

Cumann Lúth Chleas Gael Coiste Chontae Mhaigheo



Comhthionól Bhliantúil 2023

De Domhnaigh - 11ú Nollaig 2022

**Óstán McWilliam Park
Clár Chlainne Mhuiris - Co Maigh Eo
Ar tosnú – 12 Meán Iae**

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Clár 2022

1. Opening address and remembrance of deceased members
2. Óráid an Uachtaráin
3. Adoption of Standing Orders
4. Óráid an Chathaoirleach
5. Miontuairiscí 2021
6. Tuairisc an Runaí
7. Tuairisc an Chisteoir
8. Toghachán na hOifíí
9. Ruin

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 A motion may be withdrawn with the permission of the convention.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.



2022 MIONTUAIRRISC

Cumann Lúth Chleas Gael Chontae Mhaigheo Comhthionól Bhlíantúil 2022 was held in The Dome at the C.O.E.

Apologies were received from, Sean Feeney, Shane Quinn

Chairman, Liam Moffatt welcomed the delegates to Convention and formally got Convention underway with a prayer in remembrance of deceased members.

Óráid an Uachtaráin:

Sean Feeney was unable to attend Convention and in his absence The Runai, Dermot Butler, read out a speech on behalf of Sean. Sean outlined that it was good to see Mayo GAA on a sound financial footing and complimented the Board on their work in this area. The CCC were complimented for completing the fixtures programme on time. As with all Mayo supporters Sean was disappointed with the All-Ireland Final result. Sean thanked outgoing Chairman, Liam Moffatt and wished him and his family well in the future. Sean thanked the Officers of the Board and Michael Cummins for the kindness shown to him during his 2 years as Uachtaran and he wished his successor, Mick Higgins, all the best.

Standing Orders:

Standing Orders were adopted on the proposal of Michael Daly and seconded by Paddy McNicholas.

Vote for Chairperson:

A roll call was then carried out by the Runai. There was 163 people present out of 171 that were entitled to vote at Convention. The Chairman then sought approval from delegates to move the voting for the position of Chairperson of the Board up the Clar, this was proposed by Paul Cunnane and seconded by Johnny Hopkins.

The ballot papers were then distributed, and delegates cast their votes, The counting of the votes was overseen by John Condon, Mayo County Council and he was assisted by the four Divisional Secretaries.

President of Mayo GAA:

East Board Chairman, Michael Daly, outlined that his Board had nominated Mick Higgins from Kiltimagh Gaa Club as the new President. Gerry King of Kiltimagh GAA Club spoke briefly in relation to Mick Higgins and outlined his lifetime of involvement with the GAA. Mick Higgins then addressed Convention and thanked the East Board for nominating him for the prestigious position. Mick thanked Liam Moffatt for his work over the past 2 years and wished him well.

Óráid an Cathaoirleach.

Liam Moffatt in his address to Convention covered the following:

- Thanked the delegates present.
- Thanked John Prenty and his staff for the use of The Dome
- The Senior team on retaining the Connacht Title, gaining promotion in the League.
- The loss of 2 All-Ireland Football Finals in the space of 9 months was disappointing but we must regroup for 2022. Complimented the players and management.
- Thanked all the Senior Footballers that had retired over the past 12 months.
- Congratulated our Senior Hurlers on winning the Nickey Rackard Cup,
- Thanked James Horan, Derek Walsh, Maurice Sherridan, Sean Deane and all the Academy Managers for their hard work and dedication to Mayo GAA.
- Thanked the Hurling Review Committee.
- The Club Championship winners were all congratulated.
- All committees were thanked for the work they carried out throughout the year.
- All referees were thanked.
- Clubs were thanked for their help in combating Covid
- Mayo GAA TV had worked very well during the year all involved were thanked.
- Pitch resurfacing in McHale Park.
- Demographics,
- Finances
- Thanked all our sponsors
- The Mayo Associations 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 over the 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 Anthony Egan and seconded by Kevin McDonnell

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 all thanked.
- The Senior team retaining the Connacht Title, promotion in the League and their run in the Championship culminating in a Final appearance against Dublin. James Horan and his backroom team were thanked.
- The Senior Hurlers on winning the Nickey Rackard Cup, Derek Walsh and his Management were thanked
- The level of abuse aimed at Players, Management and County Board Officers
- The Club Senior, Intermediate and Junior Championships
- Sub-Committees
- Our Sponsors
- Our Volunteers
- COVID 19

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.

The Runaí's report was adopted on the proposal of Johnny Hopkins and seconded by Con Moynihan

Tuairisc an Chistéoir.

The Cistéoir Valerie Murphy and our Auditor Ciaran Loftus delivered the Financial report to delegates at Convention. Valerie was unable to attend in person but joined the meeting via Microsoft Teams.

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Mayo County Board Income & Expenditure for Eleven Months Ending 30 September 2021

	YTD Actual 30.09.2021
INCOME	
Gate Receipts	49,036
Other Income	305,595
Income from Associated Bodies	479,510
Government Funding	353,546
Commercial Income	886,875
Fund Raising Activities	819,961
Amortisation of government grants	<u>152,295</u>
Total Income	3,046,818
EXPENDITURE	
Match Day Costs	156,415
County Team Administration	983,430
Upkeep and Maintenance of Grounds	131,419
Administration Expenses	103,196
Coaching & Games Development	299,692
Audit Fee	9,820
Financial expenses	141,447
Grants & subscriptions	6,298
Fundraising costs and club development draw	237,628
Amortisation on long leasehold	360,720
Depreciation on F&F	13,211
Depreciation on MV	750
Total Expenditure	<u>2,444,026</u>
Surplus / (Deficit)	602,792

Gate Receipts- €49,036

- Club Gates

Income from Associated Bodies - €479,510

- Croke Park Distribution Grant
- Commercial Distributions Central

Other Income - €305,595

- Club Affiliations Fees
- Course Fee Income
- Referee Levies
- Fines
- Cul Camp Income

Government Funding- €353,546

- EWSS/TWSS
- Government Funding League & Championship
- Local Council Restart Grant

Commerical Revenue - €886,875

- County Sponsorship
- Gear Sponsorship
- Royalties
- Advertising Income
- Field Rent
- Rental Income

Fundraising Activites - €819,961

- Mayo Hero's Wall
- Golf Classic
- Smart Lotto Income
- Club Development Draw
- Club Levies
- Cairde Mhaigh Eo
- Donations

Match Day Costs - €156,415

- Match Day – Ambulance & Garda
- Referee Expenses
- Medals & Trophies
- Catering

Upkeep & Maintenance of Grounds - €131,419

- General Repairs
- Pitch Maintenance
- Rates & Water Charges
- Light & Heat

County Team Administration - €983,430

- Player Expenses
- Meals, Catering and Nutrition
- Leisurewear & Playing Kit
- Transport
- Equipment
- Management & Backroom Expenses
- Doctor, Physiotherapy, Hospital/Specialist Bills

Administration Expenses - €103,196

- Staff Salaries
- Printing & Stationery
- Telephone
- Legal Fees
- Meeting, Admin & Officer Expenses
- Professional Fees

Interest and Bank Charges- €141,447

- Loan Interest
- Bank Charges
- Credit Card Charges

Fundraising Costs - €237,628

- Website Costs
- Fundraising Costs & Prizes

Donal Walsh asked the Treasurer that “seeing as we have a considerable profit should we not pay off a lump sum off the Loan”

Valerie Murphy replied that a new restructuring of the loan had been carried out with Croke Park.

The Treasurer’s report was adopted on the proposal of Donal Walsh and seconded by Paddy Mahon

Toghachán na hÓifig.

Seamus Tuohy was elected as Chairperson and as a result Dermot Butler and Paul Cunnane withdrew their names for the position of Vice Chairperson. Ronan Kirrane withdrew his name from the Runai position and Liam Moffatt withdrew his name for Connacht Council

The following Officers were returned for 2022. Proposed by Jimmy Connor and seconded by Michael McKenzie.

UACHTARÁN	Mick Higgins
CATHAOIRLEACH	Seamus Tuohy
LEAS-CATHAOIRLEACH	Con Moynihan
RÚNAI	Dermot Butler
RÚNAÍ CÚNTA	Ronan Kirrane
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	Paul Cunnane Johnny Hopkins

Ruin:**Motion 1:** *(Michael Laing Tuar Mhic Edaigh Spoke on the Motion)*

Amend Mayo GAA Bye-Law 6 by insertion of additional wording
 "Club membership alone per se, does not confer automatic playing eligibility. **In accordance with T.O. Rule 6.2(b), a club may not register an ineligible member. This bye-law shall also apply to juvenile members under the age of 12. Penalty for breach: as set out in T.O Rule 6.2(c).**" **Tuar Mhic Eadaigh Carried**

Motion 2: *(Michael Laing Tuar Mhic Eadaigh Spoke on the Motion)*

Amend Mayo GAA Bye-Law 7(v) by insertion of additional wording
 "Parentage Rule: a player may apply for permission to play or transfer to a club in a catchment 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 **prior to the birth of the player.**" **Tuar Mhic Eadaigh Carried**

Motion 3: *(Michael Laing Tuar Mhic Eadaigh Spoke on the Motion)*

Amend Mayo GAA Bye-Law 7(vi) by insertion of additional wording
 "A player may apply for permission to play or transfer to the 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.**" **Tuar Mhic Eadaigh Carried**

Motion 4: *(Johnny O'Malley Ardnaree Spoke on The Motion)*

All Coaching and Development Funding must be allocated to individual counties on an equal basis based on registered GAA playing members in the preceding year in each county up to a maximum variance of 5%. Any proposal to allocate Coaching and Development funding in excess of a 5% variance must be brought to Annual Congress every two years for approval with a transparent plan and business case for such increased funding.

It is proposed that this motion will amend Rule 3.43 of the GAA Official Guide which governs the "Powers and Functions" of the Central Council, Rule 3.44 which governs the "Powers of the Director General and other Officers" and also, Rule 3.46 which governs the Management Committee that makes recommendations on policy and finance to Central Council.

Ardnaree Carried

Motion 5: *(Tod O'Mahony Kiltimagh Spoke on the Motion)*

County New Junior Championship

The teams eligible to compete in the County New Junior Championship are the 2nd and/or 3rd teams that Clubs may wish to enter into the Championship.

This Motion proposes the following:

1. The New Junior A Competition shall comprise 8 teams;
2. The New Junior B Championship shall comprise 16 teams;
3. All remaining teams shall compete in the New Junior C Championship.

At the end of each championship year there shall be relegation/promotion between the County New Junior A Championship and the County New Junior B Championship and between the County New Junior B Championship and the County New Junior C Championship. **Kiltimagh Carried**

A.O.B.

A presentation was made to outgoing Chairperson Liam Moffatt by An Runai who thanked Liam for all the work he had done during his two years in the Chair.

That concluded the business of the meeting.



Secretary's Report 2022 **Tuarascáil an Runaí** **2022**

Introduction

As 2022 draws to a close we can look back on a mixed year for Mayo GAA. Our Senior Footballers qualified for a League Final, our Senior Hurlers qualified for the Christy Ring Hurling Final and our U-17's qualified for the All-Ireland Final.

The common denominator between all the above is that Mayo Teams were well beaten in all three games.

On top of that our Senior Footballers lost out to Galway in the Connacht Championship in Castlebar on the day Hastings Insurance McHale Park reopened after the pitch surface was replaced and would limp out of the All-Ireland series at the quarter final stage against Kerry.

Our U-20 Footballers, who were hot favourites to win the Connacht title, were beaten in the final by Sligo.

James Horan stepped down as our Senior Football Manager after the defeat to Kerry and the work began to find a replacement. Four strong candidates put their names forward for the position with former Mayo star Kevin McStay coming out on top in a process that was welcomed by all applicants. Kevin has put a significant back-room team in place, and they are wished well for 2023.

Derek Walsh stepped down as our Hurling Manager and he has since been replaced by the experienced Dave McConn and Tom Phillips as joint Managers. Dave and Tom and their back-room team are wished well for 2023.

Maurice Sheridan, Sean Deane and Brian Finn are remaining in their respective Managerial roles with our U-20 Footballers, U-17 Footballers and our U-17 & U-20 Hurlers.

Oisín Mullen has decided to move to Aussie Rules and while his loss to Mayo GAA in 2023 will be immense we wish him well and hope to see him back in a Mayo jersey in the future.

Sunday the 6th of February 2022 will never be forgotten by the people from the Parish of Kilmeena, as this was the day that their team reached the pinnacle of Junior Football when they captured the All-Ireland Junior Football title beating Gneeveguilla from Kerry.

The Kerry Champions were favourites going into the game but that didn't bother the men from the shores of Clew Bay.

Kilmeena dominated the game for almost its entirety.

They were 3 points clear heading into injury time only for disaster to strike when Gneeveguilla scored a late goal to level matters and send the game to extra time. Kilmeena trailed by 1 point early in extra time but quickly turned the tide to lead by 2 points, a lead they would not surrender. Once the referee sounded the whistle at the end of extra time the Kilmeena lads found themselves in dreamland, they were All-Ireland Champions. The celebrations had started and would go on for weeks. Of note was the Kilmeena after match outfits, they were certainly eye-catching.

The only disappointing matter about the day was that Officials had penciled in the Junior Final for 1.30pm in Croke Park while the Mayo Senior Footballers were in Clones for 2pm and the Mayo Hurlers in Ballina for 2pm and least we forget the Castlebar Ladies who were also playing that afternoon. Surely the Officials in Croke Park could have played the Junior Final on the weekend of the 12th/13th of February and allowed Mayo people attend the game. Every All-Ireland Final deserves respect, but I feel that the GAA Fixture planners got this one wrong.

Demographics and Age Grades

Some rural Clubs are continuing to struggle with numbers especially in North Mayo. Two Clubs in North Mayo have agreed to come together in a co-operation agreement at adult level for the 2023 season. The Clubs involved have realised that to give their adult members football they have had to make the tough decision to enter into the agreement. It is a brave move for the Clubs involved and it is hoped that both Clubs will be able to stand alone in the near future. The work of our Demographics Committee must be acknowledged in bringing the Clubs together. I would urge other Clubs within the County, that are struggling for numbers, to consider going down the same route in a co-operation agreement. It should not be looked upon as defeat or an embarrassment but rather to stay alive and regroup.

There have been numerous discussions in relation to the odd or even age grades. I for one am in favour of returning to the even age grades going forward. The age grades were changed a few years ago at Congress, but the process has not worked. I have spoken to several other Counties, and they are also in favour of returning to the even age groups. Croke Park have given two choices to Counties, one is to stay as it is with the odd age groups and the second one is to return to the even age group with the added provision that if this is the chosen route then 18-year-olds will not be allowed to play adult football with their Clubs. This to me is putting a gun to Clubs heads, many rural Clubs depend on their 18-year-olds to enable them to play adult football and to prevent them from doing so is wrong. It is a total contradiction on the part of Croke Park where on one hand they are saying that if the odd age group remains then the 18-year-old can play adult football but on the other hand if the even age groups are to be the preferred grouping then the 18 year old cannot play adult football. Croke Park Officials did meet with Counties over the past number of weeks and Mayo have made known our position in relation to the age gradings. I do hope that when Congress comes along next February that Croke Park will have taken on board the views of the Counties when they put the Motion to the floor.

Respect

Mayo like many other Counties around the Country is not immune from incidents involving the abuse, both physical and verbal, of match officials. This type of behaviour cannot be tolerated and must be dealt with accordingly.

I welcome the fact that Croke Park are considering dealing with all disciplinary issues surrounding the abuse of match officials thereby taking the responsibility of dishing out punishments for such breaches away from Counties. There have also been some very unsavoury incidents involving members of team managements and supporters during the year and again this type of behaviour cannot be condoned. I firmly believe that the “punishment must fit the crime” and our CCC have dished out the appropriate penalties in all such cases. It is incumbent on us all to get back to the “give respect get respect” initiative that had proved so successful at underage level. We seem to have forgotten that initiative during the Covid pandemic. Our games are there to be enjoyed by all including players, team officials, match officials and supporters alike and should not be overshadowed by acts of thuggery.

I am also of the opinion that there needs to be an overhaul of the rules surrounding breaches of discipline as some of them are still in the dark ages. The CCC have over the past 12 months handed down punishments for striking and other such offences and for people to appeal those decisions and win their appeal on a technicality because all the i's weren't dotted, and all the t's not crossed is beyond belief.

We need to move with the times and refresh the rule book to ensure that acts of thuggery are not as easy to get away with. We could learn a lot for our colleagues in the Rugby world where only the team Captain is allowed to speak to the referee. When the referee in Rugby makes a decision, the players move away and do not question him or her. I am not suggesting that these measures would rectify the problems that we are encountering at games, but it might help. Parents too need to set an example to their children at games in relation to how they conduct themselves. I welcomed the notion at our U-11 games this year where the silent initiative was introduced and it proved to be a great success, if more of that is needed going forward then let's do it, it can only improve our games. Racial abuse has no place in our games and will not be tolerated, thankfully such incidents are minimal within our County.

Mayo GAA sought permission from Croke Park to wear special rainbow flag numbering on our jerseys supporting the LGBTI+ Community. This was to be done in conjunction with our Charity Partners, Mindspace, at a home League game in early 2023. The matter was discussed by the Management Committee in Croke Park and our application was turned down on the grounds that that the numbering of players was too integral to the game and shouldn't be interfered with and they suggested that Coiste Contae Mhuigeo could possibly explore the option of using the rainbow flag laces in boots. I found the response from Croke Park to be very disappointing to say the least. The "rainbow " coloured numbering on the jersey was to be a one off venture and would have shown Mayo GAA's clear support for our LGBTI+ Community, I believe it was an opportunity missed.

Rules

There are several areas that Croke Park could introduce that would be fairer to all Clubs and Counties. The first one being the Black Card, the time the player spends on the side-line is done through real time and does not consider stoppages in play which I believe it should. The other area is where a player takes a free kick from his hands, we have all seen players at both Club and County level gain significant yardage before they kick the ball, this could be rectified if the referee marked the spot from where the free is to be taken from like what they do in soccer.

When inter County games in the Championship move outside of the Provincial Championships then the match officials appointed, should not be from a province involving any of the competing teams.

I have learned recently that the CCCC are hoping to bring about a rule change that will allow Senior Inter-County teams make late changes to the 26-man squad that has to be submitted by 9am on the Thursday before the game. The CCCC are also looking at the possibility of allowing Counties make matchday changes after the team sheet has been submitted to the referee in the event of a last-minute injury. I would welcome these changes as would all Inter County Managers because the rule as it stands makes absolutely no sense.

The split season would appear to have been a success, but I feel that the All-Ireland Football and Hurling Finals should be played in August, that is only my opinion.

I find myself once again talking about the abuse of our Inter County footballers on social media. It simply must stop. As I've said previously, all these players have families, and they also feel the hurt and pain caused by the social media "hero's".

Our players don't go out onto the pitch to intentionally loose games, they always give of their best. Few people within the County or Country have given up so much of their lives to play a game they love as has our Senior Footballers. They deserve better. It also saddened me this year to see some of our Inter County Footballers "targeted" on the field of play in our Club Championships, yes, it is a physical game but some of the tackling and off the ball incidents were scandalous to say the least.

FBD League:

Galway manager Padraic Joyce savoured his first win over Mayo in a competitive fixture at the fourth attempt in the FBD Connacht League semi-final at the NUI Galway Connacht GAA Air Dome in Began on Friday the 7th of January. Joyce's well-drilled outfit finished strongly to deservedly beat an experimental Mayo side, with late points from impact substitutes Shane Walsh, Tom Culhane and Paul Kelly helping the Tribesmen to victory.

Mayo faded out of contention in the closing stages and only managed a single point in the last 20 minutes, a free from impressive substitute Ryan O'Donoghue in the 69th minute. In front of 300 spectators, Galway led for most of an uneventful match, and they were in front at half-time by 0-10 to 0-07. Mayo started brightly with early scores from the impressive duo of Fergal Boland and debutant Sam Callinan, but Galway quickly took the initiative back and led by 0-05 to 0-03 at the first water break.

The second quarter was a similar story, with Mayo's only score from play arriving from Frank Irwin while Fionan Duffy converted three frees. Mayo introduced All-Star forward Ryan O'Donoghue at the break, and he made an instant impact, shooting three quickfire points, two from frees, to close the gap to the bare minimum. Galway also only led by 0-13 to 0-12 at the second water break as Mayo upped the ante, but Padraic Joyce sprung the likes of Kieran Molloy, Paul Kelly, Culhane and Shane Walsh from the bench, and they all helped to turn the tide. Galway ran out easy winners on a score of 17 points to Mayo's 13points.

Allianz League:

Mayo's first game in the League was a "home" game against old foes Donegal on Sunday the 30th of January 2022. The game was played in Markievicz Park in Sligo as MacHale Park was not available due to the upgrading of the pitch. A crowd of nearly 9,000 packed into Markievicz Park on a dreadful day, weather wise, for football. Donegal exploded out of the starting blocks and were 5 points to 1 up after 15 minutes. Mayo were at 6's and 7's and had little or no reply to Donegal's dominance. Donegal were good value for their 4-point lead at half time, in fact only for some wayward shooting they could have been much further ahead. Mayo gathered their composure at the break and introduced Aidan O'Shea and Bryan Walsh for the start of the second half. These changes seemed to have an immediate effect as Mayo began a comeback that seemed unlikely in the opening 35 plus minutes. Mayo began to play with more urgency and intensity. Both teams traded scores four times during the third quarter to ensure that Donegal held on to their 4-point lead. Donegal were playing with a strong wind at their backs in the second half. Michael Langan had kicked some superb points for Donegal, and they seemed to be home and hosed on 55 minutes when he kicked his fourth point of the game. Incredibly that was to be Donegal's final score of the day. At that point Mayo were down to 14 men after team Captain Stephen Coen was sent off in the 51st minute after receiving a second yellow card. This resulted in Donegal being awarded a penalty which was brilliantly saved by Robbie Hennelly. This appeared to drive Mayo forward and they scored the last 4 points to earn a draw when 10 minutes earlier had seemed unlikely. Robbie Hennelly was Mayo's hero of the day as he kicked the equalising score from a difficult free kick into a strong wind. The game itself wasn't a classic but it was wonderful to see Jason Doherty and Brendan Harrison back in a Mayo Jersey. Jason helped himself to 3 wonderful points. It's amazing that he was even playing considering the injuries he has endured in the past 2 years. In Tommy Conroy, Mayo have one of the most exciting players in the Country, he put in a good performance in the second half and was hard to handle. Mayo put in a gutsy second half display and deserved to get a point from the game. This was the fourth time in ten games between the teams since 2012 that has ended in a draw. Mayo could look forward to the remainder of the League in anticipation as they would welcome back the likes of Lee Keegan, Cillian O'Connor, Enda Hession and Oisín Mullen to name but a few.

Their lack lustre display in the first half would be punished by more clinical teams. In the end James Horan was delighted to get a point from the game. Our next outing would see us travel to Clones on Sunday the 6th of February to take on Monaghan.

Mayo travelled to St Tiernach's Park in Clones on Sunday the 6th of February to take on Monaghan who had former Mayo selector, Donie Buckley, in their backroom team. This was the third time in 6 years that Mayo had taken points from Monaghan on their home patch. Monaghan were guilty of some wayward shooting kicking 10 wides which would not have pleased Monaghan Manager, Seamus McEnaney. The fact that they only scored 1 point in the final 25 minutes wouldn't please him either. Monaghan opened the scoring before man of the match Ryan O'Donoghue scored Mayo's opening goal in the 6th minute which was closely followed by a Fionn McDonagh point which helped Mayo into an early 3-point lead. Mayo played with the aid of a strong breeze in the opening half. We struggled in the middle of the field in the opening half, but Aidan O'Shea steadied the ship once he was introduced in the 25th minute at the expense of team captain Stephen Coen. Mayo were dealt a huge blow toward the end of the first half when defender Eoghan McLaughlin was stretchered off in what looked like a serious ankle injury. Monaghan went in a point clear at half time. Mayo emerged after the break and appeared to have moved up a few gears as they took the game to Monaghan. Lee Keegan, Pdraig O'Hora, Paddy Durcan and Rory Brickenden were immense in the second half. Surely there hasn't been a defender in the Country over the past 10 years better than Leeroy Keegan. Once Mayo got their noses in front in the second half they hung on. A long overdue goal from Jason Doherty in the 54th minute set Mayo on the road to victory. Mayo subs Jordan Flynn and Conor Loftus contributed significantly to Mayo's second half performance. The outcome of the game hung in the balance entering the final moments and despite a very late goal mouth scare Mayo went on to secure their first League victory of the 2022 season on a score line of 2-10 to 1-10. As Mayo left St Tiernach's Park people hope that Eoghan McLaughlin's injury was not too serious and looked forward to a trip to GAA Headquarters on the 19th of February to take on old foes, Dublin. Mayo's Mattie Ruane would be back after serving his suspension.

Mayo travelled to GAA Headquarters on Saturday the 19th of February to take on Dublin in Round 3 of the Allianz League. Mayo were buoyed after a good win against Monaghan and the travelling supporters were hoping for a good display from what many saw as an inexperienced side. Mayo had not beaten Dublin in Dublin in the League since 1971. Many people, even the “anonymous keyboard warriors”, were expecting a resurgent Dublin side as they had suffered two defeats in the opening round of the League. The tone of the game was set in the opening few seconds after Jordan Flynn played a long ball into the unmarked Diarmuid O’Connor who duly obliged by splitting the posts to register Mayo’s first score within 14 seconds. Moments later Mattie Ruane had the ball in the Dublin net only for play to be called back for a free out to Dublin. Dublin eventually started to get into the game with points by Kilkenny, Rock and Bugler. Mayo steadied the ship in the 21st minute when a moment of brilliance from Diarmuid O’Connor saw him pick out Jack Carney who would find the Dublin net courtesy of the Dublin Keeper Eoin Comerford. It was good to see Mayo get some luck in Croke. Dublin responded and were back level four minutes before half time before Mayo scored their second goal through Aidan Orme after a well worked move out of our defence. Mayo went in three points up at half time on a score line of 2-6 to 9 points. The second half was more comfortable for Mayo than many expected. The two highlights of the second half was the two magnificent points scored by Michael Plunkett. In fairness Mayo never looked in any danger throughout this encounter. Mayo brought on Aidan O’Shea, Conor Loftus, Kevin McLoughlin, Enda Hession and Fergal Boland in the second half and all 5 played their part in this well-deserved Mayo victory. There were many excellent displays from Mayo players, Diarmuid O’Connor having one of his finest ever games in a Mayo jersey, Jordan Flynn and Mattie Ruane were excellent throughout in the middle of the field while Jack Carney and Aidan Orme could be well satisfied with their efforts. In defence Oisin Mullen, Lee Keegan, Donnacha McHugh, Stephen Coen, Michael Plunkett and Rory Brickenden were excellent throughout. Robbie Hennelly, who kicked 2 wonderful points, was awarded the man of the match award and nobody could argue with that. Let’s not get carried away this was only the 3rd week in February and Mayo would face much stiffer tests ahead, but it was satisfying to travel home from Croke Park with a smile on one’s face after a job well done. Mayo ran out easy winners on a score line of 2-11 to 12 points. Next up for Mayo would be a “home” clash in Hyde Park against highfliers Armagh.

Mayo took on fellow table toppers Armagh in our second home game of the League. The game took place in Hyde Park and I wish to thank Roscommon GAA for allowing us to use their ground. There was drama before a ball was even thrown in as Mayo net minder Rob Hennelly suffered a leg injury and had to be replaced by Ruairi Byrne with Colm Reape coming into the subs as cover for Byrne. Mayo found themselves 3 points down after 10 seconds as Armagh scored a goal courtesy of midfielder Ciaran Mackin who's shot went over the head of the stranded Mayo Keeper. In fairness it was a "lucky" goal as he appeared to shoot for a point. Armagh powered on from the goal and found themselves 5 points clear after the opening 10 minutes. Mayo were struggling to get to grips with Armagh in the first half. League debutant Frank Irwin had to go off with a blood injury and was replaced by Kevin McLoughlin. Paddy Durcan was introduced during the first half to replace Rory Brickenden and these two changes helped to turn the tide. Diarmuid O'Connor and Aidan Orme were causing trouble for the Armagh defence in the opening 35 minutes. Armagh went in leading by 1-5 to 6 points. James Horan introduced Aidan O'Shea and Pdraig O'Hora at half time and their introduction coupled with Oisin Mullen moving to full back laid the foundation for the comeback. By the 40th minute both Orme and O'Connor had reduced the Armagh lead to just one point. Armagh upped the ante once again and with Ryan O'Neill and Aidan Nugent finding their range the visitors found themselves 3 points ahead after 65 minutes. Mayo scored the next 5 points without reply, 2 from Ryan O'Donoghue, 1 from Jordan Flynn and 2 absolute stunners from the excellent Paddy Durcan. Mayo won on a score line of 15 points to 1-10. Mayo had snatched a win from the jaws of defeat and some wonderful performances were put in by the likes of Oisin Mullen, Paddy Durcan, Pdraig O'Hora, Mattie Ruane, Jordan Flynn, Diarmuid O'Connor and Aidan Orme. The mid-field partnership of Ruane and Flynn was proving to be very fruitful. James Horan could draw on some positive aspects of Mayo's performance but acknowledged that improvements would be required for Mayo's trip to Tralee to take on Kerry.

