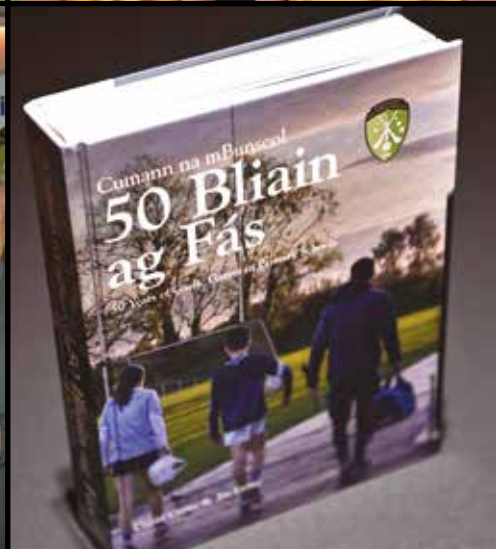


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Cruinniú Cinn Bhliana

Óstán Mullingar Park, An Muileann gCearr
Dé Sathairn, 9ú Márta 2024



Westmeath



CUMANN NA MBUNSCOL



Presidential Address

A chomh-mhúinteoirí agus a cháirde,

Is cúis áthais agus bhróid dom é, mar Uachtarán an Chumainn, fáilte a fhearadh romhaibh go dtí an Cruinniú Chinn Bliana seo ar an Muileann gCearr álainn i gceartlár na h-Eireann. Tá ábharín den mbrón ionam leis, óir is é seo an uair deireannach dom é seo a ullmhú, taréis 10 mbliana ar an gCoiste Náisiúnta.

Níl aon amhras ann ach go raibh 5 bliana ana shuaite againn ó chuir sibh bhúr muinín ionam mar Uachtarán an Chumainn, sa bhliain 2019, le teacht slán ó Phandéim Idirnáisiúnta mar mhór-chloch ar ár bpaidrín ó shoin, ach léiríonn an tslí go bhfuilimid fós beo, dúrthacht agus díograis dílseacht mhúinteoirí na tíre d'ár gcluichí Gaelacha.

The 32 County units of Cumann na mBunscol showcase our games throughout the land every year, thanks to the diligence and hard work of all our volunteers, teachers past and present. They create an inclusive environment for the games, with equal opportunities for boys and girls to participate. We can be proud of our continued contribution.

While there can be no doubt that the cultural, educational and sporting landscape of our country has changed enormously since the formation of Cumann na mBunscol, we are proud to say “go rabhamar i lár an aonaigh”, in ensuring our games thrived. Consequently, it is a source of pride that we can acknowledge a remarkable half century of growth with the publication of “Caoga Bliain ag Fás” before Christmas. I would like to compliment the efforts of all who contributed to this history-laden publication, but particularly to the Trojan work of Joe Lyons and Ciarán Crowe in seeing the project to fruition. The next step is that we continue to prosper and flourish until we celebrate our Centenary!

In conclusion, may I remind you in this Olympic year of the Games' motto of “Citius, Altius, Fortius” and wish the same for Cumann na mBunscol. I would like to pay a special tribute to my fellow Officers for their support during the past 10 years agus guím gach Beannacht oraibh go léir agus ar bhúr saothar sna laetheannta, míonna agus blianta amach romhainn.

Níl aon amhras ann ach gur fearr le chéile sinn.

Mairead Ní Cheallacháin
Uachtarán, Cumann na mBunscol



***To make 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.



Minutes of 2023 Annual General Meeting



Cumann na mBunscol Náisiúnta

Date: Saturday 4th March 2023.

Venue: Mount Errigal Hotel, Letterkenny, Co. Donegal.

Present: An Coiste Náisiúnta, County and Provincial delegates, John Murphy (GAA representative).

Welcome of Delegates

Chairperson Joe Lyons welcomed all delegates. He introduced a slideshow presentation put together by PRO John Manley.

A minute's silence was observed for all deceased members and friends/family members of delegates.

Adoption of Standing Orders

The Cathaoirleach requested that the Standing Orders be adopted. This was agreed.

Proposed: Paddy Kelly (Tipperary).

Seconded: Edward O Riordan (Dublin).

Minutes

Minutes of AGM 2022

The minutes of the 2022 AGM were adopted.

Proposed: Brendan Rice (Down).

Seconded: Niamh O' Dea (Munster).

There were no matters arising.

Correspondence

No correspondence had been received.

Oráid an Chathaoirligh

Cathaoirleach Joe Lyons welcomed all delegates and thanking them for travelling.

He addressed the welcome return to games and activities this time last year after the long break. He noted that the Mini-Sevens season got up and running in 2022 and he praised Bernie Ryan for the hard work she did to ensure games ran smoothly under tight time restrictions. Joe noted, however, that the issue around teacher tickets remained unresolved and the system for issuing tickets needs to be revised going forward.

Joe thanked Allianz for their continued support and sponsorship. He urged county/provincial units to use @AllianzIreland and #AllianzCnmb in their PR work. He praised John Manley for the articles and PR work that was produced this year. He mentioned John's work for Allianz Cumann na mBunscol week and he said he is sure it is embedded firmly in the school calendar.

Joe then went on to speak about the 50th anniversary of the foundation of Cumann na mBunscol. He gave a brief history of its inception and went on to mention the thousands of children taking part in games/activities in the present day. He thanked all officers of Cumann na mBunscol for continuing to promote the games.

Finally, Joe praised the Donegal Cumann na mBunscol committee and thanked them for their hard work and co-operation in organising the weekend's events.

Secretary's Report

Secretary, Gary Farrell gave a detailed report covering last year's AGM, Allianz sponsorship, our Cornmarket awards and the new website. He thanked Cornmarket insurance for their co-operation and sponsorship. He reminded delegates of Child protection and Garda Vetting policies and expressed the excitement in anticipation of the 50th Anniversary Book. He thanked his colleagues on the National Committee and the teachers and children throughout the country who participate in our games.

Proposed: Daithí Roberts (Donegal).

Seconded: Niamh O Dea (Munster).

Treasurer's Report

Liam Breathnach began by thanking the committee for their support. He delivered his financial report:
Items of note:

An increase in Grants to counties (higher quantity/ quality of PR project submissions)

Committee travel/accommodation is up (return to face-face meetings after Covid)

Excess of income over expenditure of €15, 501

Liam thanked GAA, Allianz, INTO, Cornmarket for their financial support.

Proposed: Tomás O hAiniféin (Ciarraí).

Seconded: Liam Weir (Corcaigh).

PRO's Report

PRO John Manley hailed the excellent coverage noted in the media following our return to games and activities this past year, He thanked the PROs in all the counties and he looked back at Allianz Cumann na mBunscol week which took place from June 13th - June 17th 2022.

John made reference to Social Media, Allianz and their importance, reminding delegates to please use @AllianzIreland and #AllianzCnmb in their posts. He thanked the GAA and LGFA/Camogie stars who



Minutes of 2023 Annual General Meeting

contributed so valuably to the week and reported a resounding success from a PR point of view. John echoed Gary's enthusiasm and anticipation of the 50th Anniversary Book.

