

Cumann Lúth Chleas Gael

Coiste Chontae Mhaigheo



Comhthionól Bhliantúil 2024

De Domhnaigh - 10ú Nollaig 2023

Óstan Castlecourt – Cathair na Mart - Co Maigh Eo

Ar tosnú – 12 Meán Iae

COISTE CHONTAE MHAIGH EO COMHTHIONÓL 2024

Contents	Page(s)
Clár	3
Standing Orders	4
Minutes 2023	5-12
Secretary's Report	13-42
Hurling Secretary's Report	43-50
Competitions Control Committee Report	51-64
PRO Report	65-72
Bord na Nog	73-78
Coaching Report	79-93
Cumann na mBunscol Report	94-95
Secondary Schools Report	96-97
Cultural and Scór Report	98-99
Handball Report	100-102
Hearings Committee Report	103-106
Training and Planning Report	107-119
Connacht Council Report	120-122
Central Council Report	123
Safety and Facilities Report	124-125
Childrens' Officer Report	126-127
Health and Well Being Report	128-133
Stewarding Report	134-135
Club Development Draw	136-137
Insurance Officer	138
IT Report	139-141
Voting allocations	142
Nominations	143
Rúin	144-150

COISTE CHONTAE MHAIGH EO COMHTHONÓL 2024

Clár

1. Opening address and remembrance of deceased members
2. Óráid an Uachtaráin
3. Adoption of Standing Orders
4. Óráid an Chathaoirleach
5. Miontuairiscí 2023
6. Tuairisc an Rúnaí
7. Tuairisc an Chisteoir
8. Toghachán na hOifíí
9. Ruin
10. Launch of new Website
11. Presentation of Beo Maigh Eo Website

COISTE CHONTAE MHAIGH EO COMHTHONÓL 2024

Standing Orders

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

1. The person proposing the Motion/Resolution or Amendment may speak for not more than five minutes.
2. All accredited delegates must not exceed three minutes.
3. The person proposing the Motion/Resolution/Amendment may speak a second time for not more than 3 minutes.
4. The chairperson may at any time consider a Motion/Resolution/Amendment has been sufficiently discussed and call on the proposer for a reply after which a vote must be taken.
5. With the consent of the Chairperson, a delegate may move 'that the question be now put' after which the proposer has spoken, a vote must be taken.
6. Any motion seeking to amend existing bye laws must have a majority equal to two thirds of those present and entitled to vote and voting.
7. Standing orders shall not be suspended for the purpose of considering a matter not on the Clar except by the consent of a majority of two thirds of those present and entitled to vote
8. The chairperson may change the order of items on the Clar with the consent of a simple majority of those present and entitled to vote and voting
9. A motion may be withdrawn with the permission of the convention.
10. Voting procedures as per Official Guide.

2023 Miontuairisc

Cumann Lúth Chleas Gael Chontae Mhaigheo Comhthionól Bhliantúil 2023 was held in The McWilliam Park Hotel in Claremorris.

Apologies were received from, Paddy Naughton (Patron) & Mick Hughes (President)

Opening address and prayer of remembrance for deceased members deliver by Donal Walsh, Chairperson of the South Board.

Óráid an Uachtaráin:

Mick Hughes was unable to attend Convention and in his absence Seamus Corry, Kiltimagh GAA, spoke on his behalf.

Standing Orders:

Standing Orders were adopted on the proposal of G. Bourke and seconded by O. Dillion

Roll Call:

Roll Completed – 167 valid votes

Óráid an Cathaoirleach

Seamus Tuohy in his first address to Convention as Cathaoirleach covered the following:

- Thanked the delegates present and the South Board for hosting Convention
- Thanked John Prenty and his staff for the use of The Dome
- The Senior Football and Hurling Teams
- Thanked James Horan and Derek Walsh and wished Kevin McStay well for 2023.
- Thanked Maurice Sheridan, Sean Deane, Brian Finn and all the Academy Managers for their hard work and dedication to Mayo GAA.
- The Club Championship winners were congratulated.
- All committees were thanked for the work they carried out throughout the year.
- All referees were thanked
- Mayo GAA TV had worked very well during the year all involved were thanked.
- Pitch surface in Hastings Insurance McHale Park.
- Demographics
- Finances
- Mayo GAA Leadership Academy
- Finance and Operations Manager
- Thanked all our sponsors
- The Mayo Association in London, Dublin and Galway were thanked for their help during the year
- All his fellow Officers were thanked along with Michael Cummins and the Press.
- Thanked his family for their support during the year
- Wished all the delegates well for Christmas and New Year

Minutes

There were no matters arising out of the minutes of the previous year's Convention. The minutes were adopted on the proposal of M. Herr and seconded by J. Gibbons.

Tuairisc an Runaí

In his report to Convention, An Runaí covered all the following points;

- U-17's and U-20's Teams along with their respective team managements were al thanked
- The Senior Football and Hurling Teams ere thanked.
- James Horan and Derek Walsh were acknowledged
- The level of abuse aimed at Players, Management.
- Abuse of match officials and incidents at games throughout the year.
- The Club Senior, Intermediate and Junior Championships.
- Sub-Committees
- Our Sponsors
- Our Volunteers

The Runaí thanked our administrator Michael Cummins, John Prenty and the staff in the Connacht Council Office, Croke Park, County, Divisional and Club Officers for all their help during the year and over the past 5 years.

The Runaí's report was adopted on the proposal of K. Barrett and seconded by E. Lavelle

Tuairisc an Chistéoir.

The Cistéoir Valerie Murphy delivered the Financial Report to delegates at Convention.

The Treasurer's report was adopted on the proposal of J. Kilgannon and seconded by P. Mahon.

Other Reports:

All other reports were adopted on the proposal of J. O'Donnell and seconded by R. Cosgrove.

Toghachán na hÓifig.

Ronan Kirrane was elected as Runaí. Brian O'Malley was elected as Assistant Secretary. Liam Moffatt and Paul Cunnane were elected to Connacht Council. Paddy McNicholas was elected to Central Council.

The following Officers were returned for 2023. Proposed by Jimmy Connor and seconded by Michael McKenzie.

PATRÚN	Paddy Naughton
UACHTARÁN	Mick Higgins
CATHAOIRLEACH	Seamus Tuohy
LEAS-CATHAOIRLEACH	Con Moynihan
RUNAÍ	Ronan Kirrane
RUNAÍ CÚNTA	Brian O'Malley
CISTEOIR	Valerie Murphy
CISTEOIR CÚNTA	Michael Diskin
OIFIGEACH CAIDREAMH POIBLÍ	John Walker
OIFIGEACH OILIÚNA	Declan O'Reilly
OIFIGEACH CULTÚIR	Grainne Kelly-Frayne
ÁRD COMHAIRLE	Paddy McNicholas
COMHAIRLE CHONNACHT (2)	Paul Cunnane Liam Moffatt

Rúin - Motions

1. Castlebar Mitchels request an immediate review of the rules and regulations relating to the role and function of the Hearings Committee and any subsequent appeal processes, in matters relating to underage games. The review should provide for

(a) The representations at the Hearings committee and subsequent appeal hearings, of all interested parties

(b) The sharing of the findings of the Hearings Committee and of subsequent appeal hearings, with all interested parties

(c) The details of the basis for the findings and for the conclusions drawn

(Castlebar Mitchels)

To be referred to the Rules Advisory Committee

2. That entry tickets to all GAA games in the County can be purchased on-line through existing portal and in addition can be purchased off -line via agreed retail outlets. In both situations tickets will continue to be scanned at entrance turnstiles, assuming digital coverage is available, otherwise an alternative process will be required.

Rational for the Motion.

The current one only channel is too restrictive and limits the possibility of greater numbers of members and customers attending games on a regular basis. Opening an additional purchase channel will lead to increased attendance at games and therefore increased revenue. Digital coverage is not uniform throughout the county either at members and customers' homes or indeed at a number of GAA venues.

(Breaffy)

To be referred to the Finance Committee

3. To play out the Hurling Championship before the Football Championship starts.

(Ballyhaunis)

To be referred to CCC

4. We propose that any player currently on a permission to play with a Hurling Club will be allowed if they so wish to continue to play with this Club regardless of changes in their catchment area providing there is no objection from the players first Club or any new Hurling Club in their area to the permission to play application.

(Tooreen) **Withdrawn**

5. Amend Mayo GAA Bye-Law 3 to rectify the anomaly that some committees/individuals appointed by Bye-Law are required to report to County Committee but are not actually represented on County Committee. Changes are indicated in red text below:

In accordance with Rial 3.18(b) of An Treorai Oifigiúil 2022 - The County Committee shall consist of the following:

County Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, County Secretary, Assistant Secretary, County Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, Central Council Representative, Connacht Council Representatives (2), Children's Officer, Planning and Training Officer, Coaching Officer, Officer of the Irish Language and Culture, Public Relations Officer, The Chairperson and Secretary of Coiste na nOg, The Chairperson of Hurling Committee, The Referee's Administrator, County Safety and Facilities Officer, A named representative from each of the County Primary Schools Committee, County Post-Primary Schools Committee and County Handball Committee, The Chairperson and Secretary of each Divisional Committee, and a named representative of each Adult Club affiliated and taking part in Adult Competitions. The Referee's Administrator shall be appointed in accordance with Rial 3.19(h) T.O 2022.

The following roles shall confer membership of County Committee, without voting rights: Chairperson of the Health and Wellbeing Committee, Chairperson of Information Technology Committee, Chairperson of Hearings Committee, Chairperson of Audit & Risk Committee, Chairperson of Social Inclusion and Integration Committee, County Fixtures Analysts, and County Insurance Officer.

The representatives from the County Primary Schools from the County Post-Primary Schools, shall be appointed by the County Committee in January each year. The Handball representative shall be nominated by the County Handball Committee.

Minor amendment (inconsistent wording): Mayo GAA Bye-Laws 4(ii) and 5(i) refer to "Bord na nÓg" but Bye-Laws 3, 4(i) and 5(iv) refer to "Coiste na nÓg". Consistent wording should be adopted.

(Tuar Mhic Eadaigh)

Withdrawn

6. That money collected as part of the annual club levies for secondary school support be transferred to the treasurer of the secondary schools' football committee at the start of the academy year in September of each year.

(Ardagh)

Referred to Finance Committee

7. All games are to have at least two neutral umpires officiating at them for the game to take place.

(Knockmore)

Referred To CCC

8. All members of a Clubs Team Management must have a coloured bib on for the duration of the game to help officials distinguish Management Teams.

(Knockmore)

Referred to CCC

9. Senior League:

That in 2023 Divisions 1A and 1B, 2A and 2B, 3A and 3B will consist of 10 Teams with each team getting a minimum of 9 games, the top team in each A and B grouping will play in a traight final, winner being declared League Champion.

The CCC will decide the makeup of remaining League groupings (depending on numbers entered)

(Kiltimagh)

Lost

10. Senior League:

For 2024 the top 5 from 1A and top 5 from 1B will form Division 1, the following 5 from each grouping being Division 2 and so on. This will be based on the 2023 results.

(Kiltimagh)

Lost

11. U-18 League:

Mayo Bord na nÓg would organise an U-18 football all County League in 2023. Each Division would have eight teams and all Clubs would be guaranteed seven games. The bottom division may have less than eight teams. The league would start in March and finish in May. Clubs must play without County Players if necessary. The top team in each division would be declared the winner.

After the leaving cert. The Bord would organise an U-18 Championship all County based on the league results of 2023. The top four teams in each section would play off and the winners would be declared the Championship winners. The bottom four teams in each section would play off and the winners would be declared the Plate winners. This Championship could be organised as follows ----- two semi-finals and a final or a round robin system. This would depend on available dates.

The U-17 County League / Championship would start after the All Ireland U17 final when all players would be available to their clubs.

(Kiltimagh)

Withdrawn

12. To ensure a level playing field clubs should be allowed to field their 2nd and 3rd teams in the Junior A, B and C competitions proper.

(Westport)

Lost

13. In adult knock out championship fixtures only referees from outside of the divisions of the competing teams should be appointed.

(Westport)

Referred to CCC

14. That the primary Bord na nÓg competitions should revert back to the even age groups.

(Westport)

Carried

15. Club delegates to the County Board to have a maximum five-year term limit.

(Westport)

Lost

16. All development squad players, at all age groups, must be available to play with their Clubs for all League and Championship games.

(Westport)

Carried

17. The 2023 Exclusive Junior Championship will consist of the 15 exclusive Junior Clubs. Format as per 2022. The 2024 Exclusive Junior A Championship will consist of the 8 Exclusive Junior A Quarter Finalist in 2023 only. The remaining 7 teams will play in the Exclusive Junior B Championship in 2024. Both Competitions will be played on a group stage basis. Promotion and Relegation will only arise in this Championship in 2024.

(Coiste Bainisti)

Withdrawn

18. The County Champions of 25 years introduced at half time at next year's County Final and continue every year thereafter, to include Intermediate and Junior Champions.

(Charlestown)

The motion did not go before Convention as the Coiste Bainisti had already approved the proposal.

That Concluded the business of the meeting





Secretary's Report 2023

Tuarascáil an Rúnaí

2023

Overall, 2023 was an extremely busy time for all aspects of Mayo GAA.

On the field the Mayo Senior Football Team secured the Division 1 League Title after a hugely successful league series. It was the first League title since 2019 and a great start to Kevin McStays tenure as manager. However, a week later we were brought back down to earth with a defeat in the Connacht Championship to Roscommon.

A long break after this game seemed to inspire Mayo as we knocked form on the head and beat Kerry away from home in spectacular fashion. The next two performances, however, were well below par and they left us with an extra game in the season. This probably didn't help the cause and although we got over the line vs Galway the Mayo legs in the second half vs Dublin showed all the signs of a team running on fumes. We exited the championship to Dublin and although comprehensively beaten there were green shoots for development in 2024.

A difficult year for our Mayo Senior Hurling Team but with renewed hope and new structures in place hopefully the team can get back to a higher grade. The re-emergence of teams and the introduction of an amalgamation of the Junior Teams within the county can only help the standard within the county.

Off the field advancements have been made in terms of supports for our academy and county teams across all codes. The problem of a lack of playing areas is the single greatest area of concern for our teams and at present-we simply do not have sufficient space to serve our teams.

With the long-awaited integration of the GAA, LGFA and Camogie Associations on the cards one would wonder how, without major capital support from the government, counties and indeed clubs throughout the association will cater for the players.

FBD League:

This competition was held in the University of Galway Air Dome and proved a very valuable starting block for the new season. Many thanks to John Prenty for organising the competition and giving the players protection from the elements. Attendance was high at these games, and it proved an entertaining start to the season.

FBD Results:

Mayo 2:18 Galway 3:12 **14.01.2023**

Mayo 0:13 Roscommon 0:09 **Final 20.01.2023**

National Football League:

The league commenced on the 28th of January on a balmy evening in Castlebar. Overall, we were very fortunate with the weather for the entirety of the campaign with only the Donegal game away being played in testing conditions. Attendances for all games were high both home and away and enthusiasm for the competition was evident from the get-go. One aspect which caused concern was the potential for anti-social behaviour at NFL games. This was raised at a Coiste Chondae Meeting in April with members from the floor expressing huge concern for the safety of players and spectators alike. This matter was revisited in October and the unanimous feeling was that a fee would have to be introduced for all patrons.

League Results:

Mayo 1:11 Galway 2:08 **Round 1 28.01.2023**

Armagh 0:17 Mayo 0:17 **Round 2 05.02.2023**

Mayo 2:14 Kerry 1:10 **Round 3 18.02.2023**

Mayo 4:10 Tyrone 0:12 **Round 4 25.02.2023**

Roscommon 2:11 Mayo 1:16 **Round 5 05.03.2023**

Donegal 0:09 Mayo 1:17 **Round 6 19.03.2023**

Mayo 0:14 Monaghan 2:14 **Round 7 26.03.2023**

Allianz Football League Division One Final: Mayo 0-14 Galway 0-11

This was a fantastic afternoon at GAA headquarters for the team and supporters alike, who collected the Allianz Football League Division One title defeating neighbours Galway in front of over 45,000 spectators. Mayo custodian Colm Reape was an influential figure making numerous saves and the Knockmore clubman Reape also nailed three points for Mayo from two long range frees and a 45.

Scorers: Ryan O'Donoghue 0-7 (5fs, 2ms), Colm Reape 0-3 (2fs, 1 45) Jack Coyne, Paddy Durcan, James Carr, and Jordan Flynn 0-1 each.

Mayo: Colm Reape; David McBrien, Jack Coyne, Sam Callinan; Stephen Coen, Conor Loftus, Paddy Durcan; Mattie Ruane, Diarmuid O'Connor; Fionn McDonagh, Jack Carney, Jordan Flynn; Aidan O'Shea, James Carr, Ryan O'Donoghue.

Subs: Eoghan McLaughlin for McBrien (HT), Tommy Conroy for Carr (52), Darren McHale for McDonagh (66), Bob Tuohy for Ruane (70), Pádraig O'Hora for Coyne (70+2).

Championship:

We entered the Connacht Championship a week after the NFL victory and while morale and preparation had gone extremely well, we left that competition a few hours later and were left to lick our wounds after a poor performance.

Connacht Senior Football Championship Quarter-Final Roscommon 2-8 Mayo 0-10.

A dogged and disciplined defensive display was the backbone to the victory for Roscommon, with two goals in the first half proving key to deciding the outcome. Roscommon went in four points to the good at half time despite playing into a strong gale blowing towards the Bacon Factory End of the ground.

Roscommon got the first score of the game through a Diarmuid Murtagh free in the early minutes. Mayo responded quickly through a Ryan O'Donoghue placed ball after he himself was fouled.

Mayo looked in control of the game when Aidan O'Shea palmed a Paddy Durcan ball into the path of Stephen Coen, but his effort crashed back off the bar and away to safety. A goal at that juncture could have kicked Mayo on but alas it didn't materialise.

Murtagh put the visitors back in front with the first score in 17 minutes through another free after Niall Daly was fouled close to goal.

Five minutes later Roscommon rattled the back of the Mayo net for the first time, through an Enda Smith penalty after Conor Loftus was adjudged to have fouled David Murray.

Mayo hit back with points from Durcan and then a brace of Reape points from placed balls. However, there was still a big moment to come before the half time whistle when Roscommon grabbed their second goal of the day.

Ciaran Lennon let fly with a shot towards Reape's goal, Jack Carney blocked the ball away with his back, but Donnie Smith was quickest to react and he half-volleyed the ball to the net to send Roscommon in leading 2-2 to 0-4 at the break.

Mayo closed the gap back to just two points by the 40th minute with Donnacha McHugh and Matthew Ruane putting the ball over the bar.

Murtagh edged the visitors three points clear again on 43 minutes with his third free of the day and kept Mayo at arm's length. Tommy Conroy pulled Mayo back to within two points after he put the

ball between the posts, and it was back to a one-point game with 20 minutes left after Aidan O'Shea tagged another.

But Roscommon weren't going to go away lightly and two points in quick succession from play from Diarmuid Murtagh had his side three clear again with ten to go. Cillian O'Connor swung over an effort not long after entering the action to cut the gap to two and keep the game very much alive.

Mayo prodded and poked around the Roscommon danger area, but found it hard to create space to shoot, while in comparison when Roscommon broke, they punished Mayo, with Diarmuid Murtagh and Conor Cox slotting over a point each inside a minute heading for injury time. Ryan O'Donoghue cut the gap back to just a goal three minutes into injury time, but the final word was left to Enda Smith who made it safe with a fisted point on the run to seal a well-deserved win for Roscommon on a day which was better to be forgotten.

Scorers for Roscommon: Diarmuid Murtagh 0-6 (4fs), Enda Smith 1-1 (1-0 pen), Donie Smith 1-0, Conor Cox 0-1.

Scorers for Mayo: Colm Reape 0-2 (2fs), Ryan O'Donoghue 0-2 (2fs), Paddy Durcan 0-1, Donnacha McHugh 0-1, Matthew Ruane 0-1, Tommy Conroy 0-1, Aidan O'Shea 0-1, Cillian O'Connor 0-1.

Roscommon: Conor Carroll; Conor Hussey, Conor Daly, David Murray; Niall Daly, Brian Stack, Eoin McCormack; Dylan Ruane, Keith Doyle; Ciaran Murtagh, Ciaran Lennon, Enda Smith; Donie Smith, Diarmuid Murtagh, Ben O'Carroll. **Subs:** Cian McKeon for Lennon (53), Conor Cox for Donie Smith (60), Richard Hughes for Daly (66), Niall Kilroy for Ruane (70), Cian Connolly for O'Carroll (70).

Mayo: Colm Reape; Jack Coyne, Eoghan McLaughlin, Donnacha McHugh; Stephen Coen, Conor Loftus, Paddy Durcan; Matthew Ruane, Diarmuid O'Connor; Fionn McDonagh, Jack Carney, Jordan Flynn; Aidan O'Shea, Tommy Conroy, Ryan O'Donoghue. **Subs:** Darren McHale for McDonagh (51), Cillian O'Connor for McHale (BS) (53), Jason Doherty for Eoghan McLaughlin (61), Conor McStay for Flynn (61), Darren McHale for Ruane (70).

Round Robin Stages:**20.05.2023 Killarney: Mayo 1-19; Kerry 0-17.**

Kerry hadn't lost in a Championship game in Fitzgerald Stadium in 28 years and after an early exit in the Connacht Championship almost 6 weeks earlier few would have expected the result and performance that was on display in such a scenic and wonderful backdrop.

A big crowd of 23,128 at a sun-drenched stadium saw Mayo boss the show with a hunger that Kerry simply couldn't match. Although in control for a lot of the game and it was only when Eoghan McLaughlin got the only goal of the game four minutes after coming on that the curtain was drawn down on this game as a true contest. Mayo started on fire and missed two good goal chances before points from play from the dangerous Ryan O'Donoghue and bustling Aidan O'Shea gave them a well-deserved lead.

When Kerry got on the scoreboard, Mayo kicked on with points from Pádraig O'Hora, James Carr, and O'Donoghue's free and were 0-7 to 0-3 to the good before Seanie O'Shea reeled off two frees to close the margin.

Carr put the visitors three up again but then Dara Moynihan and David Clifford made it a three-point game again. By half-time Mayo had flexed their muscles again and were five to the good, 0-12 to 0-7, and O'Donoghue could even have got a goal to enhance that scoreline but for an excellent save by Kerry custodian Stephen Ryan.

When Mayo extended their lead to six with Matthew Ruane and Jason Doherty scoring on either side of a Clifford free, they looked confident though a P. Geaney point again chipped away at the margin. Colm Reape made a great save from David Clifford and a goal at that stage could have changed the outcome of the game very easily. David Clifford slotted over another point to cut the deficit to a goal but the green flag which would have brought parity instead was scored by McLaughlin to put six between the sides.

Mayo: C Reape; J Coyne, D McBrien, S Callinan; P O’Hora (0-1), C Loftus, D McHugh (0-1); M Ruane (0-2), D O’Connor; J Doherty (0-1), J Carney (0-1), J Flynn (0-1); A O’Shea (0-3, 0-2f, 0-1m), J Carr (0-3), R O’Donoghue (0-5, 0-2f) Subs: P Durcan (0-1) for Doherty, E Hession for Callinan (both 48 minutes), T Conroy for Carr (53 minutes), E McLaughlin (1-0) for O’Hora (56 minutes), S Coen for Coyne (60 mins).

Kerry: S Ryan; D Casey, J Foley, T O’Sullivan (0-2); G O’Sullivan, T Morley, G White; D O’Connor, J Barry; D Moynihan (0-1), S O’Shea (0-3, 0-2f, 0-1 ‘45) P Clifford; T Brosnan, D Clifford (Capt.) (0-8, 0-3f), P Geaney (0-3) Subs: P Murphy for Morley (blood sub 25-28 minutes); P Murphy for Casey, A Spillane for Brosnan (both half-time); R Murphy for Moynihan (46 minutes), B Ó Beaglaíoch for Morley (59 minutes), S O’Brien for Barry (64 minutes).

Mayo 0-14 Louth 1-10

The win against Kerry two weeks earlier whetted the appetite and encouraged the county but unfortunately the performance against Louth left a different taste as Louth almost pulled off the shock of the round, when they pushed Mayo all the way in Hastings Insurance MacHale Park. Louth came with a game plan and stuck to it right to the end and when they struck for the only goal of the game deep in injury time, it almost paid off.

With injury time looking like it was about to expire, Mayo extended their lead to five points as Fionn McDonagh deftly fisted the ball over from close range. Yet, the game took a turn which we just about survived. A minute later, Conall McKeever slipped in and unleashed a powerful shot past Colm Reape, narrowing the gap to two points.

In the subsequent attack, Conor Grimes scored a point, bringing the margin to the bare minimum. Unfortunately for Louth, that marked the final action of the day, as referee Noel Mooney blew the whistle following the resultant kick-out.

At half-time, Mayo held a three-point lead after a slow paced first half. Louth retreated into their own half, resulting in the curtailing of Mayo's attacking options.

In the early stages, it appeared Mayo might cruise to victory as they swiftly accumulated three points within the initial five minutes. Colm Reape confidently converted a free kick from 45 metres

shortly after the throw-in, and just a minute later, Jack Carney skillfully finished off a hand-passing move from inside. Then, at the five-minute mark, Ryan O'Donoghue punched the ball over the bar, granting his side a three-point advantage.

Sam Mulroy initiated Louth's scoring with a well-executed pointed free after eight minutes, allowing them to establish a foothold in the game. David McBrien had a goal opportunity impressively saved by James Califf at the 15-minute mark, and soon after, Aidan O'Shea added a point from a free, once again placing Mayo three points ahead.

Mulroy drained a long-range free kick to keep Louth within reach, which was swiftly countered by a point from Jordan Flynn, who collected the ball on the run during his second attempt.

Conor Grimes landed a long-range point, met with a response from Ryan O'Donoghue's successful free kick, ensuring Mayo maintained their three-point lead. Ciaran Downey slipped over a mark at the half-hour mark, enabling his side to stay within touching distance of Mayo.

Shortly after the break, Mayo surged four points ahead through Matthew Ruane. However, Louth remained in contention as Ciarán Downey scored from long range, accompanied by Leonard Grey raising another single.

Crucial scores from Aidan O'Shea and Paddy Durcan widened Mayo's lead to four points. Mulroy reduced the deficit to three before another successful free kick from O'Shea and McDonagh's effort extended Mayo's advantage to five, seemingly securing victory. However, there was still time for some late drama. It was a game which few will want to remember but thankfully we secured the win.

Scorers for Mayo: Aidan O'Shea 0-4 (4fs), Ryan O'Donoghue 0-3 (2fs), Colm Reape 0-1 (f), Stephen Coen 0-1 (m), Paddy Durcan 0-1, Matthew Ruane 0-1, Jack Carney 0-1, Jordan Flynn 0-1, Fionn McDonagh 0-1.

Scorers for Louth: Sam Mulroy 0-3 (3fs), Conall McKeever 1-0, Ciaran Downey 0-2, Conor Grimes 0-2, Conor Early 0-1, Leonard Grey 0-1, Niall Sharkey 0-1.

Mayo: Colm Reape; Jack Coyne, David McBrien, Sam Callinan; Pdraig O’Hora, Conor Loftus, Stephen Coen; Matthew Ruane, Donnacha McHugh; Jason Doherty, Jack Carney, Jordan Flynn; Aidan O’Shea, James Carr, Ryan O’Donoghue. **Subs:** Paddy Durcan for Jason Doherty, Tommy Conroy for James Carr, Enda Hession for Sam Callinan, Fionn McDonagh for Jordan Flynn, Bob Tuohy for Jack Coyne.

Louth: James Califf; Bevan Duffy, Peter Lynch, Donal McKenny; Leonard Grey, Niall Sharkey, Anthony Williams, Tommy Durnin, Conor Early; Conall McKeever, Ciaran Downey, Conor Grimes; Conall McCaul, Sam Mulroy, Ciarán Murphy. **Subs:** Craig Lennon for McCaul, Dermot Campbell for Williams, Ryan Burns for Lynch, Paul Matthews for Murphy.

Round 3: Mayo vs Cork: Limerick 18.06.2023

Into Round three and Mayo knew a win or draw would almost certainly guarantee a home Quarter Final. However, with Mayo in total control of the game we managed to let it slip and paid the price of a buildup of fixtures. We began the afternoon first in the group, and finished it in third.

A nine-point swing in the final quarter has secured the Cork footballers home advantage in next weekend’s All-Ireland preliminary quarter-final.

When the final whistles had sounded in Portlaoise and the Gaelic Grounds, Kerry, Mayo, and Cork were level on four points. Kerry’s superior score difference delivered them top spot, with Cork and Mayo both tied on +3 behind them. Next in the rulebook for separating teams in such instances is scores for, and in this case, it was Cork who marginally held sway.

When sub-Tommy Conroy scored in 56 minutes, our lead was out to 6 points, and we seemed home and hosed at 1-11 to 0-8. However, we would not score again in the remaining 14 minutes plus stoppage time. The last 19 minutes of action came and went without another Mayo score.