Mayo travelled to Austin Stack Park in Tralee on Saturday the 12th of March to take on table toppers Kerry. The weather made it difficult for both sets of players not to mention supporters. A large Mayo contingent made the trip in the hope that we could extend our unbeaten run against the home side on their home patch. Alas it was not to be as Mayo went down by the narrowest of margins. A 20th minute goal by Tony Brosnan for Kerry proved to be the decisive score. Mayo got off to the ideal start as Mattie Ruane got the opening score of the game in the third minute. Kerry soon got into their stride and were 4 points to 1 ahead after 13 minutes, with David Clifford scoring twice. Mayo were guilty of some wayward passing in the opening 35 minutes, and it began to cost the visitors as Kerry led by 1-5 to 3 points in the latter stages of the first half. Mayo managed to claw the home side back with points from Ryan O'Donoghue, Fergal Boland and a '45 from goalkeeper Robbie Hennelly left just the kick of a ball between the teams at the break. Mayo's Diarmuid O'Connor had a glorious chance to bring the teams level only to see his goal bound shot saved by the Kerry net minder Shane Murphy. There was still just three points between the sides after 20 minutes of the second half with Kerry leading by 1-10 to 10 points. Mayo then hit a purple patch hitting the next 3 points to level the tie in the 63rd minute. Both sides traded points through David Clifford and Ryan O'Donoghue respectively to keep the tie level heading toward the final whistle. Kerry managed to engineer a free which Clifford duly converted. Mayo broke up field to get the equaliser only for Lee Keegan's last gasp effort to tail narrowly wide. Referee Brendan Cawley, (who's grandparents hailed from Crossmolina) blew his whistle to sound the end of the game and you could sense the mood of disappointment among the players with Kerry winning by 1-12 to 14 points. Mayo deserved to get something out of the game but came up just short. This was Kerry's first win against Mayo on Kerry soil since 2009. Ryan O'Donoghue picked up a deserved 'Man got the Match' award. Mayo's next outing would be a trip to Omagh on Saturday the 19th of March to take on Tyrone.

Mayo travelled to Omagh to take on reigning All-Ireland Champions Tyrone in the hope of getting revenge for the defeat in last years final. James Horan raised a few eyebrows with his team selection most notably naming Aidan O'Shea at centre back. Tyrone came into the game knowing that anything but a victory for them would more or less condemn them to playing Division 2 League Football in 2023. The Mayo attack did not fire on the night with only Ryan O'Donoghue from the starting forward line registering a score. Mayo struggled throughout and the loss of players like Paddy Durcan, Eoghan McLaughlin and Diarmuid O'Connor was clear on the night. One point in the last 26 minutes of the game is not good enough at this level and it would give the Mayo Manager plenty to think about. Tyrone, with the aid of a strong breeze in the first half came galloping out of the starting blocks and were 5 points to no score up after 13 minutes. Mayo's first 5 attacks in the first half ended with Tyrone turning over the ball but it must be said that Mayo's distribution during the first half was shocking. Ryan O'Donoghue scored Mayo's first point after 24 minutes. Tyrone led by 8 points to 3 at half time and, should have been out of sight. Mattie Donnelly scored Tyrone's opening score in the second half to extend the home sides advantage. Mayo to their credit put in a much improved second half performance and by the 49th minute had reduced the deficit to a solitary point thanks to some excellent scores from Jordan Flynn, Mattie Ruane, Jack Carney and Ryan O'Donoghue. That was as close as Mayo could get to Tyrone. Mayo appeared to run out of ideas coming into the final stages of the game. A black card for Kevin McLoughlin in the closing stages of the game only capped a night of disappointment for Mayo. Overall, it was a very poor display from Mayo, granted there were a lot of young lads in the starting 15 but from the outset Mayo were on the back foot, it was as flat a display from Mayo as I've seen in a long time. Strangely other results went our way, and we would still have an opportunity to qualify for a National League Final against Kerry on April the 3rd if we could get a result against Kildare.

Mayo travelled to Carrick-on-Shannon to take on Kildare in our final "home" of the year on Sunday the 27th of March hoping to qualify for a League Final for the first time since we won it in 2019.

Mayo travelled to Avant Money Pairc Sean Mac Diarmada in Carrick-on-Shannon to take on Kildare in the Final Division 1 League game of the year. The weather on the day was superb and the thousands of supporters that made the journey were treated to an excellent game of football.

Goals either side of half time by Ryan O'Donoghue and Jordan Flynn were the decisive scores that helped Mayo to a much-deserved win. The victory was tarnished somewhat with injuries to Brendan Harrison and Diarmuid O'Connor both of whom were replaced in the opening half. Both teams must be complimented by the high standard of football delivered on the day. O'Donoghue's goal after 12 minutes put Mayo ahead for the first time in the game. Kildare responded well and found themselves 1 point behind at half time on a score line of 1-10 to 12 points. Ben McCormack, Kildare's centre forward was a constant thorn in Mayo's side and scored 4 points from play. James Carr, making his seasonal debut, along with Jason Doherty were equally impressive for Mayo. Pdraig O'Hora and Michael Plunkett scored 2 points apiece and both turned in impressive displays. Jack Carney chipped in with 3 points and he could not be more than happy with his performance. Once Jordan Flynn scored the second goal for Mayo it seemed to knock the stuffing out of Kildare, that left the score at 2-14 to 16 points in favour of Mayo. It was Mayo's best performance of the League. Mayo were heading back to Croke Park for a Division 1 League Final against Kerry on Sunday the 3rd of April. The defeat meant that Kildare would be plying their trade in Division 2 for 2023 along with their neighbours Dublin.



League Final:

Mayo took on Kerry in the Division 1 League Final in Croke Park on Sunday the 3rd of April. Mayo went into the game in hope rather than expectation. This was because many of our first-choice starters were side-lined due to injury. As it turned out it was a bad day at the office for Mayo as we seemed to have no answer to a Kerry team that were bidding to win only their second game in Croker in their last ten visits. Kerry were ahead by 1-10 to 7 points at half time and that could have been far more only for some excellent saves by Rory Byrne in the Mayo goal. Kerry's goal came in the 24th minute courtesy of Gavin White who eluded 3 Mayo defenders before planting the ball in the back of the net. Mayo to their credit could have been closer to Kerry at half time if Conor Loftus and Jack Carney had converted their goal chances. James Carr scored an excellent point in the opening half when he collected the ball on his own 20 metre line from a kick out and ran the length of the pitch before dispatching a shot that split the posts. Thoughts of a Mayo revival were ignited early in the second half as Michael Plunkett landed an excellent point however that was as good as it got for Mayo. Kerry drove forward in waves and Mayo didn't appear to have any answers. David Clifford was causing all sorts of problems for Pádraig O'Hora in the Mayo full back line, and he ended scoring 1-6. The second half was as bad a performance from Mayo for a long time and there would have to be a huge improvement if they would have any hope of defeating Galway on April 24th. Jordan Flynn suffered a serious ankle injury in the second half from a late tackle from a Kerry player to whom the referee issued only a yellow card. The only plus to Mayo's day was the return of Cillian O'Connor to competitive action but not even his presence on the field could turn things around. It was a bad day all round for Mayo and the best thing to do would be to put it behind us and concentrate on the upcoming game against Galway. There were some positives to be taken from the League, we had retained our Division 1 status with relative ease and we had beaten the Dubs in Croke Park along the way.

Championship:

Mayo opened their Championship campaign against old rivals Galway on Sunday 24th of April. This was also the day that the refurbished playing surface on Hastings Insurance McHale Park welcomed back football in over 8 months. The playing surface looked splendid much to the satisfaction of the near 25,000 spectators who turned up on a glorious day drenched in sunshine expecting a battle royal. However, the large Mayo support would go home scratching their heads after a dismal performance by the home side. Galway grabbed the game by the scruff of the neck and were 5 points up after only 7 minutes which included the only goal of the game by Galway forward Johnny Heaney. Galway were winning a lot of ball in the middle of the field and Damien Comer was a live wire for them up front.

As the game wore on in the first half Mayo started to get scores on the board through the O'Connor brothers and Ryan O'Donoghue. James Carr was beginning to cause problems for the Galway full back line and scored an excellent point in the 32nd minute. Galway forward Finnian O Laoi was black carded for a late tackle on Cillian O'Connor, and this aided Mayo's resurgence. As half time approached Mayo missed two glorious chances to take the lead, firstly when Cillian O'Connor missed a free, he would normally convert and secondly when Jason Doherty's attempt on goal was excellently blocked by Liam Silke. The sides went in level at half time on a score line of Galway 1-6 Mayo 9 points.

Mayo got the opening score through James Carr and many would have expected the home side to drive on but amazingly Mayo did not score for another 22 minutes. Mayo were dealt a cruel blow when star defender Oisín Mullen limped off with what appeared to be a hamstring injury. Mayo just could not get into a rhythm after the injury to Mullen and that coupled with poor shot selection made it easy for Galway to pull away. Paul Conroy was having a fine game for Galway in the middle of the Park and his contribution of 3 points certainly aided his team's cause as did the excellent long range scores from frees by Shane Walsh. Mayo's second point of the second half came courtesy of a Cillian O'Connor free in the 61st minute.

Mayo trailed by 6 points with the end of normal time approaching. Lee Keegan scored a wonder point, and this seemed to kick Mayo into action, and they scored the next 4 points without reply to leave the minimum between the sides. Mayo had one more chance to level matters, but Aidan Orme's shot went agonisingly wide.

As the referee David Coldrick blew the full-time whistle Galway were heading for a Connacht Semi Final against Leitrim while Mayo once again would go on the road in the qualifiers. Much improvement would be required if we were to progress in this year's Championship.

Mayo took on Monaghan in Hastings Insurance McHale Park in the first round of the All-Ireland qualifiers on Saturday the 4th of June. This was Mayo's first game in 6 weeks. A crowd of nearly 17,000 were in attendance and they certainly got value for money. The Monaghan Management very annoyed at some of the decisions by referee Barry Cassidy. They felt hard done by when they weren't awarded a penalty towards the end of the game which could have brought matters to extra time. Monaghan started the game strongly with 2 points from Gary Mohan. They were dealt a blow early in the game when their talismanic forward Conor McManus was black carded for a trip on Mayo's Aidan O'Shea. During McManus's absence Mayo scored 1-3 without reply which included a Cillian O'Connor penalty in the 12th minute after Oisín Mullen's goal bound effort was foot blocked by a Monaghan defender. Mayo went in at half time leading by 1-7 to 7 points and increased their lead on the resumption with another Cillian O'Connor effort. Amazingly Mayo would not score again for another 20 minutes a familiar trait in a few previous games. Monaghan didn't fare much better in those 20 minutes either only scoring 2 points. Monaghan's forwards, like Mayo's, were not firing on all cylinders. Lee Keegan, Mayo's best player on the day, showed the forwards how it was done when he kicked a superb point to put Mayo 5 points clear heading towards injury time leaving the score 1-12 to 10 points. Monaghan then appeared to kick into gear and scored 2 points without reply to leave only 3 points between the sides deep in injury time. Mayo were lucky not to concede a penalty when a missed placed pass from Aidan O'Shea found its way to Monaghan's Conor Leonard who went to ground albeit a bit tamely. The Monaghan players, management and supporters were incensed with Barry Cassidy when he did not award them a penalty. Mayo swept down the field and Paddy Durcan scored an excellent point to put 4 points between the sides. As the referee sounded the final Monaghan

supporters and Management vented their anger towards Cassidy with some unsavoury scenes.

Mayo had won the game and thus qualified for round two of the qualifiers, for Monaghan their season was over. Defensively on the day Mayo were sound with heroic performances from Keegan, Durcan and Hession. Club mates O'Shea and Ruane combined well in the middle of the field. It was up front that Mayo with our half forward line mostly non-existent for the evening and only the inside line that was causing any sort of a threat. With that said a win is a win and that is all that matters. James Horan would hope to have some injured players back for the next round.

Mayo travelled to GAA Headquarters on Saturday the 11th of June to take on Kildare in the second round of the All-Ireland qualifiers. There was annoyance among the Mayo supporters at the game going to Croke Park and this was evident with the small crowd that was in attendance. It would have made more sense to have played the game in Tullamore or Hyde Park. The first half performance from Mayo was as poor as has been witnessed in a long time. Kildare led by 5 points to 2 after 28 minutes and, should have been much more in front. The shot selection by the Mayo players left a lot to be desired and Kildare were equally as bad. Man of the Match, Lee Keegan raised Mayo's spirits in a dour first half with a well taken point but there was little else to cheer about in the opening 35 minutes. Kildare led by 8 points to 5 at the break.

Mayo came out for the start of the second half and had to wait for Kildare to return. Ten minutes into the second half and Mayo found themselves 6 points down and looking like this was the end of the road. Mayo reduced the margin to 5 points thanks to a sublime point from Fergal Boland. Daniel Flynn has a glorious chance to score a goal and put the lights out for Mayo but up stepped the impressive Enda Hession to somehow block the shot and Mayo breathed a huge sigh of relief. From the resulting turnover Mayo worked the ball down the field and Cillian O'Connor scored a point to put 4 points between the teams. Conor Loftus scored a superb point as did Diarmuid O'Connor and Lee Keegan to leave 3 points between the sides heading down the stretch.

Then up popped Oisín Mullen, who played a brilliant one two with his defensive partner Pádraig O’Hora, and duly slammed the ball to the Kildare net. The scores were now level, 13 points to 1-10 and the writing was on the wall for the Kildare men. Fergal Boland, Cillian O’Connor and Darren McHale landed points for Mayo and going into injury time Mayo led by 1-13 to 14 points. Deep into injury time and Jordan Flynn gained possession just inside the 45’, he looked up and saw the Kildare keeper retreating towards goal. He lobbed the ball goal wards; the Kildare keeper flapped at the ball but couldn’t prevent it from going into the net. As the ball was kicked out the referee sounded the end of the game and Mayo had won by 5 points on a score of 2-13 to 14 points. James Horan was delighted with the win and the way his team ground out the victory but there were many aspects of the game that were a cause for concern, and he would have to rectify these issues before facing old foes Kerry in the quarter final.

Mayo were back in Croke Park on Sunday the 26th of June to take on Kerry in the All-Ireland quarter Final. The Mayo supporters travelled to the Capital in the hope that we could reverse the result of our previous two meetings earlier in the year. Mayo went into the game without several key players including Brendan Harrison, Michael Plunket, Tommy Conroy and Ryan O’Donoghue. Their absence from the field would eventually catch up with Mayo, with that said Mayo did start strongly with Oisín Mullen putting the shackles on Clifford, Stephen Coen doing a fine job on O’Shea. When Conor Loftus scored a monster point from under the shadow Cusack Stand and Aidan O’Shea scored another beauty with the outside of the boot from near the halfway line the large Mayo support in attendance began to dream of another good day at GAA Headquarters. In the 28th minute Mayo had built up a two-point lead, 7 points to 5, and Kerry seemed to be in a bit of bother. Clifford escaped from Oisín Mullen and gained possession, played a one two with O’Shea and buried the ball in the back of the Mayo net. Clifford seemed to have injured his ankle early in the game but there was no sign of that when he stepped forward to put Kerry ahead by 1-5 to 7 points. Kevin McLoughlin had a glorious chance of a goal for Mayo just before half time but blasted the ball over the bar. Kerry led by 1-7 to 9 points at half time. Mayo started the second half brightly and for the first 12 minutes of the half they owned the ball.

Good scores coming from the impressive Jordan Flynn, Mattie Ruane and James Carr kept Mayo in the game. Mayo were guilty of some very wayward shooting in the second half and in doing so gave momentum to a Kerry outfit that struggled in the early stages of the second half. Kerry kept picking off points and when Mayo's only response in the final 20 minutes was Jordan Flynn point the writing was clearly on the wall. The last quarter of the game was hugely disappointing from a Mayo perspective some of our shot selection was not of a standard acceptable at this level. Our injury list came back to haunt us. David Gough turned in a fine refereeing performance but one strange call from him was the black card issued to Aidan O'Shea before half time.

To my understanding it was issued for abusive language to an opponent?? but if that was the case there could have been a dozen cards issued. As the referee sounded the final whistle many of the supporters present wondered what lay ahead for Mayo, they would have to wait less than 24 hours as James Horan announced he was stepping away from his role as Manager of the Senior Team. James had come to the end of his four-year term; he didn't resign as some social media pundits would like you to believe he simply stepped away. James was not offered an extension to his contract at any time during the year as was stated on social media in fact his contract was never discussed.

In light of, James stepping away from his role I would like to sincerely thank him for the work he has put into Mayo football over the past 4 years. He has brought Mayo to a new level, and I know he is as disappointed as we all are that he was unable to deliver Sam Maguire to the County. James has given a huge chunk of his life to Mayo GAA both as a player and Manager and I again thank him for that. As the saying goes "behind everyman is a good woman" and to that end I want to thank James' wife Siobhan and his family for giving him the time and space to Manage Mayo a task that wasn't always easy given comments on social media. To the backroom team I wish to thank you all for the work that you all have put in over the years. To the players on the panel, thank you one and all for your efforts during 2022, every one of you have been great ambassadors for Mayo GAA.



BE THERE. ALL THE WAY.

U-20's:

The Mayo U-20's got their 2022 campaign off to a winning start in the Leo Murphy Cup against neighbours Roscommon at a bitterly cold Connacht Centre of Excellence in mid-February. Great credit must be given to both sets of players who performed well despite the arctic conditions. Mayo dominated the game and led at half time on a score line of 1-6 to 1-4. The second half was evenly contested with Mayo a step ahead of the opposition at all times. Mayo ran out 3-point winners on a score line of 1-12 to 1-9, next up for Maurice Sheridan's charges would be a trip to take on Derry. Maurice Sheridan would hope to welcome back a few players who were training with the Senior team.

The U-20's next outing in the Leo Murphy Cup was a trip to Loup to take on Derry. Mayo had Ruairi Keane and Paddy Heneghan back among their ranks after they were released from the Senior Squad. Mayo were unable to build on their opening round win by losing this encounter by the minimum. Derry led by 10 points to 1-1 at half time as they made the most of a gale force wind advantage in the opening 30 minutes. Derry scored 1 point in the second half while Mayo scored 6. Mayo Manager Maurice Sheridan was justifiably disappointed with the result as his charges squandered some glorious scoring chances in the second half. Next up for Mayo in the competition would be a trip to high flying Donegal.

The Mayo U-20's bowed out of the Leo Murphy Cup after a very disappointing loss to Donegal in Ballybofey on Saturday the 5th of March. Two goals from Keelan Dunleavy helped Donegal to an easy 9-point win. Mayo started the game brightly and were level on 2 points apiece after 10 minutes. Mayo had the ball in the back of the Donegal net on 15 minutes and all in attendance were expecting a close encounter however that never materialised as Donegal powered on and led by 1-6 to 1-2 at half time.

Donegal didn't let up in the second half and ran out comfortable winners on a score line of 2-10 to 1-4. Mayo's attentions would now turn to their Championship encounter with Galway on the 6th of April in Ballina. Maurice Sheridan would be hoping to have Senior panellist's Sam Callinan, Frank Irwin and Donnacha McHugh back with his U-20 squad in time to overcome our neighbours. Overall, it was a disappointing Leo Murphy Cup campaign for Maurice Sheridan and his charges.

Mayo began their Connacht Championship campaign against Galway in the COE on Wednesday the 6th of April. Both teams deserve credit for playing the game in atrocious conditions. As one pundit put it "this was not an evening for flair and flamboyance, this was a match when work rate, honesty and commitment were the order of the day" That was certainly true in Mayo's case. Sam Callinan was excellent in defence and drove Mayo forward at every opportunity, he was ably assisted by Ruairi Keane in the Mayo full back line. Mayo's midfield pairing of Frank Irwin and Donnacha McHugh were dominant throughout and one could see why James Horan rated them so highly. Mayo seemed to cope better than Galway in the stormy conditions. Whatever advantage was in Galway's favour in the opening 30 minutes, but they couldn't deal with the storm like conditions. The teams went in level on 2 points apiece at half time. Six minutes into the second half Mayo scored the opening goal when Jack Fallon, caught a Galway team that were too casual coming out of defence, he seized the ball and fired it into the Galway net. It was no more than Mayo deserved. Mayo added on 3 more points from Frank Irwin, Paddy Heneghan, who was excellent throughout and Bob Tuohy and appeared to put the game beyond Galway's reach. Galway rallied late on to score a goal through James McLoughlin and a point from Nathan Grainger. Mayo managed to withhold the late Galway surge and ran out deserving winners on a score line of 1-6 to 1-4. Maurice Sheridan could be justifiably proud of his charges and could now look forward to a trip to Carrick-on-Shannon to take on Leitrim in the Connacht semi-final. Sheridan and Patrons alike would be hoping for a much calmer evening weatherwise.

Mayo took on Leitrim in Carrick-on-Shannon on Wednesday the 13th of April and were hoping to qualify for the Connacht Final for the second year in a row. Mayo, raging hot favourites to overturn Leitrim but in the end Mayo managed to hold on to a one point victory by the skin of their teeth. Mayo were dominant in the opening half with Sam Callinan, Frank Irwin, Donnacha McHugh and Dylan Thornton to the fore. Mayo led comfortably by 8 points to 3 at half time. Mayo were dealt a hammer blow in the first half when Sam Callinan and Cian McHale both had to go off injured with Callinan's injury looking like a serious hamstring problem. The third quarter of the game belonged to Mayo as they totally dominated proceedings. Mayo hit the post twice in the opening moments of the second half and Paddy Heneghan was denied a goal chance by Leitrim net minder Conor Flood.

Mayo were in cruise mode and were ahead by 15 points to 4 with a little over 12 minutes remaining. Leitrim's substitutes began to torment Mayo but a Dylan Thornton point appeared to settle Mayo who were now leading by 16 points to 6. However, Leitrim were not ready to lie down and produced a near miraculous escape scoring 2-3 without reply. As the referee blew the final whistle Mayo Players, Management and supporters breathed a huge sigh of relief and Leitrim were left to ponder on what might have been. Mayo had won the game by a single point on a score of 16 points to 2-9. Maurice Sheridan would be hoping for a better performance against Sligo in the final because any repeat of their implosion in the latter stages of this game would be punished by a Sligo team who beat the reigning Connacht Champions Roscommon in the other semi-final.

Mayo went into the Connacht Final as favourites against Sligo who had never won a title at this grade. This was a game that Mayo should not have lost, we were 5 points up nearing full time and appeared to be heading for a first Connacht Title since 2018, however Sligo hadn't read the script. Mayo found themselves 1 point behind Sligo at half time on a score line of 2-3 to 8 points with Sligo benefitting from 2 goals from Jack Davitt. In the second half Mayo took control of the game and with points from Frank Irwin and Rory Morrin and a goal from the very impressive Paddy Heneghan saw the visitors surge ahead.

Sligo hadn't scored for 24 minutes, and their cause was helped when referee Paddy Neilan red carded their corner back Shane Molloy for a heavy challenge.

Mayo found themselves 5 points ahead playing against 14 men and for the third game in a row they pressed the self-destruct button. Sligo began to find holes in the Mayo defence and a long ball from the side-line fell to Sligo's Eoghan Smith who duly planted the ball in the Mayo net. Sligo got the next point and suddenly they were now only 1 point behind Mayo.

Mayo got the next score and appeared to have weathered the storm, but Sligo's Jack Lavin launched a high ball towards the Mayo goal. There were enough Mayo players to deal with the high ball, but they all missed it and the ball flew into the Mayo net. Sligo were now a point up and try as they might Mayo just couldn't get back on level terms. As Paddy Neilan blew the final whistle the large Sligo support in attendance ran out onto the pitch to celebrate with their heroes. Sligo Captain Jack Lavin delivered stirring speech and dedicated the victory to the memory of Red Og Murphy who had died tragically a few weeks earlier. Sligo would march on to an All-Ireland semi-final while for Mayo it was the end of the line.

I would like to thank Maurice Sheridan and his backroom for their efforts throughout the year.

Hurling:

The Mayo Senior Hurlers began their League Campaign against Wicklow in James Stephens Park Ballina on Sunday the 6th of February. In the opening half both teams struggled to cope with the lashing rain and swirling wind. Adrian Phillips seemed to settle quickest and had Mayo two early points to help them grab a foothold in the game. Mayo were playing the better hurling and were 4 points to the good when Wicklow full forward Germaine caught the sliotar over the head of his marker before spinning to his left and sending an unstoppable shot past Mayo goalkeeper Bobby Douglas, that left just the minimum between the teams. Mayo regrouped and went in at the interval leading by 1-10 to 1-5. Early in the second half Mayo were awarded a penalty which was saved by the Wicklow Keeper.

Mayo scored the next 2 points to lead by seven early in the second half and seemed destined for victory. Wicklow had the elements in their favour in the second half and scored 4 points in seven minutes to haul themselves back into the game. Shane Boland scored a late point for Mayo that seemed to be the clincher but 2 late points for Wicklow saw them share the spoils.

Mayo Manager received a one match ban after using foul/abusive language towards a match official and would be suspended for the Mayo's next game against London.

The Mayo Hurlers travelled to McGovern Park, Ruislip to take on London on Sunday the 13th of February. Mayo were hoping to record their first win of the League and went into the game as favourites as London had lost heavily to Donegal in the opening round of League fixtures. Mayo began the game on the front foot but were no match for a resolute London team who led by 3-5 to 1-6 at half time. Derek Walsh's backroom team looked to change things after the break but came up against a brick wall. London ran out easy winners on a score line of 4-11 to 1-10. Mayo's next opponents would be Derry (away) and there would be much improvement needed if they would have any chance of upsetting the team from the Oak Leaf County. Overall Mayo were very disappointing on this occasion and Derek Walsh, who would be back in the dug-out after his one match ban, would be looking for a much-improved performance from his charges.

Mayo travelled to Owenbeg on Sunday 27.2.22 to take on table toppers Derry. Derry proved too strong for a very disappointing Mayo team, and they ran out very easy winner on a score of 4-24 to 1-14. The weather was a contributing factor in Derry racing into a 14-point lead at half time. In the last quarter of the game Mayo tagged on some points to flatter the scoreboard but it was too little too late. Mayo would have to improve to beat Sligo in Ballina in their next outing but as it stood, they were facing relegation. Derek Walsh would have to hope for a miracle if Mayo were to avoid the drop to a lower Division but on this performance even a miracle wouldn't help Mayo.

Mayo took on near neighbours Sligo in Ballina in round 4 of League. Mayo started brightly and were 5 points to 1 up after 10 minutes. By the 30th minute Mayo seemed to be in control of the game and were ahead by 8 points to 5. Then disaster struck for Mayo as Sligo scored two goals in the space of two minutes to turn the game on its head.

Mayo were now playing catch-up and went in at half time 1 point behind Sligo on a score line of 2-6 to 11 points. Mayo's cause wasn't helped as Paul Kirwan received his marching orders from referee James Connors. Sligo tagged on two more goals in the second half and ran out comfortable 6-point winners. Mayo's last game in the League would be a tough assignment against Donegal and would be hoping that results go their way to avoid an automatic drop back down to Division 3A for 2023.

Mayo took on Donegal in James Stephens Park Ballina on Sunday the 20th of March in a dead-rubber game. Mayo were already destined for a relegation play-off against Wicklow. Mayo went into the game with only 18 players toggled. Donegal were the better team throughout with their corner forward David Flynn scoring 1-9. Donegal scored their opening goal in the 7th minute with full-forward crashing the ball to the net and by the 12th minute the visitors led by 1-4 to 1 point. Mayo slowly began to claw their way back into the game and scored their goal courtesy of a Sean Regan penalty. By the 36th minute the sides were level however a late score by Brendan Coulter had Donegal ahead by a point at the break. Keith Higgins was introduced at the start of the second half and he scored a point with his first touch of the sliotar. Donegal hit back immediately with their second goal through Flynn and from there they never looked back. Donegal ran out easy winners on a score line of 2-17 to 1-12. Keith Higgins had to retire injured late on in the game. Derek Walsh would have to rally his troops for a winner take all relegation battle against Wicklow on Saturday 26th of March.

The Mayo Hurlers headed to O'Connor Park in Tullamore on Saturday the 26th of March to take on Wicklow in a relegation battle. A late point by Wicklow consigned Mayo to ply their trade in Division 3 of the National League in 2023. It was a hugely disappointing League campaign for Derek Walsh and his charges as they failed to register a solitary win during the League, the highs of winning the Nickey Rackard Cup in 2021 were soon forgotten and more would be required if they were to remain in the Christy Ring competition. Both teams traded scores in the opening minutes, and they were level after 10 minutes of play. The weather wasn't a factor as O'Connor Park basked in glorious sunshine. John Doyle the Wicklow Centre Forward was causing all sorts of trouble for the Mayo defence as Wicklow went 4 points up. Sean Regan and Adrian Phillips scored 2 late points for Mayo before the break. Wicklow led at half time on a score line of 7 points to 5.

Mayo, to their credit upped the ante in the third quarter and scored some wonderful points through Eoin Delaney, Sean Regan and Keith Higgins. Coming down the final stretch Mayo managed to get their noses in front by a single point thanks to the impressive Shane Boland. Both teams traded points in the closing stages but John Doyle popped to score the winning point for Wicklow who ran out winners on a score line of 16 points to 15. Mayo would have little time to dwell on the defeat and relegation as they would have to prepare for an outing against Kildare in the opening Round of the Christy Ring Cup.

Christy Ring Cup:

Mayo began their Christy Ring Cup Competition on Sunday the 10th of April in James Stephens Park, Ballina against Kildare. Mayo went into the game after a League Campaign that saw them relegated to Division 3 for 2023 and on the display against Kildare, they might not fare much better in this competition. This was as poor a performance by our Senior Hurlers in many many years. Mayo welcomed three additions from outside the County who lined out on the day, Joe Mooney and the McManus brothers. Much work had gone on behind the scenes prior to the game to get the three players sanctions ratified by Croke Park, however their inclusion on the panel did little to stop a rampant Kildare side who justified their favourites tag for this competition. Mayo were within touching distance after 30 minutes when they trailed Kildare by 11 points to 8 but I'm afraid that's as good as it got for Mayo. At the break Kildare had increased their advantage to 13 points to 8 and they drove on in spectacular fashion scoring a further 5-13 in the second half, Mayo could only manage a further 3 points. Kildare put on an exhibition of hurling that Mayo could do very little about.

