



# Ollchruinniú Chinnbhliana

Óstan Heritage, Cill an Aird, Co. Laoise | Dé Sathair, 8ú Feabhra, 2014



LAOIS



# CUMANN NA MBUNSCOL



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To have Gaelic Games  
the games of choice  
for Ireland's Primary  
School Children

## Clár an Lae

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## Standing Orders

1. The Cathaoirleach shall preside over all meetings and shall see that the rules of the organisation be enforced sensibly and fairly on all occasions.
2. Motions to the Annual General Meeting, which shall be in the name of an affiliated area or Provincial Council and formally adopted at a meeting of that body, must reach the National Secretary not later than the last Friday in January.
3. All nominations for positions on the National Committee which shall be in the name of an affiliated area or Provincial Council and formally adopted at a meeting of that body, must reach the National Secretary not later than three weeks before the AGM.
4. The National Committee shall consider all motions and nominations and decide if they are in order and acceptable for consideration at the AGM.
5. Copies of the agenda for the AGM together with list of motions and nominations for elections to National Committee shall be circulated to all affiliated areas and Provincial Councils at least 7 days before the AGM.
6. Amendments and agenda will be with the National Secretary in writing in the name of an affiliated area or Provincial Council at least one hour before the AGM.
7. Contrary motions shall not be accepted.
8. All motions must be clear and unambiguous and must not conflict with the aims and objectives of Cumann na mBunscol.
9. (a) To be deemed in order a motion must be implementable and must be specific to Cumann na mBunscol.  
(b) However motions may call on Cumann na mBunscol to negotiate with relevant bodies on a specific matter that is of interest to Cumann na mBunscol.
10. The mover of a proposal shall speak for not more than three minutes.
11. The seconder of a proposal shall speak for no more than three minutes.
12. No motion shall be discussed for more than 20 minutes. The motion must be disposed of when the 20 minutes have elapsed.
13. The mover shall have the right of reply in all cases. 2 minutes maximum.
14. Voting shall be by a show of hands on all motions. A simple majority shall ensure the adoption of any item. Where rule changes are proposed, a two thirds majority shall be necessary in every instance to ensure their adoption.
15. The usual method for the disposal of amendments and agenda shall be followed.
16. In the event of the proposition "That the question be put", and that this proposition be seconded, the presiding Cathaoirleach shall on a show of hands either continue the debate or 'Put the question'.
17. In the event of the proposition "That the AGM, move to next business " and that this proposition be seconded, the presiding Cathaoirleach shall put the proposition to a vote immediately. If defeated the debate shall be resumed.
18. If a position on the National Committee be contested, voting shall be by secret ballot. A successful candidate must have 50% + 1 of the valid votes cast by delegates present and voting at the AGM. In the event of a tie, the winning candidate will be drawn by lot.
19. The chairman may at his discretion ask if there is no obvious objection to a motion that the motion be put in order, to save time.
20. The chairman may at his discretion and in consultation with order officers change the order of business in the interest of efficiency.
21. The order of business may also be changed at the request of a majority of delegates present and voting.
22. Only properly constituted delegates may speak at the AGM. Other speakers may only address the AGM when prior arrangements are made through the National Committee.

## Minutes of 2013 Annual General Meeting



### Cumann na mBunscol Náisiúnta

**Date:** Saturday, 9th February 2013 at 11.00am

**Venue:** The Slieve Donard Hotel, Newcastle Co. Down.

**Present:** Liam O Néill Uachtarán C.L.G., An Choiste Náisiúnta and County Delegates

**Apologies:** Aogán Ó Fearghail

#### 1. Welcoming of Delegates:

The Chairman Paul Duggan welcomed all to the meeting in particular Liam O Neill Uachtarán and Séamus Walsh County Chairman An Dún. Séamus Walsh also addressed delegates and welcomed all to the County. In his address he mentioned the importance of having a strong and committed Cumann na mBunscol and he thanked all present for the marvellous work being done.

#### 2. Adoption of Standing Orders:

Standing Orders were adopted on the proposal of Patrick Morrissey (London). Seconded by Killian O'Reilly (Waterford).

#### 3. Address of Paul Duggan Cathaoirleach Cumann na mBunscol

Is mór an phríbléid dom bheith I bhur láithair inniú agus ar son An Choiste Náisiúnta, ba mhaith liom ár mbuíochas a thabhairt daoibh as gach rud a rinne sibh dúinn i rith na mbliana.

The purpose of today is to thank you for the work that is ongoing in our schools, to review the year past, to engage with and listen to you and to give you an insight into how strategically significant we see the work of games promotion and preservation in our Primary Schools. We want you to work with us in building a stronger Cumann na mBunscol. To pay lip service or indeed to patronise is not good enough. Let me make it clear my aim is to create a robust, vibrant and successful Cumann na mBunscol, sure of our rationale, steadfast in our commitment and strong in our identity. As officers of the various County

Units you owe this to the children in our schools, their families and to our clubs and counties. Such will be our legacy. Your cooperation is vital. Our leadership is non-negotiable. You should demand vision, integrity and resolve from An Choiste Náisiúnta.

In our recent review, July 2012, of our activity and structures we tried to address the issue of our relevance today. We identified many strengths and indeed areas for improvement in the Primary School Sector. We are challenged to address these as best we can, **together towards improvement** is a phrase we are familiar with here in the six counties. I would like to challenge you to reflect on how we should proceed. We will follow on from our meeting in early December when we looked at our Constitution. We will convene a small group, which is representative and present a document for discussion in September.

We are faced with propensity versus capacity. Many of our Units will not be able to deliver without input from Coaching and Games and a commitment from An Choiste Náisiúnta, from County Boards and from our schools. The challenge is for all partners to accept their respective roles and to play their part in a changing society where altruistic or traditional values are diminishing. This will work best when we are strong, determined and challenging, perhaps even challenged. There is no need to surrender our unique identity. Are we tired? Are we content to acquiesce in the comfort zone, of leave well alone, sure I got a few tickets in September, or are we prepared to work together to deliver what our Constitution asks, - **"to promote and foster our National Games"**. Are we not privileged to be able to introduce every child in our schools to the games and activities which define us, the games which set us apart, forge our identity and make us what we are? To pull at the heartstrings of a notional romantic Ireland where every child has a hurley in his or her hand is merely jingoistic idealism. But we are challenged to be the best that we can be, to deliver for our children, our schools and our counties. How are we going to do that? Are we prepared to do it in an Ireland of weary, disgruntled, disillusioned professionals? Yes we are because of our grá for our games, our nation, our



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language, our Parish School and Club and ultimately our Counties. It is for each individual here to decide, to question to commit.

**Let us forge a strong identity, sure of what we are about. A strong Cumann na mBunscol has nothing to fear. Our greatest threat is lethargy.**

## 4. Minutes:

Delegates were invited to browse through the minutes of A.G.M. 2012. The minutes were then adopted on the proposal of Ciarán Crowe (Luimneach), seconded Kevin Toner (Doire).

## 5. Arising from Minutes:

The Chairman thanked the Sponsors of Cumann na mBunscol in particular Allianz, Cornmarket and Mycro.

## 6. Correspondence:

Nothing to hand. Minutes of the of September 23rd 2012 meeting were proposed by Jim Mc Cann (Aontroim) seconded by Bríd Ní Chléirigh (Port Láirge).

## 7. Secretary's Report:

The Secretary Noeleen Rooney gave a very comprehensive report which included Administration, Allianz, The Cornmarket National Awards in Conjunction with Mycro, Handball, GAA / INTO Mini-Sevens. Noeleen thanked the National Committee but most of all she thanked the Teachers for their tremendous work in promoting Gaelic Games. The report was proposed by Edward O'Riordan (Laois) seconded Niall McQuaid (Tír Eoghan).

## 8. Treasurer's Report:

Liam Magee (Fear Manach) gave a detailed report to the meeting, he thanked Joan Kelly (Finance Dept. Croke Park) for all her help with the accounts.

**Total Income: €210,616**

**Total Expenditure: €183,977**

**Surplus for period transferred to Reserves: €26,639**

## Net Current Assets: €186,013

(Brought Forward, €159,374 --- add Surplus €26,639)

Killian O'Reilly (Port Láirge) complimented the Treasures on his report. Máiréad Ni Cheallacháin (Corcaigh) asked that the amount of the Allianz Grant given to each county be published and sent out to each county. (Agreed)

Gerry O'Meara (Báile Átha Cliath) asked if Cumann na mBunscol would have a stand at the I.N.T.O. Congress. (There will be one).

Accounts proposed Jim O'Riordan (Cill Mhantáin) seconded Fiona Delaney (Laois)

## 9. Development Report:

In his report Development Officer referred to the following:

- a) Relevance of Cumann na mBunscol in a Club Driven Environment
- b) Coach Education
- c) GAA / INTO Mini Sevens, the Respect Initiative and Exhibition Games
- d) Various Meeting Held
- e) The National Awards

Killian O'Reilly (Port Láirge) asked who was Cumann na mBunscol's representative on the National Coaching and Games Committee and what was the position regarding the Go Games. Pat Culhane responded as our representative on Coaching and Games and spoke regarding Rule 6.26 and the Go Games format.

