players. Supporters also see this achievement as a badge of honour for their county which gives them bragging rights over their neighbours and rivals.

Our quarter final game Clare versus Waterford played at Pairc na nGael saw Clare overcome a much fancied Waterford side and claim a place in the semi final against Limerick. This game was scheduled by the Council for Pairc na nGael and Waterford



Tipperary Senior Hurling Team 2008

supporters deliberately did not travel as they felt that this game should be played at a more central location. While this argument has merit and decisions at Council level must and should take cognisance of these issues, the Munster Council and the Counties have invested heavily on major stadia and there is an onus on all officials to give meaningful games to these venues which serve a dual purpose in the local area ie. games promotion and financial support. Genuine supporters will understand these objectives and will support their teams no matter where the fixture is taking place.

Our next game saw the pairing of Tipperary and Cork at Pairc Uí Chaoimh. This was an eagerly awaited contest and in many ways lived up to expectations with both teams serving up a skilful and lively contest in which Tipperary coming out winners on the score line of Tipperary 1-19 Cork 1-13. This game was played in front of a near capacity attendance and our failure to fill the Blackrock end terrace properly meant that we had to allow patrons on to the field area for safety reasons. This problem was caused in the main by some patrons coming late and a tiny minority refusing to obey stewards and allow other patrons move freely through

### TUAIRISC AN RUNAÍ

the terrace. However our failure to protect the marked walkways and to get patrons to obey stewards is a worrying development which I will refer to later in this report.

Clare, having defeated Waterford, now faced a young Limerick team which had shown much promise in qualifying for the All Ireland final in 2007. This encounter saw Clare show scant regard for Limerick's favourite tag and from the start they took the game to their neighbours and rivals. The game finished on a score line Clare 4-12, Limerick 1-16.

The scene was now set for a memorable final and all roads led to Pairc na nGael, Limerick where many a classic final was played in days gone by. Media and expert commentators installed Tipperary as favourites but the Clare supporters were not unduly worried by this as they had seen this many times before and having been outsiders in their two previous games, they knew that if they were to play to their potential they would and could shake the mighty Premier County. A near capacity crowd of 48,000 descended on Limerick the likes of which had not been seen since the seventies and the slogan of "The Sporting Capital of Ireland" became a reality for a day, as supporters of all codes joined in making this a unique and joyful sporting occasion.

While the game itself may not have been a classic some brilliant individual performances and scores meant that the patrons got their money's worth. Tipperary took the game to Clare from mid way through the first half and Clare were playing catch up after that. In the end Tipperary emerged winners and reclaimed the Munster Trophy for the first time since 2001.

### SECRETARIES REPORT

### Munster GAA Senior Football Championship

**Official Sponsors:** Ulster Bank | Vodafone | Toyota

The Munster Senior Football Championship 2008 saw the seeded draw in place for the first time in the Province for some years, where Kerry and Cork were kept apart until after semi final stage. While the "perceived weaker counties" called foul at this decision, maybe with some justification in their minds, the question must be asked why, despite many years of investment and work, these counties still are in this position. The answer must come from within these counties. They must look at how they develop the game at underage level and devise a proper coaching plan in their clubs and schools if they are to seriously challenge the top two on a regular basis for the honours. Putting a good coaching structure in place at club and school level will prove the only anecdote for long term success and maybe if this were to happen we would not have to worry about having closely contested quarter-finals semi-finals or finals. In the meantime the onus is on the Council to ensure that our Munster Final is contested if possible by the best two teams in the Province especially if a wide gap exists between them and the other participants. If such a gap does not exist then nobody need fear a contest at any stage against any opposition.

The quarter-final clashes saw Limerick take on Tipperary in Fermoy and Clare take on Waterford in Ennis. Limerick and Clare captured the honours and earned semi final spots against Cork and Kerry respectively.

A major upset looked on the cards at Pairc na nGael when, in the dying minutes, Limerick lead by 3 points



Munster Senior Football Champions 2008: Cork

and looked home and dry. However memories for Limerick of the '94 All Ireland Hurling Final came flooding back as two seemingly harmless Cork attacks ended up in the Limerick net and so Limerick were deprived of a place in the Provincial decider, where they had as recently as 2004 and 2005 distinguished themselves so well.

In Killarney meanwhile on the same day Kerry disposed of Clare in a manner befitting All Ireland champions on a score line of Kerry 1-14, Clare 0-5. A game now remembered for the wrong reason, saw Clare put up a brave performance especially early on, however the power of the Kingdom in all sectors proved too strong for the Banner men. The most pleasing aspect of this day however was the promotion of this game by the Kerry County Board and in particular the efforts of Kerry PRO Maureen O' Shea. A much larger than expected attendance was present and Kerry's decision in conjunction with Comhairle na Mumhan to promote this game as a family day out was extremely successful (see attendance table). There is a lesson to be learned from this experience.

Nothing could have prepared us for the final and many rebel supporters had written off their chances after the team display against Limerick, however Cork against Kerry in a Munster Football Final in Pairc Uí Chaoimh is always something special for the Rebels and they again showed that you write them off at your peril. The game was played in

terrible conditions where wind and rain made good football almost impossible to deliver and also affected our attendance when even the most ardent supporter would be hard pressed to venture out on such a day. It certainly was a game of two halves with Kerry dominant in the first and Cork delivering the goods in the second. A Cork win was the result, and Kerry the Munster and All Ireland champions of 2007 were left to ponder what went wrong.

### Bord Gáis U21 Hurling Championship

Our under 21 Hurling championship is always a hotly contested and highly regarded competition and 2008 was no exception. In the only quarter final Limerick played Waterford in Walsh Park and came out easy winners in a disappointing encounter. Limerick then travelled to Thurles to take on Tipperary in what many saw as the real Munster final. A tightly contested and skilful contest ensued with Tipperary emerging victorious on a score line of 1-13 to Limerick's 0-15. On the other side of the draw a Clare side impressively disposed of Cork on a score line of 1-20 to 1-11. Many saw Tipperary as firm favourites for the trophy but Clare were confident that they had a team capable of capturing honours in this grade for the first time. So the scene was set for an epic encounter in the Munster Final in Ennis. This was classic under 21 hurling at its best. The game had everything - skill, brilliant scores, good defensive play, honest endeavour, and best of all



## TUAIRISC AN RUNAÍ

a closely fought contest with the teams level on several occasions and different teams managing to edge in front at different times. The final whistle saw Tipperary emerge victorious by the narrowest of margins after a disputed refereeing decision gave Tipperary a sixty five metre free which they converted. In commenting on this decision I must take cognisance of the fact that we have in our rule book a rule which states that the penalty for stepping outside the square for a puck out in hurling is a sixty five metre free to the opposition and that despite warnings to the Clare goalkeeper he was clearly shown to have put one foot outside the square on this occasion, however the problem arises in the application or should I say the non application of this rule on occasions by some senior experienced referees. This inconsistency is the devil in the room so to speak and we must ensure that if this rule is to remain then it is applied evenly in all competitions by all referees. Maybe a different punishment for this infringement should also be considered. In the aftermath of this game a sub - committee of our CCC was set up to investigate incidents which occurred after the final whistle. Notwithstanding any grievance felt, justified or perceived, by genuine Clare supporters the disgraceful and dangerous incidents which took place following the game by a tiny minority of young and unruly spectators must be condemned and deplored. Put into context however the vast majority of our spectators on this evening and at all other games behaved in a manner which can only be applauded and acknowledged. I also thank those reporters who following this incident gave a balanced and honest report of the situation however one commentator

who gave his version on a radio show the following morning did not reflect the true nature of the incident as seen by the other reporters, Council and County Officials the Gardaí, or stewards who were present from early that evening.

### Cadbury's U21 Football Championship

Tipperary defeated Clare and Kerry disposed of Limerick in the quarter-finals and the semi-final pairings of Cork and Kerry and Tipperary and Waterford saw two well contested games where Kerry unseated the Provincial and All-Ireland Champions of 2007 when they beat Cork in Tralee. Tipperary once again qualified for the decider after beating a spirited Waterford side. The final played at Ardfinnan gave Kerry the Munster Crown for the first time since 2002.

Kerry went on to replicate the achievements of Cork in 2007 by recapturing the All-Ireland U21 Championship, the first for the county since 1998.

Kerry and Cork now share top spot in the All-Ireland roll of honour at this level with 20 victories between them in the 45 year history of the competition.

### ESB Minor Hurling & Football Championships

Our minor grade championship has always been competitive and with a losers group for those teams defeated at the quarter final stages all teams get a second bite of the cherry.

In football, Cork defeated Limerick, Kerry defeated Clare, and Tipperary accounted for Waterford. Limerick emerged from the losers group only to be defeated by Tipperary while in

the other semi-final Kerry defeated neighbours and old rivals Cork. Kerry and Tipperary played a draw on that cold wet day in Pairc Uí Chaoimh. The replay played in Ennis saw Kerry emerge victorious.

In hurling, Tipperary defeated Limerick, while Clare provided the upset of the competition by defeating Cork in Cork and Waterford defeated Kerry. From the losers group Cork emerged to take on Waterford in the semi-final while Clare were paired against Tipperary.

Cork and Tipperary made their way to the final stage and in that final Cork squeezed home by the narrowest of margins to claim victory.

### Closed Season

At Special Congress 2008 rules were adopted which declared a closed season for inter-county activity in the months of November and December for Senior grades.

Further, a closed season at underage level was imposed as follows:

- Fé 21 Football no training before Jan 1st
- Minor Grades no training before March 1st
- Fé 21 Hurling no training before May 1st

These deadlines were brought in through the votes of County Officials and are now part of our rule book. Lots of anecdotal evidence would suggest that these new rules were totally ignored in some counties both at adult and underage level. Challenge games and training under the guise of trials were commonplace according to the man on the street. If this was the case then County Officials must stand up and make sure that our rule

## SECRETARIES REPORT

book does not become something to be discarded when it suits us. Leadership within counties is what is required, if that fails then all of us within the Association must either ensure that these rules are rescinded or fully adhered to.

### Intermediate Hurling and Junior Football

Our Intermediate Hurling Championship was contested in the usual lively and spirited manner and Limerick reached the decider after a four point win over Clare while Tipperary came through on the other side after defeating Cork. The final played in Semple Stadium saw Limerick capture their only Munster crown of 2008.

In Junior Football old rivals Kerry and Cork reached the final after Cork defeated Limerick and Kerry defeated Clare at semi-final stage. Kerry won the title in Pairc Uí Chaoimh.

### Waterford Crystal and McGrath Cups

These competitions have a special place in our calendar and what a pity the weather is invariably the major difficulty we have to overcome. In 2008 Tipperary captured the Waterford Crystal Cup and Clare annexed the McGrath Cup to start the competition season on a winning note for both counties.

I am going to refer to the 2009 competitions as they have just recently been completed. Firstly may I take this opportunity to place on record my thanks to the many club venues who hosted these games thereby allowing us to complete the competitions on time. In this regard I must give a special mention to Meelick in Clare who gave of their venue every Sunday and then missed

out on hosting the Final because this constant use had taken its toll. Fair credit must also go to Ogonnolloe who, with two days notice, had their venue in tip-top shape for the Waterford Crystal Cup Final. It is said that games at this time of year give no indication of things to come but Tipperary in 2008 showed their intent by winning this trophy. So where does this leave Clare after winning a closely contested and hard fought final in 2009? In the McGrath Cup, Cork were crowned champions to add to their Munster Senior success. The appearance of UL in the final was a healthy sign from a college point of view.

### AIB Munster GAA Club Championships 2008

The Provincial Club Championships provide our Clubs at all grades with an opportunity to perform in high profile competitions which are growing in stature year by year. Munster Council allow the Kerry Champions in Senior and Intermediate Hurling to step down to the next grade which means that the Kerry Senior Champions play in the Intermediate Grade and the Intermediate Champions play in the Junior grade.

The Munster Senior Hurling Club Championship is a keenly contested and much sought after trophy. 2008 provided us with many highlights and memories. De la Salle (Waterford) and Adare (Limerick) contested the final after many great encounters with champions from the other counties in earlier rounds. De la Salle defeated Sarsfields of Cork in the semi-final, Sarsfields having earlier knocked out Clonlara of Clare while Adare defeated Toomeveara of Tipperary in the other semi-final. The final was witnessed by our patrons in Semple Stadium and De La Salle won the

honours with a finishing flourish which broke the hearts of the Adare men. Both teams were attempting to get their name on the trophy for the first time and De la Salle earned that right.

In Intermediate Hurling, Blarney of Cork overcame Broadford of Clare in the final played at Bruff, having earlier accounted for Kilmoyley of Kerry while Broadford had beaten Templederry of Tipperary and Bruff of Limerick to reach the decider.

In Junior Hurling, Kilgarvan of Kerry and Dripsey of Cork reached the decider. This was a remarkable achievement for the Cork champions as their club only formed a couple of years ago. In earlier rounds Kilgarvan accounted for Emly of Tipperary while Dripsey beat Maigh Dheilge of Waterford and Monagea of Limerick. The final played as part of a double header in the new GAA complex in Mallow was a great occasion and Dripsey claimed the trophy to the delight of their huge band of supporters.

In Senior Football no one could have predicted the final pairings of Dromcollogher-Broadford of Limerick and Killmurry-Ibrickane of Clare. In the quarter-final Nemo Rangers of Cork put out Kerins O'Rahillys of Kerry and looked set to add another Provincial Club Trophy to their extensive roll of honour. However the boys of Drom had other ideas and justifiably earned their place in the final after a hard fought encounter. On the other side of the draw Killmurry-Ibrickane accounted for Galtee Rovers of Tipperary to earn their place in the decider. Dromcollogher-Broadford won out on the day and became the first Limerick club team since Thomond College to annex this title.



## TUAIRISC AN RUNAÍ

The bonfires were burning in West Limerick for a while after this victory.

In Intermediate Football a very strong Foilmore team from Kerry proved too good for all comers and won rather easily the final against Kilmihill of Clare. Earlier they had disposed of Clonmel Óg of Tipperary and Tramore of Waterford. Kilmihill had defeated Ballysteen of Limerick and St Finbarr's of Cork in earlier rounds.

In Junior Football another very strong Kerry team emerged in the shape of Skellig Rangers. Bruff of Limerick reached the decider from the other side of the draw and not much hope was given to the Limerick challengers. However in a keenly contested and skillful game the Kerry men saw off the challenge of their rivals with some great scores and impressive teamwork. In earlier rounds Skellig had beaten Ballyduff Upper while Bruff had accounted for Cappawhite of Tipperary.

All of our counties were represented by Club teams who brought honour and distinction to their parish and County. I thank all of the Counties who reached our fixture deadlines and I also wish to thank Club Officials who co-operated with the Council to ensure that all fixtures went ahead in venues suitable for the occasion. The draw for these competitions was made in January 2008 so this allowed all counties to plan for these deadlines properly. It was again disappointing that Waterford failed to reach some of these deadlines namely Senior Football and Intermediate Hurling. Hopefully, with the draws already made for our Club championship 2009 all counties will make these deadlines as we owe it to our clubs to allow them perform on this Provincial stage.

### Martin Donnelly Inter-Provincial Football & Hurling Championships

2008 saw Munster regain the Martin Donnelly Interprovincial Football competition for the first time since 1999. In hurling we reached the decider only to fall short to Leinster after leading for most of the game. While these competitions have definitely lost their attraction for the followers most inter-county players still value winning this medal. With the GAA inter-county games calendar stretching from January to September and Club competitions already squeezed it is hard to see where a reasonable time slot can be found for this competition to survive. It was disappointing to see so few of our Council Members and County Officers or indeed some of those who regularly shout loudest in favour of the retention of these competitions, in attendance at either the semi-finals held in Fermoy or at the Final in Portlaoise. Martin Donnelly is to be commended for his continued support for this competition.

### Referees

The Council are fortunate to have a pool of referees capable and willing to officiate at our games week-in week-out. These officials make serious commitment in time to train and prepare for our games and sometimes we are unduly critical of their decisions. A split second is all a referee gets to make the right decision and our TV pundits who never had to make that call can have the benefit of action replays and technical freeze frames to make an analysis of these decisions. With a few notable exceptions respect for our Referees is good in the Province and I ask that this continue. We honoured the Referees who officiated at our finals in 2008 at our Annual Awards night and this is just a small token of recognition for their contribution to our Games.

### Inter County Championship Referees Diarmuid Ó Ciarbháin

Iomáint Sinsir

### Deirc Ó Fathaigh

Peil Sinsir

### Pádraig Ó Cathasaigh

Iomáint Idirmheanach

### Micheál Mac Canna

Peil Shóisir

### Jason Ó Mathúna

Iomáint Fé 21

### Muiris Ó Condúin

Peil Fé 21

### Micheál Ó Conchúir

Iomáint na Mionúr

### Mairtin O Coileáin

Peil na Mionúr

### Micheál Ó Miach

Peil na Mionúr (Áth Imirt)

### Pádraig Ó Ruiseál

Corn Mhic Craith (2009)

### Seán Mac Mathúna

Waterford Crystal Cup (2009)

### Inter Club Championship Referees

### Seán Ó Riain

Iomáint Sinsir na gClub

### Aodhán Ó Mongáin

Peil Sinsir na gClub

### Micheál Ó hUaidín

Iomáint Idirmheanach na gClub

### Brian Mac Toirill

Peil Idirmheanach na gClub

### id Ó hEochaidh

Iomáint Soisir na gClub

### Muiris Ó Condúin

Peil Soisir na gClub

## SECRETARIES REPORT

One of our top referees retired from inter-county refereeing in 2008 having given a lifetime of service to the GAA and in particular to this Province. To Paddy Russell we say thanks for the many years of service to our games and having written your memoirs may you continue to enjoy involvement at some level.

Our referees committee deserve our thanks also as they put in many hours behind the scenes making sure that everything is ok for all our occasions. I wish to pay a special thanks to Kevin Walsh and Jim Joe Landers for their excellent work throughout the year.

### Discipline

The area of discipline is one which I would like to make a few salient points on. Firstly our games are played in a spirit of sportsmanship and while fiercely contested in all competitions, in the main, our players are exemplary in their "on the field behaviour". It is, when on the rare occasion, where disciplinary action is needed, that problems arise in some of these cases. I believe that this refusal to accept the punishment comes more from officials than players, where they seek to exploit any loophole to get the perpetrator off. These cases usually from Club competitions arrive at our Hearings Committee and technical challenges to decision making at County level are the order of the day. I am restricted from commenting on the DRA as we currently have a case before it but suffice it to say that much time is spent in dealing with these cases which could be more productively used for the benefit of the Association.

### Attendances

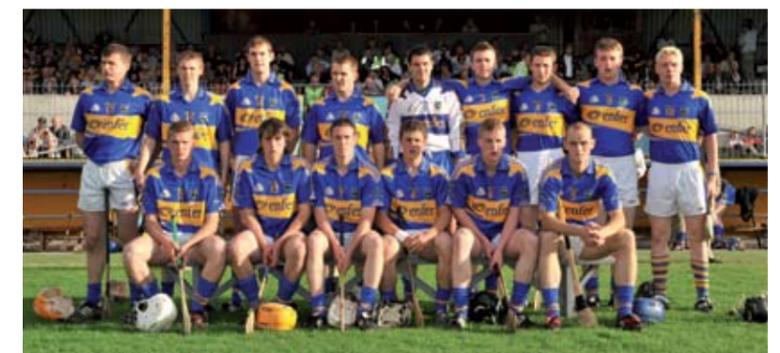
Thankfully, our games continue to attract large attendances, Munster

Hurling in particular remains as popular as ever. With supporters of all five teams believing that their team can lift that elusive trophy in any given year this bite creates an appetite and a fear of missing out on a Munster win. While none of our adult games ended in a draw our Munster Minor Football final did create a second outing for the two teams. In Football the clash of Kerry and Cork was our banker but inclement weather in the week leading up to the game and terrible weather on the day combined with a lack of belief among some of the spectators from Leaside caused a disappointing turnout for this fixture. In our underage games attendances were on a par with the years previous in fact in some cases our attendances were up. It must be understood that the revenue

from these games is utilised by the Council to provide Club Grants for Physical Development and Support for our Counties through Coaching and Games Promotion and Development alongside providing finance to counties to subsidise the employment of Games Promotion Officers. Further finance is made available to our Schools sector and in 2008 we provided 328 scholarships to students going to Irish Colleges for courses during the summer months. It is imperative that our games continue to attract our loyal patrons from each county. As can be seen from our accounts presented to this Convention by Donal Ó Niallagáin and our Cisteoir Micheál De Paor we provide a huge proportion of our income to clubs and Counties in the aforementioned areas.



