



Ollchruinniú Chinnbhliana

Ostán Oriel, Baile an Chollaigh, Co Corcaigh | Dé Sathairn 12 Márta 2016



Cork



CUMANN
mBUNSCOL



Presidential Address

A Dhaoine Uaisle,

Is mór an phribléid dom fáilte a chur roimh chuile dhuine chuig an Ollchruinniú Chinnbhliana anseo i mBaile an Chollaigh, Condae Chorcaí. Fáilte faoi leith roimh ár gcuairteoirí.

It is my privilege to welcome you here to Ballincollig, Co. Cork for our Annual General Meeting. I welcome especially our guests, the delegates from all the thirty two counties of Ireland and from Britain. Cumann na mBunscol is a unique organization in that we are active in virtually every school, large or small, mixed or single-sex, urban, rural and suburban in Ireland. The work of Cumann na mBunscol is hard to quantify but I know it is easy to underestimate. It survives on the goodwill, commitment and dedication of teachers, male and female, young and not so young, and let's not forget our retired colleagues who give invaluable assistance when we are at our busiest. For my own part, I want to acknowledge the great efforts of teachers who give up their time to look after teams and promote the ideals of Cumann na mBunscol in their schools. The work behind the scenes of the officers on various committees must also be acknowledged.

Ar mo shon féin, ba mhaith liom mo bhuíochas a ghabháil le gach aon duine atá páirteach in obair Cumann na mBunscol. Guím gach rath oraibh agus tá súil agam go mbeidh cruinniú maith againn inniu agus go rachaidh sibh uilig slán abaille i ndiaidh an chruinnithe.

Guím Rath Dé oraibh go léir agus ar obair na bliana atá romhainn.

Mise, le meas.

An Br. Séamus Ó Duidíorma.
Uachtarán
Cumann na mBunscol Naisiúnta.



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



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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.



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Cumann na mBunscol Náisiúnta

Date: Saturday 7th March 2015 @11am

Venue: Landmark Hotel, Carrick on Shannon, Co. Leitrim

Present: An Choiste Náisiúnta, County Delegates, Pat Culhane [Croke Park], Niall Erskine [Central Council Rep].

1. Welcome of Delegates

Michael Mc Kiernan Chairman of Leitrim Cumann na mBunscol welcomed delegates

2. Adoption of Standing Orders

Proposed: Edward O' Riordan [Dublin]

Seconded: Jim Mc Cann [Antrim]

3. Minutes

a. Minutes of AGM 2014:

Proposed: Aodan Wrenn [Tipperary]

Seconded: Gerry O' Meara [Dublin]

b. Minutes of September General Meeting 2014:

Proposed: Cyril Mannion [Galway]

Seconded: William Walsh [Cork]

4. Matters Arising

Nothing arising

5. Correspondence

a. Letter from family of Malachy Mc Geeney expressing gratitude and appreciation to Cumann na mBunscol and those who attended his funeral.

b. Letter from Peter Mullan INTO wishing Cumann na mBunscol well and expressing apologies re not being able to attend our AGM.

c. Camogie Association re their Annual Congress [Last week of March].

6. Address of Chairperson

Chairperson Bernadette Ryan [Sligeach] thanked Cumann na mBunscol Leitrim for organising the AGM. She also thanked all teachers for all their great work on behalf of Allianz Cumann na mBunscol. The challenge we face is to encourage new teachers to become involved, even though we are very successful now we must not sit back and become complacent. She congratulated Kilkenny on their recent celebration and thanked them for their invitation to attend. The Website is up and running and great credit is due to Liam Weir. All Sponsors were thanked in particular Allianz, Cornmarket, INTO, and Mycro. The Awards Night was

very successful. There was an increase in entries this year especially in the School of the Year Category.

Malachy Mc Geeney

Malachy Mc Geeney who died during the year was responsible for Armagh joining Cumann na mBunscol. He served on the National Committee from 1989 to 2005, first as Development Officer [1989-1995], Vice Chairperson [1995-2000] and President [2000-2005]. When he retired from the National Committee he continued to be involved. He regularly attended the AGM, the September Meeting and the National Awards as well as all his work with Armagh. His friendship and presence will be sorely missed by all in Cumann na mBunscol and we offer our deepest sympathy to his wife Mona, children Ciarán and Maria and the extended family.

Bernadette concluded by thanking the National Committee, Pat Culhane [Croke Park] and Niall Erskine [Central Council Rep]

7. Secretary's Report

In producing her report as National Secretary Mairéad O' Callaghan thanked all who had helped and supported her during her first year in office and she reported as follows:

Administration

The National Committee met on 9 occasions – a lot of time devoted to the Primary Review. The September General Meeting was held in Croke Park. At this meeting Dublin introduced us to their Hurling Initiative. Provincial Officers gave an account of the ongoing work of teachers in promoting Gaelic Games and Culture at County Level. During the year Pat Culhane [Coaching and Games] launched the revised addition of Céim Ar Aghaidh. All sponsors were thanked and the secretary reminded all counties that funding from Allianz depends on the Allianz Logo being used.

Review Report 2014:

The National Committee met with Liam O'Neill, Paraic Duffy, Aogán O Fearghaill and Niall Erskine on Friday 2nd May to discuss the report and outline our position. On the 27th October a Revised Report was presented to Cumann na mBunscol. The National Committee met with the above Croke Park Officials on Wednesday 29th October in Croke Park where other changes were requested and we further outlined our position and sought clarity on certain issues. On the 28th November the National Committee met again to discuss the



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document received. However the consensus of our group was that the format of the document made it difficult for us to clearly decipher Croke Park's position. Paraic Duffy replied on 22nd December that he hoped they had brought clarity to the issues that were of concern and that there remained a small number of areas of disagreement and there is where it lies at the moment.

Website: <http://www.cnmbnaisiunta.com> any information for inclusion can be submitted directly or to the PRO

Awards/ Cornmarket:

Cornmarket for their Sponsorship of the night, also to the INTO for assessing the entries. Congratulations to Cornmarket themselves who were shortlisted for the Irish Sponsorship Award in 2014 in two categories. Thanks to all the National Officers of Cumann na mBunscol, Pat Culhane and Niall Erskine. A special thanks to our former Runaí Noleen Rooney for all her hard work and dedicated service to Cumann na mBunscol. Finally thanks to all the thousands of teachers who do tremendous work promoting our Games and Culture throughout the country.
Proposed Edward O'Riordan [Dublin]
Seconded Eamonn Fitzgerald [Waterford]

8. Treasurer's Report

Liam Magee [Fear Manach] gave a very detailed report.

Total income for the year was €193,595 which included

Allianz Sponsorship	€100,000
GAA Games and Development	€ 68,000
National Awards	€ 6,465
Cornmarket	€ 15,000
Financial Income	€ 1,130
Expenses were	€192,354
Surplus being	€1241

A summary of the major expenses are outlined below

Allianz PR Grants	€48,250
Grants to Counties	€87,550
Committee Travel	€12,500
Down from €14,786 [2013]	
Meals and accommodation	€8352
Down from €11,999 [2013]	

even though extra meetings were held re the Primary Review. Jim Fennelly made the point that the National Average Expenditure for administration is 15% while Cumann na mBunscol is 11%. The National Committee has made every effort to curtail expenditure.

