



Na Fianna Nuacht



U-21A Hurlers – History Makers!



Once again the profile of Na Fianna hurling was raised with a first time win for the club in the U21 Hurling Championship against Kilmacud Crokes on Sunday last at Parnell Park. (Na Fianna 0-18, Kilmacud Crokes 0-15). The victory was all the sweeter bearing in mind that the semi final was only held a short time earlier on the previous Wednesday where Na Fianna took on St.Brigids (Na Fianna 2-22, St .Brigids 1-16).

With only a few days to recover, Sunday 11th Dec was the accepted date as quite a number of the players had third level examinations the following week. It was an intense match and Jono Tracey made a pair of magnificent saves to keep Na Fianna on track. In the closing minutes points from Eoghan McHugh, Paul O Dea, Colin Currie and Donal Burke ensured a win for Na Fianna.

For this club the U21 Championship has one great benefit in that it allows hurlers (subject to age restrictions) who would normally play for the Senior, Intermediate, Junior and Minor teams the opportunity to battle together on the U21 teams. Hopefully with the achievements being made at Juvenile, Minor and U21 hurling levels we will see these players move on to Senior Hurling in the years to come.



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GAA National Club Draw

The National Club Draw has become a significant fundraiser for Na Fianna over the past two years raising over €32,000 for the club in that period of time. Two years ago, Na Fianna was the highest selling club in the country with 1,647 tickets sold.

Last year, we again sold in the region of 1,600 tickets which represented the second highest figure nationally and the highest selling club in the province of Leinster. For this achievement, the club was awarded an additional €1,000 by the GAA which the Executive Committee decided to raffle among those club members who had supported the draw. The Sellers' Draw of €1,000 was shared in 2016 between proud club sellers Vinny Caffrey (€500), Paul Kehoe (€300) and Gail Malone (€200).

This year it has again been decided to hold a Members' Raffle for €1,000 for those club members who support the 2017 draw. This raffle will be held next St Patrick's Day.

The National Club Draw operates on the basis of the GAA putting up a range of prizes including a new Opel Corsa and a wide range of GAA-related prizes. A full list of the impressive range of prizes is available at the following link.

http://www.gaa.ie/mm/Document/MyGAA/ClubAdministrators/13/34/46/NationalClubDrawPrizes_Neutral.pdf

Tickets for the Draw are sold nationally and sell at a tenner each. Tickets are available in books of five for €50 BUT are also available individually. Tickets have been available for the past week or so and are proving every bit as popular this year as in the previous two years. The hope is that the club can at least replicate its success in selling the majority of the 2,000 tickets available to it.

Please contact Colum Cronin at 087 6550422 if you are interested in purchasing a ticket for the draw. That's if he hasn't already contacted you! Tickets are selling fast and are an ideal Christmas stocking filler so please support the club in purchasing a ticket or two!

For more information on the GAA National Club Draw, see the following link;

<http://www.gaa.ie/news/national-club-draw/>



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Appointment Of Games Directors

The club's Annual General Meeting last October unanimously approved the following recommendation which had been proposed by Ciarán Gray.

“That the incoming Executive appoint Directors for Adult Football, Adult Hurling, Adult Camogie and Adult Ladies Football. These directors would report to the Adult Games Manager. The Role would involve coordination of all activities in that area including review of panels, movement of minor players to adult panels, regrading and training slot allocations. It will also allow for more coordinated approach to adult games between the relevant codes.”

At its meeting last Tuesday, December 13th, the Executive Committee appointed Richard Dunne, Colm Burtchaell, Cormac Ó Donnchú and John McDaid respectively as Directors for the specified codes as outlined in the recommendation. All four candidates possess a strong track record not only in their allocated code but across the broad spectrum of club activity.

Richard Dunne first became involved in Na Fianna as a juvenile mentor with the 1997 boys. He then moved into the minor grade and last year was involved with the Junior 'C' football team, a role in which he will continue this coming year.

Colm Burtchaell served as the club's first Games Promotion Officer during the 'good old days' of the Celtic Tiger. He then became involved as a hurling mentor with the 1996 boys helping them on their way to becoming the most decorated juvenile group in the club. Colm has just been appointed as a mentor with the club's Intermediate hurling team.

Cormac Ó Donnchú has recently stood down as a mentor with the 2002 girls camogie team and as the club's Fundraising Officer. With the formidable assistance of many others, Cormac was primarily responsible for the two Club Pantomimes in 2013/14 as well as the very recent 'Na Fianna Does Strictly'. Cormac has also been involved in Dublin juvenile camogie development squads in recent years.