Cadbury's Munster U21 Football Champions 2008: Kerry



Bord Gais Munster U21 Hurling Champions: Tipperary



## TUAIRISC AN RUNAÍ

## SECRETARIES REPORT

### Comhairle Na Mumhan – 2008 Munster Senior Championships

Official Attendance Figures				
DATE	CODE	VENUE	TEAMS	ATTENDANCE
1/6/2008	Hurling	Limerick	An Clár v Portlairge	17,500
8/6/2008	Hurling	Cork	Corciagh v Tiobraid Árann	42,823
22/6/2008	Hurling	Thurles	An Clár v Luimneach	28,603
13/7/2008	Hurling	Limerick	Tiobraid Árann v An Clár	48,076
			Total	137,002
			Average over four games	34,250
			Comparable average figure 2007	32,092
25/5/2008	Football	Ennis	An Clár V Portlárige	2,196
25/5/2008	Football	Fermoy	Tiobraid Árann V Luimneach	1,700
15/6/2008	Football	Limerick	Luimneach V Corcaigh	4,826
15/6/2008	Football	Killarney	Ciarraí v an Clár	11,329
6/7/2008	Football	Cork	Corcaigh V Ciarraí	22,784
			Total	42,836
			Average over five games	8,567
			Comparable average figure 2007	8,891

Underage Attendances 2008				
GRADE	TOTAL	No. of GAMES	AVERAGE ATTENDANCE	TOTALS 2007
Under 21 Football	5,378	5	1,075	3,659 (5)
Under 21 Hurling	20,910	4	5,225	12,878 (5)
Minor Hurling	10,974	4 (Excl. Final)	2,698	4,817 (7)
Minor Football	6,927	6 (Incl. Final Replay)	1,154	6,219 (10)

The table shows that the average attendance at our games in 2008 was up in Hurling and slightly down in Football at Senior grades. A number of factors account for this some of which I have outlined earlier.

In underage we increased our attendances substantially as can be seen from the above table.

My thanks to the various County Officials who assisted us in managing our gates in 2008, especially all County Treasurers.

### Managing our Events

With our games, comes the responsibility of ensuring patron comfort and safety. In this area we have our Major Stadiums Committee and our Munster Special Stewards, both of whom are committed to achieving this aim. Recent events have shown that we need to be ever more vigilant as a tiny minority of our spectators do not seem to care about the safety or comfort of their fellow patrons. Alcohol consumption prior to games and indeed attempts to bring alcohol into games have now become our main challenges when stewarding our games. Claims of overcrowding on terraces at some of our games are not correct however, as it can clearly be shown that the capacity allowed on Health and Safety grounds were not reached on any of these occasions. What is worrying from our perspective is that, for a variety of reasons, we failed to properly steward the terraces, keeping walkways clear thereby allowing patrons to reach areas of the terrace other than those already full. A combination of factors contributed to this problem – late arrivals, patrons not obeying stewards instructions, and failure to pre-empt problem areas on the day. This last factor is where we must improve for the future and it is in this area that we are putting plans in place for the year ahead. Revised and updated training of stewards and identifying additional stewards is now a serious priority for the Council. To this end we have appointed a Provincial Chief Steward to work and liaise with our Stadium Committee, our Special Stewards, Event Controllers and Chief Stewards in the Counties and the local Gardaí.

Health and Safety of our supporters is of paramount importance to us and we promise all that we will do everything that we can to ensure a

situation as was the case in 2008 is not repeated. In helping us do so we plead with those same supporters to take account of others and behave in such a manner that does not in any way impinge on their safety or comfort in watching our games.

### Schools

The recent Budgetary changes which restricts teacher substitution is a retrograde step as it puts the promotion and development of extra-curricular activity into the “not necessary” category. However, it is this type of activity which helps form the character of a young adolescent and assists society by ensuring that the young person growing up has a fully rounded personality with a positive outlook on life. All sport comes under this heading and of course we will be affected by this decision. We are fortunate, in that we have dedicated, loyal and hardworking teachers within our Association at all levels and this dedication may see us through these difficult times. On behalf of the Council I wish to thank those teachers at Primary, Post Primary, and Third Level, whose contribution to the promotion and development of our Games and our Association is the hidden factor in our success. We appreciate their efforts and support this work through direct and indirect financial support.

### Annual Awards

The Annual Awards Banquet, sponsored by AIB, has become a central and well established event in the social calendar of the Province for a number of years now. 2008 saw this event take place in the Malton Hotel Killarney on Saturday December 6th. This venue did us proud on the night with a setting and more importantly a menu which had those attending talking for many days. Again thanks to AIB for their continued sponsorship

and to Marty Morrissey who acted as MC on the night. Marty is now a central figure in the success of these nights.

### Playing Awards

#### Minor Hurler of the Year:

Darragh Honan (An Clár)

#### Minor Footballer of the Year:

Wayne Guthrie (Ciarraí)

#### Under 21 Hurler of the Year:

Seamus Hickey (Luimneach)

#### Under 21 Footballer of the Year:

Michael O'Donoghue (Ciarraí)

#### Intermediate Hurler of the Year:

Tom Condon (Luimneach)

#### Junior Footballer of the Year:

David Goold (Corcaigh)

#### Camogie Player of the Year:

Briege Corkery (Corcaigh)

#### Ladies Gaelic Footballer of the Year:

Elaine Harte (Corcaigh)

#### Handballer of the Year:

CJ Fitzpatrick (Luimneach)

#### Senior Footballer of the Year:

John Galvin (Luimneach)

#### Senior Hurler of the Year:

Shane McGrath (Tiobraid Árann)

### Distinguished Service Awards

#### Administration:

Eamon O'Sullivan (Ciarraí)

#### Coaching & Schools GAA:

Green & White Magazine Editors (Luimneach)

#### Media Award:

Brendan Larkin (Corcaigh)

#### Refereeing Award:

Kevin Walsh (An Clár)

#### Special Merit Award:

Michael Frawley (Tiobraid Árann)

#### Club of the Year:

De La Salle GAA Club (Port Láirge)



## TUAIRISC AN RUNAÍ

### Manager of the Year:

Ephie Fitzgerald (Nemo Rangers)

### Hall of Fame (Football):

Dr. Dave Geaney (Ciarraí)

### Hall of Fame (Hurling):

Jimmy Doyle (Tiobraid Árann)

A separate night for the presentation of medals for the Football winners of the Martin Donnelly Interprovincial Competition was held in the Mallow GAA Pavilion on Friday January 2008 and it was again a huge success with players, mentors, officials, and their guests enjoying a terrific meal in comfortable surroundings. We thank the management and staff of the Pavilion for their hospitality, for all the occasions where they catered for us during the year.

### Football Review

The Council set up a sub-committee to review the state of football in the Province with particular emphasis on the four counties of Clare, Limerick, Tipperary and Waterford. Under the chairmanship of John Landers this committee came forward with a report in late 2008. This report identifies many challenges we face to improve the standards in these four counties but goes further, and also identifies some real initiatives which can make a difference if implemented. The challenge is for counties themselves to deliver on these proposals and utilise the full-time staff available, to increase participation and improve standards through good coaching in clubs and schools.

### Council Sub – Committees

The work of the Council is in the main conducted through our sub-committee structure which works very well. Many voluntary Officials putting their time and energy into ensuring that our Province is managed and run in a professional

manner. Many sub-committees of the Council work diligently in the background to deliver quality initiatives in their areas of responsibility. These committees are the backbone of Council work and activities. I wish to thank all of those who work so tirelessly to make this happen and assure them that their commitment and dedication is acknowledged and respected.

### Management and Finance Committee

The responsibility of coordinating all work and policy as decided by the Council as well as decision making on a day-to-day basis on behalf of the Council falls on the Management and Finance Committee, made up of the Officers of Comhairle na Mumhan. These Officers are dealing on a daily basis with issues which arise and making decisions on your behalf which reflect Council policy and adhere to the rules of CLG. It is my privilege to work with all of these Officers and our Council is truly well served, by their honesty, integrity, and passion for our Association.

### Choiste Cheannais na gComórtaisí na Mumhan. (CCC)

This sub-committee, responsible for all fixtures and control of our games, is a hard working and often maligned committee, by persons who, when looking at a decision in isolation might question the validity or reasonableness of such a decision, however all factors usually give a true picture, and this is what the members of our CCC must do when arranging venues, times etc for our games. This sub-committee is made up of the Council Officers and one representative of each of our counties.

### Planning and Physical Development Committee

This sub-committee comprises of

Officers of the Council and Council Members from Counties who are not on the Council CCC.

Munster Council can boast of being the most generous of all Provincial Councils when it comes to distribution of income to Clubs, Schools and Counties in the area of financial support for Physical Development Projects. Again in 2008 we supported projects in all six counties. While this investment is necessary and worthwhile we must make sure that the projects we support are within the guidelines we agree and that the grounds are fully vested in the Association. Without detracting from the contributions pool we need to look at specifics in some categories of grant to ensure that we are supporting real development as opposed to contributing to the maintenance of these grounds. With National Lottery Grants now drying up for the foreseeable future pressure on Clubs to find resources to develop their grounds will be immense. We need to support, in as far as possible those who need it most. In the future with merit based funding being adopted at national level by our Association it might come to pass that those clubs meeting certain criteria wider than the Physical Development brief might have to be the only ones considered for national funding and if this were to happen then this Province should follow suit. When we look at the figures for what the Council spend is on the development of proper coaching in our Clubs and compare it to our spend in this area at a time when we all recognise that our clubs need proper coaching and proper coaching structures then we need to address this imbalance.

In 2008 the Council committed €1,600,000 to Capital Grants and

## SECRETARIES REPORT

dispersed €810,000 from National funds in this area.

### Handball

Handball in Munster is thriving and thanks to many dedicated and loyal officials at Club, County and Provincial Level this game will, I believe, continue to flourish and prosper. Under our Coaching and Games committee structure assistance was given to handball personnel to gain coaching credentials and accreditation. It has been reported to Council that this assistance has given valuable impetus to this area in Handball. This proves that money is not always a necessary ingredient in assistance.

### Ladies Football / Camogie

2008 saw Cumman Camogaoicht na Mumhan approach the Council with a Development Plan for the Association in the Province. After an in-depth discussion it was decided to support this plan financially for a specified period of three years. This plan if fully implemented should deliver a huge reward to the camogie people and while the benefits may not be seen for some time it will lay the foundation for success in the years ahead.

Ladies Football continues to flourish and develop in the Province. It is important that at local club level girls are given fair treatment in gaining access to club grounds and facilities. Our integration committee have reported that this is the area crucial to our sister Associations so that they can co-exist with the local GAA units.

### 125 Celebration

The Council intend to mark this important milestone in the history of our Association by having key initiatives which will give a positive and vibrant message to all our

supporters. One of these planned events will be the invitation to former winning captains to attend our Provincial Finals. Another is to select teams in both codes from the Province covering the last 25 years so that when history is written in times to come a view from the present is known. The main focus is of our celebration will be the Lá na gClub on May 10th. It is very important that all clubs partake in this day of celebration and use it to rejuvenate where needed and sell a positive message of involvement in their catchments area.

### Uachtarán Tofa

The Province is once again honoured to have one of our own as incoming President of our Association, Criostóir Ó Cuana. Christóir served this Council with distinction during his term and will, I am sure, deliver for the Association in a very positive way during his Presidency.

### Challenges for our Association

There is no doubt that we live in difficult times. As I stated earlier the changing economic environment will cast a shadow of financial uncertainty over many of our members and followers which will in turn affect our attendances if we do not do something positive to overcome it. The Council will concentrate on making our games a family occasion in 2009 which will mean that to all our ticket games a family priced ticket will be available in large quantities in all participating counties. For our non-ticket games children under 16 will continue to be granted free admission. However, patrons seeking to abuse these concessions or gain access free will find a stricter and more controlled approach from our Officials.

The greatest challenge facing our Association is to ensure that we

provide proper appropriate coaching support for our Clubs. Also that we look at our National Competition structures and examine the benefits of constant live TV coverage against the backdrop of tightening the ability of our Counties to run their Club competitions.

As we go to print the long running saga in Cork Hurling circles has raised its head again. I will not comment on this, maybe too much has been said already, except to say that in that troubled part of our Country greater divisions existed and they were able to sit down together and work out an agreement. Are we now that bitter that we cannot do the same?

There are many other challenges facing our Association and indeed our Province which have been further articulated in other parts of this report and within other sub-committee reports for this convention.

### Financial Matters

You notice that I have left financial matters and the implications of these figures to my colleagues Daniel Nelligan (Deputy C.E.O.) and Michael Power (Cisteoir). These two fellow Officers have managed our Finances well and in 2008 we had our first full external Audit. The groundwork for this audit was laid by my predecessor, Simon Moroney, and former Cisteoir, Ger Hickey. The work of Daniel and Michael in delivering this audit makes our Council more secure and professional in our dealings going forward.

### Topics for Discussion

#### Provincial Level

- Maybe the Council should consider the idea of rotating the Vice Chairman/Chairman position



## TUAIRISC AN RUNAÍ

between the counties. This would give the Counties advance notice of their term of office and allow the counties to carefully consider who they put forward.

- The appointment of a Council President for a life term may be reconsidered.

### At National Level

- The current disciplinary rules which allow a player in their final game of the year to commit a playing infraction of a serious nature, and the sanction available to CCCs may mean that the player will in fact miss no game. This is not appropriate and, I believe, should be revisited.

### Sympathy

As with every year The Association in the Province has lost many of its members over the past twelve months. I will not recall individually any of those who passed away for fear of omitting anyone. On Behalf of the Council I wish to convey the sympathy and condolences to all the bereaved relatives and friends of those who passed away during 2008. Go dtuga Dia snaimhneas siorai da n-anamnacha do léir.

### Buíochas

In concluding my report I wish to thank the following:

- My fellow Officers on the Council Management Committee and particularly the Cathaoirleach Seamus Ó Gormain. Jimmys integrity and work ethic is an example to us all.
- The members of the Council and the members of all the Council sub-committees for the assistance and co-operation which I received from them throughout 2008.
- To the County Officers in the six

County Committees in Munster and particularly the County Secretaries and Treasurers with whom I have most contact and dealings in the course of our work.

- To the Referees, Linesmen, Fourth officials, Umpires and Assessors for the manner in which they officiated at our games in 2008.
- To the officers and members of the schools bodies for the ongoing work they do in support of our games in the various levels of schools.
- To the several Stilesmen, Stewards, Groundsmen, Catering personnel who have helped us during the year in ensuring that access to our games, at whatever level, is safe and efficient. Also to the Event Controllers in the major venues and to the Gardai, Health Board personnel, and many others who make our games safe for patrons.
- To all the Players at every grade who provided the "Key Ingredient" of the Association in Munster in 2008 as in every other year. The popularity of the games for the patrons attending the games and for those watching or listening to media coverage is testament to the level of excellence you have achieved in your chosen sport.
- To the media personnel, national and local, for the excellent coverage which our games receive at every level throughout the year.

A particular word of thanks to RTE and TV 3 and TG4 for the TV fees received during 2008 and to all RTE and TV 3 and TG4 personnel with whom I have had contact in relation to the televising of our games.

- To the Sponsors who provide generous sponsorship to the Council and some of its sub-committees including:
- Senior Football Championship - Ulster Bank | Toyota | Vodaphone
- Senior Hurling Championship - Guinness | Etihad Airways | RTE
- Primary Game - Irish Daily Star Sunday
- Club Championships & Annual Awards - AIB Bank plc
- Waterford Crystal Cup S.H. - Waterford Crystal
- Minor Football & Hurling Championships - ESB
- U21 Hurling Championship - Bord Gais
- U21 Football Championship - Cadbury's
- Interprovincial Hurling & Football Championship - Martin Donnelly
- Ballygowan and Lucozade Sport for their product sponsorship for Interprovincial teams
- To the Uachtarán, Ard Stiurthóir and all the staff in Páirc an Chrócaigh for the co-operation and assistance received during 2008
- Finally I want to acknowledge the contribution made to the work of the Council by all of my colleagues on the staff of Comhairle na Mumhan: Daniel, Kathleen, Nuala, John, Joey and two Pat's.

Go raibh míle maith agaibh.

Mise le meas,

**Padraig Mac Gearailt**  
CEO / Runaí  
Comhairle na Mumhan

## FINANCIAL REVIEW

*We are pleased to report that 2008 was one of significant achievement for the Council in a financial sense. The Council succeeded in moving smoothly to a full audit in 2008 where an unqualified opinion was delivered. Income other than Gate Receipts increased under each heading, while overall income (before contra income) net of direct costs was down a mere 3% on 2007, despite a reduction in Gate Receipts of 22%.*

The majority of the Council expenditure continues to be a redistribution to the Counties and other GAA Units in the Province. Over €5 million was paid back to Counties and other GAA units in 2008, representing over 76% of all expenditure of the Council.

The Council is in rude financial health and following is a brief analysis of the items on the revenue account of the financial statements.

### Revenue

**Gate Receipts** though down on 2007 (2 replays in the MSHC took place) are on a par with 2006 (which included a MFF replay) and represent an increase in average attendances on 2007. The Council relies significantly on Gate Receipts with 53% of income being derived from gates. More importantly it must be realised that of this reliance on Gate income we relied on the Munster Hurling Championship for 68% of Gate income in 2008. The Munster Hurling Final alone represented 25% of all Gate Income.

**Commercial Income** from Sponsors and TV companies was increased this year as part of the new multi-sponsor model adopted at national level. While the early indication was that this new model would result in significant increased revenues to all parties, the reality has not been

as dramatic. While there was an overall increase in income from the combined TV and Sponsorship deals, when revenues foregone from other contractually agreed sponsorships and additional sponsorships which have been negotiated nationally without recompense to the Council are taken into account the net result to the Council has been negative. It was recently announced that TV and Sponsorship income in 2009 will reduce by an anticipated €175k for the Council which will put us back to a position not recorded since the early part of the new millennium.

Grant funding from Central Council, which includes Club Ground Development Grants, Third Level Bursary Contribution and Coaching & Games Development Projects, increased by 12% in 2008. The increase is due to an increased spend on Coaching & Games in the counties. Change to the redistribution of this budget is dealt with in detail in other areas of this booklet and so we will not go into detail here. At 30% of all income earned by the Council in 2008 the importance of the income received from Central Council cannot be overstated and the value of the contribution can be seen in clubs throughout the Province.

**Financial Income** shows a 45% increase for 2008 however this figure is affected by audit changes in the

treatment of investments (€62,229 written back on 2007 figures, realised in 2008). During 2008 the Council encashed two life policies and diverted additional money to the Croke Park Deposit and Loan Scheme account. The improved terms in this account earned a higher return for the year. With interest rates having dropped significantly in the past number of months it is unlikely that this income stream will continue at the current real level going forward.

