

**Cumann Lúth Chleas Gael
Coiste Chontae Mhaigheo**



**Comhthionól Bhliantúil
2016**

De Domhnaigh 6ú Nollaig 2015

Hotel Ballina

A tosnú ar 12.00 nóin.

Clár

1. Opening address and remembrance of deceased members
2. Address of welcome by North Mayo Board
3. Óráid an Uachtaráin
4. Adoption of Standing Orders
5. Óráid an Chathaoirleach
6. Miontuairiscí 2015
7. Tuairisc an Runaí
8. Tuairisc an Chisteoir
9. Toghachán na hOifíge
10. Ruin

Standing Orders

In order that the proceedings of the Convention are carried out without delay, the following Standing Orders will be strictly observed.

1. The person proposing the Motion/Resolution or Amendment may speak for not more than five minutes.
2. All accredited delegates must not exceed three minutes.
3. The person proposing the Motion/Resolution/Amendment may speak a second time for not more than 3 minutes.
4. The chairperson may at any time consider a Motion/Resolution/Amendment has been sufficiently discussed and call on the proposer for a reply after which a vote must be taken.
5. With the consent of the Chairperson, a delegate may move 'that the question be now put' after which the proposer has spoken, a vote must be taken.
6. Any motion seeking to amend existing bye laws must have a majority equal to two thirds of those present and entitled to vote and voting.
7. Standing orders shall not be suspended for the purpose of considering a matter not on the Clar except by the consent of a majority of two thirds of those present and entitled to vote
8. The chairperson may change the order of items on the Clar with the consent of a simple majority of those present and entitled to vote and voting
9. A motion may be withdrawn with the permission of the convention.
10. Voting procedures as per Official Guide.

2015 MIONTUAIRISCI

Cumann Lúth Chleas Gael Coiste Chontae Mhaigheo Comhthionól Bhliantúil 2015 was held in the Park Hotel, Kiltimagh and hosted by the East Mayo Divisional Board on De Domhnaigh an 7ú Nollaig 2014.

Chairman Paddy Mc Nicholas opened the meeting and welcomed the delegates to the Park Hotel for county convention. He asked Fr. John Doherty to lead us in prayer in remembrance of deceased members. Fr. John said a beautiful few words and prayed for all the athletes who as players for club and county had given so much enjoyment throughout the year. He also prayed for coaches, officers and all the deceased members of the GAA. He expressed sympathy to all those who had suffered bereavements in 2014.

Address of Welcome

Uinsíonn Breathneach Cathaoirleach of the East Board welcomed the delegates and wished them well. This is an exciting time for the GAA both at local and national level and the GAA should always be at the cutting edge of every community. He thanked the officer Board and the staff at MacHale Park. I know that the new officers will have the vision and knowledge to steer us into the future. He thanked Frank Harrington for his generous sponsorship and those who had helped organise convention here in East Mayo.

Óráid an Uachtaráin

Seamus Fléimeann said that it was great to see such a large gathering for convention and all for a common cause – Mayo football. He congratulated our three All Stars Keith Higgins Colm Boyle and Cillian O Connor and those who were selected to represent Ireland in the compromise rules, Kevin McLoughlin, Lee Keegan, Colm Boyle and Aidan O Shea. He welcomed the new management team and offered them his full support. He thanked James Horan for four great years. He wished all involved with Mayo teams the very best. He apologised to Kevin McStay. He was disappointed that the All Ireland semi final replay was moved out of Croke Park. He congratulated all those who had allowed their names go forward for election and the clubs who had submitted motions and hoped that everyone would accept the democratic decisions taken and that we would all leave here more united than ever in our quest to win a senior All Ireland. He wished his fellow officers well and Paddy McNicholas as he leaves office.

Standing Orders

Standing Orders were adopted on the proposal of Ollie Dillon -Ballintubber and seconded by Richard Cosgrove – Kiltane.

Óráid an Cathaoirleach

Padraig Mac Nicoláis in his address as Cathaoirleach of the Coiste mentioned the following:

1. The victories in Minor and Senior in Connacht and the All Ireland Minor C hurling win
2. The great displays of Castlebar and Kiltane.
3. The disappointments of the choice of venue for the senior replay and the result.
4. The appointment of the new senior team management and the regret of not having done things differently.
5. He spoke of the financial affairs of McHale Park and the amounts of money needed to prepare all our teams and the money raised during the year.
6. He thanked own family, his fellow officers and all those he had worked with over the past four years including three different secretaries which surly must be a record in itself.
7. As he vacated the position of chairman he hoped to be given the opportunity to serve Mayo GAA in another capacity.

Minutes

The minutes of the previous convention were adopted on the proposal of Paul Gallagher – Kiltane and seconded by J. Gibbons– Louisburgh.

Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

Tuairisc an Rúnaí

An Rúnaí covered all the main events of the year.

1. Performance of the Senior Team in winning four Connacht titles in a row marvellous performance in the quarter final win over Cork but the disappointing loss of an All-Ireland semi final replay to Kerry and the choice of venue for the replay.
2. The U-21 defeat again this year
3. The Minor Footballers back to back Connacht final wins.
4. The Sub Committees.
5. Club championships
6. The Sponsors
7. The introduction of the Black Card for 2014.
8. The future.

He thanked the staff at MacHale Park the divisional secretaries. The Connacht Council office, Croke Park, the Club Officers and his family and his fellow County Board officers. Also all those who helped out in any way in MacHale Park.

The Runai's report was adopted on the proposition of Dermot Butler Crossmolina Deel Rovers - and seconded by Mick Higgins- Kiltimagh.

Tuairisc an Chisteoir

The Cisteoir S P O Luan reported a surplus of €79,042 for the year up slightly on the previous year. The repayments on the development of MacHale Park are still of major concern. S P O Luan paid tribute to the Accountant - Michael McHugh, Auditor Mary McDermott Our Sponsors, The Gatemmen, and all the Clubs of the County for the great work they have done throughout the year. He also thanked Paddy Naughton, Tommie Goonan and Tommie Maloney, those who organised the Golf Classic in Dublin and those who pay for signs around MacHale Park.

The Treasurer's Report was adopted on the proposition of Vincent Walsh – Swinford and seconded by Ollie Dillon – Ballintubber.

The treasurer and accountant Michael McHugh answered questions from delegates on his report.

Toghachán na hOifigí

The following Officers were returned.

Patrún (Patron)	Padraic Ó Maolduin	Cathair na Márt
Uachtarán (President)	Seamús Mac An Flemmin	Belach an Doirin
Cathaoirleach (Chairman)	Micheal Ó Conghaile	Maolla- Ceathrú Mór
Leas-Cathaoirleach (Vice Chairman)	Seamús Ó Thúaigh	Breaghbhuigh
Rúnaí (Secretary)	Uinsionn Ó Nearáigh	Muine Chónnalláin
Rúnaí Cunta Assistant Secretary)	Diarmúid dé Búitlear	Crois Mhaoilina
Cisteoir (Treasurer)	S.P. O Luain	Garraí Mór
Cisteoir Cunta (Assistant Treasurer)	Gearóid Mác Aódha	Maolla- Ceathrú Mór
Oifigeach Caidreamh Poibli (Public Relations Officer)	Aodan Mac Lochlainn	Beal Atha na Muice
Ard Comhairle (Central Council Delegate)	Sean Mac Éil	Cnoc Mór
Comhairle Chonnacht 1 (Connacht Council Delegate)	Padraic Mac Niochlais	Coillte Mach
Comhairle Chonnacht 2 (Connacht Council Delegate)	Gearoid Dé Burcá	Breaghbhuigh
Oifigeach Leanáí (Children's Officer)	Padraic Breathnach	Cluain Cearbain
Oifigeach Cultúra (Cultural Officer)	Seamús Mác Giobúin	Leathardán
Oifigeach Forbartha (Development Officer)	Liam Ó Ceallaigh	Cill Miodhna
Oifigeach Oiliuna (Coaching Officer)	Padraig Ó Cearúlláin	An Páirc

RUIN 2015

Senior Leagues:

1. That all teams involved in League Divisions 1E and below be permitted to play 13 a side unless both teams have 18 players or more then they must play a 15 a side game. (Ballaghaderreen)

Referred to CCC

2. The number of nominated players who are not permitted to play on a club's second league team be increased to 18 as was previously the case. A total of 15 of these would be derived from a list of players who played in the club's highest grade Championship team the previous year. (Ardagh) Referred to CCC

3. Players that play in a club's highest grade Championship team in a given year cannot play on that club's second team in any remaining league games in that same year. (Ardagh)

Out of order

4. Where more than two teams finish level on points in a league the final positions will be determined based on the head to head results, where this is possible. (Ardagh) Out of order

5. Where a club is found to have played a nominated player in a League game that team be deducted 6 points for the first occasion. For a re-occurrence the team be relegated. (Ardagh)

Referred to CCC

6. Clubs who fail to fulfil a league fixture in leagues 1A, B, C, be deducted a further 2 points (i.e. loss of 4 points for failure to fulfil a league fixture) (Hollymount Carramore)

Referred to CCC

7. 'Clubs in the top 3 divisions of the league who fail to fulfil a fixture should be subject of a minimum fine of €1,000'. (Bonniconlon) Referred to CCC

8. The list of nominated players is drawn up by the CCC based on the referees' reports from the club's highest grade championship games from the previous year. This list would contain the 15 most used players from the previous year's highest grade championship games. This list would be circulated to the relevant clubs and it would be the clubs' responsibility to seek changes to this list. (Ardagh) Referred to CCC

9. That clubs who don't field a team to play in their final two league games be fined a minimum of €500 and also start the following season on -2 points per league game missed. (Ballintubber) **Referred to CCC**

10. Mayo Team List is released on the Thursday before the Mayo match so that club players on the county team who are not named in the first 26 can be free to play with their club that weekend. (Garrymore) **Carried**

11. That the senior league starts no later than the 1st of April 2015 in order to prevent the league running into the winter months. (Davitts) **Referred to CCC**

Club Championship:

12. That the team that tops their group in the Mayo SFC, IFC and JFC be awarded home advantage in their respective quarter finals. (Ballaghaderreen) **Lost**

13. That this convention reaffirms that no training sessions, matches or meetings involving Mayo Senior County panel members take place in the 7 days immediately before each club championship match which incidentally was approved at an earlier convention but as we all know has since being ignored by the Mayo management. Any request to change this must require the prior approval of the County Board. (Castlebar Mitchels) **Carried**

14. That all club junior, intermediate, and senior club championships have reached the quarter final stage by the 31st of July, the semi-final stage by the 31st of August and the final stage by the 30th of September. (Castlebar Mitchels) **Withdrawn**

15. That the Junior C Championship be a 13 a-side competition (Kiltimagh) **Carried**

Minor / Club U21 Championship:

16. The CCC be given the power to fix all U21 Championship matches at neutral venue. (Kiltimagh) **Lost**

17. That the U21 Championships be played over an six week period in 2015 commencing in November. (Ballaghaderreen) **Lost**

18. A fixed date annually for clubs to confirm their participation in those competitions, at least 28 days before the scheduled commencement date for the competition (Moy Davitts) **Carried**

19. Player/players seeking under GAA rule 6.7 (b) 2 to play at minor/under 21 grade must seek approval, if not before the closing date, within 14 days of the closing date for the confirmation by clubs of their participation (Moy Davitts) **Carried**

20. No transfers of players will be permitted under rule 6.7 (b) 2 once the first game has been played in the competition in which the club is seeking to participate. (Moy Davitts)
Withdrawn

21. In the U21 Championship that the group games be played on the Tuesday/Wednesday following the Senior and Intermediate Championships. (Davitts) **Referred to CCC**

Other:

22. That all clubs insure that referees from their club are paid up members of the club itself before affiliation at the start of each season. (Ballintubber) **Carried**

23. That the County Board hold a meeting with all club delegates on a monthly basis and that the day of the monthly meeting be adopted in standing orders (for example, the first Monday of every month, the second Tuesday of every month) (Ballintubber) **Carried**

24. That an e-mail be sent by the County Board secretary to all County Board Delegates and Club Secretaries five days in advance as notification of a County Board Meeting and that the minutes of the monthly meetings be sent to delegates and secretaries within five days of a monthly meeting being held (Ballintubber) **Carried**

25. That four clubs be allowed to address each monthly County Board meeting, for five minutes each, to explain how their own affairs are being conducted, and how they can improve their relations with the County Board (Ballintubber) **Carried**

26. That Cumann Luchleas Gael negotiate with Willis Insurance brokers a reduction for Clubs in the excess on Property claims from €4,000 to a sensible affordable €150. (Ballintubber) **Carried**

27. That the County Board PRO insure that all of the weekend results from Mayo GAA be included in the national newspapers every Monday morning and also on RTÉ Aertel (Ballintubber) **Carried**

28. In the event of the need to appoint a manager to the County Senior football team in the future that a more professional and transparent process is adhered to in order to process candidates for this position. (Castlebar Mitchels) **Carried**

29. That the club County Board delegate be the club Chairperson. (Castlebar Mitchels)
Withdrawn

30. That Coiste Bainistí of Chondae Maigheo prepares a document outlining the job description and procedures to be followed for selection and appointment of all team managers and present this to Coiste Chondae Maigheo at its March meeting for approval. This document is thereafter reviewed each September and the amended document is presented to Coiste Chondae Maigheo at a September meeting for approval. (Castlebar Mitchels) **Carried**

31. That Coiste Bainisti Chondae Maigheo prepares a comprehensive annual income expenditure and Capital budget for all its activities under its approval and presents this to Coiste Chondae Maigheo at its January meeting for approval and also recommend that this particular budget be reviewed at the end of each quarter and the outcome of this review is presented to Coiste Chondae Maigheo at its meetings thereafter. (Castlebar Mitchels)
Carried

32. That where amalgamated underage clubs has sufficient numbers in their constitute parts, to field teams in their own right and under their own names that they be permitted to do same and those regulations be adjusted to allow for same. (Lahardane) **Carried**

33. County Board coaching personnel be made available to assist clubs. Coaching at club level is conducted by club members on a voluntary basis. A consistent quality of coaching is required to ensure the players coached are getting the best possible training available. The availability of County Board coaches can impact positively on players but also improve the quality of each clubs coaches and ensure a high level of coaching quality amongst club members. (Kilmeena)
Carried

Inter County:

34. That all All-Ireland Semi-Finals be played in Croke Park without exception (Ballintubber)
Withdrawn

35. That the All-Ireland Senior football and hurling championship semi-finals and semi-final replays all be played in Croke Park and this is bearing in mind that the American football is scheduled to return to Croke Parke again in August 2016. (Castlebar Mitchels) (Kiltimagh)
Carried

Provincial Club:

36. That the Connacht Council be lobbied for Connacht Club Intermediate Championship to be played on home and away basis. i.e. County winners play their Connacht semi-final at their County venue on alternate years (based on current format) (Ballyhaunis) **Carried**

That concluded the business.

