



Rebel Réalta brings joy and inclusion to Páirc Uí Chaoimh

Páirc Uí Chaoimh came alive with laughter, cheers, and community spirit recently as it hosted the inaugural *Rebel Réalta* sports and activity day, a groundbreaking event celebrating inclusion in Gaelic games for children with additional needs.

Despite the unpredictable weather, nothing could dampen the excitement as children from across Cork enjoyed a packed day of football and hurling activities, skill challenges, and mini-games. The highlight for many was the chance to play on the iconic Páirc Uí Chaoimh pitch, with guidance and encouragement from intercounty players, coaches, and a dedicated team of volunteers.

"This was a fantastic day for children with additional needs, filled with fun, excitement, and plenty of smiles," said David Collins, chairperson of Sciath na Scol. "We are so grateful to everyone who made it possible – our committee, the maintenance team here at Páirc Uí Chaoimh, teachers, retired teachers, coaches, and traffic stewards. Their help and support was instrumental in making the day such a success."

The *Rebel Réalta* initiative represents a major step forward in promoting inclusion and participation within Cork GAA. Building on the success of this first event,



Cork Players: Laura Cleary, Chris Kelly, Orlaith Cahalane, Daniel O'Mahony and Colm O'Callaghan presenting medals and prizes at the *Rebel Réalta* day.



Above: Sciath na Scol Rebel Réalta Coiste – Celine Hyde; Colm O'Sullivan; Harry Ormond; Dave Collins, Cathaoirleach; Kate O'Callaghan, Rúnaí; Niamh Ní Chaoimh; Assumpta Whelton; Liam Weir.



Sciath na Scol aims to expand the project to reach even more schools in the future.

"This is only the beginning," according to Collins. *Rebel Réalta* has shown us how sport can bring people together, and we look forward to growing this celebration

of inclusion for many years to come."

The smiles on the children's faces told the real story: a day where everyone was a star, and the future of Gaelic Games in Cork looks brighter and more inclusive than ever.

National Cumann na mBunscol Annual Awards 2025

PAT TRAINOR HALL OF FAME AWARD

This award honours a teacher who has given years of service to Gaelic games promotion. The winner will receive two All Ireland tickets. Nominations should be made by county or provincial units and submitted to Chairman, Micheál MacThiarnain by 31 October 2025.

CATEGORY 1: PUBLIC RELATIONS AWARD

First prize: €500, second prize: €400, third prize: €300. Coistí are asked to submit their PR work for 2024/25 in a bound book. Include materials like tweets, website screenshots, articles, fixtures booklets, and publications

CATEGORY 2: SOCIAL MEDIA AWARD

First prize: €500, second prize: €400, third prize: €300. Coistí are invited to submit 2024/25 social media in a bound book, PowerPoint, or PDF. Include dated posts (e.g. Twitter, Facebook, website).

NB. Entries in Category 1 and 2 qualify for a PR grant. A project submitted in category 3 cannot be submitted for category 4 or 5.

CATEGORY 3: PROMOTION OF GAELIC GAMES AND CULTURE

First prize: €600, second prize: €500, third prize: €400. Award recognising schools efforts in promoting Gaelic games and culture since September 2024. Submissions should be a PowerPoint or short movie.

CATEGORY 4 AND 5 – SCHOOL OF THE YEAR

First prize: €1000, second prize: €500, third prize: €500. This category is for schools that have actively participated in Gaelic games since September 2024. There should also be evidence of the input of pupils. Category 4: Schools with 200 pupils or fewer. Category 5: Schools with 201 pupils or more.

ENTRY DETAILS

Entry forms and details of all categories can be viewed on: cnmbnaisiunta.com. Previous shortlisted projects can also be viewed on our website. Closing date for entries is Wednesday, 7 January 2026.

Please post entries to your provincial delegate:

Connacht: Micheál MacThiarnain, Corrin na Coille, Drumaweel, Drumcong, Co Leitrim

Ulster: Gary Farrell, 75 Annvale Road, Keady Co Armagh BT60 2RY

Munster: Mairead O'Callaghan, Coneybeg, Watergrasshill, Co Cork T56YF60

Leinster: Gerry O'Meara, 35 Beaufort Downs, Rathfarnham, Dublin 14, D14P8F1

Please note: Cumann na mBunscol reserves the right to omit categories and/or change prizes pending number and/or standard of submissions received.

Date for your diary – AGM

The annual general meeting of Cumann na mBunscol will be held on Saturday, 7 March in The Dromoland Inn, Co Clare. Our awards dinner will be held the night before Friday, 6 March in the same venue.