**Other Income** for 2008 represents 2% of income earned in 2008. This figure is skewed by the repayment of development grant by Limerick Co. Board for land purchased and subsequently sold in part at Rathkeale. It is unlikely that similar repayments are likely going forward.

### Costs

**Match Day Costs** reduced in 2008 due to the reduced number of games in the Senior Hurling Championship. Match Day costs represented in excess of 25% of Gate Receipts in 2008. It is fair to say that there is considerable difference as to how individuals on duty are rewarded for their efforts depending on where a particular game takes place. We believe there is an area where, with negotiation between the relevant parties, further savings could be achieved and shared.



## FINANCIAL REVIEW

Team Costs to the Council include match allowances and gear grants to County, Club and College teams participating in Munster competition as well as the cost of the Munster Interprovincial teams. These costs come down slightly due to a smaller number of games in the Senior Hurling Championship and the non-continuation of the U17 Munster/Australia team. The cost of participating in the Interprovincial Championship rose by almost 14% in 2008 and is likely to continue to rise in the event of the Munster Hurling team qualifying for the 2009 Final in Abu Dhabi.

**Administration costs** increased significantly in 2008 due to a combination of factors. In early 2008 the senior staff level increased with the appointment of a C.E.O. and Deputy-C.E.O. while the *Iar-Runaí* was also employed for a considerable portion of the transition period. Annual awards function in 2007 was not fully accounted for in the unaudited accounts for that period and the additional cost is borne this year. There was also the additional cost of a leaving function for the *Iar-Runaí* and the increased cost of annual awards function due to Waterford Crystals reduced contribution to presentation trophies for the annual awards.

**Games Development** currently accounts for 25% of expenditure by the Council. This figure is somewhat misleading however as in our view there are currently items which appear under the heading Operating Grants which could and should be classed to Coaching & Games expenditure. Because of the change to merit based funding at all levels of the Association in this regard, it is our intention to restructure the way in which these grants are being paid to

ensure value for money is received. This process has just commenced at the time of going to print, suffice to say that ensuring value-for-money in all areas is a key target for the Council.

**Capital and Operating Grants** represented 40% of expenditure by the Council in 2008. The Council currently enters the final year of its three year commitment of a budget of €1.6 million per annum to Capital Grants under the Development Grant scheme. The criteria for the grant scheme are clear and transparent and in our view the criteria document is a credit to the members of the Planning & Development Committee, who put it in place.

In 2008 the Council received vouched applications for grants on expenditure in excess of €22 million at County and Club Grounds in the Province. This is before one takes into account the development of Regional Centres of Excellence in Waterford, Tipperary, Clare and Limerick and an Urban Centre of Excellence in Cork or the ongoing and proposed development work at major county grounds in most counties in the Province. Given the current economic climate it is likely that the level of investment in capital projects will reduce due to the reduction in costs and the inability of clubs to raise the necessary finance to undertake significant projects. We must ensure that we continue to put the infrastructure in place to enable our games to take place but that we continue to spend wisely to this end.

### Balance Sheet

The Council Offices were revalued at year-end and an impairment charge of €91,800 is carried in the accounts. The Councils cash has

been managed tightly and redirected to the Croke Park Deposit & Loan Scheme were reduced significantly at year-end. The year-end surplus of €93,151 has been transferred to Reserves and €600,000 transferred to a Development Fund for the planned relocation of the Council HQ.

### Buíochas

We are indebted to the County Officers in each of the counties for their help throughout the year. In particular we thank the treasurers, their assistant treasurers and their local teams of stipepeople and stewards, without whose help such healthy gate receipt could not be returned.

**Michéal de Paor**  
*Cisteoir*

**Dónal Ó Niallagáin**  
*Leas-Runaí*

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Year ended 31 December 2008

PRICEWATERHOUSECOOPERS 

PricewaterhouseCoopers  
P.O. Box No. 7  
Bank Place  
Limerick  
Ireland  
I.D.E. Box No. 3002  
Telephone +353 (0) 61 212300  
Facsimile +353 (0) 61 416331  
www.pwc.com/ie

### Independent auditors' report to the officers of Comhairle Na Mumhan, Cumann Luith Chleas Gael

We have audited the financial statements on pages 34 to 40. These financial statements have been prepared under the accounting policies set out in the statement of accounting policies on page 37.

#### Respective responsibilities of Council officers and auditors

The Council officers' responsibilities for preparing the financial statements in accordance with the accounting standards issued by the Accounting Standards Board and published by The Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland (Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland) are set out in the Statement of Council Officers' Responsibilities as set out in note 13 of the financial statements.

Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). This report, including the opinion, has been prepared for and only for the Council officers as a body and for no other purpose. We do not, in giving this opinion, accept or assume responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person to whom this report is shown or into whose hands it may come save where expressly agreed by our prior consent in writing.

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practice in Ireland. We state whether we have obtained all the information and explanations we consider necessary for the purposes of our audit and whether the financial statements are in agreement with the books of account.

#### Basis of audit opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgments made by the Council officers in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Council's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

#### Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the Council's affairs as at 31 December 2008 and of its income and expenditure and cash flows for the year then ended, in accordance with Generally Accepted Practice in Ireland.

We have obtained all the information and explanations we consider necessary for the purposes of our audit. In our opinion proper books of account have been kept by the Council. The financial statements are in agreement with the books of account.

**PricewaterhouseCoopers**  
**Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors**  
**Limerick**  
5 February 2009



## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

<b>INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT</b>		
<b>Year ended 31 December 2008</b>		
	Note	2008 €
<b>INCOME</b>		
Gate receipts		4,166,582
Commercial income		803,375
Central Council funding		2,359,247
Financial income		393,880
Other income		200,774
Contra income		3,204,130
<b>Total income</b>		<b>11,127,988</b>
<b>Direct costs</b>		
Match day costs		1,053,992
Competition costs		49,607
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>1,103,599</b>
		10,024,389
<b>Indirect costs</b>		
Team costs		270,978
Games development		1,814,212
Player welfare		318,445
Administration costs		729,190
Other costs		31,447
Contra costs		3,204,130
		6,368,402
<b>Operating surplus on ordinary activities</b>		
Impairment of fixed assets		(91,800)
Surplus before funding activities	2	3,564,187
<b>Funding activities</b>		
Operating grants		438,358
Capital grants		2,432,678
		2,871,036
<b>Surplus for the year</b>	11	<b>693,151</b>
<b>Distribution of surplus</b>		
Transfer to development fund	11	600,000
Transfer to revenue reserves	11	93,151
		693,151

Income and operating loss arose solely from continuing operations. There were no recognised gains or losses other than those dealt with in the income and expenditure accounts.

### On behalf of the Council:

**Chairman:** Seamus Ó Gormáin. **Secretary:** Pádraig Mac Gearailt. **Treasurer:** Micheál de Paor

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

<b>BALANCE SHEET</b>			
<b>Year ended 31 December 2008</b>			
	Note	2008 €	2007 €
<b>INCOME</b>			
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	4	834,741	938,516
Financial assets	5	635	635
		835,376	939,151
<b>Current assets</b>			
Stock		1,750	1,750
Debtors	6	366,177	808,129
Loans- County Boards	7	155,365	194,453
Investments	8	95,230	385,934
Loans and deposits scheme - Croke Park		8,678,054	5,436,455
Cash at bank		572,869	1,777,478
Cash on hands		15,000	-
		9,884,445	8,604,199
<b>Creditors - amounts falling due within one year</b>	9	<b>(3,064,339)</b>	<b>(2,707,139)</b>
<b>Net current assets</b>		<b>6,820,106</b>	<b>5,897,060</b>
<b>Creditors - amounts falling due after more than one year</b>	10	<b>(126,120)</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<b>7,529,362</b>	<b>6,836,211</b>
<b>Represented by:</b>			
Revenue account	11	6,929,362	6,836,211
Development fund	11	600,000	-
<b>Total reserves</b>		<b>7,529,362</b>	<b>6,836,211</b>

### On behalf of the Council:

**Chairman:** Seamus Ó Gormáin  
**Secretary:** Pádraig Mac Gearailt  
**Treasurer:** Micheál de Paor



## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

<b>CASH FLOW STATEMENT</b>			
<b>Year ended 31 December 2008</b>			
	Note	2008	
		€	
<b>Net cash inflow from operating activities</b>	(a)	1,337,300	
<b>Return on investments and servicing of finance</b>	(b)	317,798	
<b>Capital expenditure and financial investment</b>	(c)	345,546	
<b>Increase in cash balances</b>		2,000,644	
<b>(a) Reconciliation of net cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Operating profit		3,655,987	
Profit on disposal of investments		(68,582)	
Interest on deposit and loan scheme		(254,208)	
Deposit interest		(63,590)	
Depreciation charges		25,715	
Operating grants and donations		(438,358)	
Capital grants		(2,432,678)	
Decrease in debtors		441,952	
Decrease in loans		39,088	
Increase in creditors		431,974	
		1,337,300	
<b>(b) Return on investments and servicing of finance</b>			
Interest on deposit and loan scheme		254,208	
Deposit interest		63,590	
		317,798	
<b>(c) Capital expenditure and financial investment</b>			
Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets		(13,740)	
Receipts from sale of investments		359,286	
		345,546	
<b>(d) Analysis of changes in net cash</b>			
	Cash and bank overdraft	Loans and deposit Scheme Croke Park	Total
	€	€	€
Balance at 1 January	1,175,338	5,436,455	6,611,793
(Decrease)/increase in cash	(1,240,955)	3,241,599	2,000,644
Balance at 31 December	(65,617)	8,678,054	8,612,437

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

#### 1. Accounting policies

The significant accounting policies adopted by the Council are as follows:

##### Basis of preparation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with accounting standards generally accepted in Ireland. Accounting standards generally accepted in Ireland in preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view are those published by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland and issued by the Accounting Standards Board.

The financial statements are presented in euro.

These audited financial statements cover the period from 1 January 2008 to 31 December 2008. The Income and Expenditure account for the prior year ended 31 December 2007 was not audited and is not included in these financial statements.

##### Historical cost convention

The financial statements are prepared under the historical cost convention.

##### Income and expenditure

Income and expenditure are accounted for on an accruals basis.

Income from gate receipts is recorded net of commission incurred in earning this income.

##### Tangible assets

Tangible assets other than land are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation adjusted for any permanent diminution in value.

Depreciation is calculated in order to write off the cost of tangible assets over their estimated useful lives.

Rates used by reference to which depreciation has been calculated are as follows:

**Office equipment:** 20% reducing balance. **Buildings:** 2% reducing balance. **Cups:** Nil

The cost of fixed assets is their purchase cost, together with any incidental expenses of acquisition.

##### Financial assets and investments

Financial fixed assets and investments are stated at cost. Provision is made, where necessary, for any permanent diminution in value.

##### Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Net realisable represents expected sales proceeds net of selling costs.

<b>2. Operating surplus before funding activities is stated after charging/(crediting)</b>	2008
	€
Wages and salaries	404,777
Social welfare costs	75,892
Staff costs	480,669
Depreciation	25,715
Impairment of fixed assets	91,800



## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued

#### 3. Employee information

The average number of persons employed by the Council during the year was 11.

4. Tangible Assets	Premises €	Office equipment €	Cups €	Total €
<b>Cost</b>				
At 1 January 2008	975,074	76,677	4,676	1,056,427
Additions	-	13,740	-	13,740
At 31 December 2008	975,074	90,417	4,676	1,070,167
<b>Accumulated depreciation</b>				
At 1 January 2008	65,074	52,837	-	117,911
Charge for year	18,200	7,515	-	25,715
Accelerated depreciation	91,800	-	-	91,800
At 31 December 2008	175,074	60,352	-	235,426
<b>Net book value</b>				
At 31 December 2008	800,000	30,065	4,676	834,741
At 1 January 2008	910,000	23,840	4,676	938,516

The premises was valued at €800,000 on 12 January 2009 at open market value by John Stapleton & Co Limited, IAVI Auctioneers, Valuers & Property Managers, Mungret Street, Limerick. The Council considers that there is a permanent impairment in value and have provided accelerated depreciation to write down the premises to the open market value.

5. Financial fixed assets	2008 €	2007 €
GAA credit scheme	635	635

6. Debtors	2008 €	2007 €
Debtors	366,177	808,129

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued

7. Loans	2008 €	2007 €
Ballinlough, Cork City Grounds	6,347	12,696
McDonagh Park, Nenagh	15,000	22,000
Fitzgerald Stadium, Kerry	126,948	152,348
South Tipperary GAA Board	7,070	7,409
	<u>155,365</u>	<u>194,453</u>
Loans due within one year	39,088	39,088
Loans due after more than one year	116,277	155,365
	<u>155,365</u>	<u>194,453</u>

8. Investments	2008 €	2007 €
Investments held at cost	95,230	385,934

The market value of these investments at the balance sheet date was €103,511 (2007: €448,163).

9. Creditors - amounts falling due within one year	2008 €	2007 €
Bank overdraft	653,486	602,140
Creditors and accruals	2,410,853	2,104,999
	<u>3,064,339</u>	<u>2,707,139</u>

10. Creditors - amounts falling due after more than one year	2008 €	2007 €
Term tickets	126,120	-

11. Movement on reserves	Development fund €	Revenue account €	Total €
Balance at 1 January		6,836,211	6,836,211
Surplus for year		693,151	693,151
Transfer to development fund	600,000	(600,000)	-
Balance at 31 December	<u>600,000</u>	<u>6,929,362</u>	<u>7,529,362</u>



## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - continued

#### 12. Taxation status

The Comhairle Na Mumhan is exempt from taxation under Section 235 of the Taxes Consolidation Act, 1997.

#### 13. Council Officers responsibilities

The Council's officers are responsible for preparing the financial statements in accordance with Generally Accepted Accounting Practices in Ireland including the accounting standards issued by the Accounting Standards Board and published by The Institute of Chartered Accountants in Ireland.

The Council's officers are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs and of the income and expenditure of the Council for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the Council's Officers' are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that Comhairle Na Mumhan, Cumann Luith Chleas Gael will continue in operational existence.

The Council's officers confirm that they have complied with the above requirements in preparing the financial statements.

The Council's officers are responsible for keeping proper books of account which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Council. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

#### 14. Related party transactions

The following amounts were received from other affiliated bodies of the Gaelic Athletic Association:

	2008 €
Central Council GAA	2,359,247

Payments and charges to officers of the Board during the period amounted to €218,054.

An amount of €22,500 was paid to Castlesigns Limited for signage. A director and shareholder of Castlesigns Limited is a county delegate to the Council.

#### 15. Events since balance sheet date

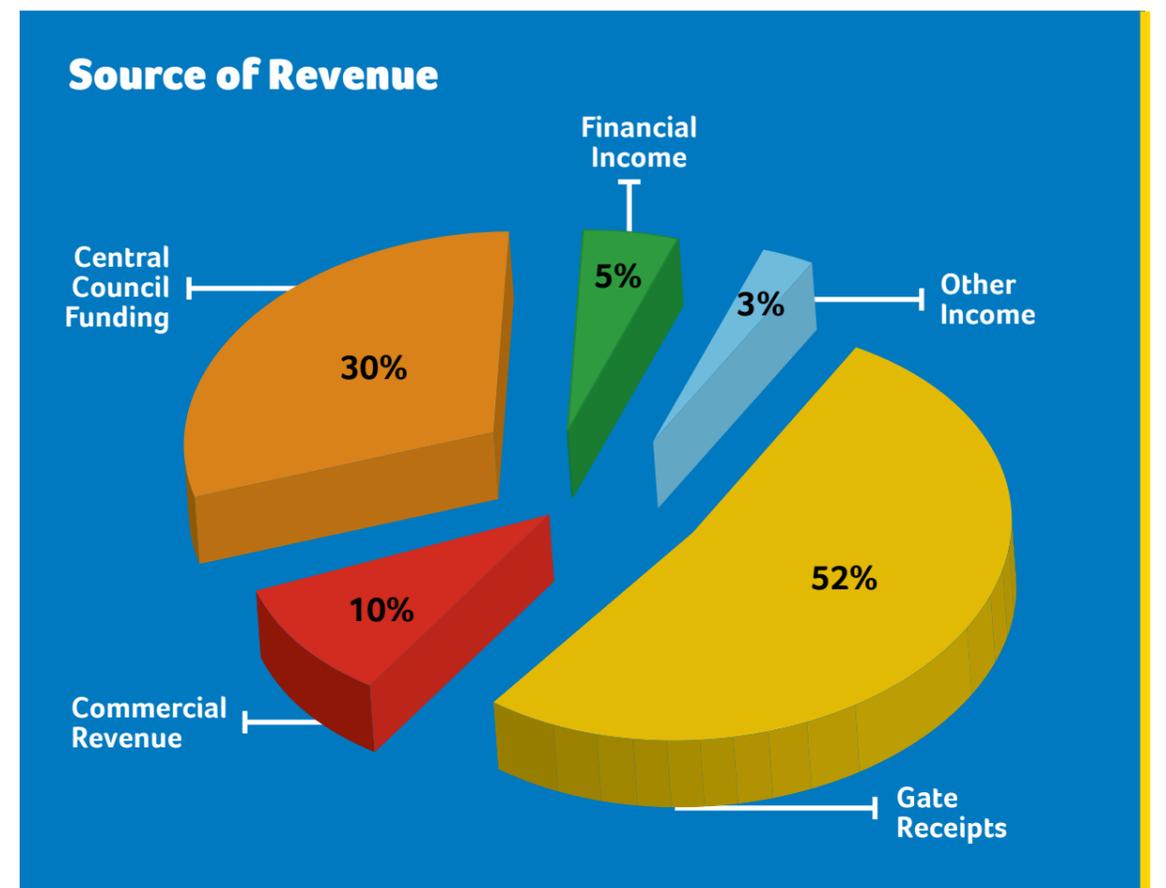
There were no events since the balance sheet date that have an effect on the results as at 31 December 2008.