John Byrne (An Mhi) congratulated Jim Fennelly Development Officer on his report and asked where the report would go from here. (It would be sent to Paraic O'Dufaigh in Croke Park) Jim Dempsey (Loch Gorman) stated that the report should go back to each County Board.

Development report proposed by Jim Dempsey (Loch Gorman) seconded John Byrne (An Mhi)

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## 10. P.R.O.'s Report:

The P.R.O. Brendan Rice reported on the following:

- a) Allianz Sponsorship, he welcomed Damien O'Neill from Allianz to the meeting
- b) I.N.T.O. Congress
- c) In Touch
- d) Website
- e) Cornmarket National Awards
- f) Match Programmes

Much discussion took place, Killian O'Reilly (Port Láirge) asked about the format of the Awards in 2013. Bernie Ryan (Sligeach) informed delegates that the format and categories for 2013 will be announced later in the year. Some Categories will remain, however Cornmarket are very keen to continue with the Awards. Maybe each County should have a presentation and have a representative of Cornmarket there. Aodán Wrenn (Tiobrad Árann) congratulated the Awards Committee on having the winning projects on display, but he added that he had concern regarding the judging of them.

The Website is very close to completion and it will be formally launched shortly. Paul Duggan (Ard Mhaca) thanked the Secretary Noeleen Rooney (Longfort) for all her work on the site John Byrne (An Mhi) asked that an Annual Report be published regarding Allianz coverage. Joe Lyons (Luimneach) and Gerry Hussey (An Gallimh) stated that there were some problems with local editors publishing the names of sponsors.

Aodán Wrenn (Tiobrad Árann) said he was delighted to see the piece from each participating county in the match programme for All-Ireland Semi-Finals and Finals and he hoped this would continue.

Report proposed by Tadhg Kenny (Báile Átha Cliath) seconded Patricia Hunt (Sligeach).

## 11. GAA/I.N.T.O. Mini-Sevens Report:

Mini-Sevens Review Presented by Pat McGivern: (Each section of the report was accepted or rejected on a show of hands)

- a) No change to the allocation of places. Each County to be allocated 6 places with Cork receiving 12 and Dublin 24, Britain to receive 4. The 20 remaining places will be distributed to the four provinces with each province receiving 5 places in the same code and the code to be rotated each year. These extra places are under the direction and management of the provincial committees. **Accepted.**
- b) No child can play in Croke Park in any code more than once in their Primary School Life. **Accepted.**
- c) Only 1 boy and 1 girl can represent their individual school in any one year to ensure that as many different schools as possible are represented in Croke Park. **Accepted.**
- d) We recommend that pupils who play in Croke Park in Mini-Games cannot represent their school/Province in Primary Game/Provincial games in that school year. **Accepted.**
- e) We recommend that the Mini-Games be played at half-time of Senior Hurling and Football Finals. **Accepted.**
- f) **1.** All counties go to a Skills Based selection process by 2016 regarding Mini-Games  
**2.** That counties have autonomy of their own selection process. **Accepted.**

## 13. Uachtarán CLG Liam Ó Néill:

Liam Ó Néill addressing the delegates stated:

- a) Delighted to be with Cumann na mBunscol.
- b) Appreciate the work of Cumann na mBunscol and Teachers.
- c) Enjoyable 9 months as Uachtarán.
- d) Since 1977 involved with Primary School activities.
- e) Right of each Primary School to have self autonomy.
- f) Committed to Mick Martin - Coaching and Games.
- g) Primary Coaching 21 years old.
- h) I.N.T.O. Gender Equality, more coaching of girls
- i) Our duty to put the child first - duty of care (Pat Culhane), deal with child differently.
- j) Go Games, challenge to give everyone a game, good news 30% increase in participation, positive response from parents.



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- k) Safety is paramount to all Teachers.
- l) Integrity - the family of Gaelic Games - we are five separate parts - Rounders, Handball, Camogie, Ladies Football and Hurling and Football. Are we one organisation? Can we do what happens at Primary Level?
- m) No Primary School Committee should have to pay money for hire of pitches.
- n) Uachtarán - troubled that Teachers would not want to be associated with the GAA. Croke Park does not want to control but wants to work in cooperation - to consult each other.
- o) 3 year plan - to be inclusive - to have all playing Go Games in a friendly atmosphere.
- p) Feile Peile/Iomáint - savage competition - looking at it (National Feile Committee) -from next year to take the competitiveness out of it.
- q) Minor reduced to under 17 - keep it skilful --- nurture the teenager.

The Uachtarán finished his address by stating that as a Primary Teacher he was proud to be President of the GAA and to be able to influence and change. It is with the cooperation of Primary Teachers that we can make Gaelic Games the choice of every Primary School Child and in doing so we can make the GAA a power and a positive influence in Irish society.

## 13. Election of Officers:

The following officers were elected on block on the proposal of Colin Bell (An Dún) seconded by Máiréid Ní Cheallacháin (Corcaigh).

**Uachtarán:** An Br. Séamus Ó Duidhíorma (Luimneach)  
**Cathaoirleach:** Pól Ó Duagáin (Ard Mhacha)  
**Leas Cathaoirleach:** Bernadette Ryan (Sligeach)  
**Runaí:** Noeleen Rooney (Longfort)  
**Leas – Runaí:** Tim O’Byrne (Port Láirge)  
**Cisteóir:** Liam Magee (Fear Manach)  
**P.R.O.:** Brendan Rice (An Dún)  
**Development Officer:** Séamus Ó Fionnalaigh (Cill Chainnigh)  
**Delegate to Central Council:** Pat McGivern (Tír Eoghain)

## 14. Motions 2013:

### Motion 1:

A section of each scheduled meeting be devoted to a discussion on games. (Cumann na mBunscol na Mumhan) Proposed Joe Lyons (Luimneach) seconded Gearóid Breathnach (Corcaigh). **Passed.**

### Motion 2:

An invoice and receipt be issued to counties for All-Ireland tickets. Recommendation - (Cumann na mBunscol Tiobraid Árann, Cumann na mBunscol na Mumhan) Proposed Aodán Wrenn (Tiobraid Árann) seconded Máiréid Ní Cheallachán (Corcaigh). (Recommendation - best practice) **Passed.**

### Motion 3:

A sub-committee, established by An Choiste Náisiúnta of Cumann na mBunscol, audit all Cumann an mBunscol structures and levels of all activities in each County and Province and report to the September meeting in 2013. (Cumann na mBunscol na Mumhan) Proposed Killian O’Reilly (Port Láirge) seconded Aodan Wrenn (Tiobraid Árann). **Passed.**

### Motion 4:

Cumann na mBunscol Port Láirge demand that an Choiste Náisiúnta make representation to Croke Park and the Department of Education and Science to have Cumann na mBunscol Games and Activities included as part of any Agreement on Additional Time in Schools, acknowledging the voluntary effort of so many teachers, the importance of Cumann na mBunscol Games and Activities in enriching the lives of pupils and therefore enshrining the importance of our National Games in the Curriculum. (Cumann na mBunscol Port Láirge, Cumann na mBunscol na Mumhan) Proposed Eamonn Mac Gearailt (Port Láirge) seconded Tim O’ Byrne (Port Láirge). **Passed.**

### Motion 5:

Cumann na mBunscol Náisiúnta requests that the rule regarding the wearing of mouth guards be postponed for Primary Schools games and training until clarification is sought and obtained regarding the practical effects in Primary Schools. (Cumann na



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mBunscol Tiobraid Árann, Cumann na mBunscol na Mumhan) Proposed Aodán Wrenn (Tiobraid Árann) seconded Mairead NíCheallachán (Corcaigh). **Passed.**

## 15. Address by invited Guest: Damien O’Neill (Allianz):

Damien O’Neill addressed the delegates under the following headings:

- a) Brief introduction to Allianz
- b) Brief introduction to the speaker
- c) Allianz supporting Communities
- d) Allianz, the GAA and Cumann na mBunscol
- e) Allianz Cumann na mBunscol score card
- f) Looking at the future

Allianz is proud to have supported the GAA for 21 years and Cumann na mBunscol for 20 years (1993-2013). Damien acknowledged that no other sporting organisation has done more for local communities than the GAA. The GAA, Cumann na mBunscol is recognised as making the greatest contribution to Irelands Social Capital since its foundation.

**Allianz Cumann na mBunscol:** In Cumann na mBunscol “ownership remains a major problem” getting the brand out there, reference to Allianz in the posting of Cumann na mBunscol activities is

paramount to the success of this initiative and is the key performance indicator. However the latest report received in from Kantar is trending in the opposite direction to that we had hoped. The modest 48% ownership achieved at the end of 2012 school year has dropped by 7 points to 41% with absolutely no performance improvement in certain counties. This position is even worse when one completes a simple Google search on the terms Allianz Cumann na mBunscol and Cumann na mBunscol, which returns a derisory 17% ownership of reference to Allianz.

Allianz sponsorship to Cumann na mBunscol is €100,000.00. Damien was hopeful to have a three year deal but the latest figures are disappointing. He stated that he had hoped that we had turned the corner on this, and that all that was said and committed to last year, would have delivered a positive uplift in the first half of the year - but alas - not so.

