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#### CLÁR AN LAÉ

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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, must reach the National Secretary not later than three weeks before the AGM.
- 3. All nominations for positions on the National Committee shall be in the name of an affiliated area or Provincial Council and must reach the National Secretary not later than three weeks before the AGM.
- 4. The National Committee shall consider all motions 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 AGM.
- 6. Amendments and agenda will be with the National Secretary in writing in the name of an affiliated area or Provincial Council one hour before the start of the AGM.
- 7. Contrary motions shall not be accepted.
- 8. The mover of a proposal shall speak for not more than three minutes.
- 9. The seconder of a proposal shall speak for no more than three minutes.
- 10. No motion shall be discussed for more than 30 minutes. The motion must be disposed of when the 30 minutes have elapsed.
- 11. The mover shall have the right of reply in all cases. 2 minutes maximum.
- 12. 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.
- 13. The usual method for the disposal of amendments and agenda shall be followed.

- 14. 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'.
- 15. 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.
- 16. 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.
- 17. 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.
- 18. The chairman may at his discretion and in consultation with other officers change the order of business in the interest of efficiency.
- 19. The order of business may also be changed at the request of a majority of delegates present and voting.
- 20. Only properly constituted delegates may speak at the AGM or General Meeting. Other speakers may only address the AGM when prior arrangements are made through the National Committee.

# Minutes of Annual General Meeting February, 28th. 2004

The Annual General Meeting of Cumann na mBunscol was held in the Meadowlands Hotel, Tralee, Co. Kerry on Saturday, 28<sup>th</sup>. February. The meeting was chaired by Jim O' Reilly and he welcomed all the delegates and especially Lorcán O Ruairc, Margaret Delaney, Pat Morrissey, Brian Tobin, Mairéad O Callaghan and Gerome Conway. He thanked Kerry and in particular Paddy Keane and Muiris O Mathúna for their hospitality. He also thanked the committee for all the excellent work that they had done over the year. Apologies from Seán Ó Ceallaigh, Catherine Byrne, Liam Mulvihill, Pat Daly, Seán Walsh, Moira Graham and Helen O' Rourke.

Standing Orders were proposed by Cyril Mannion (Galway) and seconded by Muiris O Mathúna (Kerry).

The adoption of the GM minutes was proposed by Gerry O' Meara (Leinster) and seconded by Jim O' Riordan (Wicklow).

#### **Correspondence:**

A letter from Allianz concerning Public Liability insurance and Personal Accident insurance. Schools affiliated to Cumann na mBunscol are covered for all Cumann na mBunscol activities including attendance at AGM etc. A B.O.M. is insured for supervision by non-teaching staff once the latter is approved by the B.O.M. This approval has to be minuted in the B.O.M. minutes.

> A letter from Allianz explaining the increase in insurance premiums. Also the London Schools' Board when affiliated to Cumann na mBunscol could be insured for  $\pm 100$  stg + 5% Government levy.

A cover letter and application form from O' Neills concerning their Gaelic Games project for Primary Schools.

A discussion arose concerning insurance and Máiréad O Callaghan ( Cork ) wondered whether school teams would have to pay €200 per team. Mairead was informed that this insurance was optional and not mandatory. Also a motion was passed at our AGM two years ago that "Cumann na mBunscol have no part or act in collecting insurance levies in schools".

#### **Chairman's Address:**

Jim O' Reilly said that it was his third year as cathaoirleach and it was a great honour for him to be able to serve Cumann na mBunscol.

▶ He congratulated Cumann Camogaiochta na nGael on their centenary celebrations.

 $\succ$  He wished Kerry well on their tenth anniversary on being re-formed. Over 140 schools are taking part in their activities.

> This week John Prenty, Secretary of Connacht Council, echoed his main reservations about funding from the Irish Sports Council. The FAI and the IRFU receive much larger funding than the GAA as they are going into developing areas. The GAA are being penalised as they are already developed. Nearly 3000 schools are playing football while just over 2000 schools are playing hurling/camogie.