#### 16. Approval of financial statements

The financial statements were approved by the Council on 4 February 2009.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

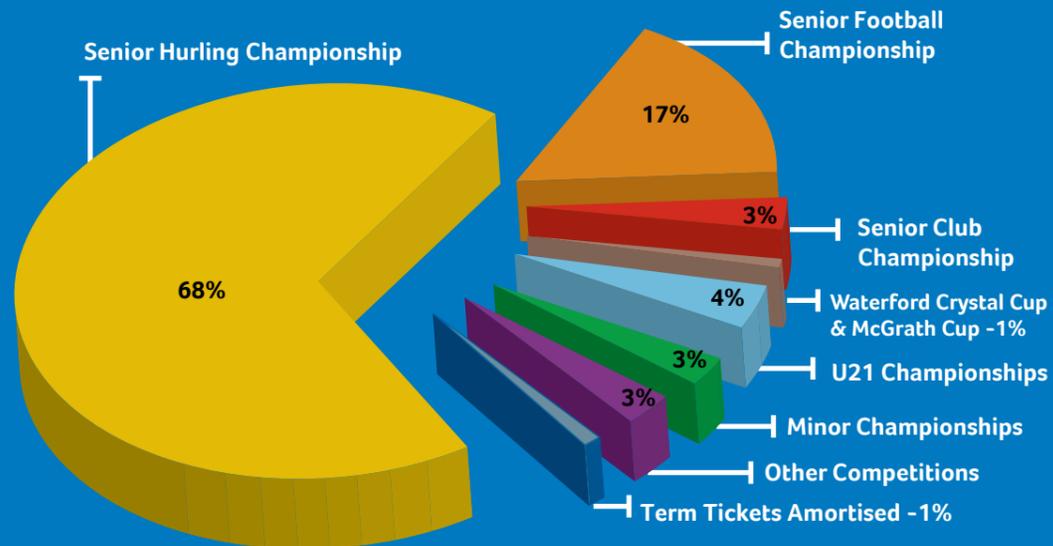
Payments to Co's								
	RENT OF VENUE	TEAM COSTS	GAMES DEV.	PLAYER WELFARE	OPERATING GRANTS	SUB-TOTAL	DEV. GRANTS	TOTAL
An Clár	17,643	34,500	209,563	-	35,402	297,108	300,915	598,023
Ciarraí	19,179	25,150	239,284	-	46,332	329,945	387,649	717,594
Corcaigh	213,550	27,800	238,696	-	28,672	508,718	674,953	1,183,671
Luimneach	223,480	35,150	226,167	-	13,607	498,404	229,063	727,467
Port Láirge	4,373	22,350	210,084	-	54,637	291,444	218,459	509,903
Tiobraid Árann	107,985	35,000	229,319	-	26,532	398,835	214,398	613,233
Other GAA Units	14,718	50,278	87,000	318,445	224,104	694,544	22,680	717,224
	600,928	230,228	1,440,113	318,445	429,284	3,018,998	2,048,117	5,067,115



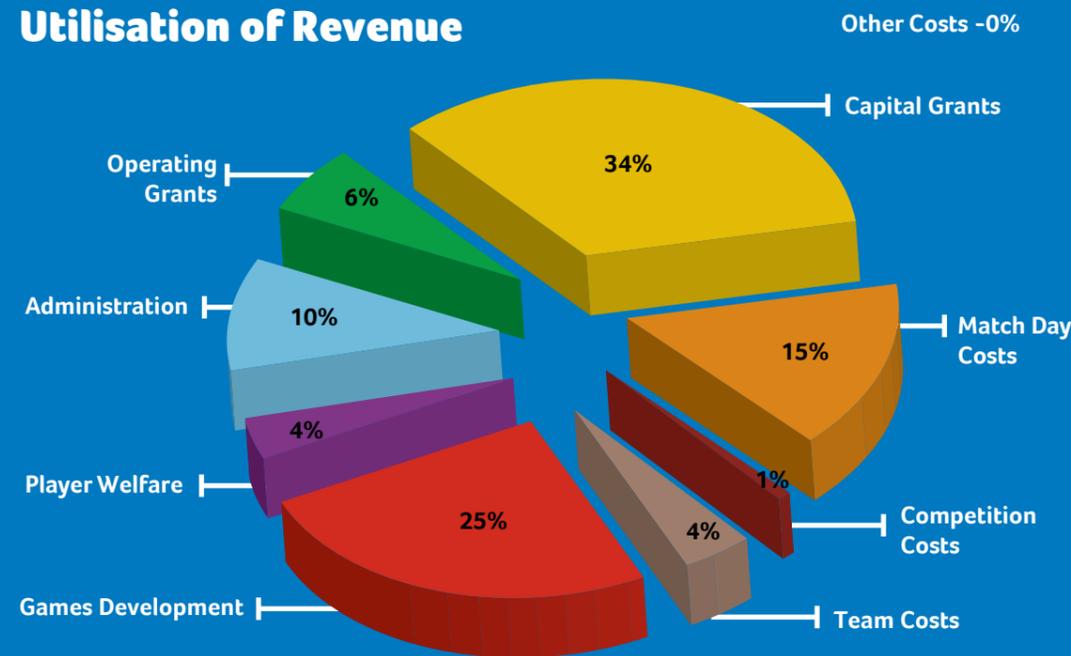


## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### Gate Receipt Analysis 2008



### Utilisation of Revenue



## DETAILED ACCOUNTS SCHEDULES

Year ended 31 December 2008

### REVENUE ACCOUNT Year ended 31 December 2008

	Schedule	2008 €	2007 €
<b>Revenue</b>			
Gate receipts	1	4,166,582	5,360,872
Commercial revenue	2	803,375	750,977
Central Council funding	3	2,359,247	2,103,517
Financial income		393,880	271,331
Other income	4	200,774	36,926
Contra income	5	3,204,130	2,302,592
		<b>11,127,988</b>	<b>10,826,215</b>
<b>Direct costs</b>			
Match day costs	6	1,053,992	1,460,661
Competition costs	7	49,607	48,339
		<b>1,103,599</b>	<b>1,509,000</b>
		<b>10,024,389</b>	<b>9,317,215</b>
<b>Indirect costs</b>			
Team costs		270,978	283,961
Games development	8	1,814,212	1,668,173
Player welfare	9	318,445	354,652
Administration costs	10	729,190	486,609
Other costs	11	31,447	25,371
Contra costs	12	3,204,130	2,302,593
		<b>6,368,402</b>	<b>5,121,359</b>
		<b>Operating surplus on ordinary activities</b>	<b>3,655,987</b>
		Impairment of fixed asset	(91,800)
		<b>Operating surplus before funding activities</b>	<b>3,564,187</b>
<b>Funding activities</b>			
Operating grants payable	13	438,358	687,831
Capital grants payable		2,432,678	3,221,422
		<b>2,871,036</b>	<b>3,909,253</b>
		<b>Surplus for the year</b>	<b>693,151</b>
		<b>Distribution of surplus</b>	
		Transfer to development fund	600,000
		Transfer to revenue reserves	93,151
		<b>693,151</b>	<b>286,603</b>



## DETAILED ACCOUNTS SCHEDULES

### SCHEDULES TO THE ACCOUNTS - continued

1. Gate receipts	2008 €	2007 (unaudited) €
Senior hurling championship	2,840,603	4,103,200
Senior football championship	705,013	789,856
Senior club championships	127,322	136,846
Waterford Crystal cup and McGrath cup	51,232	57,609
U21 championships	165,920	119,845
Minor championships	105,258	57,865
Other competitions	110,794	95,651
Term tickets amortised	60,440	-
	<u>4,166,582</u>	<u>5,360,872</u>

2. Commercial revenue	2008 €	2007 (unaudited) €
Media coverage	500,000	370,000
Championship sponsorships	250,000	292,500
Other commercial revenue	53,375	88,477
	<u>803,375</u>	<u>750,977</u>

3. Central Council funding	2008 €	2007 (unaudited) €
Club and urban development grants	810,000	810,000
Third level bursaries	24,000	12,000
Games development	548,456	527,292
Hurling development grants	755,791	653,825
Football development grants	221,000	100,400
	<u>2,359,247</u>	<u>2,103,517</u>

## DETAILED ACCOUNTS SCHEDULES

### SCHEDULES TO THE ACCOUNTS - continued

4. Other Income	2008 €	2007 (unaudited) €
Affiliation fees	1,344	1,292
Tournament fees	820	535
Fines and appeals	21,200	1,080
Coaching conference income	10,250	-
Development grant rebate	120,000	-
Signage payments	20,444	-
Ticketmaster revenue share	11,617	5,078
Scór income	14,175	28,441
Donations and other income	924	500
	<u>200,774</u>	<u>36,926</u>

5. Contra income	2008 €	2007 (unaudited) €
County public and employers liability insurance	543,266	362,010
County players injury scheme	2,101,925	1,656,750
County property insurance	129,748	218,762
Central Council games/ticket sales	429,191	65,070
	<u>3,204,130</u>	<u>2,302,592</u>

6. Match day costs	2008 €	2007 (unaudited) €
Venue rental and expenses	835,145	1,143,953
Match officials	50,233	73,185
Security	133,087	191,908
Ticketing costs	35,527	51,615
	<u>1,053,992</u>	<u>1,460,661</u>

7. Competition costs	2008 €	2007 (unaudited) €
Medals and trophies	49,607	48,339



## DETAILED ACCOUNTS SCHEDULES

### SCHEDULES TO THE ACCOUNTS - continued

8. Games development	2008 €	2007 (unaudited) €
Personnel	708,713	693,497
Hurling and football projects	981,056	856,972
Coaching courses	26,019	24,130
VHI Cúl camps	92,156	89,500
Twinning	6,268	4,074
	<u>1,814,212</u>	<u>1,668,173</u>

9. Player welfare	2008 €	2007 (unaudited) €
Players injury scheme	243,295	321,652
Third level bursaries	75,150	33,000
	<u>318,445</u>	<u>354,652</u>

10. Administration costs	2008 €	2007 (unaudited) €
Salaries and pensions	351,953	201,327
Rates and insurance	31,448	79,399
Depreciation	25,715	24,531
Professional fees	34,320	5,748
Conference and travel	226,930	119,194
Office administration and sundry	52,526	50,218
Financial costs	6,298	6,192
	<u>729,190</u>	<u>486,609</u>

11. Other costs	2008 €	2007 (unaudited) €
Affiliation fees	673	646
Coaching conference expenditure	10,369	-
Scor expenditure	20,405	24,725
	<u>31,447</u>	<u>25,371</u>

## DETAILED ACCOUNTS SCHEDULES

### SCHEDULES TO THE ACCOUNTS - continued

12. Contra costs	2008 €	2007 (unaudited) €
County Public & Employers Liability insurance	543,266	362,010
County Players injury scheme	2,101,925	1,656,750
County Property insurance	129,748	218,763
All-Ireland Series tickets	429,191	65,070
	<u>3,204,130</u>	<u>2,302,593</u>

13. Operating grants payable	2008 €	2007 (unaudited) €
All-Ireland finalists grants	40,000	60,000
Munster finalist grants	66,380	66,380
Special grants	52,400	264,300
Primary schools equipment grant	12,700	12,700
Primary game grant	47,804	42,622
Gaeltacht scholarships	23,800	28,829
Munster third level colleges	25,000	25,000
Post primary schools	68,400	68,400
Post primary schools development officers	47,374	57,100
Munster Inter-Firm committee	4,000	4,000
Munster Handball Council	8,500	8,500
Munster Camogie Council	7,500	13,500
Munster primary schools committee	25,000	25,000
Munster ladies gaelic football committee	7,500	7,500
Agricultural College Council	1,000	1,000
Munster club league committee	1,000	3,000
	<u>438,358</u>	<u>687,831</u>



## COACHING AND GAMES DEVELOPMENT SUB-COMMITTEE

*Is mor an chuis athais dom an tuarascail seo ar bhliain an ghnothach a chur os bhur gcomhair.*

### Committee and Meetings

The members of the committee for the past year were as follows: Sean Breathnach (Cathaoirleach), Sean De Laoindre (Leas-Cathaoirleach), Seosamh Mac Artain (Rúnaí), Pádraig Ó Se (Bainisteoir na gCluichí), Michéal Mac Carthaigh (Ciarraí), Pádraig Mac Gráinne (Port Láirge), Nicolas Ó Maorionagh (Tiobraid Árann), Deasún Ó Cuilleain (Corcaigh), Micheal Ó Dochartaigh (An Clár), Gearoid Mac Philib (Luimneach) T.S. Mac Aogain (Gairmscoileanna), Pádraig Ó Mordha (Oideachas), An Br Dormer (Bunscoileanna), Michael Ó Fuireastal (Colaistí) agus Liam de Roiste (Liathroid Laimhe).

During the year the committee met on seven occasions and was responsible for overseeing the following busy schedule of activities.

### Under Age Tournaments

Responsibility for all underage inter county and inter divisional competitions rests with the Provincial Coaching and Games Development Committee. With the exception of the Under 16 Inter Divisional Hurling Championship all such tournaments are organised by different County Committees within the Province. While in general we would be happy with the organising of most of these we are proposing the following changes for 2009

- (1) Requests for permission to run all tournaments to be before the January meeting
- (2) The streamlining of football tournaments by holding Under 14, 15 and 16 Inter County Competitions on the same weekend (similar to hurling)
- (3) The running of the Inter Divisional Hurling Championship on a blitz basis in order to comply with National Guidelines.

The following are reports on the various competitions run in 2008

#### Iomaint Faoi 16

This year the Under 16 Divisional Championship was played in two divisions "A" and "B". North Tipperary won the "A" after a tremendous battle in extra time against East Waterford and North Kerry won the "B" defeating South Tipperary. This was a great boost for hurling in Kerry and would indicate that despite their current difficulties at adult level there is considerable hurling talent in the county.

For a number of reasons no blitz for second strings took place in 2008. This is disappointing as we encourage all counties to keep their panels open and as large as possible. Our proposals for a change in the overall format in 2009 should help address this situation.

A special word of thanks to Kevin Walsh and his panel of referees for their help and cooperation

and for making the running of the competitions so much easier. The following is a list of all the fixtures and results:

#### Peil Faoi 16

No report available

#### Peil Faoi 14

##### (Jim Power Under 14 Tournament)

Twelve teams took part in the 2008 Jim Power under 14 football inter-county tournament which took place at venues in the Dungarvan area in October 2008. In addition to a team from the host county, teams from Wexford, Tipperary and Limerick all had a team involved. Kerry had two teams involved as had Clare and Cork also had plans to enter two teams but when a second team from Tipperary could not be found Cork put together a third team to ensure that the tournament could continue to operate as planned with four groups of three.

The winner of the tournament in 2008 was Cork County's first team with Tipperary winning the plate final. For the first time in the tournament's history, both the Tournament and Plate finals were played at Fraher Field.

#### Iomaint Faoi 16 (Tipperary Supporters Club Tournament)

Twelve teams took part in this competition played at a number of venues over a single weekend. There were teams from Offaly, Antrim, Tipperary, Kilkenny, Limerick,

## COACHING AND GAMES DEVELOPMENT



Minor Hurling Champions, 2008: Cork

Waterford, Galway, Laois, Wexford, Cork, Clare and Dublin.

Waterford emerged victorious in the Shield Final with Wexford winning the Cup Final. Both finals were played in Semple Stadium.

### Poc Fada na Mumhan

This year's Poc Fada Competition was again held in Thurles Racecourse on Saturday July 12th. Munster Coaching and Games Development Committee took responsibility for organising the Senior and Under 16 Competitions. Each county ran their own internal competitions during the month of June leaving six representatives to compete for Provincial honours at each level.

The senior competition covered a full length of the course plus two furlongs while the Under 16 and Camogie Competitions covered three quarters of the course. Donie Nealon and Jimmy O'Gorman acted as official judges for all competitions. A special word of thanks to the following:

- Donie Nealon from the National Committee for his advice and assistance
- The 12 young players from the Durlas Og club who acted as markers for the Senior and Under 16 Competitions respectively.

- Our full time employees who travelled from the six counties i.e. Dinny Maher, Eoin Breathnach, Tom Nott, John Bergin, Noel Hartigan and Seán Chaplin.
- Brother Dormer and Nicholas Moloney who acted as chief adjudicator in both the Under 16 and Senior Competitions.
- Tipperary Coaching and Games Development Committee (in particular Dinny Maher and Nicholas Moroney) for providing additional scorekeepers on the day
- Pierce Moloney (owner of Thurles Racecourse) for the generous use of his facilities.
- Martin Donnelly our sponsor and his representative Christy Ryan.
- All of the County Coaching Officers for their cooperation in running their own county competitions on time.
- Morgan Conroy and the Munster Camogie Personnel for their efficient running of their own competition.

The results were as follows

#### Senior

- (1) Adrian Power (Port Láirge) 23 shots
- (2) Brendan McNamara (An Clár) 24 shots
- (3) Albert Shanahan (Luimneach) 26 shots
- (4) Kieran Murphy (Corcaigh) 26 shots

- (5) Donal O'Brien (Tiobraid Árann) 28 shots
- (6) Tadhg O'Halloran (Ciarraí) 28 shots

Adrian Power and Brendan McNamara both received trophies sponsored by Martin Donnelly and a Munster tracksuit each. Both represented Munster in the All Ireland Senior Competition in the Cooley Mountains on Saturday 2nd August. Adrian Power was presented with the 'Tommy Quaid Cup' by Jimmy O'Gorman at half time during the Munster Minor Hurling Final

#### Under 16

- (1) Eamonn Murphy (Port Láirge) 18 shots
- (2) Brian Delaney (Tiobraid Árann) 19 shots
- (3) John Greaney (Luimneach) 19 shots
- (4) Sean Dowling (Ciarraí) 21 shots
- (5) Darren McCarthy (Corcaigh) 22 shots
- (6) Brian O'Loughlin (An Clár) 22 shots

Eamonn Murphy received a tracksuit and trophy sponsored by Martin Donnelly. Congratulations to Eamonn who was successful and won the All Ireland Under 16 Competition.

#### Camogie

- (1) Patricia Jackman (Port Láirge)
- (2) Jackie O'Connell (Tipperary)
- (3) Denise Luby (Corcaigh)
- (4) Denise Lynch (An Clár)
- (5) Caroline Scanlon (Luimneach)

Munster Camogie Committee members organised and ran the Camogie Competition. Patricia Jackman and Jackie O'Connell both received trophies sponsored by Martin Donnelly. Patricia represented Munster in the All Ireland Camogie Competition also in the Cooley Mountains on Saturday August 2nd.



## COACHING AND GAMES DEVELOPMENT

### VHI G.A.A Cúl Camps

The third year of National Summer Camps resulted in an increase of approx 1,000 in our numbers and the provision of an even better service. A special word of thanks to our County Co-ordinators and the vast number of Club Co-ordinators who made the camps such a success.

In addition to the local visits the Officers of Munster Coaching and Games Development Committee visited a number of camps in each county and reported positively on their observations. While we increased our numbers again in 2008 I feel that we are closely reaching saturation point and would discourage setting targets that may be unattainable (particularly in the present economic climate). The success of the camps nationally resulted in a dividend of €92,156 accruing to the Province. This was distributed to the counties (only to be used on Coaching and Games Development Projects) by way of lump sum (€10,000) and a per capita payment for each course attendee.

The attendance and dividend breakdown was as follows:

CONTAE	ATTENDANCE	DIVIDEND
An Clár	3,875	€15,141
Ciarraí	3,587	€14,759
Corcaigh	7,502	€19,954
Luimneach	2,916	€13,869
Port Láirge	2,844	€13,773
Tiobraid Árann	3,512	€14,660
<b>Iomlán</b>	<b>24,236</b>	<b>€92,156</b>

### Pitch Sanding

The pitch sanding scheme which is administered by our committee is proving very worthwhile and not alone provides our clubs with better playing surfaces but also assists our Post Primary Development Officers in completing their very busy schedule of games. Each year two clubs are nominated from each county to take part in the scheme over a three year period. Therefore at any one time there are 36 clubs benefitting from the grants. However some clubs are only claiming in the first year and as a result all of the grant allocation is not being spent. In 2008 six clubs failed to avail of the scheme.

I would strongly suggest that we consider replacing any club that misses out on a year in order to make sure that we spend all of our allocation. In 2008 Comhairle na Mumhan raised the grant to €2,000 and this increase was much appreciated.

### Coach Education

The members of our Coach Education Workgroup for 2008

were as follows:

Pat Moore (Port Láirge),  
Joe Reddington (Luimneach),  
Tom Queally (An Clár),  
Brian Lotty (Corcaigh),  
Pat Moroney (Tiobraid Árann).

The past year was mainly devoted to designing the new Coaching Course Syllabus. Our workgroup contributed immensely to the development of the new courses and we would like to compliment John Landers on his efforts as Chairman of the National Committee responsible for delivering on this.

