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### Clár

- 1. Prayers for Deceased Members
- 2. Adoption of Standing Orders
- 3. Miontuairscí
- 4. Tuarscáil an Runaí
- 5. Tuarascálacha na bhFochoistí
- 6. Tuarascáil an Chisteora
- 7. Election of Officers
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- 10. Amhrán na bhFiann



### Nominations

**Chairperson** Micheál Martin (*CLG Naomh Eoin-Na hÓglaigh*)

**Vice-Chairperson**Bobby Goff (*CLG An Gleann-Baile Bearna*)

Secretary No nomination\*\*

**Assistant Secretary** No nomination\*\*

**Treasurer** Andrew Nolan (*CLG Na Sairséalaigh*)

Coaching Officer Kevin Doyle (CLG Naomh Pádraig)

Oifigeach Gaeilge & Cultúr Tony Dempsey (CLG An Gleann-Baile Bearna)

Public Relations Officer Colm Lambert (CLG Naomh Aodháin-Fearna)

Children's Officer\* No nomination \*\*

**Planning and Training Officer\*** Brian McGrath (*CLG Naomh Eoin-Na hÓglaigh*)

**Demographics Officer\*** George Hussey (*CLG Teach Munna-Camros*)

Leinster Council Representatives (2) Cathal Byrne (CLG Baile Uí Cheog)

PJ Howlin (*CLG Feannaire na Dubh Tíre*)

Central Council Representative (1) Dermot Howlin (CLG Banibh-Baile Mhiota)

Delegates to attend Annual Congress (3) Andrew Egan (CLG Baile Dáithí-Cúl Mo Choda)

(excluding Chairperson & Secretary) Bobby Goff (CLG An Gleann-Baile Bearna)

John Kenny (*CLG Coill De hÓra*)

**Delegates to attend Leinster** 

Convention (5)

Bobby Goff (CLG An Gleann-Baile Bearna)
Dermot Howlin (CLG Banibh-Baile Mhiota)

John Kenny (CLG Coill De hÓra)

\* Recommended by outgoing County Committee for appointment

\*\* To be filled based on Nomination by Clubs and a ballot vote of Officers and Members of the incoming County Committee

### Standing Orders

- 1) The proposer of a Motion or an Amendment may speak for not more than five minutes when making the proposal. He/she may speak a second time and for not more than three minutes before a vote is taken.
- 2) A delegate seconding or speaking to a motion or an Amendment may speak once only and must not exceed three minutes. A maximum of two delegates from any one club shall speak on any one motion.
- 3) The Chairperson may, at any time they consider a matter has been sufficiently discussed, call on the proposer for a reply, and when that has been given, a vote must be taken.
- 4) A delegate may, with the consent of the Chairperson, move "that the question be put" after which, when the proposer has spoken, a vote must be taken.
- 5) Standing Orders shall not be suspended for the purpose of considering any matter not on the Clár except by the consent of the majority equal to two-thirds of those present and voting.
- 6) A speaker to the Secretary's Report or to any other general discussion shall not exceed three minutes on any one topic.



# Miontuairiscí Comhdhail Bhliantuil 2022

Held on 12ú Nollaig 2022 in Clayton Whites Hotel.

**I lathar:** Bhí Micheál Ó Máirtín mar Cathaoirleach don chruinniú seo.

Leithsceil: CLG Clúnfaí, CLG Na Seamróga

Prayers for the deceased members were offered by Bishop Ger Nash.

Aideen Howlin presented to the meeting on the GAA's Green Clubs Programme and Annette Dupay provided information in respect of an initiative to bring Mental Health & Wellbeing signage to each Club in the County.

**Standing orders** were adopted on proposal of Brian Ó Maolmhuaidh and seconded by Mícheál Bhailis.

**Miontuairiscí Comhdhail Bhliantuil 2021** were adopted on the proposal of Sean Ó Coirc and seconded by Donnacha Ó Ceadagáin.

**Miontuairiscí Comhdhail Speisialta 2022** were adopted on the proposal of Gearóid Ó Cárthaigh and seconded by Brian Ó Maolmhuaidh.

**Tuarscáil an Runaí** was adopted on the proposal of Tomás Caomhánach and seconded by Brian Ó Maolmhuaidh.

**Tuarascálacha na bhFochoistí** were adopted on the proposal of Gearóid Ó Cárthaigh and seconded by Liam de Cuirtéis.

**Tuarascáil an Chisteora** was adopted on the proposal of by Gearóid Lafán and seconded by Brian Ó Maolmhuaidh.

There was total income of €2,953,550, expenditure of €2,104,743, with a surplus of €652,119 after depreciation for the year.

An Cathaoirleach thanked Aindriú Ó Nualláin for his diligent work throughout the year. He also thanked Seosamh Ó Síocháin, Ruairí Ó Coigligh and Séamus Ó Maoltuile for all their hard work during the year and all volunteers who helped on match days.

**Election of Unopposed Officers:** All nominees who were unopposed were ratified on the proposal of Maighréad Furlong and seconded by Conchubhar de Róiste.

- Chairperson Micheál Martin
- Vice-Chairperson Bobby Goff
- Secretary Michael Hennessy Cullen
- Assistant Secretary Andrew Egan
- Treasurer Andrew Nolan
- Oifigeach Gaeilge & Cultúr Tony Dempsey
- PRO Colm Lambert
- Children's Officer Des Croke
- Planning and Training Officer Kevin Doyle
- Leinster Council Reps Cathal Byrne, PJ Howlin
- Central Council Rep Dermot Howlin
- Leinster Convention Delegates Micheál Martin, Michael Hennessy Cullen, Tony Dempsey, Dermot Howlin and Mary Foley.

There were no nominees standing for Coaching Officer - An Cathaoirleach noted that the position will be filled based on an election, if necessary, at the next County Committee meeting based on nominations for the position from Clubs. He also noted that David Tobin would be proposed for ratification as the Safety & Facilities Officer at the first County Committee meeting of the year.

An Cathaoirleach stated that there would be a second, non-voting Wexford Table at the upcoming Leinster Convention being hosted in



Wexford. An Cathaoirleach wished incoming Leinster Chairperson, Derek Kent, the best of luck in the role which was echoed by the meeting.

An election was required for Delegates to attend Annual Congress (3 Reps) – Bobby Goff, John Kenny and Andrew Egan were elected.

Tom Cousins (Outgoing Coaching Officer) addressed delegates as he was not continuing in the role of Coaching Officer. Tom placed on record his gratitude to all the Clubs and coaches in the County for their help and cooperation and also to all committee members that have helped him in anyway over the last two years. Tom stated that while the role was challenging at times, he really enjoyed it and stressed the good work that is going on in regard to coaching within the County.

The Cathaoirleach thanked Tom for his work and wished him well while also thanking all officers for their work and effort over the last year in their roles respectively.

#### **Motions:**

- Motion 1 Carried
- Motion 2 Carried
- Motion 3 Carried
- Motion 4 Carried
- Motion 5 Carried
- Motion 6 Carried

- Motion 7 Carried
- Motion 8 Withdrawn
- Motion 9 Carried
- Motion 10 Defeated
- Motion 11 Withdrawn
- Motion 12 Defeated
- Motion 13 Carried

Cathaoirleach, Mícheál Martin, in his address thanked officers, team mentors, clubs and all who supported during the year. He congratulated all winners during the year and spoke of our County teams and squads, gave credit to everyone in Wexford GAA that made it possible to play the Club Championships. He also spoke of:

- Strategic Plan
- Coaching & Player Development
- Discipline & abuse towards match officials
- Inclusion Programme
- Sponsors
- Media
- Finances
- Floodlights in Chadwicks Wexford Park

In conclusion, he expressed his sympathies to all members who lost loved ones during the past year, Ar dheis Dé go raibh a hainmeacha.

The meeting was closed with Amhrán na bhFiann.

Mícheál Ó hAonghusa Cuilín Runaí Chontae

# Miontuairiscí Comhdhail Speisialta

Held on 27ú Márta 2023 in Chadwicks Wexford Park.

**I lathar:** Bhí Micheál Ó Máirtín mar Cathaoirleach don chruinniú seo.

**Leithsceil:** Brian McGrath, Dermot Howlin, Joe Sheehan, Tossy Ryan, Karl Noone, John Carton, James Flood.

**Standing orders** adopted on proposal of Antoin Ó Díomasaigh and seconded by Sean Ó Coirc.

The motion to amend the Bye Law 14 of CLG Loch Garman Bye-Laws 2023 in respect of grading was passed.

Mícheál Ó hAonghusa Cuilín Runaí Chontae



### **Rúin 2023**

Motions to remove or to amend an existing Bye-Law must be carried by three-fifths of those present, entitled to vote and voting. All other motions must be carried by a simple majority of those present, entitled to vote and voting.

Motions 1 – 21: tidy up of existing Bye-Laws in line with changes to Official Guide and current practice

#### Motion 1 (Coiste Contae)

That the CLG Loch Garman Bye-Laws 2023 be amended so that they read as set out in the draft attached.

#### Motion 2 (Coiste Contae)

That Bye-Law 1.1 of CLG Loch Garman Bye-Laws 2023 be amended to include a Demographics Officer in accordance with Riail 3.9 T.O. 2023.

#### Motion 3 (Coiste Contae)

That Bye-Law 2 of CLG Loch Garman Bye-Laws 2023 be amended to include the Chairperson's nominee to the Management Committee as a member of County Committee without voting rights.

#### Motion 4 (Coiste Contae)

That Bye-Law 3 (b) of CLG Loch Garman Bye-Laws 2023 be amended to include the County Secretary and/or Assistant County Secretary as a member of the Competitions Control Committee and to increase the composition of the Competitions Control Committee to include a maximum of nine other named members.

#### Motion 5 (Coiste Contae)

That Bye-Law 3 (b) of CLG Loch Garman Bye-Laws 2023 be amended in respect of the composition of the Competitions Control Committee – Fixtures to include a named representative of Coiste na nÓg Loch Garman instead of either the Chairperson or Secretary of Coiste na nÓg Loch Garman.

#### Motion 6 (Coiste Contae)

That Bye-Law 3 (b) of CLG Loch Garman Bye-Laws 2023 be amended in respect of the composition of the Competitions Control Committee – Discipline to include a minimum of four and a maximum of seven other named members.

#### Motion 7 (Coiste Contae)

That Bye-Law 3 (e) of CLG Loch Garman Bye-Laws 2023 be amended to set the minimum number of members of the Safety and Facilities Committee as a total of six named members.

#### Motion 8 (Coiste Contae)

That Bye-Law 3 (f) of CLG Loch Garman Bye-Laws 2023 be amended to include the responsibilities of the Referees' Administration Committee as set out in Riail 3.18 (vii) T.O. 2023 to read as follows:

Referees' Administration Committee: It shall consist of the County Referees' Administrator and five other named members (one of whom shall act as Runaí), nominated by the Management Committee for appointment by the County Committee.



It shall be responsible for the Administration and Development of Refereeing in the County, including the recruitment, training, assessment and classification of referees. Its functions shall also be in accordance with Riail 3.18 (vii) T.O. 2023.

#### Motion 9 (Coiste Contae)

That Bye-Law 3 (i) of CLG Loch Garman Bye-Laws 2023 be amended to remove the reference to an IT Officer and increase the number of named members to seven.

#### Motion 10 (Coiste Contae)

That Bye-Law 9 of CLG Loch Garman Bye-Laws 2023 be deleted and merged with Bye-Law 3 (j) of CLG Loch Garman Bye-Laws 2023 so as to have a single description of the composition, powers and functions of Coiste na nÓg Loch Garman with Bye-Law 3 (j) to read as follows:

County Youth Committee - Coiste na nÓg: It shall consist of the following members:

Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, PRO, County Children's Officer, County Coaching Officer and a named representative from each of the following committees: County Primary Schools and County Post - Primary Schools. Coiste na nóg will also have one representative each from the clubs in the county that enters a team in an underage competition. One observer from each of the following associations/committees that may attend meetings without voting rights: Ladies Football, Camogie, Rounders, Handball and Scór (Scór na nOg).

Coiste na nÓg shall be the governing and controlling body of all the affairs of Coiste na nÓg Loch Garman excepting those functions reserved to the County Committee, Provincial Council and Central Council under these Bye-Laws and An Treoir Offigúil. The following shall be the powers of Coiste na nÓg:

- (i) To manage all activities and County hurling and football competitions up to and including minor level, subject to the provisions in Riailacha 3.28(k) and 3.29 T.O. 2023.
- (ii) It shall be responsible for the organisation of skills competitions for hurling and football and shall promote the Irish language and culture in all its activities.
- (iii) To make Regulations governing:
  - a. Competitions under its control but it shall not place restrictions on the Coiste na nÓg Competitions Control Committee in its scheduling of Games.

and

b. Other matters incidental to its powers, functions and operations.

A Regulation once adopted shall remain in force unless altered or deleted by a simple majority of those present, entitled to vote and voting.

Alterations may be considered only on an annual basis.

Its functions shall **also** be in accordance with Riail 3.18 (xi) T.O. 2023.



#### Motion 11 (Coiste Contae)

To add Bye-Law 3 (p) in respect of a Demographics Committee in accordance with Riail 3.18 (xvi) T.O. 2023 to read as follows:

Demographics Committee: It shall consist of at least five members to include the Demographics Officer, who shall act as Chairperson. All other members shall be suitably qualified in areas relevant to the Terms of Reference of the Committee.

The functions of this committee shall be as outlined in Riail 3.18 (xvi) T.O. 2023.

#### Motion 12 (Coiste Contae)

To amend Bye-Law 4 (a) of CLG Loch Garman Bye-Laws 2023 to set out the clubs the GAA Clubs that each District Committee consists of as follows:

Enniscorthy District will consist of the following GAA Clubs: Ballyhogue, Cloughbawn, Davidstown-Courtnacuddy, Duffry Rovers, HWH Bunclody, Marshalstown-Castledockrell, Monageer-Boolavogue, Oulart-The Ballagh, Oylegate-Glenbrien, Rapparees-Starlights, Rathnure St. Anne's and Shamrocks.

Gorey District will consist of the following GAA Clubs: Ballygarrett-Réalt Na Mara, Buffers Alley, Castletown-Liam Mellows, Clonee, Ferns St. Aidans, Fr. O'Regan's Craanford, Kilanerin-Ballyfad, Kilrush-Askamore, Naomh Éanna, St. Patrick's and Tara Rocks.

New Ross District will consist of the following GAA Clubs: Bannow-Ballymitty, Clongeen, Geraldine O'Hanrahan's, Gusserane O'Rahilly's, Horeswood, Rathgarogue-Cushinstown, St. Abban's Adamstown, St. James', St. Mogue's Fethard and Taghmon-Camross.

Wexford District will consist of the following GAA Clubs: Crossabeg/Ballymurn, Faythe Harriers, Glynn-Barntown, Kilmore, Na Fianna Clonard, Our Lady's Island, Sarsfields, Shelmalier, St. Anne's Rathangan, St. Brigid's Blackwater, St. Fintan's, St. John's Volunteers, St. Joseph's, St. Martin's, St. Mary's Maudlintown and St. Mary's Rosslare

#### Motion 13 (Coiste Contae)

To amend Bye-Law 4 (b) of CLG Loch Garman Bye-Laws 2023 to give the power to deal with disciplinary matters arising from games under the jurisdiction of District Committees to the Competitions Control Committee – Discipline as follows:

District Competition Control Committees: Each District Committee will form a Competitions Control Committees consisting of five named members.

It shall be responsible for all arrangements, including the appointment of Referees, for and control of any matters arising from Games under the jurisdiction of the District Committee. Disciplinary matters arising from Games under the jurisdiction of the District Committee other than those reserved for the County Hearings Committee shall be dealt with by the Competitions Control Committee - Discipline will investigate and process matters relating to the Enforcement of Rules and Codes.

The District Competitions Control Committee shall deal with Objections and Counter-Objections arising from games under the control of the District Committee.



Requests for Hearings and/or Appeals against decisions of the District Competitions Control Committee shall be dealt with by the County Hearings Committee.

#### Motion 14 (Coiste Contae)

To add Bye-Law 4 (c) of CLG Loch Garman Bye-Laws 2023 to set the composition, powers and functions of Coiste Bainistíochta Choiste na nÓg to read as follows:

Coiste Bainistíochta Choiste na nÓg: It shall consist of a Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Treasurer, PRO, County Children's Officer, County Coaching Officer and a named representative from each of the following committees: County Primary Schools and County Post - Primary Schools.

The Officers of Coiste na nÓg are to be appointed by the County Committee based on nomination from the County Chairperson.

It shall be responsible, subject to the overall jurisdiction of the County Committee and Coiste na nÓg, for the management of the affairs of Coiste na nÓg, except finance, between meetings of Coiste na nÓg. Powers in respect of finance are reserved for County Committee and County Management Committee.

#### Motion 15 (Coiste Contae)

To add Bye-Law 4 (d) of CLG Loch Garman Bye-Laws 2023 to set the composition, powers and functions of Coiste na nÓg Competitions Control Committee to read as follows:

Coiste na nÓg Competitions Control Committee: It shall be responsible for all arrangements, including the appointment of Referees, for and control of any matters arising from Games under the jurisdiction of Coiste na nÓg, including disciplinary matters other than those functions reserved to the County Hearings Committee. It shall process and make recommendations to Coiste na nÓg on the Grading of Clubs and Teams. It shall investigate and process matters relating to the Enforcement of Rules and Codes, including hearing Objections and Counter-Objections.

It shall be responsible, in the first instance, for making decisions on applications for Transfer Within the County for players Under 18 and the Grading of Players Under 18.

It shall, on delegation from the County Committee, be responsible in the first instance for making decisions on issues concerning Entitlement of Attachment to First Club for Players Under 18.

It shall consist of a minimum of eight members including a Chairperson and Secretary, to be nominated by the County Chairperson, a named representative from each of the four Districts, a Fixtures Analyst and a representative from the Referees' Administration Committee and be appointed by the County Committee.

Coiste na nÓg may delegate other plenary powers to the Coiste na nÓg Competitions Control Committee, and in such cases, Appeals may be made only to the Provincial Council.

#### Motion 16 (Coiste Contae)

That Bye-Law 5 of CLG Loch Garman Bye-Laws 2023 in respect of the Fundraising Control Committee become Bye-Law 4 (e), that other Bye-Laws be renumbered as appropriate, that this



Committee be renamed as the Cairde Loch Garman Committee and that its membership be reduced to a minimum of six members to read as follows:

**Cairde Loch Garman Committee**: It shall consist of a Chairperson nominated by the County Chairperson and **a minimum of five** other named members appointed by the County Committee.

It shall be responsible, subject to the overall jurisdiction of the County Committee for the organising/overseeing of fundraising activities **as delegated by** County Committee.

#### Motion 17 (Coiste Contae)

That Bye-Law 6 of CLG Loch Garman Bye-Laws 2023 in respect of the County Squads Committee become Bye-Law 4 (f), that other Bye-Laws be renumbered as appropriate and that its responsibilities be shared with the Football and Hurling Advisory Committees as follows:

County Squads Committee: It shall consist of a Chairperson nominated by the County Chairperson and one representative each from the County Committee, Coiste na nÓg, the County Coaching Committee plus up to four other persons appointed by the County Committee.

It shall be responsible for the organising of all Squad Mentors and oversee the organising of all squad activities in conjunction with the Football Advisory Committee and the Hurling Advisory Committee. The County Squads Committee will report to the Management Committee at least twice per annum.

#### Motion 18 (Coiste Contae)

That Bye-Law 7 of CLG Loch Garman Bye-Laws 2023 in respect of the Football Advisory Committee become Bye-Law 4 (g), that other Bye-Laws be renumbered as appropriate and that its membership be set at a minimum of five members in total as follows:

Football Advisory Committee: It shall consist of a Chairperson, Secretary and **a minimum of three** other named members.

It shall be responsible for the promotion and developments of all football activities in the county subject to the overall jurisdiction of the County Committee.

#### Motion 19 (Coiste Contae)

That Bye-Law 8 of CLG Loch Garman Bye-Laws 2023 in respect of the Hurling Advisory Committee become Bye-Law 4 (h), that other Bye-Laws be renumbered as appropriate and that its membership be set at a minimum of five members in total as follows:

Hurling Advisory Committee: It shall consist of a Chairperson, Secretary and **a minimum of three** other named members.

It shall be responsible for the promotion and developments of all hurling activities in the county subject to the overall jurisdiction of the County Committee.

