



Nuachtlitir, Eanáir 2010

Club Nuachtlitir – Eanáir 2010

New Newsletter to come next month

A newly formatted club Newsletter will be distributed to clubs next month as part of the upgrade of the Association's Communication tools. This redesign will take place after the new website has been launched and will mirror the feel and look of the new site. Any clubs or members with suggestions about how the newsletter might be enhanced or improved should contact us at queries@gaa.ie

Once again we would encourage clubs to distribute this email to their members either by forwarding to your mailing list or posting on your club website or noticeboard.

Críostóir Ó Cuana
Uachtarán Chumann Lúthchleas Gael

Website Launch - www.gaa.ie

The launch of the Association's new website will take place in the coming weeks after months of planning and preparation. The new site will include a host of new features not previously catered for on the old site.

It will bring new and regularly updated content to the site with a dedicated "ClubZone" detailing information, forms and documents ranging from the GAA Official Guide (Part 1) and Playing Rules (Part 2), Club constitution, membership forms, Club manual, registration and IT related Club information.

Also new to the site will be regular video, audio and news content, feature pieces and player diaries as well as for the first time, a centralised database of archived results ranging from All Ireland Senior, Minor, Junior, Intermediate, U21, Inter-Provincial and Provincial final results (at all levels) in both codes. Also included will be detailed county senior final roll of honours, team listings from all major finals as well as a host of other results in various competitions.

All told, the new GAA website will be a crucial communications tool for the Association moving forward and will be the first port of call for all information relating to the Club and the Association at large.

Lisa Clancy – Director of Communications



Club Focus

Erin go Bragh (Áth Cliath / Dublin)

It's said that from small acorns grow giant oaks and young Dublin club Erin Go Bragh will definitely hope that this theory holds true.

The club, founded in 1986 before re-grouping and re-locating to the Littlepace/ Hunters' Run/Castaheaney areas near Clonee in 2003 celebrated the arrival of their temporary dressing-room facilities last weekend.

These new facilities have been placed on a site adjacent to Mary Mother of Hope National School, Littlepace and will enhance the playing experience of juvenile and underage players alike for the season ahead. The club is currently embarking on a recruitment drive and is continuing to promote both football and hurling in conjunction with their local school.

GAA Respect Initiative

The Association's new Respect Initiative was launched last week by Uachtarán Chumann Lúthchleas Gael Críostóir Ó Cuana with assistance from inter-county footballers Micheál Quirke and Dean Rock and Tipperary hurler Noel McGrath. Also in attendance to lend their support to the event were top referees Diarmuid Kirwan and Marty Duffy, National Hurling Co-ordinator Paudie Butler, Mickey Whelan and Barney Rock.

The new scheme aims to target underage games in an effort to promote and foster a spirit of goodwill and fair-play where all participants feel comfortable and welcome. There are roles of responsibility for players, mentors, referees, parents, guardians and supporters amongst others. For more information visit www.gaa.ie.

Details of a Fair Play Index for the upcoming Allianz Leagues were also revealed at this launch. League tables will be kept in both football and hurling rewarding counties who pick up the least amount of disciplinary transgressions over the course of the league, both on the field of play but also on the sideline.

Club Wall Launch – St Patrick's Day

The Association's new Falla na gClubanna will be officially launched at Croke Park on St Patrick's Day by GAA President Críostóir Ó Cuana as part of the Club final day celebrations.

The wall, which is located at the entrance to the GAA Museum on the Cusack Stand side of the stadium, includes the crests of club units from around the world and has been designed to underline the link between Croke Park and our club units.



Next time you are visiting the museum or are seated in the Cusack Stand on match day take time to find your club crest.

Allianz GAA National Leagues 2010 Lift Off

Top level GAA Football and Hurling action will resume across the country in the coming weeks with the start of the Allianz GAA National Leagues in both football and hurling. A full round of football matches across all four divisions takes place next weekend (Feb 6/7) while the hurling league commences two weeks later.

Support your county between now and April and visit www.gaa.ie and your county's website for information on fixtures and results.