In 2008 we succeeded in

- Training Tutor Trainers: 7 of our old 'Master Tutor Group' have been trained as 'Tutor Trainers' by Coaching Ireland
- Training Tutors: 67 of our existing tutors in the province have recently been trained to deliver the new Foundation Award Course. We are currently identifying new tutors to be trained and hope also to train Award 1 Tutors in the Spring
- Mary Immaculate College Course: The Games Managers yet again delivered a five week course to the third year students in Mary Immaculate College.
- Provincial Primary Teachers Course: Forty two teachers attended our Annual Primary Teachers Course which was held in Mary Immaculate College this year in late August
- Full Time Position in Mary Immaculate College: As a result of representations made by our committee to the National Committee we succeeded in securing a full time Education Officer for Mary Immaculate College. We consider this position to be of utmost importance to the development

## COACHING AND GAMES DEVELOPMENT

of our games in the primary sector as Mary Immaculate College is one of the two largest teacher training colleges in the country. Therefore this position provides us with a vital link into our future teachers and hopefully we can utilise this to benefit the games in our Primary Sector.

### Coaching Conference

The Munster Coaching and Games Development Committee held a Provincial Coaching Conference in Cork Institute of Technology on April 5th 2008. In general the Conference was a tremendous success with 200 people attending. The feedback from the participants was extremely encouraging.

The following is a brief summary of our conclusions on the conference.

- The timing was late and the Conference clashed with a number of fixtures throughout the province. Ideally such Conferences should be held before St Patrick's weekend. However the success of the 2008 Conference was undoubtedly the number of practical sessions and the fact that the weather was suitable. This might not be the case in early March.
- There is a considerable demand for practical workshops. Coaches are always looking for new ideas. We feel that the mix between theory and practical was just about right.
- Sponsorship: With little effort we succeeded in acquiring 5 companies wishing to display their products at €500 each. As it turns out we will just about break even for 2008. There is no doubt that we should give serious consideration to the whole area

of sponsorship and charging companies to exhibit.

- We feel that 200 to 250 is the ideal number. While large numbers may create a good impression it is important that the various practical workshops are easily accessible to the participants and not overcrowded.
- The facilities in CIT contributed in no small way towards the success of the Conference. A special word of thanks to our full time GAA Development Officer, Keith Ricken for all his help and assistance.
- In order to avoid over saturation we would suggest that once every two years would suffice.

### Coaching Academies

The area of elite performance is crucial to the development of our game. Players with potential need to be identified and brought together for special training. After all these are our future inter county adult players. However there is a need to exercise control and ensure that we do not become over selective at too young an age. In Munster we encourage every Division to produce Schools of Excellence Squads (Under 14 and 15) in both hurling and football. At Development Squad Level (Under 16 and 17) each county is encouraged to produce at least two squads.

We also encourage adherence to the National Directive of eight training sessions and three games for each squad.

As one of our 'Hurling Initiatives' in the Province in 2008 a very successful one day seminar for Hurling Academy Coaches was held in St Patrick's College Thurles in April. Apart from delivering quality inputs

to the coaches it also afforded us the opportunity to outline policy and thinking on this vital area of activity. In total 68 coaches attended. We also invited our friends from North Antrim to send coaches and 20 travelled down for the weekend. A special word of thanks to Father Tom Fogarty for making his tremendous facilities in St Patrick's College available to us.

The Coaching and Games Development Committee are also entrusted with controlling all underage inter county and inter divisional competitions in the Province. It is our intention this coming year to:

- Only grant permission for tournaments applied for at the January meeting
- Ensure that all such competitions are run on a blitz basis in line with National Policy
- Attempt to run all football competitions over the same weekend (like the hurling) thus freeing up more time for club fixtures
- Look for a National Calendar of such competitions.

### Primary Go Game

We are now into the second year of our new format and are delighted to see Cork back in action. This year we also welcome a new sponsor in the 'Irish Daily Star Sunday' newspaper.

A special word of thanks to Tim O'Byrne, Brother Dormer, Joe Lyons and the committee of Munster Cumann na mBunscol for their help and assistance. Thanks also to Munster Council Rúnaí, Pádraig Mac Gearailt for all his help and in particular for providing the participants with the best of accommodation at all the matches.



## COACHING AND GAMES DEVELOPMENT



ESB Munster Minor Football Champions, 2008: Kerry

### Games

While considerable energy and resources have in recent years been devoted to Coaching, it is vital that we do not forget the whole area of games. The recently released National Strategic Plan places particular emphasis on games, fixtures and planning. We in Munster must ensure that these objectives are delivered and that all of our players in the Province receive proper and appropriate games programmes. In 2009 we hope to place even greater emphasis on this area of our activity.

### Games Development Projects

In 2008 we had a budget of €1,611,910 for Coaching and Games Development Projects. Comhairle na Mumhan provided €134,563 of this funding with Croke Park (€998,490) and the Counties (€478,857) covering the rest. This money was used to fund many areas from Schools of Excellence/Development Squads to special hurling and football projects both at Provincial and County level. The two Games Managers ensured that a proper system of applying for and drawing this funding was in place and that all monies were spent on areas fulfilling the key objectives of our National Plan.

While we are fully confident that all of the monies received by the counties were duly spent we must question the value for money and return on some of the projects. As a result this coming year we have succeeded in redirecting over €450,000 into extra personnel and improved salary conditions leaving the balance for projects.

In addition to these changes 20% of all funding coming into the Province in 2009 will be merit based and dependant on the delivery of targets on Key Performance Indicators in line with the National Strategic Plan. This we welcome and feel that we will have the manpower to deliver on these.

### Full Time Personnel

In 2008 we had 36 paid officials working for Coaching and Games Development in the province. This included 2 Provincial Games Development Administrators, 16 Games Promotion Officers, 6 Third Level Development Officers and 6 Part Time Post Primary Schools Development Officers. During the year we conducted a review of all of these positions and came to the following conclusions.

1. We have lost quite a number of our better workers to other

organisations and sports groups mainly due to the poor salaries being paid.

2. We do not have enough personnel strategically located throughout the Province to deliver all of our key objectives.
3. Some of these employees are under performing. This must be tackled as part of any initiative to improve salary scales.
4. A considerable amount of 'project money' is being spent on part time coaches
5. The redirection of this money into more full time personnel was the way forward and would ensure more transparency and delivery of National and Provincial Strategic Plans.

As a result of these conclusions and mainly thanks to the perseverance of Cathaoirleach Seán Breathnach, Munster Coaching and Games Development Committee have succeeded in persuading Croke Park to:

1. Have an outside consultancy firm 'Hay Group' undertake a detailed analysis of all positions and produce recommendations on salaries based on the true market value of these jobs.
2. Redirect €450,000 from projects into personnel in 2009
3. Create new senior 'County Coaching and Games

## COACHING AND GAMES DEVELOPMENT

Development Managers' in each of the six counties. We see these positions as crucial to the development of our games in their respective counties.

4. Replace 16 GPO's with 21 Games Development Administrators in almost every division in the province.

### Handball

Thanks to the efforts of Willie Roche, the handball representative on our committee, we have developed a very good working relationship with the Handball Committee. Once again this year we have provided funding for their special coaching programme for elite players which was delivered at various venues. There is no doubt

that Handball is benefiting from the close connection with Coaching and Games Development and this is being reflected in a general raising of standards as evidenced by the results in all of the various committees.

### Referees Committee

One of the briefs of Coaching and Games Development is the promotion of young referees. This has been actively encouraged throughout the past year with the Referees Committee nominating referees for all the major underage inter-county tournaments in the province.

All of the county committees have also organised 'Young Whistlers' courses within their respective

counties. These courses have proven to be very successful and beneficial. We are particular grateful to Kevin Walsh and his Provincial Referees Committee for all their help and assistance over the past year.

### Sean Fogarty

We were disappointed during the year to hear that our former Cathaoirleach Seán Fogarty had taken seriously ill. Seán was a great leader and servant of Coaching and Games in the Province and we are glad to hear that he is currently on the mend. We wish him a speedy recovery and hope to see him back in action in the not too distant future.

### Buíochas

Ba mhaith liom mo bhuiochas a ghabhail do ghach einne a thug cabhair dom l mbliana. Thanks to my fellow officers Seán Walsh, John Landers and Games Manager Pat O'Shea for all their efforts in 2008. To the 6 Coaching Officers for their commitment and tireless efforts. A special welcome to our new C.E.O, Pat Fitzgerald, and Deputy C.E.O., Daniel Nelligan. We look forward to working closely with them over the coming years.

### Seosamh Mac Artain Rúnaí



Club Senior Football Champions, 2008: Dromcollogher/Broadford



Intermediate Hurling Champions, 2008: Limerick



## COMHAIRLE IARBHUNSCOILEANNA NA MUMHAN

Following are the results of all competitions held in the Province in 2007/2008 under the remit of the Munster Post Primary Schools Council:

Comórtas	Buathóirí	Neasóirí
<b>IOMÁINT</b>		
Corn an Artaigh	D.L.S., Port Láirge	Durlas
Voc. Sch. S.H. "A"	St. Brogans	Borrisokane
Corn an Rianaigh	D.L.S. Port Láirge	Mainistir na Corann
Voc. Sch. S.H. "B"	Nenagh V.S.	Col. Treasa
Corn an Fhaoitigh	Col. Cholmáin	Coláiste Fhlannáin
Corn Phádraig	P.S. Blackwater	Ac. Phádraig, Mala
Corn an Chuinneánaigh	Dún Bleisce	PS Carraig Uí Leighin
Corn an Phiarsaigh	P.S. Blackwater	Rath Loirc
Voc. Sch. J.H. "A"	Roscrea C.S.	Hazelwood Col. Dromcoll.
Voc. Sch. J.H. "B"	Col. na Trocaire, Rathkeale	Millstreet C.S.
Corn Mhic Ruairí	Dún Garbháin	Cill Mhic Thomáisín
Corn Iognaid Rís	P.C. Pól Naofa, Port Láirge	Buiríos Uí Luíoch
Corn Solo	Cill dá Lua	Ac. Phádraig Mala
Voc. Sch. First Yr. "A" H.	S. Ruain Killenaule	Causeway Comp.
Voc. Sch. First Yr. "B" H.	Col. na Trocaire	Clonakilty CC
Inter-County	Craobh na Mumhan	Corcaigh

## COMHAIRLE IARBHUNSCOILEANNA NA MUMHAN



Club Senior Hurling Champions, 2008: De La Salle



Club Intermediate Football Champions, 2008: St. Michael's Foilmore

Comórtas	Buathóirí	Neasóirí
<b>IOMÁINT</b>		
Corn Uí Mhuirí	Col. Bhréanainn	Trá Lí
Voc. Sch. S.F. "A"	St. Brogans	Boherbue Comp.
Corn an Fhriunnaigh	Méanscoil na mBr. Trá Lí	Cluain Meala
Voc. Sch. S.F. "B"	Millstreet C.S.	Col. na Trocaire, Rathkeale
Corn Uí Mhoráin	Col. Bhréanainn	Coláiste Fhlannáin
Corn an Uachtaráin	Tiobraid Árann	Baile an Mhuilinn
Corn na gColáistí	Col. Cholmáin	Tiobraid Árann
Corn na Bannan	P.S. Chorca Dhuibhne	Cluain Meala
Voc. Sch. J.F. "A"	Boherbue Comp.	Coachford Col.
Voc. Sch. J.F. "B"	Beara C.S.	Col. Mhuire, Askeaton
Corn an Rúnaí	P.S. Inbhear Scéine	Rinn na Spáinneach
Corn na Carraige	Maighchromtha	Ospuidéal
Corn Mhic Chraith	Ospuidéal	Maighchromtha
Voc. Sch. First Yr. "A" F.	Clonakilty CC	Causeway Comp
Voc. Sch. First Yr. "B" F.	Abbeyfeale V.S.	Col. Dun Iascaigh
Inter-County	Craobh na Mumhan	Corcaigh



## MUNSTER THIRD LEVEL COLLEGES REPORT

# COLÁISTÍ TRIÚ LEIBHÉIL NA MUMHAN

## Munster Third Level Colleges Report

*As can be seen from the information provided below the 2007/2008 Academic Year proved yet again to be very busy and fruitful year for the 3rd level Colleges of Munster. The 10 third level institutions between them fielded a total of 93 teams and played over 658 games. Although there have been a few issues which will have to be address in relation to our competitions and their presentation, 2007/2008 can certainly put down as a very successful year for the Munster colleges.*

The major highlights have to be Fitzgibbon and Trench Cup Finals. Waterford IT denied LIT to win the Fitzgibbon Cup after one of the most exciting and hard fought finals for many years while the Trench Cup was captured by MICL in a close encounter with TCD In total 17 trophies came to Munster and well done to all concerned.

Corcaigh IT had the honour of hosting the Fitzgibbon Cups finals and a great weekend has had by all. Many thanks to CIT and their committees for undertaking this event.

The new scheme implemented by Comhairle na Mumhann for the awarding of bursaries to students involved both here in Munster recognising talented players and administrators has been very successful with many young players benefiting as a reward for their work with their college clubs. Although there has been a few initial teething problems regarding the administrative side of things last year, this year should see a smooth transformation.

At National level there is an acknowledgement that things will have be run more professionally, especially in the way our non-elite games are presented. The feedback from many of the Munster Colleges was that many of the fresher, junior and intermediate competitions

were badly organised and this has to be address. A change over of the administrate process and the loss of Cora Weldon (new job) and Donal Mac An Ailín Runaí (resigned for personal reasons) would certainly have added to the "confusion". Vicky Ivers has now established herself as a capable administrator and along with the feedback from our review day, 2008/9 will hopefully see a marked improvement to how our games are run.

There have been many discussions throughout the year about "Player burnout" and it was agreed to implement suggestions from the clubs at the Comhairle Ardoideachais review day. There are however, other issues which are been circulated at the moment which I feel should be given serious thought and discussion not only just here this evening but nationally as well. Many of the motions that are been label for congress will most certainly have serious consequences for the development of Gaelic Games in the third level sector.

### Buíochas

I would like to thank all who helped in the promotion and development of our games here in Munster. In particular I would like to thank the various Sports administrators and authorities of the 10 higher education centres of Munster

for their continued support and commitment to GAA. We too, are extremely grateful to Comhairle na Mumhann CLG for all their assistance both financially and otherwise. We wish Pat Fitzgerald every success in his new role and look forward to working with him during the year and to once again thank Simon Moroney for all his work and wish him every success into the future. Also thanks must go to the various County Boards, their coaching officers and the games promotions officers for their cooperation and support.

Special mention to our GPO's without whose help and support none of this progress would be possible. Their dedication to the cause has to be seen to be believed. We wish former WIT GPO Geraldine Kinane the very best of luck with her new job and wish her replacement John O'Shea a very warm welcome on board. Thanks to must go to my fellow officers for the many hours they give on a voluntary basis and for the efficiency in which they go about their work.

Finally to all the club officers, administrators, fundraisers, sponsors, supporters and most importantly our players Coláistí Triú Leibhéil na Mumhan CLG would to thank you most sincerely for all your efforts.

**Keith Ricken**  
Rúnaí

### Honours Won by Munster Colleges 2007/2008

Hurling	
LEAGUE	COLLEGE
Fitzgibbon Hurling	WIT
Senior Hurling League	LIT
Division 2 Hurling League	Tipp Inst
Intermediate Hurling Championship	UCC
Intermediate Hurling League	LIT
Junior Hurling League	UL
Fresher 1 Hurling Championship	CIT
Fresher 1 Hurling League	LIT
Fresher 2 Hurling Championship	UL
Fresher 2 Hurling League	UL
Munster Intermediate	LIT

Football	
LEAGUE	COLLEGE
Trench Cup	MICL
Fresher 2 Football League	ITT

Camogie	
LEAGUE	COLLEGE
Division 1 League	WIT
Ashbourne Shield	UL
Fresher Camogie	UCC

Ladies Football	
LEAGUE	COLLEGE
Lynch Cup	UCC
Fresher	WIT

### 2007/2008 Academic Year - Summary of Activities - Total Colleges: 10

UCC	CIT	UL	LIT	MICL
WIT	ITT	CCFE	TIPP INST	GARDA

(Number of Reports Submitted: 8 - none from CCFE and Garda College)

### Games Report (Number of Teams)

	HURLING	FOOTBALL	CAMOGIE	LADIES FOOTBALL	HANDBALL
UCC	6	UCC 5	UCC 2	UCC 1	UCC 1
CIT	5	CIT 5	CIT 1	CIT 3	CIT 0
UL	5	UL 4	UL 3	UL 3	UL 1
LIT	5	LIT 2	LIT 1	LIT 1	LIT 1
MICL	2	MICL 2	MICL 1	MICL 2	MICL 0
WIT	5	WIT 3	WIT 3	WIT 3	WIT 0
ITT	2	ITT 3	ITT 1	ITT 1	ITT 1
CCFE	1	CCFE 1	CCFE 0	CCFE 0	CCFE 0
Tipp Inst	1	Tipp Inst 1	Tipp Inst 0	Tipp Inst 1	Tipp Inst 0
GARDA	1	GARDA 1	GARDA 1	GARDA 1	GARDA
Total	33	Total 27	Total 13	Total 16	Total 4



COLÁISTÍ TRIÚ LEIBHÉIL NA MUMHAN

Games Report (Number of Games Played)				
	HURLING	FOOTBALL	CAMOGIE	LADIES FOOTBALL
UCC	55 (24,31)	50 (17, 33)	20 (7, 3)	13 (7, 6)
CIT	45 (30, 15)	40 (25, 15)	15 (5, 10)	19 (13, 6)
UL	46 (35, 11)	26 (22, 4)	13 (10, 3)	11 (7, 4)
LIT	41 (32, 9)	17 (11, 6)	7 (4, 3)	13 (9, 4)
MICL	17 (13, 4)	11 (11, 0)	7 (6, 1)	7 (7, 0)
WIT	39 (23, 16)	28 (17, 11)	16 (13, 3)	15 (11, 4)
ITT	18 (14, 4)	26 (17, 9)	8 (6, 2)	16 (13, 3)
CCFE				0
Tipp Inst	11 (9, 2)	4 (4, 0)	1 (1,0)	13 (3, 0)
GARDA				
Official	180	124	52	70
Practice	92	78	35	27
Total	272	202	87	97

**Final Total: 658**

Bursaries & Scholarships					
NUMBER OF BURSARIES		COLLEGE/OTHER SPENDING		MUNSTER COUNCIL SPENDING	
UCC	48 (33, 15)	UCC	€ 39,000	UCC	€ 15,000
CIT	37 (27,10)	CIT	€ 21,000	CIT	€ 10,000
UL	26 (10, 16)	UL	€ 10,000	UL	€ 16,000
LIT	11 (4, 7)	LIT	€ 1,400	LIT	€ 7,000
MICL	13 (7, 6)	MICL	€ 3,500	MICL	€ 6,000
WIT	28 (19, 9)	WIT	€ 15,500	WIT	€ 9,000
ITT	17 (10, 7)	ITT	€ 10,000	ITT	€ 7,000
CCFE		CCFE		CCFE	
Tipp Inst	2 (0, 2)	Tipp Inst	€ 0	Tipp Inst	€ 2,000
GARDA		GARDA		GARDA	
College or Other	110	Total	€ 100,400	Total	€ 72,000
Munster Council	72				
Total	182				

**Final Total: €172,400**

## COMHAIRLE LIATHROID LAIMHE NA MUMHAN REPORT 2008

### Munster Handball Report 2008

#### A Chairde

In this my seventeenth and final report to Munster Convention, I reflect on what has been another good year for Munster Handball. Thankfully our players were involved in major successes both on the National and International front. A number of Munster Counties figured in the All-Ireland juvenile championship roll of honour and a number of Munster Colleges were also successful in the All-Ireland 40/20 and 60/30 college championship. Clare also enjoyed significant success in under age team championship winning four of the six titles on offer which further underlines the work being put in.