Tuarascáil an Rúnaí – 2015.

Another eventful year here in Mayo where we remained in the news headlines for much longer than we should have. Our senior footballers retained their league status in Div 1, put a fifth Connacht title in a row in July and were beaten in the championship by the eventual winners at the exact same stage as last year, in a replay of a semi final .After this defeat the panel held a meeting at which they took a vote of no confidence in the joint managers which led to the resignation of Pat Holmes and Noel Connolly and once again a new management team had to be put in place.

The year ended very well on the playing fields where all three of our Club champions went on to capture their provincial titles. Congratulations to Lee Keegan who was vice captain of the Irish Compromise Rules team who beat the Australians in their Test match and also to Aidan O Shea who was part of that team and made a handsome contribution. Both men were also honoured as 2015 All Stars and Diarmuid O Connor was named Young Player of the year and becomes the second member of the family to hold such an honour following in the footsteps of older brother Cillian.

Congratulations also to Kenny Feeney who received a Christy Ring All Star in hurling.

In handball young Niall Joyce of Claremorris had a great year capturing three All Ireland titles at minor grade.

This convention will see some changes in our elected officers. J.P. Lambe steps down as treasurer after nearly twenty years in the most demanding of posts. He was the second longest serving county treasurer in the country.

This Board and the whole county owe a huge debt of gratitude to J.P. for his services. He took over as treasurer when finances were in a very bad state and right from year one and all through his tenure he has consistently balanced the books and turned a profit year after year. I thank him personally for his courtesy and kindness to me at all times and I wish him well in his retirement. His family too deserve a mention as they were four square behind him and helped him greatly behind the scenes.

Thanks also to Aidan McLoughlin who has been PRO for the past five years. This has become an increasingly demanding role and Aidan has carried out this task with total professionalism.

Our President Jim Flemming has now completed his two year term. I hope Jim enjoyed his time and his joy could not be masked when, at the end of his reign had the pleasure of seeing his native Ardnaree not alone capture the County Junior title but add the provincial crown a few weeks later. I wish all their successors the very best.

At the outset I would like to thank my own family for their support and patience throughout the year.

FBD

Mayo started their 2015 campaign on January 4th with a home game in MacHale Park and came away with a hard fought but a good win over NUIG. A goal from Mark Ronaldson in the second half helped by four good points from Neil Douglas gave the new management a winning start 1-13 to 1-11. A week later they faced Sligo IT in Ballina again a good start while playing into a stiff breeze paved the way for a comfortable 0-15 to 0-6 win. Alan Freeman hit four excellent points and many of the newcomers also impressed.

These two results left us needing a win in our final group game against Roscommon to secure a place in the final. However this game in McHale Park was a major step up in intensity and physicality. We were out muscled and were lucky only to be beaten on a score line of Mayo 1-10 Roscommon 2-12. Alan Freeman scoring a second half penalty but the result meant that we did not make the final. Nevertheless many new players got a chance to stake a claim on the senior panel for the National League and some took full advantage.

Allianz League

February 1st saw us open our 2015 National League with an away trip to face the All Ireland champions Kerry in Killarney. After a shaky start Mayo settled well and a goal in the first half by Alan Freeman gave us a cushion of four points at the break. Kerry dominated the early stages of the second half and had cut the deficit to three points before Kevin McLoughlin hit a cracking goal that restored our advantage and Mayo held on for an unexpected seven point victory. Mayo 2-11 Kerry 0-10. These were two precious league points away from home and the only sad feature was the serious collar bone injury to new comer Evan Regan early in the game. Evan had started well contributing a fine point before his departure. This was disappointing for Evan especially so early in the game and the season, but we were delighted that he was released from hospital and was able to join his team mates later that evening at their meal. It was a good day overall and many new lads acquitted themselves very well against quality opposition. It was a good start also for the new management team.

Round 2 a week later this time to face Tyrone. This was not a good day for us as Tyrone played with all fifteen players behind the ball and Mayo found it difficult to get scores. A fifteen wides tally did not help the cause but a goal from Cillian O Connor gave us a life line but we failed to kick on and were beaten by four points Mayo 1-07 Tyrone 1-11.

A two week break before our next fixture which was a home game against Monaghan. This was a very important game as both teams were on equal points having each won a game. The early exchanges were close until the thirtieth minute Mayo held a slender one point lead. Some moments later a straight red card for the Monaghan number 11 gave Mayo a numerical advantage, and in a scrappy few minutes before half time Mayo tacked on a few points to hold a three point lead at the break. Monaghan started the second half brightly and scored two early points. Mid way through they had a second player red carded and goals by Aidan O Shea, Alan Freeman and Miki Sweeney secured an easy 3-14 to 11 point victory and increased the score difference greatly, despite the fact that we lost both of our starting midfielders Seamús O Shea black card and Donal Vaughan injury before half time. It was great to see three under 21 players start this game Stephen Coen and Patrick Durcan in the half back line and Diarmuid O Connor at no 12.

Nice also to see both Danny Kirby and Micheál Forde enter the fray during the second half.

This was the first time our newly installed automatic ticket scanning turn stiles system was activated, and a crowd of close to seven thousand watched Mayo record their first Allianz League home win of the season. It was also very encouraging to see that Croke Park had the confidence to fit these automatic scanners at MacHale Park which is the first and only venue in the country to have them. Although the stiles were manned for the first few occasions just to help patrons get used of operating them, we can now have eight stiles where season ticket holders can pass through an automatic scanner system. Little things like this help to keep MacHale Park up there as one of the leading venues outside of Croke Park.

At half time in this game we had a unique event where a visiting South African Gaels team were introduced to the crowd and received a fantastic Mayo welcome. They had played a game on Clare Island the evening before and just before the game had a short game against Bourishoole as part of their preparations for participation in the world games final later in Abu Dhabi.

Round four and Mayo were on the road again. This time northward to face Derry in Celtic Park. Mayo started brightly with a Jason Doherty point after less than a minute. Scores were hard to come by despite the wind advantage but a first half goal by Mark Ronaldson helped Mayo to hold a four point lead at half time.

Playing against the wind in the second half meant that everyone would have to work extremely hard to hold on to this lead. This they done and held a two point advantage near the end when substitute Miki Sweeney scored a goal that looked to have sealed the issue. However as injury time approached Mayo conceded a soft goal and suddenly we were desperately defending to keep out what would have been a match winning goal for Derry but excellent defending left Mayo two point winners on final score Mayo 2-12 Derry 1-13. Again this was two valuable league points on the road with a hard fought but deserved victory.

Saturday March 14th in round five Dublin came to Castlebar, and a massive crowd of thirteen and a half thousand filed into MacHale Park for the 7.00pm throw in. This was one of the largest crowds at a league game in Mayo. The home team started brightly and a Jason Doherty point inside a minute followed by another quick point left us two up. However this great start proved to be a false dawn as the Dubs cut loose and hit two goals and several points in an awesome spell for them and had the two points secured practically by half time. This was not a good night for Mayo football and the final score of Dublin 2-18 to Mayo 0-10 could have been even worse .

The huge Mayo following had absolutely nothing to cheer about only to admire the style and quality of the rampant Dublin team. We can have no excuses and no question about it the best team won.

Round six on March 29th and Mayo were again on the road with the long journey away to Cork in Pairc Uí Rinn as part of a double header, as Cork hurlers were in a quarter final against Wexford. Mayo had a lot at stake in this game. Firstly they had to regain their confidence after the mauling by Dublin and secondly there were two valuable league points on offer. A win would have secured a semi final place and anything else would have put us under a little pressure. On a day when a strong breeze was blowing right down the pitch Mayo were aided by this in the first half, but got off to a very poor start. Two early points by Cork were followed by a soft goal and suddenly Mayo were five points down. However to their credit Mayo fought back and were a point up at half time. The second half was always going to be difficult as the breeze was a major factor. Mayo put in a heroic performance and some brilliant defending coupled with some fine points by returning midfielder Tom Parsons had us two points up entering stoppage time. A two point lead is always dangerous and so it proved it again, as Cork made a raid up the field and a goal was scored coming from a fisted ball right at the death. This was a sucker punch as Mayo had done everything right until that moment. There was no time left to salvage a draw and Mayo left empty handed on a final score of Cork 2-07 Mayo 0-12. Never the less they had given their all and deserved more. They had restored pride again and the final round was now critical.

The final round was a home fixture v Donegal. Both sides needed a win to secure a semi final spot. Again a huge crowd came to MacHale Park on Easter Sunday April 5th to see a very defensive game unfold. Mayo to their credit matched the very defensive set up of the visitors. At half time Donegal led by a single point having scored an excellent first half goal. The second half was largely dominated by Mayo but some wayward shooting did not help their cause and as the game entered the closing stages Mayo held a slender one point lead. They defended bravely but right at the death Donegal got the equalising point and the game was over. For the second week running Mayo were caught and scored just twelve points in each of the games. Results on the day meant that Donegal qualified for the semi final having a better score difference than ourselves but we had held our position in div 1 which was most important. Overall our league performance was a little disappointing having been so close to semi final qualification and yet not getting there. A noticeable statistic was that out of four home games we only secured three points.

Championship

The first championship game for Mayo in 2015 was a semi final against Galway in Salthill. Galway had the home advantage and had at that stage already played two championship games and had come through quiet easily against both New York and Leitrim. Mayo had to wait until June 14th for their championship opener. This was a full ten weeks since their last competitive game. Mayo started brightly and at one stage in the first half had a three point, lead thanks to two splendid efforts from Andy Moran. Just before half time Galway hit for a super goal but credit to Mayo they hit back and scored a point to level the match at the break. Mayo broke from the blocks right from the beginning of the second half and hit 1-3 without reply, the goal coming from a little bit of good fortune. This gave Mayo the foothold and although Galway did score a second half goal Mayo finished with four points to spare 1-15 to 2-08. Aidan O Shea gave a powerful display and Cillian O Connor kicked nine points to get us over the line. The ten week layoff showed in Mayo's display as they were rusty and not sharp, never the less they got the job done and made it through to the Connacht final.

The venue for the Connacht final was unknown as Sligo had qualified with an unexpected victory over Roscommon. The venue was Sligo's call and eventually Hyde Park in Roscommon was chosen. Mayo really hit the ground running and inside ten minutes had hit 2-04. Goals coming from Seamus O Shea and Cillian O Connor. The Mayo movement and crisp hand passing in that opening period was as good as I have seen and were full value for their big lead. Further first half goals by a magnificent Aiden O Shea and at twenty seven minutes Mayo had no wide and had 4-08 on the board. In reality this game was settled early and in splendid fashion. Two more goals came in the second half one by Lee Keegan and the other by Aiden O Shea to give him a hat trick and he finished the game with 3-04 and Mayo did what they came to do, win, and move on. There were several excellent performances throughout the field and Tom Parsons at midfield gave a great display and the work rate of Diarmuid O Connor, who finished with four points, and Jason Doherty was worth noting. The contribution of a goal and seven points by Cillian was another feature and Mayo finished with victory on a huge score line of 6-25 to 2-11. They were now in the quarter finals and that was the aim going into the Connacht final.

The quarterfinal on Sat Aug 8th was a six pm throw in and once again Donegal were the opposition. This was a tense game as Donegal were coming into the game with a good win under their belt and Mayo had nothing since their Connacht final. Exchanges were close in the opening period and coming up to half time only a point separated the sides. Just as the break approached Aidan O Shea fielded a high ball in around the Donegal goal and despite the close attention of three defenders he turned a scored a fantastic goal to give Mayo a four point half time lead.

Mayo were in control during the second half and a fine Lee Keegan goal gave us a decent cushion. The deployment of Barry Moran in around the full back line was a master tactic by the Mayo management that worked very well and Mayo ended with a 2-13 to 0-11 victory and were back in another All Ireland semi final. The only damper on the day was the dismissal of Kevin Keane shortly after being introduced. This decision was appealed and the CHC deemed the infraction to be a lesser offence and the red card was rescinded to a yellow.

The semi final was another huge occasion and was played in front of a sell out crowd. The panic for tickets in the run up was unbelievable, but at the end of the day 98 per cent of the club needs were satisfied.

The game itself was a tense affair and both teams were cautious. Lee Keegan opened the scoring with a fine point but Dublin got an early penalty and put them in the driving seat. Mayo were finding it difficult to score from play, but Cillian kept us in touch with some excellent free taking. We went in at half time just three points down.

In the second half Mayo started brightly and put a few early points on the board however we just could get the equaliser and Dublin got their spell and added a few points before getting a goal that put them seven points clear and things did not look good.

What was to happen in the last ten minutes no one could have imagined? Keith Higgins started the revival with a great point and Colm Boyle was brought down for a penalty after a great run, There was unbelievable pressure on Cillian as he stepped up to take the penalty and the hopes of the county rested on his shoulders. He coolly slotted it home and suddenly the place erupted and Mayo were on the rise. Andy, Alan Freeman and Diarmuid all scored in that frantic spell. Mayo done the impossible and had drawn level. The last few minutes were hectic and Stephen Cluxton got a chance to win it with a late late free but it just sailed wide. Every Mayo heart was racing as no one knew what was to happen. Diarmuid Connolly was dismissed late on.

The game finished level Cillian O Connor had kicked 1-09 and Mayo finished with 1-15 to Dublin 2-12. Amazing stuff and it had to be all done in a replay fixed for the following Saturday again at Croke Park.

The six day turnaround was tough as the replay was on Sat Sept 5th. Big pressure to get tickets distributed, but on this occasion Croke Park had learned a lesson and had not allowed as many tickets to be sold on line and the club and family tickets were all filled as requested. The game itself started at a blistering pace and the sides were level at half time and Mayo had a good spread of scores. We went four up during the second half thanks to a Cillian O Connor goal but a black card for Seamús O Shea and a few other little things swung the balance in Dublin's favour. They finished stronger as the Mayo lads seemed to tire after two titanic battles .the end result was another semi final replay defeat on a score line of Mayo 1-14 Dublin 3-15. This was heart break but we have to keep trying and improve every year.

What happened in the aftermath of that defeat came as a shock. The players met with the management and told them that the panel had a meeting and had decided that they no longer had confidence in the management. No reasons were given which left everyone confused.

The joint managers Noel Connolly and Pat Holmes were left really with no option but resign, which they done very promptly. Their swift decision saved a lot of public debate.

They are very proud Mayo men and out of loyalty to this county they took their decision. They were deeply hurt by what had happened and they have every right to be upset by the events.