#### Motion 20 (Coiste Contae)

To add a Bye-Law to CLG Loch Garman Bye-Laws 2023 to define Catchment Area for the purposes of Riail 6.2 T.O. 2023, to remove definitions of Catchment Area from Bye-Laws 11, 12 and 13 and update their wording accordingly to read as follows:



The Catholic Parish Boundary as obtained on 1 January 1972 and as determined by the County Committee under Riail 6.2 T.O. 2023 is the catchment area for the purposes of Attachment to First Club (Riail 6.3 T.O. 2023), Transfers Within County (Riail 6.4 T.O. 2023) and Inter-County Transfers (Riail 6.5 T.O. 2023) in Wexford.

#### **Exception:**

Teams shall not be composed of players from more than one parish, with the exception of Our Lady's Island who can select players from the adjoining parish of Ballymore. This is applicable up to and including Under 21 grades only.

#### Motion 21 (Coiste Contae)

To amend Bye-Law 12 of CLG Loch Garman Bye-Laws 2023 to state that no other Bye-Law may prevent the CCC from granting a Transfer Request whereby that Transfer Request has been referred to the CCC by the CCC by Arbitrator as set out in Exception (vi) in respect of Wexford Town Transfers to read as follows:

Where a Transfer Application has been referred to the CCC from the Arbitrator, other Bye-Laws shall not prevent the CCC from granting the transfer.

Motions 22 – 28 proposed changes to Bye-Laws

#### Motion 22 (Coiste Contae)

To amend Bye-Law 1.3 CLG Loch Garman Bye-Laws 2023 to allow the position of Children's Officer to be held by a member for more than five years as allowed for by Riail 3.9 (b) (2) T.O. 2023 to read as follows:

In accordance with Riail 3.9 (b) (2) T.O. 2023, the positions of Wexford GAA Treasurer **and Children's Officer are** not subject to the maximum period of office of five years.

#### Motion 23 (Coiste Contae)

To add Bye-Law 4 (i) of CLG Loch Garman Bye-Laws 2023 to set the composition, powers and functions of the Centre of Excellence Oversight Committee to read as follows:

Centre of Excellence Oversight Committee: It shall consist of an independent person agreed by the Chairpersons of Wexford Camogie, Wexford GAA and Wexford LGFA in the role of Chairperson with one further nomination from each of the three organisations. The CEO / Operations Manager of Wexford GAA will be a non-voting member of the committee. This committee will be responsible for:

- (i) Initial implementation of the Memorandum of Agreement between Wexford Camogie, Wexford GAA and Wexford LGFA together with continuous review of arrangements in respect of the Centre of Excellence
- (ii) To explore funding opportunities from public and private sources to meet the development costs of the development works and the annual maintenance costs.
- (iii) Provide recommendations to the Management Committees of the three organisations in respect of changes needed to this agreement.
- (iv) Oversee and set budget within available finance of annual maintenance plans and costs.
- (v) Oversee and set budget within available finance in respect of the development of the Centre of Excellence.



(vi) Provide recommendations to the Management Committees of the three organisations in respect of changes or additions to the development works.

#### Motion 24 (Coiste Contae)

To add an extended deadline for transfers within the county for players who have not played championship within the county in the last two calendar years to Bye-Law 12 of CLG Loch Garman Bye-Laws 2023 to read as follows:

A player who has not played championship within the County in the last two calendar years may apply for a Transfer at any point up to a date set by the CCC on an annual basis to not be later than seven days prior to the commencement of adult championship, e.g. a player may seek a transfer at any point prior to the commencement of adult championship in 2024 as long as they have not played championship for their present club in either 2022 or 2023. Confirmation of date of last championship game played by must be confirmed by the Secretary of the player's current club as part of the application process.

#### Motion 25 (Coiste Contae)

To amend Bye-Law 16 of CLG Loch Garman Bye-Laws 2023 to read as follows:

Any players not listed in a county team's match day panel of 26 are to be automatically released back to their clubs for any official club fixtures on that weekend.

#### Motion 26 (Coiste Contae)

To delete Bye-Law 17 of CLG Loch Garman Bye-Laws 2023 so as to allow Club Age Grades eligibility to be set by means of Competition Regulation rather than by bye-law.

#### Motion 27 (CLG Naomh Sheosaimh)

That any player turning 18 on or after the 1st of January of that calendar year will be eligible to play adult football and hurling. All other relevant Bye-Laws to be amended accordingly.

#### Motion 28 (CLG Síol Maolúir)

That following the second round of championship games, Clubs be allowed to regrade up to three players subject to approval by the committee-in-charge (CCC-Fixtures). Such requests to be submitted no later than 5pm on the day following the completion of Round 2 fixtures. Re-graded players can only drop down to club's next level team. All other relevant Bye-Laws to be amended accordingly.

Motions 29 – 30: proposed changes to the playing rules of football

#### Motion 29 (Coiste Contae)

That Rule 2.7 (a) (Playing Rules of Football) T.O. 2023 be amended to place restrictions on the positioning of players for kick-outs, that Rule 4.31 (Playing Rules of Football) T.O. 2023 be amended and that a new Technical Foul be added to Rule 4 (Playing Rules of Football) T.O. 2023, all to read as follows:

2.7 (a) When the ball is played over the endline by the Team attacking that end, or after a score is made, play is restarted by a kick-out off the ground from the centre point of the 20m line and shall be kicked forward subject to the following:



- (i) At the time of the kick-out, there must be a maximum of five players from each team plus the goalkeeper inside the 45m line at both ends of the field. A maximum of four players from each team are permitted to be between both 45m lines at the time of the kick-out.
- (ii) The players from each team that are inside the 45m lines on both ends of the field prior to the kick-out may not cross the 45m line until the ball has been played by one of the players between both 45m lines at the time of the kick-out.
- (iii) The ball shall travel outside the **45m** line before being played by another player **on either team**.
- (iv) Prior to the commencement of the game, the Referee may deem that that Rule 2.7 (a) (iii) will not apply for the duration of the game due to weather conditions. If Rule 2.7 (a) (iii) is not applied for the duration of the game, the ball from the kick-out shall travel not less than 13m and outside the 20m line before being played by another player of the defending team.
- (v) If the goalkeeper is not taking the kick-out, the goalkeeper shall stay in the small rectangle, and all other players, except the player taking the kick-out, shall be outside the 20m line, outside the semi-circular arc and 13m from the ball until it has been kicked.
- (vi) The player taking a kick-out may kick the ball more than once before any other player touches it but may not take the ball into the hands.
- (vii) Unless delayed by the Referee, a goalkeeper has 20 seconds from the time the ball crosses the endline to restart the game with a kick-out.
- **4.31** To waste time by taking more than 20 seconds from the time the ball crosses the endline to restart the game with a kick-out out unless delayed by the Referee.
- 4.37 To have more than five players plus the goalkeeper inside the 45m line at the time of a kick-out or to have more than four players between both 45m lines at the time of a kick-out.

Penalty – A free kick from midfield. At the time of the free kick, there must be a maximum of five players from each team plus the goalkeeper inside the 45m line at both ends of the field. A maximum of four players from each team, including the player taking the free kick, are permitted to be between both 45m lines at the time of the free kick. The other players in the midfield zone between both 45m lines at the time of the free kick must be positioned behind the player taking the free kick, i.e. they must be in the half of the field of the team whom was awarded the free kick.

If the defending team players are not correctly positioned at the time of this free kick, the penalty is a free kick 13m more advantageous than place of original free kick. If the attacking team players are not correctly positioned at the time of this free kick, throw in the ball from the spot of the free kick except as provided under Exceptions (v) and (vi) of Rule 2.2.



#### Motion 30 (Coiste Contae)

That a new Set Play Rule be added to Rule 2 (Playing Rules of Football) T.O. 2023 to ensure that teams keep a minimum of three players inside each 65m line at all times and that a new Technical Foul be added to Rule 4 (Playing Rules of Football) T.O. 2023, both to read as follows:

- 2.13 At all times, teams must keep three players inside the 65m line in their own half of the field and three players inside the 65m line in the opposition's half of the field. These players must wear a distinctive armband on both arms. These players cannot cross the relevant 65m line during the course of play. A team may change the players to remain inside the 65m lines in both halves of the field during a break in play only.
- 4.37 For a player wearing distinctive armbands to cross the relevant 65m line during the course of play.

Penalty – A free kick from the 20m line directly in front of the goal that team that has been penalised is defending.

Motions 31-32: Other motions from Clubs

#### Motion 31 (CLG Baile Uí Cheog)

That Riail 3.9 (a) T.O. 2023 be amended to change the Planning and Training Officer from an appointed Officership to an elected Officership to read as follows:

The Annual County Convention shall elect the following Officers of the County Committee: Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, if desired; Treasurer, Assistant Treasurer, if desired; Coaching Officer, Officer for Irish Language and Culture, Planning and Training Officer, Public Relations Officer, and Hurling Officer, if desired; and shall appoint a Demographics Officer and a Children's Officer recommended by the outgoing County Committee.

A member shall not hold more than one of the above Officerships at any given time. The Officers elected/appointed shall hold office until the conclusion of the next Annual Convention.

#### Motion 32 (CLG Baile Uí Cheog)

That Riail 1.5 (Rules of Control) T.O. 2023 and Riail 2.3 (Rules of Specification) T.O. 2023 be updated to allow for the following change in respect of Temporary Substitutes:

A Temporary Substitute may remain on the field of play for a maximum of ten minutes of duration, irrespective of delays, before becoming regularised to being a Substitute. The ten minutes shall transverse Normal Time (which includes additional time) and Extra-Time if played. If a team has reached the maximum number of Substitutes allowed prior to the end of this ten minutes, the Temporary Substitute must be withdrawn, and the team must play the remainder of that match with a reduced number of players.



### Tuarscáil an Runaí

The Annual Convention has come around again, and it is always a great privilege and honour to write this report on the activities within the county over the last 12 months. There are a number of very interesting and informative reports in the booklet, and I recommend that you take the time to read them all.

This is my third report as Runaí Coiste Chontae Loch Garman and it was once again a very busy but enjoyable year in the role with a packed games schedule at intercounty level over a condensed time period followed by an equally intense Club season while huge progress has been taken in the County's infrastructure projects in Chadwicks Wexford Park, Halo Tiles Wexford GAA Centre of Excellence and St. Patricks Park, which are all part of our strategic plan.

Something that must always be acknowledged is the work that all our great volunteers both at Club and County level do, without their dedication we simply couldn't operate as an Association.

#### **County Teams**

#### Senior Hurling

The Senior Hurlers started their year with games in the Walsh Cup, an opening round loss to Laois followed by a win against Offaly set up a last group game versus Kilkenny with a win needed to secure a place in the final. This game would also be the opening game under the newly installed floodlights in Chadwicks Wexford Park, with a packed house in attendance who enjoyed fireworks before the game, it turned out to be the perfect evening as we gained a win with a goal from Richie Lawlor in the dying minutes to deliver a perfect end to the evening under the new lights.

Attention swiftly moved onto the National Hurling League, with the first game again under the lights at home against Galway, which also doubled up as the Walsh Cup Final. While the game was level at half time, Galway ultimately won well in the end and in doing so won both

the Walsh Cup and two league points on offer. The rest of the league campaign did not improve much with a sole win against Westmeath being the only highlight with losses to Clare, Cork and Limerick being the other results.

The Leinster Championship followed next and, whilst league results were not the best, it was hoped that things would improve when the business end of the season would start. An away game to Galway was first up and, after a quick start by the Wexford men scoring two early goals, history would repeat itself as in the opening league game and Galway would gain the win by six points. This game was followed with a tight win over Antrim at home and a disappointing narrow loss to Dublin in Croke Park.

Next up was a home game against Westmeath with a win needed to keep Wexford in the Championship hunt. Leading by 17 points at one stage of the game, people would be forgiven to think a routine win was incoming but unfortunately that was not the case and, in the last 10 minutes, anything that could go wrong did seem to go wrong. While we acknowledge a historic win for Westmeath, it was a sobering result for this Wexford team.

After the game the reality set in that a win in the upcoming fixture against old foes Kilkenny was now more important than any other game ever played against them, as it was for the right to compete for the Liam McCarthy Cup in 2024. What followed was one of the most tense games ever played in Chadwicks Wexford Park and, with a never say die attitude, the Wexford team came away with a two-point win and, more importantly, secured their status as a Liam McCarthy team for 2024. The team and management deserve great credit for the win that day as the performance they gave under the pressure and scrutiny they were under was remarkable.

After the Championship, there was a full and comprehensive review undertaken of the year



involving all stakeholders with many recommendations made on how to improve the standards of our Senior team. During this process, manager, Darragh Egan, was given the opportunity to meet certain criteria following the review. Ultimately, Darragh did not meet the criteria set out and his position was deemed untenable. I wish to acknowledge and thank Darragh for the enormous efforts he and his backroom team have made since his appointment in September 2021 and wish them all well for the future.

The process to appoint a new Senior Hurling Manager then commenced with former Wexford hurler and U20 hurling manager for the last two seasons, Keith Rossiter, announced as the man to take charge. I want to wish Keith well in his new role and I would encourage everyone to get behind Keith and his team for the upcoming season.

#### Senior Football

John Hegarty started his role as Senior Football manager with a game versus Kildare in the O'Byrne Cup. A loss was to come in that game while also losing to Westmeath and receiving a walkover from Louth, seeing Wexford exit the competition at the group stages.

The start of the National Football League saw us host London in the opening round which was also Wexford's first Senior Football game under the newly installed floodlights at Chadwicks Wexford Park – a sizable crowd came to witness this historic event. Having led for most of the game, Wexford conceded a late goal which saw both teams having to settle for a share of the points. There were wins versus Leitrim and Carlow at home and a draw against Wicklow to come but ultimately losses to Laois and Sligo away saw us finish in 4<sup>th</sup> place in the division albeit only two points off the promotion spot showing how tight and competitive Division 4 is.

The Leinster Championship would see us travel to Laois again as was the case in the recent league meeting of the teams and, unfortunately, the same result was to follow with a four-point defeat.

The Tailteann Cup was then Wexford's remaining focus with games versus Fermanagh,

Antrim and Leitrim. The opening game against Fermanagh away was a tough one to start but Wexford showed great character in the game to eke out a draw with Darragh Brooks' last kick securing a point. Next up was Antrim at home – the first half saw some great scores for Wexford but in the end the Antrim men finished the game much stronger and secured the win. This meant a win was needed against Leitrim to secure a Preliminary Quarter Final spot and, on a hot day in Dublin, Wexford duly secured the important victory.

An away day in Tullamore versus Offaly followed and, in their performance of the year, this Wexford team they came away with a memorable win on a scoreline of 1-22 to 2-14 with some excellent scores and play on show that day. Ultimately Wexford would bow out at the Quarter Final stage to a very strong Meath team who went on to win the competition.

Overall, there was huge positives to take in what was John's first year in charge, with many new faces added to the squad. We will all look forward with hope for the team in 2024 with promotion to Division 3 of the league a strong possibility.

#### U20 Football

Our U20 footballers under new manager, Anthony Russell, started their year competing in the Andrew Corden Cup which is a development league and helps preparations for championship. Wins versus Waterford and Carlow and a loss to Wicklow in the group stages of the competition saw us reach the final where we would play Wicklow again. Unfortunately, Wicklow would come out victorious again and claim the cup. The Leinster championship saw us play in a group of Kildare (Home) and Westmeath (Away). Defeats in both games saw an end to Wexford's year.

#### U20 Hurling

The U20 hurlers started their Leinster campaign with a home win versus Kilkenny but losses to Galway and Dublin saw the team face into a tough away Quarter Final against Westmeath. A hard-earned win was gained which setup a semi-final versus Kilkenny in UPMC Nowlan Park and, in what was an excellent game of hurling, Wexford would come



away with a two-point victory and a final spot against Offaly.

The final was an epic encounter which was nip and tuck throughout but for the second year in a row, we would come out losing the final by a narrow margin. What was disappointing that evening was how Wexford was massively outnumbered in the stands by the Offaly supporters. This is not something that is associated with the Wexford following as we usually follow our teams loyally and especially when a team reaches a final, but the large Offaly support definitely made a difference in Carlow that evening.

As I have stated earlier in this report Keith Rossiter has now become the Senior Hurling manager, but I would like to commend him and his backroom team on the great work which they have done over the last two seasons with this group of players and were only a puck of a ball away from being Leinster champions both years.

#### Minor Football

The Minor footballers played in a round robin series in Leinster that included both Carlow and Wicklow, a win versus Carlow and a narrow loss to Wicklow would see Wexford play Laois in the Preliminary Quarter Final and with an outstanding performance Wexford won convincingly on a score line of 6-10 to 0-9. A home Quarter Final versus Meath would follow, and all looked well as Wexford raced into an early lead, but Meath fought back well to ultimately take the win.

Wexford went on to play in the Seamus Heaney Cup where a win versus Wicklow in the semi-final set up a final versus Louth. Heading into injury time, Wexford were leading but a last-minute point saw the game go into extra time which Louth eventually came out on top in and lifted the cup. Overall, this minor campaign can be seen as a success and a great year of development for all the players involved.

#### Minor Hurling

The Minor hurlers also played in a round robin series in Leinster, that included Kerry, Dublin and Offaly. Great wins in all three games saw us through to a semi-final against Kilkenny.

Unfortunately, a four-point loss was the end of the road for this team in the championship. This grade is mainly about developing players for the future and this solid campaign is hopefully a stepping stone for these young players in going on to represent Wexford in the years to come.

Many thanks to all managers, selectors and backroom personnel, too numerous to mention for all our county teams. It was a very busy year which requires huge commitment and dedication from all those involved for which Wexford GAA is grateful of the time given by all.

#### **Club Championships**

The Pettitt's Senior Hurling Championship got underway on the weekend of the 30<sup>th</sup> of June which would be the start of 16 consecutive weeks of club action (Hurling and Football) in the county, a necessity in order to have representation in the provincial championships. This is a busy and intense period for all stakeholders with such a packed schedule of games with no room for any break weeks.

As has been the case for many years now, the Pettitt's Senior Hurling Championship was wide open with many teams feeling they could go on to win the cup. The surprise packet this year was Oylegate-Glenbrien who gave their supporters some great memories along their journey in reaching the final, their first final appearance since 1963. Unfortunately for them they met a very strong Naomh Éanna team in the final led by Conor McDonald who were fully deserving of their win on the day and indeed played some outstanding hurling throughout the year as they also claimed the EEW All-County Hurling League title.

The Dominic Smith Expert Electrical Senior Football Championship got underway the 25<sup>th</sup> of August. As was the case in the previous year's championship, Shelmaliers would coast through their group games with a 100% record but so would the team that beat them in the final the previous year, Castletown. In what was a repeat of the 2022 final, both teams battled it out once again to see who would lift the Seamus Keevans Cup. After what seemed a



perfect start, the reigning champions Castletown raced into an early lead but like in their Semi Final the week before, Shelmaliers showed great resilience and composure to finish strong and claim a win by the narrowest of margins.

Like Oulart-The Ballagh the year before, Cloughbawn returned to the senior ranks at their first attempt with a win against a strong St James' team in The Courtyard Intermediate Hurling decider. In the Ashdown Park & Amber Springs Hotels Intermediate Football Championship final, Naomh Éanna came out on top against an ever-improving Rathgarogue-Cushinstown to see them promoted to the Senior ranks which adds another club to having two teams in senior at both codes which is a great achievement.

Meanwhile in the Joyces Expert Wexford Intermediate 'A' Hurling Championship, Fr. O'Regan's Craanford gained promotion as they saw off the challenge of Rathgarogue-Cushinstown in a hard-fought battle while the Whizzy Internet Intermediate 'A' Football title was won by St. Mary's Rosslare after a three-point victory over their neighbours Kilmore.

In the Junior Championships, Clongeen got the better of St. Patrick's to claim the Kavanagh Meats Junior Hurling Championship while Sarsfields defeated Buffers Alley in the Enniscorthy Farm Systems Junior Football Championship to make up for their loss in the previous year's final.

Shelmaliers (Football) and Naomh Éanna (Hurling) were also worthy winners in the Enniscorthy Farm Systems and Kavanagh Meats Junior A competitions, overcoming Davidstown-Courtnacuddy and Ballyhogue respectively.

The Kavanagh Meats Junior B Hurling Championship winners were Fr. O'Regan's Craanford and the Enniscorthy Farm Systems Junior B Football champions were St. Mary's Maudlintown.