The Cork bench stepped forward and up. Little over a minute after Conroy’s goal, Colm O’Callaghan was fouled for a penalty. Steven Sherlock converted. The second half sub finished with 1-5 beside his name. The Cork bench finished with 1-7. Cork finished with 1-6 without reply. They finished in a blaze of confidence and momentum.

Sherlock had them level at 1-11 apiece on 64 minutes. His '45 two minutes later put the underdogs in front for the first time since half-time. Two more subs, John O'Rourke and Chris Óg Jones, supplied the final two points to seal a first championship win over Mayo since 2002.

Cork had led 0-6 to 0-5 at the break. The seeds of this narrow lead were easily found in the Gaelic Grounds clay. Cork's defending was robust. It was organised. It was, for the most part, disciplined. Their containment efforts greatly stifled Mayo.

Half of Cork's 0-6 first-half total came from defenders. Rory Maguire kicked two excellent points, with Walsh also raising a white flag.

Maguire knocked possession from Ryan O'Donoghue's grasp in the 11th minute. The play ended with an Eoghan McSweeney point.

Mayo's first point from play didn't arrive until the 22nd minute – and that it came from Jordan Flynn spoke volumes of our frustrations in trying to plug holes and points in Cork's well-disciplined defense.

Mayo ratcheted up the intensity at the beginning of the second period. Jordan Flynn kicked three points.

The second half was seven and a half minutes old before Cork got away their first shot. The second half was 13 minutes old when Cork managed the first score of the second period.

MAYO: C Reape; C Loftus, P O'Hora, D McBrien; J Coyne, P Durcan, D McHugh; D O'Connor, M Ruane; J Flynn, J Carney, S Coen; R O'Donoghue, A O'Shea, J Carr. **Subs:** T Conroy for Carr (HT); E McLaughlin for Coen (52); E Hession for Coyne (53); K McLoughlin for McHugh (67).

Scorers for Mayo: R O'Donoghue (0-5, 0-4 frees); T Conroy (1-1); J Flynn (0-4); C Reape (0-1 '45).

All-Ireland SFC Preliminary Quarter-Final- 25.06.2023**Mayo 1-10 Galway 0-12**

A week on from the disappointment of the Cork game and it was do or die in the cauldron of Pearse Stadium, Galway. As always weather conditions often lend themselves to a difficult afternoon for forwards with a strong wind hampering free flowing shooting. Seven minutes in and we looked in a good position after taking a 0:03 point to one lead. That was as good as it got for us in the first half as Galway reeled off seven points leaving us five down at the break and running out of road. We were aided in that half by Galway scoring eight but missing the same number of scores in that period.

Something had to improve in the second half and then David McBrien's 43rd minute goal proved to be the decisive score during a Mayo burst that yielded 1-5 without reply. Substitute Cillian O'Connor and Paddy Durcan with two delicious efforts edged Mayo three to the good with 17 minutes remaining.

In the closing stages Galway outscored Mayo by 0-4 to 0-2. It wasn't enough. A couple of late goalmouth scrambles were forced, but nothing materialized and we came away in good spirits and a pep in the step.

Scorers for Mayo: David McBrien 1-0, Tommy Conroy, Paddy Durcan, and Ryan O'Donoghue (1f) 0-2 each, Kevin McLoughlin, Stephen Coen, Cillian O'Connor, and James Carr 0-1 each.

Scorers for Galway: Shane Walsh 0-4 (4fs), John Maher and Matthew Tierney 0-2 each, Cillian McDaid, Damien Comer, Peter Cooke, and Paul Conroy 0-1 each.

Mayo: Colm Reape; Sam Callinan, David McBrien, Jack Coyne; Paddy Durcan, Jason Doherty, Eoghan McLaughlin; Stephen Coen, Diarmuid O'Connor; Jack Carney, Kevin McLoughlin, Jordan Flynn; Ryan O'Donoghue, Aidan O'Shea, Tommy Conroy. **Subs:** Enda Hession for Doherty (HT), Cillian O'Connor for McLoughlin (45), Mattie Ruane for Carney (59), James Carr for O'Shea (62), Donnacha McHugh for Coyne (70+2).

Galway: Connor Gleeson; Jack Glynn, Seán Fitzgerald, Johnny McGrath; Seán Kelly, Cian Hernon, John Daly; Paul Conroy, John Maher; Johnny Heaney, Peter Cooke, Cillian McDaid; Matthew Tierney, Damien Comer, Shane Walsh. **Subs:** Ian Burke for Comer (HT), Cathal Sweeney for Heaney (48), Rob Finnerty for Hernon (62), Tomo Culhane for Cooke (69)



SUN, 2ND JULY 2023 DUBLIN 2-17 MAYO 0-11

A dominant third-quarter display proved pivotal as Dublin eased past a lethargic Mayo by twelve points in their All-Ireland Senior Football Championship quarter-final at a blustery Croke Park on a Sunday afternoon.

Dublin were perhaps fortunate to lead by a point at half-time but assumed complete control in the early stages of the second half with three points in succession preceding a vital second goal through the influential Colm Basquel.

We simply had no response to this setback, showing visible signs of fatigue given their heavy workload over the preceding weeks, as Dublin repelled some sporadic and increasingly desperate pressure with a fair degree of comfort.

The anticipated 'chaos' that Mayo were expected to bring to proceedings never materialised in a cagey and tense opening period that saw Ryan O'Donoghue and Tommy Conroy cause problems for the Dublin defense with Aidan O'Shea securing a generous amount of possession.

A couple of errant Dublin shots were very unlike Dublin as O'Donoghue opened the scoring with the simplest of frees in the 1st minute.

Cormac Costello looked sharp from the outset and levelled matters in the 6th minute from an Eoin Murchan sortie up the field with O'Donoghue and Basquel trading points as the half evolved.

Costello edged Dublin in front with O'Donoghue restoring parity from another free spotted from deep by referee David Gough before Conroy placed Mayo back in front at the end of the first quarter.

Dublin were in need of some inspiration at this point and it duly arrived in the 18th minute as a lengthy delivery from David Byrne was seized upon by Basquel, who withstood Pádraig O'Hora before low past the exposed Colm Reape.

Our response to this setback was admirable, kicking the next three points through O'Donoghue, Conroy and O'Shea and O'Donoghue added another score to leave two points between the teams by the 25th minute.

Significantly, that proved their final score of the half as Dublin approached the break in a more energetic manner, with Costello converting two frees in quick succession to restore parity.

A second goal could have arrived but for Niall Scully palming off the butt of the post, but James McCarthy popped over the rebound to leave Dublin 1-6 to 0-8 clear at half-time.

Dublin's momentum was maintained upon the restart as they blitzed their opponents through early points from Paul Mannion, Basquel and Brain Fenton before the game's pivotal moment arrived in the 41st minute.

An innocuous looking ball seemed to favour the Mayo defense but Paul Mannion outsmarted the defense and Costello took the correct option in feeding Basquel for the simplest of finishes to the net.

Mannion added his second point as Mayo's challenge began to unravel despite them finally ending a scoreless period of twenty-four minutes through an excellent Paddy Durcan score.

The triple substitution of Ciaran Kilkenny, Paddy Small and Dean Rock all entered the game and made instant gains, kicking a point apiece as Dublin availed of the increasingly generous space afforded to them with Con O'Callaghan kicking two smart scores to put further daylight between the teams.

The last 15 minutes showed the differing routes to this stage, and one would have to assume that the greater number of games had to hamper the team. There could be no complaints, we were well beaten by a much better team on the day.

Scorers – Dublin: C Basquel 2-2, C Costello 0-5 (3f), P Mannion, C O'Callaghan, J McCarthy 0-2 apiece, B Fenton, P Small, D Rock, C Kilkenny 0-1 each. Mayo: R O'Donoghue 0-5 (2f), T Conroy 0-2, C Reape ('45'), A O'Shea (f), P Durcan, J Flynn 0-1 apiece.

Dublin: S Cluxton; E Murchan, M Fitzsimons, D Byrne; B Howard, J Small, L Gannon; B Fenton, J McCarthy; N Scully, S Bugler, C Costello; P Mannion, C O'Callaghan, C Basquel. Subs: J McCaffrey for Murchan (46), C Kilkenny for Bugler (48), P Small for Scully (54), T Lahiff for Costello (67), D Rock for Basquel (71).

Mayo: C Reape; P O'Hora, D McBrien, J Coyne; P Durcan, S Coen, S Callinan; M Ruane, D O'Connor; E McLaughlin, J Carney, J Flynn; A O'Shea, T Conroy, R O'Donoghue. Subs: E Hession for O'Hora (32), C O'Connor for O'Shea (47), K McLoughlin for McLaughlin (53), J Carr for Ruane (58), J Doherty for Callinan (70).

U20 Football:

The early season competition ended in a farcical situation whereby having reached the final, the opposition decided that they would not play. This resulted in a major setback to preparations, a scramble for pitches and players travelling across the county for no need. Thankfully the competition will not be on the calendar next season. The introduction of a Round Robin Competition will be the format in 2024 and that can only help football across the competition.

Sligo 0-17 Mayo 1-9 12.04.23

The game was due to be played in Hastings Insurance MacHale Park, but horrific weather meant the game was changed to the Connacht GAA Centre.

A thank you to John Prenty and his colleagues for facilitating that change.

The writing was on the wall at half time, and we were in trouble when they turned around trailing by 0-9 to 1-4 at the break having had the advantage of the diagonal wind in the opening half.

The Sligo full-forward line of Matt Henry, Daire O'Boyle and Luke Marren were a big threat and struck for 0-6 in that opening half. An excellent passing movement which included senior player Bob Tuohy, Tom O'Flaherty and James Maheady ended with Fenton Kelly fisting home a Mayo goal to lead by 1-2 to 0-3 after 15 mins.

Sligo resumed control after the restart after an early exchange of points and they shot seven points without reply to lead by 0-17 to 1-5 after 50 minutes with the starting full-forward line of Marren, O'Boyle and Henry finishing with 0-10, seven of them from play.

Midfielder Kelly did most to rally a Mayo comeback as he shot three points but while Sligo did not score for the closing 15 minutes, including added time, the outcome was never in doubt as they had built a sufficient lead.

Mayo: D Dolan; Cian McHale (Parke Keellogues Crimlin), S Callinan, C Boland; P Gilmore, S Morahan (C), C Dawson; B Tuohy (0-2), F Kelly (1-3); C Corless, T O'Flaherty (0-1), J Fallon; Cian McHale (Bohola Moy Davitts), J Maheady; D Hurley (0-2). Subs: R Fadden (0-1) for Fallon (44), F McLoughlin for MacHale (Bohola Moy Davitts) (49), D Joyce for Corless (50), A Beirne for Hurley (61).

Following the defeat, Maurice Sheridan stood down as the U20 Manager. Mhaigh Eo GAA would like to thank him most sincerely for his energy and involvement during his tenure.

Following a detailed policy lead recruitment five candidates put their names forward for the position left vacant by Maurice. All five candidates were interviewed with Peadar Gardiner, (Crossmolina Deel Rovers) ratified by the Coiste Chondae.

Peadar, his backroom and the players are wished well for the years ahead.



Mayo U17 Football:

The U17 Football Team managed by Sean Deane had a good innings in 2023 winning a Connacht title before succumbing to Monaghan in the Quarter Finals. The Connacht Final in Tuam was the highlight of the year. They were comprehensively beaten by Monaghan and exited the campaign at the ¼ stage.

FINAL: [Galway 1-10 Mayo 2-13](#) (St Jarlath's Park, Tuam, 26.5.2023). MAYO: Conor Meaney; James Lavelle, Eoin McGreal, Yousif Coghil; Jamie Clarke, Rio Mortimer (0-1), Fionan O'Reilly (0-1); Tiernan Egan (0-1), Shane Cunningham; Colm Lynch, Tom Lydon (1-3, 1-0 Pen and 3 frees), Dara Neary; Darragh Beirne (0-5, two frees), Josh Carey, Senan Guilfoyle (0-1). Subs: Gavin Forry (0-1) for Carey, Thomas Tuffy (1-0) for Neary, Seán Walsh for O'Reilly, Conor Ryder for Egan, Ryan Gibbons for Lynch.

All-Ireland Championship ¼ FINAL: [Monaghan 1-15 Mayo 1-8](#) (Páirc Seán MacDiarmada, Carrick-on-Shannon, 10.6.2023). MAYO: Conor Meaney; James Lavelle, Eoin McGreal, Yousif Coghil; Jamie Clarke, Rio Mortimer, Fionan O'Reilly; Tiernan Egan, Shane Cunningham; Colm Lynch (0-2), Tommy Lydon (0-2, frees), Gavin Forry; Darragh Beirne (0-3), Josh Carey (1-0), Senan Guilfoyle. Subs: Thomas Tuffy for Guilfoyle, Dara Neary (0-1) for Carey, Seán Walsh for O'Reilly, Fionnan Burke for Forry, Conor Ryder for Lynch.

Following the end of the season, Sean Deane and his Management Team completed their 3 Year Term, they were replaced by the Joint Managers of Tom Reilly and David Heaney.



County Competitions:

Our Club Championship games started in earnest in August. Many will have issues with the start date, but it was a clear decision made in consultation with the clubs earlier in the year. This year the CCC and Coiste Bainistíocht allocated 10 passes to each club. Coupled with the facility to purchase 10 tickets at the gate, the board is of the opinion that a compromise has been made. Society has gone cashless and, in order to be transparent, it is important that we move to more modern means.

The introduction of a specific assistant from each club at the gate has also helped to reduce issues on the day of a match. Your support with regard to this has been greatly appreciated. Con Moynihan, Chair of the Competitions Control Committee, will delve into the Club Championships in his report.

Adult Club Football Championships:

I would like to congratulate the Respective winners of the Championship and commiserate with the runners up.

Senior Championship	Ballina 0:06	Breaffy 0:04
Intermediate Championship	Kimeena 1:11	Ballinrobe 1:09
Junior Championship	Lahardane MacHales 2:10	Shrule Glencorrib 0:11
Junior B Championship	Acla 0:14	Ballycastle 1:07
Junior Championship B Teams	Knockmore 1:13	Westport 3:03

League:

Please see below the results from the 2023 League Finals.

Division 1	Castlebar 2:16	Westport 0:21
Division 2	Belmullet 3:10	BMD 1:15
Division 3	Ardagh 2:07	Ardnaree 0:07
Division 4	Ballintubber B 3:07	Northern Gaels 1:09
Division 5	Aghamore B 1:09	Garrymore B 0:10

Gate People:

I would sincerely like to thank the Gate people for the exemplary manner in which they approach a match day. They are a credit to their clubs and are greatly appreciated. Many thanks to Sinead McLoughlin for overseeing this area in such a professional manner.

Stewards:

The Stewards at our club and county grounds have again proved themselves to be more than capable and professional in their approach. On Match Day these men and women are the first to arrive and the last to leave. They ensure that patrons are looked after and safe on the grounds. I would sincerely like to thank Gerry Bourke and his team for the manner in which they apply themselves through county and club games.

There were issues with anti-social behaviour at league games and this raised its head on the floor at Coiste Chondae Meetings in April and October. Quite simply the negative behaviour by a tiny percentage is not acceptable. It was the view at a Coiste Chondae meeting to impose a small charge for U16's for League games in 2024. This is simply down to protecting the safety of our patrons. No one wants to see negative behaviour from the stands or groups interfering with supporters at our games. We will look to discuss the proposal with CLG.

Office & Support Staff:

I would like to thank and acknowledge Michael Cummins, Keith Deasy and Kevin Fitzmaurice for their work throughout the year. Michael and Keith keep the show running on a day-to-day level as a county we are blessed to have them. Michael continues to act as the glue within our organisation- we are extremely grateful for your professionalism and dedication. Kevin joined the team in September and hit the ground running. As he gets his feet under the table, we will see many improvements and savings within the brand.

Respect | Discipline

Overall, there were minimal amounts of issues with discipline. However, there was behaviour although sparse that was simply not acceptable. Most clubs have adopted a no-nonsense approach to poor behaviour but there continues to be an element within our units of appeal, appeal, appeal! It seems now that games at underage level are more of an issue. There have been issues with individual management teams and a minimal number of players, but any poor behaviour needs to be looked at. There has been some improvement, and the introduction of the Silent Sideline has improved matters although there are individuals who still try to live their lives vicariously through their children/team. Patrons complain about behaviour and the zero tolerance of other sports yet feel it is appropriate to roar at officials and opposing teams to a level that they see fit. Stop and think! The secretary of the Hearings Committee will outline the season for his committee in his report.

Negative Social Comments:

If you have nothing good to say, then perhaps don't.

Hurling:

Mayo Hurling: Tooreen Hurling Club were the only Mayo team to reach a national final during 2023 and their journey to the AIB GAA All-Ireland Intermediate Hurling Final at Croke Park last January. The final produced some outstanding hurling with Limerick champions Monaleen edging the encounter 1-17 to 1-15 after a pulsating finish. The Tooreen hurlers did themselves, their club, their families and their county proud and looked like they were on course for victory. The performance augers well for the future.

On the county scene, Dave McConn and Tom Phillips had a frustrating year with the Mayo Senior Hurling Team. Injuries early in the season curtailed their progress in the Allianz National Hurling League and some quality opposition from the likes of Meath, Kildare and Wicklow in the Christy Ring Championship resulted in Mayo dropping down to the Nicky Rackard Championship for 2024. Dave and Tom informed Mayo GAA that due to work commitments they were stepping down at the end of the season. Tooreen's Ray Larkin and Brian Finn were appointed as joint managers for the 2024 season.

We wish them well. Our Hurling Chairperson, Sean O Raghallaigh will go through hurling matters in more detail during his report.



Comortás Péil na Gaeltachta:

On the June Bank Holiday weekend CLG Chill Chomáin won the National Junior Comórtas Peile na Gaeltachta for the first time ever. Congratulations to all involved on a mighty success.

Re Fit out of the offices at MacHale Park:

Recently the offices in MacHale Park have been refitted to a standard that lends itself much more favourably to a productive environment for collaboration and meetings. This was a project lead by our Chair and is to be welcomed.

Officers:

I would sincerely like to thank the officers within the County Board. Invariably not a day goes by without a phone call or communication in particular to our Chairperson, Treasurer, Vice Chair, Assistant Treasurer, PRO or Divisional Reps . Your dedication, knowledge and support is greatly appreciated. All too often people lose sight of the fact that the officers of the county board are there in a fully voluntary capacity who serve their county and clubs to the best of their ability. There are times when decisions have to be made and unfortunately, they aren't always the decisions that clubs/individuals want but are do so with the best intentions of Mayo football. There will always be individuals who wish to call out these decisions but at the same time aren't able to roll up their sleeves and come up with a viable alternative.

Coiste Bainistíocht:

I would like to thank each and every member of the Coiste Bainistíocht for their hard work during the year. Each and every member contributes in some way to the overall benefit of Mayo GAA and for that I am thankful. The ability of the group to collaborate and work both in person and online has made the running of the group more effective.

Coaches:

I would like to thank all the coaches who work with our academies. These people put in long hours coaching, planning and delivering instruction and wisdom to the next cohort of players right across the county. Thank you to Billy McNicholas, Declan O Reilly and Kieran Kilkenny in this area. A clear pathway has been created for the players and coaches alike to ensure that our players excel at both county and club.

Coaches and Support Teams:

I would like to acknowledge the work and level of detail taken on by all our coaches and Support Staff of our Intercounty Teams. There is a huge volume of work going on behind the scenes and the rewards are there for our players on the fields.

Clubs:

I would sincerely like to both acknowledge and thank the clubs for their support over the last year. The demands on club officials are becoming higher each and every year. Many people within your own units fail to see the importance of running a tight ship and often ignore the hard work that is put in by all officials at club level. With that in mind and to promote learning from one another I hope to run two information nights for club secretaries in 2024. The first of these will take place in January.

Liaison Officers (LO):

I would like to thank M. Diskin (Senior Football), M. Walsh (Hurling), C. Moynihan (U20) and S. Quinn (U17) for their work in supporting both the respective teams and the board in their role as LO over the last year.

Divisional Boards:

I would like to thank the Divisional Boards for the manner in which they conduct their business. They prove a valuable link with clubs and their officers throughout the year.

Grounds:

I would like to thank Phil for his hard work and dedication in making sure that MacHale park is kept in pristine condition throughout the season. The clubs throughout the county have been very supportive in the allocation of games to MacHale Park. The use of venues around the county for neutral games and games at the end of the championship has brought both revenue to towns around the county and supported clubs in gate money. The venues have also been exemplary in their dedication on match day in terms of stewarding, assistance to gate people and in welcoming teams to their venue.

CCC:

The CCC Committee continues to run the Football and Hurling competitions within the County with Con Moynihan in the Chair. The work that this Committee carries out throughout the year goes largely unnoticed by the general public. It is extremely challenging organising fixtures, venues, and referees throughout the season. The Committee also has to deal with disciplinary issues which at times can be challenging. I wish to acknowledge the efforts and work of each member of the Committee for the extremely difficult task they carried out during the year.

I wish to thank the Hearings Committee under Chairman Brendan Byrne and Secretary Craig Middleton who are always available, sometimes at very short notice, to adjudicate on matters. They do so in a very fair and balanced manner

Coaching:

Declan O'Reilly is our Coaching Officer and works closely with Billy McNicholas on all Coaching matters within the County. A tremendous amount of work was carried out with our Academy teams during the year, and I would like to thank all the Coaches involved. Kieran Kilkenny as Performance GDA for Mayo GAA has added greatly to all our teams within the county. At present we have no Hurling GPO within the county. This position is proving very difficult to fill due to the logistics and the expansion of hurling within the county. The Coiste Bainistí has taken steps in recent weeks to re-advertise the role and the view is now there to advertise the role as two P/T positions.

I want to thank Declan for all the work he has done in this area over the past twelve months. He has gone about his duties with exemplary and great diligence.

Handball:

Mayo GAA handball operated under the stewardship of Gemma O'Malley and a very hard-working committee. Michael Heraty is the Handball Delegate to the board, and I would like to thank Gemma, Michael, and their committee. Gemma has completed her tenure as Handball Chairperson and I wish her well as she departs the role.

Gemma's report will follow later in the booklet.

**PRO:**

John Walker is our PRO, and he has done a great promotion of Mayo GAA through Social Media Channels during the year. John continues to keep the Mayo faithful up to date with team news fixtures and upcoming events through our social media outlets. This area has mushroomed over the last few years, and I thank John and his team for the work which they carry out. Mayo GAA T.V. continues to go from strength to strength and we are indebted to John and his hard-working PR Committee for the service they provide. John has carried out an extensive revamp of the Mayo GAA Website and I'm sure that will be a positive aspect of our engagement with clubs and supporters. Thanks again to John and his committee for a job well done.

Connacht Council/Central Council:

Paul Cunnane and Liam Moffatt are our Connacht Council representatives and I thank them for their work throughout the year.

Thanks to John Prenty for his advice and support during the year and also to all the Staff at Connacht GAA.

Paddy McNicholas is our Central Council delegate and has been our voice at the Management table in Croke Park. I would like to thank Paddy for his work during the year.

Planning and Development Committee:

Mary Prenty is our Planning and Development Officer. Mary has done great - work throughout the year organising various training seminars for Club Officers. As planning and Development Officer Mary has also organised workshops on various relevant topics which will prove invaluable to Clubs in the years ahead. Mary was also on hand to help Clubs with developments. I would like to thank Mary and her Committee for their efforts during 2023.

Infrastructure:

Michael Diskin looked after the infrastructure portfolio during 2023 and he oversaw the continued improvement of the playing surface in Hastings Insurance McHale Park. Michael also looked after the booking of pitches and dressing rooms for our various teams. I wish to sincerely thank Michael for the work he has done throughout the year. Michael also served the role of Liaison Officer (LO) with the Mayo GAA Board and the Mayo Senior Football Team. Michael undertook sterling work in this role with meticulous planning and organisational whilst further developing an excellent rapport with all stakeholders involved.

Childrens Officer:

Celia Rattigan is our Childrens Officer, and she has carried out her duties in exemplary fashion during the year. This was Celia's second year in the role, and she carried out her duties in a superb manner. Celia was always on hand to offer advice to Clubs in relation to Garda Vetting, Child Protection issues and Safeguarding courses. I want to thank Celia for her work throughout the year in engaging in an exceedingly difficult and complex area.

Culture:

Grainne Kelly-Frayne continues to do tremendous work as our Cultural Officer. I would like to thank Grainne and her Committee for their work during the year. Work continues to go on behind the scenes in relation to our history project. Grainne and her Committee are also responsible for Scor and again they cover great work within the County promoting Scor. Congratulations to all representatives from Mayo who recently took part in the All Irelands in Kerry.

**Bord na nÓg:**

Bord na nÓg continue to organise underage fixtures within the County. This year the Bord na nÓg was headed up by Charlie Lambert as Chair and Brian O Malley as Rúnaí. They held responsibility for a huge number of games and blitz days throughout the year. The Blitz Days were a particular success. I know from first-hand experience that the organisation of so many fixtures coupled with venues and referees makes it one of the most demanding sub-committees within Mayo GAA. I wish to acknowledge the efforts of the Committee throughout the year

Cairde Mhaigh Eo Fundraising:

I would like to thank our Cairde Mhaigh Eo fundraising Committee who are responsible for fundraising events throughout the year. There were Golf Classics held in Claremorris and Dublin which were well supported. I would like to thank Maria Staunton and her hard-working Committee for all their work on fundraising during the year. I know the Cairde group are planning great new projects in 2024 and they will have our full support.

I also wish to acknowledge the significant financial contribution of Cairde Mhaigh Eo in London, your financial support is very much appreciated. The Mayo London Association recently celebrated their 60th in London at a well-attended function by players, officials and friends of Mayo GAA. The Mayo London Association remains a very valued friend of Mayo GAA.

Referees:

Thank you to Sean MacHale for his work as Referee Co Ordinator again this year. Sincerest thanks to our referees who act so professionally throughout the year in facilitating our games. Refereeing is a difficult role and is often not helped by the experts on the sideline or in the stand. Like everything it is easy to complain but far more difficult to make a difference. There is a motion in regarding each club recruiting at least one more referee and I sincerely hope that when passed this matter is given full support in 2024.

Health and Well-being:

Fran Downey Chaired our Health and Wellbeing Committee in 2023. Fran and her team worked tirelessly throughout the year to assist Clubs across the County. The promotion of the “Healthy Club programme” was very well-received by Clubs. Fran recently secured Hastings MacHale Park as a smoke and vape free stadium. Fran was always on hand to offer advice to clubs. Congratulations to Fran and her committee on the recent award achieved at the Provincial Level-It is a reflection of the superb work carried out in this area. I would like to thank Fran and her Committee for their work throughout the year.

Finance:

Valerie Murphy is our Treasurer and as you will see from the accounts that will be presented to Convention Mayo GAA is an extremely satisfactory financial position. Valerie has ensured that Mayo is in a stable financial state now, however we must remain cautious in terms of our spending. I would like to thank Valerie and her Finance Committee for the work that they have done during the year by keeping a tight rein on spending and having proper procedures in place. I also wish to acknowledge the enormous amount of work Michael Diskin, our Assistant Treasurer, does in relation to the payment of Player expenses, the Club Development Draw and organising the Gate People for our Championship. I would also like to thank our Audit and Risk Committee for the very important work they have done throughout the year.

Club Insurance and Player Injury:

I wish to acknowledge the work that Regina O'Donnell has done in this area. Regina was always on hand to offer advice on Insurance matters to Clubs throughout the County. Thank you, Regina, for a job well done.

Congress 2023:

Congress 2023 was held in Croke Park in February. There was a large number of motions raised-one of which caused major confusion in relation to league/championship groups in Rule 6.21 (c). It would have been more useful if the rule was changed after all counties had already passed their Byelaws. Mayo County Board would like to congratulate Jarlath Burns on become the next President of the GAA. It is an honour for him, his family and his club.

We would also like to wish Larry McCarthy well as his term finishes up in 2024. Larry attended our County Final this year and was often on hand for advice and support.

Sponsorship:

A sincere thank you to all our sponsors whose financial support throughout the year has proved invaluable to the Board.

Connacht Gold sponsored the Senior Football Championship; Egan Jewelers sponsored the Intermediate Championship, and the TF Hotel sponsored the Junior Championship.

Homeland continued to sponsor our underage competitions and Smyths Toys have continued their sponsorship of the underage academies.

Elvery's continues to be our main sponsor and I want to thank them and Pat Rowland for all their help.

Portwest continued their sponsorship in 2023 and we within Mayo GAA are grateful for their financial support.

MacHale Park retained the name of our sponsor Hastings Insurance in 2023 and we are very grateful to all the team at Hastings for your support.

Corduff Travel continue to be our Travel Partners, for which we are very thankful.

Smyths Toys renewed their support of the academies in 2023 and I would also like to thank them for their continued financial support

It is great to see successful local businesses putting money back into the Community via Mayo GAA.

Bereavements:

During the past year we lost some people who had devoted their lives to the GAA and more importantly Mayo GAA, we remember them all in our thoughts.

To all those who suffered bereavement during the year may I, on behalf of Mayo GAA, offer our sincere condolences to all.