They have families and lots of pride and to see their names and pictures spread across media pages is not their style. They had put in a lot of time and energy into the whole operation and had finished the year in exactly the same position as the previous year. This is not always achievable in year one of a new management and they expected to build on that foundation in their next season, however they did not get that chance and I would like to thank them both for their contribution to this county not alone to the senior team in 2015 but for all they had done for this county in the past. I wish them both well and hope that they go on to have lots more involvement in this organisation in the future.

Scór

Congratulations to Aghamore Scór na nOg set dancers who captured an All Ireland title in the City West Dublin on Feb 14 th and indeed the young group from Kilmovee who represented the county at the quiz on the same day and acquitted themselves very well. James Gibbons and his cultural committee have plugged away all year and I urge all clubs to give their full support to the Scór competition for 2016. It was re launched recently at the Connacht centre and as next year is an historic one every effort should be made to make Scór a huge success.

Divisional Meetings

County Board Officers had regional meetings with each division during the month of February. These were very useful and among the topics discussed were the meeting calendar, the fixtures planner, coaching, Health and wellbeing, insurance, Scór and finance. It was particularly pleasing to note that all but one club attended. Following on from that, officer training was provided for all clubs. This was conducted by Croke Park staff and proved very useful for all club officers. Unfortunately not all clubs attended and this was disappointing.

Aogán O Fearghail

Congratulations to Aogán O Fearghail who became the 38th President of our great organisation at congress in his home county of Cavan on Feb 28th last. We wish him well as he faces the massive challenge of leading the GAA for the next three years. A great honour for himself his family and his club Drumgoon Éire Óg. I think he summed it all up in his opening speech when he quoted from the poet Seamus Heaney “No matter what heights you achieve always keep your feet on the ground because that way no one will be beneath you”. Thanks to the outgoing president Liam O Neill and we wish him well in his retirement.

Hurling

There was a change of management at senior level just as the season was about to begin and this left the new management of J.P.Coen and his backroom team very little time to prepare for the upcoming competitions. At county level our senior hurlers struggled in the league but still held their league status by virtue of a win over Donegal in the league relegation play off. Unfortunately they lost their Christy Ring status and their Connacht Intermediate crown later in the year. The Minors reached the All Ireland Minor C final but were beaten by Tyrone in a replay to spoil their three in a row bid. John Hopkins as chair and Eugene Connolly as secretary with their small committee are doing a fine job in the hurling Board.

County Competitions

The concluding stages of our senior championship saw the big three in West Mayo along with Knockmore emerging to the semi finals. Neighbours Breaffy and Castlebar reached the final but this did not prove to be the spectacle that people had thought as Castlebar proved to be much too powerful and won comfortably, and later added the league title. Hollymount/Carramore over came last year's disappointment when they took the intermediate championship title with a hard earned victory over neighbours The Neale, while in the Junior final two North Mayo clubs met in the final to make it a third derby as Ardnaree and Killala reached the decider. A super display by The Sarsfields saw them cruise to an easy victory and erase all memories of past disappointments.

Congratulations to all three clubs and associated managements for adding the Connacht titles to their county successes. We wish all three well in their All Ireland semi finals in the new year. The introduction of the Junior B and C championships has given a greater edge to junior football competition in the county. Ballycastle made headlines when they took the Junior B title and won for that famous club their first county title since 1939. While Kiltimagh took the Junior C honours. Our leagues were keenly contested and finished in reasonable time thanks to the availability of starred games. Congratulations to all winners.

U-21

The U-21 team again took part in the Hastings Cup. They opened their campaign on January 3rd with an away game in Tubberclare against Westmeath. Three first half goals paved the way for a comfortable win on a score line of Mayo 3-7 Westmeath 0-6. The following week Mayo played host to Monaghan in Ballina. Two first half goals by TJ Byrne and Liam Irwin plus a strong breeze let Mayo ahead by twelve points at half time ,and finished 2-11 to 0-7 clear winners. The last game in the group stage was again in Ballina where Mayo faced a dogged Wicklow side. This game was in the balance for long periods but a strong finish left Mayo ahead by a few points and thus qualified for a semi final spot. The semi final was a week later with Roscommon the opposition in a game that was played in ideal conditions in Lanesborough. A goal by Brian Reape in the first half had Mayo a point up at the break. The second half was a struggle for the most part with Mayo under a lot of pressure. Despite this a great defensive performance had the side's level entering injury time and everyone had settled for extra time. However Mayo conceded an unfortunate goal and a point and left the full time scores Mayo 1-06 Roscommon 1-10. The final score was not a true reflection on the game as Mayo was right there until the finish.

These Hastings Cup games were great preparation for the Connacht Championship where Leitrim were the opposition. March 11th in MacHale Park was the opening game in the Championship. Leitrim packed their defence in the first half and Mayo found it difficult to make any inroads .Despite kicking ten first half wides Mayo still had a two point cushion at the break thanks to a first half goal by Michael Hall. Three second half goals by Adam Gallagher, Mathew Ruane and Diarmuid O Connor gave Mayo a comfortable 4-07 to Leitrim 0-08 victory and set up a Connacht semi-final meeting with Galway. It was good to see Conor Loftus with a welcome return after a long injury lay off.

The semi final with Galway was played on a beautiful evening in MacHale Park on Sat March 21st. Mayo started well and held their own early on. An early injury to Darren McHale and the loss of Diarmuid O Connor through a Black Card disrupted the team and Mayo conceded a goal before half time. In the second half Galway got a firm grip and at one stage had pushed their advantage to six points and looked like they were going to run away with it. To their credit Mayo stuck at it and began to reel in the lead. However they ran out of time and were beaten by four points Mayo 0-11 Galway 1-12. Overall we can have no complaints and were beaten by a better team. This was disappointing as we had home advantage and had hoped for another tilt at Roscommon in the Connacht final.

Niall Heffernan and his backroom team stepped down after the season ended and many thanks to Niall and his team for the huge effort he put in over the last few seasons and we wish him well in the years ahead. The U-21 grade is a difficult age group to manage as there are so many obstacles to be overcome at that time of year, and often times it is difficult to get your whole squad available for training or even games.

Michael Solan of Ballaghaderreen has now taken over the U-21 team and we wish him well. There will be no Hasting Cup competition for Mayo in 2016 but hopefully there will be another four county Tournament of which we will be part of in the new year.

Junior

The same management team of Sean McLoughlin, John Gilmore, Daire McManamon and Padraig Costello took on the task of preparing a Mayo junior team for the Connacht Championship. The picking of a team for the opening game was difficult as there were a round of league games in the county on the week end before. The management were not sure if all their players would come through this. They lost some high profile players through injury namely senior panellists Micheál Forde and Darren McHugh and under 21 star Brian Reape, but they still managed to send a high quality team out on opening day. The semi final was against Sligo in Ballina on Wed May 6th. Mayo started brightly and hit some fine scores early on. A fine display by Andrew Farrell in the opening half where he scored 1-03 and added another point in the second half along with an Eoin Donohue first half goal had Mayo in control. However as time moved on Mayo started to tire and it took a fine save from Blake Forkan in goal to deny Sligo late on and Mayo held on for a 1-10 to 0-10 victory and a place in the Connacht final against Galway in Carrick-on-Shannon on Sunday May 17th.

The Connacht final was a curtain raiser to the senior game Leitrim v Galway in Carrick on Shannon. The loss of team captain Cathal Freeman before the game was a huge loss, but the additions of Michael Forde and Adam Gallagher to the panel added great strength to the squad. The game opened up at a fast pace and Mayo went into an early lead. However a flurry of quick unanswered points had Galway back in control. A first half goal by Andrew Farrell put Mayo in the driving seat.

A great second half display with scores coming from Damien McGing, Darragh Joyce and Darren McHugh had Mayo in front all the way. Galway as expected piled on the pressure in search of a winner, but some excellent defending by goalkeeper Blake Forkan and defenders Pat Barrett and Barry Leonard kept the goal intact. Great midfield displays by Pdraig Feerick who was captain on the day and Peter Collins along with the second half substitutions of afore mentioned Forde and Gallagher helped Mayo land their first Connacht Junior title since 2012 on a score line of Mayo 1-12 Galway 0-13. The only damper on the day was the injury to Conor Horan late in the second half after having a fine game and contributing a point as well.

The Connacht final victory put Mayo straight into the All Ireland semi final. There they faced most unusual opposition, Kilkenny, who had been newly crowned British Junior champions.

The game was played in Tullamore on Sat July 25th and again the management had been struck with injuries in the few days before the game. Adam Gallagher had undergone surgery and Micheál Forde had his appendix removed while full forward Andrew Farrell had suffered a shoulder injury in a club game. The absence of these players afforded a great opportunity to others and players like John Hutton and Ronan Malee, who finished with three points all made great contributions. Mayo started brightly and despite the fact that Kilkenny packed their defence Mayo still managed to pick off some early scores and then Damien McGing scored a first half goal to give Mayo an early lead. Mayo lost their way for periods in the second half as the physical Kilkenny side began to come more into the game. However Mayo held on for a 1-12 to 0-08 victory in the end, Gavin Conway had a fine game at no 10 and kicked four excellent points. They got the job done and like every semi final they are there to be won , that was achieved and Mayo had qualified for the All Ireland final.

The news that the All Ireland final was to precede the senior quarter final in Croke Park was a great boost for all involved. The fact that these junior players were to get a chance to play in Croke Park in front of a bigger audience was indeed a great motivation in the run up to the final where Kerry were the opponents. Again in the final on Aug 8th Mayo had to line out without the services of Michael Forde, Andrew Farrell and Adam Gallagher. They found the going very tough in the opening period as Kerry were a slick outfit who had many players with intercounty experience. An early injury to Ronan Malee meant that Andrew Farrell had to be introduced. His introduction had an immediate effect and Mayo hit a purple patch with Farrell kicking some wonderful points, five in all.

Kerry weathered the storm and hit a few goals which put the game out of Mayo's reach. The introduction of Michael Forde could not stem the tide and although all of the players gave it everything they still could not match the opposition and were beaten by a much better side on a final score line of Mayo 0-10 Kerry 2-18.

It was a wonderful journey overall and the whole squad and management enjoyed it immensely.

Thanks to the management and the players for a gallant effort in difficult circumstances.

Darragh Doherty

The whole of the county and beyond were shocked to hear of the sudden passing of one of our All Ireland Minor winning 2013 team Darragh Doherty R.I.P. in a road traffic accident on Sun Aug 23rd 2015. Darragh had lit up the minor championship in 2013 and we had all hoped to see him back in the county colours next year at U-21 level but alas it was not to be.

Sincere sympathy to his parents, family and friends and the Kilmaine club where he played all his football, and to all other families throughout the county who experienced the loss of loved ones throughout the year.

Stewards

Gerry Burke as chief steward in MacHale Park organised a two day training course during the month of June for all our stewards. Although many of our men had already been trained, having done this course some years ago, nevertheless it was used as a refresher and also provided necessary training for any new stewards. This was a well attended and vital few days as it keeps us all up to date with new changes. Thanks to all the volunteers who attended and to those who gained certification in event controlling having attended a series of lectures ran by Carlow IT in the Connacht Centre during the spring. The four who completed this course, Gerry Burke, James Rocke, Jerry Henry and Vincent Neary again as volunteers and representing the county were conferred at a ceremony in Croke Park in late May. Thanks also to the many other volunteers who helped out in MacHale Park throughout the year, be it in the office or as scanners on league days or as gate people.

Connacht Colleges

St. Gerald's College contested the Connacht Colleges "A" semi final against Roscommon CBS on a terrible day at the end of February in the COE and were narrowly beaten. In the B competition St. Louis Kiltimagh were also beaten at semi final stage. However there was success for Our Lady's secondary school Belmullet who put back to back Connacht final victories when, after extra time they overcame a Galway School Colaiste Iognaid, who contained two sons of well know former Mayo footballer Anthony Finnerty by a few points to secure another famous victory in their final. On the same day Ballyhaunis Community School had a great victory in the Connacht Colleges Senior Hurling C final, with a win over Woodford. Congratulations to both schools on their success. Congratulations also to Santa Maria Louisbourg who also captured a college's D final.

Cairde Mhaigh Eo

The changes to registration of existing members did not prove to be inconvenient and most people renewed their membership. We are really grateful for the continued support of all members of Cairde Mhaigh Eo. Thanks also to those who support all our other fundraising ventures throughout the year.

Sponsorship

Thanks to all our sponsors. Elverys continue to be our main sponsors. Trenlaur Catering, Breaffy House Hotel, Smyth's Toys, Eddie Egan Jewellers JJ Burke O'Neill's and Lucozade Sport have all remained with us again this year. Many individuals and companies continue to support the Board with their signs around MacHale Park and we are most grateful for their support and to Tommie Goonan for his efforts in ensuring that they do.

Sub Committees

Our sub committees continue to carry out their duties with great efficiency. The CCC under new chairman Seamus Tuohy had as always a busy year as had Bord na nOg with its new leaders Con Moynihan as chair and Dermot Butler as secretary.

The PR group under Aiden McLoughlin keep the public informed on all our activities and are continually updating details especially on match days.

Padraig Carolan as coaching officer continues to work tirelessly along with his committee and have revamped the whole coaching structures this year and Seamus Tuohy and Mike Connolly have given great help in this area. Willie Kelly has settled well in his role as Development officer.. Padraic Walsh as Children's officer is always available if needed. Thanks to our Connacht Council delegates of Paddy McNicholas and Gerry Burke and to Sean MacHale at Central Council.

Our Hearings committee were again very busy in the year gone by and thanks to P.J.McGrath and the various others for their time and availability sometimes at short notice for dealing with all the requests placed before them. During the course of the year a lot more individuals and clubs sought hearings resulting from proposed penalties being issued by the CCC following match reports by referees. Some of the CCC decisions were upheld but many were overturned and this has to be very disappointing for both the referees who have to make split second decisions during games, and also for the CCC who act on those referee reports.

The health and wellbeing committee have put in a big year under Seamus Tuohy and many new initiatives were put in place.

Some serious matters have come to light during the year following incidents that occurred on the football fields of this county. Players, managers, club officials and supporters have a huge responsibility and care must be taken at all times. Thanks also to the many stewards and other volunteers who gave so willingly of their time both in the office at peak times and around the grounds of MacHale Park to ensure the smooth running of all our games and activities for the year. To Phil Heneghan our grounds man for the way that the pitches and dressing rooms are maintained and to Sean Julian and his staff for their courtesy and efficiency at all times.

Our administrator Michael Cummins deserves special mention as he has put in huge hours for the services of this Board. His contribution goes a way beyond the call of duty and I thank him personally for all he has done.

Neil Douglas was part of our staff but left the office during the year to pursue a new career. Thanks Neil for your help and courtesy and I wish you well in your new employment. Kevin McDonagh replaced Neill on a part time basis and has been a great help in the office

Thanks to John Prenty and his staff in the Connacht Council office and the Croke Park for their help all through the year. Thanks to the media both national and local for their coverage of all GAA activities.