John mentioned the PR projects and awards submissions and praised the great work going on in counties and schools. He congratulated Uachtarán Mairead Ní Cheallacháin on her recent retirement in his report also.

Proposed: Daithí Roberts (Donegal).
Seconded: Liam Magee (Fermanagh).

Development Report

Development Officer Gerry O'Meara gave a report in which he welcomed the return to games. In his report, Gerry outlined many areas which could be developed:

His report mentioned some initiatives happening in some counties that could be built upon: Handball, rounders, Young Whistlers, Tráth na gCeist to name a few.

He noted the importance of our Provincial Committees and encouraged counties and schools to further engage with our Cornmarket Awards, Cumann na mBunscol week and other Social Media initiatives.



He referred to the new website and its user-friendly quality. Gerry also highlighted the Mini-sevens as our 'flagship' development and congratulated Bernie on another successful campaign. He thanked our sponsors and informed delegates that a survey will be circulated in the future to inform and support further development initiatives.

Proposed: Br. James Dormer (Limerick).
Seconded: Cyril Mannion (Galway).



Mini 7's Report

Mini-Sevens officer Bernie Ryan paid tribute to the county committees who got the mini-sevens games up and running. She reminded committees:

- To adhere to the allocation of places given
- To include provincial allocation on the county Excel
- To include Young Whistlers on any Excel document sheet
- To adhere to the age-limits
- To check the emails and phone numbers provided are correct
- Not to make any promises to families regarding places or dates!

Bernie finished her report by thanking the Dublin Teachers, GAA Officers, INTO delegates and fellow Cumann na mBunscol officers, especially Gerry O Meara, and Mairead O Callaghan for their help and support throughout the year and in Croke Park.

Bernie reported that a Mini-Sevens review is due and that this will follow the AGM and the result of this will be reported at the September Meeting.

Proposed: Daithí Roberts.
Seconded: Dermot Dunphy.

Election of Officers

There were no nominations for new officers. It was proposed to re-elect the committee 'en-bloc'. This was agreed and the committee was re-elected.

Proposed: Brendan Rice (Down).
Seconded: David Dillon (Connacht).



Minutes of 2023 Annual General Meeting



Motions

There were four motions:

1) Cumann na mBunscol Luimnigh calls on the Coiste Náisiúnta to seek a reversal of the decision to reduce by 50% the ticket allocation to teachers before the commencement of the 2023 Mini Sevens Series (Limerick).

Proposed: Br. James Dormer (Limerick)

Seconded: Ruairí Walshe (Limerick)

Motion Carried.

2) Should a child be chosen to play in the mini-sevens in Croke Park, two tickets should be allocated to the relevant teacher and sent directly to the teacher before match-day (Sciath na Scol)

Proposed: Liam Weir (Cork).

Seconded: Mairead Ní Cheallacháin (Cork).

Following a lengthy discussion, it was suggested that representatives from Cumann na mBunscol Náisiúnta meet with GAA officers to discuss. Proposer Liam Weir agreed and the meeting voted in favour.

3) Two tickets to be given to teachers when a child from their school is involved in the mini 7s games (Munster).

Proposed: Niamh O' Dea

Motion withdrawn by proposer, Niamh O Dea (already discussed and action decided upon)

4) Cumann na mBunscol will adopt a policy on establishing club-school links. This policy will be published on the website of Cumann na mBunscol and communicated to all Coistí before the end of June 2023 (Limerick).

Proposed: Ruairí Walshe

Seconded: Br. James Dormer

Following a lengthy discussion, it was suggested that the motion be withdrawn so that it can be further developed and the work continued. It was also suggested that this be re-addressed at the September meeting.

Motion withdrawn by proposer, Ruairí Walsh.

AOB

Manus O' Donnell (Ulster) expressed his disappointment at correspondence (regarding a competition) being sent

to 26 counties and leaving out 6.

Daithí Roberts (Donegal) thanked the county secretaries who had forwarded the medals to him for his display and asked that those who had yet to send in their medals would do so at their earliest convenience. He also noted that Cumann na mBunscol crest digitizations should be available to counties 'as Gaeilge'.

Joe Lyons (Chair) updated the meeting on the progress of the 50th anniversary book and hopes to launch it for the September meeting.

Ciaran Crowe (Luimneach) suggested that every school would pay €10 and would be given a copy of it and have it delivered to them.



Mairead Ní Cheallacháin said that she had been asked about the possibility of getting more Allianz advertising boards and/or 'pull-ups'. She said that the committee will keep it in mind and that we may address it again in the near future.

Conclusion

Joe Lyons thanked all delegates for attending and gave a special thank you to the Donegal committee again for their hard work in organising the weekend. The meeting concluded at 1:10pm.



Minutes of General Meeting September 2023

Date: 11am, Saturday, September 23rd, 2023

Venue: Croke Park Hotel.

Present: Cumann na mBunscol officers and delegates.

Apologies: John Manley (PRO).

Welcome/Chairperson's Address

Joe welcomed delegates and thanked them for attending the September General Meeting. A moment's silence was observed for Michael James McKiernan, father of leas-rúnaí, Mícheál who passed away on September 16th.

Finance

Liam gave his presentation which reminded delegates of the new suggested template for county treasurers.

31st August is the end of our financial year. Accounts are due to National treasurer on 30 November 2023. Delegates were reminded of this.

Liam highlighted some of the issues around honoraria and advised that these be discontinued due to revenue issues. The Allianz grant (€80,000), GAA grant (€68,000) and Cornmarket grant (€7,500) have been received.

50th Anniversary book: €107,000 approximate total cost.

Funding has reached €60,000 approx currently. There was a suggested €10 charge for schools for the copy they will receive. This is to be recouped through

the county committees. There was a suggestion from delegates that €15 or even €20 could be charged. Committee will decide.

Delegates were reminded that there is a PR grant available to counties upon receipt of the PR project.

Liam stated that the €68,000 grant figure from the GAA should possibly be re-addressed in the future

Joe thanked Liam.

Proposed by: Frank Reidy
Seconded by: Dave Collins

Oifigeach Forbartha

Making Gaelic Games the games of choice in primary schools.

Gerry reported that the national handball finals will take place in Croke Park this year (early Feb).

A data-gathering survey will be sent out soon to counties.

There was a school/club links meeting in July 2023 with delegates from the GAA (nothing of note emerging from that meeting as of yet).

Fidelma spoke about rounders promotion.

A query was raised to the committee regarding the





Minutes of General Meeting September 2023



possibility of a national quiz. This will be explored.

Allianz

Following the case involving the hurling injury, Alan Carroll met and gave guidelines. Suggestions included - tightening of policies/procedures regarding the checking of hurls, implementing the rule that all bands must be taped in hurling and camogie, onus will be on schools and referees to check. Liam Magee suggested putting words into a directive.

There was a question about young whistlers and liability, and a suggestion to place a blanket ban on banded hurls. The committee will return to Allianz for further clarification, but suggested that for now, counties and schools should err on the side of caution.

Mini Sevens

Bernie expressed her thanks to everyone; discussed issues around counties "making promises" to parents/children; gave the new cut-off date for names/details (26th April 2024). She noted the difficulties around teacher tickets and the need to collect them. Next year, forms must be returned on time. There was some improvement in this from last year.