Media

To the media, Western People, Connaught Telegraph and Mayo News. I thank you most sincerely for your coverage of both our games and meetings during the year.

A big thank you to Mid-West Radio who continue to broadcast many of our games throughout the year to people at home but more importantly to the Mayo diaspora spread all over the world. I would also like to thank An Garda Síochána, Murray Ambulance and the Order of Malta who provide a valuable service on match days not only in MacHale Park but throughout the County on the latter stages of our club championships.

Conclusion:

This is my first report as Rúnaí of Mhaigh Eo and whilst I have enjoyed the role it does come with its challenges. Like clubs, the role of a voluntary secretary can erode an inordinate amount of time with greater demands coming all the time. I would like to think that I have always been contactable for club officers, approachable and reliable in supporting and working with clubs in a positive manner. While some may not like the decisions made at time, we, as officers, are bound by the T.O. and the Codes of the GAA.

As the year draws to a close I would like to take the opportunity to wish you all a very Happy Christmas while looking forward to the 2024 GAA calendar with great interest, hope and confidence.

Ronán Ó Ciaráin

Rúnaí



Tuairsc Iomána Mhaigh Eo 2023

Tá cúrsaí iomána ag dul ó neart go neart i gcontae Mhaigh eo faoi láthair. Tá deich gclub anois ag imirt iománaíochta faoi aois agus sinsear. Ba mhaith liom mo bhuíochas a ghabháil le gach duine a rinne an-iarracht an cluiche a fheabhsú agus a láidriú sa chontae i 2023. Tá sár-obair déanta ag imreoirí, bainisteoirí, oifigigh agus gach duine atá ag obair ar son na h-Iomána ar fud an chontae. Gabhaim buíochas leo ar fad agus guím gach rath orthu agus muid ag tabhairt faoi 2024.

Mayo currently have ten active adult hurling clubs. Two new clubs, Ballyvary and Gaeltacht Iorrais, fielded teams at adult level for the first time in 2023.

This is more hurling clubs than at any time in our history.

We have seen a resurgence of hurling in the county at underage and adult level and we look forward to building on this for the year ahead.

On the club scene we saw over 230 hurling games played at all levels and the introduction of a new divisional team, St Ciarán's which competed in the Mayo Senior Hurling Championship.

Inter-County Hurling

National Hurling League

David McConn and Tom Philips took over as joint managers at the start of the 2023 campaign. Mayo played in Division 3A of the National Hurling League and drew their first game at home to Roscommon but suffered defeats to Fermanagh and Armagh (away). They won their last two games against Monaghan and Louth and therefore maintained their Division 3A status for next year. Mayo's league campaign was seriously hampered by injury and the success of Tooreen in the Intermediate club Championship. The Tooreen players were not available for most of the league campaign as they reached the All-Ireland final which was played on January 14th. Tooreen were defeated by Monaleen on a score of 1-17 to 1-15.

Christy Ring Cup

Mayo had a tough Championship campaign. They suffered a tough defeat in the first round against Meath in Navan on a score line of 2-22 to 0-24.

Mayo faced an uphill challenge after this defeat and were unable to secure another victory with defeats to Tyrone, London, Sligo and Derry. The Mayo captain for the year was Tooreen's David Kenny. Joint managers David McConn and Tom Philips decided to step away at the end of the season for personal and business reasons. Brian Finn and Ray Larkin have taken up the role of joint-management and we wish them well in 2024. Mayo will play in the Nicky Rackard championship in 2024.

Mayo U-20 Hurling

Mayo U-20s were managed by Brian Finn (Tooreen) with Austin Kenny (Tooreen) and Billy McGhee (Caiseal Gaels) as selectors. They trained twice a week in Ballyvary Community Pitch. The All-Ireland U-20 competition was run on a knock-out basis. Mayo reached the All-Ireland semi-final and lost to a very strong Derry team who went on to win the competition. All gear, jerseys, tracksuits, etc. was supplied by Mayo County Board. Manager Brian Finn will continue in this role for 2024.

Mayo U-17 Celtic Challenge Cup

The Mayo U-17 hurlers competed in the Celtic Challenge championship. Mayo had a very successful year at the U-17 age group. This team was managed by the experienced Brian Finn from Tooreen. Mayo U-17s had some good performances in the early rounds and managed to reach the All-Ireland semi-final against Meath. Meath came out on top after a close match.

Jerseys were supplied by Croke Park and track suits, training tops, socks and togs were supplied by Mayo County Board. Mayo U-17 management would like to thank Mayo County Board members Seamus Tuohy, Valerie Murphy, John Walker, Billy McNicholas and Michael Cummins. Thanks also to Thagh Morley and Adrian Hession for their input during the year.

Mayo U-15 Hibernia Cup

History was made in Mayo this year with the county entering two hurling teams for the first time ever in the Croke Park run, National U15 Hibernia Cup Hurling championship. Seventy five players from ten different Mayo GAA hurling clubs attended trials at the start of the year in Hastings Insurance MacHale Park. Due to the phenomenal interest from the clubs and players Mayo GAA Games Manager Billy McNicholas and Mayo GAA Performance GDA Kieran Kilkenny proposed to the Mayo GAA Executive that two teams should be allowed to represent Mayo during the year. The Mayo GAA Executive and Mayo hurling committee backed the proposal. Both Mayo U15 hurling teams fulfilled all their fixtures and represented Mayo GAA with great distinction and honour. Following the preliminary rounds Mayo 1 (Players born in 2008) and Mayo 2 (Players born in 2009) both reached the knockout stages of the competition.

The success of both teams, the improvement in skill levels and the camaraderie that was formed during the year is testament to the vision and support of all associated with Mayo GAA. Mayo GAA Coaching and Games provided expert Strength and Conditioning programmes for all the players and they were monitored and tested at regular intervals. The players were also provided with skill development targets and wall ball exercises which were all completed and reviewed by the management team. Once the winter skills development and S&C programmes were completed, on field training commenced in February with the National Competition starting in April.

The Mayo GAA U15 Hurling management team is indebted to all the team working with Mayo GAA Coaching and Games as their expertise and advice was always available. It must also be noted that members of the Mayo GAA Coaching & Games team attended several of our games at home and away and this was noted by parents and management who really appreciated their interest and support.

The Mayo 1 National Final was hosted at St. Aidan's GAA Grounds in Roscommon in August with Mayo taking home the Stephen Doorigan All-Ireland U15 Hurling Shield after two titanic games against Roscommon and Armagh. Mayo 2 travelled to the Sligo Centre of Excellence in Scarden for their National finals and faced stiff opposition in Donegal and Tyrone. After two enthralling games Mayo 2 were also successful in winning the Peter O'Keefe National shield. The Mayo 1 team was captained by Fionn Ó Cinnseala from Westport and Mark Jennings from Claremorris. The Mayo 2 team was captained by Rian Fallon from Castlebar Mitchels and Zach Smith from Ballyhaunis Hurling club.

Mayo GAA U15 Hibernia Cup Management 2022

Sean Henaghan (Team Manager- Claremorris)

Richie Crinnegan (Coach / S & C- Tooreen)

Adrian Hession (Coach-Tooreen)

Darren Conlon (Coach-Ballyhaunis)

Piaras Ó Raghallaigh (Coach- Westport)

John Enright (Coach-Castlebar Mitchells)

Michael Bolger (Coach / Freetaking- Ballina)

Lucian Brooks (Coach / First Aid- Castlebar)

Club Competitions

Tooreen made history in January by reaching the All-Ireland Intermediate Hurling final in Croke Park. They lost narrowly after a great battle with Monaleen from Limerick 1-17 to 1-15. Tooreen's success has brought great publicity to hurling in Mayo and they have been great ambassadors for the county. We wish them well in their Connacht and All-Ireland campaign this year.

Three adult Championship competitions were run in Mayo in 2023; Senior, Junior A and Junior B. twelve teams from ten clubs competed in these competitions.

Senior Championship

Castlebar, Tooreen, Ballyhaunis and the St Ciarán's amalgamation competed in the senior hurling championship for the TJ Tyrell Cup. The St Ciarán's team was an amalgamation of the seven junior hurling clubs. There was a round-robin format with Ballyhaunis and Tooreen meeting in the final on October 21st in Ballyhaunis GAA grounds. The finalists produced an entertaining game in ideal conditions. Tooreen came out on top and secured the TJ Tyrell for the 33rd time on a score line of 0-13 to 0-8.

In the Senior B final St Ciarán's made history defeating Castlebar Mitchels by two points (0-20 to 1-15) in a game played at St Patrick's Park in Westport. This was a significant win for the newly established St Ciarán's team and their manager Seán McGahon from Moytura. We hope that this new initiative can develop and grow in the years ahead.

Genfitt Cup-League

The Genfitt Cup involved eight teams in two divisions. Ballyhaunis won the Division 1 final defeating Tooreen. Ballina defeated Moytura in the Division 2 Final and Claremorris brought home the Shield Final defeating Caiseal Gaels.

Junior Hurling

2023 saw two Junior Championship competitions, Junior A and Junior B. Four teams competed in Junior A for the Ciaran Byrne Cup. Westport, Ballina Stephenites, Moytura and Tooreen B. This proved to be a very successful competition which culminated in a final between Ballina and Moytura on October 8th in MacHale Park, Castlebar. In a brilliant game of hurling Ballina snatched a late victory in extra time with a goal.

The Junior B competition involved Ballyvary, Claremorris, Gaeltacht Iorrais, Caiseal Gaels and Castlebar B. The final was contested by Castlebar B and Caiseal Gaels. Castlebar came out on top in a very close game and were helped by two goals from their man of the match Abdullah Abassi.

Iománaíocht Faoi Aois

Mayo clubs had a very successful year at underage level in 2023. Championships were played at the even age groups U-12, U-14, U-16 and U-18. We had great participation levels from all clubs in all age groups. 2023 saw 18 underage clubs and schools finals hosted this year.

This was the largest number of hurling finals in a single year to date. Seven different clubs took home silverware with Tooreen and Westport leading the way with 4 titles each, followed by Moytura and Caiseal Gaels with two each and Ballyhaunis and Claremorris each brought back some silverware also. Ballyhaunis CS and Rice College picked up the remaining schools finals.

In total, 11 clubs were represented in the various finals. Many new referees came on board for the year making for a very smooth year fixture wise. None of this would have been possible were it not for the Trojan work done by Adrian Hession as part of Coiste Iomána na nÓg.

The following were the teams who competed at each level:

- U-20: Castlebar, Tooreen
- U-18: St Ciaran's, Westport, Tooreen, Castlebar, Claremorris
- U-16: Castlebar, Claremorris, Tooreen, St Ciaran's, Ballyhaunis
- U-14: Castlebar, Claremorris, Tooreen, Ballyhaunis, Ballina, Caiseal Gaels, Moytura, Ballyvary, Ballina Stephenites, Gaeltacht Iorrais.
- U-12: Castlebar, Claremorris, Tooreen, Ballyhaunis, Ballina, Caiseal Gaels, Moytura, Ballyvary, Ballina Stephenites, Gaeltacht Iorrais.

Féile na nGael Hurling 2023

Féile 2023 was again played at the U-15 age group and the finals were hosted by Westport GAA Club. Westport were victorious in the A Final defeating Castlebar. Westport went on to represent Mayo in the National Féile Finals in Galway.

Claremorris defeated Caiseal Gaels in the B Féile final and went on to represent Mayo in the Féile regional finals in the COE Bekan.

Coiste Iomána Mhaigh Eo 2023

The Hurling Committee consists of three members which is a sub-committee of the County Board. The members are Cathaoirleach: Seán Ó Raghallaigh (Westport) Rúnaí: Donall O' Brien (Ballyhaunis), OCP: Anne McGahon (Moytura). Thank you also to Coiste Iomána na nÓg Adrian Hession (PRO) and Donie O' Sullivan (Assistant Secretary) for their work with underage competitions throughout the year.

I would like to thank the members of the Hurling Board who have worked hard to promote the game throughout the county in 2023.

Nótaí Buíochais

All hurling clubs and their officers for their commitment to the promotion of the game of hurling in Mayo.

All referees who officiate and make it possible for the games to be played. We appreciate your contribution to hurling in the county.

David McConn and Tom Philips the Mayo Senior Hurling Management team who stepped down in 2023. For all their hard work and commitment throughout the year.

County Board officers Cathaoirleach Seamus Tuohy, Secretary Ronan Kirrane, Vice-Chairman Con Moynihan, Treasurer Valerie Murphy, Assistant Treasurer Michael Diskin. Thank you for your support and commitment to hurling in 2023.

PRO John Walker and his committee for promoting the game at all levels in Mayo. This has helped to significantly grow the game at grassroots level.

Mayo GAA administrator Michael Cummins. Michael is always available and willing to help with any issues or problems that arose during the year.

All coaches promoting the game in Mayo. Your contribution keeps the game alive and well in Mayo. The Competition Controls Committee (CCC) for their work in organising all adult hurling competitions under the guidance of Con Moynihan. Con has been a great support throughout the year in all matters relating to hurling.

Bord na nÓg for their collaboration and co-operation in organising underage fixtures. Go raibh maith agat Charlie Lambert (Cathaoirleach) agus Brian O' Malley (Rúnaí).

Local Media for all their coverage of hurling throughout the year.

Mar fhocal scoir guím gach rath ar gach duine atá bainteach le CLG Mhaigh Eo. Tá súil agam go mbeidh Nollag mhór mhaith ag gach duine agaibh agus go mbeirimid uilig beo ar an am seo arís!

Le gach dea-ghuí

Seán Ó Raghallaigh

Cathaoirleach Iomána Mhaigh Eo.

Mayo GAA Hurling Finals – 2023

Competition	Winner	Runner-Up	Referee
SeniorA Hurling Championship (Tyrell Cup)	Tooreen	Ballyhaunis	Eoin Shaughnessy
SeniorB Hurling Championship	St Ciarans	Castlebar	Eadhmonn MacSuibhe
Junior A Hurling Championship (Early Cup)	Ballina	Moytura	Eadhmon MacSuibhne
Junior B Hurling Championship (Byrne Cup)	CastlebarB	Caiseal Gaels	John Walker
Senior Hurling League A1 Final (Genfitt Cup)	Ballyhaunis	Tooreen	Eoin Shaughnessy
Senior Hurling League B1 Final (Genfitt Shield)	Ballina	Moytura	James Judge
Senior Hurling League B2 Final (Genfitt Plate)	Claremorris	Caiseal Gaels	Sean O’Neill
U20A Hurling Championship	Castlebar	Tooreen	John Walker
U18A Hurling Championship (Connor Cup)	Tooreen	Castlebar	Sean Granahan
U18B Hurling Championship	Westport	St Ciarans	Eadhmon MacSuibhne
U16A Hurling Championship (BRB Cup)	Tooreen	Castlebar	Sean Granahan
U16B Hurling Championship	St Ciarans	Claremorris	Eoin Shaughnessy
U15 FeileA Hurling (Freeman Cup)	Westport	Castlebar	Mel Kenny
U15 FeileB Hurling	Claremorris	St Ciarans	Sean O’Neill
U14A1 Hurling Championship (Morley Cup)	Westport	Claremorris	James Judge
U14A2 Hurling Championship (Morley Shield)	Tooreen	Ballyhaunis	Eadhmon MacSuibhne
U14B1 Hurling Championship	Moytura	Ballina	Sean O’Neill
U14B2 Hurling Championship	Caiseal Gaels	Ballyvary	Peter Cassidy
U12 A1 Hurling Festival Final	Westport	Claremorris	Lucian Brooks
U12 A2 Hurling Festival Final	Ballyhaunis	Castlebar	Michael Herr
U12 B1 Hurling Festival Final	Moytura	Ballyvary	Peter Cassidy
U12 B2 Hurling Festival Final	Caiseal Gaels	Ballina	Joe Greaney
U12 B3 Hurling Festival Final	TooreenB	Gaeltacht Iorrais	Nick Carolan
Mayo GAA Post Primary SeniorA Final	<i>Ballyhaunis CS</i>	<i>St Colmans</i>	<i>John Walker</i>
Mayo GAA Post Primary SeniorB Final	<i>Rice College</i>	<i>St Pats</i>	<i>Sean Granahan</i>
Mayo GAA Post Primary JuvenileA Final	<i>Rice College</i>	<i>St Pats</i>	<i>John E Burke</i>

Competitions Control Committee Report 2023

Introduction

This is my 9th report to Convention and my 4th as CCC Chair.

This year was a welcome return to normality after the past 3 years were at all or some stages affected by Covid. A special thanks at the outset to all clubs in Mayo who have made vital contributions to their communities on and off the field in 2023.

We began to see the real effects of the split season in 2023 and in my opinion it has been a huge success and despite needing a few tweaks it is here to stay.

The fact that our Inter County season is now being played first and the Club season takes priority from Late July onwards lifted our games to a new level. Huge crowds, great atmospheres and great occasions in towns all over Mayo have been a feature of these new split seasons. The fact that this year we played County semi Finals outside McHale Park brought a whole new vibrancy to these competitions. There were of course criticisms but the silence after those events was deafening.

The earlier start to the 2023 club championship also helped and the 2 week breaks between rounds certainly was appreciated by players, management and administrators. We hope to put the same format in place for 2024.

Mayo GAA TV has grown from strength to strength and again I feel that the appetite exists to broaden the appeal of this channel through 2024 and beyond. A special thanks to all the clubs who hosted Mayo GAA TV this year, they showcased their grounds to perfection and nothing was too much trouble to accommodate our broadcast teams.

I would recommend that a mid-week magazine show be introduced in 2024 to update supporters on a weekly basis as to Inter County , Adult and Bord Na Nog News.

The future will always be about adapting to the needs of our members and we incorporated a Review of our football and hurling into our calendar and competitions in 2023 and as a result, we will have a new League Structure in place for the next 3 seasons. It is hoped that these annual reviews will continue as we strive to improve our product.

U20s

The U20s began their year in early January and played 3 games in the Leo Murphy Cup during February and March. Wins over Sligo and Derry were positive and although a defeat against Donegal in our 3rd game, the team qualified for the Leo Murphy Cup Final versus Meath. On the day of the final the pitch in Kiltoom was declared unplayable and despite the best efforts of both the Connacht Council and Mayo, Meath refused to fulfil the fixture. The entire weekend was written off but the poor behaviour by both the Meath U-20 management and County Board left a sour taste.

Championship brought us a return knockout fixture versus Sligo and for the second year in a row defeat was our lot. The team just did not perform on the evening and were outclassed by a superior Sligo outfit that went on to claim back to back Connacht titles.

This fixture proved to be the end of Maurice Sheridan's 3 years in charge – a bounce of the ball vs Sligo last year might have seen a more realistic judgement of his time in charge.

I wish to thank Maurice and his backroom team for their work over the past 3 years and I firmly believe that many of the players who worked under him will play for Mayo at Senior Level.

On a personal level it was a pleasure to work with Maurice and his backroom team and I wish them well in all of their future endeavours.

Twenty three of the panel are of age again in 2024 and again hopes are high. There was serious interest in the U20 job and this is a tribute to the number of excellent coaches that we are producing in the county.

Peadar Gardiner was the successful candidate and I look forward to working with him in 2024.

The change in format should suit all of the teams in the province and it promises to be an excellent competition.

This change in format is a drum that I have been banging for many years so I welcome it.

Calendar

This was the second year under my watch where we could meet the clubs and get advice and suggestions on how to run our competitions in 2023.

We held two meetings with clubs in late January and fed their suggestions in to the calendar.

As a result the Club Calendar was issued in early February and we hoped that it would run smoothly for the year. For the most part it did however we had one or two hiccups which were mainly down to issues outside the control of the CCC.

The main issues were the fact that we did not finish our competitions as per 2022. This was a suggestion from the clubs but it will not happen in 2024- All Divisional Senior Competitions will be played right to a finish – if clubs do not make the knock out stages of these competitions then they will have more time to train in order to improve.

I felt that the New Junior Competitions went on too late and despite the clubs request for this to happen, even they will admit that it didn't work. Playing 3 Finals on a Sunday in the middle of a storm led to 1 being called off at half time and the other 2 going to ET and penalties in the case of the New Junior B. That didn't deter Captain Michael Gallagher of Claremorris who gave a great speech after receiving the shield and he outlined the importance of the competition for him and his teammates, which was refreshing to hear and we know now that these competitions are here to stay.

Our main sponsors for our Championships re-affirmed their commitment and for that they have our gratitude. We will be looking for a sponsor for our re-vamped Leagues in 2024 and that process will commence early in the New Year. Our New League Structure was passed in October and our League and Championship Regulations will be ratified at Co Board level at the end of February. The new season will commence in mid-March with Comortas and Divisional Cups.

It is hoped that this starting date will be the normal start of the season for club footballers in Mayo going forward.

Club Competitions

Our Club Competitions commenced in March with the Junior Comortas Competition Preliminary Rounds and the Finals the following week hosted by Cill Chomain. Cill Chomain were victorious and went on to represent Mayo in the National Competition on the June Bank Holiday weekend where they performed brilliantly to secure the National title.

Beal an Mhuirthead represented Mayo in the Senior Competition. Club competitions started in earnest on the last weekend in March when the Divisional Competitions commenced.

Adult Championships Draw and M Walsh Draw took place in March. The M Walsh Competition was run on a knockout format in 2023 and proved very popular in terms of games played and attendances- indeed the case can be made that the game of the year was the M Walsh Senior Final between Knockmore and Charlestown which went to extra time on a cold October day in Swinford.

Last year both the Divisional Cups and M Walsh Competitions were finished by the end of May. This year they were shoe horned in by clubs as they saw fit – This will not happen in 2024. A return to the 2022 calendar will mean closure of all competition prior to Championship. Some of the excuses offered by clubs this year bordered on the surreal. Fines will not be imposed by the CCC in 2024- instead clubs will lose home advantage for league and possibly Championship games- these CCC decisions are beyond the scope of the Hearings Committee so maybe that will focus minds, especially those club managers who have the squads but just don't want to play for whatever reason.

Michael Walsh Cups

Knockmore defeated Charlestown after extra time in a brilliant game of football in Swinford in early October. The main talking points afterward was how far the 2 teams would have gone in the Championship if they had played the open football that was on show in McCallion Park.

Elsewhere Ballinrobe defeated Kilmeena in the Intermediate Final (a fixture which was to be repeated in the County Final 2 months later) and Shrute Glencorrib lifted the junior trophy, defeating Eastern Gaels.

These competitions worked well this year, mainly due to the fact that it was a knockout competition. However with the recommendations for changes to the League Diary this competition will be under pressure in 2023. A recommendation from the Review meeting in November was to rename the County Cup to the M Walsh Cup for Senior/Intermediate teams and to hold a M Walsh Junior Cup for teams who are unable to field a B team in the New Junior Championship.

New Junior Championships

This competition commenced over the May Bank Holiday weekend and the B and C Finals were completed on schedule by late September. Claremorris B and Ballinrobe B won the B and C titles respectively and the A Final had to be replayed after a deluge in MacHale Park which forced the abandonment of the original fixture. It was completed 2 weeks later and Knockmore B had a comprehensive victory over Westport B. Last year The A Final was played in Mid-August by mutual agreement and the B and C Finals were played much earlier. There will be much discussion in January where and when to play these finals but my initial reaction is to return to the 2022 arrangement

Only 8 games were conceded in these competitions which was very satisfactory, however the concession of a County Semi Final was disappointing and will have serious consequences when our Regulations are submitted in 2024

Minor Leagues and Championships

As an 18 year old can now play Adult Football these competitions were ran under the remit of the CCC in 2023 and were very successful. Very few games were conceded in both league and Championship and the new format for the Minor Championship worked really well with only 5 games not played out of 70.

The diary is already very busy and we would once again hope to have the Minor Championship completed in time for the Adult Championships and the U17 Championships.

Adult Leagues

The Adult Leagues were completed on schedule and the results are attached at the end of my report. The issue of some B teams' capability to fulfil fixtures is always a serious issue and was to be addressed in 2023.

However several teams yet again entered competitions that they were unable to participate in. The first 3 divisions had only 3 games in total not played while Divisions 4 and 5 had 21 concessions out of 99 fixtures

There was a suggestion for a larger entry fee for 2nd and 3rd teams in 2023 and this may have to happen in 2024.

The Leagues for the most part were highly competitive and clubs should have been aware that they were playing for positions as the League was going to be re-structured – indeed they had been told often enough. Congratulations to all of the teams who won their respective leagues.

Adult Championships

Our Adult Championships again took centre stage in the latter part of the year. Once players were knocked out of the Championship for most clubs it meant the end of their season. We hope to have that as the same idea in 2024.

This is the kernel of the split season and the reason that our organisation should never move back to the old system.

We met with Club Managers in August to go through the various regulations and Jerome Henry made a presentation in relation to Rules. This was a highly successful meeting and will be repeated every year from now on. The format was altered slightly in that there was a 2 week break between every round with the Hurling Championship in between. In my opinion this was a resounding success and will lead to less player burnout and hopefully give our County Champions a chance to be a bit fresher before heading into the Connacht Championships. At the time of writing Ballina have put in a brilliant performance against what I believe is the best club team in Ireland, Kilmeena were desperately unlucky vs the Galway Champions and Lahardane MacHales have made it to a Connacht Final.

Again in 2023 it was decided to play the Exclusive Junior B Championship as a knockout competition, which was well received and Achill made it 2 in a row after being desperately unlucky in the A Championship Group stage.

The CCC have organised an U21 Championship in 2023 and from feedback received it appears that this competition is very popular with the players. It is a competition that we will be retaining in 2024.

Neutral Venues were a constant source of frustration for the CCC in 2022 and while it was a lesser issue in 2023. Clubs wish to have neutral venues equidistant from each other but this is proving impractical at times. In 2024 we will endeavour to use the best pitches in the county for Neutral Venues. Again it is a balancing act but I am sure that all clubs are aware of the circumstances by now. However I would like to thank most sincerely those clubs that gave us the loan of their grounds in 2023.

Our Hurling Final took place in Ballyhaunis on October 21st where Tooreen once again emerged victorious over Ballyhaunis. Despite the constraints of the calendar in 2023 the CCC felt that a balance had been achieved for our dual players and we will endeavour to continue to do so in 2023.

Tooreen went on to extend their dominance in winning the Connacht Intermediate Championship in some style and the best of luck to them in the All Ireland Series. The new amalgamation of St Ciarans added to the SHC and both the Junior A and B competitions ran off very smoothly.

On the weekend of October 28th and 29th we had a fantastic weekend of football beginning with Kilmeena winning the Intermediate Final with a victory over a gallant Ballinrobe team on Saturday.

On Sunday we had 3 games. Achill retained the Exclusive Junior B Title in Parke with a victory over Ballycastle. On to Castlebar where Lahardane MacHales won their 2nd Junior A title by defeating Shrule Glencorrib in a pulsating encounter. To say that the Senior Final which followed was a let-down is an understatement. Both Breaffy and Ballina never got in to the game and it appeared for a long time that Ballina were prepared to kick the game away but they held on for a dour win and I presume that no-one in Ballina cared too much about the quality on display that evening.

There was a lot of talk in relation to the standard of football in or Senior Championship but as an eternal optimist I am convinced that many of the past few senior finals involved teams who just wanted to get over the line. From 2013-2019 we only had 2 SFC winners- we have had 3 more since 2020 so for that reason I expect some cracking games in the Championship in 2024.

It was great to have Hastings MacHale Park open for night fixtures this year and we will try and stagger our finals in 2024 to fit them all in to HQ. However there is still the argument to be made for playing certain semi-finals and finals outside the venue due to the atmosphere created and the boom it gives to local economies right across the county.

We held a meeting with Club Managers and Secretaries involved in Co Finals on October 19th regarding game regulations – thanks to all who attended and our Finals were notable for their lack of controversial incidents.

It was a great achievement to get our Championships completed on schedule and again I have to pay tribute to my fellow CCC members, the Clubs who gave us their venues for fixtures, all of our stewards and club officials and stewards for all their work, Michael Cummins and Phil Heneghan for their help throughout the year, The Hearings Committee for their diligent work all season, all of our referees and other match officials.

Overall what I felt was a very successful year on the fixtures front still has a number of weeks to go with the U21 Championships and we are only 1 week behind in 1 of those 3 competitions.

Streaming

Many thanks go to our PRO and his committee, Streamsport, our teams of commentators and co-commentators and also our loyal fan base throughout the county, country and globe who contributed to the success of Mayo GAA TV.

We at Mayo GAA will continue endeavour to improve the streaming of our showcase games and also to help as many clubs as possible get as many fixtures online as possible. In a post Covid world this looks like it will be the way forward for many people to see our games at all levels.

I would hope that this service will be expanded in 2024 and the principal officers will be meeting in early 2024 to try and advance this.

Discipline

Thankfully this season incidents were isolated in relation to discipline and collectively we are working well in protecting our games. Some disappointment was expressed in 2022 with clubs and players appealing decisions to see if they can get off on various technicalities.

The Hearings Committee report that over 3500 games were played, the Committee sat on just 10 occasions in 2023 so hopefully clubs are getting the message.