We need to get the brand **Allianz Cumann na mBunscol** out there, and this time next year, if results are more positive, we maybe able to announce a three year sponsorship deal.

This concluded the business of the meeting.

**Signed:** Tim O’Byrne (Leas – Runaí)





## Secretary's Report

Is mór an onóir dom, mar Rúnaí Náisiúnta Chumainn na mBunscol, an tuairisc seo a chur ós bhur gcomhair inniu. Gabhaim buíochas daoibh go léir – múinteoirí, dáaltaí, tuismitheoirí agus boird bainisteoireachta as ucht an tacaíocht agus an comhoibriú a thug sibh dúinn i rith na bliana seo chaite.

At the outset I would like to pay tribute to Paul Duggan. Paul retired as chairperson in October last due to ill-health. Paul was on the National Committee since 2005 and held the offices of Development Officer, Secretary and Chairperson and did tremendous work in all of these positions. We thank him for his service to Cumann na mBunscol and wish him good health in the future.

### Administration:

An Coiste Náisiúnta met on seven occasions since our last A.G.M.

We also carried out an audit on all Coistí as directed by a motion to our last AGM. The results were then presented to our General Meeting in September. Thank you all for your support in this regard. The Provincial Officers were also engaged in appraising the Motions for today's A.G.M. and I wish to thank them sincerely for their time and their contribution.

### Allianz:

We are very grateful to Allianz for their continued generous support in 2013. Thank you also to our PROs for continuing to promote Allianz in local newspapers. Mentions of Allianz has increased since we put a system in place to support Coistí in their efforts and, although we are not there yet, we are definitely moving in the right direction.

### Cornmarket National Awards in Conjunction with Mycro:

The Cornmarket Awards Banquet took place in The Hogan Mezzanine Suite, Croke Park Stadium on Saturday, November 16th, 2013. Ivan Ahern, Cornmarket, GAA President, Liam O'Neill and INTO President, Brendan O'Sullivan, were in attendance.

The categories were adjudicated by INTO President, Brendan O'Sullivan, Aileen Lawlor, Uachtarán, An Cumann Camógaíochta and former National Committee member, Tom Ryan. I would like to take this opportunity to say 'Míle Buíochas' to our assessors. Congratulations to all the winners and a special word of thanks to all who participated. We hope that our Cornmarket Awards, pertaining to 2013-2014, will take place at our next AGM.

Our MC on the night was Jerry Grogan and I would like to commend him on the professional way in which he performed this duty.

### Handball:

The Handball Exhibitions took place in Kingscourt on two separate days in 2013 - Boy's event on March 2nd and Girls event on the March 23rd. It was a most successful and enjoyable event. Br. James Dormer, our Handball Officer for Cumann na mBunscol was responsible for organising the Exhibitions and I would like to thank him for his work in this regard. Acknowledgment is also due to Darragh Daly GAA Handball National Development Officer for his support. The Handball Exhibitions will take place in Kingscourt on two separate days in 2013 - Boy's event on March 1st and Girls event on a date to be decided.

### GAA/INTO Mini – Sevens:

I would like to congratulate Pat McGivern on a very successful 2013 series. Pat has completed five years as Mini-Sevens co-ordinator. We thank him for his excellent work and offer best wishes to his successor. Our President, Br. James Dormer and the Dublin teachers, were of invaluable assistance again last year. The response from participants, parents and volunteers was again very positive. Many thanks also to our co-sponsors GAA and INTO and to 2013 INTO President, Brendan O'Sullivan, for his interest and support.

I would like to express our gratitude to GAA President, Liam O'Neill and Ard Stiúrthóir, Páraic Duffy, for their continued support. I would also like to thank Pat

## Secretary's Report



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Culhane for his assistance throughout the year. Finally I would like to thank our own Vice-Chairperson, Bernie, and fellow officers Br. Dormer, Jim, Brendan, Liam, Pat and Tim for their courtesy, support and common sense. But most of all, I would like to thank you the teachers for your tremendous work in promoting Gaelic Games throughout the country.

It has been busy and challenging year but has been most of all rewarding.

**Míle buíochas daoibh go léir agus rath Dé oraibh sa bhliain atá romhainn.**



## Treasurer's Report

### Cumann na mBunscol Profit & Loss account Year Ending 31 October 2013

	12 months to 31 Oct 2013 €	12 months to 31 Oct 2012 €
<b>Income</b>		
Allianz Sponsorship	100,000	100,000
GAA Games Development Funding	68,000	80,000
Mycro Sponsorship	3,000	0
O'Neill's Sponsorship	0	5,000
National Awards Ticket Income	6,827	7,116
Cornmarket Sponsorship	15,000	15,000
Financial Income	2,093	3,500
	<b>194,920</b>	<b>210,616</b>

### Expenses

Allianz P R Grants	46,000	36,500
Grants to Counties	85,400	88,775
Handball	1,187	456
Publications & Website	0	1,042
National Awards Ceremony Costs	24,050	24,579
Committee Travel	14,786	11,692
Committee Meals & Accommodation	11,999	9,822
Complimentary All Ireland Tickets*	1,260	1,420
AGM	7,297	6,271
Phone & Postage	317	497
INTO Congress	385	0
Bank Charges	0	60
Sundry Expenses	1,017	2,863
	<b>193,698</b>	<b>183,977</b>

<b>Surplus for the year transferred to Reserves</b>	<b>1,222</b>	<b>26,639</b>
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## Treasurer's Report

### Cumann na mBunscol Balance Sheet As at 31 October 2013

	2013 €	2012 €
<b>Current Assets</b>		
Debtors	68,000	80,000
Cash and Bank Balances	245,235	231,541
	<b>313,235</b>	<b>311,541</b>
<b>Current Liabilities</b>		
Accruals	126,000	125,528
	<b>126,000</b>	<b>125,528</b>
<b>Net Current Assets</b>	<b>187,235</b>	<b>186,013</b>

### Capital Account

Brought Forward	186,013	159,374
Surplus/Deficit for the year	1,222	26,639
	<b>187,235</b>	<b>186,013</b>





## Development Report

As delegates to AGM made their way from the Kingdom of Mourne on the morning of February 10th last year no doubt they were pondering the revelation by Uachtarán Liam o Neill that he had appointed a working group to examine the position of the GAA in primary Schools with particular reference to the relationship with Cumann na mBunscol.

Review committees operate all the time in the GAA and there is normally nothing sinister in their terms of reference. However to hear about the working group in an informal way on Feb 9th when it was first announced on 6th of January at Ard Comhairle left this

delegate somewhat concerned at the veil of secrecy surrounding it.

But you must play the hand you are dealt and proceedings got underway with an initial meeting of all national committee members and the review committee. It was courteous and sought to summarise where Cumann na mBunscol was in terms of its strategic plan and set down a starting point for the review. After that initial ice breaker it was left to our Chairman to represent the national committee at the working group's meetings.

Time rolled on and a run of events placed your



## Development Report

Development officer in the position of representative of Cumann na mBunscol at the review committee meetings. My first meeting was on November 23rd with the review chairman and secretary. It was at this meeting that I learned of the diarised meetings of April 4th, May 24th, July 17th and October 26th. To say one was in the dark would be an understatement.

My thoughts then.....

*"The game was well on and as we were heading into injury time I was left wondering what I could do to even make an impression on the final outcome. I did have a careful eye on the ball following what can only be described as an off the ball incident, worthy of the black card, at a national meeting around about Féile na Samhain. I dusted myself off for the common good and played on to the best of my ability for the good of the team"*

A full meeting of the review committee was held on December 12th which was to be its final one. It became clear to me that many decisions had already been made and in many respects the report was no longer embryonic but if anything, running overdue. As this report goes to print the report of the review committee has not been published and I do not want to pre-empt its contents as this would be unfair. However as this is my report to you, the delegates at the 2014 AGM of Cumann na mBunscol there are some points I wish to make about what may appear in the final report.

### Governance

The review committee was informed by Cumann na mBunscol at meeting of review committee 7.12.2013 that verifiable evidence at Ard Comhairle level would be sought where it was proposed, seconded and agreed by members of central council to enter negotiations with Cumann na mBunscol to establish structures that would facilitate the promotion and control of all gaelic games within one organisation and consequently bring Cumann na mBunscol under general rule. The letter would be tabled for

consideration at the Jan 18th 2014 Central Council meeting. A lot will hinge on what response will come from this request and we can only await its delivery. While I feel governance is the big issue there will also be recommendations around:

- **Finance:** The control of the current account and the handling of sponsorship funds.
- **5 year rule:** How it would serve to invigorate the organisation.
- **Increased involvement** of ladies in Cumann na mBunscol
- Transparency in the allocation of **All-Ireland tickets.**
- **Sponsorship/Marketing and Website**
- **Coaching and Games:** Likely to favour a non competitive environment.
- **Control** that national body has over its provincial bodies and county coisti
- **Teacher time in schools.**
- **Retired teachers** holding office in Cumann na mBunscol.