➤ Mc Donald's "Catch & Kick" and "Lift & Strike" strengthen the link between club and school as outlined in the "Underage Strategic Plan" as adopted by management of the GAA. This year sees the launch of the "Lift & Strike". All counties should make sure that this scheme is launched and developed in a proper manner. 2000 schools should receive hurling equipment before Easter. Equipment will be delivered to a central venue in each county as it cost €30,000 last year to deliver equipment directly to the schools.

 $\triangleright$  Other bodies just go into strong areas of their particular codes and provide coaching for a privileged minority. Playing fields should be equalled.

> Thankfully Allianz are back on board again. However, each unit ( County & Provincial ) must make the effort of including our sponsor's name and logo on all PR material. A meeting for PROs will be held sometime after the AGM.

> The Roadstone Awards continue to be a great success. All counties should submit at least one project for this year's Awards. In the last two years we've had high profile guests of honour. With these guests a strict protocol has to be observed. I would appeal to all guests to respect this protocol.

> O' Neills and Cumann na mBunscol have come together for a major sponsorship deal. O' Neills will be sending out details to schools in the near future.

Mini-Sevens and Handball are progressing at a high level. He thanked everybody involved in these competitions as they gave of their free time willingly.

> Jim concluded by thanking all his fellow officers for their great dedication over the last 12 months. He also thanked officers at provincial and county level and also those people at the coalface, the primary school teachers of Ireland who promote Gaelic Games in our schools.

#### Secretary's Report:

Its adoption was proposed by Robert Hanley ( Limerick ) and seconded by Donal Mc Carthy ( Tipperary )

#### **Matters Arising**

Allianz Sponsorship was discussed in great detail and Gerry Grogan advised each Provincial Council to nominate one person in each province to collect Allianz projects and forward them to Slattery's PR Company in Dublin. Liam Weir (Munster) felt that Slatterys should be doing more on the promotional side for Allianz but delegates felt that we were receiving the sponsorship money so it was up to Cumann na mBunscol to make more of an effort. Marett Smith

(Longford) said that the meeting with Slatterys, Allianz and the PROs should resolve this matter after the AGM. Donal Mc Carthy (Tipperary) congratulated Cumann na mBunscol Náisiúnta on securing sponsorship for another year.

➤ Mc Donald's Sponsorship was welcomed by all but some delegates had reservations about the effect that it could have on our promotion of a "Healthy Eating Policy" in our schools. Many felt that it was a great asset in promoting more liaison between school and club.

> The Coiste Gearan should be compulsory in every county.

Handball: Every county should forward details of handball schools in their county immediately to Malachy or Margaret. Paddy Corbett (Mayo) suggested that there should be a Handball Officer in each county as the Handball Association were holding inter-schools competitions without notifying Cumann na mBunscol. Gerry Mc Donnell (Munster) felt that the Handball Association should be putting more coaches into Primary Schools instead of funding competitions for Over 70s.

**Buntús: P.J. Fitzpatrick** ( **Clare** ) raised the matter about no GAA equipment in the Buntus bags and he wasn't at all happy with the Irish Sports Council's explanation in relation to this matter. He also queried the fact that his motion on the Buntús Programme had not been included in the AGM Booklet. Margaret informed him that the closing date for motions was 30<sup>th</sup>. January, 2004 and he had not submitted anything in writing before that date. **Gerry Mc Donnell** ( **Munster** ) suggested that all County and Provincial AGMs be held in January so that they could forward their motions to Margaret in time. Delegates were also informed that negotiations were taking place between Croke Park and the Irish Sports Council and hopefully this matter would be resolved in the near future.

> O' Neills: Delegates wondered if there were retail prices for equipment such as fottballs etc. Tom Ryan said that he would make enquiries in relation to this matter.

#### **Treasurer's Report:**

Its adoption was proposed by Gerry O' Meara (Leinster). and seconded by Michael Weed (Donegal).