We as a CCC will be putting in heightened measures in our regulations in 2024 for both League and Championship and it is incumbent now on clubs to realise that a Zero Tolerance policy is in place when it comes to abuse of match officials in the county. I wish to thank Brendan Byrne and his Committee for their work on the Hearings Committee this year. In my opinion they went about all of their business in a fair minded manner.

Refereeing:

I would like to thank the referees for their support during the year. Without your dedication and time, we would not be able to fulfil games. Your professionalism and support to our county is very much appreciated by all members within our organisation

Thanks To Sean McEil, Referees Co-ordinator, who has again been a great addition to the CCC and has done a Trojan amount of work. We would hope to again encourage all clubs to recruit new referees. Recruitment of Referees commenced again post Covid and we wish the class of 2023 the very best of luck in their future careers.

I would like to take this opportunity to appeal to clubs to try and source refereeing recruits in the New Year. Without Officials we cannot have games.

As stated above there will be a zero tolerance policy in relation to the abuse of match officials in 2024. Referees will be brought in early in the New Year to go through a refresher course on discipline and on filling in reports to ensure that our games remain disciplined and enjoyable for all and that respect is maintained on all sides.

Mac Hale Park and the Grounds Committee

I would like to thank MacHale Park staff for their work and support namely Michael Cummins our Administrator who does a huge amount of work and an invaluable support to a number of committees. A special thanks to our grounds man Phil Heneghan who has performed miracles time and time again in relation to keeping our main surface playable after the re-surfacing and difficulties with the pitch earlier in the year. The new surface took some early punishment but no doubt it has been rectified and I feel that it must be protected and used again for games only in 2024. Thanks also to Gerry Bourke for all his organising of stewards for all our games in MacHale Park.

I would also like to thank Paraic Murray and his staff at Murray Ambulance, who were present at all of our games in MacHale Park, a service that is critical in today's game, thanks also to the Order of Malta for their assistance when called upon. Thanks to James Rock, Event Controller for all our big events in MacHale Park and John Hopkins for his work on the PA system, all ably assisted by John Walker and his PR Team.

Media

I would like to thank the local media in Mayo for the co-operation and professionalism at all times during 2023. Through Mid West Radio, Local Newspapers and the many podcasts available on all social media platforms there is an intense hunger for all Mayo GAA related activity and we hope that this relationship continues in 2023.

National Media is an issue that I feel compelled to return to each year.

Without TG4 we would have very little GAA other than Inter County Games on National Television.

Despite the bad press that it has received, GAAGo is the ace in the pack for us all. Proper investment in this vehicle will lead to huge opportunities for their intercounty and club games right across the spectrum. The success of the many podcasts behind paywalls is an example of this e.g the Mayo News on a local level and Smaller Fish on a National level being the 2 best examples that if the product is professional, people will subscribe.

Again I also hope that in 2024 that this coverage extends to the Joe McDonagh, Christy Ring, Nicky Rackard and Lory Meagher Hurling Competitions also. The success of the Tailteann Cup should make even RTE aware of the appetite for all levels of our games.

Our Social Media presence is now greater than ever and is invaluable in getting the GAA message out to the wider world. Used positively it is a fantastic resource and is highly valued in promoting our games.

Schools and Bord Na Nóg

Both of these topics are covered in other reports to the Convention

Thankfully we have Schools Football up and running this autumn and I would like to wish the best of luck to all our schools in the coming months.

Our U17s once again retained the Connacht title and this group were slightly unlucky to lose to a very good Monaghan team in Carrick on Shannon on an awful day for football. A lot of credit has to go to Sean Deane and his team in relation to their handling of this group of players and no doubt due to their efforts many of these players will go on to represent Mayo at Adult level. Sean's term finished this year and I would like to wish the very best of luck to Tom Reilly and his team for the years ahead.

Many thanks also to Charlie Lambert, Brian O'Malley and the 4 Divisional Secretaries for their work in running off Bord Na Nóg Competitions this year

LGFA and Camogie

A mixed year for both codes but no doubt both groups will come back stronger than ever. Again in 2024 the calendar will be shared with the LGFA and we will work together to try and ensure a smooth running of all competitions

Mayo Senior Teams

Again a team that had a very mixed season. Through a series of decent displays Mayo ended up in a National League Final versus Galway. Even though we were due to play Roscommon a week later I believe that the right decision was made to go and win the League once we made the Final.

The scheduling of all Adult competitions must now go to Central CCC as the Connacht Championship did not need to start the week after the League Final. It is a situation Mayo could well find themselves in again in 2024.

The Championship ended with a whimper but the team gave us 2 great days out in Killarney and Salthill and I cannot finish on this topic without mentioning the Goal of the Year from my clubman David McBrien in Salthill!!

We are consistently in the top 8 teams in the country and we just need a few tweaks and a bit of luck to land the Holy Grail.

I want to wish the best of luck to Kevin and his team in 2024 and also to wish Liam McHale the best of luck in his new role also.



2024 Outlook

What we have learned from the past 4 years, is that a split season is now the only way forward and must be retained. At the time of writing I have a draft Calendar for 2024 in place and the CCC are awaiting the Master National Fixtures Calendar to be released shortly in order to firm up next year's competitions.

At present we would again hope to play all of our Competitions prior to the start of the Championships which may begin as early as Mid-August in order to give a week's break to each participating team.

I am hopeful that our new Club League Structure which was revamped in 2023 will add another level of competitiveness to our Club players.

The CCC will again be communicating with all stakeholders early in the New Year to ensure that we get to a situation where we guarantee our players games as scheduled in our calendar and a defined closed season.

Executive Members:

I wish to thank Seamus our Chairperson for his support, effort and work that he has put in throughout his second year in the post. I thoroughly enjoyed working with him over the past year and am looking to the last year of my term working with Seamus and the other members of the Executive.

A special thanks to Ronan Kirrane, in his first year as Secretary for his support, honesty and availability whenever I called on him.

To Valerie our Treasurer thanks for her hard work and dedication this year. To all our County board officers a big thank you for your on-going support. Your support and commitment to the county makes life a little easier when issues arise. Our board worked tirelessly throughout the year with our CCC committee in the promotion, development and scheduling of our games in this County, it goes without saying that every one of them deserve your appreciation for their time and effort over the last 12 months.

To our PRO John Walker thank you for your tremendous work over the past year with the CCC, Mayo GAA TV and the countless pieces of advice and support that you gave to clubs over the year.

CCC Members

Our CCC worked tirelessly throughout the year to ensure that games went ahead in our county in 2021. For that alone every one of them deserve your appreciation for their time and effort over the last 12 months, Ronan Kirrane, Our County Secretary ,John Walker , PRO, Brian O'Malley Assistant Secretary, Sean MacÉil, Referees Co-ordinator, Charlie Lambert, Chairperson Bord Na Nóg, Donal O'Brien, Hurling Board Secretary, Mike King ,Fixtures Analyst, Stephen Mooney, East Secretary , Mary Lydon ,South Secretary, Mick Herr, North Secretary and Chris McGowan, West Secretary. Charlie and Mary were on their first year on the CCC and were of invaluable assistance.

I look forward to working with all of them for the betterment of Mayo GAA in 2024 and thank them for their immense work and achievements over the past year.

To you, the clubs, recognition must be given to your continued dedication, efficiency and often hard work over the last year, great credit goes to the clubs of this County. As we prepare for the 2024 season I have no doubt that the incoming CCC committee will be looking forward to continuing to work with you and I wish all of us the very best in working with you for the 2024 season.

To all of the people in the county who have lost loved ones in 2023 we remember them at this time of year. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-anamacha.

On a final note I wish to thank my wife Mary and my children for their unwavering support. Their patience as calls were made, meetings attended both on Microsoft Teams and on the road has made my life much easier. Their interest in GAA is almost as great as mine and this is invaluable and we had some great days up and down the road following Club and County in all codes.

Wishing all of our clubs Continued success and best wishes for 2024.

Con Moynihan

Chairperson,

CCC

Competition Winners 2023

<i>Competition Name</i>	<i>Winner</i>	<i>Runner Up</i>	<i>Venue</i>	<i>Referee</i>
Connacht Gold SFC	Ballina Stephenites	Breaffy	Hastings MacHale Park	G McMahon
Egan Jewellers IFC	Kilmeena	Ballinrobe	Hastings MacHale Park	P Lydon
TF Royal Theatre JFC A	Lahardane MacHales	Shrule Glencorrib	Hastings MacHale Park	S Corcoran
TF Royal Theatre JFCB	Achill	Ballycastle	Parke	E McAndrew
SFL Division 1	Castlebar	Westport	Hastings MacHale Park	L Devenney
Division 2	Beal an Mhuirthead	Bohola Moy Davitts	Crossmolina	S Corcoran
Division 3	Ardagh	Ardnaree Sarsfields	Ballina	F Flynn
Division 4	Ballintubber B	Northern Gaels	Knockmore	J Clancy
Division 5	Aghamore B	Garrymore B	Davitts	M Walsh
M Walsh Senior Cup	Knockmore	Charlestown	Swinford	N Cooney
M Walsh Intermediate	Kilmeena	Ballinrobe	Kilmeena	K Corcoran
M Walsh Junior	Shrule Glencorrib	Eastern Gaels	Davitts	J Clancy
New JFC A Championship	Knockmore B	Westport B	Parke	M Tuffy
New JFC B Championship	Claremorris B	Parke Keellogues Crimlin B	Charlestown	V Tomas
New JFC C Championship	Ballinrobe B	Garrymore B	Cong	J Clancy
County Cup 2021	Garrymore	Aghamore	Garrymore	G McMahon
U18 Division 1	Westport	Knockmore	Parke	R Gurren
U18 Division 2	Parke Keellogues Crimlin	St Jarlaths	Foxford	K Corcoran
U 18 Division 3	Davitts	Ballaghaderreen	Ballyhaunis	E Nolan
U18 Division 4	Crossmolina Deel Rovers	Erris St. Pats	Ballycastle	D O'Boyle
U18 Division 5	Ballintubber	Charlestown	Claremorris	M Tuffy
U18 Division 6	Westport B	Louisburgh	Kilmeena	D Monaghan
Homeland Minor A Chship	Claremorris	Castlebar	Hastings MacHale Park	J Walker
Homeland Minor B Chship	Balla	Ballina Stephenites	Hastings MacHale Park	P Lydon
Homeland Minor C Chship	Carras	Beal an Mhuirthead	Hastings MacHale Park	E Nolan
Homeland Minor D Chship	Mayo Gaels	Neale	Hastings MacHale Park	K Corcoran
Homeland Minor E Chship	Shrule Glencorrib	Tuar Mhic Eadaigh	Hastings MacHale Park	J Clancy
U21 A Championship	TBC			
U21 B Championship	TBC			
U21 C Championship	TBC			

CCC Committee Members:

Con Moynihan	CCC Chairperson /Vice Chairperson
Ronan Kirrane	Secretary
John Walker	PRO
Brian O'Malley	Assistant Secretary/Bord Na Nóg Secretary
Donal O'Brien	Secretary Hurling Board
Seán McÉil	Referees Co-ordinator
Mike King	Fixture Analyst
Charlie Lambert	Chairperson Bord Na Nóg
Chris McGowan	West Board Secretary
Stephen Mooney	East Board Secretary
Michael Herr	North Board Secretary
Mary Lydon	South Board Secretary





GAA Values

Community Identity

- Community is at the heart of our Association. Everything we do helps to enrich the communities we serve.
- We foster a clear sense of identity and place.

Amateur Status

- We are a volunteer led organisation.
- All our members play and engage in our games as amateurs.
- We provide a games programme at all levels to meet the needs of all our players.

Inclusiveness

- We welcome everybody to be part of our Association.
- We are anti-sectarian.
- We are anti-racist.

Respect

- We respect each other on and off the playing fields.
- We operate with integrity at all levels.
- We listen and respect the views of all.

Player Welfare

- We provide the best playing experience for all our players.
- We structure our games to allow players of all abilities reach their potential.

Teamwork

- Effective teamwork on and off the field is the cornerstone of our Association.
- Ní neart go cur le chéile (There is no strength without working together).

PRO Report:

Mayo GAA PRO REPORT 2023 – John Walker

2023 proved to be another hectic year for the Mayo GAA communications team, and I would like to thank everyone who supported me in my role as Mayo GAA PRO over the past twelve months. ‘Ní neart go cur le chéile’ – Partnership is the key to success, and I really appreciate the support from all of our Clubs, our County Board officers, Connacht GAA, Croke Park and all the media outlets both locally and nationally. National honors may have evaded us on the playing fields this past year but all our county teams in all codes provided plenty of drama, excitement and lots of media interest. Winning is something but participation is everything and as a voluntary organisation it is so important that we never lose sight of our ethos.

Mayo GAA Website

I am delighted to announce that the new Mayo GAA website will be live before the end of 2023. Developing a new interactive and all-encompassing website for Mayo GAA has taken trojan work from all involved and I hope that the clubs, supporters and media find it more user friendly, informative and engaging.

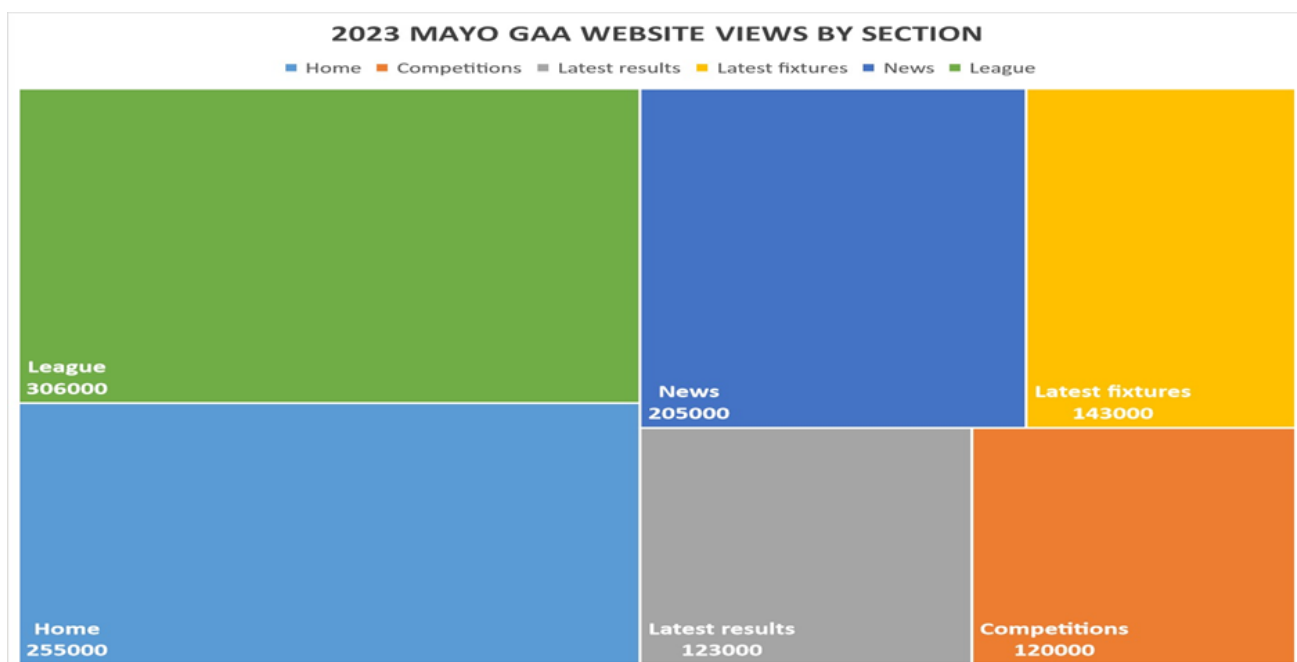
Over the past twelve months, visitor numbers to www.mayogaa.com have once again grown expeditiously. Figures for 2023 show that over 3 million visitors accessed the Mayo GAA website and each one of these impressions is valued and appreciated. A suite of new services will be available on the new Mayo GAA website with a fresh new design, club locator, club information, news sections, culture and Scór, history section and lots more interactive video content across the site. All our social media channels will also be available on the new website with direct links to the Mayo GAA Facebook, “X” (Twitter) and Instagram pages.

As part of the Mayo GAA website redevelopment, we will also be launching a new Mayo GAA App to keep our clubs, supporters and media up to date on all that is happening within the county. Local Mayo company Sportslomo were awarded the contract to redevelop the Mayo GAA website and I have worked closely with them over the past six months. Their expertise and knowledge must be acknowledged and I want to thank them for their professionalism.



COUNTRY	USERS
Ireland	205K
United Kingdom	18K
United States	6.5K
Australia	1.8K
Spain	1.3K
Canada	759
China	682

(DATA FROM APRIL-31ST OCT 2023)



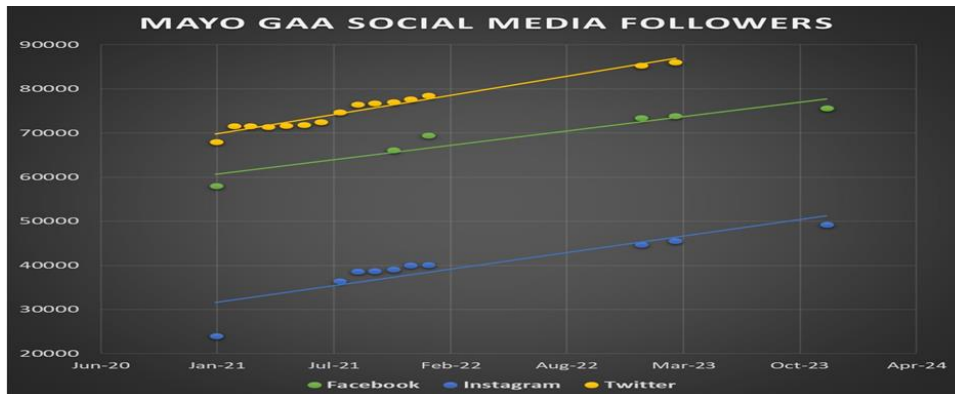
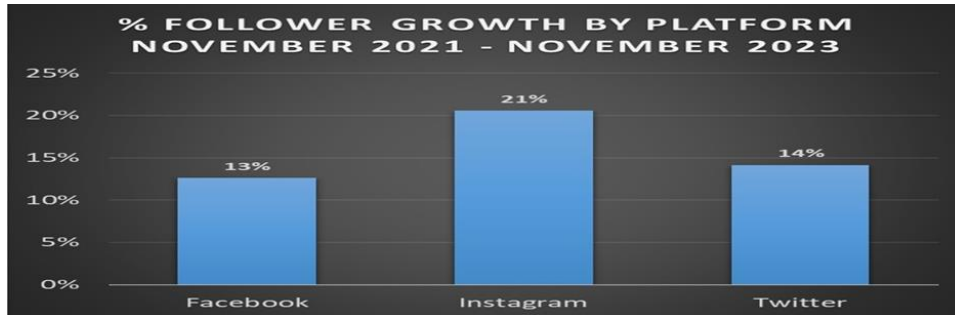
Mayo GAA TV.

Mayo GAA TV streamed twenty-nine games (Div 1 & Div 2 league finals and 27 club championships) on www.mayogaatv.com this year. The demand and interest for our streaming service this year resulted in more games going to air live than ever before. Mayo GAA TV also welcomed a new broadcast partner in Mayo Credit Unions on board this year and I would like to thank them sincerely for that support. Community is at the heart of Mayo GAA and Mayo Credit Unions.

Streamsport provided the broadcast service again this season and I would like to thank Raffael Rocco and his team for all their assistance throughout the year. Ireland and the UK continue to attract a significant weekly audience, but it is interesting to note that the USA, Spain, Portugal, Australia, Canada and the United Arab Emirates also showed increasing viewership figures this past year. One highlight of our coverage on Mayo GAA TV this season was when a clip from the Mayo GAA Junior B hurling championship between Castlebar Mitchels and Caiseal Gaels was shared hundreds of times and received over 10 million views. Sincere thanks must also go to all our commentators and co-commentators and all the team that worked diligently behind the scenes to ensure that all the games went to air without any glitches. I would like to thank the clubs who hosted Mayo GAA TV games for preparing stages and scaffolding for the camera crews and commentators.

Social Media:

The phenomenal success and growth on all the Mayo GAA social media channels (Facebook, "X" (Twitter) and Instagram) is testament to the Mayo GAA clubs and supporters. Mayo GAA has one of the largest social media followings in the country now and this is down to you, the clubs and supporters, engaging in our content and sharing it on your own platforms. Mayo GAA has 75,000 followers on Facebook, 89,700 followers on "X" (Twitter) and 49,500 followers on Instagram. All of these platforms have seen huge growth again this year primarily due to the sharing of engaging content that is informative and relevant to our clubs, supporters, members, media and the public. Every single county final across all codes were featured on Mayo GAA social media this season.



Print Media and Midwest Radio.

Mayo GAA has a long and proud association with the local and national print media and again this year I want to thank them for the outstanding coverage of our games.

Our local and national sports journalists never let us down and we are forever grateful for the exposure and interest in all our games. I would also like to acknowledge the immense contribution from Midwest Radio who broadcasted more Mayo GAA championship games live this year than ever before. The sport editors and journalists, both locally and nationally, always go above and beyond their duties to cover our games with great enthusiasm and fervor. I have fielded thousands of calls and emails this year from the media and they have always been courteous and polite. Print and broadcast media play a vital role in the promotion of our games, and it is important that we continue to inform, engage and respect each other. I would also like to thank the Croke Park communication team of Alan Milton, Siobhan Brady Niamh Gately and Niamh Boyle for their unwavering support all year. Go raibh míle maith agaibh uilig.

Photography:

Content is king in the world of media and Mayo GAA is so lucky to have outstanding club PRO's and local photographers who share their images with me every week. They have covered hundreds of games in every corner of Mayo this year and they always capture the essence and passion of our game with great honesty and professionalism. I would like to thank Carol Boyle, Paul Barrett, Sarah Jane Photography, Martin McIntyre, Pauline Flatley, Helen Reapy, Jim Corrigan, Kim Robertson, Jarlath Cunningham, Mary Coffey and Cormac Feehan for their 'focus' and amazing pictures all year. A picture tells a thousand words and our photographers have told wonderful stories this year.

Mayo Senior Football:

Kevin McStay began his first term as Mayo senior football manager in January. The Mayo footballers won the FBD final against Roscommon in the Connacht GAA Air Dome. Mayo seniors also went on to win the Allianz National Football League final against Galway in Croke Park. Jordan Flynn and Diarmuid O'Connor got nominated for GPA All-Star awards for 2023. I would like to thank Kevin and his management team for their co-operation throughout the year.

Mayo U20 Football:

It was a disappointing year for the Mayo U20 footballers and manager Maurice Sheridan informed the Mayo GAA County board that he would not be seeking a second term in charge. Maurice was in charge of the Mayo U20 footballers for the past three years and while silverware eluded him during his tenure, he developed several outstanding young players who went on to represent the Mayo seniors with distinction. Peadar Gardiner was appointed as manager of the U20 football team for the 2024 season ahead. I would like to wish Peadar and his backroom team all the best of luck for the season.

Mayo Minor Football:

The Mayo U17 footballers won the Connacht Final against Galway and advanced to play Monaghan in the Electric Ireland All Ireland Quarter Final. Monaghan produced a sublime performance on the day, winning by 1-15 to 1-08. This game was broadcast live on TG4. Sean Deane has completed his term as U17 manager and has been replaced by Tom Reilly. I would like to wish Tom and his backroom team all the best of luck in the 2024 season.

Mayo Hurling:

Tooreen Hurling Club were the only Mayo team to reach a national final during 2023 and their journey to the AIB GAA All-Ireland Intermediate Hurling Final at Croke Park last January brought great pride and honour to the county. The final produced some outstanding hurling with Limerick champions Monaleen edging the encounter 1-17 to 1-15 after a pulsating finish. The Tooreen hurlers did themselves, their club, their families and their country proud.

On the county scene, Dave McConn and Tom Phillips had a challenging year with the Mayo senior hurlers. Injuries early in the season curtailed their progress in the Allianz National Hurling League and some quality opposition from the likes of Meath, Kildare and Wicklow in the Christy Ring Championship resulted in Mayo dropping down to the Nicky Rackard Championship for 2024.

McConn and Phillips informed Mayo GAA that due to work commitments they were stepping down at the end of the season. Tooreen's Ray Larkin and Brian Finn were appointed as joint managers for the 2024 season last month. At underage level, Mayo continued to make great strides on the hurling fields with both Mayo 1 and Mayo 2 reaching the U15 National Hibernia Cup All-Ireland Finals during the years.

The Mayo U20 hurlers reached the All-Ireland B hurling semi-final during the year. A highly rated Derry side, who went on to win the competition, defeated them. The Mayo U17 hurlers competed in the All-Ireland Celtic Challenge championship and performed admirably in the early rounds to reach the All-Ireland semi-final. Meath, however, won the quarter-final after a titanic battle in Creggs GAA Galway. There are twelve adult hurling teams in Mayo at present and great credit must go to the hurling clubs and the Mayo GAA Hurling committee for their commitment, determination and dedication to promoting the game.

Comórtas Peile na Gaeltachta:

History was made in Donegal on the June Bank Holiday weekend when CLG Chill Chomáin won the National Junior Comórtas Peile na Gaeltachta for the first time ever. There were huge celebrations when the team arrived back in Erris.

D'imir Cill Chomáin ar fheabhas thar an deireadh seachtaine agus tá ard mholadh tuillte acu.

PRO Promotions:

Over twenty different press launches took place during the year with different teams, sponsors and media. Mayo TV covered the streaming of the Mindspace Charity game at the start of the year and were delighted to present the proceeds from the game to a very worthy charity.

Media relations is a key role for the PRO. I was delighted to secure coverage of our games on RTÉ, TG4, Raidió na Gaeltachta and GAAGO during the year.

The Mayo GAA Golf Classic was a resounding success again this year and I would like to thank Rochford Motors and Opel Ireland for their sponsorship and promotion during the year. The Golf classic was held on the weekend of May 26th/27th in Claremorris Golf Club. Mayo footballers Jordan Flynn and Jack Coyne presented the prizes to the winners this year.

The winner of the Portwest Play for a Day was Breaffy National School Ballina. Mayo footballers Pdraig O'Hora, Colm Reape, Darren McHale and Conor McStay held a training session in the school with all the pupils. A great day was had by all.

Three Mayo GAA Senior players retired from intercounty football this year. Kevin McLoughlin (Knockmore), Jason Doherty (Burrishoole) and Brendan Harrison (Aghamore) were stalwarts for the county over many years and I would like to wish them well in their retirement.

Mayo GAA in association with the local media launched a new Team of the Week initiative this year. Fifteen players got chosen after each championship round with the final selection playing the Mayo senior football team on December 30th. The game will be broadcast live on Mayo GAA TV. All proceeds from the game will go to Mayo GAA's 2024 charity partner the Motor Neurone Disease Association.

Special thanks to James Rocke for all his help in producing all the match day programmes for our County Finals. I would also like to thank all the clubs for their cooperation, support and encouragement during the year. I would also like to thank our Administrator, Michael Cummins for his help and support throughout the year.

Finally, I would like to thank my own PR committee for all their expert advice, guidance and support during the year. To all my fellow officers on the management committee I wish to thank you sincerely for your help and support throughout the year.

Míle buíochas also to all the club PRO's and club secretaries for all your help and co-operation during 2023.

Ní neart go cur le chéile – Partnership is the key to success

Bord na nÓg Report:

2023 started with new officers in Bord na Nog. Charlie Lambert took over from Daithí Gallagher and Brian O'Malley replaced Ronan Kirrane.

This left us with new officers at the helm and it was a quick early introduction for both of us.

The Coiste Bainistí asked Donal Walsh to do a review of the workings of the Bord na nÓg. The report from this committee has been given to the Coiste na nÓg and to Coiste Bainistí for review.

In 2024, the Coiste na nÓg will endeavor to implement these new measures.

The year started with the changeover from uneven age grades back to the more familiar even age grades. This caused a few headaches, but these were quickly overcome by our Coiste na nÓg.

The underage clubs of Mayo amount to 39 clubs, when taking in amalgamations and independent teams.

It is becoming more and more evident that amalgamations will be ever more present, and we should see more over the next few years.

We encourage all clubs to open dialogue with the Coiste na nÓg and with our County Demographics Committee to ensure underage football and hurling for all your members.

Our competitions started early in March with our leagues. This proved to be a challenge as it was a very wet week, but the clubs came together and organised themselves so that all games got played in a timely fashion.

The County & All Ireland Feile Competitions now at U15 were showpiece events that were massively successful.

Following the traditional exam break in June, we started into our Championships and wouldn't you know it, it was the wettest week of the summer. Our championship finals all took place over a week in Hastings Insurance McHale Park, and we wish to thank Phil Heneghan, Michael Cummins, James Rocke, Sinead McLoughlin, Gerry Bourke and all the members of the County Executive of Mayo GAA for making this happen. This year we had an amazing 59 teams in the U14 competition.

We held a review in June and the clubs unanimously voted to introduce an uneven age grade competition at the end of the year. This started in Mid-September and the last game took place in mid-November.

A long eight months of continuous games.

All our competitions have been played in full. We had a 97.1% completion rate of all underage games in the county this year.