John McDaid has been associated as the lead juvenile mentor with the 1998 girls football group and has also been involved with the club's minor teams. John is also to the forefront in the weekly traditional music sessions on Thursday evenings.



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HO! HO! HO! HAVE A MERRY CHRISTMAS
with

Na Fianna's Christmassy Concert.

Now that you have recovered from watching Come Dancing get yourself in the mood to celebrate Christmas by enjoying performances by local and invited talent

AND A TOP CLASS CHOIR

Listen to seasonal fair by celebrated soloists as they sing 'Have Yourself a Merry Christmas' 'O Holy Night', and contrast that with classics like 'Bring Him Home,' 'O Sole Mio', 'Nessun Dorma'.

What, with fine instrumentalists as well you'll be spoilt for choice

Be surprised to find yourself chuckle on the way home as you remember the outrageous stories you heard from a man who has been entertaining concertgoers for years.

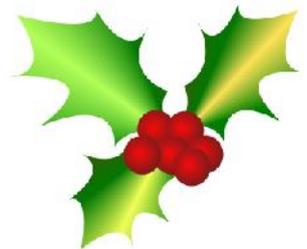
Mark your diary for 8pm sharp on the 16th December 2016.
Admission €10

Christmas Shopping at Na Fianna

Club shop and Hurley shop will be open tomorrow, Saturday 17th December. Club shop will have its final pre Christmas opening open from 9am to 1pm and will then close until 21st January. Club Hurley shop will be open from 9am to 12 noon tomorrow Saturday and will open again on Thursday and Friday (22nd & 23rd Dec) 9-1pm and 2-5.30pm.

Christmas at Na Fianna

The Club bar will be closed on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day and the Club will be locked down from closing of bar on Thursday night next. Bar will re-open on St Stephens Day at 7pm. Bar hours for rest of week as follows; Monday 27th 7pm, Tuesday 28th 7pm to close, Wednesday 29th 7pm to close, Thursday 30th 7pm to close, New Year's Eve 7pm to close and CLOSED all day on New Year's Day. The Club office will close at 1pm on Thursday 22nd.





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Club Lotto

This week's Na Fianna Club Lotto winning numbers were;

3	6	14	25
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Our Jackpot survives another week with no winner but congrats to our five Match 3 winners Martin Quilty, Carmel Ryan, Dessie Farrell, Damian Gant c/o Vinny, PJ McHugh c/o Vinny each winning €30.

Congrats also to our five Lucky Pick winners who won €15 each; Frank O'Hara, Ian Thornton, Breda Dowdell c/o Vinny, Helen c/o Vinny, Loyola Deignan c/o Vinny.

See Club website www.clgnafianna.ie for application forms and direct debit mandates or get your lotto envelopes from Members' bar or usual sources. €20,000 jackpot...it would make someone's Christmas, play early and often!

Members' Subscriptions Due

Members' subscriptions for the coming year are due and payable since the AGM. Details of subscription rates and methods of payment are on the Club website http://www.clgnafianna.com/?page_id=1028 . Subscriptions can be paid on Saturdays in the Club or at the office during normal opening hours (9.30am to 1pm Mon –Fri).

Annual Christmas Tree Collection Service

The Annual Christmas tree collection service will be available on Saturday 7th January 2017. This service will involve collecting your Christmas tree and bringing it to a recycling centre for just €5. Spare yourself the hassle, and pine needles, and be part of this Club fundraiser. Please have the tree outside your house/apartment block by 8.30am on that day.

Trees will be collected between 9am and 6pm. To avail of this service please use the online registration: <http://www.clgnafianna.com/christmas-tree-collections-2017/> or text your name and address to 086-4039035 before 9pm on Friday 8th January. Tell your friends & neighbours!



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Na Fianna JSessions



Friday 2nd December

@ 18:15

U8 - U16 Teams

Senior Teams
Juvenile Fun Session

Congrats and well done to Niall Cooper, Mark McManus, Stephen Behan and the many more who were involved with the recent Athletic Development and Skills Based group sessions in St Mobhi Rd. All in all a series of nine group sessions were held with the entire Juvenile section during the month of November. Included in the sessions were hurling, football, athletic development and general fun games and a total of approximately 600 kids and 100 adult players participated.

The final evening on Friday the 2nd December was a fantastic occasion and finished with a skills competition with some of our most recognisable stars taking part. The organisers would like to thank all for their participation and to thank many of our adult playing members who gave of their time. The sessions were a massive success which fed off and tapped into the huge enthusiasm for Gaelic Games in the Club.