Kildare ran out very easy winners on a scoreline of 5-26 to 11 points. Mayo would have no time to feel sorry for themselves as they would head east on Saturday the 16th of April for Round 2 of the Competition to take on a Wicklow side that consigned them to Division 3 League hurling a few weeks previous.

Mayo travelled to Aughrim on Saturday the 16th of April to take on Wicklow. Mayo were out for revenge in this fixture as it was Wicklow who had relegated them to Division 3 of the League a few weeks previous.

This was a much better performance from Derek Walsh's charges, and they were 4 points up after as many minutes. Mayo led by 5 points to 3 after 15 minutes with Shane Boland, Joe Mooney, and Sean Kenny to the fore. Mayo continued to pile on the pressure in the second quarter and were ahead by 13 points to 7 at half time. Wicklow's opening goal came courtesy of Eoin Kavanagh, and this reduced Mayo's lead to 3 points. Mayo gathered themselves and by the 58th minute had extended their lead by 22 points to 1-9. Kavanagh scored Wicklow's second goal in the closing stages of the game, but Mayo were well worth their 26 points to 2-9 victory. It was a pleasing turn around by Mayo who hadn't a great League campaign and a

very poor display against Kildare in the opening round. Mayo would travel to Ruislip to take on London in the 3rd Round.

The Mayo Hurlers powered to their second straight victory in the Christy Ring Cup against London at McGovern Park Ruislip on Saturday the 23rd of April. This was Mayo's best performance for a while and were full value for their 13-point lead at half time. The same opposition had beaten Mayo by 10 points earlier in the National League. Early points from Keith Higgins, Sean Regan and Mark Philips had Mayo 7 points to 2 up after 15 minutes. Shane Boland scored Mayo's goal in the first half to leave the visitors leading by 1-16 to 6 points. Mayo continued their scoring spree in the second half and were ahead in the 54th minute by 1-20 to 9 points. London did stage a comeback late in the second half, but it was too little too late. London did manage to score 2-7 in the second half which would be a cause for concern for Manager Derek Walsh. Mayo went on to win by 1-22 to 2-13. Mayo's next opponents would be neighbours Sligo.

Mayo took on Sligo on Saturday the 7th of May at James Stephens Park in Ballina. Both teams served up a thrilling encounter and the game was in the melting pot up to the time when the evergreen Keith Higgins and Kenny Feeney scored the two crucial goals for Mayo in the second half. This performance from Mayo was a far cry from their disastrous League campaign and the 30-point beating by Kildare in the opening round of this competition. Sligo went 2 points up at the start of the game before Mayo registered their first score through Kenny Feeney. Sligo were in control of the game during the first half and led at one stage by 6 points to 1. Mayo finally got their act together in the first half and through some excellent work by Higgins, the McManus brothers, Mooney and Huane had reduced the deficit to a single point at the break with Sligo leading by 13 points to 12. Nothing but a victory for Mayo would keep their hopes alive of reaching the final of the competition. Sligo scored the first point of the second half, but Mayo rallied and scored the next 2 points to bring the teams level. Then Mayo hit a purple patch scoring 2 goals and as many points to ease into the lead. Sligo tried their best to get back into the game but were unable to claw Mayo back. Mayo ran out easy winners in the end on a score of 2-24 to 1-20. Mayo's final game in the group stage would be against Derry in Hastings McHale Park on Saturday the 14th of May where victory for the home side would propel them to the Christy Ring Cup Final.

Mayo took on Derry in what was for all intense and purposes a Christy Ring Cup semi-final. After an extremely disappointing League campaign Mayo put in a strong performance to see off a fancied Derry outfit and qualify for a first ever Christy Ring Cup final. The transformation in this Mayo team since the 30-point defeat by Kildare in the opening round of the competition has been nothing short of amazing. Mayo got off to a great start with Joe McManus landing the first score of the game followed by two scores from team Captain Shane Boland which had Mayo 3 points up inside three minutes. Derry then managed to find their rhythm and by the 10th minute the sides were level on 4 points apiece. Mayo were soon back in front thanks to a goal and a point from the inspirational Joe Mooney, this was a lead that Mayo would not relinquish. Mayo continued to put the squeeze on Derry and led by 1-12 to 1-8 at half time. Twenty minutes into the second half and Mayo found themselves 1-16 to 1-13 ahead. Mayo goalkeeper, Bobby Douglas, pulled off a great save to deny Derry the equaliser and from the resultant clearance, Mayo worked the ball up the field to Kenny Feeney who duly dispatched the ball to the back of the Derry net. This left Mayo 6 points clear but Derry were far from finished. Derry came roaring back and when they scored their second goal through Odhran McKeever Mayo's lead was reduced to the bare minimum. A draw would have seen Derry qualify for the final while Mayo needed the win. Shane Boland stood up to the mark for Mayo and scored 3 of Mayo's last four points to secure a famous victory on a scoreline of 2-23 to 1-18. Mayo had many hero's on the day but the star was the captain Shane Boland who led by example. Mayo would be hoping to turn the tables on a strong Kildare outfit in the final.

Christy Ring Cup Final:

Mayo headed to GAA Headquarters on Saturday the 21st of May to take on Kildare in the Christy Ring Cup Final. This was the same opposition who had beaten Mayo by 30 points in the opening round of the competition. Kildare were odds on favourites to regain the Christy Ring Cup and as the result proved the Bookies very rarely get it wrong. Kildare hit the ground running and had the first point of the game courtesy of Man of the Match Gerry Keegan. Mayo responded through scores from team Captain Shane Boland and the sides were level by the 6th minute. Kildare will play two Divisions above Mayo in next years National League and their

class was evident early on. Kildare’s first goal arrived in the 9th minute through Brian Byrne and the writing was on the wall for Mayo. From there to half time Kildare put the game well and truly out of Mayo’s reach. Cathal Dowling scored Kildare’s 2nd goal in the 31st minute and by half-time they led by 2-17 to 8 points. The Mayo supporters who had travelled to the game hoped for a better performance in the second half. The second half was always going to be about saving pride for Mayo and to their credit they matched Kildare for large parts of the half. Mayo were outscored by Kildare in the 2nd half by 12 points to 11, it could be said that Kildare eased off the pedal in that 2nd half but great credit must be given to the Mayo lads who left everything on the pitch.

There were some wonderful scores by Mayo in the 2nd half most notably by Keith Higgins, Shane Boland and Joe McManus. In the end Kildare won the game by 2-29 to 19 points.

Not many pundits would have given Mayo a chance of qualifying for the Christy Ring Cup Final given our disastrous League campaign, but great credit must be given to Derek Walsh and his backroom team for getting them this far. It was certainly a roller coaster year for the Hurlers but one I’m sure they will gain much experience; they have after all retained their Christy Ring status for 2023 which can only improve our standard of Hurling. On behalf of the Board I wish to thank the players for their efforts during the year and also thank Derek Walsh and his backroom team for the work they put in during the year.



CHRISTY RING CUP FINAL
 Saturday 21 May / 5pm / Croke Park
MAYO V KILDARE

1. Bobby Douglas <i>Tooreen</i>	<i>Subs</i>
2. Gary Nolan <i>Tooreen</i>	16. Barry Lane <i>Castlebar</i>
3. Stephen Coyne <i>Tooreen</i>	17. Brian Hunt <i>Ballyhaunis</i>
4. Paul Kirwan <i>Ballyhaunis</i>	18. Kenny Feeney <i>Tooreen</i>
5. Mark Phillips <i>Ballyhaunis</i>	19. Patrick Lyons <i>Tooreen</i>
6. Ger Mc Manus <i>St. Judes Dublin</i>	20. Conal Hession <i>Tooreen</i>
7. David Kenny <i>Tooreen</i>	21. Darren Murray <i>Ballina</i>
8. Keith Higgins <i>Ballyhaunis</i>	22. Kealan Gallagher <i>Westport</i>
9. Daniel Huane <i>Tooreen</i>	23. Shane Crennigan <i>Tooreen</i>
10. Sean Kenny <i>Tooreen</i>	24. Danny Hill <i>Ballyhaunis</i>
11. Joe Mooney <i>Loughrea Galway</i>	25. Conor Murray <i>Castlebar</i>
12. Adrian Phillips <i>Ballyhaunis</i>	26. Eoghan Roe <i>Claremorris</i>
13. Eoin Delaney <i>Tooreen</i>	
14. Joe Mc Manus <i>St. Judes Dublin</i>	
15. Shane Boland (C) <i>Tooreen</i>	

 
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County Competitions

Connacht Gold Senior Football Championship:

This was the first year of the split season which meant our Club Championships did not begin until the first weekend in September. Knockmore Team were the reigning Senior Champions and fancied by many to retain their title, other names mentioned were Westport, Ballina Stephenites and Castlebar Mitchels. The group games didn't really throw up any surprises and all games were well attended as patrons finally got back to watching Club Championship Football. At the end of the group stages the following teams qualified for the quarter finals, Westport v Garrymore, Ballina v Claremorris, Castlebar v Knockmore and Ballintubber v Breaffy. The standout game of the quarter finals was the paring of Castle Mitchels v Knockmore, with the Mitchels winning the game by 12 points to 11 thereby ending Knockmore's dream of a 3 in a row.

The semi-finals threw up 2 exciting parings with Westport pitted against neighbours Castlebar while Enda Gilvarry's Ballintubber would take on his home Club of Ballina.

The Westport v Castlebar game went down to the wire with Westport winning a thrilling contest on a score line of 1-11 to 1-10. Ballina managed to turn the tables on their former Manager and ran out easy enough winners on a score line of 3-10 to 1-10.

The final was played in Hastings Insurance McHale Park on Sunday the 30th of October between Ballina Stephenites who had captured the Moclair Cup on 36 occasions and Westport who were bidding for their first Senior County title. Westport won the eagerly awaited contest on a score line of 1-9 to 1-6. Westport had to work hard for their victory as they frustrated the Ballina ball players and starved them of possession. A fantastic crowd of 7,187 turned to see a game that never really ignited as it was a tight tactical game from start

to finish. Westport finished the stronger and outscored their opponents by 4 points to 1 in the final 15 minutes to lift the Moclair Cup for the very first time. It was great to see Mayo Legend Lee Keegan win his first Senior County Medal. Westport went on to represent Mayo in the Connacht Club Championship but were beaten by a better Moycullen side from Galway in the Club quarter final.

Davitts were relegated to the Intermediate grade for 2023 after losing a thrilling relegation play-off against The Neale which was decided on penalties as the sides couldn't be separated after extra time.



Egan Jewellers Intermediate Championship:

The Intermediate Championship got underway at the beginning of September and would prove to be as exciting as the Senior grade. Ballyhaunis, Kilmeena, Bohola Moy Davitts, Hollymount Carramore, Parke Keelouges/Crimlin, Crossmolina, Louisburgh and Ballinrobe all progressed from the group stages of the Championship. Ballyhaunis, Hollymount Carramore, Kilmeena and Bohola Moy Davitts qualified for the semi-finals of the competition. The final would pit last year's beaten finalists against the reigning All-Ireland Junior Club Champions.

The Intermediate Final was played on Saturday the 29th of September in Hastings Insurance McHale Park.

The game itself went right to the wire with Kilmeena missing three clear goal chances in the second half and on any other day if any of those chances had gone in there would have been a different result. Kilmeena led by 6 points to 5 at half time with the swirling wind playing havoc. Ballyhaunis came out with the bit between their teeth for the second half and gradually stamped their authority on the game. Ballyhaunis ran out three-point winners on a score line of 13 points to 10. Ballyhaunis went on to represent Mayo in the Connacht Club Intermediate Championship but were beaten by Dunmore McHales of Galway.

Lahardane were relegated to the Junior ranks for 2023 after Ardnaree Sarsfields beat them on a scoreline of 1-11 to 1-10 in the relegation play-off Final.



The TF Royal Hotel and Theatre Junior Championships:

This year's Junior A Championship commenced at the beginning of September with last year's finalists Cill Chomain many people's favourites to claim the trophy. Islandeady, Killala Tuar Mhic Eadaigh and Ardagh were also fancied to feature prominently.

Cill Chomain, Killala, Shrule/Glencorrib and Islandeady all qualified for the semi-finals of the competition having come through their respective quarter finals.

The Junior A Final was contested between Cill Chomain and Islandeady on Sunday the 30th of October in Hastings Insurance McHale Park. Islandeady were the stronger team on the day and a strong third quarter saw them edge closer to victory. Cill Chomain threw the kitchen sink at Islandeady but it wasn't enough. Islandeady ran out easy winners on a scoreline of 2-11 to 1-7.

Islandeady went on to represent Mayo in the Connacht Club Junior Championship but lost out to the Galway Champions, Clifden, on a score line of 1-10 to 11 points.

The Exclusive Junior B Final took place between Achill and Moygownagh on Saturday the 29th of September in Hastings Insurance McHale Park. Achill proved too strong for a brave Moygownagh outfit winning on a score line of 2-12 to 1-6.

The other Junior Championship Competition winners were as follows: New Junior A – Ballina Stephenites B, New Junior B – Bohola Moy Davitts B and New Junior C – Kilmeena B.

The County League Competitions Commenced on the first weekend in June with Divisions 1 to 5 divided into A and B Sections.

The League winners were as follows;

Division 1 – Castlebar Mitchels,

Division 2 – Davitts,

Division 3 – Bonniconlon,

Division 4 – Charlestown B,

Division 5 – Westport C

The Michael Walsh League winners were as follows;

Senior – Beal an Mhuirthead

Intermediate – Parke Keelouges/Crimlin

Junior - Swinford

Comortás Péil na Gaeltachta:

The Comortas Competition was played in mid-March with Beal an Mhuirthead getting a walk over against Kiltane in the Senior and Cill Chomain securing the Junior title with a comfortable victory over Achill

Bord na nOg:

Bord na nÓg competitions took place throughout the year and I wish to acknowledge the effort of the Bord na nOg Executive Committee with a special mention for Daithi Gallagher and Ronan Kirrane. Ronan is finishing his term as Secretary of Bord na nOg and I wish to acknowledge his work over the past 5 years.

The Chairman and Secretary of Bord na nOg, will deal with matters in more detail in their respective reports.

Sub Committees:**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 of each member of the Committee for the extremely difficult work they carried out during the year.

I wish to thank the Hearings Committee under Chairman Brendan Byrne and Secretary Tod O'Mahony who are always available, sometimes at very short notice, to adjudicate on matters.

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 was appointed as a Performance GDA for Mayo GAA. Adrian Hession left his role as the Hurling Coach and at present Mayo GAA have advertised the position and hope to make an appointment shortly. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Adrian for all his work with Hurling within the County over the years and Mayo GAA wish him well in the future.

I wish to thank Declan for all the work he has done in this area over the past twelve months.



GAA Coach Education

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 in a sometimes a forgotten piece of the GAA jigsaw and I believe more needs to be done by Mayo GAA to promote the game.

PRO:

John Walker is our PRO and he has done a great promoting 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. 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. Thanks again to John and his committee for a job well done.

Connacht Council/Central Council:

Paul Cunnane and Johnny Hopkins are our Connacht Council representatives and I thank them for their work through the year. 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 in organising various training seminars for Club Officers. As planning and Development Officer Mary was instrumental in streamlining the GAA email addresses for Club Officers. Mary has also organised workshops on Biodiversity, Green Energy 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 2022.

Infrastructure:

Michael Diskin has looked after the infrastructure portfolio during 2022 and he oversaw the relaying of the playing surface in Hastings Insurance McHale Park. Michael also looked after other works within the ground including the installation of new lights in the Stand, repairs to the Media Tower and 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.

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 first year in the role and she didn't shy away from any of her duties. Celia was always on hand to offer advice to Clubs in relation to Garda Vetting, Child Protection issues and safeguarding courses. I wish to thank Celia for her work throughout what was at times a difficult year.

Hurling:

The Hurling Committee under the stewardship of Jimmy Connor and Sean Reilly continues to do great work in the promotion of Hurling within the County. Our Seniors did us proud again this year. I would like to thank Jimmy and his Committee for all their work during. Jimmy is stepping down as Hurling Chairman this year and on behalf of the Board I wish to thank him most sincerely for the work he has done during his time in the Chair.

Refereeing:

Sean MacEil returned to the Refereeing Co-ordinators Chair for and has done a tremendous amount of work in organising referee's and side-line Officials for games during the year. Sean has been instrumental in recruiting new referees during the year and he continues to search for new referees. Any Clubs that wish to nominate people can they please contact Sean. I wish to thank Sean for all the work he has done during 2022.

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. The Internal picture project for Hastings Insurance McHale Park has been ongoing throughout the year by the Committee and hopefully the more pictures will be in place when Hastings Insurance McHale Park hosts our opening Division 1 Allianz League Clash with Galway at the end of January 2023. Grainne and her Committee are also responsible for Scor and again they do great work within the County promoting Scor. The All-Ireland Scor Finals were held recently in The TF Hotel in Castlebar and were a wonderful success thanks in no small part to Grainne and her “crew”

Bord na nÓg:

Bord na nÓg continue to organise underage fixtures within the County. This year Bord na nÓg administered the highest number of annual fixtures on record with approximately 2,250 fixtures held from March to early October. I know from 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. One of the projects this Committee undertook was the “Hero’s Wall” which enabled Mayo GAA resurface Hastings Insurance McHale Park. The pitch turned out well as did the tiles on the commemorative wall. There were issues initially with some of the tiles, but this has been rectified. 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 also wish to acknowledge the significant financial contribution of Cairde Mhaigh Eo in London, your financial support is very much appreciated.

Health and Well-being:

Fran Downey Chaired our Health and Wellbeing Committee in 2022. 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 was always on hand to offer advice to Clubs. 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. 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 Gatemen for our Championship.

Thanks to Sinead McLoughlin who co-ordinated the rotas for gates in 2022

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 had big shoes to fill as she replaced the late Paddy Muldoon but she has done so with the minimum of fuss. Regina was always on hand to offer advice on Insurance matters to Clubs throughout the County. Thank you, Regina, for a job well done.

Coiste Bainistí:

Our Executive Committee continues to carry out their duties behind the scenes. I want to thank the Committee for their help during the year. I wish to acknowledge the contribution of Ronan Kirrane who is finishing his term as Assistant Secretary, Mike King who is stepping down from his role as Chairperson of the South Mayo Division and Johnny Hopkins who has completed his term as one of our Connacht Council Delegates. I want to thank them for their work over the past number of years. I also wish to acknowledge the work of my other fellow Officers for their work during 2022.

**Congress 2022:**

Congress 2022 was held in the Connacht Centre of Excellence. The venue was warmly welcomed by delegates. There were motions on the Clar that led to some long debates. The Motion in relation to the Championship structure was passed overwhelmingly. The motion in relation to the introduction of an inter-county U-19 competition was defeated. The Motion in relation to allowing Counties to pick their own underage grades was defeated. This is a motion which I'm sure will resurface.

Club Development Draw:

The Cárde Mhaigh Eo Club Development Draw, as always is an important source of income for both the County Board and Clubs alike. This year was the first year that all draws were completed on time. A total of 6,934 tickets were sold in 2022 which was up 315 compared to 2021. A total of 437 were sold on-line compared to 470 in 2021. The net value of the Draw to Clubs in 2022 was €405,270. All prize money was paid out to clubs by 30th of September 2021.

Cúl Camps:

There were over 6500 children in attendance with 52 camps held in 2022. The camps were a major success, but the recruitment of coaches is difficult and looks like that will continue in 2023. We may have to look at capping camps due to the ratios of coaches to children. Overall the camps were great success. A big thank you must go to our full time and part time Coaches, Clubs, Parents and in particular the children for making them a most enjoyable experience for all concerned.

Stewards/Gatemen:

I would like to thank our Chief Steward, Gerry Bourke, and all Stewards for all their help at our games during 2022. It was a difficult year for our Stewards as all of Mayo's "home" Leagues games were played away from Hastings Insurance McHale Park. Our Stewards had to travel to grounds in Sligo, Carrick on Shannon and Roscommon and we were fortunate that many of our Stewards had worked at these grounds previously with the Connacht Council. Training and recruitment of new Stewards will continue during 2023. If any person is interested in becoming a Steward, can they please contact Gerry Bourke. I would also like to thank our gatemen and gate women for the tremendous work they do throughout the year.

Sponsorship:

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

Connacht Gold sponsored the Senior Football Championship, Egan Jewellers 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.

To the Companies and individuals that sponsor signage around the pitch in McHale Park I thank you one and all for your continued support.



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

Portwest continued their sponsorship for 2022 and we within Mayo GAA are grateful for their financial support.

Hastings Insurance have come on board as one of our major sponsors. During the year McHale Park was renamed as Hastings Insurance McHale Park and again Mayo GAA are very appreciative of the financial support from Hastings Insurance.

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

Smyths Toys renewed their support of the academies in 2022 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.

Conclusion:

This is my final report to you as Runaí of Coiste Chontae Mhaigheo. The past 5 years have been very rewarding but also challenging at times. The role of the Runai is an enormous one and should not be underestimated. I have met some wonderful people and made some lifelong friends along the way. I have always tried to help Clubs in any way that I could and if I have offended any individual or Club I do sincerely apologise. There are a number of individuals who have tried their best to undermine the workings of Mayo GAA in the past number of years. These individuals, who don't deserve to be named, are not GAA people and have no place in Mayo GAA and never will.

There were several highlights during my term as Runai most notably winning the National League title in 2019. The trip to New York in 2019 was also memorable where the highlight of the trip was undoubtedly the sizable Mayo crowd in Times Square on the Saturday evening singing the Green and Red of Mayo it was a sight that will live long in the memory of those who were present. We also celebrated Mayo Day in New York on that trip with a visit to the Famine Memorial Garden. Other highs were the All-Ireland finals in 2020 and 2021 which we lost unfortunately.

Convention this year will see a few changes in personnel, with Ronan Kirrane, Johnny Hopkins and myself moving on having completed our respective terms in office. I wish to thank my fellow officers for their assistance over the years. I would like to particularly like to acknowledge the Chairpersons who I have served under, Mike Connolly, Liam Moffatt and Seamus Tuohy and also our former Treasurer Kevin O'Toole.

The loan repayments on Hastings Insurance McHale Park continue to be a huge strain on the finances of the Board. We have actively engaged in dialogue with the Finance Department in Croke Park and have agreed on an extended repayment plan which will ease our financial burden.

To the media, Western People, Connaught Telegraph, Mayo News and Mayo Advertiser 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 Siochana, Murray Ambulance and the Order of Malta who provide a valuable service on match days not only in McHale Park but throughout the County.

I wish to thank Phil Heneghan who continues to have the facilities in Hastings Insurance McHale Park in tip top condition.

To John Prenty and his staff in the Connacht Council I thank you for your help during my term as Runai and for all the advice you offered me during that time it is very much appreciated.

To Tom Ryan, Bernard Smith, Fergal McGill and the staff in Croke Park, thank you for your assistance during the past 5 years, it wasn't always plain sailing, but we have remained friends and I thank you for that.

I wish to thank most sincerely our Administrator, Michael Cummins, for all the work he does behind the scenes. Michael, as always, puts in many long hours in the Office to keep the operation running smoothly. Michael is an invaluable asset to Mayo GAA and I thank him most sincerely for his help, advice and friendship over the past 5 years.

It has been a huge honour and privilege for me to have been your Runai for the past 5 years, I would like to thank my own Club Crossmolina Deel Rovers for nominating and supporting me over the years.

Finally, I wish to thank my wife Sarah for allowing the time to carry out my duties with Mayo GAA. Without Sarah's help, support and understanding I don't believe I would have been able to complete my 5-year term, she has been my rock and I will be eternally grateful to her.

If I have omitted to mention anyone I sincerely apologise.

I want to wish you all a healthy and prosperous 2023 and let's hope it's a good one for Mayo GAA.

Thank you one and all,

Diarmuid de Buitléir

Mile buiochas,

Diarmuid de Buitléir Runai

Competitions Controls Committee report

Introduction

This is my 8th report to Convention and my 3rd as CCC Chair. I have found over the years that writing them is a rewarding exercise as it allows you to reflect over the year gone by and look forward to the coming year and reflect on what went right and wrong and to look at ways to improve and learn.

This year saw our society and our games returning to a semblance of normality. The threat of Covid still lingers but thankfully it is more in the back of our minds now than at the forefront.

Lessons that have been learned from our experiences over the past 2 seasons have changed the way that many of our sporting occasions operate and indeed a lot of this is for the better.

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 2022.

Beal an Mhuirthead CLG recently collected their McNamee Award in recognition of their work during 2020 and congratulations to them and also to all the clubs in Mayo and beyond who also contributed to their communities in their hour of need.

2022 was our first real experience with the split season and in my opinion, it has been a huge success and despite needing a few tweaks here and there, I am of the opinion that we can never go back to the situation where 80-90 % of our club games were left to freeze in the Winter Cold and Ice.

The fact that our Inter County season is now being played first and the Club season took 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. Who would have thought back in 2019 that a double header League Final in Ballina would attract a crowd more than 1,500 people?

The hope is that the club championship will start even earlier in 2023 and the momentum gained in 2022 will continue. 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 2023 and beyond.

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 2022 and this will more than likely continue on an annual basis as we strive to improve our product.

U20s

It is hard to believe that this time last year inter county squads were still not allowed to train collectively due to Covid. 2022 began much like 2021, full of uncertainty.

Various Dates and Training Schedules were put together and had to be taken apart again.

The U20s began their year in early January and played 3 games in the Leo Murphy Cup during February and March. A victory over Roscommon in the COE on Feb 18th was followed by 2 long journeys to Loup to play Derry and to Ballybofey vs Donegal. Both journeys ended in defeat, but they were a good test of the panel and the long journeys certainly meant that the panel got to know each other!

For the second year in a row the team overcame Galway in a war of attrition in the COE on April 6th – a late goal giving Galway some consolation. A week later Mayo were comfortably on top midway through the second half against Leitrim in Pairc Sean MacDiarmada before a late flurry from the home side saw the team just about limp into a Connacht Final vs Sligo.

The Connacht Final was in Sligo on April 20th and unlike 2021 there was no ticket frenzy as attendances had returned to normality and the game was live on TG4.

Everyone reading this knows what happened in Sligo that evening and it is still hard to believe that Mayo lost that game. However, lose it we did and as Florence and the Machines “Dog Days are Over” blasted out of the Sligo Dressing Room our lads got on the bus in disbelief.

Much was said about the performance after the event which wasn’t a fair reflection of the efforts of the team or Management. Just weeks earlier NUIG had won the Sigerson Cup and the manager was correctly lauded for this achievement – now he and his management team were being criticised by all and sundry.

It is my opinion that we were very unlucky in the Connacht Final and had we held on to win it we would have given the All-Ireland Series a real run. The panel of players were fantastic and perhaps the fruits of the labours of the management teams were only later reaped by the clubs that these players belonged to. Practically every player on that panel played Senior Football with their clubs in 2022 and in the case of at least a dozen of them, brought their teams to new levels.

17 of the panel are age again in 2023 and again hopes are high. A concrete schedule is in place at present which also will assist Maurice and his team.

On a personal level it was a pleasure to work with Maurice and his backroom team and I wish them well in 2023.

The 2023 campaign begins with a Semi Final versus Sligo or Roscommon and if we overcome that hurdle, we will face Galway or Leitrim in the Connacht Final. I believe any one of the 5 counties could win this title in 2023. No effort will be spared in assisting Maurice and his team to win this title and hopefully go on to higher things. From a player development side, we should see some of the previous U20s make the step up to Senior in 2023 and we wish them well.

Mayo will be in a Development League at this grade again in 2023. I feel that we would be better served by eliminating these competitions and playing U20 Round Robin in each province with All Ireland Semi Finals and Finals. It would take up the same amount of time in the calendar and would make the competition less cutthroat and more competitive than it is now.

Covid 19

The threat of Covid 19 does not hang over us as it once did. However if the pandemic has taught us anything it has been to put better procedures and regulations in place to look after our players, patrons and facilities. These have been continued post Covid and will be a crucial part of our regulations for the foreseeable future

Calendar

This was the first year under my watch in which we could meet the clubs and get advice and suggestions on how to run our competitions in 2022. This was a fruitful exercise as all but 4 clubs attended the meetings held in mid-January. As a result, the Club Calendar was issued in early February and ran smoothly throughout the year with only one or two blips which were mainly down to issues outside the control of the CCC. 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 Leagues in 2023 and that process will commence early in the new year. Our New League Structure was passed, and our League and Championship Regulations were ratified at Co Board level at the end of February. The season was set to 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 on March 6th with the Junior Comortas Competition Preliminary Rounds and the Finals the following week hosted by CLG Acla. Cill Chomain were victorious and went on to represent Mayo in the National Competition on the June Bank Holiday weekend. Beal and Mhuirthead represented Mayo in the Senior Competition. Club competitions started in earnest on the last weekend in March when the Divisional Competitions commenced.

The Junior Championship Draw and M Walsh Draw took place on 22.03.22. The M Walsh Competition was run on a knockout format in 2022 and proved very popular in terms of games played and attendances.

By the end of April the M Walsh Senior/Intermediate/Junior Competitions were at Semi Final Stages

New Junior A/B/C Championship started on May Bank Holiday weekend

All Competitions were ongoing and on schedule

The League Fixtures were issued by end April, and we will endeavour to do the same in 2023, if not earlier.

Championship Draw took place on Thursday May 5th and fixtures issued to clubs

By end of May all Divisional Finals were completed at Senior level in all divisions. The M Walsh Cups were also completed by the end of May.

Michael Walsh Cups

Michael Walsh Senior Final

Belmullet 1-10 Claremorris 0-12 in Knockmore on Sunday 22nd May Ref Shane Corcoran

12 out of 13 games played

Michael Walsh Intermediate Final

Parke Keellogues Crimlin 3-12 Ballinrobe 0-8 in Ballintubber on Sat 21st May Ref V Tomas

14 out of 14 games played

Michael Walsh Junior Final

Swinford 2-10 Islandeady 0-8 in Ballinrobe in Foxford on Sunday May 29th Ref M Tuffy

11 of 11 games played.