A very successful year.

Over 2,500 games generate a lot of work but the hard work of our Coiste na nÓg committee made it easier.

While the Coiste na nÓg no longer had control of the U18 age competition this year, we diversified our resources into putting in more structured formats for our U10 and U8 age grades.

This year for the first time we organised blitzes for these age grades around the county. This all accumulated in having an all-county blitz for our U10 on September 9th and our U8 on September 16th.

What a fantastic two days of football.

Almost 2,000 children were playing over the two days with almost every club in the county were represented. We wish to thank our four divisional boards who, when asked to fund the booking of the C.O.E. for these blitzes did not hesitate to help.

We held another review ourselves, again in early November. The calendar for 2024 was presented and was welcomed by all the clubs. We allowed the clubs to direct us in what they want for next year and we will make the necessary arrangements to try and accommodate them all.

We have had to overhaul our rules and regulations in 2024 to bring them in line with working with even age grades and also new wording of rules and regulations. These have been sent to the clubs for review.

Where we try our best to incorporate every single team and club into our schedule for 2024, it is important to note that we cannot facilitate everyone. Some clubs are going to have to work harder than ever before to accommodate members playing other sports outside our organisation.

Finally, just a word of thanks to the many stakeholders who allowed our underage structure to operate successfully in 2023,

Mile Buiochas to you all.

Brian O Malley, Secretary, Charlie Lambert, Chairperson



List of Winners and League toppers in 2023

U16 League Winners,

U16 Division 1. Westport St.Patrick's (Paddy Chambers)

U16 Division 2. Ardnaree Sarsfields (Neil Cooney)

U16 Division 3. Ballintubber (Martin Kennedy)

U16 Division 4. Ballaghaderreen (Vincent Joyce)

U16 Division 5. Lahardane McHales (Sean Tolan)

U16 Division 6. Davitts (John Clancy)

U16 Division 7. Ballinrobe B (Martin Walsh)

U14 League Winners,

U14 Division 1. Westport St.Patrick's (Enda Nolan)

U14 Division 2. Crossmolina (Sean Tolan)

U14 Division 3. Hollymount Carramore (Shane Corcoran)

U14 Division 4. Carras (John Glavey)

U14 Division 5. Shrute Glencorrib (Sean Murphy)

U14 Division 6. Westport St.Patrick's B (Martin Murphy)

U14 Division 7. Parke Keeloges Crimlin (Barry McDonald)

U14 Division 8. Castlebar Mitchels B (Declan Hughes)

U16 Championship Winners,

U16 Division A Crossmolina (Vinny Joyce)

U16 Division B Ballaghaderreen (Martin Walsh)

U16 Division C Balla (Jon Finn)

U16 Division D Lahardane McHales (Padraic Kilboyle)

U16 Division E Swinford (Neil Cooney)

U16 Development winners,

U16 F Westport St.Patrick's B (Shane Corcoran)

U16 A shield Ardnaree Sarsfields (Paddy Chambers)

U16 B shield Béal an Mhuirthead (Peter Geraghty)

U16 C shield Tuar Mhic Eadaigh (John Glavey)

U16 D shield Moy Davitts (Vincent Thomas)

U16 E shield Islandeady (John E Burke)

U14 Championship winners,

U14 Division A Westport St.Patrick's (Sean Tolan)

U14 Division B Breaffy (Mark Tuffy)

U14 Division C Ballaghaderreen (Paddy Chambers)

U14 Division D Burrishoole (Kenny Durcan)

U14 Division E Islandeady (John Clancy)

U14 Division F Claremorris B (Shane Corcoran)

U14 Development winners,
U14 G Ballina Stephenites B (Barry McDonald)
U14 H Breaffy B (Michael McGahon)

U14 A shield Parke Keeloges Crimlin (Michael McGahon)
U14 B shield Claremorris (Padraig Costello)
U14 C shield Carras (Barry McDonald)
U14 D shield Shrule Glencorrib (Enda Nolan)
U14 E shield Westport St.Patrick's C (Declan Hughes)

John West Feile 2023 (U15)
A Westport St.Patrick's (John Glavey)
B Breaffy (John Clancy)
C Parke Keeloges Crimlin (Pdraic Kilboyle)

U12 Spring League top team,
Group 1 Westport St.Patrick's and Castlebar Mitchels.
Group 2 Ballina Stephenites.
Group 3 Bohola Moy Davitts, Swinford and Ballaghaderreen.
Group 4 Ballinrobe.
Group 5 Knockmore.
Group 6 Parke Keeloges Crimlin.
Group 7 Erris St.Pats.
Group 8 Kiltimagh.
Group 9 Tourmakeady.
Group 10 Shrule Glencorrib.

U12 Summer League top team,
Group 1 Ballina Stephenites
Group 2 Bohola Moy Davitts
Group 3 Ballaghaderreen
Group 4 Burrishoole
Group 5 Erris St.Pats

U17 Grading League Winners,
A Castlebar Mitchels (John Glavey)
B The Neale (John Walker)
C Davitts (Enda Nolan)
D Swinford (Kenny Durcan)
E Burrishoole (Martin Kennedy)

U17 Connacht Championship
A Castlebar Mitchels
B The Neale

U15 Grading League Winners,
A Westport (John E Burke)
B Ballinrobe (Jon Finn)
C Swinford (Walter Doherty)
D Tuar Mhic Eadaigh (Mark Tuffy)
E Louisburg (Paddy Chambers)
F Ballina B (Kevin Corcoran)

U13 Grading League Winners,
A Ballina Stephenites (Padraig Doherty)
B Balla (Ronan Gurren)
C Ardmoy (Declan Hughes)
D Burrishoole (John Clancy)
E Bonniclon (Sean O'Neill)
F Claremorris (Pat Conlon)
G Carras (Declan Leonard)





Coaching Report

2023 proved to be a very busy and productive year for everybody involved in coaching in Mayo.

I would like to express my gratitude to all who helped Mayo Coaching & Games from club to school to inter-county. We are indebted to so many people in Mayo GAA with regards to coaching and to all players, parents, coaches, administrators, ground staff and supporters of club, school and inter-county teams I say thank you.

I would also like to thank the officers of the Mayo County Board Seamus Tuohy, Con Moynahan, Valarie Murphy, Ronan Kirrane, John Walker and all our executive members. Also, I would like to thank, Cathal Cregg and Billy McNicholas of Connacht GAA for their support and patience with regards to queries raised.

Cul Camps The 2023 Cul Camp programme was completed in mid-August. A total of 53 camps took place over 7 weeks. 6,584 children participated in the camps in conjunction with over 200 coaches required to run the camps.

A big thank you must go to all involved. The planning for this mammoth coaching and games project began in December 2022, and culminated in the program and platform for the camps.

By far the biggest challenge was the recruitment and training of the large number of coaches who are needed to run these camps.

A big thank you must go to all the clubs for their assistance in the recruitment of The Cul Camp Coaches in 2023. This played a significant role in insuring that enough coaches were available to run our camps in a safe and enjoyable manner.

Each coach is required to have the Introduction to Coaching Gaelic Games & Child Safeguarding One courses completed and be GAA Garda vetted.

Also, each coach had to be registered on the Croke Park payroll system. (We would like to thank Keith McIntyre in Croke Park for his assistance in all things involving payroll)

I would like to thank the Clubs and the Club Coaching Officers and Local Coordinators for their assistance in the smooth running of the camps, also our Coaching Steering Committee, Mayo GAA Administrator Michael Cummins and Mayo GAA Treasurer Valerie Murphy for all their help. A big thank you must go to our full time and part time coaches, clubs, parents, and particularly the children for making the camps a most enjoyable experience for all concerned. We have received numerous compliments from parents and club personnel regarding the very professional and excellent organisation of the Cul Camps in Mayo for 2023.

Club Development Officer (CDO) Programme

Our CDOs started with their clubs and schools on Tuesday February 7th.

In Mayo we had 16 clubs taking part in the scheme in 2023 along with 11 new coaches on the ground. Here is the list of the CDOs and their respective clubs.

Westport GAA- Tim Campion

Castlebar Football- Sean Mc Keoin

Castlebar Hurling- Lucian Brooks

Islandeady GAA- Sean Mc Keoin

Breaffy GAA- Gerry Jennings

Charlestown Sarsfields- Leanne Daly

Aghamore GAA – Leanne Daly

Ballyhaunis GAA - Tommy Cunnane

Crossmolina Deel Rovers – Martin Carr

Bonniconlon GAA- Martin Carr

Balla GAA- Rachael O Conor

Kiltimagh GAA- Rachael O Connor

Swinford GAA- Ronya Benson

Bohola Moy Davitts- Ronya Benson

Louisburgh GAA- Basil McLeod

Davitts GAA – Emmer Greene

A review of the Club Development Officer (CDO) Programme took place in September.

Findings - 16 Mayo clubs took part in the project,

13 clubs completed review forms

8 clubs rated the project as excellent

2 clubs rated the project as average

2 clubs rated the project as good

1 club rated the project as poor

77% of the clubs that responded said that they would take part next year.

Schools

65 schools took part and 36 schools completed review forms

25 schools rated the programme as excellent

10 schools rated the programme as good

31 schools rated the programme as average

100% of the schools that responded said that they would take part next year.

CDOs

11 CDOs were employed throughout the programme.

7 CDOs completed review forms.

All rated the programme as very enjoyable

100% of the CDOs that responded said that they would recommend the project to a colleague for next year.

Feedback on the first year of the CDO Programme was generally positive for all concerned considering the size and ambition of the project.

2024 Expressions of interest for 2024 along with an information video were sent to clubs on September 1st.

16 Mayo clubs had expressed an interest in the CDO Programme for 2024.

The next step was for each club to pay 50% of their portion based on the hours offered before October 15th and 12 clubs did this.

They are as follows;

Westport GAA Castlebar Mitchels Football

Louisburgh GAA Breaffy GAA

Crossmoliona Deel Rovers

Bonniconlon GAA

Naomh Padraig GAA

Swinford GAA

Balla GAA

The Neale GAA

Davitts GAA

Castlebar Mitchels Hurling

The new rates for 2024 are as follows

€3,356 for 39 hours

€2,238 for 26 hours

€1,678 for 19.5 hours

€1,119 for 13 hours

If any club has identified somebody locally who may be able to cover the hours as discussed on the presentation recording, they can send a CV to Connacht GAA so they can include them in any interviews they carry out after the 3rd level student's interviews have concluded.

We wish all our Clubs, Schools and CDOs the best of luck for 2024.

Management Reviews and Appointments

The U17 Football season review was held in August and was attended by Chairperson Mayo GAA, Secretary Mayo GAA, Treasurer Mayo GAA, PRO Mayo GAA, Coaching Officer Mayo GAA, Vice Chairperson Mayo GAA and U17 Liaison Officer along with Manager Sean Deane and selector Danny O Toole.

A full frank and informative conversation took place between all participants at the meeting which was very constructive.

We would like to thank Sean and his management team for his commitment to Mayo U17s over the last 3 years, to congratulate them on winning back-to-back Connacht Minor Titles and we wish them all the best in the future.

The process of appointing the next U17 Manager then commenced.

The U20 Football season review was held in June and was attended by Chairperson Mayo GAA, Secretary Mayo GAA, Treasurer Mayo GAA, Assistant Treasurer Mayo GAA Coaching Officer Mayo GAA and Assistant Chairperson Mayo GAA along with Mayo U20 Manager Maurice Sheridan.

An open conversation took place between all participants at the meeting which was very constructive.

We would like to thank Maurice for his commitment to Mayo U20s over the last 3 years and we wish him all the best in the future.

One candidate put his name forward for the position of U17 manager while 5 candidates allowed their names go forward for the position of U20 position.

Interviews for these positions took place on Saturday 19th of August.

Subsequently two very important football managerial appointments were made in August by Mayo GAA Tom Reilly and David Heaney were appointed as Joint Managers for our U17 Football Team while Peadar Gardiner was successful in his application to become our U20 Manager.

Both managements were given a 2 Year Term with an option for year 3 pending a review.

The standard of applicants was of an extremely high nature and hopefully all candidates can play a significant role in Mayo GAA in the future.

We would like to wish Tom, David, Peadar and their respective Management Teams all the very best of luck in the years ahead.

Also, a big thank you must go to everyone involved in the selection process.

HR Review

A meeting between a delegation from Croke Park and members of Mayo GAA Coaching Steering Committee took place in Connacht COE in July to seek approval from Mayo GAA to fully engage in the new National HR Policy for all our full-time coaching staff as determined by Croke Park.

This meant allocating all our staff new enhanced contracts going forward which will be back dated to June 1st, 2023.

There will be a significant cost to Mayo GAA because of this initiative.

There will however be more funding available to offset these costs.

After a long and robust meeting Mayo GAA gave permission for the new contracts to be allocated to our staff members.

The following day The Croke Park Delegation met with the staff members individually to offer them their new contracts and to discuss the new terms and conditions of their employment. Our interim Hurling GPO Eoin McGrath resigned from his position in September.

I wish to thank Eoin for his commitment to coaching hurling in our clubs and schools during his time with Mayo GAA. Our Coiste Bainisti has recommended that the new position will be advertised as 2 separate part time positions as the increased level of interest of hurling in the County has made the position impossible for just one person.

Coach Education

The GAA National Coach Education Committee in conjunction with the Connacht GAA Coach Education Committee has asked counties to put together a Coach Education Calendar for Autumn `23 – Spring `24.

Please see below Mayo GAA Calendar for Autumn/Winter 2023 Further courses will be added to the calendar on demand.

North Mayo: Venue: Killala Community Centre Dates: Monday 13th November, Thursday 16th November, Monday 20th November and Thursday 23rd November Time: 7pm to 10.30pm approximately each night Cost: €50 per coach, payable on registration

South Mayo: Venue: The Neale GAA Club Dates: Monday 27th November, Thursday 30th November, Monday 4th December and Thursday 7th December Time: 7pm to 10.30pm approximately each night

Cost: €50 per coach, payable on registration

The GAA National Coach Education Committee has set a minimum number of 20/24 participating coaches required to facilitate an ICGG or Award One Coaching Course.

This will result in fewer courses taking place but a more diverse learning experience for coaches. 5 new Coach Education facilitators for Mayo have completed their training and will help to facilitate courses in the New Year.

They are as follows Michael Moyles Tony Duffy Pierce O Raghallaigh Shane McCann Martin Costello We wish them the best of luck.

The following is a list of ICGG courses that took place in Mayo up to 10th November 2023.

North Mayo – Killala X 2 and Belmullet – 70 Coaches registered

South Mayo – Shrule/Glencorrib and Davitts – 30 Coaches registered

East Mayo – Connacht Centre and Kiltimagh – 50 Coaches registered

West Mayo – Castlebar, Burrishoole and Ballintubber – 61 Coaches registered. Mayo County – 22 Coaches registered

Cúl Camp Coach ICGG courses – 96 Coaches registered ICGG

Hurling – Ballyvarry – 22 Coaches registered The following Award One Youth Football courses took place in Mayo in 2023

East Mayo – Connacht Centre – 28 Coaches registered West Mayo – Westport – 17 Coaches registered

The Transition Year Life Skills programme was facilitated in a number of Post Primary schools in the county with the following numbers receiving their Life Skills certification:

Gortnor Abbey - 35

St. Mary`s Secondary School 25

St. Muredach`s College – 22

St. Patrick`s College – 39

St. Tiernan`s College – 12 7

St. Gerald`s College – 25

St. Joseph`s Castlebar – 24

Balla Secondary School – 68

St. Colman`s College – 48

Davitt College – 132

St Brendans College 65

Mount St. Michael`s – 30

Swinford Secondary School – 58

Ballinrobe Community School – 101

Tourmakeady – 20

Our Lady`s Secondary School, Belmullet – 48

Achill Secondary School – 42

Rossport – 13

Louisburgh Secondary School – 54

Moyne College – 25

Ballyhaunis Community School – 78

St. Louis Community School – 52

Charlestown Community College – 28 T

Thank you to all the coaches and facilitators involved.

Academies

In 2023 Mayo GAA Academy was prioritised with building on the work of previous years as well as putting systems in place to support the development of our players.

Medical Support: One of the main areas for player development is looking after the medical needs of all our players.

To deal with this we created a Triage clinic every Saturday morning in McHale park which was run by the very capable Tommie Burke.

Its purpose was to deal with any injuries picked up within any of our 3 squads during training or games.

To supplement this, we created a partnership with TUS (Technological University of Shannon) Athlone.

We had 3 of their students on placement from their ATT (Athletic training & therapy) course.

The students were available to cover all pitch sessions for our U14, U15 & U16 groups.

Both initiatives ensured we had top level care for all our players.

To advance our initiative we are delighted to announce that we are recruiting a Lead Academy physio for 19.5 hrs per week for our U20s all squads down to U14.

They will take the place of Triage on Saturday mornings and it will be a huge development in profiling and tracking all the academy players. This new position will be ready to go for the new year.

Athletic Development

We are continuing with our athletic development programmes for all our academy player.

This started in November for 4 weeks and will lead into a second 8-week block in the new year.

It will then continue out onto the pitch in the new year.

We have streamlined all our programmes this year with a link between academies, U17, U20 and senior squads.

We now have a linear progression for all our players from underage to adult football. We also continue to test all our players and we are grateful to the partnership with Connacht GAA which allows us to do this.

It gives us the opportunity to track our players athletically which will aid in their long-term development.

Academy Teams Review for 2023

U14 manager Patrick Hopkins (The Neale) · U15 manager Diarmuid Byrne (Castlebar) · U16 manager Tom Reilly (Castlebar) U14s

U14s

As with every year the academy season for the U14s started on the first Saturday of March in all 4 regions. Numbers this year were greater than ever before with a total of 282 players presenting for trials in the 4 regions.

The regional session continued until 19th of August which gave all players a 24-week window to stake a claim for a spot in the academy proper.

Over this period 4 regional teams competed superbly in both the Connacht and National competitions.

The 26th of August was the first get together of the U14 academy with 56 players selected.

They continued to train for 12 weeks with some games and training.

On 17th November they commenced a 4-week introductory athletic development programme which after a winter break will be continued into the new year.

U15s

The U15 season commenced with a county cup starting on 4th of March with the view to getting a squad selected for the first National academy day on the 1st of April.

This period was very challenging due to unavailability of pitches.

This was all due to the poor weather we experienced in this period.

However, Diarmuid and his crew managed to get the process completed and a squad selected for the Connacht day on 15th of April.

It was great to see several new players make the squad who hadn't been selected for the U14s in 2022. However, it did mean some players didn't continue their journey.

The group continued to train and play games up until the 11th of November.

Their final game was against Cork in Limerick. At that stage they embarked on their Athletic development programme.

U16s

Like the other squads the U16s commenced on the last Saturday of February with a view to selecting a squad the first national academy day on the first of April.

Our U16 group trialled and trained in Swinford Amenity Park for the duration of the Season, and we are very grateful to Philip Durkan and his crew there for their support in a time when pitches are difficult to come by.

Our group trained there for most of the season which culminated in an excellent Ted Webb Cup win on 12th of August against North Kerry in Tuam.

The group continue to train and prepare for their transition into county minor next year. We would like to thank Tom and his team of coaches for the hours and hours of work they have put into the academies over the last number of years, and we wish them every success with their endeavours for 2024.

Over the course of the season, we have also conducted parent information mornings and some life skill workshop with our groups.

We will continue to build on these over the winter period. Finally, we would like to thank our 3 managers and 28 coaches who have given up hours of their time to coach and support our greatest resource- our young players.

It is of the utmost importance that we in Mayo GAA continue to provide appropriate sustainable resources for our aspiring young players to enable them to reach their potential in becoming better footballers for both their club and county.

We must underpin our significant achievements at adult level with a modern, player centred, fit for purpose Academy populated with forward thinking coaches that we can all be proud of.

A big thank you must go to our Academy Sponsor Smyths Toys without whom none of this would be possible.

It was with great sadness that we learned of the untimely passing of our dear friend Liam Smyth earlier this year.

All in Mayo GAA are deeply grateful for Liams enormous contribution to the Academy among other areas over the years.

We in Mayo GAA will do our utmost to honour Liams legacy and we look forward to working closely with Smyths over the next number of years with both parties benefitting from working towards a shared set of values and cultures.



Underage Hurling Mayo GAA

U15

Hurling History was made in Mayo this year with the county entering two hurling teams for the first time ever in the Croke Park run, the National U15 Hibernia Cup Hurling championship.

Sevent-five players from ten different Mayo GAA hurling clubs attended trials at the start of the year in Hastings Insurance MacHale Park.

Due to the phenomenal interest from the clubs and players Mayo GAA Games Manager Billy McNicholas and Mayo GAA Performance GDA Kieran Kilkenny proposed to the Mayo GAA Executive that two teams should be allowed to represent Mayo during the year. The Mayo GAA Executive and Mayo hurling committee backed the proposal.

Both Mayo U15 hurling teams fulfilled all their fixtures and represented Mayo GAA with great distinction and honour.

Following the preliminary rounds Mayo 1 (Players born in 2008) and Mayo 2 (Players born in 2009) both reached the knockout stages of the competition.

The success of both teams, the improvement in skill levels and the camaraderie that was formed during the year is testament to the vision and support of all associated with Mayo GAA Mayo GAA Coaching and Games provided expert Strength and Conditioning programmes for all the players, and they were monitored and tested at regular intervals.

The players were also provided with skill development targets and wall ball exercises which were all completed and reviewed by the management team.

Once the winter skills development and S&C programmes were completed, on field training commenced in February with the National Competition starting in April.

The National Final was hosted at St. Aidan's GAA Grounds in Roscommon in August with Mayo (1) taking home the Stephen Doorigan All-Ireland U15 Hurling Shield after two titanic games against Roscommon and Armagh.

Mayo (2) travelled to the Sligo Centre of Excellence in Scarden for their National finals and faced stiff opposition in Donegal and Tyrone. After two enthralling games Mayo 2 were also successful in winning the Peter O'Keefe National shield.

The Mayo U15 Hurling Development teams were managed by Sean Heneghan, Richie Crinnigan, Michael Bolger, John Enrigh, Piaras Ó Raghallaigh, Darren Conlon, Adrian Hession and Lucian Brooks.

The Mayo 1 team was captained by Fionn Ó Cinnseala from Westport and Mark Jennings from Claremorris.

The Mayo 2 team was captained by Rian Fallon from Castlebar Mitchels and Zach Smith from Ballyhaunis Hurling club.

Mayo GAA U-17 Hurling The Management Brian Finn, Billy McGhee and Dave Ketterick sent out invitations to 67 players born 2006 and 2007.

43 came in for trials in November 2022.

These were held on the Astro and on the Wall in Ballyvary with players from every club.

This number dropped to 35 over the course of a few weeks mainly due to U-16 Football and 1 player made the U-17 Football panel.

They got together twice a week Sunday and Wednesday and had great commitment from the players with full numbers most sessions.

Kieran Kilkenny set up an S & C program with them and he organised a fitness test in COE in Began.

Monaghan came to Ballyvary with 2 teams on February 5th.

They got 2 full games, and everyone got a game.

Roscommon came to Tooreen in March, and they travelled to Athlone to play Westmeath.

They also played their own A v B games and played a Mayo U18 selection in the lead up to The Celtic Challenge.

In The Celtic Challenge they were in a group with Kildare, Donegal and Meath Royals.

They topped the group winning 2 and lost 1 to Meath Royals. This put them in a quarter final with Meath on May 13th in Creggs GAA Ground. On the day Meath played a combination of both their teams and were too strong on the day. They played in a Connacht Blitz Day in Carnmore with Roscommon, Sligo and New York and this proved to be positive hurling day for the lads.

Great progress was made by the panel over the season with great support from both players and parents. We would like to thank Brian and his management team for their commitment to the development of hurling over the last number of years and we wish them well in their future endeavours.

Declan O'Reilly Coaching Officer



<https://learning.gaa.ie/coach>

Cumann na mBunscol report;

Chairperson- Richie Goggins Fahy NS
 Secretary- David Gordon - Shrule NS
 Treasurer - Michael Bracken Carracastle NS
 Connacht Council - Aodán O Caoimh Kilmaine Ns & Declan Kirrane
 Ballindine NS
 PRO - Brian McDermott Charlestown NS
 GAA Delegate - Neil Reilly
 Each of our nine areas have their own committees and representatives



Dear All,

I am pleased to report to Bord na nOg for and on behalf of Cumann na mBunscol Maigh Eo for the year 2022/2023 as County Board Delegate.

Everyone was keen to get back to normality following the pandemic and Cumann na mBunscol was able to fully resume all competitions which had been played prior to the pandemic years.

We completed a full jam packed schedule of football, hurling, rounders, handball and quizzes. Our teachers did trojan work to facilitate the competitions by giving of their time generously to the children after school hours for training and practice purposes and I would like to acknowledge the tremendous work that is done quietly and behind the scenes by so many teachers in County Mayo.

We were delighted to begin the year by running the Mini 7's competitions which were a huge success. The children were delighted to be able to participate in competitions and for many children, this was their first opportunity to compete in Gaelic games. The teachers in all participating schools gave of their time willingly and enthusiastically to ensure the smooth running of the competition.

Our finals took place in November 2022 at Centre of Excellence. We are currently in the final stages of the 2023/2024 Mini Sevens competition. The winners of this competition have the honour of nominating players to play at the half time exhibition games in Croke Park on All Ireland Sunday. The winners in each area nominated a player to play in the Mayo -v- Roscommon exhibition game in McHale park.

We were also able to run all of our Cumann na mBunscol competitions for boys and girls in both football and hurling over the year and were delighted to present 14 cups in boys and girls competitions and 4 shields. There were also a number of other localised football competitions and qualifiers for county finals. Many of the games were played in McHale Park which was hugely exciting for the players and fulfilled a dream for many of them.

We would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the considerable contribution and assistance given to us by Billy McNicholas and all of the coaching team.

Most importantly, we would like to thank the County Board for the considerable support it has always given to Cumann na mBunscol Maigh eo. We are delighted to have an excellent working relationship with the County Board and we believe that relationship is now more important than it has ever been at a time when our gaelic games are in competition with an increasing range of activities in the lives of our children.

It is easy to forget but very important to remember that not every child has access to a GAA club, to kit or to a pitch. Not every child is taken to Club training at weekends by their parents.

Some children in rural areas are many miles away from a club. Others quite close but without the means or parental support to allow them to participate.

Playing in Cumann na mBunscol games at school is the only opportunity some children get to play football and hurling and compete in competitions.

School participation is the only taste of Gaelic games that some children have and for that reason, in an era of high inflation and the increasing cost of living, Cumann na mBunscol is all the more important.

Children can play in Cumann na mBunscol games and competitions at no cost to their parents. They wear school jerseys that do not need to be paid for parents.

We continue to welcome Ukrainian children and children from all around the world to our schools and in turn to our competitions. What a lovely and wonderful way of welcoming these children to our country.

We believe it is of paramount importance, now more than ever, that the relationship between Cumann na mBunscol and the GAA, in particular the county boards around the country, is strengthened as we all strive to achieve our common goal of promoting Gaelic Games among our youth.

In an era of computer games and an ever increasing variety of activities available to our young people, it is increasingly challenging to get children interested in playing gaelic games and to keep them interested. It is also difficult to keep teachers interested and involved given the increasing demands on their limited time and their perception that their work, time and valuable contributions are taken for granted and not appreciated.

It has to be acknowledged that the successes of our senior football team over the past decade has inspired the current generation of children, many of whom dream of wearing the green and red of Mayo.

We must build on that enthusiasm we now have and ensure that it is nurtured and encouraged as these young people grow and mature into their teenage years. I have to acknowledge our senior panel who always give of their time when asked to present medals, sign jerseys and talk to the children. You cannot underestimate the impact that speaking with a senior player can have on a child.

We would like to thank Ronan Kirrane, County Secretary, for his professionalism and courtesy in the past year.

We also thank Mick Cummins for his help, guidance, courtesy and professionalism in liaising with us when required which is very much appreciated.

Seamus Tuohy chairperson of Mayo County board is always willing to listen to our needs and concerns and we really appreciate that. Phil Heneghan, grounds man in McHale park is always on hand to help.

In Summary, we thank the GAA and the Mayo County Board in particular for your tremendous and unwavering support of Cumann na mBunscol Maigh eo. We ask you to continue supporting us and helping us in whatever way that you can and we, in turn, will continue to nurture the youth and develop and promote our historic gaelic games in our schools in a modern, progressive and inclusive manner.

Neil Reilly - County Board Delegate/Maigheo Cumann na mBunscol

MAYO POST PRIMARY SCHOOLS REPORT TO MAYO GAA CONVENTION 2023

MAYO POST PRIMARY SCHOOLS 2023-24 COMMITTEE:

Chairperson-Mr. Joe McCabe

Secretary-Mr. Michael Herr

Treasurers-Mr. Kevin Shannon and Mr. Brendan Prendergast.

P.R.O. Mr. John Holian

Mayo Post Primary Schools organise 21 competitions-18 football and 3 hurling for the students in 25 schools. 23 of these schools are in Mayo and the remaining 3 from Sligo, namely Summerhill and St. Attractas, Tubbercurry.