Gerry Mc Donnell (Munster) queried the difference in price of tickets from last year. The price varied because all tickets cost 50 this year whereas some tickets last year cost less than that. Blank cheques should be forwarded to the national secretary in September for All-Ireland tickets.

Roadstone covered the cost of postage for the Roadstone videos. Robert Hanley's school in Limerick didn't receive any video. Pat said he would make enquiries about this.

Allianz. Grants would not be forwarded to county secretaries until Pat had received the treasurer's report from each county.

Liam Weir requested more details about the Allianz grants that each county received.

Pauric Daly suggested that the statutory grants should be allocated to each county according to the nos. of schools participating in each county.

#### Handball Report:

➢ He welcomed Lorcán Ó Ruairc from Croke Park to the meeting and sympathised with Lorcán on the death of his mother.

 $\succ$  The 31<sup>st</sup>. December was the closing date for the county finals although some counties played them at a later date.

> Every county should appoint a handball officer.

- > Professional Referees have always been used on National Final Days.
- > Congratulate Monaghan on their first time taking part in the handball competitions.
- > Application forms can now be downloaded from our website at

#### www.scoilsport.org

Lorcán O Ruairc's Address (Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann ):

Lorcán thanked Margaret for inviting him to the AGM and he appreciated our expression of sympathy. He praised Malachy on his tremendous work over the years. It can be a difficult job contacting counties and getting a response from them. Cumann na mBunscol should get Handball Boards to help out with facilities, referees and competitions. He also commended those people who help out on National Handball days. The children receive a free pass to the museum and a tour of Croke Park. All provinces should apply in time for medals for provincial competitions. Very little equipment is required for playing handball. Schools don't need handball courts to play handball as any wall in school will do. Former Cumann na mBunscol pupils have won world titles in handball.

#### **Development Report:**

Éamon Mullen thanked St. Pat's College and Tom Fitzpatrick for storing the Roadstone videos and the people power to distribute these videos. He also thanked Roadstone for supporting this venture. The **Roadstone Awards** provides opportunities for counties to display their work and they receive tangible rewards for their efforts. The Roadstone Banquet enables counties to meet with other counties and it's gratifying to see 300 guests in attendance at these awards. He pleaded with each county to enter at least one project as this coming year was Cumann na mBunscol's last year in association with Roadstone.

**Coaching Games & Development:** Every county should have a rep. on the County Board and on the Coaching Games & Development Committee.

➢ If any county has a **template on coaching** and club/school links in their county, could they forward it to Eamonn so that he can make it available to other counties. If material doesn't come to him, it's hard to be creative. It would be great to have an overall view on how coaching is taking place throughout the country.

Eamonn thanked members of the National Executive and sub-committees for all their help. He said that it would be his last year on the Coiste Náisiúnta. P.J. Fitzpatrick thanked Eamonn for all his hard work and he asked Eamonn if he would reconsider stepping down.

▶ P.J. also wanted to know if there was a letter explaining how the €10,000 grant money should be used. Jim informed him that Pat Daly had already sent such a letter out to every Senior Co. Board in the country.

#### Mini-Sevens:

> Timmy Maher said that it was his ninth year as co-ordinator and he was still enthusiastic about the Mini-Sevens simply because of the positive response from parents, teachers and pupils.

▶ 240 children take part in Croke Park every year.

> The Mini-Sevens have been in operation for 20 years and there is no chance of it becoming stale as we have a different group of children participating every year.

➢ We don't sell it half enough and we are leaders in society catering for children's needs. We can also be proud of the Primary Game, the Mini-Games and the Exhibition Games.

> He would also appreciate it if counties would return some interesting snippets about the children involved eg. maybe their parents or some relation had played for their county. This would enable Gerry to include it in the programme for the day.

 $\succ$  It's no good giving Timmy this information on the day of the match. He would need it a few weeks in advance of the match.

➤ We have a full page in the programme devoted to Cumann na mBunscol and we are very grateful to the INTO and Croke Park for their contribution.