This competition worked well this year, mainly because 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.

U19 League

Competition completed. The Competition began on July 19th and was completed by the end of August. Despite the late withdrawal of 2 teams the competition was a success for the clubs who participated as their U19 players had some measure of meaningful summer football. Clubs pressed for this competition strongly at the beginning of the year. This competition will be reviewed in 2023 pending the Age Grade review. There exists a possibility to play an U18 competition in July/August with the U17 Championship being played in parallel to our Adult Championships

U19 Division 1

Tuesday Aug 16th in Hastings MacHale Park Castlebar 1-16 Claremorris 1-15 Ref S Corcoran

12 of 12 games played

U19 Division 2

Wednesday Aug 24th in Hastings MacHale Park Balla3-13 Carras 0-12 Ref F Flynn

12 of 15 games played

U19 Division 3

Wednesday Aug 24th in Hastings MacHale Park Ballinrobe 0-13 Ballintubber 0-12 Ref S Tolan

11 of 12 games played

U19 Division 4

Tuesday Aug 16th in Hastings MacHale Park Achill 1-12 Hollymount Carramore 1-10 Ref D O'Boyle

10 of 12 games played

New Junior Championships

This competition commenced over the May Bank Holiday weekend and was completed on schedule in Mid-July in B and C – The A Final was played in Mid-August by mutual agreement.

New Junior A Championship

Sunday August 7th Ballina B 1-11 Knockmore B 0-12 in Crossmolina Ref N Cooney

15 of 16 games played in this competition

New Junior B Championship

Saturday July 9th Bohola Moy Davitts B 4-13 Ballyhaunis B 3-6 in Ballaghaderreen Ref J Brennan (24 of 28 games played in this competition)

New Junior C Championship

Saturday July 9th Kilmaine B 1-12 Kilmeena B 2-8 in Ballintubber Ref D O'Boyle

24 of 25 games played in this competition.

Adult Leagues

The Adult Leagues were completed on schedule and the results are attached below. The issue of some B teams' capability to fulfil fixtures is a serious issue and was to be addressed in 2022. However several teams yet again entered competitions that they were unable to participate in.

It was also disappointing to see teams who had extremely large squads choose not to participate in the Leagues also. The CCC will not be establishing a division 5 League in 2023 until we get firm entries. We may also have to charge a refundable entry fee to clubs to ensure that fixtures are completed.

Division 1

Castlebar 1-14 Knockmore 1-13 AET in Ballina 21/08 Ref K Connelly
Relegated Ballaghaderreen and Louisburgh

63 of 65 games played

Division 2 - Both finalists promoted

Davitts 2-15 Parke Keellogues Crimlin 0-13 in Charlestown 21/08 Ref J Finn
Relegated Ardnaree and Lahardane MacHales

65 of 65 games played

Division 3 –both finalists promoted

Bonniconlon 2-14 Killala 2-5 in Ballina 21/08 Ref K Corcoran
Relegated Kilmovee and Claremorris B

58 of 65 games played- 1 team conceded their 7 games

Division 4 –both finalists promoted

Charlestown B 0-14 Breaffy B 0-12 in Claremorris 21/08 Ref G McMahon
Relegated Kiltimagh B and Garrymore B

29 of 50 games played – 2 teams accounted for 13 of these fixtures not being played

Division 5- both finalists promoted

Westport C 3-10 Kilmeena B 0-11 in Westport 19/08 Ref K Barnicle

32 of 54 games played – 1 team accounted for 5 of these fixtures, 10 other teams out of 19 teams conceded at least 1 fixture and this is where the main issue lies. A recommendation of the Review held in November was to establish Divisional leagues with Semi Finals and Finals with the 2 finalists being promoted. These leagues would in no way affect the Divisional championships.

Adult Championships

Our Adult Championships again took centre stage in the latter part of the year. Once players were knocked out of the Championship it meant the end of their season.

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 on August 22nd 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 in 2023. The format followed the same as previous years with Rounds 1 and 2, then a break followed by Round 3 and Qtr. Final with a week's break between Semi Final and Final. It is hoped to spread out the competition even more in 2023 and to play the Hurling Championship in the gap weeks. This would 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 review meeting it was recommended to abolish Winner on the Day where possible i.e., Relegation Finals, Exclusive Junior B Final and, if possible, Intermediate and Junior Finals.

Again in 2022 it was decided to play the Exclusive Junior B Championship as a knockout competition, which was well received. However, the motion that was passed in 2019 is back on today's Clár and I would fully endorse it for 2023 and beyond.

The decision to keep teams separated from the group stages until the final of competitions proved to be a wise one as once again 2 teams from the one group made the semi-final stages of all 3 Championships.

Due to the new calendar, it was also decided that due to calendar restraints there would be no U21 Championship in 2022.

Neutral Venues were a constant source of frustration for the CCC in 2021 and while it was a lesser issue in 2022 it still led to 1 IFC Semi Final being delayed by 1 day due to a waterlogged pitch. We had 5 venues unable to host that weekend in the immediate geographical area and, we had to allocate our "reserve" pitch earlier that week to host a Junior Semi Final. Clubs wish to have neutral venues equidistant from each other, but this is proving impractical at times. In 2023 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.

Our Hurling Final took place in Tooreen on October 9th where Tooreen once again emerged victorious over Ballyhaunis. Despite the constraints of the calendar in 2022 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 Junior A and B Finals were played in Hastings MacHale Park the day before and it proved a great experience for all 4 clubs involved with Westport and Claremorris just edging the day in their respective games.

On the weekend of October 29th and 30th (3 weeks earlier than in 2022) we had a fantastic weekend of football in Hastings MacHale Park beginning with Achill winning the Exclusive Junior B Final with a victory over a gallant Moygownagh team on Saturday. A few short hours later Ballyhaunis avenged their 2021 defeat by beating the reigning All Ireland Junior Champions Kilmeena in an epic game that went right down to the wire.

On Sunday we had a comprehensive Exclusive Junior A Championship win for Islandeady over a Cill Chomáin team who never seemed to get out of the traps. This was followed by another historic day when Westport finally lifted the Moclair Cup for the first time in their history.

The lack of Lights in the stand did hamper us on County Final weekend as we had to set fixtures at certain times of the day to ensure daylight in the event of a draw and/or penalties.

It will be great to have Hastings MacHale Park open for night fixtures next year. 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 26th regarding game regulations – thanks to all who attended, and our Finals were notable for their lack of controversial incidents.

101 of 102 games played in Mayo GAA Championships in 2022

Connacht Gold SFC Final Sunday Oct 30th - Hastings MacHale Park

Westport St Patricks 1-9 Ballina Stephenites 1-6 Referee P Lydon (Kiltimagh)

34 of 34 games played

Egan Jewellers IFC Final Saturday Oct 29th – Hastings MacHale Park

Ballyhaunis 0-13 Kilmeena 0-10 Referee K Connelly (Hollymount – Carramore)

34 of 34 games played

Royal Hotel and Theatre JFC A Final- Hastings MacHale Park

Islandeady 2-11 Cill Chomain 1-7 Referee J Finn (Aghamore)

27 of 28 games played

Royal Hotel and Theatre JFC B Final -Hastings MacHale Park

Achill 2-12 Moygownagh 1-6 Referee M Tuffy (Shrule Glencorrib)

6 of 6 games played

It was a great achievement to get our Championships completed on schedule and again I must 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 for his help with Hearings, 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 came to a fantastic conclusion and while it lasted it was a superb advertisement for the health of Mayo club football.

While our clubs were not very successful in the provincial series, we must remind ourselves of the supreme effort involved by Westport in winning their first ever Moclair Cup, the absolute intense nature of our Intermediate Championship and also the fact that all of the 3 clubs who beat Mayo opposition will be in the running for National Honours. Hopefully in 2023 if we spread out the Championships it will give Mayo teams breathing space to attack the provincial series.

Streaming

We set the season pass price for €60 in 2022 and while many people thought this was too cheap, we as a committee felt that it was more important last year to get the product right and break even rather than concentrating on revenue. This year we increased the price as we were aware that the product was worthwhile, and it could be a welcome revenue stream for the county.

Many thanks go to our PRO and his committee, Streamsport, our teams of commentators and co-commentators and also our loyal fanbase 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 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.

**MAYO GAA**

Discipline

Thankfully this season incidents were isolated in relation to discipline and collectively we are working well in protecting our games. Some disappointment must be expressed 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 23 occasions involving less than 20 games. There were no hearings involving juveniles. There were 1 or 2 incidents that the Hearings committee cover in their report, and I hope that the reasoning behind the decisions inform our clubs going forward.

We as a CCC will be putting in heightened measures in our regulations in 2023 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 Tod O'Mahony 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 was static during Covid, but it returned to the top of the agenda in 2022.

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 2023. 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 several 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. The new surface has taken some early punishment but no doubt it will be rectified, and I feel that it must be protected and used for games only in 2023. Thanks also to Gerry Bourke for all his organising of stewards for all our games in MacHale Park.

I would also like to thank James Murray and his staff, who were present at all 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 for their co-operation and professionalism at all times during 2022. 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. The National Broadcaster has now deigned to bow down to the fact the club game is worthy of coverage also. Even Pat Spillane attended a club game this summer!!

The new Rights arrangement leaves many options for the GAA but 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 2023 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 areas 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.

In relation to the U17 Championships while the final game of the season was a disappointment, the players and management gave a fantastic account of themselves right through the year and I have no doubt that many of them will star for their clubs and at higher inter county levels in the next few years. Thankfully the U17 competition was to a round robin competition in 2022 and these players will gain much more experience than their predecessors.

A lot of credit must 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. Many thanks also to Daithí Gallagher, Ronan Kirrane and the 4 Divisional Secretaries for their work in running off Bord Na Nóg Competitions this year

LGFA and Camogie

I am delighted that Mary McAleese has being appointed to oversee the tentative first steps in integrating all our organisations. The CCC will continue to work with LGFA and Camogie in the county regarding calendars etc and how to maximise the coverage of all our games and also to facilitate supporters who wish to attend fixtures in both codes.

Mayo Senior Teams

Dermot has covered the progress of our Senior Teams in his report. I want to take this opportunity on a personal level to thank both James Horan and Derek Walsh for their co-operation with myself and the CCC throughout the past number of years. With the advent of the split season communication with both men was less than in other years as both club and county needs were met.

Kevin Mc Stay and Tom Phillips are the new men at the helm, and I wish them and their backroom teams the very best of luck in 2023.

2023 Outlook

What we have learned from the past 2 years, is that a split season is not only possible, but is the way forward for the association. At the time of writing, I have a draft Calendar for 2023 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 manager.

I was delighted that our League Structure was revamped in 2022 and I hope that it is kept in place for the final year of its 2 Year Arrangement.

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 first year in the post. I thoroughly enjoyed working with him over the past year and am looking to the remainder of my term working with Seamus and the other members of the Executive.

A special thanks to Dermot Butler, our outgoing County Secretary for your support, honesty, and your availability whenever I called on you. Not too many people have had to endure what Dermot has had to during his tenure and to still perform as well as he did in the role is a testament to the man. The best of luck to you and your family in whatever journey life takes you on next.

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, Dermot Butler Our County Secretary ,John Walker , PRO, Ronan Kirrane Assistant Secretary, Sean MacÉil, Referees Co-ordinator, Daithí Gallagher Chairperson Bord Na Nóg, Seán Ó Raghallaigh, Hurling Board Secretary, John Hopkins, Connacht Council and Fixtures Analyst, Stephen Mooney, East Secretary, Brian O'Malley, South Secretary, Mick Herr, North Secretary and Chris McGowan, West Secretary. The two Seans and Brian were in 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 2023 and thank them for their immense work and achievements over the past year.

I would like to wish the best of luck to all the candidates who have put themselves on the ballot this year for various positions. It is always a brave move to put your head above the parapet and we are lucky in this county with the calibre of all the candidates.

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 2023 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 2023 season.

To everyone in the county who have lost loved ones in 2022 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 our clubs Continued success and best wishes for 2023.

Con Moynihan
Chairperson,
CCC



Competition Winners 2022

<u>Competition Name</u>	<u>Winner</u>	<u>Runner Up</u>
Connacht Gold SFC	Westport St Patricks	Ballina Stephenites
Egan Jewellers IFC	Ballyhaunis	Kilmeena
TF Royal Theatre JFC A	Islandeedy	Cill Chomáin
TF Royal Theatre JFCB 2021	Achill	Moygownagh
Division 1	Castlebar	Knockmore
Division 2	Davitts	Parke Keellogues Crimlin
Division 3	Bonniconlon	Killala
Division 4	Charlestown B	Breaffy B
Division 5	Westport C	Kilmeena B
M Walsh Senior League	Belmullet	Claremorris
M Walsh Intermediate	Parke Keellogues Crimlin	Ballinrobe
M Walsh Junior	Swinford	Islandeedy
New JFC A Championship	Ballina Stephenites B	Knockmore B
New JFC B Championship	Bohola Moy Davitts B	Ballyhaunis B
New JFC C Championship	Kilmaine B	Kilmeena B
U19 Division 1	Castlebar	Claremorris
U19 Division 2	Balla	Carras
U19 Division 3	Ballinrobe	Ballintubber
U19 Division 4	Achill	Hollymount Carramore

CCC Committee Members:

Con Moynihan	CCC Chairperson /Vice Chairperson
Dermot Butler	Secretary
John Walker	PRO
Ronan Kirrane	Assistant Secretary/Bord Na Nóg Secretary
Seán Ó Raghallaigh	Secretary Hurling Board
Seán McÉil	Referees Co-ordinator
John Hopkins	Fixture Analyst/Connacht Council
Daithí Gallagher	Chairperson Bord Na Nóg
Chris McGowan	West Board Secretary
Stephen Mooney	East Board Secretary
Michael Herr	North Board Secretary
Brian O'Malley	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).



Public Relations Report 2022 – John Walker

First and fore-most I would like to thank all the Mayo clubs for their unwavering support over the last twelve months. Your input advice and constant support made my job as PRO so much easier. Clubs were always available to provide team sheets score updates and importantly club information and news that kept Mayo GAA public and indeed the press up-to-date on all the activities happening within Mayo GAA.

Also, to the four divisional PRO's for the work they have done in their divisions throughout the year. This engagement and teamwork is one of the main reasons Mayo GAA is today one of the most successful and supported counties in the country. We have witnessed phenomenal growth again this year across all our social media platforms and it is the GAA clubs in every corner of the county that have driven that remarkable interest and extraordinary engagement levels.

Headline figures:

1. The Mayo GAA Facebook following has grown again in the past twelve months up to staggering 72,700
2. The Mayo Twitter following has increased from 77K to 84.500K
3. The Mayo GAA Instagram following has increased from 39,000 to 44,000.
4. www.mayogaatv.com broadcast a record 17 games LIVE this year and our technology stood up to the many demands in order to provide an exceptional service.
5. Every Mayo GAA County Final in both football and hurling from U12 to Senior featured on our media platforms with score updates, pictures, video reports, presentations and celebrations all featured.
6. Most of the videos shared on our social media channels were viewed from 6k to 20k views.

Mayo Senior Football & Hurling Teams:

James Horan stood down as the Mayo GAA Senior Football manager this year and I would like to thank James and his entire backroom team for their courtesy and support. Again, James and the players were always supportive and made themselves available to me when requested and I thank them sincerely for that.

Mayo GAA appointed Kevin McStay as the new incoming senior manager, and I would like to wish Kevin and his backroom team the very best of luck for 2023 and I look forward to working with them

Again, it was an extremely busy year for the Mayo Senior Hurlers. I would like to congratulate Derek Walsh and his team on reaching the All-Ireland Christy Ring Final in Croke Park, unfortunately they were defeated by Kildare. Derek was excellent to work with and his willingness to talk to the media is one of the reasons why the profile of the game continues to grow in the county. Derek stepped down as the Mayo Senior Hurling manager and I want to thank him for all he has done for Hurling in Mayo.

David McConn and Tom Philips joint managers were appointed as Mayo Senior Hurling managers, and we wish them both and their backroom team the very best of luck in 2023.

Mayo U20 Football & Hurling Teams:

Our Mayo U20 footballers had a very busy year. They defeated Galway in the Connacht Quarter Final and went on to play Leitrim in the Semi-Final but were narrowly defeated by Sligo in the Connacht U20 Final. Sam Callinan was named on the Eirgrid U20 Team of the Year 2022. I would like to thank Maurice Sheridan and his backroom team for their continued support. Maurice has added Kenneth Mortimer to his backroom team for 2023.

Our U20 Hurlers had a good year but lost out to Roscommon in the All-Ireland U20 B Semi-Final.

U17 Football & Hurling Teams:

Our Mayo U17 footballers had an exceptional year where they defeated Galway in the Connacht U17 Final and narrowly lost out to Galway in the All-Ireland U17 final. Ronan Clarke Moy Davitts GAA, Diarmuid Duffy Ballinrobe GAA, Rio Mortimer and Paul Gilmore Claremorris GAA received the Electric Ireland All-Stars Awards. I would like to thank the U17 manager Sean Deane and his backroom team for their support throughout the year. Sean has added Colm Boyle and Matthew Flanagan to his backroom team for 2023.

Our U17 Hurlers also had a great year and reached the final of the Celtic Challenge All-Ireland Final but were defeated by Sligo. I wish them continued success for 2023. I would like to thank Brian Finn for his help and support throughout the year.

Our Mayo U15 Hurlers won the All-Ireland U15 Hibernia Cup in Donegal against Donegal.

PRO Workshop:

We held four divisional PRO training courses in each of the divisions and one overall course in Hastings Insurance MacHale Park. I'd like to thank the tutors and our Training and Planning Officer Mary Prenty for organising the event and thanks to all the club PRO's for attending.

Charity Partner:

I would like to thank Mayo GAA Charity Partner Mindspace Mayo and project manager Peadar Gardiner for all the work they carry out with all the clubs in Mayo.

Mayo GAA TV:

I would like to thank StreamSports for their expertise, proficiency, and attention to detail over the past two months. In total 17 games were broadcast live on www.mayogaatv.com and all the games went to air without any technical difficulties. I would like to thank the clubs that hosted live games over the championship season providing excellent facilities for the StreamSports team ensuring access, power, equipment, and all broadcast requirements were in place and met. Mayo GAA has a huge growth in viewership this championship season. We hosted the Senior, Intermediate, Junior A and Junior B County finals this season. For the senior final Ballina Stephenites and Westport game reached 1625 viewers. There was big interest for the championship season from countries abroad with figures from the UK 377, Unites States 192, Australia 70, Canada 51, Spain 46, Unites Arab Emirates 42, Netherlands 21, Portugal 22, France 12, and Japan 1. I would like to thank all our commentators and analysts who greatly added to the overall production values.

National TV Partners:

Mayo GAA continues to develop strategic relationships with our national broadcasters, and I was delighted this year to secure national coverage for our games on both RTE and TG4. All our U17 games were broadcast by TG4. RTE covered our Mayo senior games. TG4 covered the Connacht Gold Senior Football Championship Quarter Final between Castlebar Mitchel's and Knockmore, also the senior Quarter Final game between Breaffy and Ballintubber live from Hastings Insurance MacHale Park. Getting National coverage for our games showcases the outstanding work that is taking place in our clubs, and I would like thank them for their continued support and interest in our games. Go raibh mile maith agaibh.

National and Local Media:

I would like to thank the local and national media for their support over the past year and we developed a very good working relationship. At times it was challenging to provide all the information that was required but I always did my best to accommodate everyone when requests were presented. I would like to thank the local and national media for their understanding and cooperation throughout the year. I hope we can build on this relationship going forward and as PRO I will always endeavour to respond to your requests.

Thank You

I would like to thank outgoing Secretary Dermot Butler and outgoing Born a nOg Secretary Ronan Kirrane for their help and support over the last two years since I was appointed Mayo GAA PRO. Thanks to Michael Cummins Administrator and Phil Heneghan Groundsman for their help throughout the year.

Finally, I want to thank my PR Committee and all the photographers that helped me out throughout the year, who provided so much assistance and support over the last twelve months. Their expertise, advice and knowledge greatly added to the media experience of our loyal supporters, media partners and all the GAA community.

Ni neart go cur le cheile – Partnership is the key to success

Sean Mac an tSiul

Mayo GAA Public Relations Officer



Tuairisc Bhord na nÓg 2022



Welcome | Fáiltiú

A dhuine uaisle agus a chairde gael,

Ba mhaith liom fáilte a chur roimh gach éinne go dtí an chruinniú athbhreathnaithe seo, i bPáirc Mhic Éil, Caisleán an Bharraigh. Chomh maith leis sin, ba mhaith liom buíochas a ghabháil libh, ní hamháin as an iarracht a rinne sibh chun freastal ar an gcruinniú seo, ach ba mhaith liom buíochas a ghabháil libh as an sár-iarracht atá déanta ag gclubanna Mhaigh Eo le linn na bliana chun cluiche a chur ar siúil do dhaoine óige thar fud an chondae.

The administration of our underage county games is a mammoth task, and one which can only be tackled with the collective effort of volunteers across the county. Our games could not go ahead without the support of our extremely experienced Bord na nÓg Executive Committee, our divisional secretaries, chairpersons and officers, our referees, sponsors, gatemmen, stewards, and every club volunteer who takes the time out of their daily schedule to assist in the provision of underage football for our young county athletes.

Bord na nÓg would like to commend our Executive and the four Divisional Secretaries for their support and assistance during the year. We would sincerely like to thank Chris McGowan (West), Brian O Malley (South) Stephen Mooney (East) and Michael Herr (North) as well as the four representatives from each division (listed under Bord Executive), for their work throughout the year. The board would also like to acknowledge the four divisional Chairpersons for their support and assistance during the year, Michael McKenzie (North), Shane Quinn (West), Michael Daly (West), and Mike King (South). Mike is stepping away this year, but we thank him for his support, dedication, and willingness to support clubs during his tenure.

At this Bord na nÓg Workshop for 2022 we reflect on a year in which was packed with football. We consider some of the challenges the year presented and look forward to making improvements into 2023.

Gradings | Rangú

Again, this year we had very clear and evidence-based data on gradings. This was done to ensure transparency and eliminate one sided games as much as possible. I am fully aware this is not always possible as teams develop at different levels and rates and are subject to internal matters within club structures. Overall, clubs continued to embrace the aspect of gradings and this was very pleasing in ensuring fairness across all competitions. While most clubs worked with system there were a number of clubs who added late submissions or none at all but looked to change groups. The numbers of clubs making submissions to change grades this year was down from 2021 and this is more than likely due to the evidence based structure we now have in place.

As we prepare for games in 2023, we would request that clubs figure out what players are available to them for next season as soon as possible. For us to do our job in a timely fashion we need to know if clubs are amalgamating at different levels or if they are not in a position to compete in a certain competition. The onus is on the officers of clubs to ascertain whether they are able to field teams and we must ensure that players are getting as much meaningful football as possible. I would implore club officers to take steps to address this as a matter of urgency prior to the commencement of work on grades by the officers of Bord na nÓg in 2023.

Competitions | Comortaisí

This year Bord na nÓg administered the highest number of annual fixtures on record with approximately 2,250 fixtures held from March to early October. This was a weekly average of 75 games per week and we also saw an average completion rate of 96%.

The total number of fixtures for the year is a 55% increase on the number of fixtures administered in 2021, and a 36% increase on the last comparable 'normal' year of football in 2019. The primary reason for this increase was due to the participation of a record number of second and third teams across all competitions. We saw the number of Go Games increase two-fold, and we also introduced shield and plate competitions to championship football.

In 2022 "even age" group competitions started in late February. The reason for this was twofold:

- 1) It was agreed with the divisions to hold an Even Aged Competition through the divisions at U18/U16 and U14 level and
- 2) Bord na nÓg were steadfast in the belief that no U18 player should not have to make the choice between playing U18 or adult football. Further to this we had to ensure that that same player was not playing 2/3 games per weekend on top of his other commitments.

The even age grade competitions were then followed by the League and Championship competitions at the uneven age grades, which ran from May into late September/ early October.

We would like to congratulate all championship and league competition winners.

Across the board our finals were fantastic. We as spectators and fans were treated to a masterclass by our underage athletes. These athletes displayed great talent, skill and passion and are a great credit to their clubs. In thanking all our administrators across the county, we cannot forget to thank the players themselves, from U18 down as far as U6/7, it is a pleasure for us to see our players progress through the years, and we thank them most sincerely for their commitment and their dedication. A Full list of results for championship, league and shield competitions are included at the end of this report.

Second Team Competitions | Comortaisí Foirne Breise

We had significant interest from teams in our B Competitions this year which allowed for B Competitions across several age grades. There are now more B Teams playing competitive football than ever before. While this is brilliant it is providing many logistical issues with pitches, referees, and management teams. This year some of the urban clubs sought to play higher up the grades. This proved very successful as players were playing at a higher standard which will hopefully improve the quality of our competitions.

Féile 2022

We had a very successful weekend of Féile both regionally and in Began over the May Bank Holiday Weekend. The competition was played in line with the weekends requested from Croke Park. The success of the Féile Competition was largely due to the correct level of gradings, the regional group stages and the knockout stages held in the COE. The competitions across the three grades showed a high level of talent and skill with the three winners being pushed to the pin of their collar throughout the competitions. Indeed, both Westport and St. Jarlaths went on to take this further at provincial and national level, and we congratulate them on their great achievements.

Nóta Buíochais:

Facilities | Aiseanna:

It would be remiss of the board to submit our report without thanking the clubs for their support during the year. Clubs were fantastic in sharing their club grounds for neutral venues and finals often at short notice. There were some clubs who went above and beyond in this regard and re-jigged club training or games to facilitate our games. It is testament to the clubs and the individuals within these units who helped the Bord na Nóg Executive and myself in this regard. Clubs printed off programmes, enlisted stewards, exceeded standards and welcomed supporters back into our grounds. We were very pleased with the way clubs have adapted to the programmes online system. It is more transparent and user friendly for all covered. The usage of the shared drive for team lists remains a positive initiative within the county and one that clubs have very much bought into. From a time management aspect, it has greatly helped the club secretary as well as officers from BNN. It has also allowed more transparency in this area.

U17 Management | Bainistíocht Fé 17

I would sincerely like to acknowledge to level of application of Sean Deane, his backroom staff, and the players this year. It was an exciting journey where Mayo successfully claimed the Connacht Title in splendid fashion.

GPO's and Academies:

I would like to thank the Games Development Officers (GPO's) for the work in which they carry out in the county. We are lucky to have such highly skilled and enthusiastic officers working on the ground in our schools and clubs.

I would also like to acknowledge work and drive of Kieran Kilkenny as GDA of the county. He has brought huge knowledge and expertise to the position and each county team is benefiting from his skills.

Divisional Chairpersons:

I would sincerely like to thank our four Divisional Chairpersons, Shane Quinn (East), Mike King, (South), Mike Daly, (East) and Michael McKenzie, (North), for their huge level of knowledge and support during the year. The four have huge knowledge of the clubs in their divisional and have been a constant support to me during my tenure as Secretary of the Bord na nÓg.



Executive Bord Members:

The duties of the Bord na nÓg committee were demanding yet again this year, and I would like to acknowledge the continued support and commitment of our committee. See below members of the Bord na Nóg Executive:

	North	South	East	West	Hurling
Cathaoirleach-Daithí Gallagher-Castlebar Mitchels.	Padraig Doherty-Ardagh	Liam Nyland-Davitts	D. Treanor-Bohola Moy Davitts.	Martin Costello-Ballintubber.	D. O Raighaile
Rúnaí-Ronan Kirrane-Davitts.	Sean Tolan-Bonniconlon	Brian Harte-Claremorris	John Clancy-Eastern Gaels	Willie McDonagh-Westport.	
	Dermot Kenny-Ballina	Donal Walsh-Kilmaine	Cathal Duffy-Aghamore	Kevin Kelly-Islandeadey	
	Nigel Reape-Knockmore	Richard O Halloran-Neale.	Gareth O Donnell-Charlestown.	Martin Golden-Breaffy.	

Phil Heneghan & Michael Cummins:

The board would like to thank Phil & Michael for their continued work at Elvery's MacHale Park. The level of support they offers team managers and clubs is second to none.

The board would particularly like to thank Michael for the level of work which he carries out daily. He is a fantastic support to the Mayo GAA brand, clubs, and individuals up and down the county. The respectful way he supports officers of Mayo GAA both at county and club level is exceptional and held in high regard.

Referees | Réiteorí

The board would like to thank Sean MacHale (Referee Co-ordinator) for his co-operation throughout the year. He has a great knowledge of the work required by referees and the input they have in our games. We would like to sincerely thank our referees for their hard work in 2022. In 2022 we had several referees who hung up the whistle and I thank them greatly for the service they gave to the game. I would also like to share a word for several referees who have had health concerns this year. Mayo Bord na nÓg wish you all a speedy recovery.

Sponsorship | Urraíocht

I would sincerely like to thank Homeland for their continued support especially during these difficult times. The support shown to Mayo GAA by Homeland has been brilliant and I hope this continues.

PR Committee:

I would like to acknowledge and thank John Walker and his PR Committee for their promotion of our finals. The interaction online has shown winning moments and valuable memories across various social media platforms. The levels of engagement show a huge market for development in this area.

Bord na nÓg Secretary

The Bord na nÓg committee would like to sincerely thank the outgoing secretary, Ronan Korrane. Ronan has served Bord na nÓg over the past 5 years with exceptional commitment and professionalism. We have been very fortunate to have someone with such an in-depth knowledge of our games and an unrivalled understanding of underage structures. In his tenure as County Board Assistant Secretary, Ronan has never shied away from a challenge and has also been consistently available to clubs in resolving any issues and providing support where needed. The committee wish him the best of luck in the future and thank him for his loyal service to Mayo GAA and Bord na nÓg.

