



Club Nuachtlitir

Club Newsletter Samhain 2010

Welcome to the November edition of the GAA Club Nuachtlitir. I hope you are all finding our updated Newsletter beneficial as we continue to improve communication with our Clubs both at home and abroad.

This month saw the launch of the 2010 GAA Games Development Conference as well as the GAA Season Ticket which will go on sale in the coming weeks. In addition, important notices include the phasing out of the old GAA Website Content Management System, the rollout of the official GAA Fixtures and Results System and updated information on the GAA Defibrillator scheme and planning programme for Clubs.

Should you have any feedback on any aspect of our communications, please feel free to contact our Communications Department through: queries@gaa.ie.

Is Mise le meas,

Lisa Clancy,
Director of Communications
Cumann Lúthchleas Gael



GAA Defibrillator Notice

Further discount available

Following from the success of the National Defibrillator Scheme in 2007, we are pleased to announce a re-launch of the scheme, offering further savings to participating Clubs. The Samaritan PAD is now available for €1075 including VAT. It is specifically designed for non-medically trained rescuers and comes with the following features:

- 7 Year Warranty
- FREE Spare Pad-Pak (battery & pads cartridge)
- FREE Soft Carry Case
- FREE Response Kit



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Please contact Heartsafety Solutions on 1850 432 787 or info@hearts.ie for more details on what is a guaranteed Irish product.

Storage & Maintenance

We remind Clubs of the importance of correct storage and maintenance of the Club defibrillator. Performance of the defibrillator may be compromised if the manufacturer's recommendations are ignored.

For Clubs who purchased their defibrillator as part of the National Defibrillator Scheme, if you have been storing your defibrillator in an unsuitable external cabinet, you can get your machine checked free of charge by contacting 1850 432 787 or by emailing info@hearts.ie.

Approved, heated, outdoor cabinets are available from Heartsafety Solutions on 1850 432 787 or by emailing info@hearts.ie. Get €100 off the RRP by contacting Heartsafety Solutions before February 2011.

Maintaining your defibrillator is very easy. A weekly inspection is essential to ensure this life-saving equipment is always ready if required. Please read your user manual and visit www.hearts.ie for demo videos.



2010 GAA Games Development Conference

Some of the top names in Gaelic Games coaching will be involved in the GAA's annual National Games Development Conference – "Coaching Children: Building a Platform for Lifelong Involvement in Gaelic Games" – which will take place on Saturday December 4, in Croke Park.

[Click here for more info and to book a place.](#)



Old Website Content Management System (CMS) Update

Please note that the old Website Content Management System (CMS) will cease to operate after December 20, 2010 as the server will be phased out.

It is important that Clubs on the old service are up and running on the new solution before December 20. The GAA has a new official club web site solution which is available to all GAA clubs. The new Club website platform is deployed



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on Google Sites.

You can request a club site on line by visiting <http://newmail.gaa.ie>. Here, click on the link Club and County Web Site Migration Form or alternatively contact the support team.

The infrastructure is very easy to use with extensive functionality and it provides users with great flexibility. A selection of GAA themed templates are available for easy customization to suit your colours and requirements.

For support please email Baker Security and Networks GAA email support team at sites@gaa.ie or by phone on 076-615 4932 (lo-call number)



GAA Season Ticket

Consider yourself a dedicated county supporter? League matches in the springtime? Summer Sundays spent in 'neutral' venues? Want to follow the county all year round and save money in the process?

If so, the GAA Season Ticket is for you.

The GAA Season Ticket is county specific and code specific, so that means you need one for Hurling and one for Football. You pay an initial base price of €75 that includes all of your county's Allianz GAA National League round matches plus the opening Championship match.

It is then Play and Pay for each subsequent match that your county plays in whether you attend or not.

The Juvenile GAA Season Ticket has a base price of €10 and then Play and Pay applies. To learn more about the GAA Season Ticket visit www.gaa.ie/seasonticket.



GAA Club Planning Programme

The GAA has put in place a new Club planning programme, which provides advice and assistance to Clubs to help them put their own development plan in place. The programme, which has been successfully trialled in a number of



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Clubs, provides a structured format to help the Club examine all areas of GAA activity and outline clear actions in order to move their club forward.

The main part of the programme is the Club planning workshop, where everyone in the community is invited to the Club premises for a two hour workshop. The feedback from this workshop and from other meetings is used to develop the plan. Any Club doing the programme receives a club plan pack, which includes a plan template. To get involved, contact your County Development Officer and he/she will set it up from there. For further information, visit the [Clubzone](http://www.gaa.ie/clubzone) section of the GAA website, <http://www.gaa.ie/clubzone>.



GAA Competition Management System (Fixtures & Results)

The GAA is rolling out the official GAA Competition Management System. The system is used throughout all levels of the Association (National, Provincial and County) and is centrally funded by Croke Park, with no cost to users for licences, training or ongoing system updates.

The system provides a wide range of functions and features to enable competition administrators to create manage and administer competitions.