2023 saw a return to the U21 grade. Sponsored by Panda, in the Football championship there were wins for Ballynestragh Gaels in the

Premier, St. Anne's Rathangan in Division 1, St Mary's Rosslare in Division 2 and Taghmon-Camross in the Division 2 Shield. In the Panda U21 Hurling Championship, there were wins for Faythe Harriers in the Premier, St. Anne's Rathangan in Division 1, Davidstown-Courtnacuddy in Division 2 and Duffry Rovers in the Division 2 Shield.

As always, there was much debate on when in the Championship calendar this grade should be played and I think most will agree there is no perfect time to play these games. With the cooperation of clubs, it provides games for players and helps to try retaining players involved that otherwise might not.

To run our championships successfully it takes a massive effort from everyone involved and I would like to thank them for their time and effort to see the smooth running of our games. We also thank all clubs who made their venues available for games throughout the year.

#### **Facilities**

St Patricks Park was once again one of the busiest venues in the County and on one weekend during the football championship it was quite amazing how great a condition it was in considering most venues in the County were unplayable due to weather. Great credit must go to Michael Lynch for the great work and service he carries out in St. Patrick's Park with such an extremely busy programme of games with adult, underage, Ladies Football and Camogie fixtures all taking place there.

A thank you to all stewards who helped at venues for the games under the guidance of Dave Ormonde and Bobby Goff.

John Kehoe, Head Groundskeeper and Facilities Manager for Wexford GAA, has insured that Chadwicks Wexford Park always is in immaculate condition for every game, with Seamus O'Brien keeping the Halo Tiles Wexford GAA Centre of Excellence in top shape also.

#### **Wexford GAA TV**

Once again Wexford GAA TV have provided supporters far and wide a great service of live games along with pre- and post-game analysis and interviews. Their great work was recently



acknowledged nationally as they won a prestigious McNamee Award at an event held in Croke Park. This would not be possible without the expert work of Finbar Flanagan, Lar Sutton and Peter Mernagh, together with his team of commentators.

#### **CCC-Fixtures**

It is important to acknowledge the work of the CCC who govern our fixtures. They have the most challenging task, and they work very hard to try assisting every club with their various requests. This year was especially challenging as weather conditions during the football championship required great understanding and cooperation from clubs as many games had to move dates or change venues at short notice. Without this cooperation, we might not have made the date required to finish our championships and have representation at provincial level.

Special thanks must go to my fellow members of the CCC-Fixtures – Bobby Goff (Chairperson), Marion Doyle, Seamus Whelan, Joan Furlong, Justin Browne, John O'Neill, Seamus Kennelly and Gabriel Wade – for their tireless work during the year.

Please see the report from John O'Neill (Fixture Analyst) for a more comprehensive breakdown of games during the year.

The four Districts ran their Junior B competitions and once again provided a great programme of games for these players. I would like to thank all the District Officers and in particular the secretaries and chairpersons for their work.

#### **Discipline**

As is a common occurrence, it seems now every year we have many incidents of poor discipline or behaviour on our pitches, sidelines and in our stands. What does stick out in the Committees' Reports, is that there are more incidents of abuse towards officials from our sidelines than from the players on the pitch. While this attitude from our sidelines keeps occurring, we will continue to struggle to recruit the required referees to maintain the programme of games we currently have. As I said last year, we all have a responsibility when

it comes to discipline – be it from the stands, on our side-lines or the players that take the field. I would like to thank Chairperson, Aidan O'Leary, Secretary, Joe Sheehan, and the other members of CCC-Discipline for dealing with all adult disciplinary matters in an efficient manner. Their full report is available as part of Tuarascálacha na bhFochoistí.

On the refereeing side, I would like to thank Denis Cadogan and Seamus Whelan and all their committee for their assistance in appointing, educating and assisting referees on match days during the year. All our match officials are valuable to our fixtures programme, and I also thank them for their time and dedication.

Thank you to all of the members of the Hearings Committee led by Chairperson, Margaret Doyle, and Secretary, Eddie Nangle. It must be acknowledged that the members of this committee make themselves available whenever the situation arises and ensure that rules and procedures are properly followed while also ensuring that the GAA's Disciplinary Code is implemented in a fair and efficient manner. The full report on their work is also available as part of Tuarascálacha na bhFochoistí.

#### **Finance**

We delivered a net surplus of €332k for the year ended 30 September 2023. There was an increase in Total Income of 10% to €3.2m offset by an increase of 26% to €2.9m in Total Expenditure. The increase in expenditure was primarily driven by intercounty team costs, which saw an increase of 26% to €1.2m due to increases in player travel expenses, the introduction of round robins at all levels, economic inflation and a longer intercounty football season. There was also a significant investment in coaching and games during the year amounting to €433k in line with the objectives of our strategic plan.

During 2023, Wexford GAA invested €1.5m in capital improvement projects, most notably the improvements in Chadwicks Wexford Park and the development of Phase 2 in Halo Tiles Wexford GAA Centre of Excellence.



While gate receipts have dropped slightly, there was an increase of 13% in Commercial & Fundraising Income to €1.2m with one-off events, such as the Cairde Loch Garman USA Draw and the Floodlight Opening Night, contributing to a successful year while Wexford GAA continues to receive strong support from our loyal sponsors and corporate partners.

Again, an extraordinary effort went into the Model County Draw this year. Our annual loan repayment relating to the development of Halo Tiles Wexford GAA COE was met and our Clubs benefited significantly from the draw.

I would like to thank all involved in the smooth and efficient running of the draw and, in particular, acknowledge the work of our coordinators Joe Sheehan, Joe Tully, John Hanton and Liam Roche.

I would echo Micheál Martin's latest comments noting caution in respect of finance with significant challenges ahead. It is planned to invest €2.5 million to complete works in Chadwicks Wexford Park and Halo Tiles Wexford GAA Centre of Excellence. There is a continual need to invest in our facilities, in coaching programmes and in our teams. The spiralling costs of intercounty teams is something that will require consideration from all stakeholders not only in Wexford but across every county.

I would like to thank Micheál Martin, Andrew Nolan and Joe Sheehan for their work throughout the year in relation to the County's finances which is positively reflected in our financial statements.

#### **Halo Tiles Wexford GAA Centre of Excellence**

Works are now complete on the €2 million project for Phase 2 of the Halo Tiles Wexford GAA Centre of Excellence. The entrance from the old N11 will be opened in December and our new floodlit pitches will be ready in June 2024 before hosting the national Féile na nGael. This event will see thousands of young players descend on the venue. Significantly, the works will see the first centre of its kind in the GAA to encompass both the LGFA and Camogie on a formal footing as well. It is also the only County Centre of Excellence to be part of the GAA's

Green Programme for sustainability. Wexford GAA have signed a Memorandum of Agreement with Wexford Camogie and Wexford LGFA for the use and development of Halo Tiles Wexford GAA Centre of Excellence with the following key objectives:

- Shared usage of facilities based on 50% GAA, 25% Camogie, 25% LGFA.
- Joint fundraising initiative between the three organisations to help fund the development.
- Development of Pitch 1 for games with an expected attendance of < 1,000.</li>

A Joint committee will be established to oversee the implementation and running of the MOU.

#### **Chadwicks Wexford Park**

January 2023 saw the installation of floodlights in the stadium with a sold-out night to remember. The lighting system is capable of delivering an exciting range of colour-changing special effects, scenes and light shows that also feature light-to-sound synchronization. Chadwicks Wexford Park is the first GAA stadium to install such a high-tech system.

Wexford GAA also extended its agreement with Chadwicks Group for the naming rights of Chadwicks Wexford Park during 2023. The new four-year agreement will see Chadwicks Group invest €110,000 in the enhancement of Wexford GAA facilities and games development across the county.

Wexford GAA are committed to further development works in Chadwicks Wexford Park in 2024 including:

- Extension to existing dressing rooms
- Reconfiguration of office facilities
- Development of a corporate facility
- Refurbishment of media facilities and disabled area
- Upgrade of seating in allocated areas
- Upgrade of car park

The facilities and the pitch at the venue are maintained and monitored by John Kehoe, David Ormonde, Bobby Goff and many more – thanks to all who have contributed to the process.



#### **St Patricks Park**

A huge amount of work has been undertaken on improving the facilities in St Patricks Park over the last 12 months including:

- New shower and water heating system installed
- Dressing rooms, public toilets and team meeting room fully refurbished
- 50% SEAI grant approved for upgrade of floodlights (Works to be completed in January 2024)

David Tobin (Safety & Facilities Officer) and his committee must take great credit in all the work they oversee on the infrastructure projects that have been carried out to date. David has been a driving force on improving facilities within the county for both our Clubs and our County. The same must also be said of our current Cathaoirleach, Micheál Martin. Both see and understand that if our county teams are to compete at the very top, our facilities must be best-in-class.

For a more comprehensive breakdown of Infrastructure please see Davids's full report available as part of Tuarascálacha na bhFochoistí.

#### Coaching

Coaching within the county is so important at both Club and County level as it's the work and development that is happening now with our underage players that will ultimately decide the quality of those players that take the field for our county teams in the future. The main areas for this work are following:

- Coach Development
- Underage Games Programme
- Go Games
- Integrated Athletic Development Secondary School Programme
- Cúl Camps

In April, an Cathaoirleach commissioned a review of all underage activity in the County to explore areas for improvement. Over recent months, a series of district forums have been held with Clubs to review all aspects of our playing season from U8 to U18 with a focus on the following:

 Length of the playing season at all grades from U8 to U18 versus the national norm

- Assess the number of games provided in each code versus the national norm
- Assess the quality and competitiveness of games from U14 to U18 with a focus on grading
- Assess the adherence to national Go games Policy and small sided games from U8 to U12.
- Assess the games programme for the eighteen-year-old player in the context of any rule changes and the impact it would have on underage games programmes.

I would like to pay special thanks to Ray Harris and James Flynn for once again organising a great summer of Cúl Camps, all of our GPOs for their tireless work and to John Kenny and his Coiste na nÓg committees for running the underage championships.

Kevin Doyle has completed his first year in the role of Coaching Officer and has done a huge amount of work to date. For a more comprehensive breakdown of coaching please see Kevin's full report available as part of Tuarascálacha na bhFochoistí.

#### **Deceased Members:**

During the past year, we lost some people who had devoted their lives to the GAA and, more importantly, Wexford GAA. We especially remember: Pat Hall, former County Chairperson of CLG Loch Garman among other roles both at County Level and with his Club, Rapparees-Starlights; Noel O'Keeffe, St. Anne's Rathangan, former Vice-Chairperson of CLG Loch Garman and Treasurer of Coiste na nÓg Loch Garman; and, Jack O'Brien, Buffers Alley, who was the Gorey District Chairperson at the time of his passing while also previously having served on the Wexford GAA CCC at both adult and Coiste na nÓg levels.

We remember all associated with Wexford GAA who passed away during the year and the many involved in Wexford GAA and the wider GAA community who lost family members also.

Ar Dheis Dé go raibh a hainmeacha Dhílis.

#### **Buíochas**

My term of County Secretary draws to a close this evening. It was a great honour and privilege



to hold the position and one I will look back on with great pride.

I wish to place on record my sincere thanks to all my colleagues on Coiste Bainistí who have assisted and guided me through my time as Runaí. Cathaoirleach, Micheál Martin, CEO, Gavin O'Donovan, and Vice-Chairperson, Bobby Goff, have been of great support throughout my time in this role.

I wish to express my sincere thanks to all our staff. In the office, Marion Doyle and Erica Cunningham and in the coaching section, Ray Harris, our GDAs and all our GPOs for their hard work and dedication throughout the year.

I would like to thank our PRO Colm Lambert and his PR team for the brilliant coverage that they give our games which involves a huge amount of time and dedication.

To the Club officials in the County, I wish to express my gratitude for all the help and courtesy you afforded me this year. I am sure you will afford the incoming Secretary the same courtesy that was shown to me.

Many thanks to my own club, Gusserane O'Rahilly's, who have supported and encouraged me in my role.

A heartfelt and massive appreciation to my wife, Leona, for her support which I am truly grateful for.

I would also like to thank:

- All our various Corporate Partners and Sponsors
- District Officers & County Board Members
- Chairpersons and Members of the many Sub-committees
- Coiste na nÓg officers
- Andrew Nolan, James Flood and all our gatepeople
- Dave Ormonde, Bobby Goff and their team of stewards
- Managers, selectors and backroom teams of all our County teams & squads
- Referees and lines umpires
- Our grounds people, John Kehoe, Michael Lynch, Seamus O'Brien and John Nolan
- Staff at Croke Park & Leinster Council

- Chief Superintendent Derek Hughes, Superintendent Jim Doyle, Inspector Graham Rowley and Sergeant Dave Ferriter and all locally based members of An Garda Síochana
- Bríd Quigley & Pat Murphy for their assistance on match days
- Pat Kavanagh & The Corish Park Residents for their cooperation
- Auditors Martin & Ruairi Quigley
- All games development staff
- Local Press & Radio and in particular Liam Spratt, Gerry Forde and Alan Aherne.
- All Wexford GAA TV Contributors in particular Lar Sutton, Finbar Flanagan, and Peter Mernagh.

I would like to recognise the contributions of Michael Wallace and Marty Breen to Wexford GAA. Both step down from their roles as County Committee Delegate for Bannow-Ballymitty and Rathgarogue-Cushinstown respectively after a long number of years of sterling service. Also, Convention sees Andrew Egan's term as Assistant Secretary come to an end. I wish to thank Andrew for his great work over the last five years in the role and for the committees that he also served on during that time.

If I have omitted to mention anyone I sincerely apologise.

Finally, I want to wish you all a healthy and prosperous 2024 and let's hope it's a good one for Wexford GAA, Loch Garman Abú.

Mícheál Ó hAonghusa Cuilín Runaí CLG Loch Garman



### Roll of Honour 2023

#### **2023 Hurling Championship Winners**

Pettitt's Senior Hurling Championship Naomh Éanna The Courtyard Ferns Intermediate Hurling Championship Cloughbawn Joyces Expert Wexford Intermediate A Hurling Championship

Kavanagh Meats Junior Hurling Championship Kavanagh Meats Junior A Hurling Championship

Kavanagh Meats Junior B Hurling Championship

Fr. O'Regan's Craanford

Clongeen Naomh Éanna

Fr. O'Regan's Craanford

#### **2023 Football Championship Winners**

Dominic Smith Expert Electrical Senior Football Championship Shelmalier Amber Springs & Ashdown Park Hotels Intermediate Football Ch. Naomh Éanna Whizzy Internet Intermediate A Football Championship St. Mary's Rosslare Enniscorthy Farm Systems Junior Football Championship Sarsfields Enniscorthy Farm Systems Junior A Football Championship Shelmalier

Enniscorthy Farm Systems Junior B Football Championship St. Mary's Maudlintown

#### **Enniscorthy Electrical Wholesale All County Hurling League 2023**

#### Naomh Éanna Premier Roinn 1 **Buffers Alley** Roinn 2 St. Martin's **Faythe Harriers** Roinn 3 Naomh Éanna Roinn 4

#### **EBS Mortgages Wexford All County Football League 2023**

Premier	Kilanerin
Roinn 1	St. Martin's
Roinn 2	Kilmore
Roinn 3	Castletown

#### Panda U21 Hurling 2023

Premier Faythe Harriers St. Anne's Rathangan Division 1 Division 2 Davidstown-Courtnacuddy Division 2 Shield Duffry Rovers

#### Panda U19 Football 2022

Premier Glynn-Barntown

#### Panda U21 Football 2023

Premier Ballynestragh Gaels St. Anne's Rathangan Division 1 Division 2 St. Mary's Rosslare Division 2 Shield Taghmon-Camross







### Proud Supporters of Wexford GAA





### oneills

























































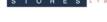
KIRWAN & KIRWAN



















# Cuntais Iniúchta

Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Loch Garman

**Financial Statements** 

for the year ended 30th September 2023



## CLG LOCH GARMAN CONTENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2023

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### CLG LOCH GARMAN MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND OTHER INFORMATION FOR YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2023

#### **Management Committee**

Micheál Martin (Chairperson)

Bobby Goff (Vice-Chairperson)

Michael Hennessy-Cullen (Secretary)

Andrew Egan (Assistant Secretary)

Andrew Nolan (Treasurer)

Kevin Doyle (Coaching Officer)

Tony Dempsey (Officer for Irish Language & Culture)

Colm Lambert (Public Relations Officer)

Brian McGrath (Planning and Training Officer)

Des Croke (Children's Officer)

David Tobin (Safety & Facilities Officer)

Dermot Howlin (Central Council Representative)

Cathal Byrne (Leinster Council Representative)

PJ Howlin (Leinster Council Representative)

John Kenny (Chairperson, Coiste na nÓg)

Aoife Parle (Secretary, Coiste na nÓg)

Jim Byrne (Chairperson's Nominee) - non-voting

Gavin O'Donovan (CEO/Operations Manager) - non-voting

#### Secretary

Michael Hennessey Cullen

#### **Solicitors**

Crean & O'Flaherty Solicitors, Estate House, Castle Hill, Enniscorthy, Co. Wexford

#### **Bankers**

AIB Bank, North Main Street, Wexford.

#### **Auditors**

Martin Quigley & Co., 100 North Main Street, Townparks, Wexford



### CLG LOCH GARMAN REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE FOR YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2023

The Management Committee present their annual report and the financial statements for the year-ended 30th September 2023

#### **Reporting Entity**

Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Loch Garman is an unincorporated Association.

#### **Principal Activities**

The principal activity of CLG Loch Garman is the promotion and development of Gaelic Games in Co. Wexford.

#### **Business Review/Results**

The operating surplus before depreciation and amortisation for the year amounts to €569,541 (2022: €848,407) and a net surplus after providing for depreciation and amortisation of €332,446 (2022: €652,119). The detail of the financial results for the year are set out on pages 35 and 36.

#### **Balance Sheet**

CLG Loch Garman has net assets of €9,115,165 (2022: €8,782,719) at the end of the year.

#### **Post Balance Sheet Events**

No significant events occurred since the balance sheet date which requires disclosures in the financial statements.

#### **Principal Risks and Uncertainties**

There are a number of potential risks and uncertainties which could have a significant impact on CLG Loch Garman's long-term performance. CLG Loch Garman's Management Committee review existing risk and identify new risks on an annual basis. Suitable controls are put in place and action plans are established to mitigate risks. These risks and uncertainties and the related controls and plans are monitored by the County Audit & Risk Committee on a regular basis and reported to the Management Committee.

#### **Books and Records**

The Management Committee is responsible for ensuring that proper books and accounting records are kept by the County Committee. The Management Committee have appointed appropriate accounting personnel to ensure compliance with those requirements. The books and accounting records are maintained at Chadwicks Wexford Park, Clonard Road, Wexford.

#### Statement of Relevant Audit Information

Each of the persons who are members of the Management Committee at the time when this Management Committee Report is approved has confirmed that:

- so far as the Committee Member is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the auditors are unaware, and
- the Committee Member has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a member of the Management Committee in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditors are aware of that information.



### CLG LOCH GARMAN REPORT OF THE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE FOR YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2023

#### **Auditors**

The auditors, Martin Quigley & Co., have indicated their willingness to continue in office.

Signed on behalf of the Management Committee:

Micheál Ó Máirtín

Aindriú Ó Nualláin

Cathaoirleach

Cisteoir

**DATE:** 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023



### CLG LOCH GARMAN STATEMENT OF MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES FOR YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2023

The Management Committee is required to prepare financial statements for each financial period which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the County Committee and the surplus or deficit of the County for that period.

In preparing those financial statements, the Management Committee is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable
  accounting standards, identify the standards in question, subject to any material departures
  from those standards being disclosed and explained in the notes to the financial statements;
  and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the County Board will continue its activities.

The Management Committee is responsible for ensuring adequate accounting records are kept which correctly explain and record the transactions of the County Committee and enable at any time the assets, liabilities, financial position and surplus or deficit of the County Committee to be determined with reasonable accuracy and enable the financial statements to be audited. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the County Board and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Management Committee are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the organisation and financial information included on the County website. Legislation in Ireland governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

#### Signed on behalf of the Management Committee:

**Micheál Ó Máirtín**Cathaoirleach

Aindriú Ó Nualláin Cisteoir

Date: 30th November 2023



### CLG LOCH GARMAN INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY COMMITTEE OF CLG LOCH GARMAN

#### **Report on the Audit of the Financial Statements**

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of CLG Loch Garman, for the year ended 30 September 2023, which comprise the Income & Expenditure Account, the Statement of Comprehensive Income, the Statement of Changes in Reserves, the Statement of Financial Position, and notes to the financial statements, including the summary of significant accounting policies set out in note 2. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is FRS 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland issued in the United Kingdom by the Financial Reporting Council (FRS 102).