Liam Magee reported that it had been a very difficult year. Croke Park is now looking for accounts of each county [paper trail re National Sports Council]. Much discussion centred around this issue. The Treasurer looked for a show of hands whether we should hand over each counties accounts. Views were heard from Tony Farrell, Cyril Mannion, Niall Erskine, Gerry Hussey, Gerry Walsh, John Byrne and Killian O' Reilly. Niall Erskine made the point that there was nothing sinister in Croke Park asking for accounts as maybe they are required by the regulatory bodies. The accounts of all the Munster Counties are published each year in the Munster Cumann na mBunscol Year book a copy of which is given to the Munster Senior Council.

Liam Magee also stated that Croke Park had asked for a breakdown of all Cumann na mBunscols expenditure. John Byrne [Meath] advised that every time we receive an email questioning our accounts we should ask the question - Does Croke Park think they are getting value for money from Cumann na mBunscol? Gerry Hussey [Galway] stated that the grant from Games and Development of €68,000 is less than €10 per school, extremely poor in the overall spend of the GAA. Niall Erskine stated that Accounts and Money are a by-product of what Cumann na mBunscol is about. The work of Cumann na mBunscol is greatly appreciated in particular by the Incoming President. He wants a good working relationship with Cumann na mBunscol. Issues need to be sorted, and Cumann na mBunscol will request a meeting with Croke Park.
Proposed Gerry Walsh [Cork]
Seconded Cyril Mannion [Galway]

9. Development Report

Pat McGivern

The Primary Review Document commissioned by Croke Park has definitely aroused some heated debate. However, our focus still remains the same and that is to provide our children with the opportunity to play and enjoy our games. The role of the club is vitally important in fulfilling and developing our games alongside our schools. Here we have a partnership. --- schools are seen as the nursery by the clubs, it is very important they recognise this and help with finance, transport



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and coaching. Teachers are playing a huge role be it voluntary in the development and spread of our games and culture.

The Mini-Sevens and the Provincial Games are high lights for Cumann na mBunscol. Thanks to Mairéad O'Callaghan and Bro. James Dormer for all their work and assistance. Sincere thanks also to the Teachers, the INTO, Croke Park and the Provincial Councils.

Dublin Hurling Initiative

Dublin with the help of Paudie Butler set up workshops throughout Dublin to promote Hurling and those in attendance were given a very worthwhile Resource Pack. It is hoped to extend these workshops throughout Leinster. However there is a cost involved. The initiative covers various Strand of the P.E. Curriculum for example Gymnastics, Games and Athletics.

The Cornmarket Financial Group Awards

Last year we introduced Certificates of Merit for school who participated in Cumann na mBunscol Activities. The Cornmarket Award Night was moved to the night prior to the AGM. Entries were of a very high quality especially in the school of the year category. They displayed the amount of work being done throughout the thirty two counties. We are very grateful to The Cornmarket Financial Group for sponsoring the Awards Night.

Primary School Review

The National Committee has met with Croke Park. These meetings have been very amicable and have proved to be an opportunity for trust. A number of issues still need to be resolved. The National Committee are very keen to ensure a satisfactory and lasting outcome especially around the remaining issues of Governance and Finance. Also it is important that Cumann na mBunscol is represented directly on the Coaching and Games Committee as decision taken there can have a major influence on the way we play our games.

Céim ar Aghaidh

The Céim ar Aghaidh Resource has been improved and updated by Croke Park. All schools in the 26 counties should have received a copy. We are grateful to the GAA who have been at the forefront of publishing Resources for Coaching and for Schools.

Proposed Tomás Flaherty [Offaly]
Seconded Phil Ryan [Laois]

10. P.R.O.'s Report

[Brendan Rice]

Allianz Sponsorship [€100,000].

Allianz are continuing to sponsor Cumann na mBunscol and we are sincerely grateful. We ask all counties to be mindful and promote Allianz by ensuring that we use the following phrase Allianz Cumann na mBunscol when we are putting notes in the local paper.

I.N.T.O. Congress

We will have a stand at the I.N.T.O. Congress in Ennis this year. Thank you to Pat Culhane for coordinating the 3 days [6th -8th April] and to all who help at the stand.



In Touch

Thanks to Lori Kealy and Peter Mullan of the I.N.T.O. for all their work behind the scenes Counties should use the page in the In Touch Magazine to promote what is happening at county level.

Website

Thanks to Liam Weir for taking the role of Website Administrator. The Website address is <http://cnmbnai-siunta.com>. The website is open to all counties to send weekly reports directly to the site or to the National Secretary Mairéad O' Callaghan

Cornmarket Financial Group Awards Night.

Again the Cornmarket National Awards was a great night of celebration of what is good in Cumann na mBunscol. Congratulations to all winners. The list of winners can be



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seen at the end of this booklet.

Match Programmes

All counties are encouraged to have a mini-games during the National League Programme to promote the work of Cumann na mBunscol and the club.

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

Proposed Colin Bell [Down]

Seconded Michael Quinn [Ulster]

11. GAA/INTO Mini Sevens Report

240 children were selected to represent their school and county on All Ireland Semi-Final and Final days both in Hurling and Football. Participation in the Mini 7's is a very proud and memorable occasion for all concerned. Sean McMahon, President of the INTO, was present every Sunday. Cumann na mBunscol would like to thank the INTO for their continuous commitment and support for the Mini-Sevens.

Cumann na mBunscol would also like to thank Liam O' Neill [GAA] Aileen Lawlor [Camogie] and Pat Quill [Ladies Football] for meeting the children every week. The GAA and Croke Park contribute a substantial amount of finance to support our Mini-Sevens and we are very grateful. Gearóid Ó Maoilmhichil was our liaison person in Croke Park. He was assisted by Tony Watene and Brendan Connolly. Their help and assistance was greatly appreciated in ensuring that our exhibition games were a success.

Cumann na mBunscol Átha Cliath and their loyal teachers were ever present for the six weeks. It would be very difficult to organise the games each week without their involvement. A special thanks to Gerry O Meara who is coordinator of the Dublin Teachers.

Young Whistlers for 2014 All Ireland Semi Finals games were provided by the following counties ---- Fermanagh, and Roscommon [Peil], Clare and Laois [Iománaíocht/ Camogaí]. Dublin provided the Young Whistlers for the Hurling Final and Cork provided them for the Football. 2015.---- Closing date for Mini-Sevens is Tuesday 5th May. We propose to set up a committee to review the Mini-Sevens in the coming months. We would like to hear from you any suggestions that would enhance our games.