Thanks also to all our referees, officials, gate men clubs and Divisional Boards and delegates without whose cooperation we would not survive.

Thanks in a special way to my fellow officers Mike Connolly Seamus Tuohy and J.P.Lambe for all their help in what was a most difficult and challenging year.

The Future

This year will see many changes of officers at Divisional Board level as in many cases they have served their five years. Clubs will also see many new officers take up the challenge of running this association. The need and deserve full support and I would encourage members to do this in order to help them succeed.

The Ard Stiúrthóir Padraic Duffy towards the end of the year published a discussion document on Player Overtraining and Burnout, and the GAA Fixtures Calendar. I would recommend that all members would read it. It is weighted heavily in favour of the clubs. Clubs are in decline as a result of burnout and fixture overcrowding and now there is a chance for all GAA leaders both local and national to sell and deliver these proposals. Some of the proposals will go before Congress while the rest will be dealt with by management.

The main proposals that I encourage you all to support are that

- The minor age at intercounty will be U-17.
- Discontinue the League Div 1 semi finals.
- Discontinue the U-21 football championship at inter county.
- Discontinue the Intercounty Junior football championship.
- Extra time in all Championship matches.
- Bring forward All Ireland finals by two weeks.
- Release non match day panel members back to clubs.
- Introduce a calendar – year fixtures schedule.

Finally I want to wish you all health and happiness for the year ahead, on and off the pitch. Sonas an t-Seisiúir oraibh agus go mbeirimid go léir beo ar an am seo arís le cúnamh Dé

Uinsíonn Ó Nearaigh (Rúnaí)

Competitions Control Committee Report 2015

2015 was again a successful year after a challenging start in the 1st round of our Senior leagues, recovery was fast and all leagues and County Championships games went on to be completed by 1st week in November.

Our leagues went well in all divisions with the addition of our starred games ,which we had 4 this year, all I can say congratulations to all winners , teams promoted etc.

A special mention to the Aghamore club who had teams in 3 of our senior divisions, a fantastic achievement for this rural club in its development and progress in spite of emigration and all that goes with it.

Our Championship in all grades went well, congratulations to our senior champions Castlebar Mitchell's who beat near neighbours Breaffy, Hollymount Carramore Intermediate Champions who beat neighbours Neale , Ardnaree Junior A Champions who beat Killala, Jnr B winners Ballycastle who beat Breaffy B, and Kiltimagh B who beat Moygonagh in Junior C Final.

A special word for Ballycastle who collected their first adult championship since 1939 when they beat Breaffy in the County Jnr B Final a hugh milestone for a GAA club that has been hit hard by emigration and rural depopulation over the years.

Connaught Club Champions:

Congratulation must go to all our 3 Connaught Champions: Ardnaree Connaught Jnr Champions, Hollymount Carramore Connaught Intermediate Champions and Castlebar Mitchell's our Connaught Senior Winners, this has no doubt capped a great year for club football within the County and all we can do now is wish all three clubs the very best in the All Ireland series and they will have the support of the County and the province behind them.

I must mention with all three clubs from the County involved in the All Ireland series would it not benefit those clubs and the welfare of our club players if this series was completed within this calendar year.

Mayo Hurling :

4 Senior clubs in County -Castlebar Mitchels Hurling Club,Ballyhaunis,Tooreen and Westport.

Hurling Competitions 2015.

Senior Hurling League: Played on round robin basis, Castlebar Mitchels and Ballyhaunis contested final with Castlebar Mitchels been victors. This was Castlebar Mitchels first senior hurling title in 60 years, a special congratulations to them.

- **Senior Championship.(Sponsored by Jim Hogan Couriers Westport)**

Played on round robin basis, top two teams went through to county A final Tyrell Cup, (Ballyhaunis and Tooreen), Ballyhaunis the winners,

Teams who finished third and fourth contested B final Early Cup (Castlebar Mitchels and Westport). This was the first year we had a B final. Castlebar Mitchels were the winners of the B Final.

It meant that all teams were in action up to October.

A proposal is being submitted to Connacht Council by Mayo hurling requesting that winners of B competition would participate in the Connacht Junior Championship in 2016.

- **Connaught Intermediate Championship:**

Ballyhaunis were beaten by Four Roads Roscommon in Connacht Intermediate Championship semi final.

- **U/21 Championship:**

U21 Championship: 3 teams participated, Castlebar Mitchels Hurling Club, Ballyhaunis, Tooreen.

Winners -Castlebar Mitchels who defeated Tooreen in the final.

U/21 Football Championship.

U/ 21 is a challenge for us all and much debated at all levels through the recent published Discussion Paper on player overtraining and Burnout and the GAA fixture Calendar.

We must ask the question:

- Is the competition relevant within our calendar?
- Are players enjoying the competition?
- Is it played at the right time of year?
- Are we ignoring the fact that come November players just exhausted after a long season and looking for a break from club football,

- College commitments, those guys may just after a long season of both club and county football and just beginning a new college football season that may take the successful colleges up to February march of the following year,

Those are just some of the questions we are being asked going forward if the competition is to remain competitive , attractive to our club fixture calendar and above all ask yourself is player's welfare protected.

Discussion Paper on player overtraining and Burnout and the GAA fixture Calendar gives us the opportunities to reform our Club U/21 competition, if we as a unit are committed to both to the future of our club younger footballers and to the long term welfare of our players,

If our Association decides to discontinue the County U/21 Championship.

- Will this be our opportunity to streamline our fixture calendar in a more structured and planned way?
- Will it give us the opportunity to give clubs and our players some certainty to our fixture calendar?

If this competition is played at the right time of the year is this the magnet in drawing past Bord NOG players back into their clubs for club U/21 games and hopefully other competitions into the club future.

If we remove the inter county competition u/21 it may give us the opportunity in playing our club U/21 competition at a more favourable time of year where issues with pitches, weather, players unavailability , player welfare , all may be removed within reason

We cannot continue to ignore the issue, what is certain is that if we do nothing there is only one result, there is no result, it is only by trying something new that we will prove whether we are right or wrong.

Player Welfare and our Fixture Calendar:

Player Welfare is an important part of our Fixture Calendar , we have talked about it for some time often crying out for help from our Medical People , physios and often down to our First Aid kit Man, asking players to train 3 to 4 times a week , play 2- 3 matches is over if we care about those players.

There will have to be a willingness of us all to change, those that make the fixtures in consultation and on behalf of yourselves, you as clubs and above all your players must recognise what is best for them, we cannot ignore the problems that may risk our players or their future within the game, as already said decisive action is required and if we take those steps we will protect our long term investment in our youth and in our games.

In recent weeks ,completing County Minor competitions, County Senior , Intermediate and Junior Championships, Connaught Senior , Intermediate and Junior Championships, U/17 Connaught Competition ,Connaught Minor Inter Club competition, County U/17 Cup, Secondary and Third level College football and U/21 Club football, push this further with weather conditions , availability of pitches, guys preparing for leaving cert and other 3rd level exams, this all questions our commitment to the welfare of our players , it must stop, we must change ,we can no longer ignore the problems of our fixture calendar. There are decisions that we need to consider ,actions are required, It is my intention with your help to see this through in giving clubs a more attractive fixture calendar, greater certainty about fixture dates and above all reduce the risk factors associated with a congested fixture calendar. .

WE are not alone in this, our problems are no different to any County .While to an extent we have coped well as a county with the success of our inter county squads but fixture congestion must be addressed throughout the organisation and more so if we are to protect the well being of our members and which recognises the club as the heart of our organisation.

CCC Committee:

I would like to thank the CCC committee for their time effort and support during the year, Vincent Neary, Aiden McLoughlin, Eugene Connolly, Kieran Byrne, Peter Walsh, Mick Herr, Cathy Carney, Michael Daly, Dermot Butler and Con Moynihan.

I would also like to thank our PRO Aiden who has done tremendous work as a PRO for our fixtures and as an executive member, Divisional Secretaries that are stepping down from their respective positions, all I can say well done to you all, your contribution is acknowledged by us all. Hope you have continued association with the organisation in whatever role you choose, Thank you for time and effort in your contribution to the CCC of this County.

To Michael Connolly our Chairperson, an inspiration to us all, his worth ethic to this organisation is huge, congratulations on everything you achieved in 2015 and look forward to working with you in 2016.

Mc Hale Park and the Grounds Committee:

I also would like to thank the McHale park staff for their work and support, Phil Heneghan who has McHale Park in top condition for all our finals, Michael Cummins, Kevin Mc Donagh and Neil Douglas who resigned early in the year, for all their administration support during the year,

Gerry Burke for all his organising of stewards for all our games in McHale park and his work as chair of the grounds committee, a credit to you Gerry and all your committee, a special word also to Phil, Darren for your dedication and the amount of hours in keeping everything in tip top shape.

Refereeing:

I would also like to thank the referees for their support during the year and sometimes at short notice, to Michael Daly Referee coordinator in his first year, well done Michael, you have been a great source of support, A lot of work goes into recruiting and training referees and we have made a lot of progress in the last number of years in this area,

Reporting is still an issue for us and again it will be a priority area in 2016 in accurate referee match day reports. We must get better in protecting the interest of our games, players and the association,

I have to mention Sean Maceil both as Central Delegate and his continued support to the recruitment and training of referees, a friend for life which continued on from our association as Bord N'Og Officers.

Voluntary Organisations:

A special thanks to all the Voluntary Organisations who have supported us throughout the year in providing education on various topics surrounding mental health and wellbeing to players at different levels, I must mention the Mayo Mental Health Association and their Development Officer Niall for their great work toward our games.

I also want to thank all the clubs for their support and co-operation during the year ,it was a big year personally moving from Bord N’Og Chairperson to Chairperson of CCC, it brought new challenges, uncertainties, unforeseen problems and issues that needed to be dealt with , I have learned a lot as you do in this game , the day that stops may be the day to walk away, I would like to think we worked well with you as clubs, some may not agree all of the time but we if we continue to talk we can all lead to better places whatever the challenge is .

Wish all clubs and its members a happy xmas and the very best for 2016.

Seamus Tuohy
Chairperson,
CCC.

Division	Winners	
1A	Castlebar Mitchel’s	
1B	Aughamore	
1C	Islandeady	
1D	Ardagh	
1E	Breaffy B	
1F	Garrymore B	
Championships :	Winners,	Runner Up
Snr Championship:	Castlebar Mitchel’s	Breaffy
Intermediate Championship	Hollymount Carramore	Neale,
Junior A	Ardnaree	Killala
Junior B	Ballycastle	Breaffy B
Junior C	Kiltimagh B	Moygonagh
Michael Walsh Cup Snr	Garrymore or Kiltimagh	
Michael Walsh Cup Inter:	Belmullet or Kilmaine	

The GAA & Connacht Council have confirmed the dates and times for their competitions in 2016. Below are all the details.

FBD League:

Round 1 - Sunday 3rd January 2016
Mayo v NUIG, Elverys MacHale Park, 2pm.

Round 2 - Sunday 10th January 2016
Mayo v IT Sligo, Ballina, 2pm

Round 3 - Sunday 17th January 2016
Roscommon v Mayo, Ballinlough, 2pm

National Football League:

Round 1 - Sunday 31st January 2016
Cork v Mayo, Pairc Uí Rinn, Cork, 2pm

Round 2 - Saturday 6th February 2016
Mayo v Dublin, Elverys MacHale Park, 7pm.

Round 3 - Sunday 28th February 2016
Donegal v Mayo, MacCumhaill Park, Ballybofey, 2pm

Round 4 - Sunday 6th March 2016
Monaghan v Mayo, St Mary's Park, Castleblayney, 2pm

Round 5 - Sunday 13th March 2016
Mayo v Kerry, Elverys MacHale Park, 2.30pm.

Round 6 - Sunday 27th March 2016
Roscommon v Mayo, Dr. Hyde Park, Roscommon, 2pm

Round 7 - Sunday 3 April 2016
Mayo v Down, Elverys MacHale Park, 2pm.

Semi Finals 9th or 10 April 2016
1st Placed Team v 4th Placed Team
2nd Placed Team v 3rd Placed Team

Final 24th April 2016
Semi Final Winner 1 v Semi Final Winner 2.

Connacht Senior Football Championship:

Quarter Finals Sunday 29th May 2016
London v Mayo, Ruislip

Connacht Semi-Final Saturday 18th June 2016
London/Mayo v Galway

Connacht Final Sunday 10th July 2016.

Connacht U21 Football Championship:

Preliminary Round: Wednesday 9th March 2016
Roscommon v Galway, Kiltoom

Semi Finals; Wednesday 16th March or Saturday 19th March 2016
Sligo v Roscommon/Galway Markievicz Park
Leitrim v Mayo, Carrick on Shannon

Connacht U21 Final Saturday 2nd April 2016.

Connacht Minor Football Championship:

Preliminary Round: Saturday 25th June 2016
Sligo v Roscommon, Markievicz Park

Semi Finals Wednesday 29th June 2016

Galway v A Markievicz Park/ Hyde Park
Leitrim v Mayo, Carrick on Shannon

Connacht Minor Final Sunday 10th July.

National Hurling League:

Round 1 - Sunday 14th February 2016
Mayo v Donegal, Elverys MacHale Park, 2pm

Round 2 - Sunday 21st February 2016
Meath v Mayo, St. Loman's Park, Trim, 2pm

Round 3 - Sunday 6th March 2016
Down v Mayo, McKenna Park, Ballycran, 2pm

Round 4 - Sunday 13th March 2016
Mayo v Wicklow, Elverys MacHale Park, 12.45pm.

Round 5 - Sunday 20th March 2016
Armagh v Mayo, Athletic Grounds, Armagh, 2pm

Hearings Committee Reportb 2015

Mayo Hearings Committee 2015
PJ McGrath (Chairman) (Killmaine)
Brendan Byrne (Vice-Chairman) (Castlebar)
Tod O'Mahony (Secretary) (Kiltimagh)
Joe McVeigh (Bohola Moy Davitts)
John Farragher (Garrymore)
Richard O'Halloran (The Neale)
Pat McManamon (Burrishoole)
Anthony Egan (Bonniconlon)
John Kilgallon (Ballaghadereen)
Sean Higgins (Davitts)
Willie Ruane (Bonniconlon)

2015 was probably not a great year for the reputation of GAA Disciplinary Committees. Despite some high profile cases at national level, County Disciplinary Hearings Committees still deal with the everyday cases that arise within their Counties. A lot of the criticism of GAA disciplinary procedures seems to arise from ignorance of the actual working of these procedures.