The full treatment of these items will be greeted with guarded optimism by those who expressed concern at the modus operandi in the first place. There are questions around the consultation process. Why for example was it stated that all county chairmen and secretaries of Cumann na mBunscol would be interviewed in the process but then a decision not to do so was taken towards the end of the review process? The question in relation to affiliation to the GAA was misleading as many who answered yes to this question might not have been aware of the implications for Cumann na mBunscol coming under general rule of the GAA. The question of funding must also be raised in all of this process. If the review does not compare fairly, the funding given to all the educational bodies then the report will be incomplete by its nature and an opportunity will also be missed. Subsidising hurleys,





## Development Report

helmets and goalposts all cost money and if a county is doing this effectively it needs substantial funds. Clubs/ County Boards are encouraged to assist the primary schools in their area but we know that many of our Coistí operate on their own in this regard. In fact in some cases very little has changed since 1981 report.

### Games and Development in 2013

Annual congress of the GAA passed a motion in 2013 that gave central council the decision making power on how games up to U13 in clubs and schools would be organised. (Yes I hear you Cumann an mBunscol is not under general rule but, this needs clarification immediately) This rule is referred to as 6:26 Go Games. While Cumann na mBunscol organises its games independently it has in its constitution that it will endeavour to align itself with the GAA. This really implies that Cumann na mBunscol will seek to follow best practice but within the limitations that the school setting presents.

There is a motion before you today that seeks to address the whole small sided games issue. While the majority of counties organise small sided leagues there are still some counties who can quite legitimately organise 15 a side leagues mainly because they combine schools in a parish or they may be in centres of highly populated areas. In fact some of these counties can demonstrate the inclusion of multiple 15 a side teams by schools in appropriate grades. This is a huge undertaking in any school and must require a lot of teacher input. This motion is asking that counties apply to the national committee for sanction of 15 a side leagues with the criteria clearly stated. It would be my opinion that all counties who wish to organise 15 a side leagues would qualify under one of the three criteria.

I refer you back to the motion of 2010 on games and development which was passed and written into rule that games would be "child centred, small sided, developmentally appropriate and capable of giving all players meaningful game time"

### Recommendations

The following recommendations are made to focus even more on some specifics. There was a lot of debate in 2013 about the 3rd and 4th class child involved in games at the senior end of the school leagues. It is fair to say that the inclusion of the 3rd class child (and its equivalent in northern Ireland) in an U13 school's game is bordering on dangerous. There should be no situation where this is encouraged to happen. County Coistí should emphasise small sided leagues to avoid this and I am glad to see that this is hugely the case. The 4th class child is a different scenario. It is possible that a fourth class child could be 10 years and 10 months in the year of a league if he/she started school in September having just turned five on Sept 1st. This child could be physically stronger than the child in a class above him/her and therefore it is easy to see how a school would include him/her in the school leagues. To this end the recommendation stands that the fourth class child or P5 in Northern Ireland can be included but not at the expense of the 5th or 6th class child P6 or P7.

Large numbers in a school for those who find themselves managing this situation should consider entering multiple teams in appropriate grades. This can go a long way to giving meaningful game time. County Coistí should facilitate this by organising multiple divisions. I know geography can play a part in this in many large counties and also teacher power is vital to the working of such a plan. Where it is working it pays rich dividends for the schools who opt for it.

I fail to see why children are organised in large panels of 25-30 and then given the impression that they will get meaningful game time. The child who is part of this arrangement will know full well that if he or she gets ten minutes at the end of a game that due to its lopsidedness, is conceded, knows also that it is not a meaningful ten minutes. It is recommended that whatever the maximum number constitutes a team in your leagues that no more than 5 additional players is added as panel members. Meaningful game time can



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## Development Report

be given to all players in this situation but not if the number escalates beyond this measure.

It is the hope that all our county Coistí could give serious consideration to these recommendations when they sit down at their fixtures meetings over the next few weeks.

In the meantime please enjoy the AGM and I urge you to speak your mind at every opportunity. Don't wait for somebody else to do it for you. Our meeting in September will largely deliver to you a flavour of what becomes crystallized at the AGM. The decisions we make become policy so have your say and use your vote as you see best.

Finally I leave you with a thought from J.R.R Tolkien and it is as quoted that we go on "feeling the wall" but onwards no less.

*"Go back?" he thought. "No good at all! Go sideways? Impossible! Go forward? Only thing to do! On we go!" So up he got, and trotted along with his little sword held in front of him and one hand feeling the wall, and his heart all of a patter and a pitter."*

*J.R.R. Tolkien, The Hobbit*

Le gach dea ghuí  
Jim Fennelly  
Games and Development Officer, Feabhra 2014





## PRO's Report

This, like every other year that Cumann na mBunscol Náisiúnta takes on, has been another successful one. The promotion of Gaelic Games in our Primary schools is paramount in this sporting climate, as we take on the challenge from other sports, to make our games the number 1 choice. As PRO for the National Committee I must emphasise the importance of communicating to everyone in your county, the activities Cumann na mBunscol offers the children of Ireland and the important role we play in every parish and community in Ireland.

### Allianz Sponsorship

Allianz have agreed to continue their sponsorship of Cumann na mBunscol and we thank them very much for their support. They do ask us in return for the funding that we promote Allianz in all reports through the media. When the committee sat down with Allianz to look at the results, they were very impressed by the jump in the "Degree of Ownership" in some counties, in particular those who had a below percentage in 2011/12. This shows that counties have taken on board what was being asked of them. However we have counties who are still taking the National average down below 50%. The results from Kantar read as follows for the past 2 years

Overall Degree of Ownership (Allianz Mentions)  
Sept 2011 to June 2012 - 49%

Overall Degree of Ownership (Allianz Mentions)  
Sept 2012 to June 2013 - 45%

Overall Degree of Ownership (Allianz Mentions)  
Sept 2012 to Dec 2012 - 53%

As you can see we are still a long way from reaching that magical figure of 70%. I know counties will say that Kantar's results are not accurate but very few counties have come forward to question their results and there is definitely not a discrepancy of 20%. This year Kantar have allowed us to view their website and we, the committee, receive daily emails as newspaper reports are scanned for ownership. Having looked

through the reports there is still a large amount of reports that do not contain the word "ALLIANZ".

Counties must ask themselves the following questions:

- If a paper refuses to print "Allianz" should they continue to use it?
- Have counties informed their schools to use "Allianz" in their reports?
- Should counties who have a high return of ownership be rewarded?
- Should counties who have a low return of ownership be sanctioned?

These are questions not only for the incoming committee to think about but you the delegates that are here representing your county.

### INTO Congress

Our stand at the INTO congress in the Silver Springs Hotel, Cork was very popular with the delegates, with plenty of information and posters. I would like to thank Pat Culhane for co-ordinating the 3 days and to everyone who took time out to help at the stand.

### InTouch

The page in the InTouch monthly magazine has been used throughout the year and I must thank Lori Kealy and Tom O'Sullivan for their work behind the scenes and keeping me in line with deadlines and the structure of the page. I would urge delegates here today to please forward any new initiatives that you are undertaking as a county or even any school within your county that have achieved an accolade through GAA. It would be much easier to maintain this page if counties could use this page as a source of publicity. Carlow, Tyrone and Down all gave me articles which went to press throughout the year.

### Website

A big thank you to Noeleen for continuing to update the website. The address is [www.cnmb.gaa.ie](http://www.cnmb.gaa.ie). National items such as Mini Sevens, Handball, The AGM, September's GM Like the InTouch page, I would like

## PRO's Report



delegates to forward Noeleen or myself any items or information that you would like publicised to the whole country. This site is not just for the National Committee, it is for your use also.

### Corn Market National Awards

Again the Cornmarket National Awards was a great night of celebration of what is good in Cumann na mBunscol. Congratulations to all the winners on the evening and to all those who helped to make it a great success.

Also we had a major increase in the number of PR folders submitted by the closing date of December 31st but surely this can be increased to all counties providing a PR folder for this December.

### Match Programmes

The National Committee secured our page in the All-

Ireland Final and Semi-Final match day programmes. I would like to thank all those counties and secretaries that got back in touch with me with articles but the programme editor and PR department have the final call in what actually goes to print and therefore I have very little influence. I would encourage all counties though to try to have a similar mini game during National League fixtures and have your very own Cumann na mBunscol page in them, again giving you the opportunity to publicise all that you are doing in the promotion of Gaelic Games.

I wish to thank everyone that I have been in contact with and who helped me throughout the year. In particular I wish to thank my fellow officers for their support and encouragement.

**Breandán de Rís**  
**Brendan Rice**





## GAA/INTO Mini Sevens Report

The Mini-Sevens continues to provide thousands of Primary/National School pupils with an opportunity to represent their school and county on All-Ireland Semi-Final and All-Ireland Final Days in both Hurling and Football in Croke Park. Each Sunday from the 11th August 240 pupils represented their schools and counties in exhibition games in Croke Park.

It was very heartening to note that more and more counties are using a selection procedure that is not based on competition.

Each county was allocated a minimum of 6 places with Cork receiving 12 and Dublin 24. Each of the Provinces received 5 places in a particular code and every county was represented on Hurling Final and Football Final Day. I would like to thank all our county secretaries for their tremendous co-operation in ensuring that our system works perfectly.

As well as the 240 children playing in the exhibition matches each year we have our Young Whistlers. This year each province was asked to select 1 county for the Semi-Finals and Dublin and Cork children were present at our Finals. I would like to thank Bernie Ryan for her work in co-ordinating the Young Whistlers Scheme. It has proved to be a great success.