Competitions:

Senior Flangan A, B, C and D.

Junior (U17) Colleran A, B, C and D

O'Haire (U-15) O'Haire A, B, C and D.

1st Year A, B, C and D.

First Year B For schools with a large number of students.

First and 2nd Year Competition for schools with small numbers.

The Colleran Cup (U17) will not take place until February 2024 because the Connacht Post Primary Junior Competition takes place and concludes in the first term.

Hurling: Senior A & B + one Junior Competition.

Presently all competitions are up and running with most competitions down to the semifinal stage.

A special word of thanks to Elverys for their very generous sponsorship given to all 27 PP Schools including the four Convent Schools within the county.

Thanks to all the schools, especially the school principals, and to the teachers who continue to promote our games as without their support games would suffer and we would lose players to other sports.

Flanagan A Final	St Colmans vs St Gerald's TBA		
Flanagan B Final	Balla Sec School Vs Ballyhaunis C.S. 14.12.23, COE 12pm		
Flanagan C Final	Gortnor Abbey vs Sancta Maria Louisburg TBA		
Flanagan D Final	Ongoing		
O'Haire A Final	Summerhill vs St Colmans 12.12.23, COE 12pm		
O'Haire B Final	Ongoing		
O'Haire C Final	Ongoing		
O'Haire D Semi Finals	St Brenndan's vs Our Ladys. Gortnor A Vs Foxford		
1st & 2nd Year Final	St. Joseph's Charlestown vs Sancta Maria Louisburg TBA		
First Year A Final	St Gerald's vs St Murdeachs on 01.12.23 in the COE		
First Year B Final	Ballinrobe CS	vs	St. Attractas
First Year C Final	Balla Sec School	vs	Ballyhaunis CS
First Year D Final	Gortnor Abbey	vs	St Brendan's Belmullet

That is the up-to-date position with regard to competitions at the time of compiling this report in advance of the Mayo GAA County Convention. By Convention time, we expect that many of our competitions will have advanced further and some of the finals will have been played.

M Herr

Runai – Mayo Post Primary Schools

Culture Report 2023.**Scór na bpaisti**

2023 saw the return of Scór na bpaistí following a two year break due to covid. This was an outstanding success with a large number of schools taking part in the four divisions. The decision to enable two qualifiers from each division proved very successful and led to a county final with exceptional talent. All schools that competed in the competition received a certificate of participation. A Hugh thank you to all the teachers and Schools for their help.

Scór na nóg

An online introduction to Scór was rolled out by the national committee for each region, there were a numbers of mayo clubs which took part in this. A very successful county final was held in Balla Community centre. Following on from the success of Scor na bpáistí some of the clubs were able to capitalize on the scór na bpaistí entries from schools within their club areas and as a result Mayo had a very strong lineup going forward to Connacht finals which were held in Ballinasloe. Mayo had three acts which qualified for the All-Ireland finals which were held in I.N.E.C.

Congratulations to Moy Davitts gaa who had entries in Music and Ballad Group section and Davitts GAA who had an entry in the recitation section. All three acts were of a very high standard. Thanks to the County board for their support to both clubs.

Senior Scór.

There was a very fast turnaround for Senior Scór with county, Connacht and All Ireland planned by national committee with a very short timeline, a Six-to-seven-week span which put pressure on clubs as it clashed with quarter finals and some semi-finals of club games An Open county final was held in Balla community center with 8 clubs taking part in the quiz section this was a very exciting competition with three teams on level scores leading to a tiebreaker Castlebar Mitchels were victorious on the night . There was a good standard in the stage acts, but we are hoping for more participation from clubs for the new season of Senior Scór which will be rolled out in Feb. Both Castlebar Mitchels quiz team and Ballyhaunis recitation entries have qualified to represent Mayo at All Ireland Senior Scór finals which will be held in I.N.E.C in Killarney on November 18th. We wish them every success.

Seosamh Mac Donnachta awards.

Three Clubs are going for awards which promote the use of Irish in the club. Castlebar Mithchels, Mayo Gaels and Coilte Mach we congratulate them on their endeavors. All clubs are asked to forward the names of their cultural officers as a workshop on the Seosamh Mac Donnachta awards will take place in the near future.

Projects.

The History project under the guidance of Liam Alex Heffron is ready for launch - a suitable date to be arranged with Coiste Condáe. We thank Liam Alex for his dedication to this project also we acknowledge the work and assistance of the Michael Davitt Museum Straide. This is a living project clubs can add information at any time.

Club Crests complete, List of Officers complete Thanks to Michael Lang and Sean Feeney for their assistance with this project. Photographs of All Ireland winners minor, U21 and Senior and league winners Football, Hurling, Ladies and All Ireland Scór Winners is now complete, this will be on show over the next couple of weeks. Thanks to Padraic Corcoran and Liam Moffatt for their assistance with this project.

I wish to thank all members of Coiste Scór Maigheo a special mention to John Muldoon who stepped down as South scor rep this year after a service spanning 50 years, to All Members of Coiste Baintí, to Seamus, Ronan and PRO John Walker for all their assistance, help and support over the last year. A special mention to Michael Cummins for his assistance, also for making rooms available for meetings.

Grainne Ni Cheallaigh de Freine.**Scór agus Cultúr**

Mayo GAA Handball Report**2023**

Handball in Mayo suffered hugely as a result of Covid with the non-return of many players after two years closed, but this year we have seen a recovery especially with Juvenile handball and while two clubs remain closed, Charlestown have reopened after several years.

National Competitions**4 Wall**

Championship was played out early on in the year. For the first time there were no individual county championships, it was an Open Draw in Connacht. This allowed for players to have more games in each grade.

Seamus Maughan reached his singles final and Cuilleann Bourke won the Ladies Junior title, a significant achievement.

At doubles, several pairs reached the semi finals with Pdraig O'Malley Newport and Tom McCormack Claremorris winning the Emerald Masters.

Softball

Adult Softball was again an open draw in Connacht – entries from Mayo were up on last year.

In the Singles we had 7 players in the singles semi finals with one outright winner Joe Cummins Bofield. In the Doubles Joe and his Partner Seamus Hughes Ballinrobe won their Final as did Paul Gavin and Pat Moylette Castlebar.

Cuilleann Bourke reached her first senior Final but was beaten by the reigning champion Caitriona Casey.

Cuilleann has also received a sports scholarship from Trinity College.

Juvenile**4 Wall**

Mayo hosted the Connacht Juvenile A competition in Castlebar and we had some entries from Belcarra.

In the B competition we had entries from 4 clubs with Connacht winners from Belcarra, Bofield and Newport which augurs well for next year

Dylan Sheridan Newport represented Connacht in Cumann na mBunscoil this year.

Aughagower and Newport played host to two Féile grades this year with two Mayo clubs – Newport and Claremorris - represented.

A team of 6 comprised of Bofield, Claremorris and Newport contested the Boys Team of 6 in Connacht.

Blitzes are being set up between clubs to further encourage the players. This will continue throughout the winter.

Wall Ball

The Connacht Wall Ball Championship was an Open Draw and was a great success hosted by Kilglass. Ollie Cassidy went on to represent Mayo in Breacach.

Club Tournaments

Tourmakeady ran a very successful one wall tournament in aid of Mayo Health Association.

The Roche Cup was successfully held by Belcarra.

Tommy Joe Gibbons tournament was held in Ballinrobe.

Development Officer

A new Handball development officer has been appointed to Connacht. This should help with the further development of the game in Mayo.

Cairde Mhuigh Eo

All Mayo clubs bought Cairde Mhuigh Eo tickets again this year. Mayo GAA sponsored shorts this year and we hope this continues as it is a massive help to Mayo GAA Handball - we do not have any other means of funding and it is much appreciated by all the players.

Strat Plan for Mayo

A Strategy Plan for Mayo Handball has been developed and further work will be carried out in the next few months.

Second level Colleges

This competition has not run since pre Covid but there are plans to bring it back next year for Connacht at least.



2023

- Conor McDonnell became President of GAA Handball in February.
- The review of the Competitions Regulations was completed and was released earlier this year in April. An updated version was released in November.
- The new Handball Centre has been opened in Croke Park.
- The crests for all Mayo Handball clubs were placed on a wall in McHale Park
- A new Chairperson Ciarán Burke and Secretary Michael Corley have been elected to Mayo GAA Handball County Board

2024

- Nationally - successful running of World Championships which takes place in Ireland this year Wallball 18th – 24th in UL in Limerick and and 4 Wall 26 October to 2 November in Kilkenny, Carlow, Laois and Croke Park.
- Mayo plan to
 - Design a jersey to commemorate the Centenary of Handball 1924-2024
 - Produce a booklet on 100 Years of Handball in Mayo.
 - Compile a list of All Ireland winners from Mayo to date.

Go raibh míle maith agat.

Gemma Bn. Uí Mháille

Leas Rúnaí CLG Liathróid Láimhe Mhaigh Eo

**Coiste Éisteachta Mhuigheo Mayo GAA County Hearings Committee Report to County Convention
2023** Mayo Hearings Committee 2023

Brendan Byrne (Chairperson) (Castlebar Mitchels)

Craig Middleton (Secretary) (Claremorris)

Tod O'Mahony (Assistant Secretary) (Kiltimagh)

Mattie Joe Connolly (Garrymore)

Joe McEvey (Bohola Moy Davitts)

Pat McManamon (Burrishoole)

Anthony Egan (Bonniconlon)

John Kilgallon (Ballaghadereen)

Sean Higgins (Davitts)

PJ King (Knockmore)

Disciplinary Hearings in Mayo in 2023.

2023 was a relatively quiet year for Mayo Hearings Committee having sat on just nine occasions, at the time of writing. Those Hearings did not involve any juveniles in 2023, a repeat of last year.

Players:

There was a total of eight reported infractions by players which were the subject of a Hearing.

Five infractions were alleged against players related to Category III infractions including striking/kicking infractions.

There were two Hearings relating to alleged Category V infractions and one Category VII.

The first Hearing in relation to a Category III Infraction was not presented with any video or other compelling evidence to rebut the report of the Referee and therefore the infraction was deemed proven, and a one match suspension was imposed.

The other four Hearings for Category III Infractions were provided with video evidence.

In three of these cases the Hearings Committee deemed the evidence to be sufficiently compelling to rebut the evidence contained in the Referee's report that a Category III Infraction had been committed and all three of these were deemed to have been Category I infractions with no further action being imposed.

The remaining Hearing was provided with video evidence that the Infraction stated in the Referee's report was not proven. However, the Committee found that a different Infraction of the same Category had been proven and the player received a one match suspension.

Neither of the players alleged to have committed Category V infractions were able to produce video or other compelling evidence to rebut the Report of the Referee. However, based on the contents of the Referee's Report, the Hearings Committee found that a lesser, Category III Infraction, had been committed in each case and therefore imposed a one match suspension.

The player alleged to have committed a Category VII Infraction was not able to produce video or other compelling evidence to rebut the report of the Referee. The Committee deemed the infraction to have been proven and imposed a 96- week suspension. This decision was subsequently appealed to the Connacht Hearings Committee which upheld the findings of the Mayo Hearings Committee.

Finally, there was one occasion where a Hearing request from a player was refused by the CCC due to it having been deemed out of time and subsequently referred to the Hearings Committee for review of the facts. A quorum of the Hearings Committee was convened to examine the circumstances and found that the CCC had acted within Rule in refusing the granting of a Hearing. The Hearings Committee has no discretion or power to grant an extension and therefore the Request for a Hearing was denied.

It is timely to remind members of the Association and especially Club Secretaries of the time limits applying to Hearing Requests.

- Rule 7.3(r) states, "Failure to reply to a Notice of Disciplinary Action within two days from the date and time of receipt of the Notice shall constitute acceptance of the Proposed Penalty.

If it is later proved to the satisfaction of the Hearings Committee that service of the Notice of Disciplinary Action was not affected by the Competitions Control Committee in accordance with this Rule [Rule7.3], the Hearings Committee shall direct re-service of the Notice of Disciplinary Action and the matter shall proceed accordingly."

Match Officials:

There was one Hearing where a team-official was accused of abusive language towards a match official. No video or other compelling evidence was provided to rebut the report of the Referee and, as the infraction related to a match involving juvenile teams, a Suspension for an eight-week period together with a one match ban was imposed.

Summary:

To summarise, of the nine Hearings conducted, three were upheld in their entirety, one was amended to an alternative infraction carrying the same penalty as that alleged, and the remaining five Hearings resulted in lesser Infractions being proven which would incur a reduced Sanction.

Transfers:

Transfers and Permissions to Play are matters that are decided by the Mayo Competitions Control Committee (CCC). There is a right of appeal, by an aggrieved party, from the CCC to the Mayo Hearings Committee, which acts as an Appellate Body in such matters.

There were five such Appeals in 2023.

Four of those Appeals were unsuccessful before the Hearings Committee, one of which is, at the time of writing, the subject of a forthcoming DRA Tribunal.

The remaining Appeal was remitted back to the CCC for re-hearing with a recommendation that byelaws passed at the Mayo GAA County Convention on 17th December 2012, effective from 1st January 2013, be considered. These byelaws supersede the agreement on Hurling catchment areas from 2010/2011 which was produced at the Appeal hearing by the CCC.

The above decision was arrived at pursuant to Rule 7.11 (o) (ii) “the appellant’s right to a fair hearing has otherwise been compromised to such extent that a clear injustice has occurred. No determination of fact by the Decision-Maker shall be set aside unless shown to be manifestly incorrect.”

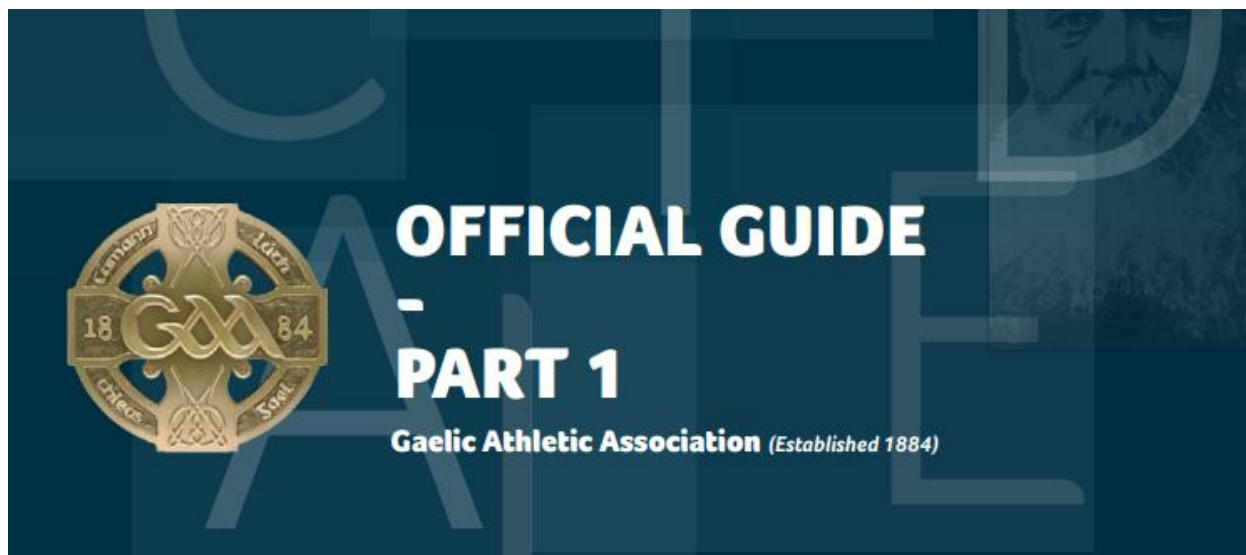
Finally, I would like to extend the appreciation of the Hearings Committee to all those players, parents, team officials, CCC members, club representatives and witnesses who attended the various Hearings and Appeals during the past year for the courtesy with which they treated the Committee and respect for the work that we do, in what are sometimes difficult circumstances.

Clearly not everyone will always go away happy with the result of the proceedings, but I hope that all concerned always feel that they were genuinely listened to and afforded ample opportunity to state their case.

A special word of thanks also goes to those in MacHale Park, especially Michael Cummins, Administrator, for facilitating our proceedings, often at very short notice and frequently long into the evening.

Is mise le meas, Carraig Middleton / Craig Middleton

Rúnaí/Secretary Coiste Éisteachta Mhuigheo / Hearings Committee, Co Mayo



Mayo County Planning and Training Committee**Annual Report 2023.**

The purpose and responsibilities of the **Planning and Training Committee** is to oversee the implementation of *Officer Training, Strategic Planning, and Demographic Planning Policies* to develop Club and County Officers, and ultimately the Clubs they represent.

The Planning and Training Officer acts as Chairperson of the County Planning and Training Committee and partners with the planning and training personnel at Provincial and Central levels to implement Association policies at local level.

The County Planning and training committee ratified for 2023 are Mary Prenty, (Chairperson,) Michael Lang, (IT Officer), Julie Reilly, (North Mayo) Alan Prendergast, (South Mayo) Bernie Ryder, (East Mayo) William Keaveney, (West May), Brendan Mooney, (Club Funding Options), John Mc Donald, (Campus Project), Liam Moffatt, (Connacht Dev. Committee).

County Planning Officers training workshops were held in Croke Park on 20th & 21st January 23. The Connacht County Planning meeting followed on 9th February 23 and the agenda included Role overview, Club Officer training/workshops, Club Compas, Club/County Planning and yearly Calendar schedule were discussed and agreed.

The Club Leadership Development Programme (CLDP), the GAA's Official Club Officer Training was rolled out for Club and County officers on 18th January 23.

- 23/01/23 - *Online role-induction training for Chairpersons, Secretaries, Treasurers, PROs and Coaching Officers.*
- 9/2/2023 - *Foireann | Ask us Anything on Foireann.*
- 16/2/2023 - *Running Registration on Foireann*
- 21/2/2023 - *Managing your Members on Foireann*
- 23/2/2023 - *Ask us anything on Registration and Member Management*
- 2/3/2023 - *Setting up Teams on Foireann*
- 7/3/2023 - *Foireann | Ask us Anything on Teams*
- 8/3/2023 - *Substance Abuse Awareness*
- 9/3/2023 - *Foireann | Vetting your Volunteers on Foireann*
- 16/3/2023 - *Foireann | Ask us Anything on Vetting*
- 21/3/2023 - *Foireann | The Basics*
- 23/3/2023 - *Foireann | Running Registration on Foireann*
- 30/3/2023 - *Foireann | Managing your Members on Foireann*
- 6/4/2023 - *Foireann | Ask us Anything on Registration and Member Management*
- 13/4/2023 - *Foireann | Vetting your Volunteers on Foireann*
- 20/4/2023 - *Foireann | Communicating with Members on Foireann*
- 27/4/2023 - *Foireann | Ask us Anything on Communications*
- 26/06/23 - *Diversity & Inclusion Webinar (Connacht).*
- 8/08/2023 - *Sports Capital Webinar/s*
- 25/10/2023 - *Critical Incident Response. A Howlin & S. Moloney*
- 12/10/2023 - *Essential Date Protection; Repeat 16/10/23.*
- 29/09/2023 - *Gaelic Games v Discrimination. Repeated 17/10/23 and 14/11/2023*

All recorded webinars can be found here - <https://learning.gaa.ie/administratorwebinars>

All available modules can be found here - <https://learning.gaa.ie/OfficerTrainingModules>

The following Archived Modules are available, *Digital Communications, Using IT to Simplify Club Administration, Operating Effectively as One Club, Club Planning, Demographics, Commercial and Sponsorship, Recruiting, Retaining and Engaging Volunteers, An Ghaeilge sa Chlub, The Corporate Trustee Model Explained, Upholding Disciplinary Rules and Procedures, and Running the Club AGM.*

If a user had a previous GAA Learning account but has not yet logged into the updated **TOBAR** site, they will just be required to change their password when first logging in.

If a user does not have a Tobar account, they will be required to set one up before registering for an event. Details on how to create an account can be found here - <https://learning.gaa.ie/AboutTobar>
Further information on: learning.gaa.ie/administratorwebinars

A Club Officer Training Survey, A forms survey was forwarded to Club and County Officers, County Board Delegates and Coaching officers to access the training needs and requirements for 2023. 160 responses were received. The survey shows that the main topics concerning officers at this time are **Funding Options, Foireann, Online learning, Webinar and eLearning, One Drive Training, Facebook, Instagram & X (twitter).** Training for Club officers is one of the main functions of our committee and the calendar of training events for 2023/2024 is at the planning stage. If you or any of your club officers require specific training let us know. This is the only way we can determine your needs and provide the most appropriate training events possible.

Official Mail for Club officers: All our club Chairpersons, Secretaries, Treasurer, PRO's, Co. Board Delegates and Childrens officers have an Official mail at their disposal to ensure that they feel supported, can store Club information safely and allow for a smooth transition from outgoing to incoming officers. Officers are also encouraged to use the free **One Drive facility** provided to store all your GAA Records including Club Deeds, Club Photos, and items of historical interest.

A database of all Club Officers was completed in March 23 and circulated to the principal Officers for their attention. All requests for new emails and new temporary passwords have been processed to date. Please ensure that as a club officer you are not **redirecting your official mail to a personal or business email** as this can have serious consequences from a GDPR perspective for you and your Club.

A new layer of access has been granted to the Planning and Training role and this allows for a password reset for club Officers in a 24/48-hour turnaround time.

Stewards Training

Cumann Lúthchleas Gael, in conjunction with EUROPLAN, provide both face to face and a virtual training programme to ensure that an adequate number of certified stewards are trained in all aspects of safety and assistance for match day spectators, players, match officials, media, and personnel for club and county event days.

We held a very successful face to face training event in Hastings Mac Hale Park. (28/02/23) and 69 stewards were in attendance. This new training module proved a winner as the module was completed in the one day and proved very popular with the stewards.

The Board have 155 trained stewards to cover events in clubs and county ground. This training is organised each year to facilitate stewards whose certification expires on 28th February. It is recommended that all Clubs have at least one fully trained steward for club events also. Thanks to Gerry Bourke and all the Stewards for their cooperation and support.

Club Planning

The GAA Club Planning programme helps to promote the availability of the Association's Strategic Planning service to Clubs, while assisting them in specific areas of Club Development. Club Plans from 2022/2023 were assessed and Clubs were asked to complete an *Expression of Interest* to establish the level of interest in developing a plan. Facilitators are then appointed to assist the 21 clubs who are now engaged with and actively working on their Club Plans.

Congratulations to **Balla GAA Club (2023- 2026)** who launched their club Plan, March 23.

Gerry O Neill, Club Co-ordinator, says *"I think the most undervalued aspect of a Club Plan is that it records and codifies all the good but mundane everyday things the club, or the club officers, do. This means that every year the new incoming officers have a template to work from and that outgoing officers need not fear that their good work will be forgotten.*

It is so important that the club buys into the plan not just via the workshops but by multiple opportunities to contribute, the wider club membership must have every opportunity to have their say. The implementation of any Club Plan is probably the most important part. A good Implementation process allows the club to see how it's getting on with delivery and forces it to take on those difficult and awkward tasks some members might like to avoid or ignore.

Ballaghaderreen GAA Club Plan (2023-2026)

Congratulations to Ballaghaderreen GAA Club who launched their plan in July 23.

Special thanks to Club Secretary, Pat Naughton, who facilitated the plan.

Moy Davitts GAA Club Plan (2024-2027)

Moy Davitts have recently held their Planning workshops. Bernie Ryder, is Secretary of Moy Davitts GAA Club, is Club coordinator, and a new facilitator in training with Willie Keaveney.

Bernie says that *"Like many clubs throughout the county, we have had regular ongoing discussions about future developments in facilities, coaching, fundraising and other important initiatives. However, the same recurring challenges often prevent us moving forward with many of these projects – how do we start, who will take responsibility for them, how do we prioritise and plan and finally (and very importantly), how do we ensure they are brought to fruition.*

As a member of the Planning and Training Sub-Committee and from being involved in developing other Club Plans, I saw how other clubs were affected and how they overcame these issues. Common complaints included the same few people on every committee, lack of direction and focus, lack of experience in certain areas. The Club Planning process provides focus and clarity and is an ideal vehicle to get new people involved in the club. With this in mind, Moy Davitts agreed to produce a 3-year Club Plan, covering 2024-2027.

After submitting our expression of interest, Willie Keaveney was appointed as external facilitator. He assisted in running a very successful Community workshop which was held to give club members and

key stakeholders an opportunity to feed into the club planning process. This workshop was broken into the following groups: Coaching (Juvenile); Coaching (Senior); Club administration; Fundraising and Finance; PR, Communications, Healthy Clubs & Community; Facilities Development.

The workshop attracted a lot of people who had never been involved with the club previously. As well as the online Community questionnaire, which was circulated widely both at home and abroad, we asked 3 main questions:

- What are we doing well?
- What do we need to start doing?
- What do we stop doing?

Some interesting, achievable and realistic ideas came from this workshop and questionnaire. The next steps involve the steering committee, with the chairperson from each workshop group prioritising ideas and projects and ensuring that we can deliver them within the 3-year timeframe. It is hoped to launch the Moy Davitts Club Plan (2024-2027) in Spring 2024 on the Club's 50th anniversary".

I hope that the contributions from Gerry and Bernie will encourage other clubs to start the process of club planning or look at updating their current plan.

Facilitator training events are scheduled each year so that we have a mix of new and experienced facilitators to support the Clubs in developing their plans. Facilitation is a unique process in itself and it is not for everybody. Further information and templates can be found here

<https://learning.gaa.ie/club> planning.

Club Trustees.

There was a renewed interest in Club Trustees 2022/23 due mainly to a new legal directive Central Register of Beneficial Ownership of Trusts (CRBOT), where the onus was placed on club officers to inform all their Executive members and Trustees of this new law while acting for their clubs. Two clubs have recently transitioned fully to the corporate trust and the Certs have been forwarded for them to claim the €1000 towards their legal fees.

There are currently seven Clubs moving to the corporate trust. A few clubs are delayed in applying for the grant because of Land Registry issues. I urge the Clubs to track their applications regularly to avoid long delays. I wish to confirm that a grant of €1000 is available once the property is registered with the Property Registration Authority and the Cert has been submitted.

Sports Capital and Equipment Funding and Community Loans

A very successful *Sports Capital and Equipment Funding and Community Loans* presentation was made by Tracey Hannon, Regional Manager Clann Credo on making an application to Sports Capital.

She outlined that Clann Credo is a charity providing loan finance to the community and voluntary sector. This fund is dedicated to sports and provides clubs with an opportunity to apply for grant aid towards equipment purchase and capital investment.

A broad outline of the process for preparing the application to Sports Capital was detailed including the requirement to show evidence of match finance. Details of the investments, both eligible and

ineligible for funding, were provided. Tracey provided details of the process and detailed how Clann Credo could support clubs at both application stage and following the award of the grant. At the application stage clubs may require evidence of the availability of the balance of funds to complete the project. Given the maximum approval is €200,000, this would apply to larger projects. Once the club has received grant approval, bridging facilities are required to enable the club to draw down the approved grant. This can only be done on the production of receipts. Therefore, clubs will have to pay the contractor/supplier before they can draw down the grant. Clann Credo can also provide this short-term loan assistance.

Brendan Mooney, Kiltimagh GAA provided an outline of their experience in securing Sports Capital funding and working through the process. Brendan provided a really useful guide based on recent experience of both securing Sports Capital Funding, raising funds and securing loan finance from Clann Credo.

A question-and-answer session followed where there was discussion around a number of issues. There were 15 clubs represented at the event.

Sports Capital Webinars were held also, and a **copy of the recording and presentation slides** were made available to the clubs following the events.

Hastings Mac Hale Park -Campus Project:

An Implementation Meeting was held on 3rd March 23. It was agreed to follow the template in relation to subcommittee workshops under the 5 pillars of the Green Club Programme, namely Energy, Waste, Biodiversity, Transport and Water.

John Mc Donald, Kilmeena was recommended to act as Chairperson of the Project, and this was subsequently ratified at a Coiste Bainisti meeting.

SEAI Grant applications opened later than expected, with the deadline extended to June 30th 23. Several Mayo Clubs engaged with John Harrington to discuss the suitability and possibility of a Retrofitting Plan for their Club.

Energy Audits: Energy Audits are a mandatory requirement in order to pursue SEAI funding for any projects. Hastings Mac Hale Park, Castlebar Mitchels and Ballina Stephanites all qualified for a free energy audit as their bills exceeded 10,000 euro annually. Castlebar Mitchels energy audit is now completed with Ballina Stephanites a close second. In all, 24 clubs have completed an Expression of Interest and these applications have been forwarded to the Energy Auditor, Kevin Martin, for follow-up. Energy Reports will follow over the next few months. Discussions are ongoing on how these Club Audits can be harnessed prior to the SEAI Grants deadlines of March 31st. Clubs are urged to pay keen attention to the relevant paperwork required for these projects

Biodiversity Committee

The biodiversity committee under the guidance of Deirdre Cunningham, Heritage Officer, Mayo Coco, as chairperson, is working away to implement Phase one of the Biodiversity Plan for the campus which is in its final edits stage.