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of CLG Loch Garman as at September 30th 2023, and of its surplus for the year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with FRS 102.

#### **Basis for opinion**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (Ireland) (ISAs (Ireland)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report.

We are independent of CLG Loch Garman in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of financial statements in Ireland, including the Ethical Standard for Auditors (Ireland) issued by the Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority (IAASA), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that managements' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the County Board's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of management with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.



### CLG LOCH GARMAN INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY COMMITTEE OF CLG LOCH GARMAN

#### Other information

Management are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements, or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

#### **Respective Responsibilities**

#### Responsibilities of management for the financial statements

As explained more fully in the management's responsibilities statement set out on page 31, management are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework that give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management are responsible for assessing the County Board's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the County Board or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

#### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (Ireland) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken based on these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority's website at:

http://www.iaasa.ie/getmedia/b2389013-1cf6-458b-

<u>9b8fa98202dc9c3a/Description\_of\_auditors\_responsibilities\_for\_audit.pdf</u>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.



### CLG LOCH GARMAN INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE COUNTY COMMITTEE OF CLG LOCH GARMAN

#### The Purpose of Our Audit Work and to Whom We Owe Our Responsibilities

Our report is made solely to the County Committee members, as a body, in accordance. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the County Board's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the County Board and the members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

#### Ruairí Quigley

For and on behalf of

Martin Quigley & Co Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors 100 North Main Street Wexford

Date: 30th November 2023



## CLG LOCH GARMAN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2023

Income & Expenditure Account			
	Schedule	2023	2022
		€	€
<u>Income</u>			
Gate Receipts	1	816,596	831,157
Commercial & Fundraising Income	2	1,270,786	1,126,923
Income from Associated Bodies	3	614,178	563,542
Other Income	4	574,306	494,035
Government Grants	5	34,198	-
Amortisation of Capital Grants		14,700	400
•		,	
Total Income		3,239,764	2,953,550
Expenditure			
Match Day costs	6	314,348	260,710
Team Administration	7	1,207,996	955,752
Upkeep of Grounds	8	361,062	354,767
Coaching & Games	9	432,645	251,981
Administration costs	10	295,523	242,124
Financial expenses	11	35,259	29,629
Grants & Promotional	12	8,690	9,780
Depreciation		251,795	196,688
Total Expenditure		2,907,318	2,301,431
Surplus		332,446	<u>652,119</u>



## CLG LOCH GARMAN STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2023

Statement of Comprehensive Income				
	Note	2023	2022	
		€	€	
Turnover	4	3,200,400	2,929,426	
Cost of sales		(314,348)	(260,710)	
Gross Profit		2,886,052	2,668,716	
Administration expenses		(2,555,203)	(2,022,882)	
Operating profit		330,849	645,834	
Other interest receivable or similar income	6	24,664	23,724	
Interest payable and similar expenses	7	(23,067)	(17,439)	
Profit for the financial year		332,446	652,119	
Other comprehensive income for the year		-	-	
Total comprehensive income for the year		332,446	652,119	



# CLG LOCH GARMAN STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN RESERVES FOR YEAR ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 2023

Statement of Changes in Reserves		
	€	
At 1 October 2022 Surplus for the year	8,782,719 332,446	
At 30 September 2023	9,115,165	
At 1 October 2021 Surplus for the year	8,130,600 652,119	
At 30 September 2022	8,782,719	



# CLG LOCH GARMAN STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30TH SEPTEMBER 2023

Statement of Financial Position			
	Note	2023	2022
		€	€
Fixed Assets			
Tangible Assets	8	8,858,485	7,568,025
Current Assets			
Stock	9	4,934	6,360
Debtors	10	443,894	447,738
Cash and Cash Equivalents	11	1,356,820	1,729,213
		1,805,648	2,183,311
Creditors: (amounts falling due within 1 year)	12	(782,132)	(362,795)
Net Current Assets		1,023,516	1,820,516
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		9,882,001	9,388,541
Creditors: (amounts falling due after more than 1 year)	13	(487,336)	(586,622)
Deferred Income - Government Grants	15	(18,800)	(19,200)
Deferred Income - Capital Grants	15	(260,700)	-
Net Assets		9,115,165	8,782,719
Capital Reserves			
Accumulated reserves c/f		8,782,719	8,130,600
Surplus / (Deficit) for the period		332,446	652,119
		9,115,165	8,782,719

Signed:

Micheál Ó Máirtín

Aindriú Ó Nualláin

Cathaoirleach

Cisteoir

**Date:** 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023



### CLG LOCH GARMAN STATEMENT OF CASHFLOWS AS AT 30TH SEPTEMBER 2023

Statement of Cash Flows			
	2023	2022	
	€	€	
Cash flows from operating activities			
Operating profit for the financial year	330,849	645,834	
Adjustments for:			
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	251,795	196,688	
Amortisation of capital grants	(14,700)	(400)	
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	3,844	(151,433)	
Decrease in stock	1,426	4,335	
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	417,808	(55,427)	
Net cash inflow from operating activities	991,022	639,597	
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchases of tangible fixed assets	(1,542,255)	(437,780)	
Interest received	24,664	23,724	
Net cash outflow from investing activities	(1,517,591)	(414,056)	
Cash flows from financing activities			
Interest paid	(23,067)	(17,439)	
Repayment of borrowings	(97,757)	(103,385)	
Capital grants received	275,000	(103,303)	
. •		(120 924)	
Net cash inflow/(outflow) from financing activities	154,176	(120,824)	
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents	(372,393)	104,717	
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of year	1,729,213	1,624,496	
Cash and cash equivalents at end of year	1,356,820	1,729,213	



#### 1. General Information

CLG Loch Garman is a sports organisation, the principal place of operation of which is Chadwicks Wexford Park, Clonard Road, Wexford. The Organisation is responsible for the development and oversight of Gaelic Games in Co. Wexford.

### **Statement of compliance**

The entity financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis and in accordance with accounting standards issued by the Financial Reporting Council. The entity financial statements comply with Financial Reporting Standard 102, the Financial Reporting standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

### Currency

The financial statements have been presented in Euro (€) which is also the functional currency of CLG Loch Garman.

### 2. Accounting Policies

### **Basis of preparation of financial statements:**

The preparation of financial statements in compliance with FRS 102 requires the use of certain critical accounting estimates. It also requires management to exercise judgment in applying the organisation's accounting policies.

### **Going concern**

The entity financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis. In assessing going concern, management has considered budgets and forecasts for the foreseeable future and the impact of severe but plausible downside scenarios. Management is satisfied that the use of the going concern basis is appropriate.

### Foreign currency translation

Transactions in foreign currencies are recorded at the rate ruling at the date of the transaction. Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are retranslated at the rate of exchange ruling at the financial year end date. Non-monetary items that are measured at historical cost are translated at the foreign exchange rate ruling at the date of the transaction. Non-monetary items measured at fair value are translated at the rate of exchange at the date of the valuation. All foreign exchange differences are taken to the Statement of Income and Retained Earnings

#### **Government Grants**

Grants are accounted for under the accruals model as permitted by FRS 102. Grants relating to expenditure on tangible fixed assets are credited to the Income and Expenditure Account at the same rate as the depreciation on the assets to which the grant relates. The deferred element of grant is included in creditors as deferred income.

Grants of a revenue nature are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Income in the same period as the related expenditure.



### 2. Accounting Policies (continued)

### **Revenue recognition**

Revenue is derived from gate receipts, sponsorship, Provincial and Central Council contributions, affiliations fees, entry fees and fundraising activities. Income is recognised when it is capable of reliable measurement and the principal risks and rewards of ownership have passed to the organisation. Income from gate receipts and fundraising activities is recognised on the date of the activity. Income from sponsorship, Provincial and Central council contributions, and affiliation fees are recognised in accordance with the individual agreements.

### **Financial instruments**

The organisation only enters into basic financial instrument transactions that result in the recognition of financial assets and liabilities like trade and other debtors and creditors, loans from banks and other third parties, loans to related parties and investments in ordinary shares.

### **Borrowing costs**

All borrowing costs are recognised in the income and expenditure account in the year in which they are incurred.

### **Tangible fixed assets**

Tangible fixed assets under the cost model are stated at historical cost less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses. Historical cost includes expenditure that is directly attributable to bringing the asset to the location and condition necessary for it to be capable of operating in the manner intended by management.

Depreciation is charged so as to allocate the cost of assets less their residual value over their estimated useful lives, using the straight-line method. Depreciation is provided on the following basis:

Land is not depreciated

Stadia and buildings 2% Straight line
Floodlights 10% Straight line
Office furniture and equipment 12.5% Straight line

The assets' residual values, useful lives and depreciation methods are reviewed, and adjusted prospectively if appropriate, or if there is an indication of a significant change since the last reporting date.

Gains and losses on disposals are determined by comparing the proceeds with the carrying amount and are recognised in the income and expenditure account.

### Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Full provision is made for obsolete and slow-moving items.



### 2. Accounting Policies (continued)

#### **Debtors**

Short term debtors are measured at transaction price, less any impairment. Loans receivable are measured initially at fair value, net of transaction costs, and are measured subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method, less any impairment.

#### Cash

Cash is represented by cash in hand and deposits with financial institutions repayable without penalty.

### Creditors

Short term creditors are measured at the transaction price. Other financial liabilities, including bank loans, are measured initially at fair value, net of transaction costs, and are measured subsequently at amortised cost using the effective interest method.

### **Provisions for liabilities**

Provisions are made where an event has taken place that gives the organisation a legal or constructive obligation that probably requires settlement by a transfer of economic benefit, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. Provisions are charged as an expense to Income and Expenditure account in the year that the organisation becomes aware of the obligation and are measured at the best estimate at the Statement of financial position date of the expenditure required to settle the obligation, taking into account relevant risks and uncertainties. When payments are eventually made, they are charged to the provision carried in the Statement of financial position.

### 3. Judgement in Applying Accounting Policies and Key Sources of Estimation Uncertainty

The Management Committee considers the accounting estimates and assumptions below to be its critical accounting estimates and judgements:

### **Useful life of tangible fixed assets**

Long-lived assets represent a significant portion of total assets. The annual depreciation charge depends primarily on the estimated lives of each type of asset and, in certain circumstances, estimates of residual values. The Management Committee regularly review these useful lives and change them if necessary to reflect current conditions. In determining these useful lives, the Management Committee considers physical condition and expected economic utilisation of the assets. Changes in the useful lives can have a significant impact on the depreciation charge for the financial year. The net book value of Tangible Fixed Assets subject to depreciation at the financial year end date was €6,583,433 (2022: €5,280,958).



### **3. Judgement in Applying Accounting Policies and Key Sources of Estimation Uncertainty** *(continued)*

### Allowance for impairment of debtors

The Organisation estimates the allowance for doubtful trade debtors based on an assessment of specific accounts where the Management Committee has objective evidence comprising default in payment terms or significant financial difficulty that certain customers are unable to meet their financial obligations. In these cases, judgement used was based on the best available facts and circumstances including but not limited to, the length of the relationship.

#### **Accruals**

The Organisation has accruals recorded in the Statement of Financial Position and this is reviewed monthly by the Organisation. Estimates on the accruals is based on the most reliable evidence at the time the estimates are made. These estimates take into consideration the cost or income directly relating to events occurring subsequent to the reporting date to the extent that such events confirm conditions existing at the end of the reporting period.

### **Prepayments**

The Organisation has prepayments recorded in the Statement of Financial Position and this is reviewed monthly by the Organisation. Estimates on the prepayments is based on the most reliable evidence at the time the estimates are made. These estimates take into consideration the cost or income directly relating to events occurring subsequent to the reporting date to the extent that such events confirm conditions existing at the end of the reporting period.

#### 4. Turnover

4. ramover	2023 €	2022 €
Gate Receipts	816,596	831,157
Commercial & Fundraising Income	1,185,786	1,064,416
Income from Associated Bodies	614,178	563,542
Government Grants	34,198	-
Other Income	549,642	470,311
	3,200,400	2,929,426



### 5. Employees

Staff costs consist of:		
	2023	2022
	€	€
Wages and Salaries	790,001	567,999
Social security costs	82,363	17,125
	872,364	585,124
The average number of employees during the year was as follows:	2023 No.	2022 No.
Finance and Administration	2	2
Coaching and Games	17	12
Grounds	5	5
	24	19

The average number of employees during the year includes 14 (2022: 13) people who are employed by Leinster Council and Central Council whose wages and salaries costs are recharged to CLG Loch Garman.

#### 6. Interest Receivable & Similar Income

o. Interest Receivable & Similar Income	2023 €	2022 €
Interest received & other similar income	24,664	23,724
7. Interest Payable & Similar Expense	2023 €	2022 €
Bank loans and overdrafts	23,067	17,439



8. Tangible Fixed Assets	Halo Tiles	St.	Chadwicks			
	Wexford	Patrick's	Wexford	Memor-		
	GAA COE	Park	Park	abilia	Equipment	Total
Cost or Valuation	€	€	€	€	€	€
At 1 October 2022	4,491,647	119,890	6.025.000	8,524	249 009	10,995,058
Additions	831,345	43,344	6,025,999 646,565	0,524	348,998 21,001	1,542,255
At 30 September 2023	5,322,992	163,234	6,672,564	8,524	369,999	12,537,313
At 30 September 2025	3,322,332	103,234	0,072,304	0,324	305,555	12,337,313
Depreciation						
At 1 October 2022	726,104	100,210	2,339,280	_	261,439	3,427,033
Charge for the year	51,864	6,302	177,574	_	16,055	251,795
At 30 September 2023	777,968	106,512	2,516,854	-	277,494	3,678,828
-						
Net Book Value						
At 30 September 2022	3,765,543	19,680	3,686,719	8,524	87,559	7,568,025
At 30 September 2023	4,545,024	56,722	4,155,710	8,524	92,505	8,858,485
, 1000 Deptermen 2020	.,0 .0,0		.,,		<u> </u>	3,000,100
9. Stock						
				2023	3 202	22
				•	Ī	€
Gear				4,93	4 6,3	60
10. Debtors						
				2023		
				•		€
Trade receivables and pr	anayments			302,63	5 321,4	Q1
Due from Central Counci				65,00	•	
Due from Leinster Counc				03,00	- 38,6	
Due from Clubs				76,259 35,983		
				/ 0,23		
				443,89		38
						38
11. Cash and Cash Equiva	alents					38
11. Cash and Cash Equiva	alents				447,7	
11. Cash and Cash Equiv	alents			443,89	447,7 3 202	
11. Cash and Cash Equiva				443,89 2023 €	447,7 3 202	22 €
Cash in bank and in hand	d			443,89 2023	4 447,7 3 202 4 395,3	<b>22</b> €
·	d			<b>2023</b> € 498,31	4 447,7 3 202 4 395,3 6 1,333,8	<b>22</b> € 70 43



12. Creditors: (amounts falling due within one year)		
	2023	2022
	€	€
Trade payables and accruals	565,373	248,920
Bank loans (Note 15)	115,399	113,875
Due to Central Council	53,187	-
Due to Leinster Council	43,173	-
Due to Clubs	5,000	-
	782,132	362,795
13. Creditors: (amounts falling due after more than one year	)	
	2023	2022
	€	€
Bank Loans (Note 14)	487,336	586,622
14. Bank Loans		
Analysis of the maturity of loans given is as follows:		
	2023	2022
	€	€
Amounts due within one year		
Bank Loans	115,399	113,875
Amounts due between 1 and 2 years		
Bank Loans	115,399	113,875
Amounts due between 2 and 5 years	274 027	506.446
Bank Loans	371,937	586,446
15. Deferred Income – Grants		
13. Deterred medine Granes		Other
	Government	Capital
	Grants	Grants
	€	€
At 1st October 2022	19,200	-
Received and receivable during the year	-	275,000
Amortised during the year	(400)	(14,300)
At 30 <sup>th</sup> September 2023	18,800	260,700
		PAGE 46



### **15. Deferred Income – Grants** (continued)

Grant funding of €20,000 was received from Sport Ireland during the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021 in relation to improvement works carried out in Chadwicks Wexford Park in 2019.

Grant funding of €200,000 and €75,000 was received from Central Council and Leinster Council respectively during the year ended 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023 in in relation to improvement works carried out in Chadwicks Wexford Park in 2022 and 2023.

### **16. Capital Commitments**

CLG Loch Garman had capital commitments of €298,338 as at 30 September 2023 in respect of works in Halo Tiles Wexford GAA Centre of Excellence.

### 17. Contingent Liabilities

CLG Loch Garman has guaranteed loans in respect of loans advanced to Clubs from the GAA Development Fund, the balance of which at 30 September 2023 was as follows:

	€
Davidstown-Courtnacuddy	90,707
Kilmore	88,320
Ferns St. Aidans	83,787
Ballygarret-Réalt Na Mara	76,072
St. James'	59,501
St. Martin's	57,331
Oulart-The Ballagh	31,879
St. Fintan's	31,686
St. Mogue's Fethard	26,411

### 18. Government Grants

The following are the details of 2023 Government Grants as required by Circular 13/2014

Agency: Sport Ireland

Government Department: Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaelteacht, Sport and

Media

Department Grant Programme: Club Resilience Fund

Purpose of the Grant: Ensure Clubs can continue to deliver sporting opportunities at a

local level

Grant Term: Year-ended 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023
Restriction on use: Sporting opportunities at a local level



#### **18. Government Grants** (continued)

Grant taken to income in current financial statements: €81,485 Grant received in the current year: €81,485

Grant outstanding at end of current financial year: €nil Grant income to be deferred to following period: €nil

Capital grant: N/A

Agency: Sport Ireland

Government Department: Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaelteacht, Sport and

Media

Department Grant Programme: SI Energy Grant

Purpose of the Grant: Contribution the uplift in energy costs Grant Term: Year-ended 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023

Restriction on use: Against energy costs incurred by the County

Grant taken to income in current financial statements: €34,198 Grant received in the current year: €34,198

Grant outstanding at end of current financial year: €nil
Grant income to be deferred to following period: €nil

Capital grant: N/A

### 19. Taxation

CLG Loch Garman is a listed sporting body who have been granted tax exemption under Section 235 of Taxes Consolidation act 1997.

### 20. Related Party Transactions

Ard Chomhairle, Cumann Lúthchleas Gael is the governing body of the Association. It governs and administers the national competitions that CLG Loch Garman teams participate in. It administers grant funding (infrastructure and revenue), state funding, insurance cover and the injury fund on behalf of the units of the Association.

Leinster Council CLG governs and administers provincial competitions that CLG Loch Garman participate in. It administers grant funding to the units of the Association in the province.

There are additional governing functions reserved to the Provincial Council and Central Council under the Official Guides and Codes. The County Committee is the governing and controlling body of all the affairs within the county including competitions that its Clubs participate in.



### **20. Related Party Transactions** (continued)

The net transactions to/from CLG related parties were as follows:

The net transactions to/from CLG related parties were as follows:		
	2023	2022
	€	€
Central Council	482,424	227,455
Clubs	197,045	257,546
Leinster Council	(58,173)	38,624
	621,296	523,625
The following balances were due from CLG related parties at year-e	nd:	
	2023	2022
	€	€
Central Council	65,000	51,650
Clubs	76,259	35,983
Leinster Council		38,624
	141,259	126,257
The following balances were due to CLG related parties at year-end	:	
	2023	2022
	€	€
Central Council	53,187	-
Clubs	5,000	-
Leinster Council	43,173	-
	101,360	-

### **Key Management Personnel**

Key Management Personnel comprises the members of the Management Committee with voting rights who manage the affairs and business of the County Committee. The Management Committee currently comprises 17 volunteer members, none of which receive remuneration for their services. Travel and subsistence costs of €5,545 were reimbursed to Management Committee members in relation to their duties.

### 21. Comparatives

Comparative figures have been regrouped where necessary on a basis consistent with the current year.



### 22. Post Balance Sheet Events

There were no significant events affecting CLG Loch Garman subsequent to the balance sheet date.

### 23. Approval of Financial Statements

The financial statements were approved for issue by the Management Committee of CLG Loch Garman on the 30<sup>th</sup> November 2023.