Annual Club Mass

The Annual Na Fianna Mass will take place at 4pm on Sunday 8^h January in the Club. The Mass will be offered for all Club members who have lost family during the year and for all deceased Club members and their families. Everybody welcome.



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Annual Juvenile Coaching Forum

Our Coaching Development Group are well ahead with their preparations for the Juvenile Coaching Forum which will be held in the Club on Saturday 14th January from 2-5pm.

Details are :

- Keynote speaker is Liam Moggan....well known as a Master Coach
- Andy Ryan who will do a workshop on movement and flexibility
- Niall Cooper will share ideas on How to Make Our Sessions Unmissable.

Na Fianna's Strictly – The Final Count!



Anyone who attended our hugely successful Strictly Come Dancing event in the Helix at the end of October will remember the night for a long time to come. On the night, fourteen couples made up of a cross section of the Club's membership took to the stage in what was a fantastic club atmosphere. An unforgettable Club night that will go down in Na Fianna history and folklore as one of the great nights, this saw Na Fianna at its very best. All ages, all groups, all codes were represented in an evening of fun, friendship and camaraderie.....and the good news is that after all the bills were paid....the night raised a staggering....(drum roll please)... €45,000 for the Club. Take a bow Na Fianna. Sincere thanks to all for your support. Tá an Cumann an bhuíoch daoibh, go raibh míle maith agaibh as bhúr dtacaíocht.



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Na Fianna's Dublin Ladies

Congrats to Na Fianna's Debbie Lowe (Strictly Champ) and Míde Ní Shúilleabháin on being named on the Dublin Ladies Football Junior Dub Stars panel. Congrats also to Karen O'Connell who has made the U-16 ladies panel. Maith sibh!

Brady's Supporting Our U-13 Ladies



Na Fianna's U-13 ladies teams would like to say a special thanks to Brady's Butchers and staff for their continued support and sponsorship of Ladies Football and Camogie in Na Fianna. Pictured above is Dermot Brady with some of the U-13 ladies.

Schools Holidays

With the school holidays about to begin, Parents and Guardians are reminded that Na Fianna does not purport to offer supervision to children who are on the premises or grounds outside of training or match times. In addition, Juveniles are asked not to bring non-members into the club grounds. This notice is also printed on membership form.



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The Mark - Implementation Date 1st Jan 2017

Following acceptance at GAA Congress 2016, the Mark in Gaelic Football will be implemented from 1st January next and the following text has been circulated by way of explanation. Mentors and players are to note.

2.12 Mark

When a player catches the ball cleanly from a Kick-Out without it touching the ground, on or past the 45m line nearest the Kick-Out point, he shall be awarded a 'Mark' by the Referee.

The player awarded a 'Mark' shall have the options of (a) Taking a free kick or (b) Playing on immediately.

The following procedures shall apply:

- (a) Free Kick - The player shall signify to the Referee if he is availing of the free kick and then take the free kick himself from the hand from the point where he was awarded the 'Mark'.

Once the player indicates he is taking the 'Mark', the Referee shall allow up to five seconds for the player to take the kick. If the player delays longer than five seconds, the Referee shall cancel the 'Mark' and throw in the ball between a player from each side.

Once the player indicates he is taking the 'Mark', the opposing players must retreat 10m to allow the player space to take the kick. If an opposing player deliberately blocks or attempts to block the kick within 10m, or if an opposing player impedes the player while he is taking the kick, the Referee shall penalise the opposing team by bringing the ball forward 13m.

If the Referee determines that the player who makes the 'Mark' has been injured in the process and is unable to take the kick, the Referee shall direct the Player's nearest team mate to take the kick but he may not score directly from the kick.



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(b) Play on immediately

(i) In this circumstance the player may not be challenged for the ball until he carries the ball up to a maximum of four consecutive steps or holds the ball for no longer than the time needed to take four steps and/or makes one act of kicking, handpassing, bouncing or toe-tapping the ball.

(ii) If the Player is illegally challenged, a free kick shall be awarded to his team from the point at which the challenge is made, and this free kick may be taken by any player on his team.