#### Provincial Championship Adult and Juvenile 40/20 and 60/30

With all six counties competing in most grades of 40/20 and 60/30 in the provincial championship it makes for a large championship programme. We have a very healthy championship well contested games and a high level of sportsmanship. Our juvenile championship is also competitive, all counties compete in all age groups in boys from 12 to 17 and there is now also girls from all counties competing in the girls championship. Our juvenile team championship also attracts a good entry as does the Inter Club in both courts with a noticeable increase in the number of clubs competing in recent years.

#### All-Ireland Championship

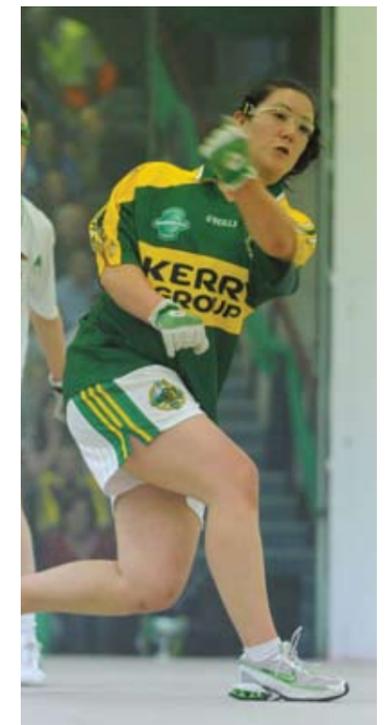
All-Ireland success in both 40/20 and 60/30 was very pleasing, in particular the number of titles won in 60/30. Tipperary and Limerick enjoyed the bulk of the Munster success in 60/30, Kerry player Ashley Prendiville retained the Ladies 60/30 Senior Singles title, Ger Coonan, Tipperary won Intermediate 60/30 singles and partnered Martin Mc Inerney to also win the doubles. The Limerick pair Seamus O' Carroll and CJ Fitzpatrick enjoyed another very successful year Seamus winning Minor 60/30 singles and CJ partnered him to win the doubles, the pair winning both 60/30 Minor titles for the second year in a row. They further underlined their ability and versatility by winning Minor 40/20 doubles and by again winning Hardball Singles and Doubles. Cork enjoyed success in 40/20 Intermediate Doubles with Colm Jordan and Patrick Buckley. Tipperary and Limerick also fared well in 60/30 Masters grades both winning a number of titles.

#### Success for Munster Players in USA/Canada

A number of players from our province competed in the US and Canada with success in the past year. Catriona Casey, Kerry representing NUIG won Womens Open Doubles at USHA Collegiates and Karen Lawlor, Kerry representing UL took Womens A singles. Brendan Fleming, Cork won Mens A singles title at the USHA

national championship. Shane Hedigan, Cork made it a double winnings Boys 17 and singles title. Tony Healy won the Canadian Open in July and went on to ever greater success in November winning Mens Open Singles at the US Open of handball in Los Angeles.

To finish off the year on a successful note three of our juveniles, Diarmuid Nash, Clare, Killian Carroll and Catriona Casey, Cork won their place on their Irish team to compete in the USHA Junior championship and all three won USHA junior titles.



Ashley Prendiville, Kerry at the All-Ireland Handball Finals.



## COMHAIRLE LIATHROID LAIMHE NA MUMHAN 2008

### Provincial/All-Ireland Inter Club 40/20 & 60/30

No joy this year for Munster clubs in the inter club championship. Two of our provincial winning clubs reached their respective All-Ireland finals both had to settle for runners-up spot. Ballina, Tipperary losing 60/30 Junior B final to Coolgreany, Wexford. In 40/20 Ballydesmond losing Junior final to St. Pats, Cavan.

### Feile na nGael

Feile handball was played at Laois/Offaly venues and prove very successful with a large entry. Two Munster clubs were successful, Mallow taking Boys Div.1. 40/20 title and Cashel winning Boys Div.3. 40/20 title.

### Juvenile Tournaments/ Inter County Team Competitions

To provide games for juvenile players is very important. To that end the council with the help of Liscarroll club had two very successful U/13 and U/15 tournaments which attracted an entry of over 100 players. Our juvenile committee organised a 60/30 inter club championship team of six at U/13 and U/15 which was well supported, they also organised an Inter County Team of 8 competition at A & B level for boys and girls in U/11 and U/13 age brackets still attending Primary School, each team made up of four U/11 and four U/13 players. The team competitions which were played in Ballyporeen and Cashel proved very successful.

### Munster GAA Awards

We were again honoured to be part of the Munster Council GAA Sports Star Award function. This year the honour again fell to a young player CJ Fitzpatrick from Limerick club, Broadford who was honoured in recognition of the success achieved in Minor and College Handball.

### Coaching and Development

Juvenile handball continues to improve as is evidenced by our level of success. Much of the credit for this must go to the Juvenile Committee who under the guidance of Chairman Willie Roche and Secretary Brendan Falvey have put a lot of work into handball. The Coaching initiatives undertaken in conjunction with and partly funded by Munster GAA Council Coaching & Games Committee is paying dividends. The training of additional tutors under the GAA Council tutor training programme has been of huge benefit to handball. It now means that Tony Healy has the back up of these tutors to organise a number of squad development sessions for players from U/14 to Minor at a number of venues throughout the province over the past few years which is paying rich dividends. A programme is already in place to continue with a number of coaching aids and developments in 2009. Our sincere thanks to both the Munster Council and the Coaching & Games Committee for their support with these initiatives.

### Limerick Regeneration Plans

The regeneration programme in areas of Limerick City which also includes the provision of handball facilities and coaching back up will hopefully prove to be the springboard for a significant revival of the game in an area where it was once very strong. With both government agencies and sporting organisations working together lets hope handball will play its part and regain a foothold where it once was the leading game.

### Conclusion/Thanks

A special thank you to the officers and members of Comhairle na Mumhan for your very generous support for handball. Our Annual grant plays a vital part in the promotion of the game. The provision of the medals for our adult championship and the financial support received for Coaching/Development initiatives are all greatly appreciated. The grant aid which is available to our clubs for building new courts and upgrading existing courts is vital to help to build new facilities and keep existing courts up to the standard required. I thank my fellow officers on Munster Council and all county handball and club officers for their work in promoting the game. To the Officers and members of Comhairle na Mumhan, Cumann Luthchleas Gael thanks again, wishing you a successful year in 2009.

### Peadar Ó Duinneacha

Runaí,  
Coiste Liathróid Láimhe na Mumhan

## TUAIRISC COISTE NA RÉITEOIRÍ 2008 Referees Committee Report 2008

*The referees Administration Committee during 2008 has had a very busy workload than any other year to date. The committee is made up of representatives from each of the 6 counties in the province as follows.*

The referees Administration Committee during 2008 has had a very busy workload than any other year to date. The committee is made up of representatives from each of the 6 counties in the province as follows.

Hon Chairman Jim Joe Landers (Waterford),  
Hon Secretary Kevin Walsh (Clare),  
John Motherway (Cork),  
Bart Moriarty (Kerry),  
Tom Bennis (Limerick) and  
Eddie Cunningham (Waterford)

During 2008 we unexpectedly lost the services of another member of our committee our good friend and colleague William Robinson who passed to his eternal reward R.I.P. His contribution to the Referees Committee at Munster and National level over 11 years was huge and he will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

The referees committee met 11 times during 2008 and among items discussed were recruitment, recommendations, umpire training, refereeing standards, fitness levels, assessment, assessors training, rule application and interpretation and matters associated with refereeing etc;

The workload I refer to was brought about by the introduction of the In-Service Referees Certificate course. This course caters for all referees who are established and experienced in their own counties but in some cases never undertook a referee's course, and by completing this

course which consisted of 2 sessions of two and a half hours duration. This course had to be delivered to all referees in Munster and this was a huge job of work when taking into account the 29 divisions in the province. I am delighted to say that all counties bought into this venture and it proved to be a tremendous success. The course was delivered by the 4 provincial tutors we have in Munster. This was part of the training and developing of referees and keeping them updated on the rules. Foundation courses were also delivered in each of our 6 counties at club level and also in 3rd level Colleges and I refer to the Garda Training College in Templemore where there were 30 participants in 2 courses and Mary Immaculate Training College Limerick one course with 12 participants. All participants successfully completed the courses and attained certification as per the criteria laid down and qualified as club referees. The courses delivered in the 3rd level Colleges proved to be a most worthwhile exercise as they provided some new referees not alone to Munster but to other provinces also as their placements were countrywide and it also helped to heighten the need for continuous recruitment of referees. All the above courses were delivered over the period of February to April.

The **recommendation** of referees for games under the auspices of the council continued and it is worth remembering here that all such

recommendations are **just that** and only become official appointments if ratified by the Council. This method of appointment plays a very important part in the progression and development of our referees. It also clearly demonstrates to referees and all involved in refereeing that there is a career path for the progression and development of referees which works.

I have to report this year our committee expressed a concern at the number of referees coming onto the Munster panels and this is particularly worrying where some counties are concerned as their representation on the Munster panels have somewhat weakened over the past 2 years. The strength of the panels waned a bit during 2008 due to the retirement of some of our very experienced referees. This may be an indication also that recruitment in some counties is not happening or the progression path I referred to earlier is not happening quick enough at club level. With this in mind it is most important that each county has a competent representative on both the Hurling & Football panel's, up to this year it has been very clear that the ground work was not being done in some areas at foundation level.

I am happy to say that the corner seems to have been turned with the new initiative introduced by the National Tutors Group and implemented at provincial level by



## TUAIRISC COISTE NA RÉITEOIRÍ 2008

our Chairman Jimmy O’Gorman and Pat Fitzgerald Sec, where the inclusion of all new referees on a provincial panel will now have to meet certain criteria which will allow them to be able to progress and officiate at the high standard we have in Munster and this will also form part of getting uniform application right across the whole spectrum of refereeing in the country.

For inclusion on Munster panels going forward potential referees who fit the bill will be interviewed by an interview panel before acceptance. To date this had been completed in Munster during November 2008 and from 12 recommendations submitted 10 were interviewed and have successfully completed the Provincial Referees course and are now ready for appointment to Minor Championship games 2009.

Our loyal group of referees who are very committed to the job of refereeing and doing it to the best of their ability on every occasion continue to work towards uniform interpretation and application of the rules. One very important cog in this process is being fit enough to be in the best position at all times to apply the rules, this is achieved by regular collective training sessions and a large number of the Munster panel of referees meet regularly to train during the winter months at various venues across the province culminating in the Muster fitness test which was held at University of Limerick Sports track in March.

The development of our young referees continued, and again this year we were in a position to recommend for appointment referees who were capable of taking charge of their first Munster Final in our Minor Hurling & Football Championships.

To enable this development to continue it is of huge importance that recruitment of referees continues especially at club level. In this area it continues to be a problem and it is becoming increasingly more difficult to encourage and convince people to take up refereeing. We have 4 core tutors in Munster, Muiris O’Sullivan, John Motherway, Pat Moore and Kevin Walsh who are responsible for the organising and delivering of all foundation and in-service courses in Munster.

The Munster Referees Recruitment workgroup under the chairmanship of Sean Fogarty and committee members Muiris O’Sullivan, Ger Harrington, Donie Nealon, Kevin Walsh had a number of meetings planned during 2008 in relation to the recruitment and development of referees but due to an illness suffered by Sean further meetings had to be deferred but the recruitment drive which had commenced was continued as per Sean’s request. Sean has made a great recovery and I am delighted to say that we hope to see him back in the fray very soon.

Also as one of his many tasks Sean put a focus on refereeing and the numbers of referees being recruited by clubs in the province and this is ongoing.

In 2008 there was a marked improvement in this area by most of the counties with a number of 150 new foundation referees being recruited in the province and 472 referees taking the in-service course referred to earlier in this report.

Some of the clubs in the province are still not playing their part in the recruitment process and are not delivering foundation courses.

From this perspective it is paramount that the supply chain, club, county, province is maintained in a healthy state. The development of referees at club and county level is directly the responsibility of the Co. Administrator in association with their Co. Board Executive. There is a great and urgent need for them to work more closely together for the betterment of refereeing and the standard of our games.

The standard and pace of our games are such now that there is an even higher demand on our referees and their ability to deliver top class performances on all occasions. We are fortunate in Munster that we have a panel of top class referees well capable of reaching these standards. This has been helped by the development and progress path which exists in the province fully supported by the Council.

### Appointments

The Council again this year continued to place their trust in the referees committee with the task of **recommending** referees to the Council’s Championship fixtures for **ratification** by the council to all games except Senior Championship. 2008 was a very successful one from a refereeing perspective as all our referees including those new to this level acquitted themselves well and in general performed to the high standard expected. In all a total of 48 referees were recommended for appointment to officiate in games which incorporated all championships, leagues and tournaments.

Our committee appointed referees for the following competitions, Jim Power U14 Inter-county Football Tournament, Munster U16 Hurling

## REFEREES COMMITTEE REPORT 2008

& Football Championships, The Tipperary Supporters Club U16 Hurling All Ireland Intercountry competition. Again this year these competitions proved very successful and allowed us to introduce young referees to officiate at these games. This was another great opportunity to progress some of our new referees and it was of great benefit to us in the development of these referees. The U16 Hurling All Ireland Intercountry finals culminated with the Finals being played in Semple Stadium Thurles with 2 newcomers taking charge of them and doing a great job.

During the Minor Hurling & Football Championships and U21 Hurling & Football Championships a number of referee’s new to championship fare were appointed.

The referees appointed to championships and leagues during 2008 included 7 referees officiating at a higher level than last year. This resulted in the appointment again this year of 2 referees to take charge of their 1st Provincial Final in Minor Hurling & Minor Football.

### Assessment & Monitoring

This is an aid to refereeing which has proved to be invaluable in the coaching and development of our young referees who have come onto the Munster panel each year and indeed it is a very useful resource in the area of consistency and application for our established referees also. Assessment has taken on a huge meaningful purpose in these times as it gives very important feedback to our referees as they go about their task in all games. This also happens at club level, although not in all counties in the province. A new Assessment form was introduced this year with even

more clarity and more transparency and a broader band of feedback on different aspects of rules and their application. I would definitely say that this has contributed hugely to the improvement of our referee’s performances and this has been another good year for referees in Munster.

In each county where new foundation referees are trained suitable appointments and assessment is included as an integral part of their continued development. Improvement of referee’s performance will not happen if a mechanism like this one was not in place to inform the referee of his inconsistency and weaknesses and at the same time his strong points. Assessment does this and every county in the province should strive to be active in this regard. The referees welcome this and look forward to receiving an assessment of their performance in a game. We have an obligation to make sure this happens at all times going forward.

I wish to thank all our assessors who are playing a very important role in the development of refereeing by their accurate, positive and helpful feedback to our referees.

Just like referees Assessors need to be assessed and monitored also so that quality of feedback to the referee’s is accurate and positive. Assessors are trained and this happens at 2 yearly intervals as a norm unless there are changes to the rules affecting their feedback to the referee’s and to the appointments committee.

In relation to assessing it would not be possible for our referees to be developed without the help of our Assessors in Munster. Their contribution has been very fair and honest and the standard of refereeing has a very definite upward trend because of this. I sincerely wish to thank all our assessors for their commitment and help during the 2008.

Just as the club is the supply chain for players it is also the conveyor belt for referees. Every club should have at least 2 referees and an importance should be put on refereeing by all clubs and not just on the day they are going to play championship. Clubs can benefit from having a referee in their club as he can play a part in the education of players on the rules at all levels and thereby possibly lessen the amount of difficulty that referees



All-Ireland Junior Camogie Champions, 2008: Joint Clare captains Deidre Murphy and Sharon McMahon.



## TUAIRISC COISTE NA RÉITEOIRÍ 2008

and players encounter when they come face to face. There is huge room for improvement here without inconvenience to anyone.

The development of referees is ongoing and it is most important. A huge amount of work has been done especially at foundation level where courses have been delivered all over the province by the 4 tutors. Seminars for umpires and Assessors were also presented by them during the year.

### Go-Games

This year the Primary game was replaced by the Go Games and this proved to be of immense benefit to the development of our very young referees. It gives potential Provincial referees of the future the opportunity to experience and savour the atmosphere of the big occasion without the pressure and thereby whet their appetite to become a referee at the highest level.

It continues to be very disappointing that we are not afforded the

opportunity to recommend some of our exceptional new referees to some very good underage inter-county tournaments run on an annual basis. In some of these it is mostly senior experienced intercounty referees who officiate at these games. We consider these games as an ideal opportunity and indeed the next progression step for a new Provincial referee to take, prior to his involvement at Minor Championship level.

I particularly refer of course to the Tony Forrestal Tournament which is ideally suited for this and has high profile games and would be considered a great asset in the learning curve in the development of our very capable and competent young Munster referees.

The Coiste na Réiteoirí is very appreciative of the support that the Council has again shown to us during 2008. It has been a real pleasure working with them and I look forward to 2009.

I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate and thank all our

referees who were appointed at Provincial and National level and those who had charge of Provincial and All-Ireland Finals very well done.

To those who acted as 4th Officials and linesmen at our games during the year your help and co-operation was much appreciated. I also wish to extend thanks and appreciation to John Motherway, Pat Moore and Muiris O'Sullivan our National Tutors who continue to do tremendous work with recruitment, coaching and development of our Munster Referees.

To the Referees Committee Chairman Jim Joe Landers and the other Co-Administrators for their help, co-operation and commitment during the year I say well done and thank you sincerely.

Wishing everyone the best of luck for 2009 and hope all our referees have a very successful and trouble free refereeing year ahead.

**Caoimhin Breathnach**  
*Rúnaí, Coiste na Réiteoirí*



Club Junior Football Champions, 2008: Skellig Rangers

## FO-CHOISTE CAIDREAMH POIBLÍ & MARGAÍOCHTA TUARASCÁIL BHLIANTÚIL 2008

### PR & Marketing Report 2008

**Cathaoirleach:** Seamus MacFirbhisig,  
*Oifigeach Cadireamh Poiblí*

**Rúnaí:** Roibeard Ó Riain (Corcaigh)

**Baill:**  
Eibhlín Ní Chrosáin (Luimneach),  
Máirin Ní Shé (Ciarraí),  
Eamonn Ó Donnaille (Tiobraid Árann),  
Seosamh Ó Cléirigh (Port Láirge),  
Sailbheastar Ó Conchúir (An Clár),  
An tAthair Séamus Ó Gairnéir,  
Liam Ó Conchúir

**Fo Choiste IT:**  
Eamonn Ó Donnaille (Tiobraid Árann),  
Aodán ó Riain (Luimneach),  
Máirin Ní Shé (Ciarraí),

**Meetings:** Four meetings were held in the past year – all in Aras Mumhan

### 2008 Activities

- **The Committee played an active role on Games Presentation** – the content and quality of Match Programmes, PA Systems and Announcers, Music & Entertainment, Facilities for Patrons and Media.
- **Post Match Interviews** – A Media room was available after Senior Championship games in Pairc Uí Chaoimh, Semple Stadium and Pairc na nGael where journalists had access to players and Team Managers for interviews. The response to this initiative was very positive and

the Players and Team Mentors are to be thanked for their co-operation.

- **Photographs**  
It is planned to erect framed photographs of all Chairmen of Comhairle na Mumhan in Aras Mumhan. It is hoped to have photographs in place by April.
- **Promotion and Marketing of Games**  
A promotion for our Senior Championship Games was undertaken with the Irish Examiner, Evening Echo and Regional Newspapers as well as with all Radio Stations in the Province. Complimentary Tickets were given out and this type of promotion proved very worthwhile. It is planned to continue this type of promotion during 2009.