### Schedule 1 - Gate Receipts

Schedule 1 – Gate Receipts		
	2023	2022
	€	€
Football championships	167,207	228,641
Hurling championships	405,552	373,598
Coiste na nÓg	42,068	45,683
Wexford District	1,750	1,529
New Ross District	1,165	1,420
Enniscorthy District	1,910	1,105
Gorey District	665	2,505
Season Tickets	85,004	84,641
Streaming Income	111,275	92,035
	816,596	831,157
Schedule 2 - Commercial & Fundraising Income		
<b>G</b>	2023	2022
	€	€
Rent Received	115,517	101,836
Advertising & Signage	67,367	68,662
Cairde Loch Garman Membership	26,133	30,768
Cairde Loch Garman Ath Cliath	13,617	21,121
Club & County Draw	205,270	180,428
Sponsorship, Commercial & Fundraising	757,882	661,601
	1,185,786	1,064,416
Schedule 3 – Income from Associated Bodies		
	2023	2022
	€	€
Distribution: Central	215,000	215,000
National Football League share	47,700	39,502
National Hurling League share	70,993	117,791
Team Expenses: Central Council	69,768	69,430
Team Expenses: Leinster Council	24,000	22,500
Team Grants: Central Council	62,270	47,319
Team Grants: Leinster Council	1,000	1,000
Coaching Grant: Leinster Council	43,697	20,000
TV Rights: Central Council	15,000	15,000
Other Grants: Leinster Council	14,750	16,000
Halo Tiles COE Contribution: Wexford Camogie	50,000	
	614,178	563,542



### Schedule 4 - Other Income

Schedule 4 – Other Income		
	2023	2022
	€	€
Club Affiliation Fees	54,524	53,555
Handball & Scór Affiliation	2,375	2,400
Coiste na nÓg Affiliation	24,200	22,900
Feile Entry Fees	3,750	3,260
Fines	14,400	12,070
Programme Sales	44,126	39,004
Cúl Camps Income	249,566	209,788
Sundry Income	11,701	4,827
Coaching Contribution – Wexford County Council	60,000	60,000
Hurling High Performance Programme	85,000	62,507
Interest Received	24,664	23,724
	574,306	494,035
Schedule 5 – Government Grants	2023 €	2022 €
Government Grants	34,198	
Schedule 6 – Match Day Costs	2023 €	2022 €
M 110 T 1:	22.422	25.276
Medal & Trophies	32,483	25,376
Match Day Expenses	205,590	164,186
Streaming Costs	51,057 25, 218	47,187 22,061
Garda & Security	25,218	23,961
	314,348	260,710



### Schedule 7 - Team Administration

Schedule 7 – Team Administration		
	2023	2022
	€	€
Dlaver Mileage	241.614	175 216
Player Mileage Teams Administration	241,614	175,216
	295,805	263,689
Catering, Nutrition & Accommodation	324,426	244,420
Travel	41,046	37,063
Gear & Equipment	176,842	141,716
Facility Hire	6,208	4,500
Medical, Physiotherapy & Hospital Fees	119,912	83,748
Player Injury Fund	2,143	5,400
	1,207,996	955,752
Schedule 8 – Upkeep of Grounds		
Schedule 8 - Opkeep of Grounds	2023	2022
	2025	2022
	•	•
Maintenance – Chadwicks Wexford Park	123,601	119,502
Maintenance – St. Patrick's Park	34,772	58,233
Maintenance – Halo Tiles Wexford GAA COE	88,769	88,564
Groundspeople Costs	113,990	88,468
	361,132	354,767
Schedule 9 - Coaching & Games Development		
	2023	2022
	€	€
Wages & Salaries - Coaching	172,781	81,005
Coaching Expenses	5,430	12,584
Cúl Camps Costs	131,868	12,364
Hurling High Performance Programme	112,274	32,164
Other Coaching & Games Costs	10,292	4,510
other couching & dumes costs	432,645	251,981
	432,043	231,301



### **Schedule 10 - Administration Expenses**

Schedule 10 - Administration expenses		
	2023	2022
	€	€
Wages & Salaries	153,125	104,334
Presentations & Donations	21,127	29,780
Printing & Stationary	15,061	14,090
IT Costs	4,956	2,969
Convention & Congress Expenses	5,171	-
County Officer Expenses	4,446	5,296
Postage & Telephone	9,102	9,449
Meeting Expenses	2,711	2,734
Audit & Accountancy fees	25,252	31,365
Professional Fees	26,012	4,686
Legal Fees	1,052	-
Tickets	14,570	21,925
Miscellaneous	12,938	15,496
	295,523	242,124
Schedule 11 – Financial Expenses		2022
	2023	2022
	€	€
Bank & Transaction Charges	12,192	12,190
Loan Interest	23,067	17,439
	35,259	29,629
Schedule 12 – Grants & Promotional	2022	2022
	2023	2022
	€	€
Wexford Handball	1,000	1,000
Wexford Camogie	2,000	2,000
Wexford LGFA	2,000	3,000
Gaeltacht Scholarships	3,690	3,780
	8,690	9,780





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# Tuarascálacha na bhFochoistí

### Competitions Control Committee - Fixtures

CCC-Fixtures had an incredibly challenging year in 2023. With a very tight window to play our championship, 16 rounds in 16 weeks, the addition of midweek replays in knockout games and the never-ending rainfall during the football championship.

The problems listed above did not only impact on the CCC but also on the players, supporters, referees, umpires, lines umpires, stewards, gatepeople, press, Wexford GAA TV, and anyone else who helped to keep the show on the road.

The pressure that all of that has put on everyone, from players, supporters and all who worked so hard to ensure the Championship was finished on time for the clubs to compete in the Leinster Club Championship. It is unsustainable within such a tight window and with the Fleadh Cheoil taking place in the middle of the Championship next year, giving us all another headache, but this is only the CCC's and my opinion and whatever format the clubs decide on, we will endeavour to finish the Championships on time.

#### The leagues.

The leagues had a new format this year, with promotion and relegation introduced for the first time in a while. By the time we got to round four and five, clubs showed more urgency in playing games when realising they could be relegated.

I am writing this report before the November County Committee meeting, so by the time you read this, the league could be completely changed. I hope not. It would be great to give promotion and relegation a chance, but the addition of some of the incentives proposed for league winners can only improve things.

The clubs and players will have to realise that as long as the intercounty split season remains, it means club players will get more league than championship games, so, therefore, we need to make it as competitive as possible. It is very disappointing for clubs not to field, particularly first teams in the league.

The number of games which were changed (some several times) and walkovers was also very disappointing.

### The championships.

The championship format was the same as 2022 and, particularly in the hurling, but also the latter stages of the football, where there were some excellent games of extremely high standard.

The one championship that was a failure was the U21 Championship. With:

- clubs entering teams when they knew there was little chance of them being able to compete;
- giving walkovers at the drop of a hat due to not having enough numbers;
- with Rounds 1 and 2 being played during the adult championships;



- with some adult managers not happy to release players; and
- finishing them after the adult championships cut across school competitions and the County U20 trials.

The window for this grade is extremely small and, in my opinion, the only way this competition can be run is at U20 level without any county players as a development competition for young players to continue their journey into adult grades.

The Junior B grade is run by the District Committees and Friday evenings were kept free for those games as much as possible, but I am afraid the CCC gives the Districts some headaches, especially during the championships.

I would like to thank the four District Committees for their hard work, especially the fixture gurus – Joe Sheehan, Seamus Whelan, Ollie Somers and Michael McGuire. I would also like to wish Wexford District Chairperson, Toss Ryan, a speedy return to good health, and I would like to offer my condolences and that of all the CCC to the Gorey District and the family of the former Chairperson and exceptional Gael, Jack O'Brien.

### Fixtures analysis.

The fixtures analysis was written and compiled by John O'Neill, the most efficient person I ever worked with, and when on a Monday, Marion or I get a call from him we know we have been caught out.

Transfers are dealt with in Joe Sheehan's CCC-Discipline Report as transfers secretary.

#### Thanks.

Finally, I would like to thank everybody who worked with me and helped me throughout the year. The CCC members – Marian Doyle, Joan Furlong. Seamus Kennelly. Justin Browne, Gabriel Wade, John O'Neill and lastly, Michael Hennessy Cullen, our departing County Secretary, who really grew into his role. We will all miss his work, wit and positive personality. Thank you, Mikey.

I thank the referees and their officials for ensuring all games were covered, sometimes with a lot of time and venue changes and in very bad weather. I know that pressure that you and particularly Seamus Whelan were under during the championship, and it was brilliant to see some young and very good referees coming to the fore this year.

The stewards, gatepeople, groundspeople and anyone else who helped during the year, thank you! A special thanks to the Lynch family who were always available, even at short notice, with rescheduled games in St. Patrick's Park. I would also like to thank James Hendrick and the Showgrounds Committee in Enniscorthy for their support and assistance during the year.

The office staff, particularly Marian and Gavin, other sub-committees, fellow members of management, County Chairperson, Micheál, and I would also like to acknowledge and thank the work of Andrew Egan who's five years as Assistant Secretary comes to an end, the Press who were so helpful with game changes, particularly Alan Aherne and Liam Spratt, Wexford GAA TV who were deservedly recognised nationally and to everyone I have forgotten, apologies and thanks to all.

Loch Garman abú!

**Riobaird Mach Eochaidh** Cathaoirleach CCC Loch Gorman



### Fixtures Analyst's Report

The 2023 season commenced with the 1st round of the EBS Mortgages Wexford All-County Football League on 3rd March and was followed by the EEW All-County Hurling League the following weekend on 10th March.

The EBS Mortgages Wexford All-County Football League concluded on 11th June with the Division 3 Final while the EEW All-County Hurling League also ended with the Division 3 Final on 18th June.

### **EBS Mortgages Wexford All-County Football League**

A total of 51 teams were entered in the ACFL for 2023. A total of 9 eligible teams did not enter. The number competing was 6 less than in 2022.

Of those who choose not to compete one was from the Premier Division (Senior Team) and eight were from Division 3 and Division 4 (four Junior teams and four Junior A teams). Due to the number of Junior and Junior A teams not competing, it was necessary to amalgamate Division 3 and 4 due to the number of teams remaining.

Of the teams not competing, seven were clubs' 1st teams, one was a 2nd Team and one a 3rd team.

Between the league and knockout sections 156 matches were fixed with 126 played and 29 conceded with one not played. This gives a Compliancy Rate of 81%. This compares with a Compliancy Rate of 82% for 2022.

Of the matches played the original fixtures date was changed on 29 separate occasions.

### **EEW All-County Hurling League**

58 Teams were entered in the ACHL, 2 less than 2022, with two eligible Teams not taking part. Of those two teams, one was a Division 1 Team (Intermediate) and one from Division 4 (Junior A). The Division 1 team not entered was a club's 1st Team while the Division 4 Team was a club's 3rd Team.

159 Matches were fixed between the league and knockout sections of this competition with 143 played and 16 being conceded. This gives a Compliancy rate for 2023 of 90% compared to a Compliancy Rate of 93% for 2022.

Of the matches played 49 matches were changed from the original fixture date

### **Hurling Championship**

The Hurling Championship commenced on 24th March at Junior B level with the Gorey District League section. Senior to Junior A commenced on 30th June with all levels concluding with the Senior Final on 20th August.

A total of 87 Teams were entered in the Hurling Championship with 28 of these entered at Junior B Level in the District Championships – a drop of 10 at District Junior B level from 2022. Of the 28 entered at Junior B Level, three Teams that had entered withdrew before the 1st Round, not fulfilling any of their fixtures.

In all from Senior to Junior A Level 191 matches (1 Replay) were fixed with all 191 being played. At Junior B level, including the County Knockout stage, 111 matches were fixed with 83 played and 27 conceded. 15 of those conceded were due to withdrawals. One match was not played. Over the



complete Hurling Championship, there were 302 games fixed with 274 played, 27 conceded and 1 match not played. This compares with 336 fixed in 2022 with 309 played and 27 conceded.

### **Football Championship**

Gorey District got the Football Championship underway on 14th April with the 1st Round of the Junior B League. The Senior to Junior A sections began on the 25th August with the Championship being completed on 4th November with the Junior B Final.

83 teams were entered in the Championship, with 23 of these playing within the Districts, a drop of three from 2022. Two of those entered did not fulfil any of their fixtures.

190 fixtures were made from Senior to Junior A with 185 played and 5 conceded. Two of the walkovers were given at Junior level with three at Junior A.

At Junior B level, there were a total of 81 matches fixed with 64 played, 16 conceded and 1 not played.

In total 271 matches were fixed from Senior to Junior B level. 249 of these fixtures were played with 21 conceded and one match not played. This compares with 274 matches fixed in 2022 with 256 played and 18 conceded.

### **Summary Adult Competition (excluding U21)**

Football Championship & League

Fixed: 427 Matches Played: 375 Conceded: 50 Not Played: 2 Compliancy Rate: 88%

Hurling Championship & League

Fixed: 461 Matches Played: 416 Conceded: 43 Not Played: 1 Compliancy Rate: 90%

Hurling and Football Combined

Fixed: 888 Matches Played: 791 Conceded: 93 Not Played: 3 Compliancy Rate: 89%

### **U21 Championships**

It was decided to replace the U19 Championship from 2022 with a U21 Championship for 2023 which would be run as a knockout competition with a "backdoor" ensuring a minimum of 2 games per team in each code. Two rounds of Hurling were to be run in July and two rounds of Football in August with the Semi Finals and Finals to be played at the conclusion of both the Minor and Adult Championships.

31 Teams were entered in the U21 Football Championship with 24 matches fixed over the two rounds in August. 17 of these matches were played with 7 matches conceded. Six teams who entered did not fulfil any of their fixtures.

In the U21 Hurling Championship, there was an entry of 30 teams. This resulted in 26 matches being fixed over the two rounds in July with 20 games played and 6 walkovers given. Four Teams that entered did not fulfil any of their fixtures.

At the time of writing no rounds after the completion of the Adult and Minor Championships have been completed although five of the eight football Semi Finals have been played. The reason for the delay is due to the inclement weather which resulted in lack of pitch availability. This had a negative impact on both the completion of the Minor Championship and the progress of the U21 Championship.



### **Summary Charts**

Hurling								
	Scheduled	Played	Conceded	% Played	Remarks			
Championship	198	197	0	100%				
<b>District Champs</b>	104	76	27	73.07%	1 Match not played			
League	159	143	16	89.93%				
Total	461	416	43	90.23%	1 Match not played			

Football										
	Scheduled	Played	Conceded	% Played	Remarks					
Championship	197	192	5	97.46%	Concedes: 2 x Junior, 3 x Junior A					
District Champs	74	57	16	77.03%	1 Match not played					
League	156	126	29	80.76%	1 Match not played					
Total	427	375	50	87.82%	2 Matches not played					

Hurling & Football Combined										
	Scheduled	Played	Conceded	% Played	Remarks					
Championship	395	389	5	98.48%	6 scheduled matches more than 2022					
District Champs	178	133	43	74.71%	43 scheduled matches less than 2022					
League	315	269	45	85.39%	37 scheduled matches less than 2022					
Total 2023	888	791	93	89.07%						
Total 2022	962	874	88	90.85%						

**Seán Ó Néill** Anailísí Cluichí

### Competitions Control Committee - Discipline

The total number of cases dealt with by CCC-Discipline was 206.

A Summary of cases is detailed below.

There were 14 cases of abuse of officials by players but most alarmingly there were 19 cases of abuse of officials, 17 of which were by team mentors. Additionally, 12 clubs were warned about future behaviour.

Clubs should also be aware of their responsibilities in Riail 3.1 (b) T.O. 2023:

A Club shall be obliged to obtain a current copy of the Official Guide, and its members shall be deemed to have full knowledge of the Rules, Codes and Regulations in it, and shall be bound by them.

A Club shall be held responsible for the conduct of its members and known partisans.

We all know the difficulty in getting volunteers involved in our clubs and with teams, but it should be borne in mind that these volunteers are representing the club and hence it is important that all volunteers are reminded of their responsibilities and behaviour on a regular basis.



We would ask all clubs to work hard in endeavouring to instil in their players, officials and mentors a greater responsibility with regard to discipline both on and off the field with respect for officials being a priority.

Clubs need to take control of this situation as it should not be forgotten that without referees and line umpires, we would not be able stage our games and they are all deserving of respect whether you agree or not with their decision making.

The continuing level of abuse of officials is leading to difficulties in the recruitment of new referees.

Our organisation needs a change of culture and attitude to discipline and this needs to start now, this change will only happen with the efforts of everyone concerned.

All cases were dealt with in a fair manner and suspensions proposed were at all times considered appropriate to the Infraction reported.

Category	10	NE	TH	REE	FO	UR	FI	VE	OTI	HER
	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023
Infractions	59	75	87	86	18	14	0	0	36	31

We would like to thank all clubs and referees for their co-operation throughout the year.

In addition to dealing with Breaches of Discipline, the Committee are also involved with CCC-Fixtures in adjudicating on transfer requests both within the County and players seeking to transfer to Wexford clubs from other counties. In deciding on cases, a lot of time-consuming work is undertaken with regard to eligibility of the respective player. Clubs need to understand that the Parish Rule exists for transfers into Wexford similar to that for transfers within Wexford.

The County Hearings Committee have an important role to play in ensuring disciplinary penalties are fairly applied and consequently it is a committee with whom we have a close working relationship. We wish to acknowledge the work of Committee Chairperson, Margaret Doyle, Secretary, Eddie Nangle, and the other members of the committee for their work during the past year.

We express our appreciation to our County Chairperson, Micheál, and our CEO/Operations Manager, Gavin O'Donovan, for their support and help throughout the year.

Míle buíochas don na daoine atá ag obair san oifíg i bPáirc Chadwicks Loch Garman go hairithe Bainisteoir Óibríoctaí, Gabhán, le haghaidh an cabhrú agus cúirtéis a thabhairt siad liom i rith an bliain – míle buíochas dóibh go léir.

I would like to acknowledge my fellow committee members under the Chairpersonship of Aidan O'Leary, Mary Doyle, Kevin Doyle, Tossy Ryan, Andrew Egan, James Morrissey and Brian Molloy for their diligence, fairness and impartial decision making when considering reported breaches of Discipline.

Is mise

Seosamh Ó Síocháin

Runaí An Choiste Cheannais na gComortaisí Smachta



### **Hearings Committee**

Coiste Eisteachta Loch Garman 2023 consists of nine members who held thirteen meetings during the year, the first on 2nd March, the last on 2nd November. The average attendance at meetings was between five and six members.

The role of the Committee is to adjudicate on all matters pertaining to the running of the games of the GAA, except for objections and counter-objections. Coiste Cheannais na gComortaisí Smachta (CCC-Discipline) proposes a penalty for a particular infringement and nine times out of ten, that proposed penalty is accepted by the player/club involved.

When the player/club does not accept the penalty, their next step is to look for a hearing from Coiste Eisteachta (Hearings Committee). If they don't like the outcome of that hearing, they can go further to Leinster Hearings and from there, to the DRA (Disputes Resolution Authority), which brings the whole process of appeals to a halt, as their decision is final.

The list of hearings/appeals in 2023 which were heard by the Hearings Committee is as follows:

Bringing Association into Disrepute	3
2. Kicking with force (both underage)	2
3. Abusive language to match officials (both referees)	2
4. Taking hold of opponent's helmet	2
5. Striking with hand/fist with force	2
6. Striking with hurl with minimum force	1
7. Striking with hurl with force	1
8. Transfer appeals - 3 underage, 1 adult	4
Total	17

During the year, two of the decisions of Coiste Eisteachta were appealed to Leinster Hearings, but both of the decisions were upheld.

These figures compare as follows to previous years:

### Summary of Offences 2017 - 2023

	2023	2022	2021	2020*	2019	2018	2017
Striking with hand/fist/hurl with force	3	1	4	1	2	-	-
Bringing the Association into disrepute	3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Verbal abuse of match officials	2	4	3	-	3	3	1
Pulling an opponent's helmet	2	1	-	3	-	-	-
Stamping / kicking	2	1	-	-	-	-	-
Striking with minimum force	1	2	5	-	3	1	1
Behaving in manner dangerous to opponent	-	3	2	1	3	2	-
Disruptive conduct by supporters	-	1	4	-	-	-	-
Totals	13	13	10**	5**	11	6	2

#### Notes:

<sup>\*2020</sup> figures were notably small due to the reduced number of games played.

<sup>\*\*</sup> Other offences which did not appear in 2022 did appear in 2020, bringing that year's total to 7, and 2021, bringing that year's total to 23.