As in previous years the President of the GAA, Mr Liam O'Neill, gave of his time to be with the children on 5 out of the 6 Sundays. We are very grateful to Liam for giving of his time so generously each week.

Each Sunday Brendan O'Sullivan, President of the INTO, was present to congratulate the players and their parents on their achievement of being selected on the day. We in Cumann na mBunscol are greatly appreciative of the commitment of INTO to the Mini-Sevens and would like to thank INTO for their continued support and, in particular Brendan, for his attendance each Sunday.

The Mini-Sevens would not be the success they are without the large financial support that Croke Park give to it. There is a huge outlay in financial terms for the 6 Sundays in Croke Park and Cumann na mBunscol would like to thank Páraic Duffy, Ard Stiúrthoir, for the support that Croke Park continues to give the Mini-Sevens and, especially, for ensuring that our semi-final games are held at half-time of our Senior games. I would like to personally thank Gearóid O'Maoilmhichil and his team of helpers, Tony Watene and Colman Hanley, for their help and commitment in ensuring the success of our exhibition games and for their guidance and the professional manner in which they handled everything.

The teachers of Cumann na mBunscol Átha Cliath deserve a special word of thanks for their continued loyalty to the Mini-Sevens over the years. Each week for 6 weeks they give up of their free time and without them it would be difficult to organise the Sevens each week. Cumann na mBunscol would also like to thank them for their commitment to the Mini-Sevens and for the assistance they gave to ensuring its success throughout the year. I would like to express my own personal thanks to the Dublin teachers and especially to Gerry O'Meara who is my port of call regarding the Dublin teachers.

Thanks are due also to our own National Committee and especially to Brother Dormer who is there assisting each of the 6 Sundays. Their help is greatly appreciated.

This has been the 4th year of our new Mini-Sevens Structure and to date it has proved successful. It was a great improvement moving away from Clonliffe College for changing purposes. This year for our Semi-Final we were in the Croke Park Hotel and for the 2 Finals we went to the Barbara Ward Community Centre.

**Patrick McGivern**

## Nominations for National Committee AGM 2014



### Uachtarán:

An Br. Séamus Ó Duidhíorma

### Cathaoirleach:

Bernadette Ryan

### Leas-cathaoirleach:

Pat McGivern  
Tomás ó hAiniféin  
Jim Dempsey

### Rúnaí:

Noeleen Rooney  
Mairead Ní Cheallacháin

### Leas-Rúnaí:

Tim O'Byrne

### Cisteoir:

Liam Magee

### Oifigeach Caidrimh Phoiblí:

Brendan Rice  
Joe Lyons  
Mairead Ní Cheallacháin

### Oifigeach Forbartha:

Pat McGivern  
Jim Fennelly  
Tomás ó hAiniféin  
Gerry O'Meara

### Teachta don Ard Chomhairle

Jim Fennelly  
Bernadette Ryan





## Motions 2014

### Motion 1:

That the opening paragraph of Cumann na mBunscol's constitution which states 'Cumann na mBunscol is a national federation of Primary Schools promoting Gaelic Games in an educational context, having affiliated to it County and Provincial Primary Schools Committees. This promotional work is co-ordinated by Cumann na mBunscol in 2,800 schools throughout the Country and attracts an annual participation of 100,000 school children. A wide range of activities for all children is provided with equal opportunities for boys and girls to participate. Activities include boys' and girls' football, hurling, camogie, rounders, athletics, handball, mini-sevens, interclass leagues, quizzes, projects, skill awards schemes and blitzes'

Be amended as follows to read 'Cumann na mBunscol is an autonomous national federation of Primary Schools promoting Gaelic Games in an educational context, having affiliated to it County and Provincial Primary Schools Committees. The philosophy of Cumann na mBunscol shall be to promote Gaelic games in an atmosphere of fun and enjoyment and to make Gaelic Games the games of choice in our primary schools.'

*Corcaigh  
Cumann na mBunscol, Coiste na Mumhan*

### Motion 2:

Insert the word 'autonomous' before the word 'National' in the opening line of Constitution.

*Cumann na mBunscol, Loch Garman*

### Motion 3:

A new bank account be opened by Cumann na mBunscol Náisiúnta. All future monies received for Cumann na mBunscol be lodged directly to this account.

*Cumann na mBunscol, Chonnachta*

### Motion 4:

That an application to organise a 15-a-side league is made by the relevant county Coiste to the national committee of Cumann na mBunscol on or before a specific date of the proposed year of the league and that the criteria for sanctioning such a league is based on combination of schools in a parish and/ or population and/ or the ability to field multiple teams in appropriate grades.

*Cumann na mBunscol Náisiúnta*

### Motion 5:

That a member of the Coiste Náisiúnta shall serve as a representative of Cumann na mBunscol on the National Games Committee.

*Cumann na mBunscol, Luimneach  
Cumann na mBunscol, Coiste na Mumhan*

### Motion 6:

That Cumann na mBunscol Náisiúnta demand that time given on a voluntary basis after school hours in the promotion of sport be recognised by the DES as part of the Croke Park/Haddington Road requirement.

*Cumann na mBunscol, Coiste na Mumhan*

### Motion 7:

That Article A of the Constitution be amended to read: 'The Federation of Primary Schools Gaelic Games shall be known as "Cumann na mBunscol". The National logo of "Cumann na mBunscol" shall be the Cumann na mBunscol logo.

All business pertaining to Cumann na mBunscol shall be carried out under this name and /or under the Cumann na mBunscol logo.

*Cumann na mBunscol Náisiúnta*

## Cumann na mBunscol Cornmarket Awards 2013



The Cornmarket Awards Banquet took place in The Hogan Mezzanine Suite, Croke Park Stadium on Friday, November 16th, 2013. We sincerely thank Cornmarket for their generous sponsorship.

### Pat Trainor Hall of Fame Award

Colm Harte

### Public Relations

Winner: Wicklow

Runner-up: Fermanagh

3rd: Sligo

### Annual Publication

Winner: Luimneach

Runner-up: Baile Átha Cliath

3rd: Coiste na Mumhan

### School of the Year (1-4 Classroom Teachers)

Winner: Bunscol na mBráithre Críostaí, Dún Bleisce, Co. Luimnigh

Runner-up: St. Bernard's, Abbeylara, Co. Longford

### School of the Year (4-8 Classroom Teachers)

Winner: St. Columba's P.S., Belcoo, Co. Fermanagh

Runner-up: Carrig N.S., Ballycommon, Nenagh, Co. Tipperary

### School of the Year (8+ Classroom Teachers)

Winner: Kilcoole P.S., Co. Wicklow

Runner-up: Mount St. Michael's P.S., Randalstown, Co. Antrim

3rd: St. Lorcan's B.N.S., Palmerstown, Co. Dublin

### Promotion of Gaelic Games and Culture

Winner: Sciath na Scol, Corcaí

Runner-up: East Waterford Website

3rd: Rounders Initiative, Sligo





## An Coiste Náisiúnta Constitution

Cumann na mBunscol is a National Federation of Primary Schools promoting Gaelic Games in an educational context, having affiliated to it County and Provincial Primary Schools Committees. This promotional work is co-ordinated by Cumann na mBunscol in 2,800 schools throughout the Country and attracts an annual participation level of 100,000 school children. A wide range of activities for all children is provided with equal opportunities for boys and girls to participate. Activities include boys' and girls' football, hurling, camogie, rounders, athletics, handball, mini-sevens, inter-class leagues, quizzes, projects, skill awards schemes and blitzes.

(A) The Federation of Primary Schools Gaelic Games shall be known as "Cumann na mBunscol". The National logo of "Cumann na mBunscol" shall be the "ScoilSport logo".

All business pertaining to "Cumann na mBunscol" shall be carried out under this name and/or under the "ScoilSport logo".

(B) Schools with GAA affiliations in other countries may be accepted as associate members on application to the National Committee and subsequent approval.

(C) The aims and objectives of "Cumann na mBunscol" shall be:

(1) To promote and foster our national games, Boys' Football, Girls' Football; Hurling; Camogie; Handball and Rounders, Athletics and cultural activities in all the Primary Schools of Ireland and other affiliated areas, in line with National Policy of Cumann na mBunscol and Cumann Lúthchleas Gael.

(2) To promote and foster a positive attitude towards our national games among teachers, pupils, parents and all involved in the promotion of Gaelic Games in the primary education system.

(3) To promote Gaelic Games in an atmosphere of fun and enjoyment and to make Gaelic Games the games of choice in our primary schools whilst emphasising participation for all.

(D) The function of "Cumann na mBunscol" shall be:-

(1) To provide a means for the expression of the collective opinion of its members on matters affecting the interests of Gaelic Games in the Primary Schools of Ireland and other affiliated areas. To this end Cumann na mBunscol shall endeavour to align ourselves to Cumann Lúthchleas Gael, its policies and national programmes.

(2) To provide a means whereby talks and negotiations can take place with the relevant Departments of Education and other bodies to promote the aims and interests of "Cumann na mBunscol".