James Kirwan, Artist completed the Biodiversity Mural on Friday 26th May, and it is fair to say that this artwork is a transformation. The feedback is very positive. Mayo Coco Heritage Grants has been made available to cover the cost of the mural and Artists Fees in total. Special thanks to Heritage Department Mayo Coco for their support with this project.

We are currently planning for the launch of the Biodiversity Plan for the Campus Project.

Biodiversity Awareness Workshops dates are being planned for Clubs in 2024.

Swift Bird Project - Lynda Huxley, Swift Conservation Ireland continues to support our Clubs in relation to nest boxes and nest site advice and has assisted the installation of a Schwegler 17A triple cavity Swift nest box in Castlebar Mitchels GAA and Charlestown GAA Club. Thanks to both clubs for helping with and facilitating the installation of both projects. The equipment for both projects was sponsored by the Heritage Officer, Deirdre Cunningham. A Meeting with representative from Ballina GAA was held to look at potential in their Grounds.

A Meeting at the Centre of Excellence in Bekan was held to look at potential for East Mayo.

A Meeting with architects for Westport GAA new building was held and agreed that boxes will be built into the new building when they have secured funding for the building work.

Further information: swiftconservationsireland@gmail.com

Waste Management Plan for Campus;

It was agreed that a Waste Management plan was necessary for the Campus due to the high level of waste following games as well as the high numbers of visiting teams and supporters.

A Waste Management plan was prepared for Hastings Mac Hale Park and Castlebar Mitchels containing clear guidance and details on how waste could be managed over the coming years in both stadiums.

The plan covered Waste Auditing, Waste Prevention, Action plan Samples and guidance on communicating waste related messaging to all stakeholders. Waste management planning elements of the proposed actions can be undertaken collectively in response to waste related issues.

Castlebar Mitchels have implemented the first series of actions addressing waste segregation, and prevention with appropriate signage, and specially prepared bins, are available in An Sportlan and grounds. Waste food bins are installed in the catering area. Elimination of single-use plastic and a drinking water fountain is installed to facilitate re-usable plastic. Bi-lingual charter and materials are in place also. As part of their plan, raising awareness of their club policy on waste management is the next step in the process.

Waste Management Workshops for Clubs

As a follow on to the very successful waste management workshops held in late 2022 and driven by the very genuine interest/feedback from some Clubs it was decided to continue with additional workshops in 2023 as part of the green club's programme and the Campus Project.

The focus of these workshops was to support clubs in improving waste management on their grounds and clubhouses and ensure participation in other Green Clubs' themes.

Each regional workshop was hosted by a local GAA club, namely Balla, (6/07/23) Charlestown, (7/06/23) Crossmolina, (15/06/23) Kilmaine, (14/06/23) Cill Chomain (25/09/23) and Castlebar Mitchels (1/06/23) with other clubs in the division invited to attend. On occasion members of the public, local businesses, club sponsors and other local community groups also attended.

Clubs were encouraged to use the GAA Green Clubs tool kit and avail themselves of the free bilingual bin labels and posters from Mywaste.ie. Clubs were encouraged to develop a waste management policy for their club. Information was on reducing water usage and on increasing biodiversity was offered.

Artwork files were given to clubs who wanted to set up bin stations and clubs were offered colourful signage to help reduce plastic waste and encourage refilling of water at drinking water points within the clubs. Clubs were also advised on how to communicate new green initiatives in their clubs to members and the wider community. Information was offered on waste segregation, recycling and composting of green waste. Solutions for dealing with litter and dog fouling were discussed. Ideas for improvement were shared among clubs in the group discussion.

Clubs were encouraged to include a communications plan as part of their waste management policy including the use of short videos featuring club players to act as positive role models.

Onsite visits were also carried out by Mayo County Council's Environment Awareness Officer in several clubs: Knockmore, Bofeenaun/Lahardane, Ballycroy, Tooreen, Ballyhaunis, Castlebar Mitchels, Moy Davitts, Charlestown, Kilmeena, Ballina Stephenites and Burrishoole and a follow up visit to Cill Chomain is planned by year end. These visits focused on helping clubs reduce their waste and improve their waste segregation. Mayo County Council's Environment Awareness Officer is available to any club who needs support in implementing a waste management policy.

Thanks to Sharon Cameron, Environmental Officer, Mayo Coco for her commitment and dedication to our Clubs.

Mayo GAA and Mayo College of Further Education Collaboration.

Mayo GAA, Hastings Insurance Mac Hale Park and Mayo College of Further Education and Training announced they have joined up as Sustainability Partners. This sustainability partnership aimed at fostering environmental responsibility and community engagement within the county. This unique alliance seeks to drive positive change, champion sustainable practices, and set a new standard for sporting and educational institutions.

The partnership was officially launched at the Mayo GAA v Louth GAA All-Ireland Senior Championship Round 2 Game (4th June 23) at Hastings Insurance Mac Hale Park where college staff were on hand to give information on the partnership and courses on offer in the college.

Work has commenced on the implementation of comprehensive sustainability initiative at the Hastings Insurance Mac Hale Park campus, where the staff and students of the Mayo College have commenced work on implementing the recently ratified Biodiversity plan.

The college staff and students will assist the stadium campus by working in collaboration on a series of transformative measures aimed at minimising its carbon footprint and promoting eco-conscious practices.

These efforts will include:

- Maintenance and Enhancement of the Grass Banks
- The creation of green spaces and native planting initiatives
- Removal and planting of Trees and Hedgerows
- Installation of wooden planters
- Planting of pollinator areas
- Installation of Bird and Bat Boxes.

In addition to the above work Mayo College of Further Education and Training has delivered 2 Turfgrass Management workshops. The first one was held in Kilmaine GAA club (4th October 23). Special thanks to Donal Walsh and Kilmaine Officers for their support on the night.

The second Workshop was held in Westport (24 October 23). Both Workshops highlighted the importance of pitch maintenance and repair (Divot replacement /sod repair) to club members throughout Mayo. These workshops were well attended.

Finally, Mayo College of Further Education and Training will offer the following 4 short certified free courses to all GAA members throughout the county. Course details will be emailed to all members over the coming weeks.

1. ILM CERT IN LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT - LEADING THROUGH CHANGE
2. Mentoring Practice
3. Sustainability in the Workplace
4. Project Management

Thanks to Michael Murphy, Principal of Mayo College of Further Education and Training.

Special thanks also to John Sloyan, and Cormac Langan, presenters, for their time and expertise when delivering the workshops to our club members.

Further information: michaelmurphy@mayocollege.ie or castlebar@mayocollege.ie

Special thanks to

- Kurt Reinhardt, for his ongoing keen interest in sustainability projects both on Campus and in our Clubs. He is also a very informed tour guide in the COE for all our member
- Jimmey Darcy, and Míde Ní Shúilleabháin , Green Clubs Programme Croke Park for the informative workshops, support and direction.
- Brendan Heaney for his experience and encouragement to our subgroups and his support when required to our Clubs.
- Paddy Mahon, and Martin Moran (Castlebar Mitchels) for their support and input to the Campus Project.
- Mel Gavin, R&D Coordinator ATU Sligo, and David Mellett (Northwest Regional CARO Officer) for your support to our projects.
- Deirdre Cunningham, Heritage Officer, Sinead Ni Mhainin, Connacht Regional Waste Office and Sharon Cameron, Environmental Officer, Mayo Coco for your dedication, expertise and commitment to the Campus Project and our Clubs – we owe you a huge debt of gratitude.
- Tom Carolan, Local Authority Water for your ongoing support to our clubs.
- John Mc Donald, Campus Chairperson, Brian Hughes, Johnny Hopkins, John O Donnell, Martin Corcoran for your commitment to the biodiversity committee.
- Brendan Mooney (Kiltimagh)- Funding options for clubs.
- Tracy Hannon, Clan Credo, for your ongoing support to our clubs – It is much appreciated.
- John Harrington, Future Fit, for your experience and wise counsel in relation to SEAI applications currently being processed for our clubs.
- Kevin Martin, Energy Auditor who is actively engaging to get Energy Audits completed.
- Jack Mc Carney, (Croke Park), and Adrian Hassett, (Connacht GAA) for your unwavering support to our committee during the year.
- Thanks to the County Board Officers and the Executive members for their help and support during the year.
- Michael Lang, IT Officer, Mayo for your support to us all during the year.
- Liam Moffatt, Connacht Development Committee.

To Willie Keaveney, Bernie Ryder, Julie Reilly, Alan Prendergast, Gerry O Neill, Mattie Kilroy, and Gerry Mc Nulty for your support, dedication, direction and commitment to the club planning committee this year. It has been a very successful and enjoyable year.

Finally, a very sincere thanks to all the Club Officers. I hope that the training events/workshops that we host are in some way supporting you in your club role.

Mary Prenty,

Planning and Training Committee- Mayo GAA.

APPENDIX 1**Funding Options**

I advise Clubs to check all the links listed below as those schemes that are currently closed will reopen in 2024.

☐ **The Sports Capital & Equipment Programme 2023.** Clubs and organisations can register their interest on the portal www.sportscapitalprogramme.ie. The “Guide to Making an application” can be found at: gov.ie/sportscapital. This scheme is currently closed for application.

☐ **LEADER funding** – contact can be made with the Southwest Mayo Development Company Ltd in Newport. I attach a link to their website which sets out their contact details, <http://www.southmayo.com/index.php/programmes/rural-development-programme>

☐ **The HSE is allocated National Lottery Funding** for distribution to community based groups and voluntary organisations under the following terms: 1. Respite Care Grant Scheme; 2. National Lottery Grant Scheme. I attach a link with more information: <https://www2.hse.ie/services/schemes-allowances/lottery-grants/national-lottery-grants/>. Closing Date: 17 February 2023 at noon.

☐ **The Coca-Cola Thank You Fund.** <https://www.coca-cola.com/ie/en/social/thank-you-fund>. Applications are now closed for the 2023 scheme.

☐ **General Municipal Allocation (GMA) Funding.** Funding for Residents Associations, for **Clubs/Organisations**, for Festival/Event Organisers and for Burial Ground Committees from Mayo County Council. This scheme is currently closed but should open early in 2024.

☐ **Mayo Sports Partnership** can provide limited support to clubs and organisations through several targeted schemes aimed at increasing participation in sport and physical activity. <https://www.mayo.ie/sports-partnership/funding>.

☒ **SEAI Community Energy Grant Scheme:** funds are available towards projects that deliver energy savings to communities, including public buildings, homes and businesses. Full details of the scheme, including how to apply are available at <https://www.seai.ie/grants/community->

☒ It may be possible for clubs to raise funds via the ‘**Tax Relief for Donations to Certain Sports Bodies’** scheme (section 847A of the Taxes Consolidation Act, 1997). This is a Revenue operated scheme which offers tax benefits to individuals or companies who make donations to sports clubs. Further details on this scheme and how it operates can be found on the Revenue Commissioners website <https://www.revenue.ie/en/tax-professionals/tdm/income-tax-capital-gains-tax-corporation-tax/part-36/36-00-14.pdf>

☒ **Healthy Ireland grant details:** The funding will be determined via a competitive application process. It is open to all GAA, LGFA, and Camogie clubs in the 26 counties with an existing walking track/amenity. GAA/LGFA/Camogie clubs that use the same facilities are required to submit a joint application. Only one application per club allowed.

The Healthy Ireland grant funding may be used to:

- o Upgrade existing walking track surfaces
- o Improve access/usability for persons with mobility issues
- o Install/upgrade to LED lighting along existing walking track route
- o Upgrade/maintain existing walking track boundaries

A club may apply for one of the grant funding amounts below:

- o Up to €10,000 - Up to €25,000 - Up to €50,000

Funding is not applicable for:

- o Development of new walking tracks
- o Floodlighting for pitches that also lights walking tracks (or sections thereof)

This scheme is currently closed for application, as of 31 st January 2023

☒ Community Support Fund 2022/2023

This Scheme is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development and administered through Mayo Local Community Development Committee. This fund will support not-for-profit community and voluntary groups, particularly in disadvantaged areas with:

Current Costs

Non-pay running costs: Electricity, refuse, heat costs etc

Non-pay operating costs: Rental / lease costs and Insurance bills etc

Capital costs

- Necessary repairs and improvements to facilities, purchase
- Equipment such as tables, chairs, tools, signage, laptops, printer
- Lawnmowers, canopies and training equipment.

The Fund is currently closed for application. More information can be found at

<https://www.mayo.ie/community/funding/community-support-fund>

☒ COMMUNITY RECOGNITION FUND 2023

The fund aims to support the development of community infrastructure and facilities in recognition of communities hosting new arrivals from Ukraine and other countries (Temporary Protection and/or International Protection Applicants). The Fund is currently closed for application. More information can be found at

<https://www.mayo.ie/community/Funding/Community-Recognition-Fund>

☒ 2023 CLÁR Scheme

The Measures being funded under the 2023 CLÁR Programme are:

Measure 1*: Developing Community Facilities & Amenities

Measure 2**: Mobility, Cancer Care and Community First Responders Transport

Measure 3***: "Our Islands"

For the Scheme Outline and further information, see

<https://www.mayo.ie/community/funding/clar2023>. This scheme is currently closed

for application.

☒ **International Protection Integration Fund 2023** enables community based organisations to play a greater role in supporting the integration of International Protection Applicants. This scheme is currently closed for application.

☒ **Sports Energy Support Scheme.** The purpose of the €35m Fund, which was secured as part of Budget 2023, is to support the rising energy costs associated with the provision of sport. Sports clubs and organisations which received funding under Phase I of the Scheme, for the period up to 31 March, are now eligible to apply for funding of their energy costs for April and May 2023. In addition, sports clubs and organisations which did not previously make an application during Phase I, are able to make an application for funding. Under Phase II, community-owned sports facilities not specifically affiliated to an NGB or who do not currently qualify for TBESS or other Government schemes, can now engage with their Local Sports Partnership (LSP) to ascertain if they are eligible to qualify for funding. This aims to ensure maximum support is provided to grassroots sport. This scheme is currently closed for application. All queries should be directed to the relevant Sport Ireland Recognised National Governing Body of Sport or Local Sports Partnership

☒ **The 2023 Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme.** The Measures being funded under this year's Scheme are:

- o Measure 1 for small scale projects requiring funding of up to €30,000,
- o Measure 2 for medium scale projects with funding of up to €200,000,
- o Measure 3 for large scale projects seeking funding of up to €500,000.

2023 Connacht Council Report:**Early Season Competitions**

The 2023 Connacht season began in the traditional setting of the University of Galway Connacht GAA Air Dome as the FBD Connacht League got underway in January.

It proved to be a worthwhile experience for Mayo as they claimed their first title since 2012 following a 0-13 to 0-09 win over Roscommon in the final.

The Hurling equivalent was not as successful for Mayo as they were beaten by Leitrim in the preliminary round on a score line of 4-23 to 1-18.

Unfortunately for Mayo club teams the 2022 club season was not a fruitful with no Mayo club making in past the semi-finals stages in either of the Senior, Intermediate or Junior football championships.

For the third year in a row and for the fourth time in six years, Tooreen claimed another Connacht Intermediate hurling title. They did so by beating Galway's Killimor by 0-22 to 1-15. They went all the way to the All-Ireland final where they lost narrowly to Monaleen of Limerick. Well done to all involved in their success over the last number of years.

Senior Football Championship:

The Connacht senior football championship got underway once again in April. Mayo had a tough opener against Roscommon in MacHale Park and came out on the wrong side of a four-point defeat. Galway eventually won top honours beating Sligo in the final to win a record 49th provincial title.

U20 Football Championship:

The U20 championship also began in April, and it saw Mayo host Sligo at the semi-final stage. It was to be Sligo's day as they beat Mayo 0-17 to 1-09 enroute to a two in a row of Connacht U20 titles. In the final they beat Galway in Tuam in a thriller by 0-14 to 0-13.

Minor Football Championship:

The Minor championship begin with its usual round robin format. Mayo claimed three wins in the round robin stage and followed this up with a semi-final win over Roscommon in MacHale Park. In a game shown live on TG4, Mayo won their second successive Minor title in a row when they beat Galway in Tuam to win a 42nd Connacht Minor title. Well done to all the players and management involved.

Bursary Awards:

Congratulations to all 62 recipients of Connacht GAA 3rd level bursaries including the 15 players from Mayo who received their awards on March 3rd. It was great to see so many Mayo recipients able to attend on the night. The bursary awards have been in place for 14 years and awards members who are active members in their higher education clubs.

Planning and Development Risk Register:

Connacht GAA is finalised its risk register in 2023. Aspects considered include volunteerism, demographics, safe-guarding, finances, HR, IT, games schedule, referees, and match attendances. Club Development Connacht GAA continues to support the clubs of Mayo.

Funding

Six different Mayo clubs received funding totaling €125,000 to support their 2023 development works.

- Ballaghaderreen €10,000
- Charlestown €10,000
- Kilmaine €25,000
- Parke/Keellogues/Crimlin €30,000
- The Neale €20,000
- Westport €30,000

Féile:

Connacht had the honour of hosting the John West Féile Peile na nÓg tournament this summer. This was a club festival for Gaelic football and Ladies Gaelic football at Under 15 level. This involved hosting and managing 168 hurling and camogie games on the weekend of June 24th and 186 football games over the weekend of July 1st. It was a tremendous success with a number of clubs in Mayo hosting games and supporting Connacht in the successful running of the event. It is no surprise that all this hard work has been rewarded with the recent announcement of Connacht GAA as hosts for the Peile na nÓg tournament again in June 2024.

Club Development Officer:

The Club Development Officer role was launched by Connacht in early 2023. It was great to see 16 Mayo clubs taking part in the pilot project. As this was a pilot project some issues did arise, however most of the clubs involved found it to be a very beneficial project. A review of the programme took place in recent weeks and 77% of the clubs that responded to the survey said that they would take part again next year. The CDO's were also heavily involved in this review and 100% of the CDOs that participated in the review said that they would recommend the project to a colleague for next year. Hopefully even more Mayo clubs will get involved in this programme in 2024.

GAA for All:

A football for all inclusion day was held in Croke Park with children from St Anthony's school in Castlebar on the Connacht team. Well done to Denis O'Boyle, Martin Costello and Eoin Sweeney from Mayo who attended on the day.

Wheelchair hurling training sessions took place in Barnacarroll sports hall for Connacht players. Well done to all who participated and best of luck to all Mayo players in future events.

The All-Star program was set up in clubs for children with special needs and an All-Star inclusion day in the dome in the COE where children with special needs took part in GAA activities and games.

Club Ground of the Year:

Congratulations to Kilmovee Shamrocks who are the Mayo nominees for Connacht Club Ground of the Year. The overall winner will be announced in the coming weeks.

Connacht GAA Centre of Excellence is now energy independent with solar panels generating electricity back into the national grid.

Lastly, we would like to thank John Prenty and all his staff for all the work they do throughout the year. The COE continues to go from strength to strength and I am sure we will continue to see it evolve and adapt to the needs of our members.

Paul Cunnane/Liam Moffatt (Mayo delegates to Connacht GAA)

Central Council Report

following proposals were discussed and agreed:

- The Intercounty Senior Player's Charter
 - Croke Park and Casement Park were submitted by the GAA as venues to be considered for Euros 2028.
 - Cork and Cavan were given permission to host a rugby game in 2024.
 - Mayo Hurlers were granted Appendix 4 for 2023.
 - Two clubs were allowed to compete together in the Mayo Junior Championship in 2023.
 - The Age Grades Policy allowing counties permission to play U12, U14, U16 and U18 as the main age grades.
 - The Intercounty Minor at u17 will be played in league format with the two provincial finalists entering into the Tier 1 Championship. There will also be a Tier 2 and Tier 3 competition.
 - The u20 will also be ran on a league format in the provinces.
 - There will be an A and B Competition at All Ireland level.
 - A total of 4.2 million euro to clubs and 3.5 million euro to counties for infrastructure grants were approved.
 - A major refurbishment of Croke Park has already commenced.
 - A total of €760,000 (Covid Support) was allocated to 10 counties who incurred a deficit in 2022.
 - The GAA Green Programme was launched.
 - Clubs are encouraged to engage with the ESB and Government regarding solar panels.
 - Coiste Bainistíochta will have 40% female representation.
 - All coaching and administrators will be employed directly by Croke Park.
 - Selectors are no longer permitted on the field of play.
 - The official guide of the GAA is now in 3 sections; Official Guide 1 & 2 and Codes.
- Codes can be changed by submitting proposals to Croke Park by December 31st.

Pauric MacNicoláis – Ard Comhairle

Safety and Facilities Officers Report 2023:

The role of the Safety and Facilities Officer is to provide advice and support to Clubs and the County Management & Finance Committee on best practice in several key areas including; Ground Health & Safety, the Protection of Association Property (including title), Trusteeship, Insurances and the Development of Grounds and Facilities (including funding available for these developments).

The Safety and Facilities Committee which assists with the role was re-established this year with the following members: Frank Flynn (Chairman) Gerry Burke (Chief Steward) (Secretary of Committee) James Rock (Event Controller) Philip Heneghan (Groundsman McHale Park) Michael Diskin (Assistant Treasurer) Michael King (Holymount Carramore) Regina O' Donnell (Insurance Officer)

The purpose of the Safety and Facilities Committee is to ensure compliance with Ground Health & Safety, Protection of Association Properties & Facilities in line with Legal Obligations and GAA Rules and advise on Physical Development of Grounds & Facilities at both club and county level.

The committee assisted clubs in preparing documents for grant applications from Connacht Council. The committee had to approve the grants in principle so that they were acceptable to go forward to Connacht Council to seek funding for their specific development projects.

During the year a Safety Report was prepared for McHale Park which focused on safe access and egress of spectators from our pitch.

The completed report was presented to the county board delegates and approved by members. The Safety Statement for McHale Park was also updated prior to the first round of the Senior Championship.

Numerous webinars were held by Connacht Council and Croke Park and were attended where advice and support were given.

Mid-year a Risk Register was prepared for Mayo County Board to highlight the risks to the association and to agree a set of controlled measures to help mitigate these risks.

The work on this risk register was carried out by myself, Michael Diskin and Liam Moffat. I would like to thank them for their help here and for the work they put in to preparing this document.

The Risk Register was presented to the County Executive and County Board delegates where it was ratified. I would like to thank Seamus Tuohy for appointing me to the role of Safety and Facilities Officer for 2023 and to thank him for his support and help to me throughout this year.

I would like to extend this thanks to the whole executive committee also. Finally, I would like to thank the Safety and Facilities Committee for their work throughout the year and also the committee's secretary Gerry Burke, Head Steward.

Proinnsias O Floinn

Safety and Facilities Officer.



Childrens Officer Report:

During the past 12 months, I am pleased to report that Mayo GAA has continued to successfully adopt the GAA Code of Behaviour (Underage).

Child Protection is a constantly evolving area and we at Mayo GAA work very closely to ensure that we endeavour at all times to implement best practice.

Silent Sideline In 2023 Mayo GAA implemented a “Silent Sideline” for U8, U10, U12 & U14 age groups.

The aim of this initiative is to create a positive, calm, and more fun environment where our young players make their own decisions, can concentrate on the game, and make mistakes without fear of criticism.

I would like to thank the clubs for embracing & promoting this initiative and for erecting signage in their grounds.

Sincere thanks to Mayo GAA Bord na nOg Chairperson Charlie Lambert and Mayo GAA Bord na nOg Secretary Brian O Malley & all the Bord na nOg committee for their work in supporting and promoting the Silent Sideline initiative.

Safeguarding

There was extensive demand for Safeguarding Level 1 training.

It is great to see so many new people willing to get involved with their clubs.

Sincere thanks to those clubs who hosted a Safeguarding Workshop this year. A highly successful Safeguarding 2 training was held for Club Children's Officers earlier this year in MacHale Park.

During the year Clubs as well as County completed the GAA Safeguarding Risk Assessment and Child Safeguarding Statement.

I am pleased to report that all units In Mayo were fully compliant in completing this assessment. We have 2 Safeguarding tutors in Mayo, Eanna Casey & Denis O Boyle.

Both are always willing to help and support Mayo GAA, they carry out their work so effectively and, in this regard, I thank Denis and Eanna for all they do.

I would like to thank our Coaching Officer Declan O Reilly, Mayo GAA Games Development Officer Billy Mc Nicholas, Kieran Kilkenny and all the Games Promotion Officers in Mayo for their support when coordinating Safeguarding training for Cul Camp staff and working to ensure all our coaches /mentors are fully compliant with GAA Safeguarding requirements.

2024

In preparation for 2024 we are implementing a training plan to get ahead of the curve. We are encouraging clubs to review their coaching groups and identify how many potential new & existing coaches need Safeguarding and Coach Ed training for the coming season.

I would like to express sincere thanks to Michael Cummins, the Principal Officers and all the Mayo GAA Executive for their unwavering support.

It is very encouraging to know that there is such an emphasis placed on Safeguarding matters.

Sincere thanks to all the Club Childrens Officers for the magnificent work you do which can never be taken for granted.

I want to thank Mayo GAA Designated Liaison Person Pdraig Carolan for his support & discretion as Child Protection matters require the utmost confidentiality.

Given the importance of Child Safeguarding we can never be complacent, & I continue to ask you to keep up the excellent work in ensuring we meet our Safeguarding requirements.

Is mise le meas Celia Rattigan Children's Officer

The Gaelic Athletic Association is committed to creating and maintaining the safest possible environment for all young people who wish to participate in our Gaelic Games and activities. We will take all practicable steps to protect them from discernable forms of abuse - from harm, discrimination or degrading treatment and shall respect their rights, wishes and feelings.



Health & Wellbeing

*It is my great honour to open my report with some exciting news!
Croke Park Community and Health Department have awarded our Committee the County Health and Wellbeing Committee of the year Award for 2023.
This award is testament to the ongoing commitment of the Mayo GAA Health and Wellbeing Committee and we are honoured to accept this award*

On behalf of the Mayo GAA Health and Wellbeing Committee I wish to take this opportunity to thank our committee members and advisory committee members for their hard work and dedication over the year and congratulate them for their efforts in promoting health and wellbeing throughout our county.

The Healthy Club Project is going from strength to strength.

This is evident in the introduction of the new Accreditation Model supporting clubs to achieve Foundation, Silver or Gold Level Healthy Club Awards.

The existing Healthy Clubs have continued to stay engaged as they continue to support the holistic health of their members and the communities they serve.

To all the wonderful clubs who have worked extremely hard in supporting their communities through the work of their Health Club Officers is a testament to the strength of our GAA Community here in Mayo.

Committee 2023

Chairperson	Fran Downey	Ballina Stephenites GAA
Secretary	Noreen Johnston	Kilmeena GAA
Childrens Officer	Celia Rattigan	Breaffy GAA
HC Peer Supporter	Lisa McConn	Ballyhaunis GAA
	Toni Bourke	Breaffy GAA
	Caroline Mahon	Hollymount/Carramore GAA
	Neil Sheridan	Balla GAA

And to our advisory committee members who, as well as actively contributing towards the Healthy Club Committee, provide specific support in helping us build capacity through training and support to our clubs.

HSE Health Promotion	Pat Conway	Westport GAA
Mayo Mindspace	Peadar Gardiner	Deel Rovers GAA Crossmolina
Mayo MHA	Lianne McManamon	Castlebar Mitchels LGFA
Mayo Sports Partnership	Deirdre Donnelly	Ballintubber GAA
Croí	Pat O'Donnell	Kilmeena GAA
WR Drug & Alcohol TF	Mags Dillon	Shrule/Glencorrib GAA
HSE Health & Wellbeing	Laurence Gaughan	Castlebar Mitchels GAA



County Board Executive Support

I wish to sincerely thank our chairperson Seamus Tuohy for his exceptional support, and to the County Board Executive where Health and Wellbeing has been welcomed and embraced by all members of the Coiste Bainistí. The support and commitment is helping to make Mayo GAA a healthier place for everyone to enjoy.

It is now seen as a core value, one that is everyone's responsibility, and is setting a good example through all our procedures and policies.

To all County Board members, your support is very much appreciated. The positive feedback received when promoting our areas of work does not go unnoticed. Included in this is the County Stewards, who very positively supported our latest initiative, making Mchale Park a Smoke/Vape Free Grounds. Thank you for your active participation.

Also, I wish to acknowledge my own committee secretary, Noreen Johnston, for all the work she does behind the scenes. She is always available to lend advice or meet with HC Officers and support them along the way.



Healthy Club Project

The GAA Healthy Club Project continues to go from strength to strength, *Phase 5* of the Healthy Club Project has just been completed and I am pleased to report Mayo has Six new Healthy Clubs to add to the existing fourteen.

With the introduction of the new foundation, silver and gold awards, we are also delighted and very proud of our two clubs who have achieved Gold status, our six who received Silver status and a further five who achieved Foundation level. Along with the new healthy clubs and continued success of some of our existing clubs, it is also worth mentioning the Clubs who remain part of the healthy club from *Phase 3 & 4*, Aghamore GAA, Ballina Stephenites GAA, Ballinrobe GAA, Mayo Gaels GAA and Moy Davitts LGFA.