The emergence of 'Bringing the Association into Disrepute' during 2023 is notable when it hadn't featured in the previous six years. The infraction of 'Abusive language to match official' is about par for that offence with the average for the previous six years being 2-3 offences. 'Kicking with force' also emerges in a notable manner compared to the previous record, especially as both offences involved underage members.

The Committee would like to express their appreciation to the office staff in Chadwicks Wexford Park for their professionalism, to the members of other committees with whom they work for their cooperation and to the officers of the various clubs involved, who, despite receiving unfavourable decisions at times, have been unfailingly courteous to the Committee members.

**Mairéad Ní Dhúill** Cathaoirleach Coiste Éisteachtaí

> **Éamonn de Nógla** Runaí Coiste Éisteachtaí

### Leinster Council Representatives

### **Cathal Byrne**

This was my fourth year on Comhairle Laighean representing Wexford as a Leinster Council Representative together with my colleague, PJ Howlin. It is a great honour, and I am very grateful for the support and trust you have placed in me.

This year meetings took place in Arás Laighean in Portlaoise, Co. Laois with discussions about changes to championship structures, fixture formats and coaching among other things taking place throughout the year. Of significance this year, was the decision at GAA National Congress to approve an application from Galway GAA to join the Leinster Minor Hurling Championships for 2023 on the basis they will play all their games at venues in Leinster. This means that Galway GAA now play in the Leinster Minor, U20 and Senior Hurling Championships for the first time passing at GAA National Congress with 78% of the vote.

This year I was privileged to be appointed to the Leinster GAA CCC under the Chairmanship of Leinster Council Chairperson and former Wexford Chairperson, Derek Kent. One of the key issues discussed has been the start date of the Leinster Club Championships with very clear representations being put forward on behalf of Wexford GAA that the start of the Leinster Club Championship should be later in the year to allow Wexford GAA Clubs more time for our own Club Championships. This is an issue that will be further discussed in the year ahead.

This year after significant representations by both myself and PJ Howlin and our former colleague Mary Foley, there was a return of the Leinster Council infrastructure development grants with applications accepted over the summer. The Leinster Council have now confirmed the Grant allocations with Wexford GAA Clubs receiving a large share of these grants which is a testament to the work undertaken by our Clubs across the past few years. I have no doubt this will continue into the future.

I was privileged this year to be re-appointed by the County Chairperson, Micheál Martin to represent Coiste Bainistí on the Demographic Participation Taskforce alongside, George Hussey (Chair), Peter Mernagh, Liam Bowe and Mick Phelan. I fully believe that the Report of this Committee must form a key consideration again of every Club's agenda for 2024.



On a final note, I wish all our supporters, players, mentors, officials, referees and volunteers the best for 2024. Please do not hesitate to contact me at any stage if I can be of any assistance to you or your club.

Cathal Ó Broin

Ionadaí ar an Chomhairle Laigheann

### PJ Howlin

I am heading into my third year with the privileged position of representing Wexford GAA as Leinster Council Representative alongside my colleague Cathal Byrne. The main highlights of meetings I attended at Leinster GAA Headquarters in Portlaoise were mainly changes to fixture formats and coaching and the big one that concerns us as a County was the decision at GAA National Congress to approve an application from Galway GAA to join the Leinster Minor Hurling Championships for 2023. Going forward, it now means we will face Galway GAA in the Leinster Minor, U20 and Senior Hurling Championships.

Also, this year I had the privilege to be appointed to the Leinster GAA Public Relations & Marketing Committee under the guidance of Leinster GAA PRO Brendan Minnock and Leinster Commercial & Communications Manager, John Haughney, in which some of the key elements were the promotion of the Leinster Intercounty Hurling and Football Championships and the Leinster Club Championships.

Going forward into 2024, I look forward to my work representing my County at Leinster GAA and also look forward to my biggest passion, which I'm 15 years involved in now – promoting Wexford GAA Underage.

As this season comes to a close, I look forward going into 2024 working with our County Chairperson, Micheál Martin, and with Leinster GAA Chairperson, Derek Kent, and with all my fellow Wexford GAA Volunteers.

PJ Ó Húilín

Ionadaí ar an Chomhairle Laigheann

### Central Council Representative

Reflecting on my fourth year as a member of Ard Comhairle (AC), it has been a busy year of meetings, discussions and webinars.

Every time I attend a Central Council (CC) meeting, I am always very conscious of the huge honour it is to represent Loch Garman and I am grateful for this opportunity.

Ten meetings of AC were held during 2023:

18 <sup>th</sup> Feb	25 <sup>th</sup> Mar I	20 <sup>th</sup> May	10 <sup>th</sup> June	15 <sup>th</sup> July	2 <sup>nd</sup> Aug
9 <sup>th</sup> Sept	30 <sup>th</sup> Sept	4 <sup>th</sup> Nov	2 <sup>nd</sup> Dec	(2024 - 27 <sup>th</sup>	Jan scheduled)

In addition to above, many webinars were held in advance of discussion on specific topics particularly surrounding the motions that went on the Clár of Special Congress.

Some topics of interest and debate at AC during 2023;

- Recovery of finances post covid years.
- HR review of staffing particularly in relation to coaching and games.
- The interpretation that AC gave to the Wexford motion (motion 10) on U20 playing senior.



- The Workgroup established to review the role and responsibilities of Ard Comhairle chaired by Iar Uachtarán Christy Cooney presented their report to AC. An excellent report was produced. 32 recommendations came from the report with 12 currently completed and the remainder will follow over the coming months. All members of AC were invited to make submissions and I made a submission on my views of the workings of AC.
- Special Congress took place on 30the Sept with motions on areas such as Board Diversity, Rule Book reformatting, Central Council Representative sitting on a County Management Committee, being some of the motions passed.
- In 2022 Central Council agreed that Rules Advisory Committee should proceed with reformatting Official Guide Part 1, the recent Special Congress passed a motion reformatting Part 1 & the introduction of a separate Codes document.
- Changes in the registering of senior County Teams for 2023 championship games were introduced with the result of a choice for Counties naming "additional standby" players that could be brought into match day squad under specific circumstances.
- GAAGO has received a lot of mixed publicity in 2023, although the streaming of games simultaneously is a huge plus.
- Central Council agreed to the staging of a rugby fixture in Kingspan Breffni Park, Cavan.
- Board Diversity The Governments Action Plan 2021-2023 requires all sporting NGB's to achieve gender balance on their Boards (Coiste Bainistíochta), the specific target is 40% board representation by each gender by start of 2024. After much debate at AC, a motion went to Special Congress which was passed and this will result in a phased approach over the next 4 years, Coiste Bainistíochta will be reformatted to achieve this gender balance.
- The work of the Hurley & Sliotar Regulation Workgroup continues. 13 licensing agreements have been awarded for the supplying of sliotars with two companies permitted to supply smart sliotars
- The Standing Committee on playing rules are trialling some new rules in hurling and football in 3<sup>rd</sup> level competitions.
- Standing Committee on the playing rules have presented potential Congress 2024 motions to AC. A decision will be made at the December meeting.

### On a personal note:

- As we enter the last couple of months of Larry McCarthy's presidency and mine as Cathaoirleach of the National Child Safeguarding Committee I would like to thank the Clubs of Wexford for their support and in particular for Clubs ensuring that they have been safeguarding compliant in the various tasks that have had to complete.
- I would like to congratulate Deirc Ó Ceannt on his successful chairing of the Central Competitions Control Committee which will come to an end when Larry McCarthy completes his presidency in February.

As I said at the outset, it has been a huge honour for me to serve on Central Council and I would like to thank the Clubs for your continued support. I would also like to thank my fellow officers, Cathaoirleach, Michael, CEO/Operations Manager, Gavin, Runaí, Michael and the staff in Chadwicks Wexford Park for their support and help during the year.

Buíochas

**Diarmuid Ó Húilín** Ionadaí ar an Ard-Chomhairle



### Oifigeach Gaeilge & Cultúr

Bliain amháin beagnach imithe agus bliain nua ás ar gcomhair amach romhainn. Seans arís agam buíochas ó chroi a ghabháil uair amháin eile le gach éinne a chabhraigh liom, i rith na bliana cúis ár [genltíra] a chur chun cinn, go mórmhór Coiste Scóir.

I dtús, I want to say a special "thank you" to Áine Kennedy, Chairperson, and Karen Mernagh, Secretary, of the Scór Committee for their continuous hard work, commitment and infectious dedication in promoting our wonderful Scór competitions. My thanks also to our Chairperson, Micheál Martin, the Management Committee, Gavin O'Donovan, CEO and the County Committee for their role in keeping the GAA to the fore in our beloved County Wexford. We, in the GAA, are an almost unique example of volunteerism at its most successful, long may it continue. In this regard may I say a personal "thank you" to our departing County Secretary, Michael Hennessy Cullen for his youthful enthusiasm, trojan work and courtesy at all times.

Our language, our music, our culture, form an integral part of our identity, let's all obair le chéile to support our Coiste Scóir in their work.

Lá áit do gach éinne ann.

Antóin Ó Díomsaigh Oifigeach Gaeilge & Cultúr



Buaiteoirí Scór Sinsir - Tráth na gCeist: CLG Naomh Mhuire Rosláir C-D Páidí Ó Doinn, Risteard Ó Conchubhair, Aindriú Ó Conchubhair, Ciarán Ó Liongsigh



### Children's Officer

Another year has come and gone, and it proved to be a fairly busy one.

Once again there were a number of incidents of indiscipline in our games – these involved selectors, players, parents and supporters. I wish to thank all our club Childrens Officers who dealt with these incidents. It is always best to deal with these matters at club level, if possible.

Unfortunately, abuse of match officials is still a problem and we all must make a greater effort, going forward, to stamp it out.

Our Code of Conduct gives us clear guidelines on how to interact with all our fellow GAA members.

A reminder that anyone involved in underage coaching must be Garda vetted, have Safeguarding 1 course and a Foundation course completed.

A large number of members completed Safeguarding 1, 2 and 3 during the year and as there may be a number of new people in positions in 2024, these courses will continue.

Finally, thanks to all clubs for their help during the year. Also, thanks to tutors Dermot Howlin, Barbara Ryan and Alan Nolan for facilitating these courses. A special thank you to Michelle and Kayleen in Croke Park for their support during the year.

**Deasún Ó Chrocaigh** Oifigeach na Leanaí

### **Coaching Officer**

It is with great honour that I present to you my first Coaching Officer's Report. I am delighted to be able to give this report on the back of a strong games calendar in 2023 and I have no doubt that with the continued backing of all the clubs and coaches Wexford GAA will continue to thrive with high participation rates and consistently improving skill levels.

#### **Cúl Camps**

Once again, this year was a very successful year for our Cúl Camps. This year we surpassed 6,000 participants once again with a total of 6,030 children taking part. There were a total 46 camps in 2023 throughout the County including our ASD camp in Chadwicks Wexford Park. This could not happen without the hard work and organisational skills of James Flynn.

Our hard-working team of GPOs ensure that this is not only an enjoyable week for all of our young hurlers and footballers, but it is also a chance for our participants to fine tune their skill levels and indeed help anyone new to Gaelic Games to develop a love of our national sports which may lead to new members joining our clubs.

The importance of our camps cannot be overstated, and these weeks have probably become the busiest week in our club calendar which allows us to showcase our clubs and games to both members and potential members.

A special mention goes to all that helped with our ASD camp, this allows a large number of children with Autism to take part in a week of GAA in a safe and fun environment.



#### Go Games

This year our Coaching & Games Office organised a hugely successful Go Games campaign. These games allow us to have games that help develop skills of players with the use of smaller sided games which ensure far more touches of the ball which naturally enhances skill levels in a less competitive environment. This year we had 830 U6, 1,020 U8 and 1,060 U10 players. The feedback from the clubs have been extremely positive and a special thanks goes to Ray Harris and his team that make all this possible.

### **Underage Games**

I would like to congratulate all the players and coaches who spent countless hours preparing for our 2023 season. We also would like to thank all the families and club committees that helped make everything happen. A special thank you has to go to Coiste na nÓg and Coiste na nÓg CCC who possibly have most difficult job of all to provide a calendar of games for all our teams finishing with approximately 60 finals.

The U12 and Rising Stars competition proved to be especially successful and provided a lot of meaningful games and player game time for this age group. The standard of these games seems to be getting higher year on year. This will hopefully culminate in our county teams bring some silverware back to Wexford.

### **Underage Review**

Although our underage games / championship worked really well in 2023, we have undertaken a comprehensive underage review. This review is at an advanced stage. This review started with a meeting with the clubs in all four districts which was very well attended. This proved to be very positive with fantastic engagement from all the clubs. A lot of very positive feedback was given, and a large number of suggestions were given that would enhance our playing season.

All of this information has been collated with the hope that a number of these suggestions will improve our playing season. A big thank you goes to Graham Rowley and John Kenny who, with a small bit of help from myself, facilitated this review. The final findings of this review will be released shortly.

### **Model Academy Squads**

Once again, a large number of players were involved in our Model Academy Squads throughout all the age groups in 2023. This requires a huge number of coaches each week to ensure that all of the participants can avail of top-level coaching each and every week. This makes sure that high level sessions are possible to improve skills as well tactics and games-based drills. A major thank you to our new sponsor for our Model Academy – Whizzy Internet. Hopefully, we have a long and rewarding association together.

A big thank you has to go to our coaches and all the parents for the massive commitment given throughout the year. Players will also avail of S&C sessions which will continue as players move up through the age groups. The addition of three new pitches in Halo Tiles Wexford GAA Centre of Excellence will also be great benefit to our squads.

### **Coach Development**

Throughout the year, ongoing coach education was provided to all our club coaches to avail of. These courses will once again be available in 2024 and I would urge as many coaches as possible to avail of these opportunities to help improve the standard of our coaching. Unfortunately, a number of these courses were not as well attended as they should be as they would be hugely beneficial to everyone. Going forward all clubs should put a huge emphasis on coach education.



#### Conclusion

Finally, I would like to thank everyone that helped me in my first year as Coaching Officer. To all my Coiste Bainistí colleagues for all your assistance, to both Mícheál Martin and John Kenny for their guidance and their efforts in putting Wexford GAA on a sound footing. A special thank you has to go to Ray Harris for his help during the year. The great work that he and his team put in and their commitment to the continuous improvement of Wexford GAA is second to none.

In conclusion I would like to wish everyone the best of luck both on and off the field for 2024.

Le Croí agus Lámh

**Caoimhín Ó Dúill** Oifigeach Cóitseála

### **Public Relations Officer**

2023 was my second year to serve in the role of County PRO, and it continues to be both a busy and rewarding experience.

The year began with a major PR and marketing campaign for what proved to be an unforgettable night in Chadwicks Wexford Park: the Walsh Cup match v Kilkenny, to mark the official turning-on of the new floodlights there. This proved hugely successful as we ended up with an absolutely unprecedented crowd of approximately 12,500 for a pre-season tournament match, and of course, victory over The Cats made it all the more memorable.

Preparations for the night also included producing a bumper souvenir programme to mark the occasion, packed with special features, and sincere thanks go to all who helped in making it such a successful publication.

The intercounty portion of the split season proved particularly busy this year, due to there being round-robin stages at both U17 and U20 in football and hurling, as well as the usual group stage in the Leinster Senior Hurling Championship and a new group stage in the Tailteann Cup. Overall, there were approximately 50 inter-county matches involving Wexford teams this year...that's a lot of social media posts regarding fixture details, ticket sales, and team announcements, and a lot of times to make sure there'd be somebody present to post live updates on Twitter/X!

Sincere thanks go to all who helped on match days, either by doing the live posts or by keeping statistics for half-time and full-time updates.

The club season is equally busy, but in different ways, with the routine being to post weekly details of fixtures in all championship grades and produce the weekly digital overall programme for all matches. And then County Finals week is hectic in both hurling and football, with only a one-week turnaround between semi-finals and finals in which to produce three full programmes – thanks to all Club Secretaries, PROs, and others who helped in this regard this year.

The club season also sees a great service provided by Wexford GAA TV, in terms of live streaming, match previews, and post-match interviews. Wexford GAA TV continues to go from strength to strength each year and was a fitting winner of the 'Digital Impact Award' at the recent MacNamee Awards in Croke Park for excellence in PR and communications – congratulations again to all involved.



Several other people are also deserving of sincere thanks for their help and support throughout the year, including:

- My PR committee of Aoife Parle, Michael Hennessy Cullen, Ed Rowsome, Pat O'Toole, Peter Mernagh and PJ Howlin.
- Photographer, Noel Reddy, for always being so dedicated and reliable, and also other photographers who have helped along the way, including Matthew Gordon, Jim Campbell and Ger Hore.
- All at Think Print, particularly Áine Boland, for great work in programme design, and Tom Kelleher for website support
- Alan Aherne of People Newspapers, Liam Spratt, and other local media personnel for their ongoing cooperation and the great coverage they always give our games.
- Gavin O'Donovan, Micheál Martin, and other officers for guidance and support received.
- Erica Cunningham of our Chadwicks Wexford Park office staff, for regularly taking on some of the graphics and design work during the year.
- All others who helped in any way.

I look forward to an equally busy 2024, and I hope we enjoy some success along the way.

**Coilm Laimbeart**Oifigeach Caidrimh Phoiblí



### Safety and Facilities Officers Report

#### **INTRODUCTION**

In carrying out my role as Safety and Facilities Officer on behalf of Wexford GAA in 2023 significant activities were undertaken in relation to the responsibilities of the role both club and county related. Outlined in the foregoing is a summary of these activities undertaken in the last 12 months. Activities are summaries under specific headings and relate to Club matters and to County Committee matters.

It has been an extremely busy year, and the role has been very time consuming with the extensive capital spend on projects outlined in the strategic plan a significant workload.

During the course of the year liaison was required with the relevant personnel at Provincial Level, Central Level and with GAA Staff in Croke Park for advice and assistance on various matters.

#### SAFETY AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE

Safety and Facilities Committee for 2023 consisted of the following personal Aidan O'Connor, Bobby Goff, Owen Leacy, Wally Byrne, Ibar Murphy and David Tobin (Chairperson). Meetings during 2023 were held as part of match day Event Control activities in Chadwicks Wexford Park and/or as part of infrastructure project meetings.

#### **Health & Safety**

Health and Safety is an important part of the operations of any club, no matter how big or small the facilities that are in the club's control. Every club should endeavour to have an appointed Safety Officer in the club and at least once a year carry out a Safety audit of club's facilities. Thus, identifying any hazards and/or potential risks to patrons using the facilities and plan for any remedial works required or/and how the risk can be reduced. It is planned for early 2024 that a webinar be held for clubs in relation to Health and Safety, presented by Patrick O'Brien (GAA's full time employed National Health & Safety Officer) and the Croke Park Insurance department, to outline to clubs' good practices in relation to Health and Safety. It's the safety and protection of club's members that will benefit from good Health and Safety practices in clubs.

The GAA's National Health & Safety Officer (Patrick O'Brien) and his committee has now updated/revised all documents in relation to Health & Safety for GAA Clubs and these documents are available on the GAA's website under the TOBAR Gaelic games learning portal.

The 'Safe Club Initiative' that was piloted previously in selected counties and has now been expanded to additional Counties, hopefully a Wexford Club will take part in this initiative in 2024. Clubs should consider the initiative and any club considering taking part should contact the Safety and Facilities Officer for further information.

Clubs must be aware that when undertaking any construction works to the clubs' facilities the insurance department in Croke Park must be notified of the proposed project. Necessary Health and Safety notification and documents need to be prepared and issued to the relevant authorities in accordance with current legislation. In addition, a copy of EL, PL and All-risks insurances must be in place by the contractor carrying out the work and a copy of this insurance cover issued to the Croke Park insurance department. Some incidents have occurred in Wexford where this procedure has not been carried out.

It is clubs' responsibility to manage and implement Health & Safety matters in their grounds and facilities. Advice is available from the GAA at County, Provincial and Central level if required.



## **Event Control and Management**

The role of Event Controller was fulfilled by Bobby Goff for all games in Chadwicks Wexford Park throughout 2023 with assistance from stewards, Garda, Order of Malta, full time Wexford GAA Staff and many others.

There were some incidents that occurred during big games in 2023 that required elements of the emergency plan to be implemented at games. The most serious of these incidents was a fire in the PC Peripherals Education Hub under the stand just before the commencement of the National Hurling League game versus Galway (floodlit game). The start of the game was delayed, and the main stand evacuated as a result of the discovery of the fire. The fire occurred in the old heating system in the 'hub' and was brought under control very quickly by the Fire services. Thanks to all that assisted on the day.