It contains several features which help to minimise the administrative demands on volunteers (i.e. ability to clone competitions, perform bulk updates to fixtures and results). The system provides a central platform to manage all aspects of competition administration (i.e. two way SMS communication with match officials, automated feed of fixtures and results to media contacts). The system also provides functionality to support county fixture planners with their roles, whilst complying with the official rule book and adopting good governance.

Another key feature of the system is its ability to integrate with Provincial, County and Club websites. The system is powering many GAA websites and applications, such as <http://www.gaa.ie/fixtures-and-results/>, [the Official GAA iPhone App](#) and soon to be released Google Gadget Integration.

The Croke Park Fixtures Department, County Fixture Planners and System Developers Servasport, have engaged in workshops and collaborated on the



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product development plan. This has resulted in additional functionality being added to the system to meet the specific needs of GAA officials. The next significant system update is scheduled for January 2011, with many more new features and functionality to help streamline many of the processes associated with managing fixtures, referees and venues.



Club Focus – Killybegs GAA Club, Donegal

A thriving marine port and a passionate GAA community, the Killybegs GAA Club has created not only a legacy of excellence, but now a high quality grounds to reflect the admirable reputation the Club has built for itself since their founding in 1924.

Brand new main and practice pitches have been reconstructed to perfection – sand based for optimal performance. The clubhouse has been expanded to include four dressing rooms, a medical room, a referees' room, kitchen, various meeting rooms and public toilets. A gym will be added by the close of the year and discussion has arisen about a terrace expanding from the clubhouse overlooking the pitch.

In accommodating the supporter and member both inside the grounds and out, a brand new and improved car park area with over 350 car spaces has been accommodated. The facility cost the Club a total of €1.1 million to purchase and develop with the financial burden cushioned by the extraordinary efforts made through local fundraising events and Ulster Council grants.

The decision behind the ground's name change accurately reflects the heart and soul of the enthusiasm that surrounds the Club. The new Eamonn Byrne grounds were titled so to commemorate the memory of a strong Gael who died in 1988 during a match while representing Killybegs. The hard work and everlasting efforts the Killybegs community has put into reshaping their home is best represented through the spirit of a man who gave the ultimate sacrifice to compete for the town he loved.

Bloody Sunday Commemorative Lecture and Tour

The GAA Museum, national custodian of the archives of the GAA, will host an afternoon lecture with Tim Pat Coogan to mark the 90th anniversary of Bloody



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Sunday. The lecture will take place at the museum on Saturday November 20 at 2.00pm.

Tim Pat Coogan, one of Ireland's best known historical writers, will discuss these events which resulted in the deaths of 13 civilian spectators and one Tipperary footballer, Michael Hogan. Dr. William Murphy, Irish Studies lecturer in DCU, will speak at the event and will explore the relationship of the GAA with the events unleashed by revolutionary nationalism in Ireland during the period 1914-1920.

The GAA Museum will also host a special Bloody Sunday Commemorative Guided Tour at 2.30pm on Sunday November 21st. Visitors will tour Croke Park stadium and the museum, which houses items such as an original match ticket and the whistle used by referee Mick Sammon.

Lecture & Tour Times

- Bloody Sunday 90th Anniversary Commemorative Lecture - November 20th at 2.00pm (GAA Museum, Cusack Stand, Croke Park)

- Bloody Sunday 90th Anniversary Commemorative Tour - November 21st at 2.30pm (Leaving from GAA Museum, Cusack Stand, Croke Park.

Please note that booking is essential, as places are limited. For further details or to book a place at the lecture or tour please book on line at www.crokepark.ie or by phoning 01-8192323.



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GAA Social Initiative - November 2010

The GAA Social Initiative, conceived by President Mary McAleese as a means of facilitating male social engagement, recently held a successful seminar in Croke Park.

At the seminar, Seán Kilbride, Social Initiative Project Manager invited GAA Clubs to participate in an initial one-year pilot project and already the initiative has seen a large uptake with approximately 100 Clubs signed up and involved.

The seminar saw Clubs come together for a training workshop in Croke Park which Dr. Martin McAleese opened at the invitation of Uachtarán Chumann Lúthchleas Gael, Críostóir Ó Cuana. The Workshop delegates received a number of presentations from relevant age-related organisations and experts and concluded the day by offering their own ideas on how to implement the initiative. The Workshop proved to be an inspiring occasion as club representatives articulated the need for and the potential of the initiative.

Volunteers in the Pilot Project Clubs will begin to organise social activities for men in their respective areas and Club members are encouraged to support and participate in the project. There are no age restrictions on those wishing to get involved, either as a participant or volunteer. Those involved in each Club will decide themselves on the range of social activities to be organised but a possible menu of activities is included in the Social Initiative website at www.gaa.ie/socialinitiative. It is intended to develop a Discussion Forum in the near future on the website, where clubs can communicate their ideas and establish inter-club relationships.

It is hoped to expand the Social Initiative in 2011 and we would encourage other Clubs to participate, following the example set by those involved in the Pilot Project. The final objective is that, eventually, all GAA clubs will be inspired to contribute to this very worthwhile project.

Seán Kilbride, Social Initiative Project Manager, is contactable at 018658617 and by email at sean.kilbride@gaa.ie.