Bernie sent 42 questionnaires to the teachers who had pupils playing in the hurling finals and received

17 responses. They all received offer of ticket and 70% used it. For the football, a similar number responded with 82% taking up the offer of a ticket. Bernie urged delegates to inform teachers that ticket would be forthcoming.

Bernie went on to thank Tadhg Kenny, Michael Smyth, Gerry O Meara, staff in Croke Park, INTO, Michelle Harte, Hilda Breslin, Ger Ryan, Larry McCarthy, also Sportsfile. Joe thanked Bernie for her work and her report.

Transgender

There are some issues/queries arising seeking clarification around policies regarding transgender pupils seeking to play boys/girls football/camogie etc. The committee reported that no conclusion on this matter has been reached despite consultation with Geraldine McTavish regarding the issues. There may be a need for a sub-committee to be formed to devise a policy. It was suggested that members of the provincial committees could form this committee and it was strongly advised that it would be made up of serving teachers due to the nature of the issues being faced.

50th Anniversary Publication

50 Bliain ag Fás is to be launched in November 2024.

AGM

Mullingar Park Hotel, March 9th 2024.

AOB

Brendan Rice (Down) was concerned that Cumann na mBunscol in County Down had been told that all games should be non-competitive (GO games, u12 in the north).

He was concerned that clubs facilitating Cumann na mBunscol competitive games could be penalised.

He was advised by the committee that Cumann na mBunscol should continue their autonomous activities as planned.

Chairperson Joe Lyons thanked delegates.

The meeting ended at 13:06.





Secretary's Report

I would like to begin my report by thanking the Mount Errigal Hotel, Co Donegal for their support and efforts in assisting us with our AGM in March 2023.

AGM 2023

After election, Cumann na mBunscol Náisiúnta membership was as follows:

Uachtarán	Mairéad Ní Cheallacháin, Corcaigh
Cathaoirleach	Joe Lyons, Luimneach
Leas-Cathaoirleach	Fedelma Sheridan, Co Cabhán
Rúnaí	Gary Farrell, Ard Mhacha
Leas-Rúnaí	Mícheál Mac Thiarnáin Co Liatroma
Cisteoir	Liam Breathnach, Corcaigh
P.R.O.	John Manley, Tiobraid Arainn
Central Council Delegate	Tomás Ó hÁinfein, Ciarraí
Development Officer	Gerry O Meara, Baile Átha Cliath
Mini-7's Officer	Bernie Ryan, Sligeach

Motions 2022

The following motion was passed.

Cumann na mBunscol Luimnigh condemns the decision of Cumann Luthchleas Gael to reduce by 50% the ticket allocation to teachers whose school is represented in the INTO GAA Mini Sevens on the days of the All-Ireland semi-finals and finals.

Cumann na mBunscol Luimnigh calls on a Coiste Náisiúnta to seek a reversal of this decision before the commencement of the 2023 Mini Sevens series (Luimneach)

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 and name as well as the specific hashtags when using twitter. We are constantly looking for new ways to promote and develop this sponsorship. It will be important for all counties to submit their PR projects in January each year so that we can show the excellent work that goes on in every county.

This year we introduced a new Social Media Category to give a level playing field for schools where newspaper coverage is limited or non-existent. This has allowed counties the opportunity to show case their excellent Social Media Promotion.

We have continued to forge very strong links with Allianz and in particular, with Alan Carroll and Katie Bradley. Recent initiatives have included the Croke Park Day and the offer of Ribbons for cups presented at our many finals. There is another great initiative in the pipeline, that will be unveiled by Allianz in due course.

I would like to thank Alan and Katie for all that they do to support our work.

I thank Cornmarket for their continued support and sponsorship. They have also provided sponsorship for our new book. I thank Orla Casey from Cornmarket with whom we have a great relationship. Orla continues to be very supportive of our work.

Awards

I would like to congratulate all the schools and counties that won awards at our awards ceremony last night. We had a large number of entries this year which is testament to the work that is being carried out by our teachers in all our schools. The standard of entries was excellent. I would like to thank our judges, Brian Treacy, John Hughes, Kate O'Connell, Rosenna Jordan, Emma Dineen and from Allianz Alan Carroll and Katie Bradley for their efforts in taking time to meticulously go through each project to ensure fairness and transparency in the process. Cumann na mBunscol will review the award categories and criteria for 2024.

Cornmarket Insurance

I thank Cornmarket for their continued support and sponsorship. They also provided sponsorship towards our new book. I thank Ivan Ahern and Orla Casey from Cornmarket with whom we have a great relationship. Orla, with whom we have most contact, continues to be very supportive of our work.

Website

Our Website and Twitter accounts continue to grow and evolve. This was evident during our Activity Week in June 2023. John also has a Cumann na mBunscol page in our Intouch Magazine every month and is always looking for new material. The profile of our organisation is continually promoted by John and on behalf of Cumann na mBunscol I would like to thank John for all his work.

50th Anniversary Book Launch

I would like to put on record the wonderful night that we all enjoyed at the Book Launch to Commemorate 50 Years of Cumann na mBunscol. 50 Bliain ag Fás provides



Secretary's Report



us with an excellent history of Cumann na mBunscol over these past 50 years and will be a lasting legacy, that demonstrates our tremendous work during this time. We are eternally indebted to Mr Joe Lyons and Mr Ciaran Crowe for their dedication and determination in bringing this project to fruition. On behalf of us all, I thank them most sincerely.

Inclusion Committee

As we move forward it is important that we continue to offer support to all our schools that reflects societal change. I welcome the establishment of a new Inclusion Committee who will begin to look at all issues that will impact on our work.

Child Protection and Garda Vetting

Coiste Náisiúnta continues to remind all units of the importance of these issues. As previously indicated all Cumann na mBunscol Officers should be Garda Vetted. Garda vetting is now a legal requirement and all Cumann na mBunscol units have to comply with the law. The Department of Education and Science have issued a circular on this topic. Please familiarise yourself with this document. The situation is the same in the 6 Northern Counties. ALL PERSONNEL MUST BE VETTED.

Conclusion

In conclusion, I would like to thank our Chairperson, Joe and fellow officers, Mairead, Tomás, Fidelma, Michéal, Willie, John, Bernie, and Gerry, for their support, dedication and work ethic. They work incredibly hard to ensure that the work of Cumann na mBunscol Náisiúnta is carried out in a professional and efficient manner. I would like to wish Mairead and Tomás best wishes as they complete their term of office. Cumann na mBunscol is richer for their service.

I would like to thank all the teachers in every County and Province for their tremendous work, time and dedication in promoting Gaelic games and Culture throughout the Country and to all the children who continue to be our inspiration.

Finally, as I complete my five years as Rúnaí, I would like to thank you all for your support during this time. I have thoroughly enjoyed the role and while demanding, it has been a pleasure to get to know so many people and see first hand the excellent work they do in supporting the playing of Gaelic games in our schools.