Other incidents that occurred was power outages during floodlight games this caused disruption to back of house services and to the dressing room areas but did not affect the games.

From the review of the fire incident at the Galway game, communication procedures were upgraded between all stakeholders that form part of the event management team on big match days in Wexford Park. And the National Ambulance service now have a presence at all big games in Chadwicks Wexford Park.

The installation of the floodlighting in Chadwicks Wexford Park and the holding of night time games has presented a different set of challenges to the Event Management team in Chadwicks Wexford Park, however these challenges have been met for such games by Bobby and his team. Thanks to all that make these games happen in Chadwicks Wexford Park.

The GAA National Health & Safety Committee and the GAA's National Health & Safety Officer (Patrick O'Brien) organised an Event Controllers Conference held on 11th November 2023 in the Croke Park Conference Centre (Hogan Stand). Guest speakers presented on all aspects of event management, guest speakers included Shay Bannon (Chairperson NHSC), Dr Patrick Leahy (Director at One Team Risk Management Solutions & Former Assistant Garda Commissioner), Dr. Ui May Tan (Croke Park Medical Officer), Ciaran Whelan (March Insurance & Former Dublin Footballer), Martin Girvan (Deputy Head of Inspectorate, Sports Grounds Safety Authority UK) and Patrick O'Brien (GAA National Health & Safety Officer). The event was opened by Leinster GAA Chairperson and former Wexford GAA Chairperson Derek Kent on behalf on the GAA President. The following attended from Wexford GAA's event management team in Wexford Park: Bobby Goff, David Ormonde, David Tobin, Tommy Hynes, Joe Donohue and Graham Rowley.

A steward training course was held on 11th January 2023 in the Ferrycarrig Hotel where all new and existing stewards received training and were issued new and updated certification. A total of 57 number people attended the course and received certification. However, steward numbers are still low, especially for big game days in Wexford Park, and new stewards are needed for such days. Any person interested in becoming a steward should contact the Wexford Park Office and remember a steward will always get to see the game.

An issue in relation to Event Controller has arisen during the year in St. Patrick's Park when games are been played in the venue, some traffic issues have occurred resulting in double header games not taking place and stewarding being provided for games with expected larger attendance. Thanks to Bobby Goff and his team who have made games happen in the venue this year without any issues. However, it will be a challenge going forward to manage this issue that occurred outside the venue on game days.



#### Insurance

The Croke Park insurance department (Sinead Leavy & Ciara Clarke) have informed that insurance claims are on the increase since the low seen during COVID time. The increase is mainly attributed to the increase in activities in clubs since COVID.

They stressed the need that if accidents do happen that record keeping is important and that the Insurance Department is informed even if a claim is unlikely.

They informed that the issue of non-GAA related, or 3rd party claims are still a significant problem and any club leasing / renting to 3rd parties or organising non-GAA activities that the club need to ensure that the non-GAA activity/event or 3rd party organisation have their own insurance cover. These activities need to be notified to the Croke Park insurance department. Any advice needed and assistance can be given by the Croke Park insurance department (Sinead Leavy & Ciara Clarke) As outlined above any club undertaking infrastructure works (building/construction works) must inform the Croke Park insurance department of the works being undertaken and issue the relevant insurances from the contractors. Failure to do so has or may result in the facilities constructed not being covered by the property insurance cover.

#### **Sustainability**

Wexford GAA have established a separate committee on sustainability with a view to establishing a SEC (Sustainable Energy Community) to allow clubs apply for grant aid for works under the SAEI grant scheme.

The GAA's Sustainability Manager, Jimmy Darcy, is currently looking for a Wexford Club or Club's to participate in the 'Green Club' initiative. Any club interested please contact myself.

Wexford GAA has availed of grant aid in relation to sustainability and this will be outlined later in the document.

#### **INFRASTRUCTURE**

The following was undertaken in relation to Infrastructure during 2023:

## **County Development**

## Halo Tiles Wexford GAA Centre of Excellence

Sub-committee formed to carry out duties for the proposed developments at Halo Tiles COE included John Morris, Wally Byrne, Anthony Neville, Bobby Goff, David Tobin

# Pitch Works Development

Pitch works re-commenced in Spring 2023 by the specialist pitch contractor Martin Kehoe Plant Hire Ltd.

- 'Cut and Fill' works were carried out in spring and early summer 2023.
- Main drains, lateral drains, floodlight ducting and the retaining wall was installed in midsummer 2023.
- Topsoil placement was complete in July 2023
- Wet weather experienced in July, August and September affected progress to finish the pitches.
- Grading, sanding and slit drains were complete in August 2023
- Pitches were seeded and complete early September 2023
- Grass is now growing on the pitches and a first cut has been carried out.
- The construction of the three new pitches was challenging with a 'Pinch point' on site from the neighbour lands behind pitch 2 and across the new access road to pitch 4. A retaining wall was

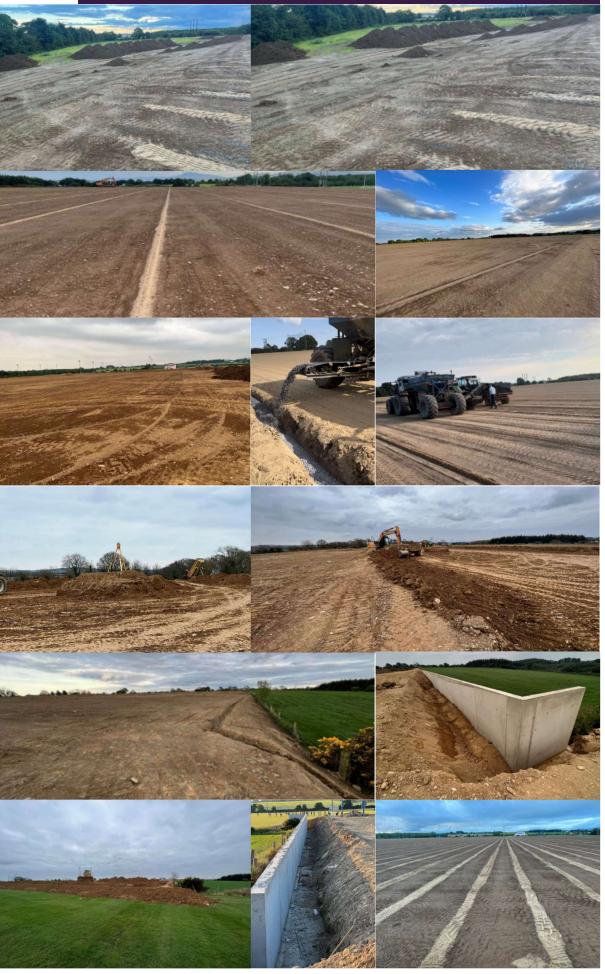


required to the boundary to gain valuable meters to maximise the playing pitches size and road width.

- Cost of the project circa €598,000 including VAT (excluding fees of circa €15,000)
- It is planned to install ball stop netting, goal posts and fencing in the spring / early summer of 2024. A tender process will be undertaken for these works.
- Some minor seeding of run of areas will be required in the spring / early summer of 2024, not complete due to wet weather conditions this year.
- All is planned to be complete, weather permitting, for the Feile in June 2024.













#### Access Road

- Access Road works did not commence until the final pitch levels were formed.
- The contractor for the Access Road was Martin Kehoe Plant Hire Ltd.
- Works commenced in August 2023 and progressed during inclement weather with the works complete and the roadway ready for tarmac in October 2023.
- The scope of works in the Access Road contract carried out by Martin Kehoe Plant Hire Ltd included: excavation & hardcore filling to form road formation, storm drainage, service ducting, public lighting ducting, concrete footpaths and entrance walls.
- Tarmac subcontract was tendered separately and RSS Ltd was the successful bidder, tarmac to the road was complete in October 2023.
- Thanks to Wexford County Council staff that were liaised with during the works and for the installation of the line marking to the public road.
- Construction details and final compliance for the access road, in accordance with Planning granted, was provided by Dunbar Lunn Consulting Engineers, Ferns (Martin Dunbar)
- Lighting to the access road was installed by Robert Hassey Electrical Ltd.
- The Access Road is now in operation and was used for the first time on Sunday 26th November 2023 following the installation of the entrance gates.
- The remaining carpark will receive tarmac surfacing in the coming weeks. (Cost circa €145,000 including VAT)
- Cost of the project will be circa €480,000 including VAT (Final Accounts currently being agreed) (excluding fees of circa €15,000)











In relation to the Pitch and Access Road, works thanks and appreciation must go to the expert contractors that completed the projects. Special thanks to Kevin Kehoe and John Kehoe who have

'lived' in Halo Tiles COE for the last two year, also to the extend Kehoe family members that were on site. Also, David and Eric Bradley and their team that joined the work crews to construction the access road.

Also, thanks to all consultants that made the project happen from Engineers, Agronomist, Survey Engineers, Quantity Surveyors, Architects, Road Engineers, etc.



The Kehoe's (taking a break)

#### Floodlighting to Pitch 5 & 6

- Floodlighting will be installed to two of the new pitches, pitch 5 & 6.
- MUSCO Lighting are appointed for the project with the lighting installation ordered for installation in spring / early summer 2024.
- Ducting was installed during the pitch works and concrete bases are on site.
- The floodlighting installation to be installed is a 350lux LED system.
- It is anticipated to install the floodlighting installation in spring / early summer 2024.
- Costs of the project circa. €395,000 including VAT (Floodlight installation, civils works and generator)

# **Building Extension**

• An Architect was procured in early 2023 after a tender process, Paul O'Brien Associates was the successful bidder.



- Based on the schedule of accommodation drafted by Wexford GAA draft designs were reviewed in Summer 2023.
- The schedule of accommodation was drafted based on input from personnel within all areas of Wexford GAA, both full time staff and volunteers.
- Thanks to all Wexford GAA staff, coaching staff, team management and others that input their expertise to help draft the schedule of accommodation for the extension.
- Following the Hurling review carried out after Wexford's exit from the senior hurling championship in 2023, several additional items were required to be added to the schedule of accommodation (mainly team management rooms, separate high-performance gym, separate recovery room)
- In addition, the inclusion of the LGFA and Camogie in the Centre of Excellence has also increased the accommodation requirements in the design (mainly additional dining and meeting rooms)
- The design has been a challenge due to the site constraints and location of new and existing pitches.
- Final designs are now complete with planning to be lodged following consultation with the local authority.
- The scale of the extension required to the building to cater for the needs of teams to prepare at the high level is resulting is a significant capital spend required. A phased approached maybe the way forward to deliver the basic needs required.

## **Existing Ball Stop Netting**

- Existing Ball Stop Netting was replaced to one end of Pitch 2 and Pitch 3 in October 2023.
- The existing ball stops required to be replaced as the majority of hurling balls and footballs at both ends of Pitch 2 and Pitch 3 were ending up in the neighbour's field, with a significant loss of both hurling balls and footballs.
- The new netting is 18 metre high in the centre 25 metre section with the existing poles reused to add an additional 20 meters each side 12 meters high.
- A tender process was undertaken for the installation and SNG Sports was the successful bidder.
- The cost of the project was circa. €34,000 including VAT.



## **Temporary Accommodation**

- Currently in Halo Tiles COE, when two or more intercounty teams are training at similar times
  the existing building is struggling to cope with the accommodation required by the teams and
  teams' management.
- No longer do teams just use a dressing room and exit to the playing pitch to train. Typical
  accommodation required is Dressing rooms for between 35-40 players, changing room for 1015 team management, meeting room for team management, meeting room for one-to-one
  player meetings, large meeting room for teams meeting pre and post training, physio room,
  analysis room, dining room, etc.
- Temporary accommodation was purchased from Davidstown-Courtnacuddy GAA Club this
  year which includes a single former primary classroom building divided into three dressing
  rooms, also a single toilet block was purchased.



- The units are on site and some minor works are being carried out at present to make usable (ramps, painting, additional seating)
- The cost of the units will be circa €15,000 €20,000 including VAT (This includes purchase, delivery, dismantle, re-assembly on site, additional electrics, new ramps and additional seating)

### **100 MILLION TREES PRIOIECT**

- The 100 MILLION TREES PROJECT is a national initiative developed by brothers, Richard and David Mulcahy, which aims to see the planting of 100 million Irish native trees across the island of Ireland throughout the next decade to aid in the improvement of the environment.
- The project free issue trees and labour required for planting to participants who provide a parcel of land to plant the trees on.
- Wexford GAA were approached through Wexford County Council by the Project to establish if planting of trees was possible in the Centre of Excellence.
- 1000 trees were planted in a parcel on land (circa third of an acre) in the Centre of Excellence on Saturday 25th March 2023 by the Mulcahy brothers and assisted by several volunteers. The trees were planted using the 'Miyawaki method' of planting.
- These trees are planted in an area close to the site boundary near the new access gate and are very visible form the new access road.



#### Pitch & Venue Facilities Maintenance

- Halo Tiles COE is maintained and kept in excellent condition all year round by Seamus O'Brien aided by his scheme worker (Derek Kerns) and assistant John (Bumpy) Nolan.
- John Kehoe, Wexford GAA Groundsman, is now assisting the team in Halo Tiles COE with his expertise to aid in the up keep.
- It must be noted that since the opening of Halo Tiles COE in 2015 the methods of maintenance implemented by Seamus and his team has worked extremely well and when working well 'let's not try fixed what is not broken'.
- During the year several visitors (mainly persons relating to the works being carried out) attended the facility and all were amazed at the condition of the pitches and surrounds.
- With the opening of the new access roadway the hardcore access laneway will not require the annual maintenance of other years.
- With the new development now complete the area of ground to be maintained has doubled in size, a plan to manage the maintenance of the facility is currently under review.



- Annual running costs for Halo Tiles COE for the current 4 nr. pitch facility is in the order of circa. €140,000. With the expansion now doubling the area of grass to be maintained and a proposed building extension required annual running costs will increase significantly.
- Annual pitch maintenance was again carried out in 2023 in the form of sand topdressing, vert draining, fertiliser application, goal mouth sodding and some overseeding.
- Halo Tiles COE is primarily a facility for intercounty teams to train and prepare for league and championship competitions, it must be noted that caution will be needed when a programme of club fixtures is to be played at the venue especially in late September/October/ November.
- Previously, when the floodlight pitches were used extensively in these months for club training
  and some games it resulted in pitches needed for training county teams not usable in January
  due to the damage caused earlier in the autumn/winter.
- It is proposed to turn Pitch 1 into a 'match day' pitch with a fence and covered spectator areas installed, this will result in this pitch not utilised for training as frequently as at present to keep the pitch in good condition for games.

## **Sports Capital Funding**

- Sport Capital grant allocation granted in 2015, the drawdown process is ongoing and in the final stages of the process. Thanks to Cathal Byrne who is managing the drawdown process and hopefully funds will be released soon.
- No Application was made under the recent Sport Capital Regional grant application process by Wexford GAA, with the hope to apply for a possible Large Scale Infrastructure Grant.

## Camogie & LGFA

- The memorandum of agreement was signed by all parties in 2023 for inclusion in Halo Tiles COE.
- Funding was received by Wexford GAA as part of the signed memorandum of agreement from Camogie & LGFA, which was utilised in the development works carried out.
- Challenges with the inclusion of all parties will be the availability of floodlit pitches (due to the
  current intercounty split season) and the accommodation available in the existing COE
  building.

The total investment in this Phase Two of work in Halo Tiles COE (as outlined above) will be in the order of circa. €2 million including VAT (Scope of Works consisting of: 3 nr grass pitches with goal post and ball stop netting; 2 nr pitches floodlit to 350 lux levels; access road, tarmac carpark; replace 2 nr ball stop nets; temporary accommodation; planning for building)

## Chadwick's Wexford Park

Sub-committee formed to carry out duties for the proposed developments at Chadwicks Wexford Park included David Ormonde, Ibar Murphy, Bobby Goff, Derek Kent, Owen Leacy, David Tobin.

### Floodlighting Chadwicks Wexford Park

- Saturday 21st January 2023 saw the official turning on of the floodlights in Chadwicks Wexford
  Park, with a Walsh Cup game between Wexford and Kilkenny forming the main event on the
  night. A night that will live long in the memory of any Wexford GAA person that attended and
  to all Wexford GAA fans.
- The lights were official turned on by Leinster GAA Chairperson, Derek Kent, and this was a fitting honour given to him as it was Derek's foresight to initially propose the idea of the project in 2018 when in the position of Wexford GAA Chairperson.
- In addition, Derek project managed the project on behalf of Wexford GAA from design stage, tender stage, construction on site to completion and hand over. All of this carried out as a volunteer.



- Also, it was during Derek's time as Chairperson of Wexford GAA that finances were raised to
  have funds in place to carry out the project. 'Derek's Lights' might be the appropriate name for
  the project.
- Thanks must go to MUSCO lighting who completed the floodlighting installation on time for the opening event.
- Thanks to Circuit Electric who completed the concourse lighting installation on time for the opening event.
- Costs of the project circa. €850,000 including VAT.
- Subsequent to the opening night the generator was connected to several areas of the stadium to provide power supply in the event of any outages. Cost of the project circa. €24,000 including VAT.



## Dressing Room Extension & Press Box/Disabled Area

- Planning granted in 2021 included for an extension to the existing dressing rooms, reconfiguration of the press areas and installation of a disabled toilet at first floor level at the disabled area in the stand. This was works included in the Floodlighting Planning application.
- With the arrival of the IIP funds the design of the proposed works are being reviewed with the aim to complete the works in 2024.
- With the additional funds now available the design may be altered and may need a revised planning application. A new T.V gantry will form part of the scope of works to be carried out.
- An Energy Audit has been complete for Wexford Park and an SAEI grant application is currently being prepared by the South East Energy Agency for solar panels, insulation and other energy saving items.

## Seating

- New bucket seating was installed to the centre section of the stand in time for this year's Senior football county final. Cost circa. €47,000 including VAT.
- It is planned to install bucket seat in the remainder of the stand in early 2024, quotation been sought at present. Budget cost circa €295,000 including VAT.
- Design options for seats on the open side are being examined, however the height on the current concrete seats is a problem.

### Chadwicks Wexford Park - Fire and Break In

- Two fires occurred in Chadwicks Wexford Park in 2023, as outlined previously in the Event Control section of the report, a fire broke out in the PC Peripherals Education Hub before the National Hurling league game in February and another fire broke out in the toilet/shop located at the Clonard End of the opening seating in July 2023
- Luckily the fire in the toilet/shop building was discovered when people were leaving the Chadwicks Wexford Park Offices after a meeting around 7pm on the evening of the fire with the alarm raised for the fire services to attend quickly. Only for this prompt action the damage caused by the fire could have been more extensive.
- The cause of the fires was both electrical fault and a fault with the old heating system in the PC Peripherals Education Hub.



- Damage to the PC Peripherals Education Hub was minor with just the heating system destroyed and some ceiling tiles damaged.
- Damage to the toilet/shop building was more extensive with the roof badly damaged to a section of the building.
- Insurance claims have been lodged for both fires and negotiation are taking place to agree the claim.
- It is planned to get work carried out in early 2024 when the insurance claim is agreed.
- A break in also occurred in Chadwicks Wexford Park in August 2023 with minor damage caused to the windows and doors.



# **Electrical Inspection and Works**

- Following several power outages and the fire's the occurred in Chadwicks Wexford Park, a Services Engineers was commissioned to carry out a full inspection of the electrical installation within the stadium.
- Ronan Meally Consulting Engineers were commissioned to undertake the survey and inspection, which was carried out in early summer 2024.
- The major recommendation from the survey and inspection was that a full periodic inspection be carried out by a qualified electrician, the generator connected to life saving items and full labelling of all circuits.
- Philip Redmond Electrical was employed to carry out a full periodic inspection and issue a report necessary.
- Any urgent remedial works required from the periodic inspection was carried out immediately however a programme of works is required to action other items on the report.
- The generator and urgent remedial works were carried out at a cost of circa. €24,000 including VAT.