One particular criticism related to the amount of appeals a player has before any charge against him is dealt with. However, a player has one appeal against a decision. In the first instance a player, subject to disciplinary action, has a penalty proposed by the Mayo Competitions Control Committee (CCC). A player can accept that penalty or, if he is dissatisfied with what is proposed, he can seek a hearing on the charge before the Hearings Committee. Once a player seeks a hearing then no decision has been made. It is then a matter for the Mayo Hearings Committee to make a decision on that charge, Once the Hearings Committee makes its decision then, if the player is not satisfied, the player has the right of appeal to the Connacht Hearings Committee. That is the end of the process but the player, if still dissatisfied with the decision on appeal, may seek to have the matter referred to Arbitration and that will go to the Disputes Resolution Authority (DRA) of the GAA.

In 2015, the Mayo Hearings Committee heard 18 cases. There were a broad range of alleged infractions that came before the Committee. The infractions ranged from rough play to stamping on an opponent on the part of players and from using abusive language to a match official to playing an ineligible player on the part of team officials. Of the 18 cases heard by the Committee, 11 resulted in the charge proposed by the CCC being upheld. 9 of those resulted in a penalty being imposed. The penalty being at least the minimum penalty appropriate to the infraction as set out in the Official Guide 2015. 2 cases resulted in no penalty as the Committee felt the infractions were inadvertent on the part of the players.

In relation to the 7 cases which the Committee felt were unproven, 4 of those were supported by video evidence. It is not the job of the Hearings Committee to re-referee a game. Arguments that a referee made a mistake need to be supported by compelling evidence. Rule 7.3(aa)(vi) of the Official Guide Part 1 2015 (page 134) states:

“A Referee's Report, including any clarification thereto, shall be presumed to be correct in all factual matters and may only be rebutted where unedited video or other compelling evidence contradicts it”

Where a player/official seeks a hearing on any proposed infraction, the Hearings Committee must decide if there is compelling evidence to contradict what a referee sets out in his report. It is up to the player/official to satisfy the Committee that there is such compelling evidence to contradict what the referee says in his report. At Congress in 2015 a motion sought to delete the words “or other compelling evidence” from the Official Guide. That motion was defeated. The intention of the motion was to narrow the grounds of challenging a referee’s report to video evidence only. However, in reality, apart from technical arguments, the main form of compelling evidence sufficiently persuasive for the Hearings Committee is video evidence and it is very difficult to succeed before the Committee without such video evidence.

The Hearings Committee ensures that anyone who opts for a hearing is afforded fair procedures and is mindful of the many decisions that have been made by the DRA and other decision making bodies determining that anyone seeking a hearing in GAA disciplinary matters is afforded a fair hearing and fair procedures appropriate to the disciplinary action.

The Committee also seeks to ensure that if a player/official/club is subject to disciplinary action then that charge is dealt with as expeditiously as possible and any unjustified delay is avoided.

Tod O’Mahony
Secretary
Hearings Committee

PR Committee Report 2015

I write this 5th and final report as PRO for the Mayo County Board as my 5 year term comes to an end. To say that the last 5 years was eventful and interesting would be an understatement. There has been so many highs and so many lows it is difficult to know where to start. The G.A.A. is quite frankly an amazing organisation and it is difficult to envisage our society without it. The people you encounter and friendships made and lost are vast. I was elected this time 5 years ago after been encouraged to allow my name go forward from an existing officer who informed me that all it would entail was to “send a few ould emails now and again,” which couldn’t be further from the truth. The job as County Board Officer has grown exponentially over the last number of years to an extent that it is nearly unsustainable. The more successful counties are in essence running multi-million euro businesses and are expected to do so on a part-time and voluntary basis. What the solution is remains to be seen.

There are so many highs that it is hard to narrow them down but most them would obviously surround success by our teams on the field. A few stand out, Allianz Football League Semi-Final against Kerry a few years ago in Croke Park was one such moment. The Mayo Senior Team were to fly out on a Training Camp on the Sunday evening and the game finished level after normal time so went to Extra-Time. Mayo won out but were unfortunately heavily delayed for their flight. A Garda Escort was arranged to get them to the airport but the reception the players got from the Mayo supporters on the Cusack Stand side of the pitch as they made their way to the tunnel was exceptional. The atmosphere in the Gaelic Grounds during that infamous All-Ireland Senior Football Semi-Final Replay in 2014 was one of the most electric and claustrophobic I have ever witnessed. It was of colosseum proportions. While the venue was heavily criticised it certainly made for an electric atmosphere and merits the case for some big games to be taken out of Croke Park. Seeing a fine bunch of U-18’s win an All-Ireland Minor Football title is one that will live in the memory. They were the finest bunch of well-grounded gentlemen you could come across and deserved all their success and most will go on to have exceptional football careers. Hopefully scenes like this will be a lot more frequent. Been involved with the Cáirde Mhaigheo Season Ticket scheme was enjoyable and to see that grow dramatically and witness the benefits of the scheme was rewarding.

As everyone knows what goes up most come down and with every high there is a Low. Quite a few of these along the way as well, and difficult to narrow them all down. Obviously the 2 All-Ireland Final defeats as well as the Semi-Final Replay defeats were very hard to witness after seeing all the work that went into preparing the team. One regret is not seeing the like of Keith Higgins, Alan Dillon, Andy Moran and many more not get their hands on that much coveted Celtic Cross. These lads owe nothing to Mayo football and have given their all as has all players but they deserve particular mention for having the mental resolve to come back year after year and improve each time. Your day will come lads, “You don’t have a Choice.” Managerial appointments have been in the spotlight the last number of years. As an officer of the County Board I can categorically say here and now that while mistakes were made they were made in the best interest of the County Board at the time. The most alarming thing about the whole matter was the level of abuse endured by County Board officers and their respective families

who act in a Voluntary capacity in an Amateur organisation without any expenses. It was a very tough time by all involved. Social Media outlets were used by some to voice their opinions which were in some instances vile and malicious. People need to be aware that when they post a comment on Social Media outlets, that in essence becomes a statement, one that could come back to haunt them in time. In an era where Mental Health Awareness is becoming more and more prominent, County Board and Club Officers have just as much right to protection from Mental Health issues as our Players do. If Players were subjected to the same level of abuse as County Board officers there would be an outcry.

Before getting involved as a County Board officer I would in the past as a club player been very critical of the Fixtures committee. After getting involved I seen the dilemma faced by each county CCC the length and breath of the country. In saying that, it was the committee I most enjoyed been part of. I would like to think I brought a voice on behalf of club players to this committee. We have probably one of the most competitive club scenes in the country and it is some task to try and get the fixtures right. Each year we start with the calendar which has already been filled in with all the various Inter-County Competitions across all grades in both codes. And let me tell you when that is all filled in you see quite a congested calendar without any club activity included. I would have been heavily involved in getting “Starred League Games” introduced into our competitions and in my opinion they were a great success. I would hate to see where we would have been the last 2 years had we not had them. Something has to give in order to make the Club Player the priority in this organisation. Discussion papers are in circulation with proposals to help this which all have their merits. In my opinion one of the biggest problems in club fixtures is interference from Inter-County Team managers. When a fixture schedule is agreed in January with respective team managers they absolutely should not change on the request of an inter-county team manager. Even the cancelation of 1 league game on one weekend is totally disrespectful to the 100’s of club players who are also putting their lives on hold to accommodate a group of 30 inter-county players. I would say to club players in this county, to talk among yourselves and bring your voice to your club delegate. These are the people who are making decisions on your behalf and taking votes that will affect your competitions. Make your feelings known and make sure your club delegate bring these to County level.

Communications within and for the G.A.A. have exploded over the last 5 years. When I first took on this role you basically had email and web pages. Now you have social media outlets such as Twitter, Facebook, Snapchat, Instagram, Whatsapp, Viber etc. etc. These are all extremely useful tools for clubs and counties to help promote our games. The demand for information on all of these platforms is immense as people require real-time up-to-date data on all things GAA. With our massive and loyal supporter base in this county we are one of the top counties in this regard and it is no coincidence that we have the biggest supporter base following our teams around the country. While these tools are incredibly useful they are also incredibly dangerous if not used correctly and sensitively.

As I come to the end of this report which brings me to the Thanks You’s and if I leave anyone out it was not intentional as there are so many people to thank it may not be possible to include everyone. Firstly to the Clubs, again people taking their time to do part-time work on a voluntary basis, you are a credit to your community. Thanks you for your support. Present and Current County Board officers who I have had the pleasure of working with over the last 5 years.

People will never know the amount of unseen work that goes on behind the scenes. The 100's of Inter-County Players who wear that coveted Green & Red jersey each year all of whom were a pleasure to deal with. All of the Inter-County Team managers who have given their all to bring success to this county. To the Communications Department and other personnel in Croke Park who were always at the other end of the phone for help and advice. To all sections of the media who I have dealt with over the years all of whom were a pleasure to deal with. The various sub-committee's of the Mayo County Board. The hard-working PRO/Marketing Committee Paul, Alan, Tom, & Darren thanks for all your help. Finally to my family and friends who have not seen much of me the last 5 years, thank you for everything.

Wishing everyone in Mayo G.A.A. all the best for the future and Remember, Keep Calm, Mayo for Sam ;-)

Aodhann MacLochlainn,
PRO

Bord na nOg Report 2014

The Bord na nOg season got off the ground in March and concluded in November with the U-15 League Finals. Throughout the year Bord na nOg organised league and Championship games from U-12 up to and including Minor level. The Chairman and Secretary met with all Divisional Boards, individually, at the start of the year. The feedback from these meetings was very positive. There were a total of 39 Finals from U-13 up to Minor. An interesting statistic is that all but three clubs reached finals. Some of the League Finals had to be played away from McHale Park and to those Clubs who willingly allowed their grounds to be used by the Board I say a big thankyou. Thankyou also to Phil Heneghan who had McHale Park looking splendid for all the finals that were played there. It is always great to see the look on young lads faces as they run out of the tunnel and out onto the pitch in McHale Park. Hopefully many of these young players will go on to wear the green and red jersey.

Go Games

Bord na nOg again organised competitions from U-8's to U-12's under the auspices of the "Go Games" rules. The leagues were generally successful and great credit must go to the coaches who look after players at this age. Parents are also to be thanked because without their support the leagues would not function. I would like to point out to mentors and parents alike that games played under "Go Games" rules are not all about winning. Some mentors and parents seem to think that its win at all costs but in reality it should not be that way. The whole idea of these games is to develop the young players skill set. A "Go Games" review meeting was held recently in McHale Park and the attendance at that meeting was very disappointing. This year Bord na nOg carried out a census in conjunction with all clubs regarding player numbers. The results of that census are alarming in that some clubs in the near future will struggle to field teams and the prospect of amalgamations will become a stark reality for many of those clubs.

Under 13

The U-13 competition ran during the months of August and September. A total of 47 teams took part in the League with some Clubs entering two teams. This competition is important as it forms a guide for Bord na nOg for the U-14 competitions the following year as it aids us in determining group placings.

Under 14

There were 47 teams that took part in this years championship with some clubs entering two teams. All finals were keenly contested with some high scoring games to boot. Castlebar, like Westport last year, completed a league and championship double. Some Clubs are struggling with players at this level which in itself is a worry. The bigger centres of population don't seem to have this problem but the small rural clubs have, and this problem will have to be seriously addressed by both Bord na nOg and the Clubs themselves.

Under 15

Westport continued where they left off last year, at U-14, by winning Division 1 of the league. The competition itself began in early September and was completed in full on 7/11/15. Charlestown won Division 2, Swinford won Division 3 with Hollymount/Carramore winning the Division 4 title. This competition can prove difficult to run as the kids are back at school and the evenings getting shorter so great credit is due to players and management alike for participating in and completing the competition in full.

Under 16

Westport were the standout team at this level winning both the A Championship and Division 1 of the League, well done to them. Eight other clubs won titles at this level including Balla, Kiltimagh, Ballaghaderreen, Mayo Gaels, Breaffy, Castlebar, Hollymount/Carramore and Cill Chomain. This is probably the most difficult group to run smoothly as there is a cross over between U-14 and U-16 and between U-16 and Minor. It is therefore incumbent on all clubs to fulfil fixtures on their allotted dates, as postponed games can lead to a backlog of fixtures or more worryingly clubs end up conceding games which is of no benefit to young players.

Minor

Claremorris had a great year at this level winning a league and championship double. Ten other clubs won titles at this grade during the year including, Knockmore, Ardnaree, Kilmeena, Davitts, Cill Chomain, Ballintubber, Balla, Kilmovee, Charlestown and Achill. The Minor competitions can prove difficult to run as breaks have to be taken for the leaving cert exam and the competitions also have to work around the County Minor teams involvement in the championship. In relation to our County Minor team, it was most disappointing the way they exited the Championship this year. The manner of the defeat is a cause for concern, I for one did not see a defeat of that magnitude on the cards. Galway were up for the game and it appeared that Mayo had no plan B. Enda Gilvarry's backroom team stepped down after this years championship. I would like to thank them for all the hard work they put in over the years with the team Enda is staying on as Manager with a new backroom team in tow and lets hope that 2016 is a better year for our County Minor team.

Conclusion

This was my first year as Runai of Bord na nOg and I thoroughly enjoyed the experience. I have to say that I found the majority of clubs a pleasure to deal with but unfortunately there were one or two clubs or more correctly, officials within those clubs, whom I found to be disingenuous and disruptive to the running of competitions organised by Bord na nOg. I believe that Bord na nOg can be happy with the progress that was made during the year during the year. As I've said earlier in this report, player numbers within clubs, especially clubs in rural areas, will need serious consideration as we move forward and I believe that amalgamations will become a reality.

J.P. Lambe is stepping down as Treasurer of the County Board at the upcoming Convention. J.P. has occupied that post for nearly twenty years. On behalf of Bord na nOg I would like to pay tribute to J.P. for all his hard work down through the years. He was always at hand to collect money at gates throughout the county which in itself is no easy task. I wish J.P. well in “retirement” and I do hope he continues to be involved with the Board at some level.

Another man stepping down at this years Convention is our P.R.O. Aidan McLoughlin. I would like to thank Aidan for all his help during this my first year as Runai. Aidan has been an excellent P.R.O. and is highly regarded throughout the Country. He brought the office of PRO to a new level. I wish him well and like JP I hope he continues to be involved with the Board.

To the referees who officiated at our games throughout the year I say a big thank you. To the Journalists and Photographers that give us excellent coverage throughout the year again a big thank you. To my predecessor Sean MacEil, what can I say that already hasn't been said about this man, thank you for all your help and guidance throughout the year. Thank you also to Seamus Tuohy for the help and advice he has given both myself and Con throughout the year. To our County Board Chairman Mike Connolly, thank you for your leadership throughout the year. To the Executive Committee, thank you for your assistance during the year. I have enjoyed working alongside our Chairman Con Moynihan, thank you Con for all your hard work during the year. To my wife Sarah, a heartfelt thank you for your patience and understanding during the year. Finally to you the club delegates thank you for your cooperation throughout the year. Hopefully, going forward, we can all work together to ensure that Bord na nOg improves the standard of football within the County.