Gary Farrell Runaí
Secretary's Report





Treasurer's Report (AIB Account)

Cumann na mBunscol (AIB Account) Profit & Loss Account
Year ending 31 August 2023

	12 months to 31-Aug-23 €	12 months to 31-Aug-22 €
Income		
INTO Sponsorship	23,000.00	23,000.00
Allianz Sponsorship	80,000.00	65,000.00
Cornmarket Sponsorship	7,500.00	-
National Awards Income	4,580.00	616
GAA Games Development Funding	68,000.00	68,000
Tickets	720.00	-
	183,800.00	156,616.00
Expenses		
Allianz PR Grants	45,500.00	18,800.00
Grants to Counties	65,200.00	72,900.00
Handball	949.00	998.00
National Awards	15,519.00	262.00
Insurance Cover	7,038.00	6,120.00
Publications & Website	478.00	11,948.00
Committee Travel	16,206.00	12,676.00
Committee Meals & Accommodation	6,796.00	3,540.00
Complimentary All Ireland Tickets	3,060.00	2,160.00
AGM	7,188.00	6,035.00
Accounting	713.00	646.00
Bank Charges	412.00	371.00
Mini Sevens	23,000.00	2,866.00
Affiliation fees	300.00	600.00
Sundry Expenses	-	15.00
Blazers/Gear	-	1,178.00
	192,359.00	141,115.00
Excess income over expenditure	(8,559)	15,501



Treasurer's Report (AIB Account)



WESTMEATH

Bank Reconciliation as at 31 August 2023

2023
€

No. 1 Account

Bank Balance	218,700 Cr
Less: Outstanding Cheques	4,918 Dr
Reconciled Balance	213,782 Cr

No. 2 Account

Bank Balance	30,174 Cr
Less: Outstanding Cheques	-
Reconciled Balance	30,174 Cr

Total Balance

243,956 Cr





PRO's Report

2023 was another landmark year for all those connected with National Allianz Cumann na mBunscol. We are fortunate to have huge participation levels across all our different codes; long may it continue. The immense pride that children take from representing their local primary schools is clear for all to see.

One of the major highlights of 2023 was undoubtedly the launch of our 50th anniversary publication. They came from far and wide on Friday, November 24th to witness history being made in our national stadium Croke Park with the launch of National Allianz Cumann na mBunscol's wonderful 50th anniversary publication '50 Bliain ag Fás'. The book was launched by former Kilkenny Senior Hurling Manager Brian Cody. This book was three years in the making and captures 50 years of Gaelic games in Irish Primary Schools. It was written by two Cumann na mBunscol stalwarts Ciarán Crowe and Joe Lyons and they should be commended for what is a truly wonderful publication. It reflects on 50 years of teachers passing on a love of Gaelic Games to primary school children all over Ireland. It is an 836-page record of 50 years of voluntary work carried out by teachers in all four provinces to promote Gaelic games and foster a love of these games among the nation's children.

National Allianz Cumann Na Mbunscol Week June 2023
National Allianz Cumann na mBunscol Week was held between June 12th and 16th and it was a phenomenal success once more with record participation levels.



There was huge engagement across all counties during this amazing week. We had an amazing response from so many current GAA stars during this week who were only too happy to post daily challenges for the stars of tomorrow. We had a massive response across the whole country with hundreds of schools participating in what was arguably our most successful activity week thus far. Daily activities were set in hurling, camogie, Gaelic football, handball and rounders by some prominent inter county and television stars such as Tipperary All Ireland Senior Hurling winning captain Tommy Dunne, Cork Senior Hurler Luke Meade, Tipperary Senior

Hurlers Jake Morris & John McGrath, Armagh Senior Footballer Greg McCabe, Cork Senior Ladies Footballer Emma Cleary, Limerick Camogie Star Caoimhe Costello, Armagh Senior Hurler Fintan Woods, Cork Camogie Star Chloe Sigerson, Kerry Football Stars Diarmuid Ó Chonchúir & Niamh ní Chonchúir, Kilkenny Senior Hurler Padraig Walsh, RTE Sports Presenter Evanne ní Chuilinn, Breaffy Rounders Star Katie Kenny, Cork Senior Footballer Cian Kiely, Rounders All Star Shane Sheridan and Kilkenny All Ireland Senior Hurling Winner and multiple All Star Winner Eoin Murphy. There was huge engagement on social media with these daily activities. Tommy Dunne's skill video alone generated a staggering 123,000 impressions on Twitter. Our menu of activities proved very popular with schools participating in skills



challenges, recreating famous match scenes, interviews with teachers, art competitions, friendship games, jersey days and much more. The week was an incredible success and we cannot wait to do it all over again later this year!

Social Media continues to impact the way we promote our games. Many schools across Ireland now have their own Twitter accounts which enable them to share news about various Cumann na mBunscol activities and events on a daily basis. Our National Cumann na mBunscol Twitter account @cnambnaisiunta serves as a central platform where news on all the different GAA events taking place in our primary schools can be communicated to and shared with many primary schools



PRO's Report



all over the country. Good links have been maintained between the different provinces and also between neighbouring counties. Social media allows us to keep an eye on how all our close neighbours operate in their own counties which may ultimately raise standards around the country.

Our national sponsor Allianz continues to provide invaluable financial assistance and it has been very pleasing to see so many of the different Coiste in Ireland tagging @AllianzIreland and tweeting with the hashtag #AllianzCnmb when promoting events. We must continue to do this at every opportunity when our games resume. The use of the word Allianz when writing about Allianz Cumann na mBunscol is vitally important. I would urge each county to ensure that every time Cumann na mBunscol is mentioned, in an email or article, the word Allianz precedes it.

The work being done all over Ireland with regard to Public Relations is most impressive. The county PROs



are working diligently to promote the work of Allianz Cumann na mBunscol. They are doing a fantastic job of selling our product to the public. Counties must also continue to promote our games in local newspapers and on local radio at every opportunity when our games resume once more. Most radio stations are only too happy to do features in advance of County Finals.

I sincerely thank all the Cumann na mBunscol PROs across Ireland who submitted material to local and national media outlets on a regular basis during what was a very busy year once more. I also want to thank them for devoting time and energy into spear-heading their county's PR activities during 2023 and into 2024. We continued to receive great exposure in the different counties' GAA Yearbooks and Allianz League Match day Programmes in 2023 which reflects so well on the significant efforts of all our different coistí. National Allianz Cumann na mBunscol is very grateful for all their

hard work, time and dedication.

Congrats to all those who were honoured with national awards at the National Cumann na mBunscol Cornmarket Awards Ceremony held in Donegal in March 2023; it was another landmark night to remember. Well done to all those who have been nominated for awards at the forthcoming National Cumann na mBunscol Cornmarket Awards which will take place in Westmeath on Friday, March 8th, 2024.

Well done to all the children who were selected to take part in this year's half time games, Primary Game and INTO Mini Sevens. It is an incredible honour for the children, their families and their schools when they get to grace our county stadiums and national stadium to showcase their vast array of skills. National Allianz Cumann na mBunscol is incredibly proud to play our part on these big days.

July 2023 marked another very successful year of Cumann na mBunscol, INTO Mini 7's in conjunction with the GAA. Following the hard work of our county committees, organising games and skills competitions, 240 children were selected to play in the half time games and 12 children were selected as Young Whistlers. These children were selected to play in the All Ireland semi-finals and finals of the hurling and football championship. These games showcase the Gaelic skills that are fostered in schools all over Ireland. They also show a close link between our Primary Schools, the GAA and our teachers' union – the INTO.