Proposed Joe Lyons [Limerick]

Seconded Breda Cleary [Waterford]



12. Election of Officers

Uachtarán: Br. Séamus Ó Duidhíorma, [Luimneach]

Proposed, Joe Lyons [Luimneach]

Seconded, Killian O'Reilly [Port Láirge]

Cathaoirleach: Bernadette Ryan [Sligeach]

Proposed, Gerry O Meara [Báile Átha Cliath]

Seconded, Gerry Hussey [An Gallimh]

Leas Cathaoirleach: Tomás Ó hAiféin [Ciarraí]

Proposed, John Byrne [An Mhí]

Seconded, Patrick Kelly [Tiobraid Árann]

Runaí: Mairéad O Callaghan [Corcaigh]

Proposed, William Walsh [Corcaigh],

Seconded, Gerry O Meara [Báile Átha Cliath]

Leas Runaí: Tim O' Byrne [Port Láirge]

Proposed, Eamonn Fitzgerald [Port Láirge]

Seconded, Phil Ryan [Laois]

Cisteoir: Liam Magee [Fear Managh]

Proposed, Jim Mc Cann [Aontrim]

Seconded, Aodán Wrenn [Tiobraid Árann]

Oifigeach Caidrimh Phoiblí:

Brendan Rice [An Dún] / Seosamh Ó Laighin [Luimneach]

Brendan Rice did not stand and Joe Lyons was elected on the proposal of Milo Keane [Clare]

Seconded, Tony Farrell [Cork]

Oifigeach Forbartha: Pat Mc Givern [Tír Eoghan]



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Proposed, Tomás O Flaherty [Offaly]
Seconded, Gerry Walsh [Cork]

Teachta don Ard Chomhairle: Séamus Ó Fionnalaigh [Cill Chainnigh]

Proposed, Joe Lyons [Luimneach]
Seconded Colm Hanifin [Ciarraí]

13. Motions

Motion 1.

Retain the current format where interprovincial handball exhibition games are played on weekends only. Cumann na mBunscol na Mumhan.

Proposed, Joe Lyons [Limerick]
Seconded, Killian O' Reilly [Waterford]
Passed

Motion 2.

Include player's names and numbers in match day programme for I.N.T.O. Mini-Seven's series in Croke Park. Cumann na mBunscol na Mumhan.

Proposed, Killian O' Reilly [Waterford]
Seconded, Joe Lyons [Limerick]
Passed

Motion 3.

That the competitive element of the Pat Trainor Award be removed and replaced with a Hall of Fame Merit Award [Corcaigh].

Proposed, Tony O Farrell [Corcaigh],
Seconded, William Walsh [Corcaigh]
Passed

Motion 4.

That Cumann na mBunscol reject the Report of the Primary Schools Review Workgroup. [Corcaigh]
Deferred to allow the National Committee more time to continue talks with Croke Park re the Review, National Committee to report back to General Body by the 1st June 2015. Liam Magee added that Croke Park Financial Department should not set out preconditions before any meeting.

Motion 5.

That the position of the Mini-Sevens Coordinator become an officer-ship of the Choiste Náisiúnta of Cumann na mBunscol. [Cumann na mBunscol Náisiúnta]

Proposed, Bernadette Ryan [Sligeach]
Seconded, Mairéad O' Callaghan [Corcaigh]
Passed -----effective from AGM 2016

A.O.B.

Aodán Wrenn thanked the National Committee for all their hard work, especially regarding the Website. He congratulated Leitrim on organising the weekend. Re Standing Orders he felt that the committee should take note of time allowed for proposing and speaking to motions. He finished by stating that all correspondence re Allianz has very much improved
Before closing the meeting Chairperson Bernadette Ryan thanked all teachers throughout the length and breadth of Ireland for their great work for Allianz Cumann na mBunscol.

This ended the business of the meeting.
Tim O' Byrne Leas Runaí [Recording Secretary]
18/03/2015



Minutes of General Meeting September 2015

Time/Date: September 19th 2015, 11.30am

Venue: City West Hotel and Golf Resort, Saggart, Co Dublin

Opening Address:

Chairperson Bernadette Ryan welcomed all delegates to the meeting and wished both competing counties in the All-Ireland Senior Football Final --- Dublin and Kerry well. She thanked our sponsors Allianz, Cornmarket, The I.N.T.O. and Mycro.

Bernadette spoke about the I.N.T.O./GAA Mini-Sevens and praised the work done by Mairéad O Callaghan, Bro. Dormer, Joe Lyons, Pat Mc Givern, Gerry O Meara and the Dublin teachers. She had great praise for Emma Dineen I.N.T.O. President and Aogán O Fearghail who gave so freely of their time to greet and meet the children.

Finally Bernadette thanked the national committee and the representatives of the Provinces who attended the meeting the night before.

Wicklow Cumann na mBunscol Hurling Initiative:

Dave Barry addressed the meeting re their hurling initiative. He gave details on the following areas:

- Aims of the Initiative
- Number of schools involved
- Division and use of equipment
- Classes targeted
- 10 week coaching sessions

Killian O Reilly [Port Láirge] asked about the involvement of the county games manager and coaches. Dave gave a rundown of their involvement and how helpful they were.

Cumann na mBunscol INTO/GAA - Respect Exhibition Go Games - Rules/Dates for Mini 7's 2016

The Review Committee met in the Croke Park Hotel on the 23rd May, present were Mairead O Callaghan, Gerry O Meara, Edward O Riordan, Mary Curley, Tim O'Byrne, Aidan Mc Cabe, Bernadette Ryan, Joe Lyons, Bro. Dormer and Pat Mc Givern.

Each County will be allocated 6 places with Cork receiving 12 and Dublin 24. Britain will receive 4 places. 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

(See GAA INTO Mini 7's Report)

Much discussion was held re the age limit for the school

based competition and the selection criteria. The Chairperson Bernadette Ryan put the Organisational and Playing rules to the floor and they were accepted by a show of hands.

PRO Report

Joe Lyons gave a summary of all he had done since last year's AGM.

The two main ways of promoting Cumann na mBunscol, the Website and the In Touch Magazine Counties are asked to send photographs and interesting facts to Joe about what is happening in the counties. County PRO's are asked to contact the editors of the local papers to explain the importance to Cumann na mBunscol [funding] of using the word Allianz. Joe handed out two sheets to each county re contacts details and school that participated in Cumann na mBunscol activities for the first time in 2014/2015.

Development Report

Pat Mc Givern explained that he had sent out a questionnaire to each county re County Committees and Structures, as we are trying to build a profile on what is happening in each county. 8 counties had already sent back the questionnaire. This will be followed by another one on Games with the next few weeks.

Central Council Update

Jim Fennelly spoke about the great work being done and he mentioned the Wicklow Hurling Initiative and the Football initiative in Kilkenny.

The Primary Schools Review Workgroup Report 2014 which was about the examination of the position of the GAA in Primary Schools with particular reference to the role of Cumann na mBunscol, two areas remain unresolved:

- [a] Governance and
- [b] Finance

Awards Update

Bernadette gave the following details
There was a remarkable increase in the number of entries received, especially for the school of the year category which was divided into large school and small schools sections. The two winning schools received a trip to Croke Park. Mary Jo Curran [Ciarraí] thanked the organising committee especially for the trip they had to Croke Park. It was one of the highlights of the year for the children. She also complimented the Leitrim committee for the wonderful night of the awards. Thanks to Cornmarket for the sponsorship of the Awards.