Challenges for 2023 | Dúshláin 2023

It is very clear from the evidence we have gathered that clubs wish to return to the even age competitions. As a board, we are fully behind this and in total support of clubs. We have had meetings with Croke Park and have been very firm in informing Croke Park of the wishes of the clubs in Mayo.

We see huge changes in population throughout the county. The shift in population to the urban centres is crippling smaller clubs as the population is simply not there to allow teams to compete. If the changes of decoupling are introduced, we will lose droves of players. Bord na nÓg have come up with an alternative proposal, one where the U18 player will not be forced to choose between his U18 team and adult team but will be free to play with his peers from March to August. He will then be permitted (if ready) to play with his adult team in Championship.

Mayo GAA Executive and CCC | Coiste Bainistíocht

I would like to compliment and thank all the officers and returning officers of Mayo GAA Executive & CCC for their support during the year. Running an organisation such as Mayo GAA is a difficult onerous task, more often without thanks or acknowledgement.

I would also like to thank our outgoing Rúnaí, Dermot Butler, for his support and assistance during the year, Cisteoir, Valerie Murphy for her hard work & reforms and Chairperson of the CCC Con Moynihan for the support they have shown to me and the Bord in 2022.

In some clubs there will be a change in officers for 2022-I would like to thank those who have moved on and welcome those who will be working with the Bord na Nóg in 2023.

Mayo GAA has lost some great individuals in 2022-people we will not see the likes of again, our thoughts and prayers are with their families.

Finally, I would like to wish all members of Mayo GAA a Healthy and Safe Christmas. We look forward to working with you again in 2023.

Ní neart go cur le chéile.

Ronán Ó Ciaráin | Ronan Kirrane,
Rúnaí - Bord Na Nóg Mhaigh Eo

Daithí Ó Gallchobhair | Daithí Gallagher

Cathaoirleach - Bord na nÓg Mhaigh Eo



2022 Results

Competition Winners - Even Age Grades 2022

Divisional Competitions:

North

Grade	Winner	Runner up	Referee	Venue
U18A	Ballina	Knockmore	V. Neary	
U18B	Ardmoy	Bonniconlon	V Tomas	Knockmore
U18C	Belmullet	Ardnaree	D O Boyle	Lacken
U16A	Crossmolina	Ballina	J. Walker	Knockmore
U16B	Erris St Pats			
U16C	Lahardane	Ardagh	R. Cosgrove	Crossmolina
U14A	Belmullet	Ardnaree	M. Herr	Crossmolina
U14B	Ardmoy	Crossmolina	L. Higgins	Ballina
U14C	Bonniconlon	Cill Chomáin	D. O Boyle	Kilfian

South

Grade	Winner	Runner up	Referee	Venue
U18A	Claremorris	Ballinrobe	P. Kilboyle	Ballinrobe
U18B	Carras	Hollymount Carramore	J. Boyle	Garrymore
U18C	Neale	Shrule GC		
U16A	Claremorris	Carras	P. Kilboyle	Balindine
U16B	Davitts	Holly/Carra	V. Joyce	Ballindine
U16C	Claremorris B	Ballinrobe B	C. Burke	Ballinrobe
U14A	Claremorris	Ballinrobe	K. Connelly	Claremorris
U14B	Mayo Gaels	Carras	M. Kennedy	Mayo Abbey
U14C	Ballinrobe	Claremorris	J. O Connor	Ballinrobe

East

Grade	Winner	Runner up	Referee	Venue
U18A	BMD	Aghamore	P. Lydon	COE
U18B	Kilmovee	Swinford	J. Finn	COE
U16A	Ballaghderreen	Kiltimagh	J. Glavey	COE
U16B	BMD	St. Jarlaths	R. Gurren	COE
U16C	N/A			COE
U14A	St Jarlaths	Charlestown	P. Lydon	COE
U14B	Kiltimagh	BMD	J. Clancy	COE

West

Grade	Winner	Runner up	Referee	Venue
U18A	Kilmeena	Westport	D. Corcoran	Clogher
U18B	Kilmeena 2:10	Parke KC 1:10	J. Henry	Ballyheeane
U18C	Burrishroole	Islandeady	N. Cooney	Islandeady
U16B	Parke KC	Balla	K. Corcoran	Islandeady
U16C	Castlebar B	Burrishroole	B. Kilkelly	Kilmeena
U14A	Westport	Balla	K. Barnicle	Breaffy
U14B	Breaffy	Tuar Mhic Eadaigh	P. Chambers	Islandeady
U14C	Burrishroole	Acla	J. McHale	Castlebar

Even Ages County Final Winners

Competition	Winner	Runner up	Referee	Venue	Presented by:
U18A	BMD	Kilmeena	C. Burke	Claremorris	R. Kirrane
U18B	Ardmoy	Kilmovee	P. Lydon	Foxford	M. Daly
U18C	The Neale	Belmullet	V. Neary	Castlebar	D. Gallagher
U16A	Claremorris	Castlebar	V. Neary	Clogher	K. Kilkenny
U16B	BMD	Parke KC	M. Herr	Breaffy	M. Golden
U16C	Castlebar B	Claremorris B	J. Burke	Ballinrobe	R. Kirrane
U14A	Westport	Claremorris	S. Tolan	Breaffy	S. Tolan
U14B	Ardmoy	Mayo Gaels	J. Finn	Foxford	D. Treanor
U14C	Ballinrobe B	Burrishroole	J. Glavey	Islandeady	K. Kelly

League Competition Winners - Uneven Age Grades 2022

U13 League

Competition	Winner	Runner up	Venue	Referee	Presented By:
U13 D1	Ballintubber 1:12	Westport 1:08	McHale Park	W. Doherty	W. McDonagh
U13 D2	Parke K/C 3:12	St. Jarlaths 1:08	Kiltimagh	E. Nolan	J. Clancy
U13 D3	Breaffy 5:14	Neale 2:08	Hollymount	K. Connelly	
U13 D4	Knockmore 2:10	Ardmoy 2:09	Crossmolina	K. Durcan	S. Tolan
U13 D5	Naomh Pdraig 3:12	Shrule G/C 5:04	Foxford		
U15 D6	Islandeady 5:09	Louisburg 4:09	Kilmeena	M. Murphy	None
2nd Team	Westport 4:10	Ballinrobe 1:06	Tourmakeady	M. Walsh	M. Lang

U15 League

Competition	Winner	Runner up	Venue	Referee	Presented By:
U15 D1	Westport 4:11	Crossmolina 1:08	Parke	P. Lydon	M. Golden
U15 D2 AET	St Jarlaths 4:11	Naomh Padraig 3:10	Foxford	J. Ruddy	D. Treanor
U15 D3	Ballintubber 3:08	Neale 2:09	Ballindine	D. Monaghan	L. Nyland
U15 D4	Ardmoy	Tourmakeady	Breaffy		
U15 D5	Louisbourg 3:23	Erris St Pats 2:03	Newport	K. Corcoran	

U17 League

Competition	Winner	Runner up	Venue	Referee	Presented By:
U17 D1	Castlebar 1:13	BMD 1:10	Kiltimagh	P. Kilboyle	D. Gallagher
U17 D2	St Jarlaths 0:12	Kiltinagh 0:07	Charlestown	J. Feeney	G. O Donnell
U17 D3	Davitts 4:10	Kilmovee 2:14	Claremorris	J. McHale	R. Kirrane
U17 D4	Carras	Swinford			
U17 D5	Shrulle G/C 5:12	Louisbourg 3:12	Islandeedy	S. Corcoran	K. Kelly

Championship Competition Winners - Uneven Age Grades 2022

U13 Championship

Competition	Winner	Runner up	Venue	Presented By:
U13 D1	Balla	Westport	MacHale Park	D. Walsh
U13 D2	Ballina	Neale	MacHale Park	D. Gallagher
U13 D3	Tuarmhic Eadaigh	Knockmore	MacHale Park	R. Kirrane
U13 D4	Hollymount Carramore	Aghamore	MacHale Park	D. Gallagher
U13 D5	Achill	Kilmeena	Achill	D. Gallagher
2 nd Team	Castlebar	Westport	Islandeedy	D. Gallagher

U13 Shield Finals

Competition	Winner	Runner Up	Title
U13 D 1	Ballinrobe	Castlebar	Shield
U13 D 2	Ballaghadereen	Belmullet	Shield
U13 D 3	Burrishoole	NP	Shield
U13 D 4	Carras	Shrule	Shield
U13 D 5	Islandeedy	Louisburg	Shield
U13 Development	Naomh Padraig	Parke KC	Shield

U15 Championship

Competition	Winner	Runner Up	Title
U15 A	Castlebar 4:04	Crossmolina 1:10	Cup
U15 B (c)	Balla 2:11	Knockmore 2:08	Cup
U15 C (d)	Breaffy 3:18	The Neale 0:14	Cup
U15 D (e)	Ballaghadereen	Tuar Mhic Éadaigh	Cup
U15 G	Castlebar B 4:11	Islandeady 2:11	Cup
11 A Side	Claremorris 3:09	Ballinrobe 1:04	Cup

U15 Shield Finals

Competition	Winner	Runner Up	Title
U15 A Shield	St. Jarlaths 3:12	Aghamore 3:08	Shield
U15 B (C) Shield	Kiltimagh 0-19	Parke 3-9	Shield
U15 C (D) Shield	Ballintubber	BMD	Shield
U15 D (E) Shield	Mayo Gaels 2:10	Swinford 0:11	Shield
U15 E (G) Shield	Achill	Bonniconlon	Shield
U15 A Plate	Ballinrobe 3:07	Arदानaree 0:07	Plate
U15 D (E) Plate	Ardmoy	Lahardane*	Plate

U17 Championship

Competition	Winner	Runner up	Venue	Referee	Presented By:
U17A	Castlebar Mitchells	Claremorris	COE	R. Gurren	Ronan Kirrane
U17B	Knockmore	Parke KC	McHale Park	C. Burke	D. Gallagher
U17C	Balla	Ballinrobe	Hollymount	E. McAndrew	L. Niland
U17D	Carras	Ballagherren	COE	J. Brennan	P. Geraghty
U17E	The Neale	Ballintubber	Kilmaine	J. Clancy	D. Walsh
U17F	Tuar Mhic Eadaigh	Westport	Breaffy	M. Walsh	M. Golden
U17G	Louisburg	Shrule GC	Ballintubber	M. Walsh	

U17 Shield Finals

Competition	Winner	Runner Up	Title
U17 A Shield	Jarlaths	Kilmeena	Shield
U17 B Shield	Kiltimagh	Aghamore	Shield
U17 C Shield	Erris St.P	Crossmolina	Shield
U17 D Shield	Swinford	Mayo Gaels	Shield
U17 E Shield	Burrishoole	Ardnaree	Shield
U17 F Shield	Bonniconlon	Achill	Shield
U17 G Shield	Cill Chomáin	Islandeady	Shield



Health and Wellbeing

On behalf of the Mayo GAA Health and Wellbeing Committee, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Committee Members and Partners for their hard work and commitment over the year for their efforts in promoting Health & Wellbeing throughout our county.

The Healthy Club Project continues to go from strength to strength and has currently Six new clubs successfully involved in Phase5. With the introduction of the new Accreditation Model- *Foundation Level Healthy Club Award, *Silver & Gold Healthy Club awards, we have continued to see existing healthy clubs stay engaged and progress to the next phase as they continue to support the holistic health of their members and the communities they serve. We wish them every success in achieving the highest award that their club deserves.



County Board Support

We are extremely grateful to the Mayo GAA Coiste Condáe for its outstanding support, encouragement, and guidance in the work we do. I would like to pay tribute to our Chairperson Seamus Tuohy for his unwavering support and in-depth understanding of what is involved in the Community & Health Department. We have worked closely over the year in providing opportunities to develop and highlight the importance of positive health and wellbeing for all members. We also received fantastic support when dealing with Critical Incidents that unfortunately occurred in quite several our communities in 2022. A Critical Incident is an event that causes an emotional response that overwhelms an individual or a community's usual ability to cope. We will continue to work closely with the County Board and would encourage all clubs to develop their own Critical Incident Response Plan.



Examples of what we are working on

- Developing Healthy Club initiatives with our Partners **Croi, The Samaritans, WRDATF, Mayo Mental Health Association and Healthy Ireland.**
- Regularly meet with Clubs involved in the HCP to provide ongoing support through the eighteen months of the programme.
- Delivering The Samaritan Roundel to Clubs to ensure their phone number is visibly displayed on our grounds to support vulnerable patrons **116123**
- Ongoing delivery of our *Moving Your Mind* programme, designed to create awareness on how exercise and good nutrition can promote positive health and wellbeing and was delivered to Six clubs this year.
- Reporting at county level the work completed as well as liaising with Connacht GAA to encourage partnering with other counties on national policies and initiatives.

As per our Priority Actions we recently completed updated Critical Incident Response training. We delivered training opportunities for all Healthy Club Officers earlier in the year and provided complimentary transport for all Officers to travel to the Irish Life National H&W Conference in Croke Park. We continue to promote HC Policies which helps clubs deliver HC Initiatives. County Board delegates were provided the opportunity to have their blood pressure checked by trained Croi nurses and appropriate advice was offered. We also partnered with surrounding counties earlier in the year to promote the HSE *West be Well* website, which offers information and mental health promotion. Looking forward to the year ahead, we have plans in place to deliver safeTALK Training, Mayo will Pilot the new GAA drugs workshop, we hope to further embed the healthy club ethos by developing promotional products for our officers and the H&W Department will roll out the Green Clubs Project to clubs across Mayo in the new year.

We hope the Health & Wellbeing Committees aim and objectives continue to grow throughout the next number of years.

Is mise le meas,

Fran Downey

Chairperson

Mayo GAA Health and Wellbeing Committee



Coaching and Games 2022

2022 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, Dermot Butler, John Walker and all of 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 Mayo GAA Kelloggs Cul Camps began on Monday June 27th with a standalone camp held in Achill GAA club. This was followed by six more weeks of camps ending on Friday August 12th.

In total there were 54 Cul Camps held over the seven weeks, of which 48 were football specific and 6 were hurling specific.

Mayo GAA employed 169 coaches over the 7 weeks, and our full-time staff acted as camp head coaches & supervisors overseeing a camp each week.

The weekly breakdown is as follows

Week 1= June 27th 1 camp- 111 children

Week 2 = July 4th- 9 camps -1357-children

Week 3 = July 11th-9 camps-1129 children

Week 4 = July 18th 10 camps – 1140 children

Week 5 = July 25th 9 camps - 1158 children

Week 6 = August 2nd 8 camps – 815 children

Week 7 = August 8th 8 camps - 809 children.

Total participating children = 6519

The planning for this mammoth coaching and games project began in December 2021 and culminated in the program of camps above. By far the biggest challenge was the recruitment and training of the large number of coaches that are needed to run these camps. Each coach was required to have 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)

We ran the various courses and training days for the coaches in late June. The reason for the delay is that there is an online coach application process, but unfortunately most coaches didn't apply until June and that led to a big workload to get them all qualified before the camps began. We would like to thank the Mayo GAA Childrens Officer Celia Rattigan for her assistance in the setting up of the Child Safeguarding one courses, and to our staff in administering the Coach Education and training days for the camp coaches and supervisors. All the coaches had to complete online Cul Camp training also.

These links were sent and monitored by our student placement David Hughes.

We 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 in particular 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 2022

Mayo GAA Management Appointment Process

In November 2020 I was asked by former Chairperson Liam Moffatt to draft a Management Appointment Policy Document for Mayo GAA to use for all future managerial appointments in both Football and Hurling from minor to senior positions inclusive. This I did with the help of Mayo GAA Assistant Treasurer and the policy document was ratified subsequently by Coiste Bainisti and Coiste Condae. The process was then enacted to appoint our U20 and U17 football managers in January 2021.

The position of Mayo Senior Football Manager became available this year following James Horan stepping down on June 27th. At the subsequent Coiste Bainisti meeting it was decided to use the policy to appoint the next Mayo Manager.

The main criteria to be met were

- To ensure that the process is fair, transparent, and equitable
- To appoint the best person for the job
- To have this person in place before the Club Championships start in September

The process produced 4 excellent candidates with very good backroom teams, and I believe this reflects well on Mayo GAA.

A seven-person Appointment Selection Committee was tasked with overseeing the appointment once the candidates were known and ultimately Kevin McStay was chosen as the preferred candidate and announced on August 22nd.

I would like to congratulate Kevin and wish himself and his Management Team all the best in the coming years.

I would also like to thank all the other candidates for allowing their names to go forward for the position and I have no doubt that all 3 will continue to contribute handsomely to Mayo GAA both in the Club and County scenes over the next few years

Finally, I would like to say well done to The Appointment Committee for the professional way they handled the successful process in what was sometimes a challenging environment.

Management Reviews for 2022

The management reviews for the U20 and U17 teams took place in September.

The U20 review was attended by Chairperson Mayo GAA, PRO Mayo GAA, Coaching Officer Mayo GAA and Assistant Chairperson Mayo GAA along with Mayo U20 Manager Maurice Sheridan. A full and frank conversation took place between all participants at the meeting which was very constructive.

A decision was made following the meeting to recommend that Maurice Sheridan would continue in his role as manager for the 2023 season to Coiste Bainisti.

The U17 review was attended by Chairperson Mayo GAA, Treasurer Mayo GAA, PRO Mayo GAA, Coaching Officer Mayo GAA Assistant Secretary Mayo GAA along with Sean Deane and Danny O Toole.

This was also a very constructive meeting with all participants making significant contributions. All agreed that 2022 had been a successful year and looked forward to continued development for our young players in 2023.

A decision was made following the meeting recommending that Sean Deane would continue as U17 Manager in 2023 to Coiste Bainisti.

Talent Academies

The new structure was agreed for our Talent Academies for 2021 continued in 2022

Kieran Kilkenny Mayo GAA Performance GDA continued in his role as Academy Manager.

Tom Mulderrig is the Under 16 Manager

Tom Reilly is the Under 15 Manager

Diarmuid Byrne is the Under 14 Manager

The mixed model approach that was adopted previously was further developed with the integration of ex-players from club and inter-county backgrounds along with Mayo GAA coaching staff in 2022. We pursued a high coach to player ratio so that each coach carries out a small amount of work.

Our Talent Academies were resourced as a high priority by Mayo GAA this year

The planning for this was carried out from the start of the year with all the Academy managers involved in the process. Most of the preparation for the year ahead was carried out with face-to-face and online meetings including communication with players and their parents at all age groups in the first few months of the year leading up to the start of our on-pitch activities commencing at the start of March.

The main issues concerning the Academy teams at this time were pitch availability and the difficulty with Saturday morning training because of the U17 League games which was scheduled for Friday evenings. The number of games our players were asked to play was also a concern. A series of meetings between all the stakeholders took place to try to resolve these issues. All Academy teams resumed Saturday training from July 9th after a short break. Saturday morning is the time originally ringfenced for our academies, agreed by our clubs and is the time that best serves our future players and coaches. A big thanks must go to Bord na nOg officers and the CCC for making this possible.

A meeting between The Coaching Officer, Performance GDA, Games Manager, Bord na nOg officers, Club Coaching Officers and Club Coaches was also held to explain the issues regarding our Academy and Club teams. The response to this event was very positive.

The pitch booking system was reintroduced for all teams by the Assistant Treasurer where all team schedules are reviewed and booked on a weekly basis, and this has proved to be a major help in solving pitch/gym availability issues for our Academy teams.

The months of July and August were very busy for our Academies who continued to work with their coaches every Saturday over this period. The focus for this period was the national games programme where we had 2 U-16 teams, 2 U-15 teams and 4 U-14 teams playing and competing.

All teams played multiple games both home and away throughout the year with a high degree of success which contributed to the overall development of all our Academy players where the focus was on areas such as

Skills development

Performance Analysis

Game Preparation

Athletic Development

Life Skills

Nutritional Guidance

Congratulations to our U17 team and management on their successful year in 2022. They won 7 out of 8 championship matches throughout their campaign and unfortunately lost to a Galway team in the All-Ireland Final who they had already beaten twice in the championship.

Although all concerned will be disappointed with this result it must be acknowledged that all players received an invaluable year of coaching in their continuing development and evolution.

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. We in Mayo GAA 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.

Club Development Officer Project

To address the shortage of coaches across the county Connacht GAA are currently rolling out a new Coaching Project which will involve Clubs, Mayo GAA and Connacht GAA designed to recruit new coaches for our clubs for a six-month period in 2023.

The project involves clubs selecting suitable candidates who are primarily studying a Third Level Sports Science Course to carry out the placement part of their course with the clubs in conjunction with Mayo GAA and Connacht GAA.

The students, or other suitable candidates, will be allocated to one club exclusively or his or her coaching duties can be shared between two or three clubs max.

The idea is that the clubs will pay 70% of the coach's wages while Mayo GAA and Connacht GAA will pay 20% and 10% respectively.

Connacht GAA hosted a Presentation Evening for County Coaching and Games Steering Committees in April and presented to Mayo GAA clubs in May where the following information was shared.

BACKGROUND

- Currently there are 5 GPO`s, in Mayo managed by 1 Games Manager
- Currently the County GPO`s, work across a large number of county-based projects with a large focus on schools coaching
- Increased demand from clubs for full time staff - 6-8 months' work in clubs but very hard to justify work for 12 months
- Not making the best use of our full-time staff by having them performing Schools coaching
- Empower the clubs to drive participation

What a CDO will do in a club:

- Primary schools coaching – recruit players to club
- Establish and coordinate an excellent club nursery (U4-U6)
- Coordinate an excellent club Go Games Programme (U7,9 & 11`s)
- Organising and running of club camps & Cúl camps
- Provide extra games opportunities for young players i.e., Youth Super Games
- Athletic development program for youth players

- Promotion of all club activities through social media platforms through club PRO

CDO Specifics:

- 6-month period from February to July
- 39 hours per week
- Employed by Connacht GAA
- Managed by County Games Managers in conjunction with the regional staff (GPO, GDA, RDO)
- Part of the county business plan as per the new funding model
- CDO's will be largely filled by students from 3rd level Sports Science & Coaching related courses
- The rest of the places will be filled by people proposed by the clubs

Reporting Structure:

- All employees are staff of Connacht GAA
- County Games Manager will manage staff day to day
- Club steering committee (Coaching Officer, Chairperson & Secretary) is put in place to help set work programmes for CDO
- Club Steering committee to meet with regional staff (GPO, GDA, RDO) 3 times per year (January, April and July)
- Work schedules agreed by the regional staff and each participating club steering group
- All CDO's work is set to achieve county yearly targets as per individual county business plan agreed by County Coaching & Games Steering Committees

COST:

- Wage cost is €10,660 (€410 p/wk.) + PRSI €938 = € 11,598
- Cost of a single CDO to club is 70% (€8,118) of overall cost. In the case of a shared CDO this cost will be shared between 2/3 clubs.
- Each county contributes 20% (€ 2,319) of overall cost
- Connacht GAA contributes 10% (€ 1,159) of overall cost

- Connacht GAA will be the employer & carry all employer liability
- Counties & Connacht GAA will manage all recruitment of CDO's

Club Responsibilities:

- Coaching Officer set up the Club Steering Committee (Coaching Officer, Chairperson & Secretary)
- Has a Club Planning Document adequately completed
- Pay 70%
- Follow policy for Coaching & Games Programmes
- Provides two sets of club gear to the employee (Tracksuit & T-shirt)
- Provide equipment needed to carry out the programmes based on playing numbers

Counties Responsibilities:

- Have the initiative as part of county business plan
- Day to day management of employees
- Pay 20%
- Engage in info night for clubs
- Provide County gear if a school is made up of students from a large number of clubs

Provincial Responsibilities:

- Employer
- Pay 10%
- Organise Info night for clubs
- Recruitment of staff
- Training (Coaching, Vetting & Safeguarding)

The final date for the first payment by the clubs to Connacht GAA was Monday October 10th. 17 Mayo clubs have made their payment

They are as follows

Bonniconlon GAA

Castlebar Mitchles Football

Castlebar Mitchels Hurling

Davitts GAA

Louisburgh GAA

Charlestown Sarsfields

Westport GAA

Islandeady GAA

Kiltimagh GAA

Breaffy GAA

Bohola Moy Davitts

Aghamore GAA

Ballina Stephanites

Ballyhaunis GAA

Balla GAA

Swinford GAA

Crossmolina Deel Rovers

All of these clubs will be offered a Club Development Officer by Connacht GAA under a 1 2 or 3 club model. The interviews for these positions were held over 6 days from October 10th to October 21st. Mayo GAA was represented at these interviews by Mayo GAA Games Manager Billy McNicholas.

The remaining schedule for the roll out of the CDO Scheme is as follows

October 31st to November 14th – Club coach nomination interviews (If needed)

2023

February 6th - Start Date

April 1st - 2nd Payment from clubs

July 28th – End date (After 26 weeks of employment)

Coach Education

The GAA National Coach Education Committee was finally able to roll out the new Introduction to Coaching Gaelic Games Course (ICGG). This replaced the Foundation Coaching Course. Feedback from the new course is very positive. The fact that it concentrates more on practical elements and the importance of planning makes it a more enjoyable course for the coach and the facilitator.

The following is a list of ICGG courses that took place in Mayo up to 10th November 2022.

North Mayo– Killala and Kiltane – 15 Coaches certified

South Mayo – The Neale and Connacht Centre – 23 Coaches certified

East Mayo – 2 courses in the Connacht Centre – 20 Coaches certified

West Mayo – Westport and Castlebar – 23 Coaches certified.

2 Cúl Camp Coach courses – 53 Coaches certified

The following Award One Youth Football courses took place in Mayo in 2022

North Mayo – Killala – 16 Coaches certified

South Mayo – Connacht Centre – 13 Coaches certified

East Mayo – Connacht Centre – 10 Coaches certified

West Mayo – Westport – 20 Coaches certified

Thank you to all the coaches and facilitators involved

Performance GDA

In his first year as our Performance GDA, Kieran Kilkenny's main piece of work was assisting all the county teams (except for the senior footballers) in the areas of athletic development, S & C and performance analysis. Along with that Kieran was tasked with managing the football academy teams.

In addition, Kieran was tasked with assisting the coaching and games department in their 6 merit-based projects which are: Coach Education, Cul Camps, youth games, child go games, schools coaching primary & post primary.

All our teams U-15's to U-20's were put on age-appropriate S & C programmes. A big thanks must go out to all the clubs who made their facilities available to us to conduct these programmes in pods throughout the county, without their support this would not have been possible. Along with this all teams were assisted with their pitch sessions in the areas of athletic development and conditioning.

To carry out all of the above programmes we had three students to aid and assist us. Two of these were from our partnership with GMIT and the other is the Connacht GAA placement. Kieran was tasked with managing, monitoring, and supporting the work of these three students. This has been a very positive advancement for us and without them all the above work would not have been possible. A big thanks to David Hughes, Sarah Murphy and Shauna McGaugh who were a superb asset to us, and we wish them all the best into the future.

From a performance analysis point of view the first thing that needed to be done was to identify the equipment required to make us self-sufficient as a county. A comprehensive needs analysis was conducted, and we now have all the basic equipment to be self-sufficient for all of our underage teams. We hope to build on this as the years go on.

Coach education was very busy over the course of the year. Kieran was a tutor on some Introduction to Coaching Gaelic Games courses as well as all the award 1 courses that were ran. In addition to the specific GAA courses, we also ran two S & C Courses for club coaches in conjunction with Connacht GAA. Des Ryan conducted a super workshop with our academy coaches. Finally, we have just finished an Advanced Goalkeeper course with new Mayo Senior Goalkeeping coach Gary Matthews. All courses were excellently attended, and plans are well under way for a comprehensive coach education programme for 2023.

Cul Camps was our largest project and Kieran assisted in all areas: coach education, coaching, camp supervision, payroll and staffing and anything else that was required from our games manager over the 6-week period.

An upcoming project in 2023 is the establishment of a club development officer role within the clubs. Kieran has been involved in supporting our games manager in getting this project over the line. It will be ready to go in the new year.

Hurling GPO

Adrian Hession our Hurling GPO has stepped down from his role recently. We would like to sincerely thank Adrian for all his hard work and dedication in his promotion of hurling throughout Mayo in his time as Mayo GAA Hurling GPO. His commitment to clubs, schools and Mayo Academy teams was well recognised by all involved and his presence will be sorely missed.

We would like to wish Adrian all the best in his future career.

The process of replacing Adrian has begun and is being overseen by HR in Croke Park.

We hope to have a new Hurling GPO in place in the very near future.

Mise le Meas,

Declan O'Reilly

Coaching Officer



Report to Convention
From Maigh Eo Cumann na mBunscol

Representative: Neil Reilly



Dear All,

It is my great honour and privilege, as the County Board delegate, to report to Convention for and on behalf of Cumann na mBunscol Maigh eo for the year 2021/2022.

I am delighted to report that Cumann na mBunscol Maigh Eo was able to resume an action packed itenary for the school year 2021-2022 following the difficult periods of COVID lock down we had in the previous years. All schools, teachers and everyone involved in Cumann na mBunscol Maigh eo were acutely conscious of the need to prevent the spread of covid, flu and other such infections and every effort and precaution was taken to keep the children safe. Our teachers did trojan work to faciliate 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 following the unprecedented difficulties of the prior years 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.

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. An additional 4 cups were presented in hurling. There were also several other localised football competitions and qualifiers for county finals.

We have, in recent years, been able to secure new trophies and cups to replace the very old ones from Bank of Ireland and P. O'Connor & Son, solicitors, and we were very grateful for their sponsorship.

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

As an organisation, we also send our wholehearted good wishes to Adrian Hession who has been a tremendous help and support to us over the years in organising hurling competitions and promoting the game. We wish him all the very best for the future.