(3) To establish and administer funds for the general administration of the organisation **under the aegis of the GAA** and provide financial assistance to affiliated areas by:

a. **Preparing and submitting an annual budget.**

b. Raising sponsorship and other finances nationally to help with the overall promotion of the games.

c. Using the "ScoilSport logo" in franchising arrangements with business and industry to help raise funds.

(4) To provide advice to members on the best ways of promoting Gaelic Games in Primary Schools.

(5) To endeavour to raise standards in all affiliated areas by

(a) Coaching (b) Seminars (c) Publications.

(6) To identify weaknesses with the co-operation

## An Coiste Náisiúnta Constitution



of County Coisti, Provincial Councils and other relevant bodies and endeavour to rectify them.

(7) (a) To organise and administer a National Skills Programme (Mini-Sevens) in Boys' and Girls' Football, Hurling and Camogie, culminating in Croke Park on All-Ireland Semi-Final and Final days.

(b) To organise a National Skills programme in individual schools in Hurling and Camogie.

(8) To organise and administer National Handball skills programmes, culminating in a National Handball Skills Exhibition in a suitable venue.

(9) To operate and maintain an insurance policy so that cover can be provided for officers and members of committees of "Cumann na mBunscol" while organising and promoting the games/activities.

(E) The philosophy of "Cumann na mBunscol" shall be:- **To promote Gaelic Games in an atmosphere of fun and enjoyment and to make Gaelic Games the games of choice in our primary schools.**

(F) Constitution: "Cumann na mBunscol" shall be constituted as follows:

- (1) Annual General Meeting
- (2) General Meeting
- (3) Special General Meeting, if required
- (4) National Committee
- (5) Provincial Councils
- (6) County Schools Committees
- (7) Associate Members
- (8) Members

\* **Annual General Meeting:**

(a) The A.G.M. shall be the supreme governing body of the organisation but shall not be involved in the running of local units.

(b) The AGM shall be held in the month of February or March at a suitable venue chosen by the National Officers.

(c) The AGM shall consist of  
(1) The National Officers  
(2) Two delegates from each county  
(3) Two delegates from each Provincial Council  
(4) Two delegates from each affiliated area

(d) The hosting of the AGM shall rotate between the four provinces.

**The Business of the AGM shall be:**

- (1) Welcoming of Delegates
- (2) Minutes
- (3) Matters arising from Minutes
- (4) Correspondence
- (5) Address of Chairperson
- (6) Secretary's Report
- (7) Treasurers' Report
- (8) Other Reports as necessary
- (9) Elections
  - President.
  - Chairman.
  - Vice-Chairman.
  - Secretary.
  - Assistant Secretary
  - Treasurer.
  - P.R.O.
  - Development Officer.
  - Delegate to Central Council.
  - (a) Provincial Delegate Leinster.
  - (b) Provincial Delegate Ulster
  - (c) Provincial Delegate Munster.
  - (d) Provincial Delegate Connaught.

(10) Motions

(11) Addresses of invited Speakers.

(12) Any Other Notified Business (In writing/email and to be with the National Secretary two weeks before the AGM)



## An Coiste Náisiúnta Constitution

- N.B. In the event of a Province not being represented on An Coiste Náisiúnta a provincial delegate can be elected at the AGM.

N.B. Every third year the Annual General Meeting will consider a review presented to it by a sub-committee of Cumann na mBunscol on the organisation of the 'Mini-Sevens'. Proposed changes will be voted in and if successful, will come into effect for the following years 'Mini-Sevens'.

### \*Special General Meeting:

1. A special General Meeting may be called by **An Coiste Náisiúnta** or by the special written request of 12 or more County/Provincial Coisti stating the reason for such a meeting.
2. (a) On the receipt of 12 or more written requests for a Special General Meeting, the National Secretary must inform the Chairman who will call a meeting within 14 days.  
  
(b) **An Coiste Náisiúnta must also give 14 days written notice of the Special General Meeting**
3. The Special General Meeting shall consist of
  - (a) The Officers of Cumann na mBunscol
  - (b) Two delegates from each affiliated County
  - (c) Two delegates from each Provincial Council.
  - (d) Two delegates from each affiliated area (non-voting).
4. Business of Special General Meeting.  
The only business that will be discussed at the meeting is the business requested as the reason for calling the meeting.

### \* Officers and National Committee:

1. All members of the National Committee shall be elected annually at the AGM. All officers may hold office for a maximum period of five years.

2. All members of the National Committee are limited to two consecutive maximum terms of office, but not in the same office.

A member may however seek office again after a minimum of one year's break.

3. The National Committee shall carry out the business of Cumann na mBunscol between Annual General Meetings. They shall meet regularly and attend to all current business.
4. The National Committee may appoint sub-committees as required to assist them with a current task or problem.
5. The National Committee may accept units from other countries on approval of application for associate membership of Cumann na mBunscol.
6. The Cathaoirleach shall see that the rules of the organisation are enforced sensibly and fairly on all occasions.
7. In an event of the enforced absence of the Cathaoirleach, the Leas-Chathaoirleach shall preside over the meetings and act in all cases as Cathaoirleach.
8. All sub-committees set up by the National Committee will be chaired by another member other than the Cathaoirleach and Leas-Chathaoirleach.
9. The Assistant Secretary shall minute all meetings and ensure that a copy of the minutes be available for the next meeting.
10. All routine correspondence with affiliated areas shall be done by the Secretary.
11. All correspondence with the GAA, State Departments and Public Bodies shall be carried out by the Secretary in consultation with the other bodies.

## An Coiste Náisiúnta Constitution



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12. (a) The National Treasurer shall be responsible for verification of all expenses

(b) The Treasurer, in conjunction with Accounts Department Croke Park shall be responsible for

- (i) The maintenance of proper financial records.
- (ii) An annual audit of the accounts.
- (iii) Presentation of accounts to the Annual General Meeting.

13. The PRO shall in consultation with the other officers:

(a) Take every available opportunity to publicise **the work** of Cumann na mBunscol and to ensure that **Gaelic games are promoted as the games of choice in our primary schools.**

(b) Ensure that the 'Aims and Objectives' of Cumann na mBunscol be protected and advanced in dealing with outside agencies.

(c) Prepare all National Press Releases on behalf of An Coiste Naisiunta, Cumann na mBunscol.

14. The Development Officer shall in consultation with the other officers:

(a) Endeavour to raise standards in all counties by holding seminars, coaching courses, issue publications and liase with relevant bodies in pursuit of this objective.

(b) Identify weaknesses and with the help of County Coisti, Provincial Councils and other relevant bodies seek to rectify them.

15. The delegate to Central Council will in consultation with the other officers promote the interests of Cumann na mBunscol at Central Council and endeavour to promote Primary School games at all times.

16. The remaining members of the National

Committee shall be the President, Assistant Secretary and if necessary Provincial delegates.

17. A Provincial Delegate will be a full member of the National Committee with full voting rights.

### Provincial Councils

1. Provincial Councils shall be properly constituted under the aims and objectives of "Cumann na mBunscol".
2. An Annual General Meeting of each Provincial Council will be held annually. This AGM is to be attended by the President of Cumann na mBunscol or his/her nominee from An Coiste Náisiúnta.
3. The Provincial Secretary must inform the National Secretary of the venue and date of the Provincial AGM.
  - (a) Provincial Councils shall meet at least three times annually.
  - (b) The Provincial AGM is to be held before the National AGM.
4. Those entitled to vote at this meeting shall be the elected provincial officers and two delegates from each county.
5. Those entitled to speak at this meeting shall be the elected officers and either of the two delegates from each county.
6. Invited guests may speak at the invitation of the Provincial Council.
7. Delegates must attend a minimum of two out of three meetings.
8. At this meeting the delegates will elect officers and a committee to run the affairs of the Provincial Council between Provincial Annual General Meetings.



## An Coiste Náisiúnta Constitution

9. The Minutes of the Provincial AGM must be sent to the National Secretary within a month of the Provincial AGM.
10. The annual financial statement must be sent to the National Treasurer within a month of the Provincial AGM.
11. Failure to send either the minutes or annual financial statement within a month of the Provincial AGM shall result in sanctions.
12. This committee shall promote the aims of Cumann na mBunscol and endeavour to raise the standards of Gaelic Games within the Province.
13. Each Provincial Council will liaise with An Coiste Náisiúnta and the Provincial Councils of the GAA and other relevant bodies and endeavour to generate funds for the promotion and development of Cumann na mBunscol activities in that Province.
14. Two delegates from each Provincial Council will attend the Annual General Meeting and Special Meetings of Cumann na mBunscol.
15. **An annual written report shall be presented to An Coiste Náisiúnta.**
16. **(a) The Provincial Treasurer shall be responsible for verification of all expenses**  
**(b) The Treasurer, shall be responsible for**
  - (i) **The maintenance of proper financial records.**
  - (ii) **An annual audit of the accounts.**
  - (iii) **Presentation of accounts to the Annual General Meeting.**
17. Each Provincial Committee will notify and invite a delegate from An Coiste Náisiúnta to the Provincial AGM, in the absence of the National President.
18. Provincial status is to be granted to GB.