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Link between 1916 and our games.

PR Projects – there was a huge response from the counties.

Awards Certs Level 1 and Level 2 --- Cornmarket willing to send a representative to counties to present Certs. Gearóid Breathnach [Corcaigh] thanked the Awards Committee for the huge honour it was to receive the Pat Trainor Award.

The Chairperson Bernadette Ryan thanked all involved in the organising of the Awards especially Cumann na mBunscol Leitrim.

Insurance

The Insurance Cert is always in the AGM booklet, which generally covers us from the 1st November to the following 31st October. However following a problem that arose in Cork when they staged their finals in Musgrave Park due to the unavailability of the two main GAA grounds, they had to take out separate insurance as they were informed they were not insured under the GAA policy. The National Committee to seek clarification as some schools are using community pitches to play their games.



Kilkenny 75th Celebrations

Jim Fennelly gave details of the 75th anniversary. Cumann na mBunscol were represented by Bernadette Ryan, and Mairéad O Callaghan. It was a great night with guest speaker Brian Cody.

Niall Erskine Coiste Bainistí Representative [GAA]

Niall spoke on the following areas:

He will forward our insurance concerns to Central Council.

He thanked teachers for all the great work being done and it was great to hear about the Wicklow Initiative and the help the GDAs were.

He asked counties to forward to him summaries of what was happening in each county.

Opportunity for schools to raise much needed money through the National Club Draw.

Cumann na mBunscol is very well represented at Central Council by Jim Fennelly.

On the Primary School Review Workgroup Report, Niall stated that the original document was dead and arising from the amended document which Cumann na mBunscol had an input into, 90/95% of issues were resolved. He acknowledged that the areas of Governance and Finance have not yet been resolved and are on hold. He stated categorically that there would be no budge from Croke Park in relation to finances. In Niall's view, for Cumann na mBunscol to accept the Cork motion and reject the Report of the Primary Review Workgroup 2014 would mean we were totally rejecting everything we had discussed in the amended document and the latest document which seeks to proceed with the implementation of those aspects of the Primary Review Workgroup Report which can be delivered by club, county and provincial units. Delegates and members of the National Committee disagreed with some of the remarks of Niall Erskine.

Cork Motion

That Cumann na mBunscol reject the report of the Primary School review Workgroup 2014.

Much discussion took place re the Governance aspect and the whole question of the Constitution of Cumann na mBunscol and autonomy. Michael Quinn [Uladh] stated that under our constitution and procedures the motion could not be put before the meeting. It was felt, as counties had not received copies of the documents, [The Original, amended one, follow on one], it would be wrong to vote on the motion. The chairperson said all three documents would be sent to each county so that units could be briefed:

- 1.Original Review Report
- 2.The Amended Report
- 3.Steps outlined for the proposed implementation by the Association's club, county and provincial units which are intended to supplement the vast amount of work carried out by teachers and Cumann na mBunscol.

Correspondence

Email from Jimmy Darcy inviting Cumann na mBunscol to a meeting in Croke Park on Thursday 24th re Games Promotion and Development. Pat Mc Givern, Tim O'Byrne and Jim Fennelly to attend
Correspondence from the I.N.T.O. re Mini-Sevens Grant

This ended the business of the meeting,
Tim O'Byrne [recording secretary]
22/9/2015



Secretary's Report

Is mór an onóir dom, mar Rúnaí Náisiúnta Chumann na mBunscol, an tuairisc seo a chur ós bhur gcomhair inniu. Gabhaim buíochas libh go léir as ucht an tacaíocht agus an comhoibriú a thug sibh dúinn i rith na bliana seo chaite

Bhi an t-Ollchruinniú Chinnbhliana in Ostán an Landmark, Cora Droma Rúisc, Contae Liatroma, ar an Satharn 7ú Márta, 2015. Sincere thanks to Cumann na mBunscol, Chontae Liatroma for their wonderful welcome and hospitality. Our General Meeting was held in the City West Hotel, Dublin on Saturday 19th September. An Coiste Náisiúnta met on 7 occasions since our A.G.M. The Provincial Officers were invited to attend a meeting on the night before our General Meeting to present an account of the on-going work of teachers in promoting our Gaelic Games at County and Provincial level. The Provincial Officers were also engaged in appraising the Motions for today's AGM. Since my involvement on the National Coiste I have noticed that the same Counties fail to attend our meetings. We are only asking Counties to attend 2 meetings a year. Should Counties who are habitual non-attenders receive the same grants and ticket allocations as Counties who make an effort to be present?

Allianz Sponsorship

Cumann na mBunscol wish to express our gratitude to Allianz for their continued financial support. Our funding from Allianz depends on Counties using the Allianz Logo. Please ensure the words Allianz Cumann na mBunscol I are included in all match reports.

Handball

Br James Dormer is National Handball Officer on our Coiste and I would like to thank him for his work in this area. The National Handball Exhibition Games were held on February 20th in Kingscourt, Cavan. Míle Buiochas do ghach duine a ghlac páirt.

Mini 7's

A review of our Mini 7's rules and structures took place in May, 2015. Míle buíochas do na daoine seo a leanas. Gerry O Meara (Laighean), Edward O Riordan (Laighean), Mary Curley (Connnaught). Aidan McCabe (Uladh), Joe Lyons (Mumhan), Tim O'Byrne (Mumhan), Bernadette Ryan, (Cumann na mBunscol) Bro James Dormer, (Cumann na mBunscol) Pat McGivern (Cumann na mBunscol) Mairéad Ní Cheallacháin (Co Ordinator Mini 7's / Rúnaí)

A detailed account of our new rules /age limits and County Allocations for 2016 can be found in the Mini 7's Report in this booklet.

Website

Our website is <http://www.cnmbnaisiunta.com>. Any information for inclusion on the website can be submitted directly to the site or to our P.R.O Joe Lyons at joegreenandwhite@gmail.com. Now with the Website up and running we anticipate a much bigger uptake from individual Counties. Some Counties are brilliant but unfortunately there are still a few who have yet to submit an article. On behalf of Cumann na mBunscol I would like to Joe for all his work on this project.

Awards/Cornmarket

Cumann na mBunscol would like to express our gratitude to Cornmarket for their continued sponsorship of our National Awards. Cornmarket has proudly supported and sponsored Cumann na mBunscol since 2009. This year the top entries in all categories will be presented with their awards in conjunction with our AGM in Oriel House Hotel, Ballincollig, Co Cork, on Friday March 11th, 2016.

We would also like to thank the INTO for helping us with the assessment of all the projects that were forwarded.



Governance and Insurance

As I mentioned in last year's secretary's report An Coiste Náisiúnta devoted a lot of their time dealing with the fallout from the Review Document. This year 2 Counties



Secretary's Report



had to deal with some of the same issues mentioned in these documents, which inevitably, will affect other Counties in the future.