### 125th Anniversary Celebrations

The PR & Marketing sub committee are planning a calendar of events which will take place during 2009 to celebrate the establishment of the Association. Some key events to be held include

- Honouring the captains of Munster Senior Hurling Championship winning teams of the past 25 years at the Munster Senior Hurling Final

- Honouring the captains of the Munster Senior Football Championship winning teams of the past 25 years at the Munster Senior Football Final
- The selection of Munster Teams, in both Hurling and Football, of the past 25 years.
- A Day of celebration at the Michael Cusack Centre in Co. Clare.

Other events will be announced in the coming weeks.

### IT Group

The revamping of the Munster GAA Website is ongoing and what they are looking to do is

- Update the graphics to demonstrate a modern corporate image
- Communicate more effectively and regularly with our fans and members
- Provide an easy navigable, vibrant, interesting and full information service
- Generate revenue
- Use an easy to use software solution that will enable a lay person to update the site while minimizing IT support costs.

4 Design companies have been asked to make a presentation to the Group and Council members will be kept updated on the progress.



## FO-CHOISTE CAIDREAMH POIBLÍ & MARGAÍOCHTA

### Plans for 2009

- Aggressive Promotion and Marketing of all our games. It is planned to have a launch of our Under 21 Football Championship in early March and a very high profile launch of our Senior Championships in early May.
- To continue to use the Artane School of Music/Garda Band/Band of the 1st. Southern Brigade for our Provincial Senior Finals. They add to the glamour of the occasion.
- Revamp our Match Programmes with consideration to be given to using a B5 format for all Programmes.

- Improve the quality of music that is played in our Stadiums on Match days.
- The continuation and improvement of the Media Room for Post Match Interviews in all our Stadiums.
- GAA Strategic Plan implementation – to establish a Training plan for PRO's: develop a training programme for effective communication for GAA Officers and produce a Provincial 2010 communications calendar.

### Congratulations

To the Semples Stadium Committee for the excellent Press facilities now

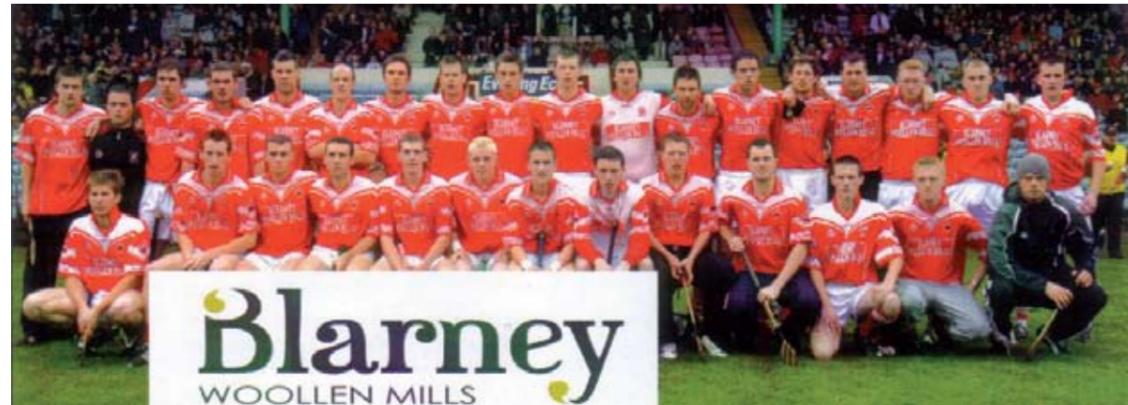
in place in Ardán O Riain

### Thanks To

- My fellow Officers for their help and support
- To all County PRO's and Colette O'Grady, Luimneach, Ger Corbett, Tiobraid Árann and Brendan Larkin, Corcaigh for the production of Match Programmes
- To all sections of the Media for their help and support

### Seamus MacFirbhisig

*Oifigeach Chaidreamh Poiblí*



*Club Intermediate Hurling Champions, 2008: Blarney*



*Club Junior Hurling Champions, 2008: Dripsey*

## FO-CHOISTE FORBATHA AGUS COMHAIRLE CUNTAS AN CHOISTE 2008

### Club Development Committee Report 2008

#### Ball:

##### Cathaoirleach:

Tadhg Ó Riain (Luimneach)

##### Rúnaí:

Sean a Chnoic ( An Clár)  
Gearoid Ó Gealbain (Ciarraí)  
Gearoid Ó hIci (An Clár)  
Seamus Ó Murchu (Corcaigh)  
Eibhear Ó Deaghaidh (Luimneach)  
Brendain Ó T (Port Láirge)  
Sean Ó Nuinseain (Tiobraid Árann)  
Sean Ó Riain (Tiobraid Árann)

The Physical Development Work Group which is part of this Sub-Committee is chaired by Sean Ó Riain (Tiobraid Árann).

#### Activities:

- To provide support for Co. Development Officers and in 2008 many of the Development officers were new as a consequence of implementing the new 5 Year rule.
- To contribute to the development, delivery and coordination of the Comhairle Programme for all Clubs and Club Officers within the Province.
- To provide a two-way link with the National Organisation and Planning Committee in terms of developments at County Provincial and National level.
- To Liaise with Games Managers at Provincial level to seek to identify Club needs with a view to assisting them in providing remedies.

- To liaise with all Provincial Committees and sub-committees to ensure that the work of development officers at County level is supported, eg IT, Membership, Health & Safety etc.

#### Comhairle:

As was the case in previous years the Development and delivery of the range of Comhairle Programmes was seen as the most important focus of this committee.

The newly developed Club Officer Programme, for Club Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and P.R.O. was rolled out to Clubs in all six Counties of Munster in the spring of 2008. We would like to acknowledge the huge logistical achievement it was to have four rooms with Laptops and Projectors in each venue and to thank the Officers of the Counties for the support they gave to the Programme.

The following indicates the response in each County.

**Ciarraí:** Good turnout with very positive Club feedback

**Port Láirge:** Club response was poor, standard of participation was very high

**Corcaigh:** Mallow was good, Cork City was considered satisfactory

**An Clár:** Just over 50% of Clubs attended active female participation.

**Tiobraid Árann:** Approx 100 Officers attended i.e. about 35% of Clubs, poor attendance as it was the second County event that week.

**Luimneach:** Close to 100% attendance with all Clubs represented.

#### Recommendation:

That this Programme should be delivered annually to cater for new and existing Officers, by Comhairle Facilitators, with a specific time – slot for County Officers to discuss issues specific to their own County eg deadlines, ticket arrangements etc.

#### L.I.T.

In the first half of 2008 in co-operation with Limerick Institute of Technology the Coaching and Comhairle units of the Munster Council delivered a Certificate course to 16 adult students on Coaching and Administration of GAA club activity. This was an excellent course designed to enhance and support overall standards and “to grow” future leaders in the GAA and indeed many of the skills are transferable to any community organisation.

This was the second year of a “Pilot” and the learning from the experience is currently being examined with a view to offering a more Comprehensive course in the Autumn with approx six nights before and after Christmas.



## FO-CHOISTE FORBATHA AGUS COMHAIRLE CUNTAS

This Course is a very practical example of bringing the Coaching and Administration pillars together to give a more cohesive picture of Club management.

### Buíochas:

Ba Mhaith liom mo bhuiochas a

gabhail le gach baill den Choiste, go H-airithe an Cathaoirleach Tadhg Ó Riain.

Thank you to the members of the Physical Development Work Group for their work during 2008.

A special thanks to Caitlin Ó Conaill, Nuala Ó Nialain, Seamus Ó Gormain,

don Rúnaí nua Padraig Mac Gearailt agus don leas-Rúnaí Dónal Ó Niallagáin for their support and co-operation throughout 2008.

### Sean a Chnoic

Rúnaí

## PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

### Chairman:

**John Ryan** (Tipperary)

### Secretary:

**Liam Mullane** (Limerick)

**Michael Dolan** (Cork)

**John Fawl** (Clare)

**John O'Leary** (Waterford)

**Michael Carroll** (Tipperary)

**Ger Galvin** (Kerry)

This committee continued its work in providing information on best practice in pitch construction and maintenance. This compilation of names and phone numbers of contractors with the machinery and equipment necessary to carry

out this work efficiently is of great importance to clubs so that this work is carried out in the best possible way.

Sand analysis continued as in previous years. Samples were tested from pits in Kerry, Tipperary and Clare in 2008.

As is part of our terms of reference the committee have embarked on a booklet dealing in detail with everything above. They have enlisted the valuable assistance of Mr. Jim Kiely soil scientist and pitch consultant to head up this venture. It is hoped to complete this book in 2009.

### Signage to GAA Grounds

This work is now in its final year.

The previous two years have seen this work almost completed in Tipperary with 105 signs, Clare with 60 signs and Limerick 65 signs to date. Cork have started erection of the first batch of 60 signs and Waterford have 35 signs erected so far. Kerry are ready to order 36 signs. All counties in Munster will complete this once off scheme this year.



McGrath Cup Football Final Champions, 2009: Cork



Waterford Crystal Cup Hurling Final Champions, 2009: Clare

## TUAIRISC FO-CHOISTE CULTÚRTHA 2008 *Culture Committee Report 2008*

### Baill agus Tinreamh

Liam Ó Rinn Cathaoirleach 7, Diarmuid Ó Murchú 7, Liam Ó hEachthairn 2, Tomás Ó hEalaithé 6, Michéal MacConmara 6, Tomás DeBurca 5, Diarmuid Ó Sé 2, Dóbnal Ó Murchú 6, Seamus Ó Néill 6, Roibeard an tSeaca 6.

### Téarmaí Tagartha

The terms of reference of the Coiste were outlined by Cathaoirleach Chomhairle na Mumhan and are set out hereunder

1. To promote and progress all facets of Irish culture and the language
2. To oversee the affairs of and act as a liaison with the Scór Workgroup on behalf of the council
3. To introduce an initiative to revitalise Scór at club level
4. Circulation of data relative to Irish Language club names to all clubs within the province
5. Access and monitor the effectiveness of Gaeltacht Scholarships and make recommendations in relation to any improvements
6. Review and monitor the method of selection of scholarships beneficiaries
7. Direct and supervise the work of the associated Scór workgroup
8. To submit a report on the sub-committee in the previous year to the Runaí of Comhairle na Mumhan

### Scoláireachtaí Gaeilge

Go luath san athbhliain bhí cruinniú ag an Cathaoirleach agus mé féin le ionadaí ó na Colaistí Samhraidh cun cursaí 2008 a phlé. Socraídh go mbeadh dlúthbhaint idir an Comhairle agus na Colaistí, go mbeadh cigireacht ag na gCoiste Cultúrtha ar na cursaí agus go mbeadh lánseail oifigiúil ar ócáid cluiche mór craoibhe. Bhuaill an Coiste leis na hOifigigh Cúlurtha Chontae sa Cúige agus leagamar síos Clár le haghaidh iarrthoirí a roghnú do scoláireachtaí Gaeilge. Sheol an Leas Cathaoirleach Seán Breathnach an Scéim go oifigiúil i Stad Gearailtaigh, Cill Áirne ar an Domhnach 15ú Meitheamh. Thug an Comhairle 328 scoláireachta do mhic léinn idir buachaillí agus cailíní a d'fhreastal ar cursaí sanhraoidh. Thug Cathaoirleach agus mé féin cuairt ar na gColaistí i gCorca Dhuibhne, Béal Atha na Ghaoraidh agus an Rinn agus bhíomar ana shásta leis an slí a bhí cursaí a reachtáil ó thaobh CLG de, le breis forbarta ar na cluichí. Thar ceann Colaistí Chorca Dhuibhne thug Dara Ó Cinnéide, Rob MacGearailt agus Marc Ó Sé cabhair le scileanna peile a mhúineadh i gCorca Dhuibhne. Bhí searmanas bronnadh fáinne agus teastais ar na micléinn a d'fhreastal ar na cursaí speisialta CLG i gCorca Duibhne. Bhí Uachtarán CLG, Cathaoirleach agus Leas Cathaoirleach Comhairle na Mumhan, Oifigigh Bhord Chiarraí, Bainisteóir Cutúrtha Páirc an Chrocaigh, Ionadaíthe ón Roinn Gnóthaí Pobail Tuathe agus Gaeltachta, Foras na Gaeilge agus an Roinn Oideachas i lathair don Ocaíd.

### Plean Forbartha na Gaeilge

Ta ainmneacha na gclubanna agus ainm na páirce i ngach chontae sa Chúige ar an idirlíon again agus é ar fail ar suíomh Comhairle an Mumhan. Táimid ag obair leis an Coiste Forbartha na Comhairlaithe Chontae sa Cúige agus Foras na Gaeilge chun comharthaí dátheangach le ainm an Chlub agus an Pairc a chuir suas.

Tá na himeachtaí sea a leanas idir lámha again

1. Comhoibriú le Raidió na Gaeltachta agus TG4
2. Comhoibriú le Coiste na Gaeilge i bPáirc an Chrócaigh
3. An tEagrán don Lamhleabhar "An tOifigeach Gaeilge sa Chlub" a chur go dtí gach club sa Cúige
4. Comhoibriú leis na heagrais Chultúrtha teanga sa Chúige ina gcuid imeachtaí
5. An Gaeilge a chur chun cinn agus í a neartú ar ócáidí Scór agus na Cluichí
6. Atmaisféar Ghaeilge a chruthú
7. An Ghaeilge a chuir chun cinn in imeachtaí sóisialta lasmuigh de Scór agus na Cluichí
8. Comhoibriú le Coiste Chomórtas peile na Gaeltachta
9. Comhoibriú le Coiste Oireachtas na Gaeilge (Bhí Oireachtas na Gaeilge i gCorcaigh anuraidh.

### Diarmuid Ó Murchú,

Rúnaí



# TUAIRISC FO-CHOISTE SCÓR NA MUMHAN 2008

*Tá bliain eile thart, tá deireadh le comortóisí Scór agus is é mo dhualgas tuarascáil an Runaí a chur ós bhur comhair ar n-imeachtaí Scór sa Cúige don bhliain 2008. Ar dhúis, ba mhaith liom buíochas a ghabháil diomhsa go léir as ucht an cabhair a thug sibh diomsa í rith na bliana. Míle míle buíochas díobh go léir.*

Again, we had a most successful year ins na Comórtaisí. Our standards both at semi-finals and final in Scór na nÓg were extremely high. In Scór Sinsear, whilst high standards were maintained in our semi-finals and final. The worrying aspect here is the serious drop in participation as I reported also in 2007.

Appendix 3 identifies the problem counties. Scór celebrates its 40th anniversary in 2009 – a massive increase in participation in all counties would be the best celebration of all.

Back to the Comórtaisí – the high standards displayed in our finals – both Scór na nÓg and Scór Sinsear – were maintained through to All-Ireland level where our champions won 5 titles in Scór na nÓg and 2 titles in Scór Sinsear. In Scór na nÓg our winners were Carrigaline of Corcaigh in Rince Fóirne – retaining their title of 2007. IgComórtas Ceól Uirlise, Boherbue of Corcaigh also retained their 2007 title. This is win no. 4 for Coracigh since 2002.

I gComórtas Aithriseoireacht Ciarán Ó hAnnáin of Croagh/Kilfinny – Luimneach blew all opposition aside to take the title. His recitation – The Wind – was most appropriate. This was the first win for Cúige Mumhan in this Comórtas since 2000.

Pailís na Gréine – Pallasgrian – Luimneach carried off the laurels í gComórtas Bailéad Ghrúpa. Máire Ní Riain one of the successful quintet was carrying on a proud family tradition in this discipline.

In the final Comórtas – Rince Seit – Millstreet, Corcaigh were crowned champions for the first time, in fact this was Cork's first ever Rince Seit title, and completed a unique record for Cúige Mumhan – all counties have now won Rince Seit All-Ireland titles, and this win was the eighth in a row for the province.

In Scór Sinsear, All-Ireland titles were achieved by Micheál Ó Sionúir-Patrickswell, Luimneach í gComórtas Aithriseoireachta, who was a most popular winner after as he said himself, so many years of endeavour. In the final comórtas Rince Seit- Spa of Ciarraí won their fifth title in a row. As I said in 2007, What An Achievement!

Note Cúige Mumhan has now won 24 Rince Seit titles since Scór began. Comhgháirdeas agus míle buíochas dos na buaitheoirí go léir.

In finals you always have hard luck stories, Ahane of Luimneach were denied ultimate honours in Rince Fóirne on the decision of the 5th adjudicator, having tied for first place on equal marks with the eventual winners.

Arís, Míle Buíochas dos na hlomaitheoirí go léir a ghlac páirt. Buíochas fé Leith to all tutors, mentors and parents who helped in any way, and, in particular parents of our Scór na nÓg competitors, where the age profile seems to be dropping in some disciplines.

## Meetings

Since our AGM 19/12/07 we held a total of 8 meetings, with 2 short meetings after our finals to select adjudicators from the Cúige for the All-Ireland Finals. All the meetings with the exception of one were held in Áras Mumhan. The one exception was held in the Kilmurry Lodge (Áras Mumhan was not available). We had one special meeting to discuss and process ideas to Lár-Choiste Scór for the upcoming 40th Anniversary of Scór and the 125th Anniversary of the founding of Cumann Lúthchleas Gael. The Cathaoirleach Tomás Ó hÉaluithé presided over all meetings, which were well attended. The business of the meetings was well conducted and concluded in a timely manner thanks to an efficient Cathaoirleach.

## Adjudicators

Many thanks to all adjudicators who officiated at our Semi-Finals and Finals. Thanks also to those who performed the duties of Máistir na gCeist on these occasions. Buíochas, freisin, to our adjudicators from

## TUAIRISC FO-CHOISTE SCÓR NA MUMHAN 2008

the Province, who performed these duties at both All-Ireland Finals. However, the system of appointing people for these finals, needs to be reviewed. Presently, we are required to nominate 3 people for each Comórtas, and Lár-Choiste make the final choice- this means 2 persons are "rejected" and are not even notified of the decision, leaving them in a dilemma "are we going or not". This is not good enough and can have serious repercussions when Coiste Scór na Mumhan are selecting adjudicators for future Comórtaisí. My proposal is "nominate one person for each Comórtas – this person to have already indicated their availability and willingness to perform". We, in Cúige Mumhan could have a back-up group available in the event of the sudden withdrawal of the appointed nominee.

Note: Máistir na gCeist for Scór Sinsear 2009 All-Ireland Final is a Cúige Mumhan nominee.

## Fear a'Tí / Bean a'Tí

Míle buíochas to all who filled these roles for us at our Semi-Finals and Finals.

**Scór na nÓg Semi-Final:**

Cashel – Paddy Kelly

**Scór na nÓg Semi-Final:**

Millstreet – Tony McAuliffe

**Scór na nÓg Final:**

Mallow – Órla Ní Arnóid

**Scór Sinsear Semi-Final:**

Cashel – Bríd Ní Riain

**Scór Sinsear Semi-Final:**

Millstreet – Gearóid Ó Dubhda

**Scór Sinsear Final :**

Cill Áirne – Seámus Ó Catháin

Buíochas freisin to Criostóir Ó Ceallaigh – Luimneach – who was Fear a'Tí at the All-Ireland Scór Sinsear Finals í gCill Áirne last April. All performed their duties with excellence, sometimes under difficult

circumstances e.g. our Scór Sinsear Final where the Fear a'Tí had to keep the show going and was not helped by the late arrival of one team in the Rince Fóirne. In fact, the team in question had been allowed to perform out of sequence and still could not meet this deadline. However, despite audience unease at the delay, the Fear a'Tí continued and completed his task with the minimum of fuss. We do need to look seriously at requests from teams and/or individuals for changes in the programme – Rialacha 11 agus 14 to apply.