➤ A motion was passed at the INTO Congress last requesting more All-Ireland tickets. This matter should be addressed at our own AGM and not at an INTO Congress.

> Timmy thanked everybody for their huge contribution to the Mini-Sevens and Jim thanked Timmy for all his marvellous work.

#### **Public Relations Report:**

➢ Jerry welcomed Lorcán O Ruairc and he informed delegates that Lorcan's father was a former chairman of Cumann na mBunscol Ath Cliath.

> He apologised for the Dublin content in the Scoilsport magazine but this was due to a poor response from most counties.

County PROs should send details to him on a regular basis. He would be delighted with anything of national significance. He needs a lot of material for the following:

- 1) Allianz 's monthly sports magazine
- 2) Sports magazine with the Sunday Tribune
- 3) Irish Times magazine
- 4) Cul 4 website

The next Cul 4 magazine would be on sale on Tuesday,  $16^{\text{th}}$ . March.

> Jerry pleaded with County Secretaries to send on details of Co. Final dates to Margaret as Allianz wanted these dates so that they can liaise with counties and arrange publicity etc. for finals.

> Jerry congratulated Vincent Keating on his retirement and everyone wished Vincent well.

#### **Election of Officers**

All officers were proposed and seconded en bloc by all delegates.

Uachtarán	Malachy Mc Geeney ( Armagh )
Cathaoirleach	Jim O' Reilly ( Cork )
Leas Cathaoirleach	Tom Ryan ( Dublin )
Secretary	Margaret Cunningham (Waterford)
Assistant Secretary	Richard Bowles (Galway)
Treasurer	Pat Trainor ( Antrim )
PRO	Jerry Grogan ( Dublin )
Development Officer	Éamonn Mullen (Sligo)
Delegate Central Council	Timmy Maher ( Dublin )

#### Motions

1. That the amended constitution as circularised to all units be accepted.

An Coiste Náisiúnta

Malachy Mc Geeney (An Coiste Náisiúnta ) proposed that we accept the Constitution as drafted. Paul Dougan (Armagh) seconded this proposal.

#### The motion was formally adopted.

2. Following the completion of the cycle of Regional venues for our A.G.M. Cumann na mBuncsol Uladh suggest that we hold future A.G.M.s at an agreed location. Ulster

**Out of Order** 

3.That An Coiste Náisiúnta give direction to County Coisti to change the emphasis in Primary School games from competition to coaching the skills in a fun, non-competitive manner eg. through the use of mixed blitzes etc.

Galway **Withdrawn** 

#### Address of Invited Guests

#### Gerome Conway (Vice-Chairman, Kerry Senior Co. Board):

Chuir Gerome fáilte roimh gach einne and he apologised for the absence of his chairman and secretary due to other engagements. Gerome wished to thank Primary School teachers without patronising them. Children learn all their skills at Primary School eg. winning and losing. He was very critical of the Minister for Education & Science, Mr. Noel Dempsey, and the way in which the minister was trying to undermine teachers. His attitude could easily destroy the good will of teachers who gave of their time and energy willingly to promote Gaelic games in our schools. They give children their most valuable commodity which is time. Clubs have taken schools for granted for too long. Clubs should make their school team their first team. Thankfully times are changing as coaches are going into schools. However, it's very important that teachers remain in charge of school teams as they teach pupils to respect others and to win and lose properly

#### Margaret Delaney ( Rounders Council ):

Margaret thanked An Coiste Náisiúnta for inviting her to the AGM. Rounders was a sport for all from the age of 9 years to 90 years. The minimum amount of equipment is required to play Rounders and very few skills are needed. Male and female can participate on equal terms and so it's ideal for mixed-games. It's not a very physical game and not much tackling is involved. The Rounders Council would be willing to provide courses for teachers. They would

love to have Mini-Sevens Rounders. They would love to become involved in the Mc Donald's sponsorship where they could provide a Rounders pack. Hopefully this would take place in 2005.