Governance

Sligo Cumann na mBunscol received an email from Sligo County Board around changes in their By Laws. The following is an excerpt from these By-Laws

In accordance with Rule 3.19 T.O. 2015, Part 1, the County Committee shall appoint the following Sub-Committees whose functions and powers shall be outlined in these Bye-Laws.

ii) Cumann na mBunscol shall consist of 15 members. It shall be responsible for the promotion of Gaelic games and pastimes among National school pupils in Sligo.

They classified Cumann na mBunscol as a subcommittee under this by-law. This is a very serious issue. Under our Constitution we are an autonomous body. Sligo Cumann na mBunscol arranged a meeting with their County board and arising from that meeting Sligo County Board have agreed to withdraw this By-Law. County Boards need to be reminded that under our Constitution, we are an autonomous body.



Insurance

Coiste Sciath na Scol Chorcaí were informed by Cork County Board that Páirc Uí Rinn (April 2015) would be unavailable for their Hurling/Camogie finals. Despite numerous approaches, meetings and correspondence, to the C.C.B, Coiste Sciath na Scol did not have a suitable venue to host their Hurling/Camogie Finals, 2 weeks before the date of their first fixture. All venues throughout the County were judged on their suitability on one criterion - Health and Safety of Children. Coiste Sciath na Scol unanimously decided on Irish Independent Park (Musgrave Park), Nemo Rangers GAA Grounds and C.I.T Bishopstown.



Coiste Sciath na Scol were relieved and delighted to have sourced suitable venues. The possibility of cancelling their Finals had been mentioned. A Copy of their fixtures was sent to the Cork County Board and to the media. The Officers of Sciath na Scol were then summoned to a meeting with CCB on Wednesday 20-05-2015 (5 days before the commencement of their first Final). They were informed they were not to use Irish Independent Park (Musgrave Park/ Munster Rugby) as a venue because it was not vested in the GAA. (Neither, incidentally, was C.I.T.).

As a result of this meeting a number of issues arose, the most important one....Insurance for Musgrave Park. Sciath na Scol were informed by the Runai of Cork County Board that they would not have Insurance. Sciath ns Scol unsuccessfully contacted Willis Insurance (GAA Insurance Brokers) and subsequently, had to purchase their own insurance from Allianz. They had 5 days of fabulous Hurling and Camogie with 26 finals and it was a great spectacle. Since then Sciath na Scol have played their Football Finals in Páirc Uí Rinn in November and have been assured that there will not be a problem with the venue for their Hurling/Camogie Finals in May 2016.

Subsequently the matter of Insurance was raised at National level and a letter was sent to Páirc Duffy (Ard-Stiúrthóir) and Aogán Ó Fearghail (Uachtarán). This is a copy of the response I received:



Secretary's Report

A Chara,

Below is the response that I have received from our Finance Director, Tom Ryan in relation to the issues you raise.

The default position is that GAA Liability Insurance extends to cover the activities of Cumann na mBunscol as an affiliated unit of the GAA.

Thus cover is provided in the first instance for activities on GAA property.

Liability Indemnity is also available in respect of the use of other third party properties (such as schools or community facilities etc). In such cases any requests for proof of insurance can be submitted to the GAA Risk and Insurance Manager. In the normal course of events such indemnity extensions are usually granted, but the circumstances of each case are of course subject to assessment.

There is one exception however. GAA rules restrict the provision of GAA property for use by certain other sporting bodies. Correspondingly GAA Insurance does not extend to the provision of an indemnity for the staging of GAA activities on properties owned by those sports bodies.

Is mise le meas,

*Páraic Ó Dufaigh/Páraic Duffy
Ard Stiúrthóir/Director General*

Since receiving this letter, Coiste Náisiúnta have been trying to source our own Insurance. Counties are now left in "Limbo". Are we insured if we use other venues? Do we have to apply for Indemnity Insurance for each event on an individual basis? This could have very serious consequences for all County, Provincial and National

Coistí. We are hoping to have this matter sorted for our A.G.M

It has been a very busy year but I have relished the opportunity to work on your behalf. I would like to thank our own Chairperson, Bernie and fellow officers Br. James, Tomás, Liam, Jim, Tim, Pat, Joe, our Coiste Bainistí representative Niall Erskine and Pat Culhane for their support, dedication and work ethic.

Brother James Dormer and Pat McGivern will be leaving us as Officers this year. They have been members of the



National Committee for the last 10 years. We thank them for all their work and commitment over the years and we wish them well in the future.

In conclusion I would like to thank the thousands of teachers in every County and Province for their tremendous work in promoting Gaelic games and Culture throughout the Country. Again, it has been a very challenging year but most of all rewarding. I am grateful for the opportunity to represent you as National Rúnaí and I look forward to 2016.

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

Mairéad Ní Cheallacháin
Runaí





Treasurer's Report



Cumann na mBunscol Profit & Loss account
Year ending 31 October 2015

	12 months to 31-Oct-15 €	12 months to 31-Oct-14 €
Income		
Allianz Sponsorship	100,000	100,000
GAA Games Development Funding	68,000	68,000
Mycro	3,000	3,000
National Awards Ticket Income	2,992	6,465
Cornmarket Sponsorship	15,000	15,000
Financial Income	925	1,130
	189,917	193,595
Expenses		
Allianz P R Grants	48,000	48,250
Grants to Counties	105,000	87,550
Handball	1,363	605
Publications & Website	0	666
National Awards Ceremony Costs	20,225	22,692
Committee Travel	11,512	12,500
Committee Meals & Accommodation	8,052	8,352
Complimentary All Ireland Tickets*	2,560	1,420
AGM	3,697	8,409
Phone & Postage	231	440
INTO Congress	100	0
Bank Charges	0	0
Sundry Expenses	1,197	1,469
Mini Sevens		
	201,937	192,354
Surplus/(Deficit) for period transferred to Reserves	(12,020)	1,241



Treasurer's Report

Cumann na mBunscol Balance Sheet As at 31 Oct 2015

	2015 €	2014 €
Current Assets		
Debtors	-	-
Intercompany with Ard Comhairle	330,186	303,082
Cash at Bank and in hand	-	22,877
	330,186	325,959

Current Liabilities

Accruals	153,730	137,484
	153,730	137,484

Net Current Assets

176,456	188,476
---------	---------

Capital Account

Brought Forward	188,476	187,235
Surplus for the year	(12,020)	1,241
	176,456	188,476





Development Report



Strategic Plans have come and gone, constitutions have been a topic of conversation and debate and The Primary Review Document commissioned by Croke Park has aroused. Nearly 3 years ago now Croke Park decided to initiate what we now know to be The Primary School Review. It is hard to believe that 3 years later that this review is still the subject of many of our National Meetings and our General and Annual General Meetings and takes up so much precious time.

Without doubt there have been mistakes made, not least the fact the Cumann na mBunscol were never consulted through the proper channels with the terms of reference of the proposed review. There were many other mistakes with lack of proper consultation being high up in the list. Because of this trust had been broken. A number of subsequent meetings with GAA authorities acknowledged this breakdown. After hearing our concerns a revised document was then put together and basically now the recommendations contained pertaining to the Primary Schools have been shelved and the rest of the recommendations are being implemented through the clubs.