## Venues

Thanks to all the venues who hosted out Comórtaisí in 2008. All are listed on the previous page, and, in general, these facilities were good. We had complaints on a few fronts with the Scór Sinsear final in the ballroom of the Gleneagle Hotel í gCill Áirne and delegates have been asked to nominate suitable alternative venues for future use. To date, Templemore and Cappoquin have been listed and will be on the check list for 2009.

The INEC Cill Áirne was again the venue for the All-Ireland Scór Sinsear finals – all arrangements were the responsibility of Coiste Scór Chiarraí and Coiste Scór na Mumhan. Both committees worked extremely hard on the day and the result – a most enjoyable, trouble-free afternoon for everyone. As, in previous years the staging of these finals at a Provincial venue results in financial success for the Cúige. The raffle and the programme production are both given to the organizing committee and it is up to them to get the maximum benefit. The profit from this year's raffle was down on previous years (€400 to each Coiste) due in part to a shortage of ticket sellers from Coiste Scór Chiarraí. The Runaí had the responsibility

for the editing and production of the programme, and, as he has already reported, things worked better this year due to a week extra between the last Provincial final and the All-Ireland. This additional week was critical to procure more advertisements and articles for inclusion in the programme – the result – 8 additional pages compared to the 2007 edition. We also got 100 extra programmes printed. Bottom line profit €4293 (2007 profit €3862). Thanks to everyone who helped to produce same, those who submitted articles and got advertisements from the various clubs and counties. The collection of advertisement money is still ongoing (€275 is still outstanding).

## Sponsorship

Míle Buíochas to Bus Éireann – for it's continued sponsorship of our Comórtaisí which this year totaled €2500. As, in previous years, Bus Éireann also sponsored our raffle prizes for the finals of both Scór na nÓg and Scór Sinsear. Thanks to their representative in their Cork office Fiona Connolly for this continued support.

## Participation

The record for club participation for 2008 is shown on Appendix 3. The downward trend in some counties still continues and is of serious concern. The election of an officer for Irish Language and Culture is now a requirement at club's AGM and duties for same are identified in the Treóraí Oigigiúl – G.A.A. Official Guide 2008 – as (a) the Irish Language (b) Scór (c) other Cultural Activities. We must ensure that those elected to this position are aware of their responsibilities and we must use all our efforts in (a) contacting them and (b) helping them to promote the Scór concept within the Club. The time for action is yesterday.



## TUAIRISC FO-CHOISTE SCÓR NA MUMHAN 2008

### Tráth na gCeist as Gaelige

This year's final was staged in the Arches in Mallow. Máistir na gCeist was Micheál MacGhiolla Dhuinn as Coiste Scór Chonnachta. A total of 9 teams participated – Corcaigh 2, Ciarraí 2, Luimneach 2, An Clár 1, Tiobraid Árann 1 agus Portlárige 1. The qualifiers for the final on Lá le Phádraig í bPáirc an Chrócaigh were An Ráth Mhór Ciarraí and Móin an Lín Luimneach. This year, victory went to An Ráth Mhór who turned the tables on the 2007 champions Móin an Lín. The representatives of An Ráth Mhór were – Dónal Ó Laoire, Dónal Ó Conchúir, Seán S. Ó Súilleabhán agus Antóin Ó Muineacháin. This was the second victory for An Ráth Mhór (buaitheoirí 2006) in this Comórtas which began in 2004. Comhghairdeas diobh An Ráth Mhór. Counties should now be planning their 2009 finals so that Comórtas Cheannais na Mumhan can take place by March 6th. Comhghairdeas to Diarmaid Ó Dubhda who was Máistir na gCeist for Comórtas Cheannais na hÉireann 2008. He did a wonderful job. Costs incurred with running this event by Coiste Scór na Mumhan last year exceeded €600 this to be identified by the Cisteóir when making his annual return to Comhairle na Mumhan.

### Other Thanks

Thanks to the ladies who assist the stage managers at our semi-finals and finals especially Mary Sugrue, Margaret Whelan and Anita English, also our ticket sellers for our finals. Buíochas also to our two representatives on Lár Choiste Scór – Mary Sugrue and Diarmaid Ó Dubhda who have the task of ensuring our views are conveyed in no uncertain manner to this body. We must also thank those who provide teas / refreshments to our adjudicators and Coiste members at all Semi-Finals

and Finals. Our finals in particular begin with the singing of Amhrán na bhFiann by a nominated person – perhaps, we could have this person identified on the programme for the day. Our gratitude also to those who provided amplification for all our Comórtaisí – in general all did a professional job.

### Bereavements

We offer the sympathy of the Coiste to the following Scór people who suffered bereavements during 2008.

#### Donogh Corcoran

(death of his mother R.I.P.)

#### Jim Collins

(death of his brother Denis R.I.P.)

#### Kay Cashman

(death of her father Joe R.I.P.)

#### Jerome Conway

(death of his brother-in-law Brendan R.I.P.)

#### Mary Neylon

(death of her mother Mary R.I.P.)

#### Nuala Corrigan – Lár Choiste

(death of her husband Vince R.I.P.)

#### Dan Duggan

(death of his father R.I.P.)

#### Hannah Moynihan

(death of her husband Humphrey R.I.P.)

Family of Moya McCormack R.I.P.

(Coiste Scór Uladh)

#### Norrie Sheehan

(death of her brother R.I.P.)

#### Paddy Fitzgerald – Coiste Scór na Mumhan

(death of his sister R.I.P.)

#### Family of Mike Nolan R.I.P.

(Cisteóir CLG Tiobraid Árann)

#### Derry Gowan

Coiste Scór na Mumhan

(death of his wife Breda R.I.P.)

#### Willie Ring

Coiste Cultúr na Mumhan (death of his father Willie John R.I.P.)

#### Family of Mike Sullivan R.I.P.

(Fries)

#### Mary Sugrue

(death of her uncle Johnny Kelly R.I.P.)

### Le Teacht

Dates for our Semi-Finals and Finals for Scór na nÓg 2009 have already been agreed, also venues and adjudicators for same. Arrangements for Scór Sinsear have not yet been finalised, although the date for our final has been set. The venue and date for Comórtaisí Cheannais Scór Sinsear na hÉireann are agreed – venue will again be the INEC Cill Áirne. **See Appendix 4.**

Coiste Scór na Mumhan will share responsibility for stewarding for these finals with Coiste Scór Chiarraí. The programme for the finals will again be provided by our Coiste – the Rúnaí would welcome suitable material for inclusion, particularly in this our **40th year of Scór**. Plan for the celebration of the 40th Anniversary are ongoing – ideas from Coiste Scór na Mumhan have already been discussed by Lár Choiste. Final plans have not yet been agreed – it is envisaged that each club would have a special Lá na gClub to incorporate both the 40th Anniversary of Scór and the 125th Anniversary of the founding of CLG. Coiste Scór na Mumhan have already decided to invite out first Scór Sinsear champions to our finals on 21/3/09.

### Críoch

Arís, Míle Míle Buíochas to all a cabhraig liom í rith na bliana. Buíochas fe leith dos na baill go éir sa Coiste. It was a pleasure to again act as Rúnaí for a fine group of people. Lets all work together to make 2009 not just the 40th year of Scór but also the “year of recovery to former glory”.

Slán agus beannacht

#### Micheál Mac Conmara

Runaí 17/12/08.

## TUAIRISC FO-CHOISTE SCÓR NA MUMHAN 2008

### Appendix 1

#### Buaitheoirí Scór na Mumhan 2008

\* **Craobh na hÉireann**

Scór na nÓg	
1. Rince Fóirne	Carrigaline, Corcaigh*
2. Amhránaíocht Aonair	Lorraine Ní Dhughail, Glenflesk, Ciarraí
3. Ceól Úirlise	Boherbue, Corcaigh*
4. Aithriseoireacht	Ciarán Ó hAnnáin, Croagh/Kilfinny Luimneach*
5. Baileád Ghrúpa	Pallasgrea Luimneach*
6. Trath na gCeisteanna	Dungourney, Corcaigh
7. Nuachleas	Borrisoleigh, Tiobraid Árann
8. Rince Seit	Millstreet, Corcaigh*

#### Scór Sinsear

1. Rince Fóirne	Ahane, Luimneach
2. Amhránaíocht Aonair	Eibhlín Máire Ní Dhuibhí, Freemount, Corcaigh
3. Ceól Úirlise	Sliabh gCua, Portlárige
4. Aithriseoireacht	Micheál Ó Sionúir, Patrickswell, Luimneach.*
5. Baileád Ghrúpa	Dunhill, Portlárige
6. Trath na gCeisteanna	Millstreet, Corcaigh
7. Nuachleas	Borrisoleigh, Tiobraid Árann
8. Rince Seit	Spa, Ciarraí *

### Appendix 2

Rota for Fear / Bean a' Tí (Comórtaisí Cheannais na Mumhan)		
BLIAIN	SCÓR NA NÓG	SCÓR SINSEAR
2009	Portlárige	Luimneach
2010	Tiobraid Árann	Corcaigh
2011	Clár	Ciarraí

Rota for Comórtaisí Cheannais na hÉireann		
BLIAIN	SCÓR NA NÓG	SCÓR SINSEAR
2010	Portlárige	
2012		Ciarraí
2014	Clár	
2016		Corcaigh
2018	Tiobraid Árann	



## TUAIRISC FO-CHOISTE SCÓR NA MUMHAN 2008

### Appendix 3

#### Club Participation 2008

CONTAE	CLUBS	Scór na nÓg				Scór Sinsear			
		2008 PARTIC.	%	2007 %	2006 %	2008 PARTIC.	%	2007 %	2006 %
An Clár	42	17	40.5	47.6	57.1	5	11.9	14.3	16.7
Ciarraí	72	51	70.8	63.9	61.1	38	52.8	38.9	34.7
Corcaigh	141	54	38.3	40.0	40.7	28	19.9	24.3	22.9
Luimneach	70	22	31.4	21.4	30.4	17	24.3	12.9	17.4
Port Láirge	52	9	17.3	17.3	28.8	10	19.2	19.2	19.2
Tiobraid Árann	75	13	17.3	17.3	17.1	10	13.3	10.5	13.2

### Appendix 4

#### Clár na gComórtaisí 2009

Scór na nÓg			
COMÓRTAS	COUNTIES	VENUE	DÁTA
Semi-Final	Limerick, Kerry, Clare	Cappamore	3/1/09 7.00 p.m.
Semi-Final	Cork, Tipperary, Waterford	Cappoquin	4/1/09 2.30 p.m.
Final		Mallow	18/1/09 2.30 p.m.
All-Ireland		Athlone	21/2/09 3 p.m.

Scór Sinsear			
COMÓRTAS	COUNTIES	VENUE	DÁTA
Semi-Final	Cork, Tipperary, Waterford	Cork	7/3/09
Semi-Final	Limerick, Kerry, Clare	Kerry	8/3/09
Final		T.B.A.	21/3/09 6 p.m.
All-Ireland		I.N.E.C. Killarney	118/4/09 4 p.m.

## CUMANN GAELACH NA DTIONNSCAIL COMHAIRLE NA MUMHAN

### Munster Inter-Firm GAA Report 2008

#### Officers:

**President:** Tom Daly  
**Vice-President:** Henry Cooney  
**Chairman:** Peter Dennehy  
**Vice-Chairman:** Joe Ryan  
**Runaí:** Francis Chute  
**Treasurer:** Michael Mulcahy  
**Fixtures Secretary:** Michael O'Neill  
**Central Council Delegates:**  
 Michael O'Neill & Donal McCarthy

In this my second report to the Munster Convention, I again report on a successful year for Inter-Firm GAA in Munster and I will outline as follows the activities of the Council in 2008.

#### Number of Meetings

The Munster Inter-Firm GAA Council held 5 meetings throughout 2008.

#### Championship

The Munster Inter-Firm GAA Council had four grades of championship, Junior Hurling, Junior Football, Senior Hurling and Senior Football with all counties in Munster taking part in the different grades of championship. All games were played in a very sporting fashion.

#### Junior Hurling

The Junior Hurling final resulted in the meeting of Analog of Limerick and UCC of Cork and this game was played under lights in Kildorrery. After a good competitive game, the Limerick champions, Analog,

fashioned a good win to take the title. Analog went on to represent Munster in the All Ireland Junior Hurling Semi-Final and they were narrowly defeated by Banagher Concrete of Offaly with just a point separating the sides at the final whistle.

#### Junior Football

After a few very competitive games in the Junior Football championship, the Limerick Garda overcame the Tipperary champions Boston/Abb in one Semi-Final and they qualified to meet Citco of Cork in the Junior Football Final. The final was played under lights in Kildorrery and it resulted in a good win for the Limerick Champions to take the title. The Limerick Garda then went on to represent Munster and win the All Ireland Junior Football Semi-Final and be crowned All Ireland Junior Football champions when defeating Donegal County Council in the Final.

#### Senior Hurling

The Munster Senior Hurling Semi-Final saw Cork Garda narrowly defeat Limerick Garda which was played in Mallow. The Senior Hurling Final between Cork Garda and the Tipperary Garda/Teachers was played under lights in Mallow. It was a very closely contested game all through and resulted in the title going to the Cork Garda. Cork Garda went on to represent Munster in the All Ireland Senior Hurling Semi-Final and they were narrowly defeated by the Dublin Coaches in a game which went to extra time.

#### Senior Football

The Munster Senior Football Final fixture was between Cork Garda and AIB of Kerry. Cork Garda will meet Intel of Kildare in the All Ireland Senior Football Semi-Final in the near future.

Overall we had a very successful Championship in 2008 with some very enjoyable games.

#### Thanks

I would like to thank all the Referees and Officials who officiated at our Hurling and Football games during the year. I would also like to thank all the clubs in the Counties in Munster who made their pitches available to us throughout the year. I would like to thank Comhairle na Mumhan for the help and support we received from them during the year.

I would like to thank our Vice-Chairman Joe Ryan from Tipperary for his contribution to Inter-Firm GAA in Munster During 2008 and welcome his successor Aidan McMahon of Kerry.

Finally, to all the Munster Council Inter-Firm Officers, I would like to express my thanks for their enormous effort, time, interest, help and support to me in making 2008 a very successful year for Inter-Firm GAA in Munster.

#### Francis Chute

*Runaí  
Munster Inter-Firm GAA Council*



## FOOTBALL REVIEW COMMITTEE

The above committee was established in the summer of 2007 by council chairman James O’Gorman.

The committee is made up as follows  
**Chairman:** John Landers – Munster Coaching Committee

**Secretary:** Michael Power – Member of Council.

### Members:

Donal Fitzgibbon – Limerick  
John Kiely – Waterford  
Liam Hodnett – Cork  
Pat Moroney – Tipperary  
Tony O’Keefe – Kerry  
Noel Walsh – Clare

### Aim

The aim of the committee is to bring forward suggestions for consideration by the council to address the imbalance in standards of football in Munster.

### Meetings

To date twelve meetings have been held and with good attendance and contribution from each member.

### Perceived Problems

1. The relative high standard of football in Cork and Kerry when viewed nationally.
2. The relative strength of hurling in the other four counties.
3. Apathy in the four weaker counties to football caused by the prolonged lack of success at inter county level.
4. Post primary schools football records show that only St Flannans College, Ennis from the weaker counties consistently participate at ‘A’ level.

### Topics Discussed

How to raise football standards among football clubs in the weaker counties.

#### 1. Suggested Solutions.

A revitalisation of the Munster football league officially run by the council

#### 2. Post Primary schools

Development – Top coaches from inside or outside the counties to prepare the schools team correctly and enable them to compete at provincial A level.

#### 3. McGrath Cup

It is suggested that Cork and Kerry county senior teams participate.

#### 4. Facilities

Proper physical facilities with lighting for inter county panels to prepare. Also it is suggested that a link with the 3rd level institution located in its county should be established eg. W.I.T. – Waterford.

#### 5. Munster Under 17 Football

Purpose – To assist the four counties to prepare properly for the following year’s minor championship.

#### 6. Munster Under 20 Football

Purpose – To assist the four counties to prepare properly for the following years U.21 championship.

#### 7. Óg Pheil Na Mumhan

To develop the Munster residential coaching camp for Under 14 players.

#### 8. Development Squads

Development Squads at Under

14,15,16 and 17 in the four counties. The committee has come up with a model to achieve the optimum.

#### 9. Developing and Training Coaches

The development commences at club level and advancing the county and provincial level. It is suggested that for this years minor championship that the six county coaches attend a course given by Pat O’Shea.

#### 10. Provincial Manager

It is suggested that a provincial manager be appointed to oversee the project and that each county identify a person to give the provincial manager regular reports on projects.

### Conclusion

Presently the report is with the council for discussion. I thank everyone on the committee for their participation and co-operation.

Also, I wish to say a sincere thanks to John Landers, Chairman for his support, the post primary schools liaison officers, the Munster league committee and Pat O’Shea for their presentations to our committee.

Finally, on behalf of the committee I thank council chairman James O’Gorman for giving a group of interested people an opportunity to put ideas together to address the standards of football in Munster.

**Micheál de Paor**

Rúnaí

## MAJOR GROUNDS & SAFETY WORK GROUP

### Coiste

**Donal Mac Giobuin**  
(Luimneach – Cathaoirleach)

**Sean Ó Maolfhachtna**  
(Tiobraid Árann – Rúnaí)

**Sean de Bhreitt** (An Clár)

**Seosamh Ó Cathasaigh** (Corcaigh)

**Padraig Ó Donnchadha**  
(Port Láirge)

**Liam Ó Dulainn** (Ciarraí)

**Sean Ó Scorlog** (Tiobraid Árann)

**Teidi Ó Suilleabháin**  
(Ciarraí - Comhairle na Mumhan)

### Terms of Reference:

1. The assessment and reporting on all proposed venues for Council Fixtures on an ongoing basis to cover the adequacy of perimeter fencing, dressing rooms, substitute accommodation, medical facilities, media facilities, and adequacy of admission stiles etc.
2. The assessment of Safety policies in relation to all grounds used for Council fixtures.
3. The development of suitable and adequate training for county personnel in the Health & Safety codes.
4. Provide a forum for the exchange of information on best practice on Group Safety procedures.

### Meetings

The Committee met a number of times during the year and visited the major grounds before Championship games. In October 2007 a two day FETAC training course for Special Stewards took place at Castletroy College. It is intended that this course will be developed during the coming year. Safety Audits have been completed for all the major grounds.

### Issues Arising

Dissatisfaction was expressed at the problems created by late arrivals at the Tipperary/Cork game at Pairc Uí Chaoimh, which was speedily dealt with by the Event Controller and his staff. The after match scenes at Ennis, Munster U21 hurling final did no credit to the association. Stewarding on terraces is a major problem which will have to be tackled head on. However, on the whole our patrons are good humoured and pleasant, who come for the entertainment our games provide.

### Committee Recommendations

The Committee advises that all Major grounds should prepare a Safety Statement and Stadium Safety Management Plan as a matter of urgency.

The Committee are anxious that more Steward Specific training be undertaken in the coming year. An increase in the number of Special stewards is planned and training for

these members will take place at Mallow GAA complex on Saturday March 7th at 10 am.

### Thanks

The committee wish to thank the Munster Council and especially the Secretary and his staff for their co-operation during the year.

**Sean Ó Maolfhachtna**  
Rúnaí



Kerry Club Junior Captain, 2008





## **COMHAIRLE NA MUMHAN**

Áras Mumhan,  
Groody Hill,  
Rhebogue,  
Limerick

**Tel:** (061) 493060

**Fax:** (061) 493061

**Email:** [munsterweb@gaa.ie](mailto:munsterweb@gaa.ie)

**Web:** [www.munster.gaa.ie](http://www.munster.gaa.ie)