# Pitch & Venue Facilities Maintenance

- John Kehoe and his team of John Shiel, Bernard and Gavin maintain and upkeep Chadwicks Wexford Park in excellent condition all year round. John (Bumpy) Nolan attends Chadwicks Wexford Park each Monday to help in the maintenance works. Thanks to all for the hard work and efforts throughout the year.
- The irrigation system installed in 2022 has proven a huge success and provides the maintenance team in Chadwicks Wexford Park an effective tool to keep grass growth on the pitch in dry/summer times.
- Unfortunately, the issue of water retention on the pitch in very wet weather is proving problematic to solve and the pitch may need additional specialist treatments to improve the issue. This may be an issue that may need to be addressed with a capital spend in the future.
- Annual maintenance was again carried out in 2023 in the form of sand topdressing, vert draining, fertiliser application, goal mouth sodding and some overseeding.
- Thanks to David Ormonde who assists in the operations of Chadwicks Wexford Park on a voluntary basis and is always available no matter what time to assist. Also, thanks to Bobby Goff for his voluntary assistants in the operations of Chadwicks Wexford Park.



#### St. Patrick's Park

Sub-committee formed to carry out duties for the proposed developments at St. Patrick's Park included Ibar Murphy, Seamus Whelan, Liam Curtis, Bobby Goff, David Tobin

## **Dressing Rooms**

- Works were carried out this year to upgrade the dressing rooms and maintenance office, the
  works consisted of new shower system, tiling to showers, painting internal & external, painting
  to floors, increased water supply, new fitted kitchen and painting to the maintenance office.
- Tenders / Quotations were sought for individual items of works and successful contractors appointed after this process. Thanks to all that complete the works in the project.
- Thanks to Ibar Murphy who lead this project and managed the process form start to completion.
- Thanks to Michael Lynch for his co-operation during the works and was always available when needed.
- Cost of the project circa. €52,000 including VAT.



# **Floodlights**

- After some considerable frustration, South East Energy Agency was appointed to act as agents for the SAEI grant application for the floodlight upgrade and other energy saving item in 2023.
- The application was lodged by South East Energy Agency in mid-summer 2023 and notification was received of a grant approval in November.
- A 50% grant has been approved with the cost of the project circa €195,000 including VAT (Works in the grant application included: upgrade floodlights with LED light fittings, new windows & doors, and insulation to buildings. Also, fees are included for the agent)
- Works could not be commenced, or orders put in place until notification of the grant application decision was received.
- The floodlighting has now been put on order and it is planned to replace the lights early in 2024 along with the other improvement works.
- It is also planned to install some spectator barriers on the viewing bank and dug outs in 2024.

Hopefully 2024 will see the completion of improvement works in St. Patrick's Park.

## Pitch & Venue Facilities Maintenance

- Thanks to Michael lynch, the Lynch family and many others for their contribution to having the venue always available to host games or training.
- It should be noted that the pitch at St. Patrick's Park is exceptional as it hosts more games than most pitches and is always playable in the most extreme weather conditions. This was very evident this year as the pitch was in great condition despite the very wet Autumn and early winter.

See photos included of St. Patrick's Park works complete.



#### Strategic Plan

The Strategic Plan launched in 2021 outlined ambitious infrastructures plans, outlined below is an update on progress on the delivery of these projects:

- Chadwicks Wexford Park Irrigation installation complete in 2022
- Chadwicks Wexford Park Floodlighting installation complete January 2023
- Chadwicks Wexford Park Dressing room extension and Press area/disabled area upgrade, IIP funding now being received, works planned for 2024 (New seating installed to centre stand section, additional seating installed early 2024)
- St. Patrick's Park Health & Safety works complete in 2022.
- St. Patrick's Park Dressing Room upgrade (showers, painting, etc) complete 2023
- St. Patrick's Park Floodlight upgrade SAEI grant approval received, works to be carried out January 2024
- Halo Tiles COE New entrance and access road complete 2023
- Halo Tiles COE Pitch works complete 2023 (play on pitches 2024 after grown in period and installation of goal posts, ball stops netting and floodlights)
- Halo Tiles COE Building Extension: planning application to be lodged in 2023.

Challenges exist in delivering the aims set out under infrastructure in the strategic plan. Challenges include funding requirements, planning and the current pressures on the construction industry where price inflation is a major issue.

## Funding / Grant Applications

Funding and Grant applications are available from various sources and applications have been mainly worked on by Micheál Martin, David Tobin and Gavin O'Donovan.

## **Croke Park Funding**

- Croke Park county infrastructure grant was open again in 2023 with up to €300,000 grant aid available for specific projects. Wexford GAA made any application for works in the Halo Tiles COE.
- Wexford GAA were successful with the grant application and received €250,000.

## **Leinster Council Funding**

• Leinster Council funding in the amount of €75,000 was received for the floodlight project in Chadwicks Wexford Park.

### **Sports Capital Funding**

- Sport Capital Grant funding applications were opened for applications in 2023, Wexford GAA would qualify under the regional application process.
- With works commenced and ongoing in the Centre of Excellence a decision was made not to apply for the regional scheme and wait for the Large-scale infrastructure application process to open.

#### **SAEI Funding**

• As outline previously SAEI grant funding has now been approved for work in St. Patrick's Park and an application is being complied for Chadwicks Wexford Park.

## Immigrant Investor Programme (IIP) Funding

- Following the IIP funding application compiled and submitted for Chadwicks Wexford Park work, final approval was received from the relative authorities in 2023 and the first donor monies have now been received.
- The first two donor (€400,000 less fees) have now been received, and the remaining donor monies are hoped to come in early to mid-2024.



- This IIP funding received has to be spent of the specific items outlined in the business plan that formed part of the application. Works included and are limited to floodlights, concourse lighting, irrigation system, pitch works, dressing room extension, office & press area upgrade, seating to centre stand area only, carpark upgrade and associated fees.
- It must be noted that Wexford GAA would not be in the advanced position of an IIP application without the significant input of members of the Wexford GAA wider community and thanks to them.

## **Club Development**

## Development Fund Loan (Croke Park Loan)

- The GAA's Development Fund Loan application re-opened in 2023 with an information webinar held by Croke Park on 29th March 2023.
- The Development Fund application process has changed from previous years with the application process open for a specific period of time for applications and a specific closing date
- Application criteria also now includes that loans will only be provided for specific GAA sports
  related works (i.e., pitches, dressing rooms, hurling walls, floodlighting, etc) and not for now
  sports related works (i.e., access roads, carparks, etc). Land purchase is included in the grant.
- Application criteria now also requires the works the loans are granted for must be completed
  in a 12-month period and the loan drawdown is this 12-month period, if not the loan offer will
  be removed.
- Ther maximum loan amount available is €100,000.
- Two clubs in Wexford applied for the loan, with Cloughbawn GAA successful with their application.

#### Leinster GAA

- Leinster GAA infrastructure Grants were award again in 2023 for infrastructure projects and land purchases, several Wexford Clubs applied within the August 31st deadline.
- Wexford Clubs received circa €210,000 in grant aid for projects complete and land purchased.
   Thanks to all in Leinster GAA for their help and to current Leinster GAA Chairperson, Derek Kent.
- Grant received were as follows:

CLUB	<b>DEVELOPMENT</b>	<b>PURCHASE</b>
Clongeen	€7,800	
Fr. O'Regan's Craanford	€500	
Davidstown-Courtnacuddy	€10,000	
Ferns St. Aidans	€10,800	
St. Mogue's Fethard	€3,600	
Kilmore	€9,100	€26,000
Our Lady's Island	€8,100	
Oylegate-Glenbrien	€6,100	
Rapparees-Starlights	€30,000	
Shelmalier	€6,500	
St. Abban's, Adamstown	€7,500	
St. Brigid's Blackwater		€17,000
St. James'		€27,500
St. Joseph's	€2,800	€23,500
St. Mary's Rosslare	€2,400	
St. Patrick's	€5,700	
Taghmon-Camross	€8,000	



 A Leinster Club Infrastructure meeting was held in Leinster GAA offices, Portlaoise, on Monday 6th March 2023 and attended by all Safety and Facilities Officer from Leinster Counties and by all members of the Leinster GAA Infrastructure Committee. The meeting outlined grants for 2023, new Health & Safety documents, Health & Safety procedures and good practices, insurances and the responsibilities of the role of the Couty Safety and Facilities Officer.

## Club Loan Applications

- All club loans over €15,000 require various levels of approval from the units within the GAA structures. Applications first come to the Safety and Facilities Officer for review and then to the management executive, County Board and on to other relevant levels of the organisation.
- Applications for approval to borrow from financial institutions was made by the following clubs:
  - Taghmon Camross
  - o St James
  - Kilmore
- Several additional clubs have engaged in recent weeks to gain loan approval for infrastructure projects, and these applications are being processed.

## Wayleave & Land Purchase & Lease approvals

- Clubs are required to gain approval for any wayleaves required for any development on their facilities. The GAA have developed standard forms to be complete and these first come to the Safety and Facilities Officer for review before approved by other levels within the organisation.
- Wayleave approvals were received by Horeswood and Bannow Ballymitty GAA this year.
- Similar approval is required by clubs to purchase land and property, land purchase approval was received by the following clubs to purchase land in 2023: Kilmore, St. Brigid's Blackwater and St James'
- Rathgarogue-Cushinstown received permission in relation to a lease agreed for a NBI kiosk.

#### **CONCLUSION**

It has been an extremely busy year in serving as Wexford GAA's Safety & Facilities Officer and it has been a great honour to do so. The infrastructure projects complete and in progress have added additional workload to the role but enjoyable to be part of and in years to come can be looked back on as a great achievement by all in Wexford GAA. All these projects would not be possible without the funds in place to pay for the works and this was achieved by prudent actions of several people over a number of years. Former Chairperson, Derek Kent; current Chairperson, Micheál Martin; current and former Commercial Committee members (formerly chaired by Micheál Mahon); Treasurer, Andrew Nolan; current and former full time of Wexford GAA staff; sponsors and many Wexford GAA volunteers at all levels of the association contributed to ensure that funds were available to implement the goals set out under infrastructure in the Strategic Plan.

I would like to thank the Clubs of Wexford for all their support during the year and hope I have been assistance when required. I must commend the clubs of Wexford who continue to improve and expand their facilities to cater for the activities of their members. It appears the local GAA club is now becoming a community hub in parishes and towns rather than previously just for those you played Gaelic games as walking tracks, playgrounds, Gaelic4Mothers&Others, community gyms, etc are bringing the wider community to the 'field'.

With the expanded Halo Tiles Wexford GAA Centre of Excellence and upgrade to other facilities additional on-going annual running costs will be seen and this may be a challenge in the further to the association.



The integration of the three organisations will also result in added pressures on facilities, particularly early in the year in winter months when floodlight pitches are required. However, the inclusion of the LGFA and Camogie in Halo Tiles COE will ease the burden of the running costs associated with the expanded facility.

Thanks to all committee members, members of management, Wexford GAA staff, Operations Manager/CEO, the County Secretary, the County Chairperson, Clubs and individuals for their assistance during the year.

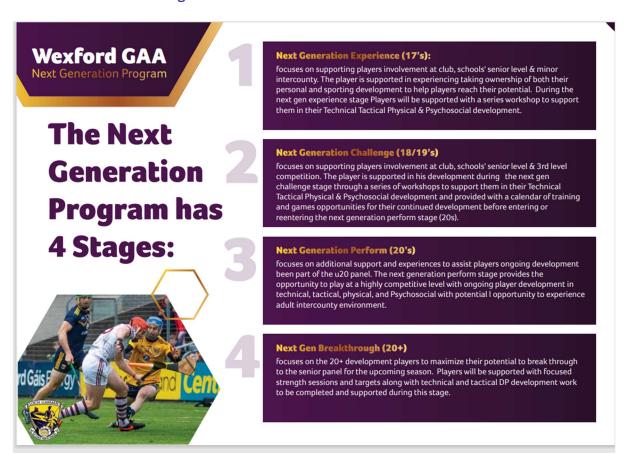
Daithí Tóibín

Oifigeach Forbartha

# **Hurling Advisory Committee**

The Hurling Advisory Committee is responsible for the promotion and development of all hurling activities in the County. It is also responsible for the implementation and oversight of the Hurling High Performance Plan.

## **The Next Generation Programme**



In 2023, the Next Generation Programme provided comprehensive support to players transitioning from minor teams. The programme implemented individual development plans, game programmes, and workshops to foster a holistic approach to player development. A vital aspect of the initiative involved hosting guest speakers who addressed crucial topics, including Player Wellbeing, Journaling, Nutrition, Recovery, Sleep, Education and Life Choices. This well-rounded approach aimed to equip players not only with the skills necessary for on-field success but also with the tools for personal and professional growth.

Specifically, tailored support was extended to Leaving Cert students through Easter mid-term, including Maths grinds, to ensure a balance between academic pursuits and athletic



commitments. The success of these efforts underscores the program's commitment to the holistic development of young players in Wexford.

Looking ahead to 2024, the plan is to build upon this success by continuing the development of the Next Generation Programme. The focus remains on refining existing components and potentially introducing new elements to enhance further the support provided to young players navigating the transition to senior teams. This dedication to ongoing development ensures that the program evolves in tandem with the evolving needs of the next generation of players, fostering a well-rounded and resilient cohort of players.

## **Wexford Model Academy Squads & Representative Teams**

In 2023, a comprehensive restructuring initiative was undertaken following the Wexford Model Academy Review of 2022. This aimed to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of all squads and representative teams. A carefully planned framework was implemented throughout the year, emphasising key actions and support systems across all squads.

This promoted a more streamlined and coordinated approach across all squads. Key actions were identified and systematically executed, ensuring each squad and representative team functioned cohesively toward their respective goals.

An essential element introduced in 2023 was the Plan-Do-Review method. This planned approach facilitated continuous evaluation and improvement, ensuring adaptability to evolving challenges. The Plan-Do-Review process, a dynamic cycle of planning, implementation, and reflection, played a pivotal role in refining strategies.

Wexford Model Academy made significant strides, focusing on stakeholder engagement, performance analysis introduction, athletic development support, coach education opportunities, and operational assistance for development squads.

Looking ahead to 2024, the commitment to ongoing development remains steadfast. The Plan-Do-Review methodology will remain a foundation for refining and evolving strategies across all squads and representative teams.

#### **Wexford Coach and Manager Pathways**

In 2023, a new initiative was undertaken to enhance the resources of coaches and managers through learning and development opportunities. Throughout the year, formal and informal learning pathways were introduced. Coaches and managers were supported with the necessary tools and knowledge to excel in their roles, promoting professional growth and development. This commitment to continuous improvement is set to continue in 2024, with a renewed focus on designing and developing innovative learning pathways. The goal is to support the progression of managers and coaches by tailoring educational opportunities to their evolving needs and the dynamic demands of their roles.



# Wexford Model Coach Academy 2023 Calendar 2022/2023

Caleflual 2022/2025			
Date	Description	Venue	Tutors
3 <sup>rd</sup> December 2022	Coaching Masterclass	Riverside Hotel	Paul O'Brien Shane Mangan
6 <sup>th</sup> December 2022	Season and Session Planning for Development Squads	Riverside Enniscorthy	Colm Crowley
26 <sup>th</sup> January	Model Academy Community of Practice	Wexford Park Education Hub	JJ Doyle Ray Harris James Flynn Niall Williams
13 <sup>th</sup> February	60Minutes with Billy Walsh	Zoom	Billy Walsh
21st February	Wexford Senior Training session	Halo Tiles Centre of Excellence	Wexford Senior Hurling Management Team
21 <sup>st</sup> March	Performance Analysis for Development Squads	PC Peripherals Education Hub	Emma Byrne
11 <sup>th</sup> April	The Wexford Way Warm Up & Cool Down	C Peripherals Education Hub	Eoin Devine O Grady
15 <sup>th</sup> May	Play The Game Hurling Coaching Workshop	Chadwicks Wexford Pack	JJ Doyle Ray Harris Niall Williams
June	Mid-Season Update	Halo Tile COE	Niall Williams Kevin Doyle JJ Doyle
June 21st	The Wexford Way Principles of Defending	Halo Tile COE	JJ Doyle Ray Harris
June 27 <sup>th</sup>		Chadwicks Wexford Pack	James Flynn Niall Williams
July 19 <sup>th</sup>	Speed Development	Halo Tiles COE	Eoin Devine O'Grady
July	Minor U20 Review Senior Review		
11 <sup>th</sup> September	Academy End of Season Reflection	PC Peripherals Education Hub	Niall Williams
11 <sup>th</sup> December	Talent Development	PC Peripherals Education Hub	Liam Moggan

# **Support Programmes for Players**

In 2023, a proactive approach to player and team support programmes was commenced, focusing on the oversight and implementation of best practices. Significantly, comprehensive support in athletic development, physiotherapy and nutrition was successfully embedded throughout the teams. This ensured that players and teams received well-rounded assistance in these areas.



Looking ahead to 2024, the commitment to development in these areas remains. The emphasis will continue refining and expanding existing support programmes, with an added focus on introducing Sports Psychology and Performance Analysis. These new elements aim to enhance the mental resilience and strategic insights of players and teams across all squads. The holistic integration of these components highlights a dedication to providing a multifaceted support system, ensuring that our players are equipped with the tools necessary for their development.

#### Niall Mac Uilliam

Stiúrthóir Iomána & Rúnaí Coiste Comhairleach Iomána

# Coiste na nÓg

It is with privilege that I compile the secretary report for 2023.

## **Games Programme**

The programme of underage commenced in March. As a committee, we would like to thank those who work so hard at scheduling our games for their huge commitment and great effort in organising such an extensive calendar of games. Owing to the bad weather in October/November we had a huge amount of work in changing venues and times for games. Thank you to the CCC and all the clubs who gave of their pitches to facilitate. We have had an extremely successful year with 372 teams participating at various age levels and over 1000 games played. 96% of scheduled games were played. We also saw a surge of clubs introducing a nursery.

Some statistics for the year are outlined in the following tables:

*Games 2023* 

	2023	2022
Overall League Games scheduled	1,193	1,106
Total games played	1,149	1,052
Walkovers	44	56
Percentage -games played	96%	95%
Percentage -walkovers	3.7%	5.0%

## Participating Teams

GRADE	CODE	TOTAL
U14	Hurling	38
U14	Football	38
U16 Championship/League	Hurling	80
U16 Championship/League	Football	80
U18 Championship /League	Hurling	62
U18 Championship/League	Football	74
	TOTAL PARTICIPATING TEAMS	372

Team(s) Withdrawn from the 2023 Championship: 1



Transfers			
YEAR	GRANTED	REFUSED	ISOLATED PLAYER SCHEME
2019	26	4	20
2020	13	2	17
2021	15	2	13
2022	18	1	7
2023	22	3	9

#### **Discipline**

As we can see from the table below there has been an increase in all category incidents as it has more than doubled from the previous year. We continue to have issues with side-line behaviour towards officials and opposing players. Clubs need to continue to be more proactive on discipline and build a culture of self-discipline by education of mentors, coaches, players and even supporters of their responsibilities when at games and coaching teams.

Disciplinary statistics outlined in the following table:

YEAR	CAT III	CAT IV/V	OTHER CATEGORIES
2019	29	7	8
2020	22	6	10
2021	11	8	9
2022	22	3	9
2023	56	9	23

## Refereeing

There are 70 registered referees in Wexford of which approx. 40 were available for use in the games programme.

The refereeing resources available to Coiste are the same people that adult, camogie, LGFA and other sports utilise. This can prove very difficult due to the volume of games, holidays, injured referees etc. There is continued focus on the recruitment of new referees. Expanding the numbers should be a priority to reduce the burden and pressures on the current resources.

We as a committee are extremely grateful for the service these people provide as without them the games programme would not be possible.

## **Administration**

Coiste na nÓg meetings were held on 15-02-2023, 21-03-2023, 14-11-2023. We also held district underage review meetings on 02/10/2023 (New Ross), 03/10/2023 (Enniscorthy), 05/10/2023 (Gorey) and 10/10/2023 (Wexford).

#### **Conclusion**

Thank you must be expressed to all Coiste Management members for their work and commitment throughout the year and the Adult Board for the support given.

Coiste are also reliant on many more people to function and thanks to the administration staff in Chadwicks Wexford Park, CCC members, various officers and officials, club of the year committee, gates men and women, stewards, media, clubs and the numerous people who carry out roles and get work done without any recognition. To any persons forgotten for thanks please accept my sincerest apologies but your efforts are not unnoticed.



Appreciation to Coiste na nÓg sponsor, The People Newspaper, and for the reporting on our games.

To our outgoing Childrens Officer, Des Croke, who will retire from his role this month, Coiste na nÓg express thanks and appreciation for all the support, advice, direction and efforts during the year and previous years. We wish you all the best in the future and hope your knowledge will be available to Wexford GAA for many years to come.

**Aoife Pearail** Rúnaí Coiste na nÓg Loch Garman



COISTE CONTAE CLG LOCH GARMAN