Finance and Governance issues are still outstanding issues that remain unresolved. It is clear that Finance will remain with the GAA headquarters and on the subject of Governance I personally do not believe that Croke Park has any desire to consume us. I believe that the general opinion in halls of power is very complimentary towards the voluntary work that thousands of our teachers carry out day in and day out in promoting our games. Both organisations are important to each other. Croke Park generously supply us with All-Ireland Final tickets (we receive the largest allocation outside of competing counties), grants, use of facilities, Croke Park on mini-sevens day and we as teachers and volunteers train, coach and give ample opportunities to the pupils under our leadership to play and participate in our games. No other sport can boast of a network of early education and encouragement to games like the GAA have through Cumann na mBunscol. As an organisation we are about providing games for our children and we should never get away from that and it is heartening to acknowledge the increase in activities through our Indoor games, quizzes, and games for our disabled children. We do not do it for monetary gain or public acknowledgment. We do it because we have a deep fundamental love of the GAA and we want to instil that love in our children.

GAA/INTO Mini-Games

The INTO Mini-Games continues to be the area of our activities that gives us the potential for greater exposure

of our organisation. As a past co-ordinator I am fully aware of the work involved in ensuring that each of the six Sundays run smoothly. I wish to pay tribute to Mairead and Bro. Dormer for their continued efforts during the past year. It is important that our games are given high profile during the 6 Sundays and that all exhibition games are played at halftime of the Senior games when they can be seen by the greatest number of supporters.

Governance

It is often said that any organisation is only as strong as its weakest link and therefore I believe that it is important that all our counties play a role in shaping and developing Cumann na mBunscol. The lack of attendance by some counties at our General Meeting and Annual General Meeting is a cause of concern. It was disappointing to note that in a recent survey returned by some counties entitled "County Committee" that counties do not pay accommodation and travelling expenses for delegates attending General Meetings and Annual General Meetings. I think that as a volunteers no member should be out of pocket for attending meetings.. Answers to questionnaires also highlighted the growing number of females on our County Committees (nearly 30%) and our reliance on retired teachers to help out with the organisation of our games .

Cornmarket Awards

The timing and format of the Cornmarket Awards changed last year in an attempt to boost entries. Our awards ceremony took place on the eve of our Annual General Meeting and this did help as the number of entries was up on the previous years. It is my belief that information re The Awards does not filter its way down to all our schools and a large majority of schools are unaware of the Cornmarket Awards. I wish to thank Cornmarket for their continued sponsorship.

Finally:

My 10 years on the National committee come to an end at our Annual General Meeting in Cork. In general I have enjoyed my time with the most rewarding time being my time spent as Mini-Sevens Co-ordinator. It was such a pleasure to see the joy that being selected to play in Croke Park brought to the children involved and their extended family. It is important that Cumann na mBunscol and Croke Park work hand in hand in ensuring that as many pupils in our primary schools are provided with the opportunity of experiencing our games. I wish the incoming committee every success for the incoming year.



PRO's Report

It is my great privilege to report to our Annual General Meeting on my first year as Oifigeach Chaidrimh Poiblí. The role of PRO is to showcase the work of teachers throughout the country who invest so much of their time, talents and energy to ensure that the boys and girls in our schools are given the opportunity to play Gaelic Games. Cumann na mBunscol operates on several levels, National, Provincial, County and local. All are of vital importance and, in each county and province, teachers are promoting and publicising the activities of Cumann an m Bunscol.

It is at National level that my task lies. The nature of Public Relations has changed dramatically in a short few years. The presence of Social Media ensures that events are reported as they happen. Digital media ensures that images are available instantly. With this in mind, Cumann na mBunscol has recently launched its own Twitter account @cnambnaisiunta. Several county units have already been operating successfully on Twitter. I am indebted to counties and individual teachers who supply information for the National Twitter account.

Website

I have tried to make maximum use of the Cumann na mBunscol website www.cnmbnaisiunta.ie to publicise Cumann na mBunscol activities throughout the country. Even in the so called close season of December and January, County Coistí are busy running quizzes, indoor blitzes and a range of activities. I wish to place on record my gratitude to Liam Weir who was the website administrator and who has guided me through the process involved in maintaining this invaluable asset. I am also delighted that so many counties provide me with material for the website. Material for website and Twitter can be emailed to me at joegreenandwhite@gmail.com

In Touch

40,000 teachers receive a copy on In Touch every month from September to June. In Touch gives Cumann na mBunscol another avenue to inform teachers, highlight achievement and promote our endeavours. The In Touch magazine has afforded me the opportunity to promote such items as the INTO GAA Mini Sevens and our National Awards. It also gives Cumann na mBunscol another means of showcasing and promoting our activities. The occasion of the celebration of 75 years of primary schools Gaelic Games in Kilkenny was ideal material for In Touch, celebrating the work of generations of primary teachers.

Corn Market National Awards

The National Awards, sponsored by Cornmarket

Financial Services, recognise the work of teachers in a range of areas, on and off the playing fields. These Awards are an ideal way of gaining valuable exposure for our work. Local achievements are the lifeblood of provincial newspapers. The Best School Awards, with a prize of a trip to Croke Park for the winning schools, are ideally suited to local newspapers and local radio, recognizing the achievements of the schools and its teachers while also showing the sponsors in a positive light.

INTO GAA Mini Sevens

The INTO GAA Mini Sevens, organised and coordinated by Cumann na mBunscol and its army of volunteers, is another area that garners vast amounts of media coverage. When a boy or girl from a small school lines out in Croke Park on Big Match Day, this is ideal material for local newspapers and radio. As PRO, I have written short pieces for the match programmes for these occasions. It is regrettable that the terms Cumann na mBunscol and /or INTO (the sponsors) have been omitted from match programmes on occasion. Following representations from myself and other officers of the Coiste Náisiúnta, Cumann na m Bunscol has succeeded in resolving issues surrounding publication of players numbers etc in match programmes.

Allianz

Allianz, as headline sponsors of Cumann na mBunscol, contribute significantly to our coffers. In return, teachers are exhorted to use the term 'Allianz' whenever they report on Cumann na mBunscol activities. From perusing the results submitted to the Coiste Náisiúnta each week, it is obvious that there is a huge amount of work going on all year round in the area of promotion of our national games. The print medium is the only medium that is measured but, in reality, it is but the tip of an enormous iceberg. Many county units have their own websites. Many counties produce fixtures booklets, match programmes, county histories peppered with use of the Allianz logo and branding. It is obvious that local media are provided with abundant coverage of the affairs of Allianz Cumann na mBunscol. Local radio is another area that provides significant coverage of our affairs. It is of vital importance to this organisation that Allianz Cumann na mBunscol continues the high level of coverage that currently exists.

In conclusion, I wish to place on record my appreciation of the help and encouragement I have received from all my colleagues on the Coiste Náisiúnta over the past two years.

Seosamh Ó Laighin



GAA/INTO

Mini Sevens Report



Cumann na mBunscol, in conjunction with the GAA organised the Respect Exhibition Go Games (Mini-7's) in Croke Park. This competition was again sponsored by the Irish National Teachers Organisation. Cumann na mBunscol would like to thank the I.N.T.O. for their continuous commitment and support to the Mini-Sevens.