At this time, we also remember our departed colleagues who have gone to their eternal rest.

I would like to thank my fellow officers on the National Committee for the support they have given to me in my role this year. I wish everybody well for the school year ahead.

I wish all schools well in all the different Allianz Cumann na mBunscol activities you're taking part in for the remainder of 2024.

Ní neart go cur le chéile.

Le meas,
John Manley
Dualla N.S. & PRO National ALLIANZ Cumann na mBunscol



Development Report

This was a busy year for Cumann na mBunscol throughout the country and the National Committee has worked hard on behalf of all county and provincial units. We held a number of meetings with Coaching & Games Officers in Croke Park, with Allianz, our sponsors and others to work on new initiatives. The 'Allianz Day' was a great success with many schools getting to play in Croke Park. Work with an 'Inclusion Committee' is ongoing as well as the promotion of hurling/camogie in the schools of the Tier 2 and Tier 3 counties. I am involved with many of these projects and I will report on progress later in the year.

The development of a formal 'School /Club' Link' policy is a priority for Cumann na mBunscol. This will help us further develop and promote Gaelic games in our schools. We have discussed this with officials in Croke Park and hope to bring back more information for our September meeting.

The launch of our 50-year history was a huge development this year and the launch night was such a proud night for all those involved in Cumann na mBunscol over the years. The book, itself, "50 Bliain ag Fás" records all the development work with each county and province over fifty years. The progress from these early days of the seventies to now is nothing but remarkable. Great credit is due to our Cathaoirleach, Joe Lyons and Ciarán Crowe for bringing this work to fruition.

The past year saw a full and varied range of primary school based Gaelic games activities in all 32 counties and in the four provincial units. The increase in these activities is down to the hard work of the teachers in each and every school and the county / provincial committees that lead this work. Well done to all for their hard work in promoting Gaelic Games as the game of choice in their school, county and province.

The role of Development Officer at National level is to help in the promotion and the expansion of all activities associated with Gaelic Games in primary school. In many cases, the officers are well on top of all that needs to be done. However the National Committee and myself, as Development Officer, are always on hand to help with advice, encouragement and ideas if needs be.

We learn from each other all the time. There are excellent promotions taking place in each county from handball to refereeing courses, blitzes, quiz, Scór

activities as well as the promotion of hurling, football, girls' football and camogie. Social media accounts have opened our eyes to what is happening in the Cumann na mBunscol schools in every county.

Here are some updates on this year to date:

Liathróid Láimhe

This year our National Day took place on Sunday February 18th in the Croke Park Handball Centre. It was great to be back there for the first time in years after the new build and refurbishment. The availability of this National venue has added greatly to the promotion of handball in our schools. Three provincial days have just finished up, as I write on January 30th with Leinster Days taking place on St. Brigid's Day and February 2nd. This year saw more schools and counties than ever participating in the handball days. Well done to all involved and a big thank you to the coordinators in each of the four provincial units. Handball has been flourishing in many schools this past year. There is plenty more to do and we hope to run a workshop at some stage next year for the counties who would like to start promoting this game.

Rounders

Another of the Gaelic Games family activities. Many units have started to develop the game at a county level and a number have plans to have inter county fun days. We hope to explore the idea of a 'Rounders Day' in each of the provincial Cumann na mBunscol units over the next year or so. Interest has been expressed by a number of counties since December and I will be in touch with these counties over the next few weeks.

Young Whistlers

Again this programme, encouraging young referees, is very strong in a number of counties. This project will be supported in any county that wishes to develop training for young referees in the coming year. Please get in touch. We use these referees in our mini games and during the Mini Sevens in Croke Park at All Ireland Semi Final and Final day.

Provincial Committees

All four Cumann na mBunscol Provincial committees are up and running. The work at provincial level with Mini Games continues and games took place in all four during the provincial championships. Some of the provinces have organised other blitz days such as girls' football, Indoor football, camogie, Lift & Strike, etc. As already



Development Report



stated, the provincial units played a huge part in the promotion of handball this year.

Cornmarket Awards

The number of entries this year was well up and the quality of all the entries was of a very high standard. The School of the Year award is a huge honour for any school or county to win.

Cumann na mBunscol Week

This week of activities has gone from strength to strength. Well done to John Manley P.R.O. for spearheading this great development. It has a huge impact in schools throughout the country and the publicity garnered for Cumann na mBunscol has been extraordinary. I would encourage all counties and schools to engage with the week in 2024.

Social Media

Our presence in social media has really progressed to a high level. Most days, Cumann na mBunscol activities in the schools feature across a number of platforms. If your county has not been involved, please get in touch and we can put you in contact with counties that are doing great work on this platform. Publicity of our games is good for promotion and sponsorship.

Mini Sevens

The Mini Sevens has always been our flagship development at National level. Again This year was no exception. Well done to National coordinator, Bernie Ryan for her dedication and hard work in relation to all this. We look forward to a successful 2024 Mini Sevens in July.

Gerry O' Meara
Oifigeach Forbartha
Cumann na mBunscol Náisiúnta





Mini 7's Report

July 2023 marked another very successful year of INTO Mini 7's in conjunction with the GAA. 240 children were selected to play in the half time games and 12 children were selected as Young Whistlers. These children were the lucky children selected to play in the All Ireland semi-finals and finals of the hurling and football championship. These games showcase the Gaelic skills that are fostered in schools all over Ireland. They also show a close link between our primary schools, the GAA and our teachers' union – the INTO.

These games allow 252 children to walk on the magical turf of Croke Park. The children walk out on the grass that their heroes play on. They get to sense and see the buildup, the underground atmosphere, the stadium atmosphere, the hard work all round the stadium. They become heroes – not just for a day but for months ahead. Schools, clubs and counties celebrate the great achievements of these children. While only 2 counties can contest a final – 32 can celebrate the Mini 7's. Social media is alive for the month before and after the games – as the local school and club celebrate the success of one of their own getting to play on All Ireland semi finals and finals day.

The children from our schools have a very special place on our All Ireland Days. From the moment they enter the Barbara Ward Centre they are treated like very special guests. The morning speeches add a sense of importance and excitement to the day. We would like to thank Michelle Harte from the Child Safeguarding Office in Croke Park for her attendance and kind words each week. We would also like to thank John Boyle, Dorothy McGinley and Carmel Browne for their kind and inspirational words. After a cup of tea and some treats, the children leave their teachers and families to join the Dublin teachers for their journey to Croke Park.

The children are led to the changing rooms under the stadium. More often than not they pass the Artane Band getting ready for their moment on the pitch. The children are given the kit of one of the participating teams to wear for the day and to keep forever. Following this, the children have lunch and then photographs on the side of the pitch. Again, this is made extra special by the presence of the GAA on the day. Mile buíochas to Larry McCarthy, Hilda Breslin, Michael Naughton, John Murphy, Ger Ryan and Triona Murphy for their presence. Their attendance was much appreciated by us all.