#### Máiréad O Callaghan ( Cumann Camogaiochta na nGael ):

Cumann Camogaiochta na nGael would like to promote camogie. A sub-committee for Primary Schools was set up with two representatives from each county.

> Every club has been instructed to provide a club/school liaison officer. Cumann na mBunscol should ask for help from these liaison officers.

Since it's the centenary year of Cumann Camogaiochta na nGael's foundation, it is hoped to have a centenary competition in each county. It can be a team of 7-side, 8-a-side or 9-a-side. The prize for the winning team is a set of ten jerseys. Contact your Co. Camogie Board about these jerseys.

- > Promotional material will be available at the INTO Congress.
- > Every county should select one girl to represent their county at the All-Ireland Camogie Final Day.
- ▶ For further information contact Sile Wallace, Croke Park.

#### Pat Morrissey ( London Schools' Board ):

Pat thanked everyone for making the London Schools' Board part of Cumann na mBunscol. He thanked Margaret for all her help as she kept him well informed throughout the whole process. He looked forward to being part of Cumann na mBunscol.

#### Brian Tobin ( Allianz ):

Brian thanked Margaret for the invitation to the AGM. He has been dealing with schools for 30 years. He congratulated us on a lively AGM and he was flattered by the amount of air time Allianz received at the AGM. Donal Bollard, Ciaran Whelan and himself have strong GAA credentials. He cannot understand why insurance has become such a vexed situation within Cumann na mBunscol. Our organisation is very highly insured and Allianz (formerly Church & General) has never refused to indemnify a school, a teacher or a BOM. Cumann na mBunscol is covered for public liability wherever it participates in Cumann na mBunscol activities.

#### Muiris O Mathuna ( Chairman, Cumann na mBunscol Ciarrai ):

Muiris welcomed everybody to Kerry and hoped that they enjoyed their stay. Cumann na mBunscol Ciarrai was reestablished in 1994, 10 years ago. 146 schools are involved in competitions in Kerry. The schools in Kerry are very spread out and it takes a lot of geographical planning to organise the leagues. Hopefully they will be able to continue for another 10 years even though they have a problem with getting personnel involved and in particular young teachers.

This concluded the A.G.M.

# Minutes of General Meeting September, 25<sup>th</sup> 2004.

The General Meeting of Cumann na mBunscol Náisiúnta was held in St. Patrick's College of Education, Drumcondra on Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup>. September, 2004. Cathaoirleach Jim O' Reilly welcomed all delegates. Apologies from our PRO Jerry Grogan who was unable to attend due to illness. We all wish Jerry a speedy recovery.

### \* <u>WEBSITE PRESENTATION:</u>

- It was decided not to have a launch for our national website. A ten minute presentation on the website was made by Eamonn Mullen.
- Eamonn explained how the various improvements to our website had made it less cluttered and more user friendly.
- Application forms and info on the various competitions (Mini-Sevens, Handball, Roadstone Awards and O' Neills ) were now available on our website.
- A few policies regarding the use of the website had to be developed.
- Eamonn appealed to counties and provinces to submit any relevant material to <u>mgtcunningham@hotmail.com</u>.
- Jim thanked Eamonn for his presentation and also for the use of his laptop and projector.
- Jim also announced that most Cumann na mBunscol correspondence will be by e-mail from now on as it would save on time and postage.

The minutes of the AGM 2004 were distributed: The adoption of the minutes was proposed by Jim O' Riordan (Wicklow) and seconded by Joe Donnolly (Fermanagh ).

### CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS:

- The chairman, Jim O' Reilly, thanked Margaret for her comprehensive report on activities since the AGM in Tralee.
- Our website was up and running. Jim thanked Margaret who updates it on a regular basis. It can be accessed at <u>www.scoilsport.org</u> or through the GAA website. All application forms are available on site. While on the subject of I.T. all communication within An Coiste Náisiúnta is by e-mail. As from today it is hoped that all communication with County and Provincial secretaries will be by e-mail as well.
- Today is the closing date for Allianz material to be handed in from counties. As our PRO Jerry Grogan is indisposed until the New Year, the committee will take care of all Allianz material. Any county that does not submit material today will not get a grant. It makes our situation in re-negotiating with Allianz much more difficult when some counties don't play their part.
- Today is also the closing date for the Roadstone Awards. This year Handball and Camogie are separate categories. Jim congratulated Cumann Camogaiocht na nGael on their centenary. It was a privilege to be present in Croke Park last Sunday and see over 2,500 children forming C100 on the pitch.
- There has been a lot of criticism of the equipment distributed in the McDonald's Lift & Strike scheme. At our last meeting we decided to set up a meeting with Pat Daly in relation to this matter. The main thrust of this scheme is a comprehensive coaching programme and greater club/school co-operation. The Provincial Game Managers have a very important role to play in this.
- > The Handball Exhibition Days continue to be a success. This year's dates are included in the secretary's report.
- Tomorrow is the sixth day of the INTO/GAA Mini-Sevens. It will be Timmy Maher's last day as Mini-Sevens national coordinator. Many thanks to Timmy and his family for all their hard work over the years. Many thanks also to Moira Graham, Austin Corcoran and the many Dublin based teachers who gave of their time freely every Sunday.
- Congratulations to Meath Cumann na mBunscol who celebrate their 25<sup>th</sup>. anniversary this year. We wish them well for the future.
- Jim finally thanked his fellow officers along with every primary school teacher who promotes Gaelic Games in our primary schools.
- ▶ He also wished Tyrone, Mayo and Kerry best wishes in tomorrow's All-Ireland Football Finals.

# SECRETARY'S REPORT & MATTERS ARISING

# \* <u>ALLIANZ:</u>

- All delegates were grateful to Allianz for their generous sponsorship of €84,000 towards this year's Cumann na mBunscol activities.
- The PR seminar for PROs was held in Croke Park on Saturday, April 24<sup>th</sup>. and concern was expressed at the lack of material being sent to Jerry.
- Everyone was pleased that the Allianz projects could also be entered into the PR section of the Roadstone Awards.
- Delegates also appreciated the Allianz stickers for team shirts that were posted out to county secretaries. It was hoped that they would receive a greater amount of stickers next year.
- The National Executive felt that the labels should replace the photoboards. Paddy Corbett (Mayo) believed that this choice should be optional. Paddy was advised that Mayo should look into this matter themselves and maybe provide their own photoboards.
- Many thanks to Caroline Meany (Allianz) for supplying each county at the General Meeting with a ream of Allianz stationary. However members would require more stationary and envelopes to carry out their correspondence.

### \* <u>ROADSTONE AWARDS:</u>

- The Roadstone Awards Banquet would take place on Saturday, November, 27<sup>th</sup>. 2004 in the Berkeley Court Hotel, Dublin.
- Members welcomed the introduction of the Handball category and the Camogie Centenary Award.
- Paddy Corbett ( Mayo ) requested a new category on websites for next year.
- With regard to the large and small schools' categories, a cut off point of 116 pupils for small schools had to be introduced to avoid confusion.
- Tickets for the Roadstone Banquet were €60.00 and Jim urged counties and provincial units to send at least two representatives to the Banquet.
- Margaret urged members to give her their orders as soon as possible so as to facilitate matters for the Banquet.
- All members appreciated Roadstone for their generous sponsorship and wished Michael Grogan ( Managing Director of Roadstone) well in his retirement.
- Jim thanked Ronnie Delany, David Roche and Marty Morrissey and his team of assessors for all their hard work.
- A special thank you was also expressed to Eamonn for his role as Roadstone national co-ordinator.