Most importantly, we would like to thank the County Board for the considerable support it has always given to Cumann na mBuncol 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 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 are also proud this year to welcome Ukranian children 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 mBuncol 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 must 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 must 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 wish to thank the Connacht Council for making the Connacht Dome Center of Excellence available to us for our finals this year. As was also always the case with MacHale park, the children love to tog out in the Center of Excellence to showcase their improving skills in games. We hope and respectfully request that your generosity in allowing access to your facilities and pitches will continue in the future. It really means a lot to the children to play in these great and iconic venues.

We must thank Dermot Butler, County Secretary, for his professionalism and courtesy to us over the years. He has always been approachable and supportive of our endeavours, and we are very thankful to him for that. 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 for your tremendous and unwavering support of Cumann na nBunscol 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 2022

The Mayo Post Primary School games have been up and running since early October 2022.

The late start was due to the completion of the Mayo Bord na nÓg competitions.

The competitions in football are as follows:

- 1 Flanagan Cup for senior students in grades A, B, C and D.
- 2 O'Haire Cup for U15 students in grades A, B, C and D.
- 3 First Year in grades A, B, C and D.
- 4 First and Second Year for smaller schools who are unable to field a stand alone first year team.
- 5 We had to delay the Colleran Cup for U16 students' competitions until February 2023 as the Connacht Post Primary Schools are running their competitions between October and December 2022.

FLANAGAN A FINAL: ST MURDEACHS BALLINA V SUMMERHILL OR RICE COLLEGE

FLANAGAN B ONGOING

FLANAGAN C FINAL: OUR LADYS BELMULLET V ST BRENDANS BELMULLET

FLANAGAN D ONGOING

O'HAIRE A FINAL: SUMMERHILL V ST GERALDS CASTLEBAR

O'HAIRE B ONGOING

O'HAIRE C: ST GERALDS V GORTNOR ABBEY

O'HAIRE D Winners: ST TIERNANS CROSSMOLINA

FIRST YEAR A FINAL: BALLINROBE CS V ST GERALDS CASTLEBAR

FIRST YEAR B COMPETITION ONGOING

FIRST YEAR C WINNERS: ST TIERNANS CROSSMOLINA

FIRST YEAR D COMPETITION ONGOING

FIRST and SECOND YEAR COMPETITION ONGOING

The competitions were at a more advanced stage in previous years when they were played in a blitz format up to final stage.

Summerhill College and St Attracta's were this year added to the Mayo Post Primary Schools competitions on the recommendation of the Connacht coaches.

A word of thanks to Adrian Hession for his work in promoting hurling in the schools down through the years. It is planned to organise hurling competitions again, early in the new year.

Further updates on competitions will be provided at County Board meetings during the year.

Thanks to Mayo County Board and Elverys for the vouchers recently received by each Mayo Post Primary School. Our committee would like to meet with County Board officers to discuss the club schools levy.

Thanks to all the Post Primary Schools for all their hard work and dedication in promoting Gaelic Games.

Thanks also to all referees, clubs who provided pitches and especially John Prenty and Kurt Reinhardt at the Connacht Centre of Excellence.

Best wishes to all involved in Mayo GAA for 2023.

Michael Herr and John Holian.



Tuairisc an Rúnaí Iomána 2022



Tá an dul chun cinn déanta i gcúrsaí iomána i gcontae Mhaigh eo i 2022. Faoi láthair tá naoi gclub ag feidhmiú agus tá súil againn go mbeidh an uimhir sin ag ardú i 2023. Ba mhaith mo bhuíochas a ghabháil le gach duine a rinne an-iarracht an cluiche a fheabhsú agus a láidriú sa chontae i 2022. 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 2023. Ar ndóigh, tá, bíonn agus beidh dúshláin ag baint le aon eagraíocht spóirt ach tá súil againn tabhairt faoi na dúshláin atá amach romhainn agus iad a sharú le dúthracht agus crógracht sa bhliain nua.

2022 was a successful year for Mayo hurling on several fronts. Mayo senior hurlers made history by reaching the Christy Ring final in Croke Park for the first time in the county's history. Mayo U-15s had an excellent year which culminated in victory in the Hibernia Cup final in Donegal. On the club scene we saw over 230 hurling games played at all levels and the introduction of a new Junior B competition for new and emerging teams.

Senior Hurling Team

National Hurling League

While Mayo had a very strong Championship campaign their league form was inconsistent. Mayo played in Division 2B of the National Hurling League and drew their first game at home to Wicklow but suffered defeats to London (away), Derry (away), Donegal (home) and Sligo (home). They had just one point from five games which left them in a relegation play-off v Wicklow in O' Connor Park Tullamore on March 26th 2022. They lost this game after a great battle on a score line of 0-16 to 0-15. This was a disappointment for Mayo but their league campaign was seriously hampered by injury and the success of Tooreen in the Intermediate club Championship. The Tooreen players were not available as they reached the All-Ireland semi-final which was played on January 23rd. Tooreen were defeated by Naas on a score of 0-18 to 0-13.

Following relegation in 2022, Mayo will play in Division 3A of the NHL in 2023.

Christy Ring Cup

Mayo's fortunes changed in the latter part of the year as they faced into the Christy Ring Cup. They suffered a tough defeat in the first round against eventual champions Kildare. However, they subsequently went on a winning streak which brought them all the way to the final in Croke Park. They defeated Wicklow (Aughrim), London (Ruislip) and Sligo (Ballina). The final group game against Derry was effectively a semi-final as the winners would go straight to the final. Home advantage proved crucial, and Mayo turned in a super performance coming out on top by five points 2-23 to 2-18.

Mayo faced a mammoth challenge in the final against an excellent Kildare team who went into the final as strong favourites. This was Mayo's third year in a row in a national final having been in the two previous Nickey Rackard finals of 2020 and 2021. Mayo had a poor first half and were well behind at half-time. However, the Mayo players rallied in the second half and battled all the way to the end. Kildare won on a score line of 2-29 to 0-19. The Mayo captain for the year was Tooreen's Shane Boland. Great credit must go to Derek Walsh and his backroom team of David McConn, Tom Philips, John Cunnane, Liam Hodgins, Damien Fox, Trevor Kelly, Gary Nolan, and Micheál Walsh. Derek stepped down after four years as manager having led Mayo to three finals in a row in Croke Park. David McConn and Tom Philips have taken up the role of joint-management and we wish them well in 2023.

Mayo U-20 Hurling

Mayo U-20s were managed by Brian Finn (Tooreen) with Austin Kenny (Tooreen) and Billy McGhee (Caiseal Gaels) as selectors. Mayo had 32 players on their panel for 2022. There were ten others who were unable to commit to the panel. They trained twice a week in Ballyvary Community Pitch. The panel were without some of their players who were called into the senior squad. This affected preparations especially in relation to challenge games. The All-Ireland U-20 competition was run on a knock-out basis. Mayo beat Donegal in the quarter-final in Ballina. However, they were defeated by Roscommon in Athleague in the All-Ireland semi-final. All gear, jerseys, tracksuits, etc. was supplied by Mayo County Board. Manager Brian Finn will continue in this role for 2023.

Mayo U-17 Celtic Challenge Cup

Mayo had a very successful year at the U-17 age group. This team was managed by the experienced Brian Finn from Tooreen with selectors David Hurley (Claremorris), Austin Kenny (Tooreen) and Tommie Burke (Knockmore) as physiotherapist.. The panel held trial games in June.

Mayo U-17s had 28 players on their panel for the 2022 season. They had two dual players but a number of dual players did not play hurling this year. There was an excellent relationship with Seán Deane (Mayo U-17 Football manager) which made it possible for players to play both codes.

In the group stages Mayo beat Sligo and Tyrone but lost to Donegal with an injury time goal. Mayo defeated Longford in the All-Ireland quarter-final and Kildare in the semi-final to set up a final clash with Sligo. Mayo played out a great final and were beaten by a single point by Sligo in Markievicz Park.

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. Also Hurling Board members Jimmy Connor, Seán Ó Raghallaigh. Thanks also to Thaigh Morley and Adrian Hession for their input during the year. The panel travelled to Croke Park for the Christy Ring Final and management would like to acknowledge the financial support from all clubs which offset

Mayo U-15 Hibernia Cup

The Mayo U-15s had a very successful year culminating in victory in the All-Ireland final.

All-Ireland U15 Hibernia Cup Final (Peter O'Keefe Cup)

Mayo 5-16

Armagh 1-01

In Donegal COE, Convoy, Co. Donegal.

Minutes after the Mayo U15 hurlers beat Donegal convincingly in the semi-final of the All-Ireland U15 Hibernia Cup, Mayo set about dismantling the challenge of a more physically stronger Armagh outfit in the final at the Donegal GAA Centre of Excellence.

In this game it was Castlebar sharpshooter Dylan Quinn who drove on the Mayo attack up front as he converted 2-3 from play over the forty minutes of hurling. He was ably assisted in the scoring ranks by Niall Peoples (0-6), Oisín Duffy (0-2) and Fionn Cinsealla (0-2) as Mayo strode to victory in this decider. So much so that Mayo substitutes Dylan Burke and Tom Donnellan both goaled shortly after their introduction to the field in the second half.

The Mayo side showed great teamwork and work rate throughout the day culminating in an almost perfect day's hurling. The Mayo defence conceded very little - due mostly to their tigerish defending - with Cian Fahey, Eoghan Enright and joint-captain Matthew Delaney excelling in the Mayo rear guard throughout.

After the game, Donegal GAA officer Manus Donnelly presented the Peter O'Keefe Cup to Mayo joint captains Niall Peoples (Ballina) and Matthew Delaney (Tooreen).

Mayo: Liam Heneghan (Claremorris); Stephen Colleran (Claremorris), Cian Fahey (Castlebar), Matthew Delaney (Tooreen); Kyle O'Malley (Westport), Evin Dillon (Claremorris), Eoghan Enright Castlebar); Mark Jennings (Claremorris), Fionn Cinsealla (0-2) (Westport); Ben Joyce (Castlebar), Niall Peoples (0-6) (Ballina), Oisín Duffy (0-2) (Caiseal Gaels); Fionn Delaney (0-1) (Tooreen), Dylan Quinn (2-3) (Castlebar), David Delaney (1-0) (Tooreen). Subs: Paddy Murphy (Ballina), Cullen Glavey (Tooreen), Dylan Gormley (Claremorris), Leon Trotter (Caiseal Gaels), Caolan O'Reilly (Westport), Bradley Murphy (Claremorris), Gino Nealon (Ballina), Declan Duffy (0-2) (Caiseal Gaels), William Noonan (Westport), Kevin Rowland (Castlebar), Dylan Burke (1-0) (Claremorris), Michael Gough (Ballina), Fionn Conlon (Ballyhaunis), Taghd Feerick (Claremorris), James Curran (Castlebar), Conor Maughan (Ballina), Tom Donnellan (1-0) (Ballyhaunis), Jack Walsh (Castlebar), David Woolley (Claremorris).

Ref: James Callaghan (Donegal)

Mayo GAA U15 Hibernia Cup Management 2022

Adrian Hession (Mayo GAA Games Promotion Officer)

Sean Henaghan (Team Manager- Claremorris)

Richie Crinnegan (Coach / S & C- Tooreen)

Pierce O'Reilly (Coach- Westport)

Michael Bolger (Coach / Freetaking- Ballina)

Lucian Brooks (Coach / First Aid- Castlebar)

Mayo GAA U15 Hibernia Cup Panel Results 2022

Round 1: Mayo 4-17 Roscommon 1-13 (Bekan)

Round 2: Mayo 8-18 Wicklow 1-6 (Dublin)

Round 3: Mayo w/o Monaghan (Leitrim)

Challenge: Offaly 2-12 Mayo 2-7 (Kilcormac)

Challenge: Galway U14 5-12 Mayo 2-14 (Craughwell)

Qualifier: Mayo 3-21 Sligo 0-2 (Bekan)

Qualifier: Mayo 7-15 Leitrim 0-2 (Bekan)

Challenge: Mayo 4-14 Roscommon 0-11 (Castlebar)

Semi: Mayo 5-15 Donegal 0-3 (Convoy)

Final: Mayo 5-16 Armagh 1-1 (Convoy)

Special thanks to the following for their support of the team this year:

Corduff Travel Bus operators for all the long-distance journeys.

Mooney Foods for the food packs for game days.

Ballyvary Pitch for the training facilities.

Mayo GAA for the training pitches and financial support.

Parents for coming on long journeys to support.

Thaigh Morley for his assistance.

Club Competitions

Three adult Championship competitions were run in Mayo in 2022; Senior, Junior A and Junior B. ten teams from eight clubs competed in these competitions.

Senior Championship

Castlebar, Tooreen and Ballyhaunis competed in the senior hurling championship for the TJ Tyrell Cup. There was a round-robin format with Ballyhaunis and Tooreen meeting in the final on October 9th in Adrian Freeman Park, Tooreen. The finalists produced a good game on a very poor day for hurling with high winds and rain. Tooreen came out on top and secured the TJ Tyrell for the fifth time in six years on a score line of 1-14 to 2-5.

Genfitt Cup-League

The Genfitt Cup involved eight teams in two divisions. Ballyhaunis won the Division 1 final defeating Castlebar. Westport defeated Moytura in the Division 2 Final and Ballina Stephenities brought home the Shield Final defeating Tooreen B.

Junior Hurling

2022 saw two Junior Championship competitions, Junior A and Junior B. Four teams competed in Junior A for the Ciaran Byrne Cup. Westport, Ballina Stephenities, Moytura and Tooreen B. This proved to be a very successful competition which culminated in a final between Westport and Tooreen B on October 8th in MacHale Park, Castlebar. Tooreen had lost some of their key players to the senior team and this hampered their chances. In a keenly contested final, Westport held the upper hand scoring two great goals in the first half. Westport Captain Colin Staunton lifted the Ciaran Byrne Cup amid great celebrations.

The Junior B competition involved Claremorris, Caiseal Gaels and Castlebar B. This was the first time in decades that Claremorris had fielded an adult team in Mayo championship hurling. The Junior B final was played between Caiseal Gaels from the East and Claremorris from the South. After a titanic battle Claremorris emerged victorious (1-10 to 0-17) and their captain Eoghgan Roe lifted the Tom Earley Perpetual Cup. This was a great achievement for a newly-formed club and I hope they can build on this success.

Iománaíocht Faoi Aois

Mayo clubs had a very successful year at underage level in 2022. League and championships were played at the odd age groups U-11, 13, 15,17 and 19. We had great participation levels from all clubs in all age groups. The following were the teams who competed at each level:

U-19: Castlebar, Claremorris, Tooreen, St Ciaran's

U-17: St Ciaran's, Westport, Tooreen, Castlebar, Claremorris

U-15: Castlebar, Claremorris, Tooreen, St Ciaran's, Ballyhaunis

U-13: Castlebar, Claremorris, Tooreen, Ballyhaunis, Ballina, Caiseal Gaels, Moytura, Ballyvary, Ballina Stephenites.

U-11: Castlebar, Claremorris, Tooreen, Ballyhaunis, Ballina, Caiseal Gaels, Moytura, Ballyvary, Ballina Stephenites.

Féile na nGael Hurling 2022

Féile 2022 was again played at the U-15 age group. Castlebar Mitchels were victorious in the A Final defeating Claremorris. Castlebar went on to represent Mayo in the National Féile Finals in Meath.

Tooreen defeated St Ciaran's in the B Féile final and went on to represent Mayo in the Féile regional finals in Sligo.

Coiste Iomána Mhaigh Eo 2022

The Hurling Committee consists of three members which is a sub-committee of the County Board. The members are Cathaoirleach: Jimmy Connor (Tuairín), Rúnaí: Seán Ó Raghallaigh (Westport), OCP: Micheál Walsh (Ballyhaunis).

I would like to thank the members of the Hurling Board who have worked hard to promote the game throughout the county in 2022. A special word of thanks to Jimmy Connor who is stepping down after four years in the role of Chairperson. Jimmy has been a stalwart and strong supporter of Mayo hurling for many years and has given great service to the County during his time in office. I would like to acknowledge and recognise Jimmy's contribution over the years and wish him good health for the future.

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.

Derek Walsh and the Mayo Senior Hurling Management team who stepped down after defeat in the Christy Ring Final. They had a successful tenure and made great progress during their time in charge.

County Board officers Cathaoirleach Seamus Tuohy, Secretary Dermot Butler, Vice-Chairman Con Moynihan, Treasurer Valerie Murphy. Thank you for your support and commitment to hurling in 2022.

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 Daithí Ó Gallachóir (Cathaoirleach) agus Ronan Kirrane (Rúnaí).

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

Adrian Hession Games Promotion Officer

I would like to recognise and acknowledge the immense contribution which Adrian Hession has made to Mayo Hurling over the previous twenty years in his role as Games Promotion Officer. All Mayo hurling people were saddened to hear of his departure from the role and we wish him well for the future. Adrian has a unique insight and knowledge of hurling in the county and gave his time and expertise willingly to all clubs, schools and county teams in Mayo. His loss is significant and he leaves a void which will be difficult to fill. Adrian has been a great support to me as Secretary and has guided me throughout my first year in this role. Go raibh míle maith agat.

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

Rúnaí Iomána Mhaigh Eo.

Mayo GAA Hurling Finals - 2022

Competition	Winner	Runner-Up	Referee
Senior Hurling Championship (Tyrell Cup)	Tooreen	Ballyhaunis	Eoin Shaughnessy
Junior A Hurling Championship (Early Cup)	Westport	TooreenB	Pat Conlon
Junior B Hurling Championship (Byrne Cup)	Claremorris	Caiseal Gaels	Eadhmonn Mac Suibhne
Senior Hurling League Final (Genfitt Cup)	Ballyhaunis	Castlebar	James Judge
Senior Hurling League Final (Genfitt Shield1)	Westport	Moytura	Eadhmonn Mac Suibhne
Senior Hurling League Final (Genfitt Shield2)	Ballina	Tooreen	Eoin Shaughnessy

COISTE CHONTAE MHAIGH EO COMHTHONÓL 2023

Senior Hurling League Final (Genfitt Plate)	Claremorris	Caiseal Gaels	Mel Kenny
U19A Hurling Championship	Castlebar	Tooreen	Mel Kenny
U19B Hurling Championship	St Ciarans	Claremorris	Sean O'Neill
U17 Hurling League	Tooreen		n/a
U17A Hurling Championship (BRB Cup)	Tooreen	Castlebar	Mel Kenny
U17B Hurling Championship	St Ciarans	Westport	James Judge
U15 FeileA Hurling (Freeman Cup)	Castlebar	Claremorris	James Judge
U15 Féile B Hurling	Tooreen	St Ciarans	James Judge
U15A Hurling Championship	Castlebar	Tooreen	Sean Granahan
U13A1 Hurling Championship (Morley Cup)	Westport	Tooreen	Sean Granahan
U13A2 Hurling Championship	2 Winners: Claremorris & Castlebar (Draw Game)		James Judge
U13B Hurling (Morley Shield)	Ballyhaunis	TooreenB	Eadhmonn MacSuibhne
U13C Hurling	Caiseal Gaels	Ballyvary	Michael Herr
U13D Hurling	Moytura	Ballina	Edward Groarke
U13 Division 1 Hurling	Westport	Claremorris	Sean Granahan
U13 Division 2 Hurling	Tooreen B	Caiseal Gaels	Mel Kenny

Mayo GAA Handball County Board Report



Most alleys in Mayo remained closed for almost two years because of Covid. This has had a seriously detrimental effect on handball in Mayo. Alleys have been slow to open - at least one club still remains closed and the numbers playing, both juveniles and adults have decreased. We have lost many of our promising juveniles to other sports which were allowed to continue during the pandemic.

National Competitions Seniors

4 Wall

The county was well represented at the 4-Wall competition with 6 singles and six doubles reaching the All-Ireland Championship. We had one winner - Joe McCann Ballaghaderreen.

Softball

In Softball six players reached the All-Ireland Singles Championship with two winners Cuileann Bourke Belcarra Ladies Junior Singles and Jonathan Conroy Bofield.

Five doubles pairings reached the All-Ireland doubles Finals but with no success.

Wall Ball

The Connacht Wall Ball Championship was held in Roscommon and Mayo had one competitor – Shane Heraty Aughagower – through to All Ireland Final.

Juveniles

Juvenile Coaching has returned in most alleys. There were some entries in the Connacht Wall Ball but not in the other codes.

Club Tournaments

The Liam Burke Memorial Tournament – a juvenile competition confined to boys and girls from Connacht run by Newport Handball Club - was held Nov 19th and was a great success.

The Roche Cup will be held by Belcarra Handball Club this coming weekend and a large entry is expected.

As part of Heritage week in August, Shrule held an introduction to handball. Shrule school had been part of a pilot project where a Mayo player Cuileann Burke had spent time in the local national school coaching the children. The outdoor alleys had been cleaned up and Cuileann and some members of Tourmakeady Handball Club played some exhibition games and encouraged the children to join in. Michael Lang of Tourmakeady Handball Club gave a very interesting talk on handball origins in East Mayo.

Cairde Mhuigh Eo

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

GAA Handball Governance and Playing rules

The GAA Handball Constitution has been reviewed and updated. A draft has been issued to all clubs for review.

An in-depth review of the current Competitions and Playing rules has been undertaken and is expected to be available in draft form early next year.

A review of the Clár has taken place and there are changes to the Senior Championship which will come into effect 2023.

2023

- Crests from each handball club in Mayo have been produced and will be in place in McHale Park shortly.
- Mayo County Board are working on a project to produce a booklet on Handball in Mayo in time for the centenary in 2024.
- Constitution and Playing rules to be published.
- Deferred Opening of the new state of the art Handball Centre in Croke Park will take place.
- World Championships cancelled in 2020 and 2021 – development of plans to host in 2024 to coincide with the centenary of GAA Handball.

Hopefully, handball will return to full strength in 2023.

emma Bn. Uí Mháille

Runaí CLCG Liathróid Láimhe Mhaigh Eo



MAYO GAA HANDBALL COUNTY BOARD

Chairman: Michael Conlon
Secretary: Gemma O'Malley
Fixture Secretary: Joe McCann
Treasurer: George Miller

Culture report 2022. Gráinne Ní Cheallaigh de Freine.



Scór

Scór returned with the county finals held in Balla community centre, because of the tight gaa schedule there was a clash with the Senior hurling final this ruled out a few of our regular entries however there was a very good county final with a high standard which led to a strong team going forward to Connacht finals which were held in Claremorris town hall.

Mayo had two winners at the Connacht finals both from Clg Acla – Leah McNamara in Solo Singing and Achill Ballad Group, we congratulate both of them as they represented the county with pride at the All Ireland finals held in the T.F Castlebar. We wish to thank members of Coiste Scór Mhaigh eo who helped with the organising of the All-Ireland finals and smooth running of the competitions on the day. We wish to acknowledge the support of Gerry Burke and his team on the day also.

Scór na nóg will be held in March dates to be confirmed, we would encourage all clubs to take part,

Scór na bpaistí will return this year schools have been notified- please log on to our facebook page for updates.

We wish to acknowledge the help of all members of Coiste Scór , Michael Cummins for his assistance and John Walker PRO and his team.

Scór Musicians and dancers put on a display at the launch of the new pitch we thank all clubs who took part. Leah McNamara and Eathan McNea both from Achill and Scór county champions sang Amhrán na bhfiann at the recent football county finals.

PROJECT UPDATES

Beo Mayo progress report Officially launched by Mayo GAA in 2021, the Beo Mayo project was founded to gather, preserve, and showcase in digital form, the records relating to Mayo GAA and the various past and present clubs in the county.

At the outset of 2022, the 12 month aim of Mayo GAA's Living History project was to publish a dedicated Mayo GAA history website entitled Beo Mayo, in a proof of concept showcase of digitised Mayo GAA records as held in the Davitt Museum and donated by GAA supporters.

Working with our partners at the Davitt Museum in Straide and supported by Mayo North-East, our team of Tús and RSS participants have created a large digital archive comprising a total of 8010 digital images with the digital conversion of 21 analogue video tapes of GAA football games, 110 transcribed folders relating to Mayo GAA historical records dating to 1885-1990 and 656 match-day programmes.

DarkBlue Design in Ballina were contracted to work with our team to create and maintain a suitable design infrastructure which could successfully build our cloud storage, database, and archive interface into a modern, interesting, and engaging website, while upholding the themes and ideals of Mayo GAA. We are now in the final stage of integrating our aforementioned digital records with the online architectural elements and testing same before beta-launch.

The website is expected to become officially live in January 2023, at a date to be organised with the County Board. It is hoped to learn from the subsequent feedback arising from the engagement of both Mayo GAA Club members, supporters, and the public at large, in order to plan a full rollout of the project on a county-wide basis. The Beo Mayo project is expected to be available on <https://mayogaahistory.com/> in January 2023.

Stadium Enhancement Project:

Plaques with club Crests are placed just inside the main gate depicting all football and hurling and handball clubs in the county, these are bilingual and will also be on display in the Mickey Loftus Room. We wish to acknowledge a small grant from Forás na gaeilge towards this project.

A record of All Mayo Gaa officers from 1888- 2022 have been documented and are now on display in the stadium, I wish to acknowledge the assistance of Sean Feeney and Michael Lang supporting the completion of this part of the project.

Photographs of All Ireland Winners.

Football Senior All Ireland winners, Under 21 All Ireland winning teams, Minor All Ireland Winning teams. Hurling Senior and Minor All Ireland Winning teams are on display in the foyer, canteen area and Mickey Loftus room. This is work in progress League winners and All Ireland Junior winners will complete this section. Timeline for completion of this work is end of December 2022.

Gráinne Ní Cheallaigh de Freine.

Coiste Éisteachta Mhuigheo
Mayo GAA County Hearings Committee
Report to County Convention 2022

Mayo Hearings Committee 2022

Brendan Byrne (Castlebar Mitchels) (Chairperson)

Tod O'Mahony (Secretary) (Kiltimagh)

Mattie Joe Connolly (Garrymore)

Joe McVeigh (Bohola Moy Davitts)

Pat McManamon (Burrishoole)

Anthony Egan (Bonniconlon)

John Kilgallon (Ballaghadereen)

Sean Higgins (Davitts)

PJ King (Knockmore)

Craig Middleton (Claremorris)

Role of the County Hearings Committee

During 2022, the Disciplinary Procedures within the County and, indeed within the Association as a whole, have come in for some criticism. It would not be appropriate for this Committee to discuss any individual matter but, on several occasions, it was directly referenced that the County Hearings Committee (HC), for no clear reason, overturned a decision of the Competitions Control Committee (CCC) or reduced a penalty imposed by the CCC. Unfortunately, such criticism comes from a misunderstanding in relation to the Disciplinary Process within the GAA and of the separate and independent roles of the CCC and the HC. All members should take the time to familiarise themselves with the Rules of the Association in relation to disciplinary matters which are contained in Chapter 7 of the Official Guide Part 1 and they are explained in clear and straight forward terms in the GAA Disciplinary Handbook.

The Hearings Committee accept that not everyone will agree with a decision that it makes in any particular instance, but the Committee genuinely and honestly believes that it adheres to the rules and principles enunciated in the Official Guide when dealing with any matter that comes before it. The Committee members are all volunteers, and all have had many years' experience in playing the game, some at County level, and/or in administrative roles within the GAA both at Club and County level. Members of the Committee do not take their roles on the Hearings Committee lightly and no one has any desire to undermine any disciplinary approach within the County.

The County Hearings Committee is a separate and independent body to the County Competitions Control Committee. The CCC is responsible for the investigation and processing of matters relating to the enforcement of rules and is responsible for dealing with disciplinary matters other than where those functions are reserved to the HC. The role of the HC is to adjudicate on all disciplinary matters relating to the enforcement of rules

where a hearing is prescribed and requested. The role is adjudication not investigation. The HC has no investigative powers.

It is the role of the CCC, generally, to commence disciplinary action and this can commence either solely on foot of the content of the referee's report (and any clarification thereto) or following an investigation conducted by the CCC and the subsequent preparation of a Disciplinary Report. In cases where the CCC rely solely on the content of the referee's report, no further investigation takes place, and no parties are interviewed or other evidence adduced.

In the first instance, the CCC decides, having considered the content of the referee's report, as to what infraction it feels has been committed and by whom and then what penalty it feels is appropriate in the circumstances. The Defending Party is then presented with the option of accepting that they have committed the alleged infraction and accepting the penalty proposed. The Defending Party does have an opportunity to dispute the charge brought against them so if the Defending Party does not accept the proposal from the CCC and requests a hearing, a hearing is arranged before the HC. Once a hearing is requested by a Defending Party, then no infraction has been proven and no penalty imposed. It is then a matter for the HC to decide if an infraction is proven and, if so, what penalty is to be applied. To clarify, this is not an appeal from a decision of the CCC. The CCC has no power to impose a penalty but only to propose one. The HC do not reduce, affirm, or increase any penalty imposed by the CCC. [This is like a situation where a person receives a fixed penalty notice for speeding in the post. If the person believes that they have a defence to the charge and does not accept the proposed fine and penalty points, then the matter goes to the District Court. It is then for the District Court to decide, upon hearing all the evidence presented to it, whether a speeding offence has been committed and, if the decision is that it has, then what penalty should be imposed. This type of hearing is not an appeal from a fine/penalty point being imposed by the Gardai.]

The HC is mindful that it conducts its affairs in accordance with rule and subject to fair procedures and the principles of natural justice. At the hearing before the HC, the Defending Party is allowed a full opportunity to defend themselves and can produce whatever evidence they feel is appropriate to contradict the content of the referee's report or any other evidence given on behalf of the CCC. This will generally include video evidence and, if it does, this video evidence will not have been available to the CCC initially when considering the referee's report. There is no provision for the attendance at a hearing of anyone other than the representative(s) of the CCC and the Defending Party and, if the Defending Party so wishes, a Club Member nominated to accompany the Defending Party. Either party is also entitled to call whatever witnesses they chose to call.