We have had the fantastic experience of being on the

pitch at half-time during all the games. This is the memory of a lifetime for the children and their families, walking out onto that pitch while their heroes walk off for half time, sensing the cheers and applause from the crowds. Weather never seems to matter on these days – the children play as if the sun always shines on Croke Park. What they don't see is their game on the big screen – what an honour for their families and friends.

These games couldn't happen without so many people. Mile buíochas to the teachers in the schools who train



the teams, go to the games and make sure the children participate. My thanks to all our County Secretaries and County Committees who organise the games and activities in the schools to allow children this honour. I am also thankful to the work of our secretaries who complete the Excel forms and return to me to organise for Croke Park. Our thanks as ever to the INTO for their continued sponsorship of these games since the 1980's!. Mile buíochas to the GAA who continue to give primary school children a place on the clár – that allows for close links between schools and the GAA – which continues to make Gaelic Games the game of choice.

My thanks to Michelle Harte for all her work and cooperation during the games. Thanks also to her Safeguarding team who are present on the day. We are very thankful for the Dublin teachers for their support on the day – coordinated by Michael Smyth. Also thanks to Edward O' Riordan, Gerry O' Meara and the goalpost carriers for their work each week.

Lastly, I want to thank the committee members for their attendance each week in the Barbara Ward Centre and in Croke Park. A special thanks to Mairéad and Tomás for



Mini 7's Report



their help with the teams.

When Stevie Mulrooney took to the Aviva Stadium to sing "Ireland's Call" the country stopped to watch and listen. We all felt that sense of pride at watching his passion for his country and his game.

The sense of pride is 42 times larger on Mini 7's days! We feel such a sense of pride in these young people taking to the pitch to show off their GAA skills and make everlasting memories. They have represented us all superbly.

Bernadette Ryan
National Mini 7's Co-ordinator

All Ireland Dates 2024

Iomáint	Peil
Semi finals - 6th & 7th July	Semi Finals - 13th & 14th July
Final - 21st July	Final - 28th July

Tuairisc ón Ard Chomhairle

A chairde,
Iarraidh orm cúpla focal a scríobh i mbliana faoi imeachtaí Ard Chomhairle. Ba seo mo cúigiú bhliain ar an gcomhairle agus caithfidh mé a rá gur bhain mé taitneamh as na cruinnithe ar fad le linn mo thréimhse agus mé ag feidhmiú do Chumann na mBunscol agus gur chaith na toscairí eile go maith liom roimh, i rith agus i ndiaidh na cruinnithe ar fad.

As my ten year term on National Committee, the last five as Ard Chomhairle delegate finishes today I have been asked to give a brief update on our relationship with those in the corridors of power within the CLG. Prior to becoming Ard Chomhairle delegate, I had the honour of being present at Ard Chomhairle meetings as proxy for Jim Fennelly I have had the honour of being present at meetings with Liam O'Neill, Aogán Ó Fearghaíl, John Horan, Labhrás Mac Cárthaigh and Jarlath Burns as chairmen. During this period I must say that I was treated with respect at all times from all involved with Coiste Bainistí and Ard Chomhairle. While Cumann na mBunscol issues are rarely on the agenda I was always welcomed to contribute to wider discussions within the organisation.

While 2023 was an historic year for Cumann na mBunscol with the publication of **50 Bliain ag Fás** the journey to seek financial assistance to cover the cost of this fine publication by Joe Lyons and Ciarán Crowe began some

years earlier as we emerged from Covid 19. I am delighted to report that when approached sufficient members of Coiste Bainistí saw and understood the huge contribution and positive impact of Cumann na mBunscol in promoting Gaelic Games for well over a half century and backed our request for financial report and I am delighted to report the CLG Páirc an Chrócaigh contributed €30,000 to the project and also gave Cumann na mBunscol favourable discounts for the hugely successful launch on the 24th of November 2023.

With the split season as we have experienced over the past few years here to stay for the foreseeable future, All-Ireland finals in July possibly early August will become the norm and as a result of this we will possibly see only one game played on All-Ireland Final Day. The GAA have selected a committee to review All-Ireland Day as it stands and I am grateful and appreciate the invitation from Uachtarán CLG Larry Mc Carthy to represent Cumann na mBunscol on this committee. So, a chairde, as I depart this afternoon I again want to thank all in Coiste Bainistí and all county delegates who cooperated with me over the past five years agus guím gach rath ar an té a thagann i mo dhiaidh.

Tomás Ó hAiniféin



Nominations for National Committee AGM 2024

Uachtarán

David Dillon (Sligeach)
Gary Farrell (Ard Mhacha)
Bernie Ryan (Sligeach)

Cathaoirleach

Joe Lyons (Luimneach)

Leas- Cathaoirleach

Niall Brennan (Iarmhí)
Nicola Kennedy (Portláirge)
Áine McGrath (Sligeach)
Declan Ward (Uibh Fáilí)

Runaí

Mícheál Mac Thiarnáin (Liatroim)
Fidelma Sheridan (An Cabhán)
Declan Ward (Uibh Fáilí)

Leas Runaí

Michéal Mac Thiarnáin (Liatroim)
Declan Ward (Uibh Fáilí)

Cisteoir

Liam Breathnach (Corcaigh)

Oifigeach Caidreamh Poiblí

John Manley (Tiobraid Árann)

Toscaire Ard Comhairle

Tomás Ó hAiniféin (Ciarraí)

Oifigeach Forbartha

Rosena Jordan (An Cabhán)
Declan Ward (Uibh Fáilí)

Toscaire don Ard Chomhairle

Mícheál Mac Thiarnáin (Liatroim)
Liam Magee (Fear Manach)
Gerry O' Meara (Ath Cliath)

Oifigeach Mini 7's

Bernie Ryan (Sligeach)





WESTMEATH

Motions 2024

Motion 1

That Cumann na mBunscol review the age limits of children eligible to play Mini 7s so that all children attending a primary school can take part.
(Gaillimh)

Motion 2

If a school has a child chosen to play in the INTO/GAA exhibition games in Croke Park during the All – Ireland semi-finals and finals, that two tickets to the game the child is playing in be allocated to the relevant teacher in that child's school. The tickets be sent by post or email to the teacher before the match day.
(Luimneach)

Motion 3

That Cumann na mBunscol schedule an annual national sports quiz before Easter every year where winners of county and provincial quizzes could compete.
(Connacht)

Motion 4

That Cumann na mBunscol request that the national handball finals be scheduled later in the calendar year.
(Connacht)





Cumann na mBunscol, 50 Bliain ag Fás

'Cumann na mBunscol, 50 Bliain ag Fás' was launched in Croke Park on Friday November 24th by Brian Cody, the legendary manager. Brian was a primary teacher himself for his entire working life and trained teams for Cumann na mBunscol activities so he was a natural choice to launch the book.

Cumann na mBunscol was founded in 1971 as a national organisation promoting Gaelic games in primary schools. 'Cumann na mBunscol, 50 Bliain ag Fás', written by Ciarán Crowe and Joe Lyons, covers the story of the organisation's first fifty years. It includes a chapter on the evolution of primary school games in each of the 32 counties, in each province and on the national scene as well as features on the INTO Mini Sevens, Handball, Rounders and other areas.