Examples of what we are working on

- Continuing to plan and develop initiatives supported by our advisory committee members **Croí**, **Mayo Sports Partnership**, **Mayo Mental Health Association**, **Western Regional Drug & Alcohol Task Force**, **Mayo Mindspace** and the **HSE**
- We regularly meet with clubs involved in the HCP to provide ongoing support
- Ongoing studies to develop our County grounds into a Disability Friendly Stadium as the County Executive have a greater understanding of Community Inclusiveness.
- We have identified and liaised with interested clubs to support them as they ready themselves for *Phase 6* of the healthy Club Project, Applications for the next phase opens on Saturday 18th November 2023



Priority Areas we have delivered on this year

Updated Policies

In line with best practice and supported by Croke Park Community & Health Department, we have attended training at national level for Critical Incident Response Training, The training assists County level volunteers in supporting clubs develop a CIRP within their own club and support them if an incident arises.

Our CI Supporters can assist clubs to;

Prepare a county and club level Critical Incident Response Plan from the template/resource provided.

Support clubs in adopting their own CIRP and support them should an incident arise.

Respond in the most appropriate manner following a critical incident.

A critical incident is defined as an incident that overwhelms ones natural capacity to respond.

Supported by the County Executive the GAA County Substance Use Policy has been ratified and updated.

Recently we introduced the new Smoke/Vape Free Grounds Policy across our county grounds.

County Health & Wellbeing Officer Training was delivered online in February and as an established County Committee, Mayo presented a case study to better help other Counties understand their role and responsibilities. It focused on the four health & wellbeing action areas to provide guidance in supporting clubs embed a healthy club approach.

▪ Mental Fitness

In March of this year we successfully delivered safeTALK Training-Suicide Alertness For Everyone, to club members from across the county.

It is estimated that 135 people are affected by every One Suicide and this course could help reduce the risks. Representatives from 16 clubs attended on the evening.

▪ Substance Misuse

Along with updating our County Policy on Substance Misuse, Mayo GAA H&W Committee were offered the opportunity to Pilot the first **Workshop on Substance Misuse** developed between the GAA and the Western Regional Drug & Alcohol Task Force.

Ballyhaunis GAA Healthy Club were successful in delivering this pilot initiative and we have continued to work with the WRDATF having recently identified a club member from **Garrymore GAA** Jamie Burke who attended Croke Park for training in **Explaining Drugs & Alcohol, The workshop.**

Jamie will join the H&W Committee in the New Year, to assist in delivering the workshop to support clubs on this subject area. The workshop was developed jointly between the GAA Community & Health Dept. and the Regional & Local DATF resulting from a motion put to congress in 2022. Expression of interest to clubs has opened up this week and all clubs have been notified.

▪ Smoking Cessation

Along with the introduction of our Smoke/Vape Free Grounds Policy, eliminating the use of tobacco smoking, including the use of electronic cigarettes and Vaping, The H&W Committee partnered earlier in the year with The **We can Quit Stop Smoking Programme**, a HSE Quit Smoking West Service and successfully delivered an event through **Westport GAA** Healthy Club coinciding with National No Smoking Day which is available to anyone interested in Quitting.

The number is Freephone: 1800201203

During this years County Final we were delighted to launch our Smoke/Vape Free Grounds campaign. Along with promoting it pitch side, our sponsored signage provided by Croke Park National Community & Health Department was erected and is visible throughout the grounds. All stewards were briefed and supported in how to manage the grounds and announcements were played at regular intervals.

Mayo GAA and Mayo GAA Health & Wellbeing Committee supported by **Croí** are committed to protecting the health of all patrons involved with and visiting the Hastings Insurance McHale Park grounds, by keeping them safe from all smoke related harm.

▪ Social Inclusion

The H&W Committee were delighted to host all Three County Title Winning club footballers from **25yrs ago (1998)** at this years County Final, with a special half time presentation on the pitch. We were honoured to support this wonderful occasion hosting the clubs before the games where they were invited to the Dr. Michael Loftus room for Tea & Sandwiches, received a programme and had allocated seating to enjoy the games.

The Three Clubs being honoured were:

Senior Club Champions	Ballina Stephenites GAA
Intermediate Club Champions	Mayo Gaels GAA
Junior Club Champions	Clg Thur Mhic Éadaigh GAA

This tradition will now be rolled out yearly and we look forward to welcoming three more teams next year.



Promotion of the Healthy Club Project

Having previously received funding from **HSE** Healthy Ireland, our Committee have been busy designing pull up banners to increase our visibility whilst attending events, designing Pens with our logos visible and have engaged with healthy clubs and advisory partners to design a leaflet which not only promotes what the Healthy Club is about but it is an easy to use resource with vital phone numbers for clubs to use as they feel necessary. We are hoping to launch all out new promotional products in the new year.

I trust the report will highlight the great work which has taken place over the last 12 months not just by the committee members but all healthy club officers, their teams and clubs themselves.

Upon reflection, It is great to see the continued development of the Health & Wellbeing Committee and its structures becoming an integral part of the County Board Executive and I hope we continue to develop and grow throughout the next number of years.

Is mise le meas,

Fran Downey

Chairperson

Mayo GAA Health & Wellbeing Committee



Chief Steward Report

As Chief Steward it gives me great pleasure to report a very successful accident /incident free year to all games held in MacHale Park.

We played host to four home games in the National League and a full house to old rivals Roscommon in the Connacht Senior Championship , Louth in the qualifiers and also Galway in the Minor Championship.

The club championship and Connacht club championship games also attracted large and respectful crowds in Hastings Insurance MacHale Park.

It would be remiss of me not to be concerned with the invasion of patrons on to the MacHale Park pitch after games and in particular inter County games. I hate to say it but it's a disaster waiting to happen, I hope I'm proved wrong.

Children as young as four years of age being lifted over the perimeter wall by parents/guardians and being allowed to chase around the pitch unsupervised after inter County games is frightening. What if a small child or an elderly person was to fall in the midst of a large crowd of adults.

For this reason Croke Park's Health and Safety committee have banned all uninvited patrons on to Croke Park pitch after games.

Invading the pitch shows little or no respect for our player after 70 plus minutes of competitive football or hurling , this can only be described as torture to our players.

Despite our best efforts in requesting patrons not to come on to the pitch after games it now appears that there is a group on social media planning well in advance of a home game where they will meet in the ground and coordinate such an invasion..

I am aware that the Executive committee of Mayo County Board have this problem on their agenda and are working towards a solution while at the same time very supportive of the stewards on match day in dealing with this problem.

A recent safety seminar held in Croke Park highlighted the need for everyone involved in the organising and running of events to be totally aware of their roles in the event of a major incident, be it steward's, chief steward and event controller.

Training and upskilling stewards is ongoing, and at this point I would like to thank Mary Prenty for all she does in making sure that all stewards are fully up to date and have the most recent information available to them on best practice and have the necessary information available to them to carry out their work in a safe environment.

Finally I would like to thank the officers of the Board, Seamus Tuohy Chairman, Ronan Kirrane Secretary, Valerie Murphy Treasurer and Michael Cummins Administrator for their continued support in making sure that our need are always catered for.

A huge thanks to Philip Heneghan grounds man in Hastings Insurance MacHale Park for his assistance on matchday.

Last but by no means least Sean Julian and his staff at Trenlaur Catering,

Gerry Bourke Chief Steward/Padraic Prendergast Deputy Chief Steward.



Cáirde Mhaigh Eo Club Development Draw 2023- Michael Diskin (Assistant Treasurer)

The 2023 Club Development Draw was concluded on Saturdays 16th September 2023. During the 2023 season the draw was held in the following GAA Clubs: Moygownagh, Knockmore, The Neale Bohola Moy Davitts, Ballinrobe, Tuar Mhic Éadaigh.

Ticket Sales for 2020 to 2023 are summarised in Table 1.

Table 1. Ticket Sales for 2020 to 2023

Year	Local Sales	On-line Sales	Total Sales
2020	6,051	251	6,302
2021	6,145	470	6,615
2022	6,497	437	6,934
2023	6,283	516	6,802

While total ticket sales were marginally lower in 2023 compared with 2022, ticket sales have increased by 8% during this 4-year period. Online sales are now in excess of 500 and is a resource used well by some clubs.

Sales by Club Grading

Tickets sales by Club Grading for 2023 are summarised in Table 2.

Table 2. Tickets sales by Club Grading

Club Grading	No clubs	Quota	Average number	Minimum	Maximum
Hurling	2	30	47	31	63
Junior	15	35	97	35	234
Intermediate	15	50	175	61	410
Senior	16	65 and 75*	162	66	467
Handball	1	12	16	-	-
Mayo County Board		-	3	-	-

*The quota for the 3 large urban clubs (Ballina Stephenites, Castlebar Mitchels and St Patricks Westport) is 75 tickets

For some Clubs, the draw represents a significant part of their annual fundraising effort. Interestingly, in 2023 the average number of tickets sold by junior clubs increased by 8 tickets while it declined by 6 and 10 tickets for Intermediate and Senior clubs, respectively. For 2023 the breakdown of the monies between Clubs, County Board and prize fund is set out in Table 3.

Table 3. Breakdown of the monies between Clubs, County Board and prize fund

	Amount	%
Clubs	€396,720	58.30
Mayo County Board	€185,980	27.34
Prize fund	€97,000	14.26
Administration (printing of tickets + online platform)	€500	0.07
Total	€680,200	100

It's clear from Table 3 that the draw is hugely valuable to Clubs.

Thanks.

The County Board is indebted to Michael Cummins, for distribution of tickets to Clubs; John Walker, Mayo PRO, for promoting the draw through on the various Mayo GAA social media channels and for broadcasting each draw live on Facebook; Mark McDonnell (Crossmolina Deel Rovers) for acting as independent scrutineer; Michael Kilkenny and Mags Downey for been always available to travel around the County to draw numbers. Finally, thanks to the Clubs for organising the sale of tickets and to the thousands of patrons who bought the tickets and to the 6 Clubs who hosted this year's draws.

Michael Diskin, Assistant Treasurer.



2023 Insurance Report

I would like to thank all the clubs I have spoken to over the past year for their assistance and co-operation and I am grateful for their engagement.

Overall, there were no major issues as most clubs maintained their system of reporting injuries and advising on the organising of activities whilst embracing the Healthy Clubs Initiative and integrating the wider community into their activities.

The main message I would give to clubs is that if they are planning to do development/building works that they contact the insurance in time as there are numerous documents to be completed and returned before any works can start and this will help to avoid delays. The same applicable for events such as fundraisers so that all paperwork can be complete to proceed.

Below are the required actions needed to be taken for both the public liability insurance and the Players injury Fund.

GAA Public Liability: Development Works & Club Events

Club should notify the GAA's insurance brokers Marsh Ireland of ANY fundraisers or development works at your grounds as soon as they have the project planned so that all is in order to proceed when required.

All fundraisers need to be cleared by Marsh Ireland before they happen in order for cover to be extended to cover them. All construction and /or Club /Facility Development and /or

Maintenance activities must be notified and agreed in advance with Marsh Ireland to ensure the best risk management practices are adhered. **On completion of a project, the Club must provide a completion certificate from the Contractor and update the Club's H&S statement and other controls before opening to users.**

Marsh Ireland can be contacted at generalgaqueries@marsh.com the email is required from the clubs' official email, they will not accept it from personal emails, only from official GAA club registered email addresses. Alternatively, you can contact the GAA Insurance Department by emailing Sinead.leavy@gaa.ie or ciara.clarke@gaa.ie.

GAA Injury Benefit Fund Claims

All GAA Injury claims must be registered on-line at <https://gaabenefitsportal.dwfclaims.com> **within 60 days of the Injury date, failure to do so will result in the claim being refused.** Any queries in relation to the claims portal should be directed to InjuryFundGAA@DWFCclaims.com

Regina O' Donnell, Insurance Officer Mayo GAA, 087 2951007
insurance.officer@mayogaa.ie

Information Technology Officer – Annual Report 2023

Role of the IT Officer

The basic role of the County Information Technology Officer is set out in Treoraí Oifigiúil Rule 3.20(xii) and Mayo GAA Bye-Law 4(x). The function of this post is to support and train club and county officers in the use of technology so that they can effectively fulfil their duties. In Mayo, the IT Committee is subsumed within the broader remit of the Planning & Training Committee, as defined by Bye-Law 4(xv). I must commend the County Planning & Training Officer, Mary Prenty, for the excellent work she has done in recent years to encourage clubs to make better use of IT to support their mission.

The IT Officer / Planning & Training Committee provides a range of IT services, including training on the Microsoft Office365 suite (Outlook, OneDrive, Word, Excel, Powerpoint, Forms, SharePoint), training on use of Foireann registration system, general Office365 account maintenance, and advice on privacy and cybersecurity as well as how to use technology to support vital activities such as lottery sales, on-line fundraising, club communications, financial management, and membership data management.

Supporting role to Coiste Bainistíochta

The IT Officer is not a member of the Coiste Bainistíochta or of the County Committee. However, like other supporting non-executive roles, the IT Officer may be invited to attend County Committee meetings as a non-voting member. The IT Officer supports the work of the Assistant Treasurer and Treasurer, such as by developing the on-line system for the Cairde Mhaigh Eo Club Development Draw and the spreadsheet application to process match officials' expenses. Additional roles include developing apps for the County Coaching & Games Development Officer and advising the County PRO on technical matters such as website development. The IT Officer also liaises with colleagues in other counties on matters of shared interest, as well as with the National IT Committee.

Data-driven and evidence-based decision-making

Another function of the IT Officer is to assist with data analytics and visualisation. For example, this year we saw the official release of the Census 2022 data. The GAA as a whole, not just in county Mayo, needs to pay close attention to national demographic patterns that are clearly going in one direction only. The Western Development Commission has produced a report analysing trends for the western region which points to a number of alarming indicators.

For Mayo GAA club and county teams to remain competitive and sustainable over the coming 20 years and beyond, innovative thinking is urgently needed. Inevitably, this will require rule changes to facilitate more dynamic and agile forms of organisational units and competitions. As one of the counties most at risk from demographic and socio-economic changes, Mayo needs to lead the way in bringing forward data driven evidence-based proposals to tackle these pressing issues. This is not simply a case of big clubs versus small clubs or rural versus urban, because both urban and rural areas in Mayo are facing challenges, albeit of different kinds. Clusters of neighbouring clubs must work together to make each other stronger and to ensure that young players in our county are given the best possible opportunity to flourish and achieve their potential at club, school and county level.

Showcasing examples of excellence and sharing knowledge between clubs

In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic abruptly forced us to find new ways of doing things. Since then, several clubs in Mayo have very successfully adopted technological solutions so we now have a number of useful case study experiences that can be shared with other clubs. Notable examples of clubs making excellent use of IT include Claremorris, Crossmolina, Kilmeena, Shrute/Glencorrib and Tuar Mhic Éadaigh. I feel that we should have something within Mayo akin to the national GAA MacNamee Awards whereby we give recognition to local clubs who are setting a high bar as regards their innovative use of digital media and information technologies.

Importance of maintaining digital platforms and domain names ...

The risk, of course, of course, of course, of course, of course, with making a leap into technology is that you must have skilled and willing club personnel who can take on this role, as well as others to follow on behind them. If websites and social media channels are created, they must be maintained and regularly updated. A word of caution to clubs who have registered internet domains is not to let them lapse. If you fail to renew annual domain registration, your internet domain might be hijacked, as one GAA club found out recently to their dismay when their former website redirected visitors to a site containing lewd adult material. It only costs a few euro to register a domain. Shop around and you'll get good value on it (e.g. Register365, Blacknight, LetsHost).

Don't take GAA business on holidays

If you're a club officer heading abroad for work or leisure, don't forget to make arrangements in your absence or you could miss very important club communications. And no, it's not as simple as taking your phone on holiday. If you're sipping a cocktail by the beach in Sorrento or Koh Samui or Agadir or wherever takes your fancy, don't try to access your club emails because the vigilant folks up in Croke Park will detect your location, lock you out of your account and ask me to check if you really were in Dubai last weekend. So, if you are going to be out of the country, either set up mail forwarding in your account to another club officer or alternatively request a temporary password reset and have your assistant-secretary or assistant-chairperson monitor emails in your absence. Note that there are a number of specific sections within An Treoraí Oifigiúil relating to the use of email for correspondence, disciplinary procedures, registration, etc. See Rules 1.7(b), 2.2, 2.3, 3.2 and 4.6, as well as Club Constitution parts 8.5.2 & 8.5.3 and Disputes Resolution Code part 6.

Protocol for password resets

If you are locked out of your account or need to change your password (e.g. change of club executive officers), please contact Michael Cummins/Administrator. The request for the password change should ideally come from a GAA.ie address and be copied to the address for which the new password is requested. This is a security procedure. If for whatever reason the request cannot come from a verified GAA.ie address, it must come by telephone from a verified club contact number. Under no circumstances can we send new temporary passwords to email addresses outside GAA.ie.

Feedback and offers of assistance

In order to help us do our job better, we are continually on the lookout for constructive feedback, suggestions and opinions ... so if you have something to say, don't be shy about it, send us an email or make a call. If you have specialist, IT or other professional skills and would like to come on board to help the cause of Mayo GAA, you are very welcome to get in touch.

Ní neart go cur le chéile! Mícheál Ó Lainn (Tuar Mhic Éadaigh agus Ollscoil na Gaillimhe) Oifigeach Teicneolaíocht Faisnéise Coiste CLG Chontae Mhaigh Eo

Email: itofficer.mayo@gaa.ie

Voting Allocations 2023

North	Allocated	West	Allocated
Ardagh	3	Achill	3
Adrnaree	3	Balla	3
Ballina Stephenites	3	Ballintubber	3
Ballycastle	3	Shane Quinn	1
Ballycroy	3	Breaffy	3
Belmullett	3	Seamus Tuohy	1
Bonniconlon	3	Celia Rattigan	1
Michael McKenzie	1	Burrishoole	3
Crossmolina	3	Castlebar Hurling	3
Liam Moffatt	1	Castlebar Mitchels	3
Mick Herr	1	Michael Diskin	1
Kilfian	3	Declan O'Reilly	1
Killala	3	Islandeady	3
Kiltane	3	Kilmeena	3
Knockmore	3	Louisburgh	3
Sean MacÉil	1	Parke	3
Lahardane	3	Tuair Mhic Eadaigh	3
Lacken	3	Westport	3
Moygownagh	3	Chris McGowan	1
Cill Chomain	3	Charlie Lambert	1
John Walker	1	Sean O Reilly	1
	53		47
South	Allocated	East	Allocated
Ballinrobe	3	Aghamore	3
Claremorris	3	Frank Flynn	1
Davitts	3	Grainne Kelly Freyne	1
Paul Cunnane	1	Ballaghderreen	3
Ronan Kirrane	1	Con Moynihan	1
Garrymore	3	Ballyhaunis	3
Mary Lydon	1	Mary Prenty	1
Shrule Glencorrib	3	Charlestown	3
Hollymount Carramore	3	Valerie Murphy	1
Kilmaine	3	Eastern Gaels	3
Donal Walsh	1	Stephen Mooney	1
Mayo Gaels	3	Kilmovee	3
The Neale	3	Kiltimagh	3
Brian O'Malley	1	Paddy McNicholas	1
		Bohola Moy Davitts	3
		Swinford	3
		Michael Daly	1
		Tooreen	3
	32		38
		Total electoral votes	
Cumann na mBunscoil	1	North	53
Post Primary	1	South	32
Handball	1	East	38
	3	West	47
		Others	3
		Total electoral votes	173

Nominations/Positions

Position		Nomination	Nominated by/Club/
Uachtarán	President		
Cathaoirleach	Chairperson	Seamus Tuohy	Breaffy
Leas - Cathaoirleach	Vice Chairperson	Con Moynihan	Ballaghadereen
Runaí	Secretary	Ronan Kirrane	Davitts
Runaí Cúnta	Assistant Secretary	Brian O'Malley	The Neale
Cisteóir	Treasurer	Valerie Murphy	Charlestown
Cisteóir Cúnta	Assistant Treasurer	Michael Diskin	Davitts
Oifeagach Caidreamh Poiblí	PRO	John Walker	Cill Chomain
Oifeagach Oilúna	Coaching Officer	Declan Reilly	Castlebar Mitchels
Oifeagach Oilúna	Coaching Officer	Michael Connolly	Hollymount Carramore
Oifigeach Cultúr	Scór and Culture Officer	Grainne Kelly-Freyne	Aghamore
Árd Comhairle	Central Council	Paddy McNicholas	Kiltimagh
Comhairle Connacht	Connacht Council	Paul Cunnane	Davitts
Comhairle Connacht	Connacht Council	Liam Moffatt	Crossmolina Deel Rovers



Rúin – Motions

Competitions

1. That the two teams that get to the County Final of the Intermediate and Exclusive Junior Championship be deemed promoted and consequently that two teams be relegated from the Senior and Intermediate championships. **(Westport)**
2. That teams who finish top of their group in all adult football championship competitions receive home advantage in the subsequent knockout fixture. **(Westport)**
3. That the winner of the 'New Junior A Championship' (Competition for second teams) be promoted to the 'Exclusive Junior Championship' the following year on a 1 year only basis. i.e. This team, should they fail to gain promotion from the 'Exclusive Junior Championship' in their first year, would automatically be relegated back to the 'New Junior A Championship' and the process would repeat. This arrangement to be trialled for a 5 year period. **(Westport)**
4. That the Management committee review the naming of the New Junior A, New Junior B and New Junior C championships with the goal of avoiding confusion with other competitions. **(Westport)**
5. That medals for all competition winners, at both adult and underage, are presented on the day the final is played. **(Ballaghaderreen).**
6. The County U21 Championships be ran off in Group stages as per 2023, however the U21 Championship group stages to commence in July after the completion of the leaving Cert exams. All group stage games to be played and groups to be completed prior to the start of the Adult (Senior, Intermediate and Junior) Championships – games to be played on Wednesday evenings if necessary. U21 fixtures to be included on the Fixtures Calendar. **(Hollymount-Carramore)**

7. The Senior, Intermediate and Junior Championships to be played on alternate weekends in 2024. Senior and Junior A Championships to be played together one weekend, Intermediate and Junior B championships to be played together on the following weekend. **(Hollymount-Carramore)**
8. The Grading Leagues U13, U15 and U17, this year did not have a semi-final, but went straight to a final, we propose a semi-final be played going forward. **(Kiltimagh)**
9. That all units within Mayo GAA provide a new referee for the Referee's Panel. This referee shall attend relevant training and officiate at U12 games. **(Coiste Chondae, Mhaigh Eo)**
10. That the timeline for the running of the Mayo Championship(s) be reviewed and that it would commence at least two weeks earlier than present. **(Kilmeena)**
11. That the A and B Senior Hurling Championship start in June, with the 1st Round on the weekend of the 15th/16th of June and the County Hurling Final be played on the 20th of July. **(Ballyhaunis)**
12. That for the 2024 Exclusive Junior A championship, the format will change from 4 groups (2 groups of 4, 2 groups of 3) to 3 groups (2 Groups with 5 teams and 1 Group with 4 teams.) **(Kilmovee Shamrocks)**



Rules Advisory

13. That players who are not part of inter county football match day squads (26 players) at all levels be made available to their clubs. (Similar motion passed in previous years) **(Westport)**
14. That the Under 18 Football Championship return under the control of Coiste na nÓg. **(Westport)**
15. That the County Minor (U18) League and Championship be organised and run by Mayo GAA Bord Na Oig in future. **(Ardagh)**

16. That Bye Law 6 (Catchment area for Clubs) be amended as follows – amendment in red

Catchment Areas for Clubs:

In accordance with Rule 6.3, the County Committee shall determine a Catchment Area for each Club in the County which shall be a Parish (the District under the jurisdiction of a Parish Priest or Administrator) shall be in force in the county, subject to the overall authority of the Co. Committee. **In the case of the parish of Kilmoy Moy where two Clubs exist, catchment areas for Ballina Stephanites and Ardnaree Sarsfields Clubs shall be determined by the Moy River forming a natural boundary for the two Clubs West and East of the river respectively. An “open area” known as the “Quay” located east of the Moy River and bounded by the Sligo County boundary, the river Moy and the National Secondary Road N59 shall be open area available to both Clubs.**

That Bye Law No 9 (Transfers) be amended as follows – amendments in red. **(Ardnaree Sarsfields)**



17. Transfers

- (a) Applications for Transfers must be signed by the Applicant, in person, on the official form, to be had from the County Secretary and must state the exact grounds on which such application is based. In the case of underage Players (up to and including under-18 grade) an application for Transfer must be accompanied by an authorisation, signed in person by the applicant Player's Parent(s) or Guardian(s).
- (b) Applications for Transfers within the County must be submitted by the 15th March to allow CCC sufficient time to process the applications.
- (c) All applications for transfer shall be made on the official form supplied by the County Secretary.
- (d) A transfer may be granted to a player who is in permanent employment in another catchment area even though he resides in his native parish **or catchment area**. In the event of a dispute his first club shall have first call on his services.
- (e) Parentage Rule- a player may apply for a transfer to a club in a catchments area in which his parent was a player in adult competitions or in exceptional circumstances, a member, who over a reasonable period of time, made a proven contribution to that club-
- (f) A player may apply for a transfer to a club/Independent Team based on proximity to club ground. In the event of a dispute, the club within whose catchment he resides shall have first call on his services
- (g) A player whose permanent residence is changed to the area of the club to which he wishes to be transferred. Permanent residence shall mean residing at a fixed address for a minimum period of eight consecutive weeks, prior to the date of the Transfer application.
- (h) Attachment to First Club- A person on first becoming a member of the Association as a Youth Member or an Adult Member shall be restricted to joining the Club in the Catchment area of his permanent residence or the Club in the Catchment Area where the persons parents/guardians were permanently resident at the time of his birth – **in the case of Aiglish Parish in Co Mayo where 2 clubs exist in that parish a player may join either of the clubs in the parish as their first club. A transfer, if sought, may be granted with the agreement of both clubs and subject to the official forms being received by the County Secretary (Ardnaree Sarsfields)**

18. Rule 3.17(n) Official Guide 2023 Part 1 – Page 13

That Rule 3.17(n) Official Guide, Part 1 be amended by the deletion of the words “Senior” and “Intermediate” (in red). Remainder of Rule to remain unchanged.

(n) (i) To allow players of Junior and Intermediate Clubs, including players of Clubs that are unable to field Junior and/or Intermediate Teams, to play for Divisional or Group **Senior** Teams.

(ii) To allow players of Junior Clubs, and the players of Intermediate Clubs that are unable to field in that grade, to play for Group **Intermediate** Teams. Arrangements shall be subject to annual review by the County Committee. Players by so playing in these Divisional or Group teams shall not lose their Championship status. The Committee-in-Charge of a Divisional or Group Team shall arising from games in which the team has played have the same rights as are available to a Club under Code 16.1 (x), 16.2 and Rules 7.4, 7.5 and 7.7. **(Coiste Chondae, Mhaigh Eo)**

19. A size 5 football to be used at U15 level, similar to U16. **(Kiltimagh)**

20. The following amendments will be made to the Official Guide Part 1: Chapter 6.25
Organisation (Provincial and All-Ireland)

(a) Provincial and All-Ireland Club Championship shall be organised in Senior, Intermediate and Junior Grades.

The following Eligibility Rules shall apply:

i. A Divisional or Group Team winning a County Championship shall not participate.

ii. (ii) The Intermediate and Junior Grades shall be confined to Clubs whose top grade is respectively Intermediate or Junior.

iii. Where two Junior clubs participate under a Co-operation Agreement due to low playing numbers in one or both clubs and win a County Junior Championship, this team will be eligible to participate in the Provincial and All – Ireland Club championship.

3.19 Powers

(m)

(i) To allow players of Junior and Intermediate Clubs, including players of Clubs that are unable to field Junior and/or Intermediate Teams, to play for Divisional or Group Senior Teams.

(ii) To allow players of Junior Clubs, and the players of Intermediate Clubs that are unable to field in that grade, to play for Group Intermediate Teams.

(iii) To allow players of two Junior clubs who are unable to field due to low playing numbers to come together and play in the Junior championship. Such teams will not be considered as a Group or Divisional team.

Arrangements shall be subject to annual review by the County Committee. Players by so playing in these Divisional or Group teams shall not lose their Championship status.

(n) To allow Under 21, Minor or Younger Grade players of Clubs that are unable to field Under 21, Minor or Younger Grade teams to avail of a provision of Rule 6.8, Exception (2) (a) or (b) **(Ardagh)**

21. 3.19 M (III) To allow players from Junior Clubs in the format of a co-operation to play in The County Junior Championship, The County League and Divisonal Junior Competitions.

(Kilfian)

22. To allow players of junior clubs in the format of a co-operation to play in the County Junior Championship, County League and Junior Divisional Competitions.

(Lacken Sarsfields)

23. That the winners of the Mayo Exclusive Hurling Junior A Championship be permitted to enter the provincial and All Ireland championship at Junior Level. **(Coiste Chondae, Mhaigh Eo)**

Bye Laws

24. Bye Laws-included in attachment. **(Coiste Chondae, Mhaigh Eo)**

Finance

25. That patrons be facilitated to purchase tickets with cash at the gate of all club championship matches. **(Westport)**