“The Mark” - Applicable 1 January 2017

Central Council gave an Interpretation as follows:

1. The referee shall award “the mark” by blowing the whistle.
2. “On or past the 45m line” shall mean that both feet of the catcher are on or past the 45m line when he catches the ball or on landing.
3. In order to signify that he wishes to take a free-kick, the player who catches the ball and has been awarded a “mark” by the referee should stop playing. If he does not obviously stop then it should be taken that he is “playing on”.
4. “Challenged” as mentioned in the rule is taken as “tackle” as defined; once the player plays on he may be tackled after four steps or once he plays the ball in any way.
5. All players must be at least 13 metres from where “the mark” is awarded.
6. When a player who is awarded a “mark” is injured, any team mate may take the free kick, which must be taken from the hands. The player in question may not score directly from the kick. (Current rule states that only the “nearest team mate” may take the free kick).
7. In order to be awarded a “Mark”, the ball must not have been touched in flight by another player.

Frequently Asked Questions:

1. **How does the Referee award a “Mark”?** The Referee awards a Mark by blowing the whistle.



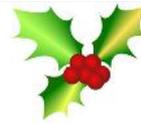
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2. **To be awarded a “Mark” does the catch have to be from a kick-out from the player’s own team?** No, a Mark shall be awarded if the catch is from a kick-out from either team.
3. **Is a “Mark” awarded for a catch from a kick-out no matter where it takes place?** No, a Mark shall be awarded if the catch is made on or outside the 45m line from a kick-out from either team.
4. **How does the player who is awarded the “Mark”, “signify to the Referee” that he is availing of the free kick?** In order to signify that he wishes to take a free-kick, the player who catches the ball and has been awarded the “Mark” by the Referee should stop playing. If he does not obviously stop then it should be taken that he is “playing on”.
5. **How long has the player awarded the “Mark” to take the free kick?** He shall not delay longer than five seconds.
6. **If the player awarded the “Mark” delays the taking of the free kick by more than five seconds, what is the award?** The Mark and free kick shall be cancelled and a throw-in between one player from each side is awarded.
7. **How far do players have to be from the free kick?** All players (team-mates and opponents) must be 13m from the free kick.
8. **If the player who has been awarded the Mark chooses to take a free kick and a player from the opposing team blocks or attempts to block that kick within 13m or interferes with the player who has chosen to take the kick, what is the award?** A free kick 13m more advantageous shall be awarded.
9. **What happens if a team mate plays the ball within 13m of the free kick awarded for the Mark?** A free kick is awarded to the opposition.
10. **If the player awarded the Mark is injured in the process what is the award?** Any team mate may take the free kick from the hands, but he may not score directly from the kick.
11. **What is the award if a player, who is taking the free kick following an injury to a team mate, scores directly from the kick?** Score is disallowed and a throw-in between one player from each side is awarded.
12. **When the player awarded the Mark decides to play on, when may he be tackled?** He may be tackled after he takes four steps or once he plays the ball in any way.



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13. **What is the award if a player who has chosen to play on is illegally challenged?**

A free kick shall be awarded at the point at which the illegal challenge is made.

14. **Where can Players, Referees, Officials, Administrators and Supporters get more information?** For more information please go to www.gaa.ie/themark or see short video at , <https://vimeo.com/182975146>

and finally...

Best wishes to all Na Fianna members and their families for a peaceful and happy Christmas and for a prosperous new year. Nollaig Shona daíobh go léir

Comhbhrón

Deepest sympathies are extended to the Bennett and May families on the passing of Mr Peter Bennett, Kilpatrick, Co Meath, Uncle of Ciara and Ailish May.

Sincere sympathies are also extended to the Corcoran family on the passing of Mrs Irene Corcoran, mother of Darren Corcoran (2005 and 2009 girls mentor) mother in law of Feena Hosford and grandmother of Keelan (2005 girls) Conn (2007 boys) and Caragh and Rionagh (2009 girls).

Sincere sympathies are offered to the O’Gorman family on the passing of Mrs Doris O’Gorman-Doyle, mother of Adult Camogie Mentor Brian, Grandmother of Senior Camogie players Muireann and Caoimhe and mother-in-law of Anne.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-anamacha.

Fógra Tabachtach

The objective of Na Fianna Nuacht is to communicate as much club activity as possible however it is important to note that all items for inclusion in either Club Notes or Na Fianna Nuacht are reported to pro.nafianna.dublin@gaa.ie or texted to 087 9250697 by Sunday evening. With a membership of 2700 and approx 100 teams now competing it is difficult to ensure all club activity is reported upon – **Do not assume** that your team’s activity is already known to Na Fianna Nuacht or that someone else has reported it. When errors or omissions occur it is the policy of Na Fianna Nuacht to correct these in subsequent issues when they are reported to pro.nafianna.dublin@gaa.ie