### County Schools Committees:

1. Each County Schools Committee shall be properly constituted under the aims and objectives of Cumann na mBunscol.
2. A General Meeting of each County Schools Committee will be held annually. Each County Schools Committee must meet at least three times annually, including the AGM.
3. All Primary Schools in the County will be sent written notification of that meeting.
4. Elections will be held at this meeting and Officers and a Committee will be appointed to run the affairs of Cumann na mBunscol in that affiliated area between meetings.
5. This committee shall promote the aims and objectives of Cumann na mBunscol and endeavour to raise the standards of Gaelic Games in their County in line with National Policy.
6. This Committee shall adjudicate on all activities of Cumann na mBunscol within the County.
7. Decisions of Cumann na mBunscol may be appealed to 'An Coiste Gearán' within the County. The decision of An Coiste Gearán will be final.
  - (a) An Coiste Gearán should be elected at the AGM. Members of 'An Coiste Gearán' should not be officers or members of the Committee within the County.
8. **(a) The County Treasurer shall be responsible for verification of all expenses**  
**(b) The Treasurer, shall be responsible for**
  - (i) **The maintenance of proper financial records.**
  - (ii) **An annual audit of the accounts.**
  - (iii) **Presentation of accounts to the Annual General Meeting.**

## An Coiste Náisiúnta Constitution



9. A statement of Accounts must be forwarded to the National Treasurer annually.
  10. Two delegates from each County will attend the Annual General Meeting and Special Meetings of Cumann na mBunscol.
  11. Each county shall formally adopt a constitution, a copy of which shall be forwarded to An Coiste Náisiúnta for ratification.
  12. Each County Coiste shall adopt a code of practice in line with any of the following:  
**GAA Code of Practice in Youth Sport or DES / DENI guidelines on Child Protection.**
  13. When affiliating to Cumann na mBunscol annually, teachers and B.O.M./B.O.G. agree to be bound by the rules of Cumann na mBunscol.
  14. County committees shall accept correspondence only from the school through the Chairperson, the principal or the designated teacher.
- ### Standing Orders:
1. **A Standing Orders sub-committee comprising of the Provincial Chairmen and Secretaries or their reps shall consider all motions and nominations and decide if they are in order and acceptable for presentation at the AGM.**
  2. The Cathaoirleach shall preside over all meetings and shall see that the rules of the organisation be enforced sensibly and fairly on all occasions.
  3. Motions to the Annual General Meeting, which shall be in the name of County Coistí, Provincial Council or An Coiste Náisiúnta and formally adopted at a meeting of that body, must reach the National Secretary not later than **four weeks before the AGM.**
  4. All nominations for positions on the National Committee which shall be in the name of an affiliated area or Provincial Council and formally adopted at a meeting of that body, must reach the National Secretary not later than three weeks before the AGM.
  5. Copies of the agenda for the AGM together with list of motions and nominations for elections to National Committee shall be circulated to all affiliated areas and Provincial Councils at least 7 days before the AGM.
  6. Amendments and agenda will be with the National Secretary in writing in the name of an affiliated area or Provincial Council at least one hour before the AGM.
  7. Contrary motions shall not be accepted.
  8. All motions must be clear and unambiguous and must not conflict with the aims and objectives of Cumann na mBunscol.
  9. **(a) To be deemed in order a motion must be implementable and must be specific to Cumann na mBunscol.**  
**(b) However motions may call on Cumann na mBunscol to negotiate with relevant bodies on a specific matter that is of interest to Cumann na mBunscol.**
  10. The mover of a proposal shall speak for not more than two minutes.
  11. The seconder of a proposal shall speak for no more than two minutes.
  12. No motion shall be discussed for more than 20 minutes. The motion must be disposed of when the 20 minutes have elapsed. **No speaker shall speak for more than two minutes.**



## An Coiste Náisiúnta Constitution

13. Each delegate shall register and each speaker shall identify themselves, name and unit.
  14. The mover shall have the right of reply in all cases. 2 minutes maximum.
  15. Voting shall be by a show of hands on all motions. A simple majority shall ensure the adoption of any item. Where rule changes are proposed, a two thirds majority shall be necessary in every instance to ensure their adoption.
  16. The usual method for the disposal of amendments and agenda shall be followed.
  17. In the event of the proposition "That the question be put", and that this proposition be seconded, the presiding Cathaoirleach shall on a show of hands either continue the debate or 'Put the question'.
  18. In the event of the proposition "That the AGM, move to next business " and that this proposition be seconded, the presiding Cathaoirleach shall put the proposition to a vote immediately. If defeated the debate shall be resumed.
  19. If a position on the National Committee be contested, voting shall be by secret ballot. A successful candidate must have 50% + 1 of the valid votes cast by delegates present and voting at the AGM. In the event of a tie, the winning candidate will be drawn by lot.
  20. The Cathaoirleach may at his/her discretion ask if there is no obvious objection to a motion that the motion be put in order, to save time.
  21. The Cathaoirleach may at his/her discretion and in consultation with order officers change the order of business in the interest of efficiency.
  22. The order of business may also be changed at the request of a majority of delegates present and voting.
  23. Only properly constituted delegates may speak at the AGM.
  24. Other speakers may only address the AGM when prior arrangements are made through the National Committee.
- \* Grievances and Complaints in all matters:**
1. Grievances and complaints in regard of matters within an area will be settled within that area.
  2. Each County will have a constitutionally elected Coiste Gearán to deal with appeals arising from decisions of the County Coiste.
  3. Complaints, Objections and Counter Objections: Any complaints or objections must be lodged with the Runaí Chontae in writing within 3 days of the game. The Runaí informs the other party who also has 3 days to respond in writing.  
  
The matter can then be dealt with by the Coiste Chontae. The decision will then be conveyed to both parties. Any party dissatisfied with the decision of the Coiste may appeal in writing to the Runaí Chontae Cumann na mBunscol within 3 days. This appeal will be heard by the Coiste Gearán.
  4. **Coiste Gearán:**  
This is an appeals body.  
  
A minimum of 5 are elected to this committee at the A.G.M. No member of the Officer Board of Coiste Chontae, Cumann na mBunscol or anybody who has heard the original objection may sit on An Coiste Gearán. No member of the Coiste Gearán may consider any appeal involving their own school. The Coiste Gearán may call all interested parties. A quorum of 3 is necessary to hear all appeals. The decision of the Coiste Gearán is final and binding.

## An Coiste Náisiúnta Constitution



- (a) Grievances, complaints and objections dealing with issues outside County Jurisdiction will be dealt with by the **National Committee and that decision will be final.**
  5. Sanctions will be taken against any Coiste, National, Provincial or County or any member for the following reasons:
    - bringing the organisation into disrepute, or
    - failure to implement National Policy.
- \*Sanctions:**
1. Misuse of organisational funds. Automatic Disassociation.
  2. Conduct unbecoming a member of 'Cumann na mBunscol'. Automatic Disassociation.
  3. Failure of a County to furnish a statement of accounts. Withholding of grants **and tickets.**
  4. **Failure of a County to furnish a secretary's report. Withholding of grants and tickets.**
  5. Failure to hold an A.G.M. plus relevant meetings and two additional meetings. Withholding of all monies and **tickets** due to that County / **Provincial Coiste.**
  6. Failure of County / **Provincial units** to honour obligations to sponsorship agreements. Withholding of sponsorship monies.
  7. Failure to comply with/implement the Constitution. Withholding of grants and other benefits.
  8. Failure to comply with/implement National Policy. Withholding of grants and other benefits.







# Insurance Certificate



## Broker Declaration

Dated 1<sup>st</sup> November 2013

## Cumann Lúthchleas Gael

Public Liability and Employers Liability Insurance Policy No. AA110020

## To Whom It May Concern

Cumann Lúthchleas Gael, which consists of a Central Council, Five Provincial Councils, (Connacht, Leinster, Munster and Ulster and UK), thirty-two County Committees and their subsidiary units and clubs, Clubs in the United Kingdom and associated bodies including the Handball, Camogie, Rounders, Cumann na mBunscoil and Ladies Gaelic Football Associations, have a Public Liability and Employers Liability Insurance Policy which includes the whole Association's property and premises, including such other properties and premises as are leased, rented, hired or loaned to the Insured and persons employed in connection with the business of the Insured which is described in the policy as a Sports and Cultural Organisation responsible for the organisation and promotion of games, sports, fund-raising, social, recreational and all other activities incidental to or associated with a major sporting organisation, property owners and developers.

The Policy includes Legal Liability to Third Parties and Employees arising out of FAS and other State Employment Schemes.

The Policy does not apply to Liability in respect of bodily injury to any participant caused by or arising out of the engagement in any sporting event.

The policy operates for the period November 1<sup>st</sup> 2013 to October 31<sup>st</sup> 2014. It has been arranged by the Association's Insurance Brokers, Willis, and is underwritten by the Wren Syndicate at Lloyds and others to provide the following indemnity (which is subject to the terms and conditions of the Policy).

Public Liability	€ 6,500,000 any one occurrence or all occurrences of a series consequent on or attributable to one source or original cause.
Products Liability	€ 6,500,000 in the aggregate
Employers Liability	€ 13,000,000 any one occurrence or all occurrences of a series consequent on or attributable to one source or original cause.