Where and when did it all start?

Players attending schools in Limerick city and Dublin played a challenge game in football, hurling and handball in 1971. Afterwards, the officers of both counties decided that there was potential to arrange similar events on a countrywide basis and the germ of an idea was conceived. An invitation was issued to interested teachers from other counties to meet in Dublin on the weekend of the All-Ireland football final and the rest is history. The first Secretary of the new Committee was Tom Garry, a native of Castleconnell, who was teaching in Dublin. Tom went on to serve as an officer from 1971 to 1992.

As well as chronicling the first fifty years of the organisation, the book is a celebration of the volunteers who have given of their time and expertise for decades. It also celebrates the joy children experience playing Gaelic games with their friends. Contributors include Michael Darragh McAulay, Shane Horgan, Séamus Callinan, Alan Dillon T.D., Benny Tierney, Síofra O'Shea, Anne Dalton and Aoife Neary. Away from the world of sporting personalities, authors Donal Ryan and Dave Hannigan, Danny O'Reilly of the Coronas and racing journalist Donn McClean are among those who fondly recall playing Gaelic games in primary school.

Brian Cody performed the official launch of Cumann na mBunscol, 50 Bliain ag Fás. In the course of his address, a few points made by Brian stood out.

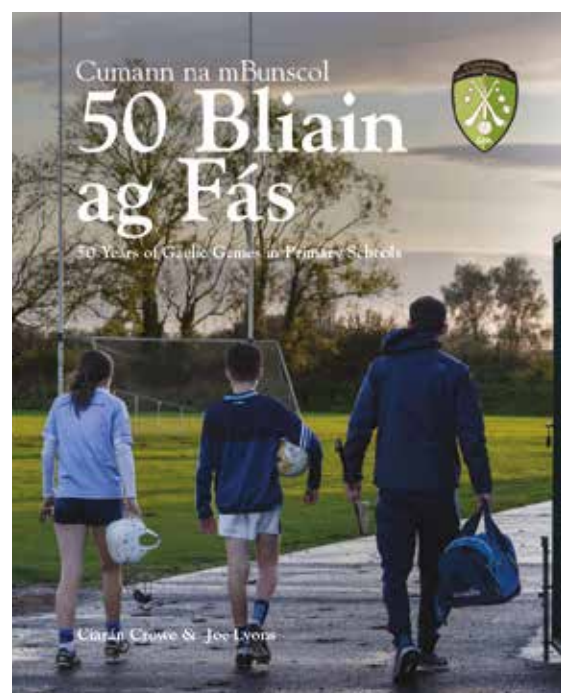
"I have obviously first-hand experience of seeing the operation of the whole thing, being a primary teacher all of my working life, what's always struck me about teaching and teachers and the work you do with promoting Gaelic games.... The word that I always zone

in on and that matters to me massively is volunteering.... the volunteers and the work that they do as volunteers and of course that's at the very core of the GAA."

"It's so, so important to give them (children) the opportunity to get out and enjoy sport. And that's the big thing about it, to enjoy sport, to get to love the games."

"My experience in my old school, you know, the teachers who will never feature anywhere and will never become known but they just bring the children out to play. (They would just say) 'Bring your hurleys in tomorrow, we'll go out and go into the pitch and we'll play a bit of hurling.'"

"I also had the privilege of watching outstanding (young) hurlers who had gone to become outstanding hurlers in Kilkenny playing from the time they were seven or eight in their own schools, growing up with that love or hurling which was imbued in them by their primary school teachers and watching them develop (so it) was easy to be the guy who picked them later on for teams because sure I saw them playing years ago for school teams and they were deadly. ..why wouldn't you pick them?"



Cumann na mBunscol, 50 Bliain ag Fás is available from [www. O'Mahony's.ie](http://www.O'Mahony's.ie) (post & Packaging Free)



Cornmarket Cumann na mBunscol Awards 2024



Pat Trainor Award for Lifetime Contribution to Cumann na mBunscol:

Manus Ó Dómhnaill - Co. Donegal

Category 1: Allianz P.R. Award

1st Cork
2nd Wicklow
3rd Kerry

Category 2: Social Media Award

1st Wicklow
2nd Fermanagh
3rd Armagh

Category 3: Publications

1st Herbertstown NS - Co. Limerick
2nd St. Marys Garristown NS - Dublin Co. Dublin
3rd An Mhí

Category 4: Promotion of Gaelic Games & Culture

1st Roan St Patrick's PS - Co. Tyrone
2nd Moneynick PS - Co. Antrim
3rd St. Laurence O'Toole NS - Co. Wicklow

Category 5: School of the Year (less than 200 pupils)

1st Brackloon NS - Co. Mayo
2nd Moneynick PS - Co. Antrim
2nd Our Lady's PS Tullysaran - Co. Armagh
3rd Clara NS - Co. Offaly

Category 6: School of the Year (greater than 200 pupils)

1st Crinkill NS - Co. Offaly
2nd Kennedy Park NS - Co. Wexford
3rd St. Laurence O'Toole NS - Co. Wicklow





An Coiste Náisiúnta Constitution

Cumann na mBunscol is an autonomous National Federation of Primary School Teachers 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** This Federation 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.

- C** The function of “Cumann na mBunscol” shall be:

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

- Preparing and submitting an annual budget.
- 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

- Coaching
- Seminars
- 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



An Coiste Náisiúnta Constitution



WESTMEATH

- C** in Croke Park on All-Ireland Semi-Final and Final days.

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

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

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

- D** 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.

- E** 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’.



An Coiste Náisiúnta Constitution

*Special General Meeting

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

The only business that will be discussed at the meeting is the business requested as the reason for calling the meeting.

* Officers and National Committee

1. All members of the National Committee shall be elected annually at the AGM. All officers may hold office for a maximum period of five years.
2. All members of the National Committee are limited to two consecutive maximum terms of office, but not in the same office.

A member may however seek office again after a minimum of one year's break.
3. The National Committee shall carry out the business of Cumann na mBunscol between Annual General Meetings. They shall meet regularly and attend to all current business.
4. The National Committee may appoint sub-committees as required to assist them with a current task or problem.

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



An Coiste Náisiúnta Constitution



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

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

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

(a) Endeavour to raise standards in all counties by holding seminars, coaching courses, issue publications and 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 Naisiunta 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.