Diarmuid de Buitleir
Runai
Bord na nOg

“Mayo Health and Well Being Committee Annual Report 2015:”

Our Health and Well Being Committee are in our second year of existence following its initial set up in March 2014. This came on the back of a motion which was passed at the GAA Annual Congress in Derry in 2013 putting in place a rule for the requirement of every county board to appoint a Health & Wellbeing sub-committee.

Committees are now in place right across the 32 counties and are tasked with assisting the county board and the county’s clubs in identifying and responding to the health and wellbeing needs of their members. This involves promoting existing GAA health-related programmes such as the Alcohol and Substance Abuse Prevention (ASAP) programme, the GAA Social Initiative, the RESPECT Initiative etc.

It also involves signposting to and partnering with relevant national and local agencies who can provide services that may be of use to our members. Here in Mayo GAA we have been working with mainly the HSE, Mayo County Council and Sports Partnership, CROI, Mayo Mental Health Association, Family Life Centre and Mayo Suicide Liaison Project on various projects that may be of assistance to our members at some stage in their lives.

Achievements in 2015 as a committee:

1. Wellness Information Board

This was one of the successful projects undertaken by our Committee. This idea stemmed from supporting clubs and their members within the county to be able to identify appropriate services and supports available both at local level and National level.

In the coming months each club will display their Wellness Information Boards in the home dressing room and the other positioned in their club that is visible to club members, supporters, family members will all have easy access to within the club grounds. We have received national recognition for this initiative.

2. Safe Talk training

Safe Talk Training involves learning the first steps in recognizing persons with thoughts of suicide and connects them with suicide helping resources. We have held training sessions for Club Health and Well Being Officers in both Castlebar and Ballyhaunis in January of this year attended by up on 40 club members throughout the County .

3. **RESPECT Initiative**

Promoting the Respect Initiative that was part of all our games in 2015 in particular and we will be working with clubs in maximizing the success of this project in 2016.

4. **Mayo Health and Well Being Launch Night,**

The committee organised a very successful launch night in March 2015 in Breaffy House Hotel. Oisín McConville of the Crossmaglen Club was our guest speaker on the night. During the period when he was collecting every major honour in the game, McConville was going through a turbulent period in his life off the field. In his book 'The Gambler', he detailed how a gambling addiction took hold of him and threatened his life. He eventually dealt with his addiction, and is now a trained counsellor, specialising in CBT and suicide prevention. He is a member of the GAA's Scientific, Health and Welfare Committee.

Other speakers at the event included Sean Moffat, Mayo Team Doctor, Niall Dunne Mental Health Ireland Development Officer for Mayo, Liam Moffat, Mayo Lead Physio, all Ireland Minor winning captain 2013 Stephen Coen and Robert Hennelly Mayo and Breaffy goalie.

5. **Westport GAA Club Seminar**

Another very successful night was organized by Westport Gaa Club in October 2015. Again with Oisín McConville along with other people from various professional backgrounds spoke to over 300 local community members on various topics which related to Health and Wellbeing. Another evening is planned for the **Erris Region in North Mayo** later this month. All this is creating a greater awareness of our role and the importance of Health and Well Being in our communities.

6. Player Welfare

Another important initiative for the Health and Well Being Committee is to support the structures that have positive impact on the player welfare of our footballers. A lot of work has been done in this area in 2015 in putting in place structures for our County, ably supported by Dr Sean Moffat lead Medical Officer, Liam Moffat lead Physio and Cathal Cregg lead Strength and Condition from Connaught Centre of Excellence. All energies are been directed to player welfare, injury surveillance, prevention protocols, age appropriate conditioning and training loads and Management of sports concussion. This work will continue to be high on the agenda again for 2016.

7. Mayo U15 and u16 GAA Camps

Mayo Mental health Association supported by their Development Officer Niall Dunne and who is a member of our Health and Wellbeing Committee along with Padraic Carolan who works for the HSE and is also Head of the Coaching Officers for Mayo GAA had a discussion about the idea of organising an Mayo Gaa Football and Hurling Easter Camp for U16 players in County Mayo and building in Mental Health Awareness workshops throughout the three days.

The 3 day camps covered various topics which the young people got to attend various workshops covering varied topics listed below;

- Mental Health Awareness, (Mental Health Ireland)
- Awareness around Diabetics which would be run and supported by the HSE,
- Drugs and Alcohol Awareness
- Psychology and Sport

The Health and Wellbeing football and Hurling Camp catered for all 90 players and 13 coaches. This was a follow on from the very successful camp we organised in 2014 where again we received national coverage for the work, effort and education the students of football were receiving. As the three days proved hugely successful we will hope to plan a similar event again for 2106.

Plans for 2016:

In the last month each committee received an **action plan for 2016** outlining their key areas of work for the coming 12 months. Primary amongst these are:

- **Club Health & Wellbeing Officer Recruitment and training.**
- **Identifying suitable person(s) in the county to become tutor to deliver this new training. (Tutor training will take place in Croke Park in January).**
- **Adapting a Critical Incident Response Plan for your county, to be approved by the County Executive (sample plan also attached).**

The continued support of our clubs will be required to ensure that these health and wellbeing action plans are implemented at club level for the betterment of our members, clubs, and the entire county. I urge you to make sure that your club have an active health and wellbeing sub-committee in place to drive this work and that you open regular lines of communication within your club on health and well being issues.

We appeal to all clubs coming up to AGM's that if they have not already a Health and Well Being Officer in place , we request each club to give it full consideration.

This person will act as the link with our County Health & Wellbeing Committee and will be the point of contact within the club for any relevant promotions or activities. Again they will not be expected to be a 'counsellor' for the club, but an interest in the area of health and have a willingness to drive this agenda in their club. We can assure you that you get the full support of the Mayo Health and Wellbeing Committee and the newly formed National Health & Wellbeing Committee [

Mise le meas,

Seamus Tuohy Mayo GAA Community & Health Chairperson,

Sean Maceil : Secretary .

Membership

The Members of the Mayo GAA Health and Well Being Subgroup are:

Seamus Tuohy (Chairman)	086-1716252
Sean MacEil (Secretary)	086-1733419
Niall Dunne (West Mayo)	087-1274040
Mary Coen (South Mayo)	086-0532181
Dermot Butler (North Mayo)	087-6219843
Paraic Walsh (West Mayo)	087-2233094
Con Moynihan (East Mayo)	087-9439843
Brendan Geraghty (Hurling)	086-0693096
Michael Gavin (West Mayo)	087-9717516
JJ Costello (South Mayo)	

http://www.mayogaa.com/contentPage/351891/health_and_well_being

Seamus Tuohy
Health & Wellbeing Committee

Coaching Report 2015

Coaching report 2015

It was another very busy year in the area of coaching within Mayo GAA.

The focus this year was around the development of our camps, skills tests and understanding the levels of coaching activity within the county in order to attempt to address shortcomings both at county board and club level in 2016.

Secondary Schools report

At Mayo level schools compete at A, B, C and D level for 1st Year, Juvenile, Junior and Senior level. These combined with our two hurling competitions mean we run 18 competitions for second level students. This year we implemented a blitz system to get our final pairings. Schools were grouped based on geographical location in groups of 3/4/5 with winners making the final. This solved the problem of schools seeking to reschedule matches as if a school could not make a particular date the blitz went ahead without them. Consequently this is the first time since the reformation of the Mayo Post Primary Schools Executive that our fixtures have all ran on schedule and Mayo Competitions are completed by December. It gives competitive matches to all schools which prepares them well for Connacht Leagues and Championships which take place later on in the year.

Another reason for moving to a blitz format meant an ease of the fixture congestion in September and October. Schools have one or two less matches to play to reach a Mayo Final as they are playing two or three matches on the one day. We feel more could be done by clubs and Bord na N'Og to reduce the overlapping of competitions and unfair demands being placed on players involved with schools and club teams. With the overtraining of players and burnout becoming a national issue something has to be done which places the players themselves at the center of the process for their long term benefit. Minor championship and U-15 competitions are providing the most issues with schools matches unfairly impacted by not running off these competitions earlier in the year. Continuing cooperation between the Bord na N'Og and the schools executive will hopefully provide us with solutions to these problems.

Congratulations to all our winners from the past year. They are:

Competition	Winner	Runner Up	Score
1 st Year A	St. Gerald's, Castlebar	Rice College Westport	4-5 to 3-6
1 st Year B	Ballinrobe CS	Ballyhaunis CS	7-17 to 3-3
1 st Year C	Scoil Muire agus Padraig Swinford	St. Brendan's Belmullet	5-9 to 4-11
1 st Year D	Scoil Mhuire Tourmakeady	Rosspport VS	3-10 to 4-6
O'Haire A	St. Colman's Claremorris	St. Gerald's, Castlebar	7-9 to 1-6
O'Haire B	Ballinrobe CS	St. Joseph's Foxford	3-17 to 4.12
O'Haire C	St. Brendan's Belmullet	St. Joseph's Charlestown	7-19 to 4-6
O'Haire D	St. Tiernan's Crossmolina	Moyne College Ballina	5-12 to 1-8
Colleran A	St. Colman's Claremorris	St. Muredach's Ballina	0-17 to 1-12
Colleran B	Ballinrobe CS	St. Joseph's Foxford	3-18 to 1-10
Colleran C	Sancta Maria Louisburgh	Davitt College Castlebar	9-14 to 1-3
Colleran D	Rosspport VS	Colaiste Acla	2-7 to 0-9
Flanagan A	St. Muredach's Ballina	St. Louis, Kiltimaigh	1-12 to 12
Flanagan B	Our Lady's Belmullet	St. Joseph's Charlestown	4-12 to 1-12
Flanagan C	Sancta Maria Louisburgh	Davitt College Castlebar	2-12 to 1-13
Flanagan D	St. Brendan's Belmullet	Scoil Mhuire Tourmakeady	8-11 to 4-5
Senior Hurling A	Ballyhaunis CS	Rice College, Westport	5-15 to 2-4
Senior Hurling B	St. Colman's Claremorris	St. Gerald's, Castlebar	2-12 to 2-11

Coaching Development:

Early this year we ran a very successful coaching workshop with the Mayo Senior Coach Donie Buckley. There was a great turnout from schools coaches who observed a practical pitch session with a focus on skills development and tackling. Afterwards Done conducted a full Q and A with all coaches. Thanks to Billy McNicholas who facilitated the workshop and the St. Gerald's College senior team for being the guinea pigs on the night. We hope to run something similar early next year.

Hurling:

We also have competitions at senior and junior level for the second time in Hurling. The Senior A was won by Ballyhaunis Community School with the Senior B title going to St. Colman's Claremorris. Junior Competitions will be held after christmas. Thanks to Adrian Hession for running our hurling competitions.

PRO:

We have a very active Twitter account which gives up to date information on fixtures and results from both Mayo and Connacht competitions. This is administered by Vinnie Walsh so well done to him for taking this on board and providing us with a strong online presence. Also a huge thank you to all media outlets in Mayo for providing such excellent coverage of our Colleges matches.

Cumann na mBunscol

2014/15 was another busy and eventful year but ran very smoothly overall. This is only possible thanks to the brilliant volunteers right throughout the county.

Our **Sports Quiz**, held in the Welcome Inn in January, produced a high standard of questions as always and our thanks to everyone who helped, especially Seán Mac Éil.

The Mayo & Connacht **Handball** competitions took place in January and February. Again we must commend the help of Mayo Handball and An Sportlann in Castlebar in getting everything played on time.

The **Football Mini Sevens** took place in March and pre St. Patrick's Day will be our target from now on. The 3G Pitch at the Centre of Excellence in Began was again the venue for Semis & Finals Day and seemed to work well so we will continue there.

Our **divisional competitions** ran successfully, but not without difficulty. We staged all our football finals in **Knockmore GAA Club** and hurling Finals in **Claremorris GAA Club** due to **Elverys MacHale Park** not being available to us. **Began's Centre of Excellence** hosted one set of football semis and Knockmore the other

Thirty four schools took part in our **hurling divisional leagues**. Finals were facilitated again this

year in **Claremorris GAA**, to whom we are very grateful. 22 schools took part in **boys Mini 7s** and 12 in **camogie mini 7s**. Finals were held in Began. 3rd and 4th class students will now be the focus of Cuilí blitzes which will be held internally within our 9 areas.

The **First Hurley Scheme**, which we fund, has by now seen over 700 players purchase their first, properly fitted hurl for just €10.

Coaching is now provided in about 36 National Schools within Mayo. These schools are in the catchment areas of the juvenile hurling clubs in Mayo.

We ran hurling and **football exhibitions during the NFL and NHL** again this spring. Thanks to Mayo GAA and Tony Watene in Croke Park for facilitating this.

We also fielded a number of teams during the summer for the **Connacht Championship Exhibitions** both in Salthill and Hyde Park. Our thanks as always to **Connacht Council** and **Mayo GAA**, in particular PRO **Aiden McLoughlin** for making this happen.

We are greatly indebted to the teachers up and down the county who volunteer their time, energies and enthusiasm to the promotion of gaelic games in our 174 schools. Also, the running of our games and exhibitions in their current format would not be possible without the tremendous support of **Billy McNicholas and Adrian Hession**.

Under 12 skills test

Virtually all of our clubs participated in this competition initially at divisional level with the divisional winners moving on to the Connacht finals which were held in the Centre of Excellence in Began.

Breaffy were the outright winners of the provincial competition with Ballina close runners up.

Primary Schools Coaching Programme.

Our Primary Schools Coaching programme took place over a ten week period prior to the summer holidays and a six week period after the holiday in approx 130 of our 174 schools.

Cul camps

Once again we had a large increase in numbers attending our 40 football and two hurling camps in 2015, with a total of 4,608 registering, an increase from 3,964 in 2014.

Football Academies

Under 14

4 divisional squads of 25 selected

These 4 squads participated in the Sean Purcell blitz and performed very well.

Outside of the divisional trials there were 12 sessions held, comprising of skills testing, diet and nutrition, tackling and team play.

Under 15

2 squads of 30 selected

16 sessions conducted with 2 blitzes

Again both teams performed very well.

Both squads are now on a weekly winter/spring skills and S@C programme in 3 locations within the county.

Under 16

2 squads involved

Both performed well in the Ted Web competition getting to the cup and shield finals.

Again these panels are now on a weekly winter/spring skills and S@C programme in 3 locations within the county.

Under 17

This squad participated in the Connacht league and were unbeaten.

All players on the panel were utilised.

This group have now joined with the minor panel on an S@C programme.

Under 18

Panel now being trialled via the County Cup competition.

S@C programme will commence following this.

Under 20

This group will be involved in a winter S@C programme along with the under 21 panel.