Having heard all the evidence then the members of the HC deliberate and decide and all parties are notified of its decision. That concludes the role of the HC. Every case that comes before the HC is dealt with on its own merits and any penalties applied are what the Committee genuinely and honestly feels are the appropriate penalties to apply having heard all evidence and considering all the circumstances of the matter.

In many instances, the Rules prescribe a minimum penalty to be applied to infractions that are proven and the HC has no discretion to impose a penalty less than the minimum prescribed. If the HC is to impose a penalty more than the minimum prescribed, then it must be presented with clear grounds as to why a penalty in excess of the minimum is to be applied in any particular instance. As stated earlier, the HC do not reduce, affirm, or increase any penalty imposed by the CCC. In fact, in deciding penalty, the HC should not be aware of the penalty previously proposed by the CCC and, if any members are so aware, then they cannot have regard to that proposed penalty in making their decision. To quote from the GAA's Disciplinary Handbook:

“The Hearings Committee should guard against being influenced by what the Proposed Penalty was, when deciding penalty. Once the Proposed Penalty is rejected it counts for nothing and the Hearings Committee cannot have regard to it when deciding penalty. That is why the Proposed Penalty is blacked out from the copy of the Notice of Disciplinary Action forwarded to the Hearings Committee. As noted earlier, sometimes the Proposed Penalty will come to the attention of the Hearings Committee by other means, and in those cases the members of the Hearings Committee must do their best to put it out of their minds.”

Disciplinary Hearings in Mayo in 2022.

In 2022, Mayo HC sat on 23 occasions to hear disciplinary charges against players/team officials/supporters in hurling and football. Those 23 hearings did not involve any juveniles in 2022. The infractions alleged against players largely related to Category III infractions which included striking/kicking infractions and the use of abusive language to match officials. There were several hearings where team officials were accused of abusive and threatening language/behaviour to a match official.

Another criticism sometimes levelled at the GAA Disciplinary Process is that there are too many players getting off having committed infractions that carry match suspensions. In Mayo, in 2022, there were more than 3500 games at all levels. In total, Mayo Hearings Committee sat on 23 occasions to deal with disciplinary matters. On several occasions, more than one disciplinary action arose out of the same game. Therefore, this total of 23 hearings came from less than 20 games. That means that out of those 3500+ games, less than 20 games resulted in hearings being requested. That amounts to 0.57% or less than 6 games per 1000 played.

The HC is not able to indicate the total number of Notices of Disciplinary Action, proposing a suspension for a player/team official, that were sent out (that would be a matter for the CCC) but out of this total, 23 defending parties did not accept that they had committed the infraction alleged and/or the penalty proposed by the CCC.

Of those 23 defending parties, 15 were players. In the case of 9 of those 15 players, the infraction proposed was considered proven and the appropriate suspension applied. On 3 occasions, the player was found guilty of a lesser infraction. In 2 of those 3 cases, the lesser infraction did not result in the imposition of a match suspension. The remaining 1 case led

to a one match suspension. In the remaining 3 cases, the decision was that no infraction was proven so no penalty was imposed.

Of the remaining 8 hearings out of the total of 23, 1 involved a club, 1 involved a supporter and 6 involved team officials. Of those 8 defending parties, all 8 were found to have committed an infraction attracting either a fine or suspension. In 4 of the cases involving team officials, the infraction alleged was not considered to be proven but a different infraction was considered to have been proven and suspensions ranging from 1 to 2 matches were imposed.

Therefore, in 2022, a total of 5 players did not end up serving a match suspension having originally been sent from the field for a straight red card infraction.

There were 4 appeals, from decisions of the HC, taken to Connacht Hearings Committee. 2 appeals were taken by players and 2 were taken by team officials. All 4 appeals were unsuccessful.

Transfers/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 HC. There was three such appeals in 2022. Those three appeals were successful before the Hearings Committee and, in respect of two matters relating to transfers, those decisions were overturned by the GAA Disputes Resolution Authority.

Tomás Ó Mathúna/Tod O'Mahony
Runaí/Secretary
Coiste Éisteachta Mhuigheo



Mayo County Planning and Training Committee**Annual Report 2022.**

This is a new role, and the purpose/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-wide policies at local level.

The first official Planning and Training Officer workshop took place on 21st March, and was followed by a Planning and Training Officer Forum, on 23/03/22. An overview of the role was discussed, and agreement was reached on various training opportunities and follow up meetings from April to June 2022 were agreed.

The County Planning and Training Committee was ratified at Coiste Bainisti Meeting 23/3/2022 and includes Mary Prenty, (Chairperson), Johnny Hopkins, (Connacht GAA Dev), Michael Lang, (IT Officer), Julie Reilly, (North) Alan Prendergast, (South) Bernie Ryder, (East) Willie Keaveney (West) Paul Mc Namara (Demographic Committee) and Majella Varley, Brendan Mooney (Officer Training/Funding Options).

Club Officer Training is part of the foundation of our committee, and we have actively engaged in all aspects of officer training which has been delivered by National Webinar to all new and existing Chairpersons, Secretaries, Treasurers, PROs within the county.

The Club and County Officer Training Webinars were organised as outlined below

- ***Training for County Officers, 12th January.***
- ***Leading, Managing and Governing your Club. 25th January.***
- ***The Digital Communications, 1st February 2022.***
- ***The Fundraising, Commercial and Sponsorship Module, 3rd February was cancelled at short notice due to unforeseen circumstances.***
- ***Using IT to Simplify Club Administration, 8th February.***

- **Tree Planting and Health Webinar, 2nd March.**
- **Operating Effectively as One Club, 10th February.**
- **Foireann: Managing your club Membership x 2 with a Live Q &A session, 24th March.**
- **Foireann: Handling your Club Registrations March.**
- **Clann Credo: Managing Development Project Costs, 24th May.**
- **Corporate Trustee Webinar, 4th October.**
- **Healthy Club Officer, Webinar, 4th October.**
- **Running a Club AGM, 12th October.**
- **Strategic Funding for Clubs, 27th October** – Grants, Fundraising, sponsorship, Crowd Funding, Bequests.

Most of these modules had an increased attendance from last year. Many requests were received for **One Drive Training Modules** to be delivered as well as requests for the slides for further viewing.

The Foireann modules were oversubscribed, and extra repeats were actioned. A new feature to process Garda Vetting Applications was added to Foireann and the first applications went live on 31st March 22. Members must be logged into the portal on <https://learning.gaa.ie/login>. This registration guide if you are not a member of the Learning Portal: [Revised GAA elearning Registration Guidelines.pdf](#).

A Club Officer Training Survey, which closed on the 6th of May 2022, was forwarded to all County and Club Officers, Children's Officers, Player Representatives, Club Coaching Officers, and Co Board Delegates. I wish to highlight that Mayo scored highly in the responses, coming in second overall. The survey shows that the main concerns of our clubs are;

- **Club Planning**
- **Coaching & Gaelic Games Development**
- **Volunteer Recruitment and Retention**
- **Commercial Sponsorship**
- **Player Welfare, Insurance, Injury Fund.**

I am encouraging the respondents to this survey to ensure that this becomes an agenda item at an upcoming meeting of your Club and at least open a discussion on some of the above concerns and how they impact on your Club and hopefully find a resolution that is a best fit for your club.

Stewards Training

Cumann Lúthchleas Gael, in conjunction with EUROPLAN, is committed to providing both face to face and a virtual training programme to ensure that we always have an adequate number of certified stewards trained in safety and assistance for match day spectators, players, match officials, media personnel as well as gaining an understanding of the role of the Steward on event days. We had 11 applicants in 2022 and their certification was completed following two **Induction** events, (15/04/22 & 24/04/22) which were held in Mac Hale Park. A further two members from 2021 also finalized their certification on 24th April.2022.

Mayo GAA has now got a total of 153 fully certified Stewards to assist with Mayo Clubs and County events. The breakdown is as follows, 64 (2020), 76 (2021) and a further 13 (2022). Special thanks to Hugh Lynn, (Tutor) and Gerry Bourke, (Head Steward) for their support.

Thanks to all the Stewards for their cooperation during the training.

The Mayo Planning and Training Committee, assisted by John Walker, (Co Pro) hosted the following training events earlier this year for Club Pro's

- **East Mayo/ South Mayo PRO - 23rd June 2022** in the COE.
- **West Mayo - 30th June** in Kilmeena GAA Club.
- **North Mayo - 14th July in Ballina Stephanites**
- **Mac Hale Park – 30th August 2022.**

John Walker, opened the training with a presentation on the Role of the Club PRO and included insights from his own role as County PRO.

Angelina Nugent and Ailish Irvine delivered training on how to maximize exposure for your club both in traditional media and social media and included Canva App, planning your social media effectively, creating content for your club's social media platforms to engage followers and potentially attract club sponsorship. Using social media to promote Club Fundraising and other Club activities, using social media to communicate with all your club members effectively and safely, most efficient, and effective ways to link all social media platforms and schedule posts. Tools that can simplify and optimize your social media channels.

The main Dos and Don'ts of social media and Communications, how to formulate a press release with tips to ensure your release stands out in the crowd. One Drive Training queries, Live Streaming guidelines by Brendan Nugent, Mid-West Radio.

Clubs have actively engaged in these training events and the feedback is very encouraging. Club Pros raised issues around some challenges in their club role their roles, as well as a discussion on sourcing Club Crests with a high Spec to compile programmes for Club

championship games. County PRO, John Walker agreed to forward a copy of the crests to all club Pro's. We have been able to help Clubs who have a high volume of data to save from photos and other digital content and through the good offices of Liam Alex Heffron (History officer) this has been secured. There is a high demand for One Drive training following presentations from Michael Lang, which I have noted for 2023.

Handouts on the Role of the Club PRO, Social media Policy and Guidelines for Clubs, Digital Communications, Communications and Public Relations checklist, and a Feedback questionnaire were available for the attendees at the training.

Angelina provided handouts re Canva, (Quick Ref Guide), and A Step-by-Step Guide to Facebook Marketing and other important Pro reference guide that the presenters themselves use daily.

Many thanks to Angelina Mc Hugh, Ailish Irvine and Brendan Nugent who compiled the training courses and made presentation at all the four venues on a voluntary basis. The training was described by many as practical and extremely relevant to clubs. We are indebted to you, and I know that the training is most appreciated by our Club Pro's.

Thanks to John Walker, County PRO, Julie Reilly, Alan Prendergast, Bernie Ryder, Willie Keaveney, Majella Varley (County Planning committee) and the host clubs Kilmeena, and Ballina Stephanites and COE for the support and refreshments provided at the events.

Thanks to Michael Cummins and Michael Diskin (Mac Hale Park) for their support. Special thanks to Michael Lang (IT Officer) for his support during this training. A special tribute to the late Paddy Connor, Lacken who joined us in Ballina for the Pro training. He was first up to Angelina informing of the great night he had, and he stayed on and enjoyed the refreshments. He also told us that he felt buoyed up by the event. It is still hard to believe that this man is now gone to his eternal reward. Sincere Sympathies to his wife and Family. Ar Dheis De go raibh a ainm.

Official GAA Mails

Club Chairpersons, Secretaries, Treasurer's, PRO's, Co. Board Delegates and Childrens Officers have an official mail which is designed to support in the day-to-day running of your Clubs and allows for a smooth transition for new and incoming officers. While it is understandable that an officer may want to forward their official mail to a personal or business email for convenience, this is not recommended from a GDPR perspective and should ideally be suspended as soon as possible for your own safety. Officers are also encouraged to use the free One Drive facility that they must store all club records, club deeds, historical information and photos and can be shared on One Drive also. A new layer of access has been granted to Planning and Training role to cater for the volume of password requests following club AGM's, resulting in a password reset in very quick time rather than the usual 2-day turnover in the past.

The Club Leadership Development Programme (CLDP), the GAA's Official Club Officer Training program commenced with the roll out of Club and County Officer Training for 2022.

The New Club Officer Induction was made available on 18th January. The training modules were recorded and available to all officers who registered on the portal prior to the event.

County Management Committee Induction was held on 19th January 2022 and led by Aidan Horan (IPA). Further information https://learning.gaa.ie/club_leadership.

The GAA recommend officers to use their personal emails when logging in, as it means that you will have a record and recording of the training modules that you can review at any time. (If you register with your GAA mail you will lose this information in a handover). Register on <https://learning.gaa.ie/officertrainingcalendar>.

The Modules offered this year were

- Leading, Managing and Governing your Club - **25/01/22**
- Digital Communications - **1/02/22**
- Fundraising, Commercial and Sponsorship - **3/02/22**
- Using IT to Simplify Club Administration **8/02/22**
- Operating Effectively as One Club - **10/02/22**

Further information can be found on https://learning.gaa.ie/club_leadership

Club Planning

The GAA Club Planning programme has been underway within the Association for a number of years and they have now upped the stakes for us all as it is a necessary requirement when applying for Club Grants. The Club Planning information and templates can be found here - https://learning.gaa.ie/club_planning.

The GAA are always promoting the availability of the Association's Strategic Planning service to Clubs and assisting Clubs who require help in specific areas of Club Development. The Club Planning programme also provides opportunities to club members to train as a Club Plan Facilitator. To support and manage applications received for our Clubs, a new committee was put in place, to allow Clubs to plan a timeline that best suits them to complete their Club Plan.

This committee was subsequently ratified

- Julie Reilly, Crossmolina – North Mayo
- Alan Prendergast, Mayo Gaels – South Mayo
- Bernie Ryder, Bohola Moy Davitts - East Mayo
- Willie Keaveney, Kilmeena - West Mayo

An initial meeting revealed a full review to be undertaken to assess what Clubs plans were deferred due to the Covid epidemic and note applications requests from Clubs who wished to complete a Club Plan prioritize them and plan around the timelines requested. We consulted with existing Facilitators and noted that some were unavailable this year and a meeting was scheduled with Adrian Hassett, Connacht GAA, to initiative a facilitators training course based on the number of plans to be processed.

A meeting was scheduled and an officer from each Club was invited. This meeting outlined what was required to pursue and deliver a 1yr, 3yr or indeed a 5yr Plan and identify a club coordinator with the best skills to engage all the club members and indeed the wider community to ensure a successful plan.

It was agreed that an Expressions of Interest would be sought, and this resulted in a total of 14 clubs submitting an "Expression of Interest" form to signal their intention to engage with us for 2022 /2023. The Clubs with deferred plans were prioritized and they all agreed to start again from scratch as outdated information and personnel changes in clubs were an issue. The timelines and Launch dates were agreed with their coordinators. All Clubs were contacted and asked to nominate a club member who wished to train as a facilitator. This resulted in **Facilitator training taking** place on Tuesday 31st May 2022, and on 26th September 22.

Having had a break for the Summer, an intensive refresher course was held in October 22 in the Connacht GAA Centre in Began - delivered by Adrian Hassett and Jack McCarney to literally kick start the process of the Club Planning programme for Mayo Clubs. We have 5 Clubs scheduled to start in January/February 20223, while 2 clubs are scheduled for March/April. We 7 clubs in the process of Club planning and one of them is Mayo Gaels club and Alan Pendergast, chairperson of Mayo Gaels, and a member of our Planning committee has very kindly agreed to outline what it means to his club for us

"Mayo Gaels GAA Club started looking at the GAA's Club Planning Program in 2020. We had a few new initiatives developing in the Club and this program gave us the perfect tools to help align all our activities.

*There is nothing overly complicated about it, but simple questions like **Where are we now? Where do we want to go? and how will we get there?** these got us thinking. Not just our Executive Committee, but the wider membership. The more people you can get to answer those questions, the greater the likelihood of a more collaborative and accepted Club Plan.*

The starting points of assigning a Club Plan Coordinator and Recording Key Club Statistics and maybe a Club & Community Survey, these all help to get a feel for the scope of your Club Plan. There's not much point in setting a goal of "Winning the County U14 title in 4 years' time" if you don't currently have enough U10's in your schools to field an U10 team.

The next steps, ones that we have just completed, are to set up a Steering Group around the areas you wish to focus on. These will be different for every club and will depend on current status and priorities...



Picking 3 or 4 focus areas and a Leader for each area, gives you your Steering Group. Once these are in place, you can start planning for your Club Planning Workshop.

*The Mayo Gaels Club Planning Workshop is **Feb 26th 2023**. We will invite everyone from our community to attend, Members and Non-Members. We want to ask them the 3 questions above. We want them to be open and honest, as their feedback will dictate the content and structure of our Club Plan.*

The Club Plan Report will then be published and launched on a future date.

I would like to thank Adrian Hassett, Mary Prenty and her Club Planning Team for all the guidance and support throughout this process.

Alan Prendergast, Chairperson Mayo Gaels GAA Club."

For the club planning process to be successful we require Clubs to engage but we also need Facilitators to deliver for the clubs. We require a mix of both experienced Facilitators and new members to come on board to learn the ropes and join in with the experienced facilitators to gain confidence to lead clubs with their plans. Facilitation by its very nature is a unique role and our most experienced facilitator, Willie Keaveney, is telling us how it is for him

"In the Club Planning process, the Facilitator plays a very tactical and important role. He/She acts as the Chairperson during the Club Planning Workshop, and it is his / her responsibility to control the workshop so that everyone's opinion and views are heard and recorded. The Club Planning Process commences when the Club submits an expression of interest, and a certificate of readiness to the Planning and Training Officer at Mayo County Board. The Planning and training Officer will then appoint a Club Facilitator to that particular Club and the following steps should then be followed

(1) Facilitator will contact the Club and arrange a first meeting with the Clubs Executive Committee.

(2) At this meeting the Club are advised to select the steering Committee, decide on what timespan the plan should have, either one year, three years, or five years, discuss the role of the focus groups and select the Chairpersons for the five focus groups. Plans are made for the Club workshop, and a date is fixed for the event.

(3) Plans are also made for writing the plan and who's responsibility it is going to be. The launch date for the completed plan will be discussed and this is usually within three months from the date of the workshop.

(4) The Facilitator Facilitates the workshop, he supplies the workbooks and encourages broad discussion on each of the five key areas for the plan. The worksheets are given to the plan coordinator for further reference and discussion. He / she will meet with the focus groups, and if they wish a representative from the County Coaching and Games Development Committee can be present at this meeting.

The Facilitator can if required meet again with the plan coordinator the steering committee, and the chairpersons of the focus groups to review the draft.

(5) The Steering committee will then finalist the draft and present it to the Clubs Executive for approval.

As can be seen the Facilitator has an important role in this process, it is really important for the facilitator not to be opinionated, or judgmental, be open minded is required, as this is the plan for the club, and the facilitator is merely helping the club advance its plans and aspirations.

Willie Keaveney, Club Planning Committee.

While some Clubs are completing a first plan there are a number of clubs facing into a 2nd (5yr) plan and with Julie Reilly, a new Facilitator she is now telling us in her own words what this is like for her

Please find a summary from my perspective on the facilities training and how it has benefited me and our club in preparation and hopefully the conclusion of our club's development plan.

I attended the facilities training sessions that were held in the Connaught Center of Excellence this year. During the sessions we were presented with information and clear steps on how to assist clubs to prepare and complete their Club's Development plan. The presentations provided us with vital information on how to encourage clubs to get everyone involved and how to run specific workshops dedicated to the club development plan.

I must give credit to all presenters on both nights, as they themselves are current facilitators they were able to provide us with the true hands-on meaning of what being a facilitator actually is, which meant a lot more than reading information from the slides provided. What was also made clear is that not all clubs will have the same approach in preparing their club development plan as some clubs are more developed than others and some clubs would have previously completed development plans. They did emphasize how important it is to encourage clubs to invite as many people as possible, especially people who are currently not involved with the club to participate in the workshops.

For our club development plan our approach is slightly different as this is our 2nd club development plan and majority of the people involved in the 1st plan still have active roles within the club. After attending the facilities training sessions where I picked up some valuable information and confidence in what we had to do I prepared a simple development plan template for our club to use. We as a club are in a great position to complete the 2nd club development plan as at the beginning of 2022, we had already started to work on our clubs 5 yr. plan. We listed all the developments required that would need to be accomplished within the next 5 years to ensure we keep developing our facilities to ensure our club remains at a high standard for all our current and future club members. By having completed the facilities training this has provided me with the information I need and gives me the confidence to help steer our executive committee and members of the club to ensure we will complete an achievable club development plan. This also gives us an opportunity to get more people involved with the club. Without the facilities training I would not be in such a position to help our club which I delighted to be able to do so. Julie Reilly, Planning and training committee.

Congratulations to Ballinrobe GAA club and Castlebar Mitchels who have launched their plans. Congratulations to Knockmore GAA Club who have completed their plan and will be launching it in early 2023. Westport GAA Club Draft Plan has been approved and it will be launched in early 2023. For any club interested in Club Planning the information and templates can be found here - https://learning.gaa.ie/club_planning.

Club Trustees: Arising from Sports Capital Grant announcements and the resurgence of Development grants earlier this year there was an increase in the number in requests for information on Club Property (Deed of Trust), Corporate Trust and the new announcement in relation to the Central Register of Beneficial Ownership of Trusts (CRBOT).

Club Meetings were facilitated to update club officers on the possibility of transitioning to the Corporate Trust particularly considering the new reporting system for Clubs.

A Chairperson & Vice chairpersons Meeting was held in Mac Hale Park on Monday (3rd October) and the topics included

- Welcome and Presentation on the role of the Club Chairperson/ Vice chairperson - Seamus Tuohy, Co-Chairperson
- Club Planning - Adrian Hassett Connacht GAA
- Club Trustee and CRBOT - Adrian Hassett, Connacht GAA
- Official GAA mail and One Drive Storage – Michael Lang, IT Officer
- Club Development Draw – Michael Diskin, Asst/Tres Mayo GAA.

This meeting was held to update the club chairpersons/Vice chairpersons on Club Planning, (requirement for Development Grant) and the Central Register of Beneficial Ownership of Trusts (CRBOT) which is now the law of the land and under which Personal Trustees and all members of the Club Executive must be registered.

Michael Lang in his presentation outlined the benefits of the Official mail for chairpersons and the use of their One Drive facility which is free of charge and it is there to ensure that they are GDPR compliant. This meeting was very well attended, and the discussions were lively and engaging. However, several queries were raised re CRBOT and following discussions Connacht GAA agreed to host a follow up, stand-alone workshop for Mayo Clubs in COE. There was extra time for Q & A session, as well as support available on the night for any officer or Trustee who had a particular Club issue to deal with.

A training Webinar (4th October) was subsequently circulated to all Club officers and any officer who registered for the training received a copy of the slides for their own records after the event. We have more than 10 clubs currently transitioning to the ICCLG. It is important that club trustees are informed of this new law, and they can make an informed choice on their role in the club.

Planning and Training Officer Forums were held at quarterly intervals during the year. The topics relate to our role and include Succession Planning, Club and County Officer Training, Club Planning, and The Club Compas Programme. This year there were presentations on the GAA's Community Development Committee, Urban and Rural, hosted a which focused on identifying and understanding the impact of Demographic changes in Clubs. Demographic trends demonstrate how Clubs can utilize their resources and the new Geographic Information System (GIS) toolkit to manage the impact of demographic change. The impact of Local Authority Planning in our communities was highlighted and it was outlined how Clubs can engage with the planning process to mitigate some of the effects. In a follow up presentation by Dr Peter Horgan, referred to the GAA GIS System initially created by the Community Development, Urban and Rural committee in 2019. This project has continued to evolve and is now the Data Hub for Gaelic Games. This system, using Foireann allows the GAA to lead, develop, and implementing a systematic approach to policy development and research within the Association. The initial evidence from our own **Foireann Registration System** highlights ongoing populations trends in Mayo.

Mac Hale Park Sustainability Campus

McHale Park GAA Sustainability Campus is a partnership between Castlebar Mitchels and Mayo County Board and our aim is to enhance and develop the combined Campus in a sustainable way. A Master Plan is now in place, and fully funded and it incorporate all facets of the Green Clubs Programme.

The Green Clubs Programme is an all-island partnership between the GAA, LGFA, Camogie Association and local government. The GAA coupled with the Green Clubs Program (Croke Park), has provided us with a once in a lifetime opportunity to secure an SEC, (Sustainable Energy Community) which is now the vehicle we need for all our Clubs to address their costs under energy, Waste, Water, Energy. Biodiversity and Transport. The SEC intends to engage clubs and members to promote and support sustainable energy use in clubs and members' homes. It is designed to support and ensure the long-term sustainability of our clubs and communities by raising awareness of environmental matters, opportunities, and responsibilities. We are seeing concrete support for our clubs in the forms of grants and professional services that are available through Mayo County Council and other statutory and non-governmental organizations. The current external partners that we have engaged with, SEAI, Regional CARO office (Climate Action Regional Office), Mayo County Council are a valuable resource to educate us and guide us in the following programmes, namely Waste, Water, Energy, Transport and Bio Diversity. This plan will be led by Tobin Engineering and built through expert working groups in each thematic area. We are now entering into the Implementation Plan stage which will be actioned in early 2023.

In order to keep clubs updated a presentation was made to the Executive and County Committee (22nd September) on the updates to the Campus Projects by Kurt Reinhardt. This led to many requests from club seeking information and as individual visits were too time consuming **The Green Club Workshop for all Mayo Clubs** was born and held in COE. A guided tour, led by Kurt Reinhardt, was held prior to the event to view the Green Energy projects that were planned, finalised and others that are still on going.

The presentations included - Green Clubs Overview & Toolkit - Jimey Darcy (Croke Park)

- Energy and County Board SEC - Mel Gavin (SEAI)
- Waste - Sinead Ni Mhainin (Mayo Coco)
- Bio Diversity - Deirdre Cunningham (Mayo Coco)
- Transport - Cathy Mellett (Mayo Coco)
- Practical Heat Pump overview - Dr David Connolly, Chief Tech Officer with Astatine.
- Climate Action - Laura Dixon (Caro Office)

Funding and Grants

- Leader - James Golden
- John Harrington - Future Fit
- Clan Credo - Tracy Hannon
- Trees on the Land - Kurt Reinhardt

44 clubs attended and the feedback from the attendees has been invaluable. We noted the overwhelming amount of information that was available on the night, that the attendees needed time to process it all, and one topic workshops were required to facilitate Q & A sessions with each of the external partners.

Arising from the feedback we hosted a **Waste Management Workshop** (7th November) – Presentations were made by Sinéad Ní Mhainín, Connacht Ulster Regional Waste Office, and Sharon Cameron, Mayo County Council who gave an overview of the Waste Management section of the GAA Green Clubs Toolkit which will be officially launched in early December.

Content covered during the workshop included Guidance for clubs on Waste Management Planning and Waste Auditing, Waste Prevention, in particular the elimination of Single Use Bottles & Coffee Cups at club matches and training, Waste Segregation and Club/Social Media Communications. Numerous guidance tools were outlined, all of which will be available over the coming weeks. Further information is available from Sharon Cameron at scameron@mayococo.ie.

There was a small attendance but the clubs that were present have engaged the services of the environment officer to visit their clubs and set up a Club Waste Management Plan.

A Bio-Diversity Workshop (14th November) – Presenters Deirdre Cunningham, Mayo Coco, Lynda Huxley, Swift Conservation Ireland, and Karen Dingerkus, Giorria Environmental Services. Deirdre agrees that MacHale Park Campus Biodiversity Project “The potential for enhancing biodiversity in GAA clubs throughout the county is enormous. In 2022, Mayo County Council Heritage Office, with support from the Local Biodiversity Action Fund of the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage, worked with Mayo GAA to explore the potential for biodiversity enhancement and habitat creation at the MacHale Park campus. A survey of the campus was undertaken to identify areas of existing biodiversity and areas where measures can be undertaken to provide wildlife habitats or enhance existing habitats. Using this information, a biodiversity action plan was prepared. Following on from the preparation of the plan an information evening was held, aimed at providing Mayo’s GAA committees with a better understanding and awareness of biodiversity, its connection with sports grounds and how it can be conserved and enhanced.

The plan can be used as a template for other clubs to follow, ensuring that biodiversity concerns will be integrated into the activities of Mayo's GAA clubs, providing benefits both to biodiversity and club members". Deirdre Cunningham, Heritage Officer Mayo County Council dcunningham@mayococo.ie www.mayo.ie/heritage . To date 6 of the clubs in attendance have submitted an application to Mayo Coco for a Biodiversity Plan for their clubs.

Energy Workshop (22nd November) in Mac Hale Park and the topics were

- Energy and County Board SEC - Mel Gavin (SEAI),
- The Connacht GAA experiences – Kurt Reinhardt,
- Innovation - Dr David Connolly - Chief Tech Officer with Astatine – 10 mins,
- The Clann Credo Experience, Tracy Hannon,
- Funding - John Harrington - Future Fit, Identification of potential 2023 projects for clubs, guidance, advice, planning and funding routes,
- Q&A – 15 mins.

David Connolly from a solar and heat pump company called Astatine outlined some of the simple rules of thumb you can use to assess if solar panels or heat pumps could be a solution for your club. He gave some guidelines around how much electricity you can get from solar panels depending on the space available on your roof which can be seen the slides he presented. You can compare this to the total amount of electricity that you consume to see how much of your electricity you can replace with solar. He also demonstrated how you can estimate how much energy you need for heating and hot water, which can help you decide if a heat pump is worth investigating as a solution. Finally, his company specialises in solutions for large factories, but he showed how SEAI funding for these projects can unlock funding for clubs also. A large factory needs to partner with a local community such as a GAA club to unlock the funds they use, so if you partner with a large company which is looking at a heat pump project for example, then this could release funds for your club also.