Martin Casey  
Director



Grand Mill Quay, Barrow Street, Dublin 4. Telephone – 6396465 Facsimile - 6766906

# County & Provincial Secretaries



**ULADH**  
Brendan Rice  
1 Donagh Grove  
Donaghaguy Road, Warrenpoint  
Co Down BT34 3UH  
T: 028 4175 3764  
077 3059 1944  
E: pro.cnmb@gaa.ie  
brendanrice@btinternet.com

**AN DÚN**  
Brendan Rice  
1 Donaghaguy Rd  
Warrenpoint  
Co. Down, BT34 3UH  
E: brendanrice@btinternet.com



**CORCAIGH**  
Mairead O'Callaghan  
Careybeg  
Watergrasshill  
Co. Cork  
E: mairocallaghan@hotmail.com



**AONTROI**  
Jim McCann  
124 Ardmore Ave.  
Belfast, BT10 0JP  
E: jazmccann@hotmail.com



**FEAR MANACH**  
Liam Magee  
Aughavass, Belcoo  
Co. Fermanagh  
BT74 7JQ  
E: limagee01@hotmail.com



**CIARRAI**  
Geraldine Behan  
Muckenagh Upper  
Lixnaw  
Co. Kerry  
E: gaadabehan1@eircom.net



**ARD MHACHA**  
Stephen Mone  
58 Clay Road, Keady  
Co. Armagh, BT60 3QX  
E: stevemone@hotmail.com



**MUINEACHAN**  
Jimmy Lacey  
10 Drumlin Manor,  
Castleblayney,  
Co. Monaghan  
E: laceyjimmy@gmail.com



**LUIMNEACH**  
Br. J.L. Dormer  
CBS, St. Teresa's  
Nth. Circular Rd.  
Limerick  
E: jldormer@eircom.net



**AN CABHÁN**  
Aiden McCabe  
An Radharc, Beaghy,  
Stradone,  
Co. Cavan  
E: b.aidenmccabe@gmail.com



**TIR EOGHAIN**  
Niall McQuaid  
7 Brewery Court  
Donaghmore  
Co. Tyrone  
BT70 3PN  
E: cnmb.tyrone@gaa.ie



**TIOBRAID ÁRANN**  
Aodán Wrenn  
44 Rockwood  
Cashel  
Co. Tipperary  
E: aodanwrenn@campus.ie



**DOIRE**  
Kevin Toner  
55 Ballynease Rd  
Bellaghy  
Co. Derry  
E: kevin-toner1@hotmail.co.uk



**MUMHA**  
Killian O' Reilly  
1 Ballinure,  
Collins Avenue,  
Waterford City  
T: 051 641286 / 051 878388  
087 960 8140  
E: killianoreilly@hotmail.com

**PORT LAIRGE**  
Breda Cleary  
Seapark,  
Abbeyside  
Dungarvan  
Co. Waterford  
E: clearybreda@yahoo.com



**DÚN NA NGALL**  
Daithí Roberts  
Cnoc an Stolaire,  
Bunbeg,  
Letterkenny,  
Co Dún na nGall  
E: cumannndl@hotmail.com



**AN CLÁR**  
Patrick McNamara,  
Newgrove,  
Tulla, Co. Clare.  
E: mcpatnamara@gmail.com



**LAIGHEAN**  
Gerry O'Meara  
35 Beaufort Downs  
Rathfarnham  
Dublin 14  
E: omeearag@eircom.net



## County & Provincial Secretaries

### CEATHARLACH

Seán Hanafin  
St. Brigid's Boys NS  
Bagenalstown  
Co. Carlow  
E: carlowschools@gmail.com



### AN MHÍ

Nodlag O'Neill-Forde  
Kildalkey N.S.  
Kildalkey  
Co. Meath  
E: nodlagcnab@gmail.com



### GAILLIMH

Cyril Mannion  
Ballydotia  
Belclare  
Tuam  
Co. Galway  
E: cyrilmannion@yahoo.co.uk



### ATH CLIATH

Tom Fitzpatrick  
St. Patrick's College  
Drumcondra, Dublin 9  
E: cumbac1@eircom.net



### UIBH FHAILI

Adrian Kelly  
29 Colliers Brook  
Tullamore  
Co. Offaly  
E: kellsa@campus.ie



### LIATROIM

Micheál McKiernan  
St. Brigid's NS  
Drumcong  
Co. Leitrim  
E: michealmacthiarnain@gmail.com



### CILL DARÁ

Stephen O'Brien  
St. Conleth's and  
St. Mary's PS  
Newbridge, Co. Kildare  
E: stephenobrien1979@gmail.com



### AN IAR MHÍ

Oliver Keating  
88 Brookfield  
Mullingar  
Co. Westmeath  
E: whschoolsgaa@gmail.com



### MUIGHEO

James Feeney  
Currabeggen NS  
Co. Mayo  
E: MayoSchools@gmail.com



### CILL CHAINNIGH

Jim Fennelly  
Bawnlusk, Kells Rd  
Kilkenny, Co. Kilkenny  
E: jimfennelly@eircom.net



### LOCH GARMAN

Jim Dempsey  
Park  
Wexford  
Co. Wexford  
E: jimmdempsey@eircom.net



### ROS COMAIN

Cian Duffy  
Cootehall NS  
Boyle  
Co. Roscommon  
E: cumannambunscolros@gmail.com



### LAOIS

Eoin Davey  
St. Patrick's BNS  
Mountmellick  
Co. Laois  
E: cnambunscollaoise@hotmail.com



### CILL MHANTAIN

Ciarán O'Neill  
7 Seacliff  
Brittas Road  
Wicklow  
Co. Wicklow  
E: con2mile@hotmail.com



### SLIGEACH

Patricia Hunt  
Ballinacarrow  
Co. Sligo  
E: patandciaran@gmail.com



### AN LÚ

Irene Brennan  
Rathneety, Knockbridge  
Co. Louth  
E: irenetbrennan@hotmail.co.uk



### LONGFORT

Bryan Kennedy  
20 Bo Dearg, Drumlish Rd  
Co. Longford  
E: bryankennedy2001@yahoo.com



### CONNACHTA

Cyril Mannion  
Ballydotia  
Belclare  
Tuam, Co. Galway  
E: cyrilmannion@yahoo.co.uk

### LONDAIN

Patrick Morrissey  
6 Elmstead Close  
Totteridge  
London, N20 8ER  
E: patmor4@hotmail.com



## An Coiste Náisiúnta Contacts



### Uachtarán:

**Br. James Dormer**  
Doon C.B.S., Doon, Co. Limerick.  
St. Teresa's, North Circular Road, Limerick  
T: 061 380239 (S), 086 862 5218 (M)  
Email: jldormer@eircom.net

### Leas Cathaoirleach:

**Ms. Bernie Ryan**  
13 Cluain Áine, Coolaney, Sligo, Co. Sligo  
T: 087 9014810  
Email: ryan.bernadette@gmail.com

### Secretary:

**Noeleen Rooney**  
Dublin Road, Longford, Co. Longford.  
T: 043 3341470 (H) 087 6480752 (M)  
Email: noeleenrooney@gaelic.ie;  
secretary.cnmb@gaa.ie

### Assistant Secretary:

**Tim O'Byrne**  
Gurtenard, Castle Road, Butlerstown, Co. Waterford.  
T: 087 131 4857 (M) 051 384675 (H)  
Email: timobyrne07@yahoo.ie

### Treasurer:

**Liam Magee**  
Aughavass, Belcoo, Co. Fermanagh BT93 5DS  
T: +44 78 6644 0254  
Email: limagee01@hotmail.com

### PRO:

**Brendan Rice**  
1 Donagh Grove, Donaghaguy Road,  
Warrenpoint,  
Co. Down, BT34 3UH  
T: 028 4175 3764 (H) 077 3059 1944 (M)  
Email: pro.cnmb@gaa.ie

### Development Officer:

**Jim Fennelly**  
Bawnlusk, Kells Rd., Kilkenny  
T: 086 833 9937  
Email: jimfennelly@eircom.net

### Delegate Central Council:

**Pat McGivern**  
St. Patrick's P.S., Coalisland, Co. Tyrone.  
36 Lisnastrane Park, Coalisland, BT71 4PW  
T: 048 8774 0661 (S), 048 8774 8084 (H),  
Email: pmcgivern739@stpatrikssps.coalisland.ni.sch.uk  
patrickmcgivern@btinternet.com

### Coiste Bainisti:

**Aogán Farrell**





1

My  
Advice

Be prepared  
for cold  
weather...

Burst pipes are a common problem for schools during winter. To help avoid serious damage and disruption to your school, ensure your exposed pipes and water tanks are insulated. During winter holidays check the school regularly, so that if pipes have burst, you can act quickly and minimise the damage. For more handy tips and advice visit

[allianz.ie/schools](https://allianz.ie/schools)

School Insurance

Allianz 

Allianz p.l.c. Allianz House, Elmpark, Merrion Road, Dublin 4, Ireland.  
Tel: +353 1 6133000 Fax: +353 1 6134444 Email: [info@allianz.ie](mailto:info@allianz.ie)  
Allianz p.l.c. is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland. Terms and conditions may apply. Calls may be recorded.  
The customer featured received a gratuity for her time in the making of this advertisement.