Participation in the Mini 7's Games is a very proud and memorable occasion for all concerned. The games are structured so that every County will be represented on one of the 6 days. Emma Dineen, President of the INTO, was present every Sunday, to congratulate the children and their parents on their achievement of being selected.

Thank you Emma.

240 children were selected to represent their school and county on All Ireland Semi-Final and Final Days in both Hurling and Football. Children are selected based on the results of a County Mini 7's Team or Skills based competition. I would like to thank Cumann na mBunscol committees all around the country for organising these events – and to all our schools who take part.

Cumann na mBunscol would like to thank Aogán Ó Fearghail (GAA), Catherine Neary (Camógaíoch) and Marie Hickey (LGFA) for meeting the children every week. The participating children got an opportunity to get their photographs taken with the Presidents on the pitch. I'm sure the photographs will be cherished for many a year to come.

The GAA and Croke Park contribute a substantial amount of support to our Mini-Sevens and Cumann na mBunscol would like to thank them. Gearóid Ó Maoilmhichil was our liaison person in Croke Park. I would like to personally thank Gearóid for all his help and guidance. He was ably assisted by Tony Watene. Their help and commitment was greatly appreciated in ensuring our exhibition games were a success. I would also like to mention the Ladies Committee in the Barbara Ward Center. They provide the refreshments for the children and their parents every Sunday. Míle Buiochas.

Cumann na mBunscol Átha Cliath and their loyal teachers are ever present for the 6 weeks. Their commitment to the Mini-Sevens over the years is unbelievable. It would be very difficult to organise the Games each week without their involvement. Coiste Náisiúnta would like to express our sincere thanks to them for their loyalty and help in ensuring the games were a success throughout the year. I would like to

personally thank Gerry O'Meara who is the co-ordinator in Dublin.

Young Whistlers for 2015 All Ireland semi-finals games were provided by the following counties Meath and Sligo (Peil), Waterford and Antrim (Iománaíocht/camogaí). Dublin provided Young Whistlers for the All Ireland Football Final and Cork provided the Young Whistlers for the All Ireland Hurling Final. Thanks to the teachers and the children for supporting us on this initiative.

Mini 7's Review 2015

Baill an Choiste

Gerry O Meara (Laighean), Edward O Riordan (Laighean), Mary Curley (Connaught), Aidan McCabe (Uladh), Joe Lyons (Mumhan), Tim O'Byrne (Mumhan), Bernadette Ryan, (Cumann na mBunscol), Bro James Dormer, (Cumann na mBunscol), Pat McGivern (Cumann na mBunscol), Mairéad Ní Cheallacháin (Co Ordinator Mini 7's / Rúnai).

A meeting of the above to review our Mini 7's rules and structures took place in 2015. The following recommendations were presented to our General Meeting in September and agreed by the delegates. Each County will be allocated 6 places. Cork will receive 12 and Dublin 24. Britain will receive 4 places. The remaining 20 places will be distributed to the 4 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.

Organisational Rules

1. Every County must organise a competition.
2. Each County can use their own criteria.
3. This can be either a team or a skills based competition.
4. Counties that organise a "skills based" competition please note that there is only one age limit. Participants must be under 12 on or after January 1st of the year they are participating in Croke Park.ie. Born on or after January 1st 2004 for 2016.
5. Counties organising a Games competition please follow the age limits listed below.
6. All Children selected must have reasonable skill ability.
7. Entries must have the prior approval of the board of management.
8. All children playing must abide by the age limit that applies to their school (See below) Any deviation from this will result in disqualification.
9. Schools/Teachers will enter into arrangements



GAA/INTO

Mini Sevens Report

to complete the mini-sevens in collaboration with Cumann na mBunscol, the recording body in each county.

10. Participation in mini-sevens is open to all eligible children in all codes.
11. A child may not be selected in both codes to play in Croke Park
12. A player can only make one appearance in Croke Park.
13. Children selected for Mini 7's cannot be selected for Provincial Games.
14. No more than 2 children, 2 places (maximum) in different codes per school. (2 children may represent a school provided they are not playing in the same code). This is to ensure that as many different schools as possible are represented in Croke Park.
15. Mixed teams may not be entered.
16. Amalgamations are at the discretion of each county unit up to a maximum of six mainstream teachers.
17. Birth certificates may be required at County level.

Playing Rules

1. The normal rules of hurling and football with the following adaptations shall apply.
2. All kick outs/puck outs shall be taken from the goal-line.
3. Unlimited substitutions shall be made from the half-way line.
4. Hand pass scores shall not be allowed in Hurling, Camogie or Football. A punched point in football is permissible.
5. All kick outs, frees, side-lines and 45s shall be taken from the hand.
6. Players shall be limited to one toe tap and one hop in any solo movement.
7. As in ladies football rules girls shall be permitted to pick the ball directly from the ground.
8. A direct score from the puck-out in hurling or camogie shall not be permissible.
9. Games shall be of not less than fourteen minutes duration and no more than twenty minutes.
10. 70 metres by 50 metres are the recommended pitch dimensions.
11. Teams will be 7 a side .Maximum panel of 10. Teams fielding more than this can be disqualified.

Each year 240 children are selected to play in Croke Park in the colours of the competing senior teams in front of huge attendances. For the children who are selected it is a very proud and memorable occasion. Some of the

children who have played in the mini sevens have gone on to represent their county in many competitions.

The mini sevens is structured so that every county will be represented on one of the six days. A pupil from your school might be lining out on All Ireland Day 2016.

Skills Competition Age Group

Participants must be under 12 on or after January 1st of the year they are participating in Croke Park.ie. Born on or after January 1st 2004 .

Team Competition

Please check the following to see which age group applies to your school

Total Enrolement 3rd-6th Classes incl.		To be born on or after this date
Boys	Girls	
200+	200+	1st Jan 2004
170-199	170-199	1st Dec 2003
140-169	140-169	1st Nov 2003
110-139	110-139	1st Oct 2003
80-109	80-109	1st Sept 2003
50-79	50-79	1st Aug 2003
30-49	30-49	1st July 2003
29 or less	29 or less	1st June 2003

I have had the pleasure of organising our Mini 7's Exhibition Games for the last 2 years. A new Mini 7's Officer will be elected at our A.G.M. in Cork. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your co-operation over the last 2 years. During that time we had to switch to imputing our data onto a spread sheet. This has stream lined our operation and I would see us being completely paperless in 2016.

Brother James Dormer (Uachtarán) was present every Sunday and I would like to thank him for his help and support. Tomas O hAiniféin was always there to lend a hand and I would also like to thank Pat McGivern (Previous Mini 7's Officer) who was very generous with his knowledge and helpful advice over the last 2 years.

Every County Secretary will receive a spread sheet again this year and you will be asked to input all the data re the players selected. The closing date will be Thursday May 5th.