Academy Camps

In 2015 we introduced camps for our under 14 and 15 squads along with our under 16 camp which has been up and running for a few years now.

These have proved very successful for players and coaches alike.

Topics included are as follows: –

Skills

Nutrition
Leadership
Media
Mental Health
S@C testing

Goal to Work

Mayo GAA participated in the Westport Goal to Work programme in 2015 and a number of coaches were trained as part of this process. We intend to Participate in the Ballyhaunis programme which is due to be launched in the new year.

Friday Night Football

In 2014 we launched an initiative to encourage clubs to continue coaching for the 8 to 12 age group during the winter months either indoors or on AstroTurf. To date many clubs have participated and it is hoped others will in 2015/2016

Website

Our website is up and running, many thanks to Alan Prendergast of the Mayo Gaels club for his work with this.

Coach education programme

Our coach education programme attracted nearly 300 participants this year and the 2016 schedule will shortly be available on our website.

GAIN Project

We were successful in securing Council funding under the GAIN project for the Erris region. This project is currently ongoing in the 19 Primary Schools, 3 secondary schools and 4 clubs in that region.

Finally, I would like to especially thank our hard working coaching team and also the many club and school coaches for their hard work during 2015

Padraic Carolan
Coaching Officer

Mayo GAA Hurling Coaching Report – 2015

Mayo GAA Minor Hurlers:

- Minors commenced coaching in Spring under the management of Brian Finn & John Regan.
- Took part in the Connacht GAA Niall McInerney Cup Blitz Day in Carnmore in July.
- Took part in the Minor 'C' Regional Tournament with wins over Sligo and Longford in July.
- Drew with Tyrone in the All-Ireland Minor 'C' final in Ballinamore in September.
- Lost the replay to Tyrone the following week.

Mayo GAA U16 Hurlers:

- U16s started their year with a 3-day camp in McHale Park over Easter, under the guidance of Adrian Hession, Ger Doherty and David O'Sullivan.
- In total the group took part in 12 trial/coaching sessions and 5 blitz/game days.
- Panel of 26 took part and won the McInerney Shield (Galway) as well as the National Academy Day (Ballyshannon) and All-Ireland Minor 'B' (Mullingar) and other challenge games.
- Seven of the Mayo players were chosen for the Rest of Connacht U16 Academy.
- Rest of Connacht U16 Academy took part in 3 coaching days before beating Ulster in Garvaghy in July.

Mayo GAA U15 Hurlers:

- This group under Adrian Hession & Michael Raleigh had 3 coaching sessions and one blitz day.
- Connacht GAA U15 Blitz Day in Craughwell in August, beating Sligo, Galway and Roscommon.

Mayo GAA U14 Hurlers:

- Trials held in May under Adrian Hession, Richard Crinnegan and Tom Keeley.
- Forty-eight players took part in trials and came into the extended panel.
- Group took part in twelve trials/sessions and five blitz/game days throughout the year.
- Blitz days included Connacht Feile (Bekan), National Academy Day (Tubbercurry), All-Ireland 'C' (Cavan) and Connolly/Cunniffe (Bekan).

Mayo GAA U13 Development:

- This Development Group received additional funding from Croke Park for their winter Development Program.
- Fifty-five players currently taking part in the program which is split into East and Rest regional divisions.
- Four wall-ball skills training days and two blitz days scheduled.
- Expected completion date Sunday 13th December.

Secondary Schools:

- Six schools currently taking part in Mayo Post Primary schools hurling competitions.
- Ballyhaunis CS defeated Rice College in the SeniorA final.
- St Colmans defeated St Gers in the SeniorB final.
- Rice College (Westport) defeated Ballyhaunis CS in the Junior final.
- Five blitz days for 1st/2nd years organised by Connacht GAA throughout the year.

National Schools:

- Thirty-six national schools receive coaching and take part in Cuman na mBunscoil Hurling.
- Competitions include Mini7s, Div1 (11-a-side), Div2 (9-a-side), Div3 (7-a-side) and Div4 (6-a-side)
- Forty players took part in Connacht GAA Intercounty Go-Games Day in May in Connacht Centre.
- Four schools took part in Cuman na mBunscoil Exhibition Go-Games in McHale Park in March.
- Four players played in Mini7s exhibition in Croke Park.
- Disappointment again this year that our county grounds wasn't made available for finals day.

Coaching Courses:

- Two Foundation Award Hurling Coaching Courses saw 30 coaches graduate.
- A Connacht GAA Award 1 Course saw 8 Mayo coaches graduate.

Hurling Summer Camps:

- Hurling Summer Camp in Tooreen saw 120 children take part.
- Castlebar Mitchels Hurling on the Greens ran for six weeks during summer with 60+ children.

Club Competitions:

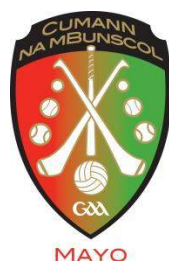
- Three clubs took part in Mayo GAA Minor Hurling League and Championship.
- Three clubs took part in Mayo GAA U16 Hurling league and championship.
- Four clubs took part in Mayo GAA U14 Hurling Feile and championship.
- Westport & Caiseal Gaels went to U14 National GAA Hurling Feile in Ulster.
- Tooreen and Castlebar went to Connacht U14 Club Hurling Feile in Began.
- Six clubs took part in Mayo GAA U13 Hurling Mini league.
- Six clubs took part in Mayo GAA U12 Hurling Mini league and festival finals.
- Eight clubs took part in Mayo GAA U10/U8 Go games blitz days.
- County skills competitions at U10, U12, U14 Feile Skillstar and U16 Poc Fada ran.

Connacht GAA Wheelchair Hurling:

- Four players from Mayo GAA took part in Connacht GAA Wheelchair Hurling team in 2015.
- Twelve Connacht GAA collective coaching session days in Barnacarroll throughout 2015.
- Five National Blitz Days in Monaghan, Waterford, Breaffy, Carlow and Dublin.

Adrian Hession (Mayo GAA – Games Promotion Officer)

County Convention 2015 | Cumann na mBunscol Report



2014/15 was another busy and eventful year but ran very smoothly overall. This is only possible thanks to the brilliant volunteers right throughout the county.

Our **Sports Quiz**, held in the Welcome Inn in January, produced a high standard of questions as always and our thanks to everyone who helped, especially Seán Mac Éil.

The Mayo & Connacht **Handball** competitions took place in January and February. Again we must commend the help of Mayo Handball and An Sportlann in Castlebar in getting everything played on time.

The **Football Mini Sevens** took place in March and pre St. Patrick's Day will be our target from now on. The 3G Pitch at the Centre of Excellence in Began was again the venue for Semis & Finals Day and seemed to work well so we will continue there.

Our **divisional competitions** ran successfully, but not without difficulty. We staged all our football finals in **Knockmore GAA Club** and hurling Finals in **Claremorris GAA Club** due to **Elverys MacHale Park** not being available to us. **Began's Centre of Excellence** hosted one set of football semis and Knockmore the other

Thirty four schools took part in our **hurling divisional leagues**. Finals were facilitated again this year in **Claremorris GAA**, to whom we are very grateful. 22 schools took part in **boys Mini 7s** and 12 in **camogie mini 7s**. Finals were held in Began. 3rd and 4th class students will now be the focus of Cuilí blitzes which will be held internally within our 9 areas.

The **First Hurley Scheme**, which we fund, has by now seen over 700 players purchase their first, properly fitted hurl for just €10.

Coaching is now provided in about 36 National Schools within Mayo. These schools are in the catchment areas of the juvenile hurling clubs in Mayo.

We ran hurling and **football exhibitions during the NFL and NHL** again this spring. Thanks to Mayo GAA and Tony Watene in Croke Park for facilitating this.

We also fielded a number of teams during the summer for the **Connacht Championship Exhibitions** both in Salthill and Hyde Park. Our thanks as always to **Connacht Council** and **Mayo GAA**, in particular PRO **Aiden McLoughlin** for making this happen.

We are greatly indebted to the teachers up and down the county who volunteer their time, energies and enthusiasm to the promotion of gaelic games in our 174 schools. Also, the running of our games and exhibitions in their current format would not be possible without the tremendous support of **Billy McNicholas and Adrian Hession**.

Mayo GAA Hurling Report 2015

MAYO GAA HURLING REPORT 2015

Senior Intercounty:

Team Management.

Thanks to 2014 Management team of Christy Phillips, Leo O'Connor and Austin Kenny for their work with the team.

New Management team of J.P. Coen, (Manager), David McConn, Derek Walsh and Tommy Feeney appointed in January 2015.

Competitions:

Connacht League: This competition was revived in 2015 after a number of years. The first game resulted in a victory away to Leitrim on January 3rd. We also had a victory in our home game against Sligo. Our final game in the competition was a defeat against G.M.I.T. so we did not qualify for the final.

National League:

We opened our Division 2B campaign on the 15th February against Donegal in Letterkenny with an 8 point win. Next up was a home game against Meath the following week. McHale Park pitch was unplayable and the game was switched to Began. In dreadful conditions Meath won by 9 points.

Our next outing was a home game against Down on the 8th March. Down proved far superior on the day winning by 11 points. In round 4 we played Kildare away in Newbridge on the 14th March. Again we were well beaten by the home side by 15 points. Our final League game was a home tie against Armagh. Again we suffered a big defeat losing by 13 points.

We finished 5th in the League table so we played Donegal in a relegation play-off on the 28th March in Carrick on Shannon. The team played well winning by 5 points and maintaining our Division 2B status for 2016.

Overall this was a disappointing league campaign with a gulf in class and physicality with the top teams in the division.

Christy Ring Cup.

The team and management worked hard in training in preparation for the Christy Ring Cup. Confidence was high going into our opening game. This was a very big task playing Derry away on the 2nd May. We played our best hurling of the year and the game was extremely close right to the end with Derry edging it by 2 points.

Our next game was a home tie against Kildare played in Ballina on the 16th May. Again we had a great first half and aided by a strong wind we led by 9 points. However two early second half goals by Kildare swung the momentum in their favour and they went on to win by 5 points. Again this was a very disappointing result after building up such a big lead. Next we faced a relegation play-off against Wicklow on the 23rd May which was played in Mullingar. We did not play as well as in the first two games and Wicklow won by 7 points. Our final chance to stay in the Christy Ring for 2016 was a promotion/relegation play-off against Roscommon who won the Nicky Rackard Cup. The game was played in Pearse Stadium on the 14th June before the Galway v Mayo Connacht Championship match. Roscommon were high in confidence after their Nicky Rackard Cup win the previous week and with the help of two second half goals won by 7 points. The results meant that Mayo will be playing in the Nicky Rackard Cup in 2016.

Connacht Intermediate Final:

The relegation/promotion play-off against Roscommon in Pearse Stadium doubled as the Intermediate Final. Unfortunately this was a double loss on the day.

Overall 2015 was a disappointing year for the Senior Team. However a number of factors need to be taken in to consideration.

- The management team were only appointed on January 15th and had no time to put in place pre season and strength and conditioning programmes which meant we were playing catch up in the fitness and physical stakes during the league campaign. These are now in place for 2016
- Four players of the 2014 starting team were not available in 2015 as two retired and two emigrated.
- A number of younger players were brought in to the panel and it takes some time for them to gain experience at inter-county level.
- The players and management are committed to making 2016 a more successful year with winning the Nicky Rackard Cup their goal.

U21 Team.

Brian Finn continued as Manager and was assisted by John Regan. Nicholas Frayne had to leave the management team during the year for personal reasons.

In 2015 the format of the All Ireland B Championship was changed to an open draw knockout competition. As the Connacht B Competition was discontinued, this meant we could only have one game at this level. Thanks to the efforts of Brian Finn and the Tooreen Club, approval was given by the County Board and Connacht Council to host a Connacht Tournament with Mayo, Roscommon and Sligo taking part and the games played in Tooreen. We had a big win over Sligo on the 24th June and played Roscommon in the Final on the 29th July. In a great game Mayo defeated Roscommon for the first time in many years to win the Jim Hogan Couriers sponsored Cup.

In the All Ireland B Championship quarter final we travelled to play Donegal on the 8th August in Ballybofey. Donegal having won the All Ireland C Final proved tough opposition but a more skilful Mayo team proved better on the day. The next game was against Meath in the All Ireland semi-final on the 22nd August in Trim. Against a physically stronger Meath team and having a player sent off in the first half we lost out.

Minor:

Brian Finn continued as Manager and was assisted by John Regan. Having won the Minor C All Ireland Final in 2013 and 2014 the aim was to complete a three in a row and win the Adrian Freeman Cup for the first time.

In the group matches the team had good wins against Sligo and Longford. The Final against Tyrone was fixed for the 5th September but was postponed due to the Mayo v Dublin replay. The re-fixture on the 12th September was also postponed and the game was finally played on the 19th September. The game was a close affair and was level at full time and the teams were still deadlocked after extra time. We were back to Ballinamore on the following Saturday for the replay. Despite Mayo leading at half time Tyrone proved stronger in the second half and went on to win the title.

In 2016 the B and C Championships are being replaced by an Under 17 competition and the details are currently being finalised.

Christy Ring All Stars Team

Congratulation to Kenny Feeney, Tooreen who was honoured on the Christy Ring All Stars Team.

Puc Fada Competition:

Congratulations to Donal O'Brien Ballyhaunis who retained the County title. Congratulations to Cormac Phillips, Ballyhaunis who won the County and Connacht Under 16 Titles. He also finished runner up in the national competition on the Coley Mountain.

Club Competitions:

Senior:

Four teams playing at senior level, Ballyhaunis, Castlebar Mitchels Hurling, Tooreen, Westport.

Senior Hurling Championship: (Tyrell Cup).

Competition played on round robin basis. Top two teams contested A final and this year a B final was played for the Early Cup for the teams that finished third and fourth.

A Final – Old rivals Ballyhaunis and Tooreen contested the final played in Ballyhaunis on the 11th October. In an exciting and close game Ballyhaunis came out on top to retain their title. They progressed to the Connacht Intermediate semi-final but were beaten by Four Roads Roscommon.

B-Final – This was played as a curtain raiser to the A Final- Castlebar Mitchels beat Westport to become the first winners of this title.

Senior League(Genfit Cup).

The competition was played on a round robin basis and Castlebar Mitchels and Ballyhaunis contested the final. Castlebar Mitchels won to claim their first senior hurling trophy in 60 years.

Under 21 Championship

3 teams participated Castlebar Mitchels, Ballyhaunis, Tooreen,

- Castlebar Mitchels defeated Tooreen in the final to win their first title at this grade.

Minor A Final – Tooreen beat Castlebar

Minor B Final – Cashel Gaels beat Castlebar

League Final – Tooreen best Cashel Gaels

U16 A Final - Westport beat Tooreen

League Final – Tooreen beat Westport

U14 Westport retained their Feile A Title defeating Cashel Gaels

- Both Westport and Cashel Gaels represented Mayo in the National Feile competition.