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15. An annual written report shall be presented to An Coiste Náisiúnta.
16. (a) The Provincial Treasurer shall be responsible for verification of all expenses
(b) The Treasurer, shall be responsible for
 - (i) The maintenance of proper financial records.
 - (ii) An annual audit of the accounts.
 - (iii) Presentation of accounts to the Annual General Meeting.
17. Each Provincial Committee will notify and invite a delegate from An Coiste Náisiúnta to the Provincial AGM, in the absence of the National President.
18. Provincial status is to be granted to GB.
19. Motions to the Provincial AGM, which shall be in the name of a County Coiste and formally adopted at a meeting of that body, must reach the Provincial Secretary not later than three weeks before the AGM.
20. All nominations for positions on the Provincial Committee which shall be in the name of a county Coiste and formally adopted at a meeting of that body, must reach the Provincial Secretary not later than three weeks before the AGM.
21. Copies of the agenda for the Provincial AGM together with list of motions and nominations for elections to the Provincial committee shall be circulated to the county Coiste in that province at least 7 days before the AGM.
22. The provincial secretary must inform the National Secretary of the venue and date of the Provincial AGM at least three weeks in advance of the meeting.
2. The Cathaoirleach shall preside over all meetings and shall see that the rules of the organisation be enforced sensibly and fairly on all occasions.
3. Motions to the Annual General Meeting, which shall be in the name of County Coistí, Provincial Council or An Coiste Náisiúnta and formally adopted at a meeting of that body, must reach the National Secretary not later than four weeks before the AGM.
4. All nominations for positions on the National Committee which shall be in the name of an affiliated area or Provincial Council and formally adopted at a meeting of that body, must reach the National Secretary not later than three weeks before the AGM.
5. Copies of the agenda for the AGM together with list of motions and nominations for elections to National Committee shall be circulated to all affiliated areas and Provincial Councils at least 7 days before the AGM.
6. Amendments and agenda will be with the National Secretary in writing in the name of an affiliated area or Provincial Council at least one hour before the AGM.
7. Contrary motions shall not be accepted.
8. All motions must be clear and unambiguous and must not conflict with the aims and objectives of Cumann na mBunscol.
9. (a) To be deemed in order a motion must be implementable and must be specific to Cumann na mBunscol.
(b) However motions may call on Cumann na mBunscol to negotiate with relevant bodies on a specific matter that is of interest to Cumann na mBunscol.
10. The mover of a proposal shall speak for not more than two minutes.
11. The seconder of a proposal shall speak for no more than two minutes.

Standing Orders

1. A Standing Orders sub-committee comprising of the Provincial Chairmen or Secretaries or their nominee shall consider all motions and nominations and decide if they are in order and acceptable for presentation at the AGM.



An Coiste Náisiúnta Constitution



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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.
 23. Only properly constituted delegates may speak at the AGM.
 24. Other speakers may only address the AGM when prior arrangements are made through the National Committee.
- * Grievances and Complaints in all matters**
1. Grievances and complaints in regard of matters within an area will be settled within that area.
 2. Each County will have a constitutionally elected Coiste Gearán to deal with appeals arising from decisions of the County Coiste.
 3. Complaints, Objections and Counter Objections:
Any complaints or objections must be lodged with the Runaí Chontae in writing within 3 days of the game. The Runaí informs the other party who also has 3 days to respond in writing.

The matter can then be dealt with by the Coiste Chontae. The decision will then be conveyed to both parties. Any party dissatisfied with the decision of the Coiste may appeal in writing to the Runaí Chontae Cumann na mBunscol within 3 days. This appeal will be heard by the Coiste Gearán.
 4. Coiste Gearán:
This is an appeals body.

A minimum of 5 are elected to this committee at the A.G.M. No member of the Officer Board of Coiste Chontae, Cumann na mBunscol or anybody who has heard the original objection may sit on An Coiste Gearán. No member of the Coiste Gearán may consider any appeal involving their own school. The Coiste Gearán may call all interested parties. A quorum of 3 is necessary to hear all appeals. The decision of the Coiste Gearán is final and binding.



An Coiste Náisiúnta Constitution

(a) Grievances, complaints and objections dealing with issues outside County Jurisdiction will be dealt with by the National Committee and that decision will be final.

5. Sanctions will be taken against any Coiste, National, Provincial or County or any member for the following reasons:
- bringing the organisation into disrepute, or
 - failure to implement National Policy.

* Sanctions

1. Misuse of organisational funds. Automatic Disassociation.
2. Conduct unbecoming a member of 'Cumann na mBunscol'. Automatic Disassociation.
3. Failure of a County to furnish a statement of accounts. Withholding of grants and tickets.
4. Failure of a County to furnish a secretary's report. Withholding of grants and tickets.
5. Failure to hold an A.G.M. plus relevant meetings and two additional meetings. Withholding of all monies and tickets due to that County / Provincial Coiste.
6. Failure of County / Provincial units to honour obligations to sponsorship agreements. Withholding of sponsorship monies.
7. Failure to comply with/implement the Constitution. Withholding of grants and other benefits.
8. Failure to comply with/implement National Policy. Withholding of grants and other benefits.





Insurance Certificate



WESTMEATH



Cumann na mBunscol
Corrin Na Coille
Drumaweel
Drumcong
Co. Leitrim
N41 PX39

9th February 2024

For the attention of: Gary Farrell

Insured Name: Members ftb, Cumann na mBunscol
Policy Number: DNRPL6707271

Dear Gary,

I confirm a Summary of Cover is:

Allianz p.l.c will indemnify Cumann na mBunscol in respect of all sums which they shall become legally liable to pay for damages arising out of accidental.

- (a) Bodily injury to any person
 - (b) Nuisance
 - (c) Loss of or damage to material property
- occurring during the Period of Insurance and arising out of and in the course of all Cumann na mBunscol activities.

The Limit of indemnity is €6,500,000 (£5,000,000) any one Event.

Cover is subject always to the terms, Definitions, Extensions, Exclusions, Conditions limitations and any Endorsements of the Policy currently in force issued by Allianz p.l.c.

All incidents or events likely to give rise to a claim under this Policy must be notified to Allianz p.l.c immediately irrespective of the view as to the validity or otherwise of such claim or prospective claim.

Yours sincerely,

Sandra McCormack

Sandra McCormack
Religious Education Team



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Allocations of Mini 7's 2024



County	Girl's Football	Boys Football	Camogie	Hurling	Total
Clare	2	1	1	2	6
Limerick	2	1	1	2	6
Cork	3	3	3	3	12
Waterford	1	2	2	1	6
Tipperary	1	2	2	1	6
Kerry	2	1	1	2	6
Munster	0	0	5	0	5
Galway	2	1	1	2	6
Mayo	2	1	1	2	6
Sligo	1	2	2	1	6
Roscommon	1	2	2	1	6
Leitrim	1	2	2	1	6
Connacht	0	5	0	0	5
Donegal	2	1	1	2	6
Monaghan	1	2	2	1	6
Cavan	1	2	2	1	6
Fermanagh	1	2	2	1	6
Armagh	2	1	1	2	6
Tyrone	1	2	2	1	6
Derry	1	2	2	1	6
Antrim	2	1	1	2	6
Down	2	1	1	2	6
Ulster	5	0	0	0	5
Dublin	6	6	6	6	24
Meath	1	2	2	1	6
Louth	1	2	2	1	6
Wicklow	2	1	1	2	6
Wexford	1	2	2	1	6
Westmeath	1	2	2	1	6
Kilkenny	2	1	1	2	6
Offaly	2	1	1	2	6
Laois	2	1	1	2	6
Carlow	1	2	2	1	6
Kildare	2	1	1	2	6
Longford	2	1	1	2	6
Leinster	0	0	0	5	5
London	1	1	1	1	4
Total	60	60	60	60	240

Allianz 

**1 in 5 children drop out of sport
by secondary school**

Together, let's #StopTheDrop

Visit [Allianz.ie/StopTheDrop](https://www.allianz.ie/StopTheDrop)