Hurling Helmets

As of January 1 last, all hurlers at all grades must wear a standardised hurling helmet complete with full face guard any time they are carrying a hurley whether in training or in a match situation. Referees will caution players who do not comply and a failure to address this issue will lead to a second caution and the removal of that player from the field. The GAA's Player Injury Scheme is also dependent on players' full adherence with this regulation.

As part of their efforts to promote safety among players Marc Sports are operating a Helmet Scrappage Scheme until February 21 2010. If you avail of this scrappage scheme you will get a €15 discount off your new MARC Sports Hurling Helmet. A donation will also be made to charity from this transaction.

Ag Éisteacht

The President and Director General are continuing with their club visits as part of the Ag Éisteacht Programme in the run up to Congress 2010. An tUachtarán will visit DCU GAA Club early this month and visits to the province of Connacht are being planned at the minute for later in February. Clubs who have an interest in hosting one of the questions and answers type evenings are invited to contact the Communications Department at alan.milton@gaa.ie. It is hoped that visits to most counties will have taken place before April.

Ticketing – AIB Club finals and Season Ticket

Excellent value tickets for the St Patrick's Day AIB GAA All-Ireland Club Football and Hurling finals are currently on sale – six weeks before the St Patrick's Day Croke Park double billing.

A new ticketing initiative means discounted tickets for these games are now available and can be purchased for as little as €15.



The new progressive pricing system, designed to reward supporters who acquire their tickets in advance of these fixtures, will see tickets available for €15 and €20 at different stages in the run up to the finals and for €25 on the day of the matches.

There will be no concessions on these discounted tickets and juveniles tickets can be purchased for €5 at all times. (Cusack and Davin Stands only).

It is also worth remembering that Season Tickets are available for the 2010 season. County and code specific, they offer excellent value. Further information is available from and purchases can be made through www.tickets.gaa.ie

Museum

February Midterm Break Activities @ The GAA Museum:

The Telling Tall Tales Tour

Monday 15th – Friday 19th February @ 14.30 daily,

An extra special tour of Croke Park, just for the kids,

where they check up on the GAA Museum Tour Guides to make sure they are not telling lies – tut tut!

Kidzone Gallery Talk – The Star-Spangled Final

Sat 16th January @ 13.30

Did you know that the 1947 All-Ireland Football Final was played in New York?

Come along to the GAA Museum to discover more, try on old jerseys and

design your very own match poster and get to know the museum's collections.

GAA Museum Special Offers

Ultimate Club Day Out - for under €15

January - March

The Croke Park Experience has teamed up with the National Aquatic Centre to provide a fun filled day out for GAA Clubs wanting to reward their players of all ages & levels for their hard work and dedication on the pitch.

Check out www.gaa.ie/museum for more information or contact:

Maria Gorman, Bookings Executive, Tel- 01 8192374 or email tours@crokepark.ie

Senior Citizens Mondays for €5

January - April

Every Monday, Seniors can spend the day at the GAA Museum and take a behind-the-scene guided tour of Croke Park Stadium for only €5.



Vhi GAA Cúl Camps

The official GAA summer camp is the Vhi GAA Cúl Camp. Congratulations to all 983 clubs who propose to host a camp next summer. To make sure your club is not left out, please contact your county coaching officer or county games manager.

Changes to membership rules and registration rules for 2010

You are reminded that all clubs must complete the registration of Full and Youth members before April 1. Registrations must be completed electronically, through the Association's online player and member registration system (rule 2.2 of the Official Guide) at www.people.gaa.ie This is now the only acceptable method of registration in the GAA.

Clubs should also be aware that the closing date for the acceptance of membership fees in order to entitle a person to the privileges of membership, including the right to vote at the club AGM, is on a date prior to March 31 (rule 6.2 of the Club Constitution). Therefore, the old date of August 1 is no longer in use.

Training for the new online registration system will take place in all counties in early 2010. Many counties are already using the online system, with 960 clubs having used the system to register in 2009. Clubs will be receiving further communication on this in due course.

Does your Club own the copyright for the Club crest?

It is important that each Club holds the copyright for its Club crest. This prevents individuals and companies from using the Club crest without permission. If this form hasn't been completed, please email marketing@gaa.ie inserting 'assignment of copyright form' in the subject line and a form and instructions will be sent to you. It is important to note that the assignment of copyright form can only be completed if the identity of the designer of the original crest is known.