In the championship A Final Cashel Gaels defeated Westport and in the B Final, Tooreen defeated Westport .

Thanks To:

- All Clubs at underage and senior level on ensuring that all competitions were completed this year.
- Referees who were always available to officiate at all levels.
- County Board Officials for their continued support to hurling in the Country
- Coaches who were involved with underage development squads.
- Mid West Radio and Local Newspapers for their coverage of games.
- Jim Hogan Couriers Westport for his sponsorship of the Senior Hurling Championship.
- Bord Na nOg Iomani officers for their work in the organisation of underage competitions.
- Adrian Hession GPO for his commitment to schools coaching and organisation with Development squads.
- John Hopkins, Chairman Hurling Committee and Brendan Geraghty for their continued commitment to hurling in the County.

Eoghan O’Conghaile

Runai Iomani

Mayo GAA Hurling Finals - 2015

<u>Competition</u>	<u>Winner</u>	<u>Runner-Up</u>	<u>Referee</u>
Senior Championship (Tyrell Cup)	Ballyhaunis	Tooreen	Charlie Collins
SeniorB Championship (Early Cup)	Castlebar	Westport	MI Herr
Senior League (Genfitt Cup)	Castlebar	Ballyhaunis	James McGrath
U21A	Castlebar	Tooreen	Ciaran Hynes
Minor Hurling League	Tooreen	Caiseal Gaels	Pat Conlon
MinorA Championship	Tooreen	Castlebar	Charlie Collins
MinorB Championship	Caiseal Gaels	Castlebar	James Judge
U16A Championship	Westport	Tooreen	Charlie Collins
U16A League (O'Shea Cup)	Tooreen	Westport	Charlie Collins
U14A Championship	Caiseal Gaels	Westport	Ciaran Byrne
U14B Championship	Tooreen	Westport	Michael Herr
U14 Feile A	Westport	Caiseal Gaels	Michael Carroll
U13A League	Westport	Caiseal Gaels	Darren Greaney
U13B League	Tooreen	Castlebar	Ciaran Byrne
U13C League	Ballina	WestportB	Darren Greaney
U12 A1 League	Westport	Ballyhaunis	James Judge
U12 A2 League	Castlebar	Ballyvary	James Judge
U12 B League	Caiseal Gaels	Tooreen	Michael Herr
U12 C League	Ballina	WestportB	James Judge

Development Report 2015

On my election of development officer I first formed a committee of Gerry Burke Breaffy, Cathy Carney Islandeady (secretary) Gerry Henry Castlebar, Peter Geraghty Swinford , Peter Walsh Shrulce and Padraic Prendgrast Ballina and I would like to thank them for their work through the year. I would like to also thank the facilitators committee particular Luke Fitzmaurice and Mary Printy for their help.

Clubs

Ballintubber are well advanced with their club plan and Aghamore are starting there at the moment. I have distributed club plan packs to some clubs

I want to congratulate clubs that have started club development and if any club wants any advice they can ring me anytime and I will help them in any way I can.

Club grants

The following clubs received club grants from the Connaught Council Kilmeena, Islandeady, Achill, Ballina, Tourmakeady and Kiltane.

McHale Park

A lot of work was done on the upgrading of the playing surface of McHale Park and the a joining pitches. I want to thank Gerry Burke, Philip Heneghan, Hugh Burke and the officers of the County board and Managers for their co-operation through the year. I want to also thank clubs and the Centre of excellence for lending there pitches for games.

Club of the year

A few clubs were short listed for club of the year. I decided to get an independent adjudicator and the club of the year is Breaffy. I congratulate Breaffy and wish them well in the Connaught club of the year.

Uilliam Ceallaigh
Offigeach Forbartha

Tuairiscáil an Rúnaí - Coiste Scór Mhaigheo 2015

- Coiste Scór Mhaigheo 2015 _

Scór na nÓg:

The season got underway with the Scór na nÓg competitions. The standard was quite high in a very entertaining County Final which was held in Breaffy GAA club house on Sunday, January 3rd

The **Connaught Scór na nÓg** final was staged again this year in the Claremorris town Hall on 17th January, Mayo's only winner in this year's Connacht Scór na nÓg the Aghamore Set Dancers

The **ALL Ireland Scór na NÓg** finals were held in the Citywest hotel, Dublin on Saturday 14th February and I am delighted to report that the Aghamore Set Dancers brought home the ultimate prize to Mayo, comhghairdeas

Scór na bPáistí: Scór na bPáistí still has the highest entry of all three competitions and the County Final was held on the 18th of April. I would like to compliment the teachers, parents and mentors for all the time they invest in preparing competitors for what was a county final of the highest standard.

Scór Sinsir: Scór Sinsir took place on the 7th of March in Breaffy and again was behind in the amount of competitors competing.

The **Connacht Final** was held in Tubbercurry, Co. Sligo on the 28th of March. Unfortunately, luck seem to evade us on that day, with Leitrim winning 3 titles, 2 each for Galway and Roscommon and 1 for Sligo,

The new Cathaoirleach of Coiste Scór Chonnacht, Gerry McGovern, set out his stall as he set a target of full participation, by all five counties in all events, within three years as his aim

Adjudication: I want to take this opportunity to thank all those who make their services available to us as adjudicators. Everyone will agree that they do a superb job and while we all may have our own personal opinions, we are very fortunate to have such a panel of expertise that we can call upon.

Stewards: I want to thank all those who turn up to steward at the various Scór events. It is still great to see that so many people give freely of their services.

A special work of thanks to the Breaffy GAA club for hosting the three county finals this year, the various MCs, all those who contributed in any way to the success of Scór in the county over the past year.

I wish to pay tribute on a personal level to everyone who has helped me in carrying out my duties over the past year as Cathaoirleach of Coiste Scór Mhaigheo.

Seamús MacGiobúin

SCÓR 2015 Where the titles went.....

Scór na bPaistí (Winners of County Final)							
Rince Fóirne	Amhránaíocht Aonair	Ceol Uirlise	Aithriseoireacht	Bailéad Ghrúpa	Rince Sean Nós	Nuachleas	Rince Seit
SN Carne	SN Castlebar	SN Tavrane	SN Craggagh	SN Craggagh	SN Aghamore	SN Craggagh	St Angelas Castlebar

Scór na nÓg							
Rince Fóirne	Amhránaíocht Aonair	Ceol Uirlise	Aithriseoireacht	Bailéad Ghrúpa	Tráth na gCeisteanna	Nuachleas	Rince Seit
Claremorris Ava Fitzpatrick, Eilis Higgins, Louise Kelly, Louise King, Emma Fallon, Rachel Walshe, Shauna Dixon	Na Mistealaígh, Caisleáin an Bharraigh <i>Louise Ní Ghabháin</i>	Louisburgh Rachel Reid, Shauna Cave, Jason O Malley, Finnian O Toole	Parke KC Clodagh Hegarty	Louisburgh Ellen Power, Rachel Reid, Emily Morrison, Sarah O Malley, Michaela O Malley	Kilmovee		Aghamore David Hession, Thomas Doherty, Sean freyne, James Freyne, Rachel Lyons, Aine Duffy, Orna Hession, Eleanor Harrison

Scór Sínsir								
Rince Fóirne	Amhránaíocht Aonair	Ceol Uirlise	Aithriseoireacht	Bailéad Ghrúpa	Tráth na gCeist	Nuachleas	Rince Seit	Sean Nós Dancing
No Entries	Clár Chlainne Mhuiris Anthony Kavanagh	Clár Chlainne Mhuiris - Ann Morley David Larkin Phelim Murphy Conor O'Keefe Anthony Kavanagh	Baile an Róba - Tricia Kay Hughe	Na Mistealaígh, Caisleáin an Bharraigh		No Entries	Aghadh Mór - Cathal Duffy Imelda Byrne Deborah Lennon - Davog Frayne Adrian Hession - Aoife Coyne - Ann Marie Caulfield Michael Duffy	Aghadh Mór Davog Frayne

2016 Convention Votes

North	Allocated	West	Allocated
Ardagh	3	Achill	3
Adrnaree	3	Balla	3
Ballina Stephenites	3	Ballintubber	3
Ballycastle	3	Breaffy	3
Ballycroy	3	Gerry Bourke	1
Belmullett	3	Seamus Tuohy	1
		Burrishoole	3
Bonniconlon	3	Castlebar Hurling	3
Vincent Neary	1	Castlebar Mitchels	3
Crossmolina	3	Islandeady	3
Dermot Butler	1	Cathy Carney	1
Mick Herr	1	Kilmeena	3
Kilfian	3	Willie Kelly	1
Killala	3	Louisburgh	3
Kiltane	3	Padraig Walsh	1
Knockmore	3	Parke	3
Sean McEil	1	Michael Moran	1
Lahardane	3	Padraig Carolan	1
James Gibbons	1	Tuair Mhic Eadaigh	3
Lacken	3	Westport	3
Moygownagh	3		
Padraic Staunton	1		
Cill Chomain	3		
	54		46
South	Allocated	East	Allocated
Ballinrobe	3	Aghamore	3
Claremorris	3	Ballaghderreen	3
Davitts	3	Ballyhaunis	3
Garrymore	3	Charlestown	3
JP Lambe	1	Eastern Gaels	3
Shrule Glencorrib	3	Ciarain Byrne	1
Peter Walsh	1	Kilmovee	3
Hollymount Carramore	3	Kiltimagh	3
Michael Connolly	1	Paddy McNicholas	1
Ger McHugh	1	Bohola Moy Davitts	3
Kilmaine	3	Swinford	3
Mayo Gaels	3	Aidan McLoughlin	1
The Neale	3	Vincent Walsh	1
Johnny Hopkins	1	Tooreen	3
	32		34
Cumann na mBunscoil	1	Total electoral votes	
Post Primary	1	North	54
Handball	1	South	32
	3	East	34
		West	46
		Others	3
			169

Ainmiuchain 2016

Patrún (Patron)	Padraic Ó Maolduin	Cathair na Márt
Uachtarán (President)	PS MacCraith	Cill Mheain
Cathaoirleach (Chairman)	Micheal O Conghaile	Maolla- Ceathrú Mór
(Vice Chairman)	Seamus Ó Tuathaigh	Bréachmaigh
Runaí (Secretary)	Uinsionn O Nearaigh	Muine Chonnalláin
(Assistant Secretary)	Diarmuid de Buitléir	Crois Mhaoilina
Cisteoir (Treasurer)	Sean O Fiannai Caoimhin O Tuthail	Baile an Tobair Tuair Mhic Eadaigh
Cisteoir Cunta (Assistant Treasurer)	Gearoid Aodha	Maolla- Ceathrú Mór
Oifigeach Caidreamh Poibli (Public Relations Officer)	Brendain O Hoireachtaigh Tomas MacRanaill Enda O Maonaile Pol O Cuinneain	Burris Umhaill Cathair na Mart Cill Fhaoin Na Daibheidi
Ard Comhairle (Central Council Delegate)	Sean MacÉil	Cnoc Mór
Comhairle Chonnacht 1 & 2 (Connacht Council Delegate)	Gearoid De Burca Padraic Mac Niochlais	Breacmhaigh Coillte Mach
Oifigeach Leanáí (Children's Officer)	Padraic Breathnach	Cluain Cearbain
Oifigeach Cultúra (Cultural Officer)	Seamus Mac Giobúin	Leathardán
Oifigeach Forbartha Development	Liam O Ceallaigh	Cill Miodhna
Oifigeach Oiliuma (Coaching Officer)	Padraig Ó Cearúlláin	An Pháirc

RUIN 2016

Club Championship

1. With regards to Divisional Junior championships: If a player plays at a higher level than junior in the Mayo Championship players may not play junior at divisional level for the remainder of the year. (Davitts)
2. The two intermediate finalists be promoted to the senior championship and two teams relegated from senior championship to intermediate championship. (Hollymount Carramore)
3. The two junior A finalists be promoted to the intermediate championship and two teams relegated from intermediate championship to junior A championship. (Hollymount Carramore)
4. The two junior B finalists be promoted to the Junior A championship and two teams relegated from junior A championship to junior B championship. (Hollymount Carramore)
5. Club Championships, (group stages), to be set in stone and not moved unless with unanimous agreement from club chairpersons. Reason: to allow club teams and players to plan accordingly. (Davitts)

Senior League

6. Motion 1:
Should a team/teams fail to field a team in either of the last two league games, they would be automatically placed in a relegation playoff with the team who finishes second from bottom (unless they finish bottom or second from bottom in regulation).
(Kiltimagh)
7. Motion 2 if Motion 1 is defeated:
Should a team/teams fail to field a team in either of the last two league games, they would be required to play all league games in the following season away from home.
(Kiltimagh)
8. That the Starred League system be disbanded in Division 1A and that County Players be made available to clubs for all league matches (Baile an Tobair)
9. If the Starred League system is to continue, that County Management, through the County Secretary, e-mail the list of 26 players that are unavailable ahead of a League match by the previous Wednesday evening. (Baile an Tobair)
10. That the annual County Board Diary and Information Booklet when published contain dates for all Senior League and Championship matches (Baile an Tobair)

Under 21

11. That the County discontinue the U21 Club Championship (Knockmore)
12. The under 21 championship be a straight knock out. (Garrymore)
13. The under 21 championship should be played during the months of June, July and August. (Garrymore)
14. Under 21 Championship group games to be played on the Tuesday/Wednesday following Senior/Intermediate Championship. (Davitts)

Fixtures

15. County Board to outline a specific fixtures list on a rolling six week period which must not be broken. Reason: to avoid prolonged periods of time whereby club players, teams and managers are unable to plan ahead.(Davitts)
16. Greater transparency between fixtures organisation and clubs at all levels regarding times of venues, times and change of officials. Reason: To allow club teams plan ahead. (Davitts)

Other

17. 5 year rule for officers to be reviewed. (Garrymore)
18. Players that are sent off in games who are successful in their appeal should have the result published. (Garrymore)
19. That the All Ireland Quarter Final and Semi Final match tickets are allocated to Clubs in the Competing Counties in the first instance prior to going on sale through retail outlets or on-line. (Ballaghderreen)
20. That all tickets for Connacht SFC Matches are allocated to clubs in the competing counties in the first instance prior to going on sale through retail outlets or on-line. (Ballaghderreen)
21. That the annual County Board Diary and Information Booklet when published contain the name and the club that referee is attached, along with his contact details (Baile an Tobair)

Hurling

22. All Connacht Intermediate Hurling Semi Finals between Mayo Senior Hurling winners and Roscommon winners be played in alternative Mayo/Roscommon venues and not just in Athleague in Roscommon as is the case at present. (Tooreen)

Bye laws

23. That Mayo County Board accept current bye laws (Mayo County Board)