This was a well-attended workshop, and the clubs present are now interested in engaging with one or other of the presenters. The climate action targets apply to us all, one way or another, and I think there was something in this workshop for all the attendees. It has been agreed with the External Partners that the remaining workshops, Water and Transport, will be held in early 2023, this is mainly due to the end of year commitments for Clubs, Mayo Coco and the lack of available dates for the external presenters. Special thanks to If you have queries on any of the above workshops, send an email to planningandtraining.mayo@gaa.ie

The McHale Park GAA sustainability and Biodiversity Campus

A Community Heritage Grant Scheme 2022 application has been completed. A full transcript of the applications is with secretary.mayo@gaa.ie. The work is ready to start but unfortunately the inclement weather has delayed the project until February 2023.

The GAA Green Club Programme made available the option to order Native Trees, free of charge for the coming planting season as part of a new partnership with 'Trees on the Land'. Several clubs availed of this Scheme in 2022

The Launch of the Green Clubs programme will be held on the 3rd December 22 in Croke Park.

The GAA Green Club Toolkit is designed to support club members and volunteers in taking simple action to promote awareness and engagement and to make the small but significant changes that will strengthen the sustainability our clubs, communities, and planet in the face of climate and natural resource challenges. The toolkit will be published online and will be freely available to all GAA, LGFA, and Camogie Association units and members.

Special thanks to

Kurt Reinhardt, for his dedication to this project. He has gone way beyond the call of duty many times to facilitate meetings and with the Energy workshop in COE and Mac Hale Park. He is also a very patient tour guide in the COE for Mayo Clubs.

Jimmy Darcy, Green Clubs Programme Croke Park for the support and direction you have provide to us this year – it is appreciated.

To Brendan Heaney for his encouragement and patience in heading up the subgroups to develop the Energy Master Plan for the Campus and as always has made himself available to engage with our committee and clubs when required.

Thanks to Paddy Mahon, and Martin Moran (Castlebar Mitchels) and Michael Diskin, (Mayo GAA).

Thanks to Mel Gavin, R&D Coordinator ATU Sligo, who has stuck with us on the Green Clubs programme and the Campus Project.

David Mellett (Northwest Regional CARO Officer). Thanks very much for your dedications and encouragement.

David Connolly (Astatine) who acts as an independent advisor to our committee. David has attended all our Workshops at considerable inconvenience at times and we appreciate your commitment.

To Deirdre Cunningham, Sinead Ni Mhainin, (Mayo Coco), Cathy Mellett, Johnny Hopkins, (Connacht GAA) Martin Corcoran, Bernard Treacy, (Castlebar Mitchels, Michael Sweeney,

Engineer, Pat Mc Donnell, Eoin Hughes, Noelle Horan, Liam Moffatt, Alan Lynskey and Kevin Swift (Connacht Ulster Regional Waste Coordinator).

Thanks to Alan Prendergast, Julie Reilly, Bernie Ryder, Willie Keaveney and Majella Varley of the club planning committee. I think we did really well this year organising the clubs and facilitators.

To the new facilitators who joined us, Gerry Mc Nulty, Kieran Dowd, Liam Moffatt, Martin Corcoran, and Gerry O Neill – many thanks. Special thanks to Hugh Lynn (Roscommon) for his help and support both as a Tutor and facilitator during the year. I hope that you will continue on the path of facilitation for the years ahead.

Thanks to Brendan Mooney (Kiltimagh) for his support re Funding options for clubs.

Thanks to Jack Mc Carney, (Croke Park), Adrian Hassett, (Connacht GAA) and Mattie Kilroy for their unwavering support to our committee during the year. It has been a great learning curve for us all. Thanks to the County Board Officers and the Executive members for their help and support during the year.

Mary Prenty, Planning and Training Committee- Mayo GAA.

Funding Options

- *The Sports Capital & Equipment Programme. This scheme is currently closed for application but organisations can register their interest on the portal www.sportscapitalprogramme.ie*
- *LEADER funding – You should make contact with the South West 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/>.*

- *General Municipal Allocation (GMA). Funding for Residents Associations, for Clubs/Organisations, for Festival/Event Organisers and for Burial Ground Committees from Mayo County Council. [https://www.mayo.ie/en-ie/mayo-sports/funding-\(1\)/general-municipal-allocation-\(gma\)-funding-2022](https://www.mayo.ie/en-ie/mayo-sports/funding-(1)/general-municipal-allocation-(gma)-funding-2022) **For this scheme it is advisable that you speak with your local Councillors as they would have an input into this funding option.***
- *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-grants/overview/#:~:text=The%20Community%20Grant%20programme%20supports,registered%20SEAI%20Project%20Co%2Dordinators>.*
- *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.*
- *The Community Activities Fund to support community groups. Application is through Mayo County Council. See mayo.ie for more details*
- *Energy support package for sports clubs. Application process open for funding in respect to the rising energy costs crisis. National Governing Bodies of Sport (NGBs) can apply to Sport Ireland for funding to help ensure funding gets to affiliated clubs. Closing date for applications is Friday 25th November 2022. NGBs will begin the disbursement of this funding to their relevant clubs, affiliated organisations from January 2023 onwards.*

- **Community Support Fund** to support thousands of local community & voluntary groups with their energy bills. The once-off fund will be allocated under the Department's Community Enhancement Programme and will be administered locally by the Local Community Development Committees (LCDCs). Funding available for Mayo is €322,731
- **Community and Voluntary Energy Support Scheme (CVESSE)**. The CVESSE will provide once-off support to incorporated organisations and registered charities within the Community and Voluntary sector which fall outside the parameters of other energy support schemes being delivered by Government such as the Temporary Business Energy Support Scheme (TBESS). Further details can be found [here](https://www.pobal.ie/programmes/community-and-voluntary-sector-energy-support-scheme/). Groups should contact their LCDC for further details of the fund. **The Community and Voluntary Energy Support Scheme will open for applications to groups on Monday 21 November 2022 and close on Friday 2 December.**
<https://www.pobal.ie/programmes/community-and-voluntary-sector-energy-support-scheme/>.
- **Creative Climate Action II: Agents of Change**. Applications for the scheme will open in December 2022 at www.creativeireland.gov.ie.

There are two funding strands:

1. Spark

This strand is for those looking to pilot a new idea, or who want to deliver a creative project at a local level. Organisations, community groups and creative groups who can inspire, build knowledge, skills and confidence are welcome to apply for grants between €20,000 and €50,000.

2. Ignite

This funding strand is suitable for those with experience in delivering public engagement projects at scale, and are proposing durational projects with extensive public participation. Applicants may be eligible for grants between €50,000 and €250,000.

2022 CLÁR Programme. CLÁR provides funding for small scale infrastructural projects in rural areas that have experienced significant levels of population decline. Community Groups are encouraged to consider applying for funding for projects such as the provision of Youth Hubs, Multi-Use Gaming Areas (MUGAs), Skateboard Parks, Playgrounds, Handball Alleys, Community Cinemas and Gyms and much more. The programme is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD) with Measure 1 delivered by the Local Authorities (LA) in consultation with local communities. Measures 2 and 3 are administered directly by the Department. The measures being funded under the 2022 CLÁR Programme are:

- *Measure 1: Developing Community Facilities and Amenities (via LA)*
- *Measure 2: Mobility, Cancer Care and Community First Responders Transport (direct to DRCD)*
- *Measure 3: Our Islands (direct to DRCD)*

Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme. The Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme provides funding for the development of new outdoor recreational infrastructure. It also provides support for the necessary repair, maintenance, enhancement or promotion of existing outdoor recreational infrastructure in rural areas. Projects applications will be accepted from Local Authorities (All Measures), Local Development Companies (Measure 1) and/or State Bodies (Measure 3/Project Development Measure) under the scheme:

Measure 1 for small scale projects requiring funding of up to €30,000,

Measure 2 for medium scale projects with funding of up to €200,000,

Measure 3 for large scale projects seeking funding of up to €500,000, and

Project Development Measure funding of up to €50,000 for development costs for strategic large scale projects.

The 2022 Outdoor Recreation Infrastructure Scheme is now closed.

Rural Regeneration and Development Fund. The purpose of the fund is to support job creation in rural areas, address de-population of rural communities and support improvements in our towns and villages with a population of less than 10,000, and outlying areas. <https://www.gov.ie/en/policy-information/c77144-rural-regeneration-and-development-fund/>. *The Fourth Call for Category 1 applications is now closed.*

Connacht Council Report



Early Season Competitions

The 2022 Connacht season began in the warm and dry surrounds of the NUI Galway Connacht GAA Air Dome as the FBD Connacht League got underway in early January. Unfortunately for Mayo they were beaten by eventual winners Galway in the semi-final on a score line of 0-17 to 0-13.

The hurling equivalent proved to be a similar story as Mayo were beaten by Sligo in the semi-finals and by Leitrim in the shield final. Both competitions were played under COVID restrictions however, to ensure as many supporters as possible were able to view the games all matches were streamed live by Connacht GAA with the football final shown live by TG4.

The Connacht senior club final also took place in January, and it saw Mayo champions Knockmore lose out to Pádraig Pearse of Roscommon, in a tight game played in James Stephens Park, Ballina. This defeat meant Kilmeena were the only Mayo team to claim provincial football honours last season. They had a big win over Sligo champions St Patrick's in the junior football final played in early January.

Tooreen continued to keep the Mayo flag flying as they beat Moycullen to claim their third Connacht intermediate hurling championship title in five seasons.

Senior Football Championship

The Connacht senior football championship got underway in the rather unusual time slot of mid-April. The quarter final draw saw Mayo up against Galway in the newly reopened MacHale Park. It was the Tribesmen who emerged victorious by a single point as they went on to a win a 47th provincial crown a few weeks later following wins over Leitrim and Roscommon respectively.

U20 Football Championship

The U20 championship began in April and it pitted Mayo and Galway in the quarter finals. It was Mayo who came out on top in a low scoring affair by 1-06 to 1-04. A semi-final win over Leitrim saw Mayo travel to Markievicz Park to take on Sligo in the final. The home side claimed victory by 4-04 to 1-12 to claim their first Connacht U20 title.

Minor Football Championship

The Minor championship also began in April on a round robin basis. Mayo won all four of their group games and faced Galway in a Connacht final in MacHale Park. In a game shown live on TG4, Mayo recorded their second win over Galway in the space of three weeks to win a 41st Connacht Minor title.

Galway were to get their revenge a few weeks later as Dr Hyde Park, Roscommon had the honour of hosting a Minor All-Ireland final for the very first time when Galway ran out winners by 0-15 to 0-09.

Off the Pitch

A highlight of 2022 off the pitch was Connacht GAA hosting both the GAA Games Development Conference and National Congress. Both events which took place in the NUI Galway Connacht GAA Air Dome saw thousands of people visit and stay in Mayo over two separate weekends in what was a much-needed boost for the local economy. Running and managing these events was a huge undertaking by all the staff of Connacht GAA and the success of the two events was a testament to all their hard work.

It was an eventual year on the pitch, but Connacht GAA has been just as busy off it. 2022 has seen numerous improvements to the centre to ensure it continues to be a sporting facility like no other in the West of Ireland.

The COE have recently installed of 1,000 solar panels and have secured an export licence to sell electricity back to the national grid. This is part of a range of sustainability measures that have been undertaken which also includes beehives, bug hotels, extension to walkways, tree planting (10,000 planted in February), rain water harvesting and EV car chargers. A 10-year Energy Master Plan for the site will be launched in the coming weeks along with a waste management program in February 2023.

This past year has seen a huge increase in footfall with thousands of people going through the gates of the COE every month. Some statistics of note include:

- 15,000+ visitors in October, averaging 12,000+ per month
- 76 games played in the dome during October
- 62 Mayo Teams (Clubs/County/Schools) played in the COE during October

In recent weeks Connacht GAA partnered with UPMC Medical who have opened their first Institute of Health at the COE. This will see three full time physios in place during phase one. Phase two will see the installation of MRI and CAT scan equipment. The partnership will open services beyond our games and membership and will see people from our communities' access recovery programs post operation.

Connacht GAA continues to support the clubs of Mayo. Following the suspension of grants due to COVID club grants were restored this year. Eleven different Mayo clubs received funding total €115,100 to support their 2022 development works.

Lastly, we would like to thank John Prenty and all of his staff for all the work they do throughout the year. The COE continues to go from strength to strength and no doubt 2023 will continue to see it evolve and adapt to the needs of our members.

Paul Cunnane/John Hopkins (Mayo delegates to Connacht Council)

Central Council Report to Annual Convention.

There were seven Central Council meetings held in the past twelve months, two of which were held in conjunction with Annual Congress which was held in the NUI GAA Dome in the Centre of Excellence, Began.

The following were the main items discussed at the meetings:

- Proposals for the Intercounty Senior Football Championship
- Underage grades (an age grade work group was established)
- Coaching and Games Funding Model
- Sponsorship policy regarding the printing of sponsors on the sleeves of jerseys.
- GAA Strategic Plan was adopted.
- As a result of negotiations between GAA and GPA the Player's Charter was agreed
- Appendix 4 was granted to Mayo Hurling team ahead of a final agreed criteria being finalised for future years.
- Several deviations were granted to counties to allow clubs to amalgamate with clubs from other counties to help promote hurling.
- A substantial contribution was made by the GAA to the Red Cross in aid of Ukraine.
- An agreed policy for livestreaming was approved. National Broadcasters get first choice and have agreed to give a monetary reward to counties.
- The Injury Benefit Fund for dental treatment was increased.
- Clubs were encouraged to join the Green Club Initiative.
- The Smart Sliotar will be introduced for Intercounty Hurling Championship in 2023 and for Club Championship in 2024.
- The parameters for taking decisions by email were broadly agreed.
- As a result of European Anti Money Laundering Legislation, the EU now requires each state to maintain a Central Register of Beneficial Ownership of Trusts (CRBOT). Club Executives and Club Trustees will be asked to sign up with certain information.
- Most delegates were in favour of the split season.

- Admission charges to the Allianz League for 2023 were agreed - €18 per adult for Division 1 games and the other divisions remain at €15 per adult.
- Intercounty Senior Teams can resume training on November 24th, 2022, and challenge games can start on January 1st, 2023.
- Under 20s can resume training on January 1st, 2023.
- Congress takes place on 18th/19th February 2023 in Croke Park.
- Mary McAleese will chair a committee to enable camogie, LGFA, and the GAA in integrate.
- Governance – Each county will be required to establish an Audit and Risk Committee

Paddy McNicholas
Central Council Delegate





Children’s Officer

2022 was indeed a very busy year for me since I took up the role of Children’s Officer. The Covid 19 pandemic of previous years has had a significant impact on us all and the impact on our clubs cannot be underestimated.

Safeguarding

There was extensive demand for Safeguarding training across the County. This was primarily due to the unavailability of face-to-face Safeguarding training and limited full Online Workshops the previous year.

In total over 50 Workshops took place in 2022.

At this point I would like to thank our Safeguarding tutor Eanna Casey for his co-operation and excellent work this past year.

Eanna is always willing to help and support - he carries out his work meticulously, with no stone ever left unturned & in this regard I thank him for all he has done.

I would like to thank Mayo GAA Games Development Officer Billy Mc Nicholas, Kieran Kilkenny and all the Games Promotion Officers in Mayo for their support with coordinating participants at times and working to ensure coaches are fully compliant with GAA Safeguarding requirements.

I would also like to thank all the clubs who hosted a Workshop this year.

Some of you had to find a venue at late notice and I know this was not always easy. I really do appreciate your co-operation and patience while we worked through the backlog.

A Designated Liaison Person training was held in McHale Park this year.

Mayo GAA also arranged a Diversity & Inclusion workshop held in the COE in September. There was excellent attendance on the night and the feedback was excellent.

Unfortunately, we have not been able to deliver Safeguarding level 2. We are waiting on updated material from Croke Park before we can host this Workshop - we haven't received this at time of report.

Vetting

A new vetting system was introduced in April this year. The system is now part of Foireann and it is through this system that an individual will now apply to be vetted.

There have been several vetting applications waiting for club approval, this has to be done by the Children's Officer in order for the application to go to the next stage.

Club Children's Officers are required to be provided with access to the Vetting Admin section of Foireann. The Club Registrar can assign you this access.

NOTE - You must use your Children's Officer email address for this. If you have not set up your Children's Officer email address, then your club secretary will need to request this set up by emailing support.

Once set up the Club Children's Officer will be informed as to when an applicant applies for vetting.

Recruitment of coaches

Coaches working with our players are required to undertake the following:

- Attend GAA Safeguarding training and update as required.
- Complete Garda Vetting process.
- Possess relevant coaching qualification.

Coaches of adult teams must also undertake the requirements as outlined above.

Clubs should formally ratify the appointment of those that are chosen to fill coaching/management roles.

Sports Ireland Risk Assessment.

All clubs with underage players were asked to complete the Sports Ireland Self-Assessment Safeguarding Audit earlier in the year.

I am pleased to say that all clubs in Mayo were fully compliant. Clubs will be asked to take part in this audit again in 2023.

The Child Safeguarding Statement is up for renewal in 2023 as well as the Risk Assessment for all clubs and counties.

Clubs will be notified in due course.

Ahead of this clubs are advised to ensure that they are Safeguarding compliant and ensure all personnel working with our young persons have undertaken the above-mentioned courses.

We must never lose focus on our codes and practices which are in place to provide a safe and enjoyable environment for all our young players.

There are a few I would like to thank for their support throughout the year.

I would like to thank the Mayo GAA Executive for the support that has been shown to me since I took up the role.

Sincere thanks to our Safeguarding Committee of Aileen Gilmore, Tommy Morrin, Padraic Carolan and Mike King for all their good work this year.

Special thanks to my predecessor Padraic Carolan for the immense support & guidance he has shown to me since I took up the position of Children's Officer.

Huge thanks to all the Club Childrens Officers in Mayo for the respect that you have afforded to me & I always endeavoured without exception to offer the same in return.

The fantastic work you do in the Safeguarding of our young players should never be taken for granted.

Lastly, I would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and best wishes for 2023.

Is mise le meas

Celia Rattigan

Children's Officer

Safety and Facilities Officers Report 2022.

In January 2022 I was delighted to be asked by County Board Chairman Seamus Tuohy to be the County Safety and Facilities Officer for 2022. This is a new position for all County Executives that was previously ratified at Congress.

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).

A job description for this role was issued from Croke Park in June of this year and includes the formation of a Safety and Facilities Committee to assist with the role. To this effect I established the following committee:

Frank Flynn (Chairman)

Gerry Burke (Chief Stewart) (Secretary of Committee)

James Rock (Event Controller)

Philip Heneghan (Groundsman McHale Park)

Michael Diskin (Assistant Treasurer)

Michael King (Chairman South Mayo Board)

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 and Facilities in line with Legal Obligations and GAA Rules and advise on Physical Development of Grounds and Facilities at both club and county level.

This committee met three times this year where the terms of reference for the committee were agreed. One of the first main tasks of this committee was to assist clubs in preparing documents for grant applications from Connacht Council. The committee had to approve the grants in principal that they were acceptable to go forward to Connacht Council to seek funding for their specific development projects. In total 14 clubs were supported in their funding applications.

During the year a safety presentation was prepared for all clubs to advise them and assist them with the health and safety of their club grounds. This presentation was delivered to the East and North Mayo clubs. It is planned to continue with this for West and South Mayo clubs in early 2023.

A preliminary safety inspection of McHale Park was carried out in early 2022 with Philip Heneghan this was based on a previous safety inspection report. Here I worked alongside Michael Diskin to complete agreed actions. This mainly involved erecting relevant safety signage and eliminating any hazards identified.

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 was given.

I would like to thank Seamus Tuohy for his appointment of me to this new role and 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.

I would also like to thank Michael Diskin the assistant treasurer for his advice and help to me at the beginning of my role in relation to the safety associated with McHale Park and to Michael Cummins for his support also.

Finally, I would like to thank the safety and facilities committee for their work throughout the year and also to the committee's secretary Gerry Burke Head Stewart.

Mise le Meas

Proinnsias O Floinn



Stewarding – Games – Facilities

When we set out on the 2022 journey as stewards, we could not have envisaged that we would be traveling to Pairc Sean Mac Diarmida Carrick- on-Shannon V Kildare, Markievicz Park Sligo V Donegal & Dr Hyde Park Roscommon V Armagh.

This gave a whole new meaning to Home Games.

At this point I wish to thank the officers and stewards of the aforesaid grounds for their support and kind hospitality afforded to us as visiting stewards.

Our workload was made easy as a sizeable number of Mayo Stewards are familiar with those County grounds having served on duty with Connacht Council in the past.

As the debate rolled on, would McHale Park be ready for the Mayo V Galway Senior Championship game?

Relief all round when the grounds committee gave the green light for the go ahead. It was all hands to the pump for a full house in McHale Park and as always, the stewards alongside our colleagues from Connacht Council rose to the challenge.

Next up was the qualifier game V Monaghan again a near full capacity attendance.

After the mandatory break for the split season, it was all systems go for the club Championship.

Again large crowds attended starting with the U19 Championship right up to the Club Senior, Intermediate and Junior Championship games.

Moycullen brought with them a very large and respectful party of supporters to Castlebar for the Connacht Club Championship Game V Westport, as did Ballyhaunis V Dunmore in the Intermediate Championship.

In 2023 there will be a few training courses for new stewards. It is important that we continue to upskill our existing stewards as well as recruiting new stewards for Hastings Insurance MacHale Park and our clubs.

More than 50 certified Stewards were available for duty in 2022.

Sadly, some of our stewards lost loved ones during the year.

To them we offer our sincere condolences may they Rest in Peace.

There are several people I would like to thank for their support and assistance throughout the season.

Padraic Prendergast Ballina Stephenites who is Deputy Chief Steward and always hands on and very supportive.

Mike King Hollymount/Carramore and Chairperson South Board for administrative support on big match days.

Mary Prenty who arranged several training courses during the year.

The Officers of the board, Chairman Seamus Tuohy, Secretary Dermot Butler, Treasurer Valerie Murphy and a special thanks to assistant Treasurer Michael Diskin for all his support.

For the help, support, and advice from Michael Cummins, thank you Michael.

Finally, sincere thanks to the Referees, supporters, teams with their managers who visit McHale Park on match days.

Gerry Bourke
Chief Steward

Padraic Prendergast
Deputy chief Steward.

Cáirde Mhaigh Eo Club Development Draw

The Cáirde Mhaigh Eo Club Development Draw was completed September 2022 with all prize money distributed to clubs before the end of the financial year. A total of 6,934 tickets were sold in 2022 compared with 6615 tickets in 2021. A total of 437 were sold on-line compared 470 in 2021. The net value of the Draw to Clubs in 2022 was €405,270. Ticket sales by club grade is summarised below.

Ticket Sales (to-date) by club Status				
Club	total Sales	Average	Min	Max
Intermediate	2786	186	52	395
Junior	1306	93	35	211
Senior	2729	171	65	585
Hurling	93	46.5	33	60

Mayo County Board plan to review the Club Development Draw in early 2023 with a view of expanding its appeal and enhancing its value to Clubs.

We thanks all of the ticket purchasers, the draw coordinators within clubs, all of the Clubs for hosting the six draw, the independent scrutineers for overseeing each Draw and finally Michael Kilkenny and Mags Downey for conducting each draw and John Walker, PRO for the Facebook live broadcasts.



Infrastructure and MacHale Park and Mulvey Park

The resurfaced MacHale Park was reopened on the 24th April for the Mayo v Galway Connacht Championship match. Prior to this match, the seating and terracing were power hosed along with a significant up-grade of the plumbing, electrics and visitors’ dressing rooms also completed.

In recent months the refitting of the lighting in the stand was completed.

We thank the MacHale Park Committee of Philip Heneghan, Michael Cummins, Martin Carney, Michael McKensie, Gerry Burke, Michael Sweeney, Martin Corcoran, Willie Kelly, and Peter Collins.

A special thanks to Brian Finn and his staff for the tremendous work they carry out in the stadium on an ongoing basis.

The redevelopment of Mulvey Park, which includes the installation of a full size 4-G Astro turf pitch, 2 grass pitches, a ball wall and spectator facilities has progressed much more slowly than planned.

Currently, indicative costing for the redevelopment are being sought. This will be a vitally important facility for our academies and underage teams. We thank the Mulvey Park Committee of Tom O'Reilly, Michael McKensie, Donal Walsh, Gerry Burke, Ciarán McDonald and David Heaney for their work on this project during the past year.

Michael Diskin
Assistant Treasurer



2022 Insurance Report

Everything returned to normal after the 'Covid years' and full activities were returned which meant a busier time for the clubs and the Insurance and Players Injury Fund in 2022. Overall, there were no issues as clubs maintained their system of reporting injuries and advising the organisation of activities especially while 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 is applicable for events such as fundraisers so that all paperwork can be complete to proceed.

I would like to thank all the clubs I have spoken to over the year for their assistance and co-operation, it was my first year in the role and I am grateful for their engagement.

Below is the summary for clubs on what actions need 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 to proceed when required. All fundraisers need to be cleared by Marsh Ireland before they happen 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 generalgaaqueries@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@dwfclaims.com

Regina O' Donnell, Insurance Officer, Mayo GAA, insuranceofficer.mayo@gaa.ie

Demographic Report

Over the last number of years, we have all been aware of the decline in the number of adult players in many rural clubs. This has led to some clubs facing the issue of being unable to field a team for adult competitions. The Demographic Workgroup was set up by Mayo G.A.A to address the issues of rural clubs struggling to field adult teams.

Clubs expressed concerns on a number of issues in relation to the reduction in players and the solutions presented. The most prevalent issues, or fears, were the loss of the individual clubs' structure and identity.

The Workgroup put in place guidelines allowing clubs to play together, while still maintaining their own individual club structure and identity.

Over several sessions, the issues presented were discussed and formally reviewed in line with G.A.A rules by the Workgroup. With consideration to these issues and solutions the work group created the Demographics Work Group v1." for county review and approval. The "Demographics Work Group v1." was the roadmap drawn up to allow clubs to come together and play under a Cooperation Agreement as one team.

Two North Mayo clubs have expressed an interest in joining in a Cooperation Agreement, Kilfian and Lacken Sarsfield. The clubs have some preliminary work done on this to date. A deviation from rule will have to be applied in the cases where two junior clubs come together and remain playing Junior football for league and Championship. This has been applied for and we are awaiting a result from Croke Parke.

The Workgroup is looking forward to working with these clubs to assist them in facilitating this Agreement, which we hope will become the blueprint for future successful Cooperation Agreements.

Finally, our thanks to the Workgroup for their commitment and hard work, and to the County Board officers for their help and support.

Paul McNamara

Michael Mckenzie

COISTE CHONTAE MHAIGH EO COMHTHONÓL 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
Dermot Butler	1		Castlebar Mitchels	3
Mick Herr	1		Michael Diskin	1
Kilfian	3		Declan O'Reilly	1
Killala	3		Daithi Gallagher	1
Kiltane	3		Islandeedy	3
Knockmore	3		Kilmeena	3
Sean MacÉil	1		Louisburgh	3
Lahardane	3		Parke	3
Lacken	3		Tuair Mhic Eadaigh	3
Moygownagh	3		Westport	3
Cill Chomain	3		Chris McGowan	1
John Walker	1			
	53			46
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
Shrule Glencorrib	3		Mary Prenty	1
Hollymount Carramore	3		Charlestown	3
Michael King	1		Valerie Murphy	1
Kilmaine	3		Eastern Gaels	3
Mayo Gaels	3		Kilmovee	3
The Neale	3		Kiltimagh	3
Johnny Hopkins	1		Paddy McNicholas	1
Brian O'Malley	1		Bohola Moy Davitts	3
			Swinford	3
			Michael Daly	1
			Tooreen	3
			Jimmy Connor	1
	32			38
Cumann na mBunscoil	1		Total electoral votes	
Post Primary	1		North	53
Handball	1		South	32
	3		East	38
			West	46
			Others	3
			Total electoral votes	172

Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Coiste Chontae Mhaigheo

COMHDHÁIL BLIANTÚIL 2023 AINMNIUCHÁIN

	AINMNIUCHÁIN 2022 Nominations	Club
UACHTARÁN President	Michael Ó hUiginn	
CATHAOIRLEACH Chairperson	Seamus Tuohy	Breaffy
LEAS-CATHAOIRLEACH Vice Chairperson	Con Moynihan	Ballaghaderreen
RÚNAÍ Secretary	Ronan Kirrane Mary Prenty	Davitts Eastern Gaels
RÚNAÍ CÚNTA Assistant Secretary	Brian O'Mallley Celia Rattigan	The Neale Breaffy
CISTEOIR Treasurer	Valerie Murphy	Charlestown
CISTEOIR CÚNTA Assistant Treasurer	Michael Diskin	Castlebar Mitchels
OIFIGEACH CAIDREAMH POIBLÍ PRO	John Walker	Cill Chomain
OIFIGEACH OILIÚNA Coaching Officer	Declan O'Reilly	Castlebar Mitchels
OIFIGEACH CULTÚIR Cultural Officer	Grainne Kelly-Frayne	Aghamore
ÁRD COMHAIRLE Central Council	Dermot Butler Paddy McNicholas	Crossmolina Deel Rovers Kiltimagh
COMHAIRLE CHONNACHT 1 Connacht Council	Liam Mofatt Paul Cunnane	Crossmolina Deel Rovers Davitts
COMHAIRLE CHONNACHT 2 Connacht Council	Willie Feeley	Claremorris
OIFIGEACH PLEANALA AGUS OILIUNA Planning and Training Officer	TO BE APPOINTED Riall 3.11	
OIFIGEACH NA BPÁISTI Children's Officer	TO BE APPOINTED Riall 3.11	
OIFIGEACH SABHAILTEACHTA AGUS SAORAIDI CONTAE County Safety and Facilities Officer	TO BE APPOINTED Riall 3.19 (i)	

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)

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)

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

(Ballyhaunis)

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)

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 Riail 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 Riail 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)

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)

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

(Knockmore)

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)

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)

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)

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)

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)

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

(Westport)

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

(Westport)

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

(Westport)

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

(Westport)

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 Bainistí)

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)