Mairéad Ní Cheallacháin
Mini 7's Co-Ordinator



Nominations for National Committee AGM 2016



Uachtarán

Tadhg Ó Broin (Port Lairge)
Liam Magee (Fermanagh)
Gearóid Ó Méara (Ath Cliath)

Cathaoirleach

Bernadette Ryan (Sligeach)

Leas- Cathaoirleach

Tomás O hAiniféin (Ciarraí)

Runaí

Máiread Ní Cheallacháin (Corcaigh)

Leas Runaí

Michéal Mac Thiarnáin (Liatroim)
Robert Corish (Ath Cliath)
Gary Farrell (Ard Mhacha)

Oifigeach Caidreamh Poiblí

Joe Lyons (Luimneach)

Cisteoir

Gerry O Meara (Baile Átha Cliath)
Gary Farrell (Ard Mhacha)
Tadhg Ó Broin (Port Lairge)
Éamonn Ó Ríordáin (Baile Átha Cliath)
Michéal Mac Thiarnáin (Liatroim)

Oifigeach Forbartha

Tadhg Ó Broin (Port Lairge)
Gary Farrell (Ard Mhacha)
Jim Dempsey (Loch Gorman)
Robert Corish (Ath Cliath)

Toscaire Ard Comhairle

Séamus O Fionnalaigh (Cill Chainnigh)

Mini-7's Officer

Tadhg Ó Broin (Port Lairge)
Liam Magee (Fermanagh)
Gerry O Meara (Baile Átha Cliath)
Edward O Riordan (Ath Cliath)
Michéal Mac Thiarnáin (Liatroim)





Motions 2016

Motion 1

That Cumann na mBunscol remains under our current Governance structures as per our constitution. [Cumann na mBunscol na Mumhan, Tipperary]

Motion 2

That retired teachers be precluded from standing for election as officers in Cumann na mBunscol activities at National Level. [Corcaigh]

Motion 3

That Cumann na mBunscol open their own bank account. [Corcaigh]

Motion 4

That Cumann na mBunscol reject the original and revised recommendations from the Primary School reports that affect the autonomy of Cumann na mBunscol. [Corcaigh]

Motion 5

That Cumann na mBunscol acquire their own public liability insurance to cover all affiliated units. [Corcaigh]





Cumann na mBunscol Cornmarket Awards 2016



The Cornmarket Awards took place in the Oriel House Hotel on Friday 11th March. Thanks to all the schools and committees who took part in this year's awards. We would like to thank the INTO for their support in advertising this initiative through the InTouch and also through their e-flyer. Judging took many hours and it was a pleasure to look at the great work that is going on throughout the country. A huge thanks to Cornmarket for their continued sponsorship. Our special thanks to Ivan Ahearn and Breda O Driscoll for their help and support.

Pat Trainor Award

Pádraig O Cathain (Ciarraí)

PR

Co. Chill Mhantáin
Co. Chorcaí
Co. Fhear Manach

Publications

Co. Chill Chainnigh
Co. Luimnigh
Co. Chorcaí

Promotion of Gaelic Games and Culture

Loretto Crumlin Road, BAC
Cumann na mBunscol, ÁTH Cliath
Scoil Ursula, Sligeach

1916

Clenbeigh NS, Co Ciarraí
Clarinbridge NS, Co na Gaillimhe
St Mary's NS – Baile Átha Cliath

Highly Commended

Fenor NS, Co. Phort Láirge
Kilcoole NS, Co Chill Mhantáin
St Teresa's NS, Co Longfoirt
Loretto BAC
Ardfert NS, Ciarraí

School of year (150 or less)

Dualla NS, Co Thiobraid Árann
St Nunnidh's PS, Co Fhear Manach

School of year (151 +)

Kilcoole NS, Co Chill Mhantáin
St Pius BNS, BAC
Ard Fhearta, Co Ciarraí
Ballygunner NS, Co Phort Láirge





An Coiste Náisiúnta Constitution

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.

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 “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”.

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

D 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 Cumann na mBunscol 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 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.



An Coiste Náisiúnta Constitution



- D** (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.
 - GAA/INTO Mini 7’s Co-ordinator
 - (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)
 - 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.



An Coiste Náisiúnta Constitution

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.
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



An Coiste Náisiúnta Constitution



publications and liaise 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.
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.



An Coiste Náisiúnta Constitution

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.
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.



An Coiste Náisiúnta Constitution



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.
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.



An Coiste Náisiúnta Constitution

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.

(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



CORK



Broker Declaration

Dated 1st November 2014

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 mBunscol 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 1st 2014 to October 31st 2015. 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	€ 8,500,000 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

Prepared By
Willis

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Kilkenny 75 Article

from InTouch

Cumann na mBunscol Cill Chainnigh 75 Bliain ag Fás

‘Mol an óige agus tiocfaidh sí’ is a seanfhocal that is relevant in all aspects of life. It is an adage that is trotted out on all manner of occasions but is often honoured as much in the breach as the observance. However, the value of encouraging and nurturing young talent has long been appreciated in Kilkenny GAA circles and the evidence can be seen in the conveyor belt of talent that seems to roll on year after year.

A milestone in Kilkenny GAA was marked recently when teachers involved in promoting Gaelic Games in Kilkenny gathered in Langton’s Hotel to mark 75 years since the foundation of Cumann na mBunscol in the Marble City.

Jim Fennelly, Principal of Church Hill NS, in Cuffe’s Grange, takes up the story:

‘It was indeed a significant day for Kilkenny when Cumann na mBunscol was formally established in October 1939 in City Hall. Three teachers, Rev Brother James from De La Salle, Joe Dowling from Clinstown N.S and Tom Waldron from Freshford, placed a notice in a local newspaper inviting people to attend a meeting. Nobody turned up except the three wise men themselves! Undeterred, they ploughed ahead and formed Cumann na mBunscoileanna Cill Chainnigh and the rest as we say is history. Br James was elected Chairman, Joe Dowling was secretary and Tom Waldron looked after what was then a paltry treasury. Eight teams took part in the first competition. A significant approach to organising the teams was to combine all the schools of a parish into a single team and to this day the same approach exists. It gives true meaning to the parish and club, two key influences in society in general and the GAA in particular.’ Among the many guest speakers in Langton’s at the function to mark the 75th was one Brian Cody who played in Cumann na mBunscol competitions, went on to coach school teams for many years and now, as Kilkenny senior hurling manager, he enjoys the fruits of everybody’s efforts in the promotion of our Gaelic Games. Breithlá shona daoibh, Cumann na mBunscol Cill Chainnigh is go néirí libh go léir sa todhcaí.’

The role of Primary teachers in Kilkenny GAA is a significant one. Brian Cody, the most successful hurling manager of all, recently retired as Principal of St Patrick’s De la Salle N.S. Brian succeeded Paul Kinsella as Principal. Paul served as Chairman of Kilkenny County Board and is currently Kilkenny delegate to Central Council. Jim Fennelly is currently Oifigeach Forbartha of Cumann an mBunscol Naisiúnta and delegate to GAA Central Council.

Tom Waldron, founder member of Cumann na mBunscol in Kilkenny and its first Treasurer, had a distinguished career as a GAA administrator. Tom also served on the CEC of INTO and went on to hold the office of INTO President in 1982-1983.





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