# MC DONALD'S SKILLS PROGRAMME:

- The "Lift and Strike" scheme was launched on March 30<sup>th.</sup> in Croke Park. At most County Launches, a demonstration was given on the Lift & Strike skills. The kit consisted of a bag, 5 hurleys, 6 sliotars, some booklets and posters.
- The coaching initiative was very disappointing. The McDonald's Scheme was supposed to strengthen the links between clubs and schools and also provide extra coaching in the schools. Very few counties benefited from this. The success of the McDonald's Scheme depended on the Coaching Games & Development Committee in each county. Some counties brought coaching into schools where it had been non-existent in previous years.
- It would be interesting to know about the level of club/school tie-up eg. How many coaches were going into schools? How many sessions?
   Who conducted the sessions?
- McDonald's Lift & Strike exhibition took place at the Leinster Final, semi-finals and quarter-finals. Most schools received the Lift & Strike equipment.
- The poor quality of the "Lift and Strike" hurleys and the apparent difficulty of the skills were a matter of concern.
- The skills that the children performed in Croke Park were completely different to the skills that they had performed at county level.
- McDonald's should only make the sliotars and footballs available to schools.
- Booklets were excellent and should be made available to the grassroots of the organisation.

The above report on McDonald's Skills Programme was discussed in detail and the following criticisms were made:

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P.J. Fitzpatrick (Clare) questioned the quality of the hurleys and why they were so sub-standard. The competitions took place but very little coaching took place. The coaching was supposed to improve links between club and school but this didn't happen. We need quality coaches coming into our schools. The number of GPOs employed to run the scheme are insufficient.

Marett Smith (Longford): On principal we shouldn't have McDonalds as sponsors as their food leads to obesity. We are being exploited by McDonalds and we are sending out signals to children that McDonald's food is acceptable.

P.J. Fitzpatrick (Clare ): McDonalds themselves are not bad and we wouldn't like to offend our sponsors. Children are not frequent visitors to McDonalds as they are only taken to McDonalds occasionally.

Jim O' Reilly (National Chairman) accepted both points of view but this matter had been discussed at previous meetings and it was time that this discussion was laid to rest.

Seamus Fitzgerald (Waterford) said that the McDonald's Skills' Competitions added to an already overburdened workload for teachers.

Gerry O' Meara (Leinster) said that the children were lost in the middle of the field. It was sad to see the Mini-Sevens being demoted to half-time during the Minor Final.

Gerry McDonnell (Munster) had no problem with the sponsorship. The level of skills demanded during the various skills' competitions was too high. The competition should be more participant friendly.

Breda Cleary (Waterford): Both competitions would be run this year but there was no need to use the McDonald's equipment as the balls were too small and the hurleys were poor quality.

#### PRO:

- No report was available as our PRO Jerry Grogan was absent due to poor health. Jerry will be unable to perform his duties as PRO until the New Year.
- Everybody agreed that the Cul 4 Kidz magazine was a resounding success and it would be available once a term
- Cumann na mBunscol material had appeared in the match programmes in Croke Park throughout the summer.
- Four All Ireland Football Final tickets will be made available as prizes for a competition that will be held in association with the "Cúlú 4" programme on TG4. The two winning children will be umpires during the Mini-Sevens game.

#### \* HANDBALL:

The national handball days were a resounding success and the catering was very satisfactory. The children also had the opportunity to visit the GAA Museum.

Application forms for the Handball competitions are now available on our website at www.scoilsport.org

- Handball Dates for 2005:
- County Finals to be played before 31<sup>st</sup>. January, 2005
- Regional Exhibitions to be played before 26<sup>th</sup>. February, 2005
- Girls' Handball Day in Croke Park on Saturday, 16<sup>th</sup>. April, 2005
- Boys' Handball Day in Croke Park on Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup>. April, 2005
- Completed application forms to be returned to Malachy McGeeney before March, 17<sup>th</sup>. 2005.

Jim thanked Handball officer Malachy Mc Geeney for all his hard work.

#### \* MINI-SEVENS;

• The representative nature of the Mini-Sevens made them very appealing and Timmy Maher believed that the Mini-Sevens were here to stay.

- All stages of the Mini-Sevens had progressed smoothly and excellently once again. Our appreciation was due to the county organisers, regional hosts and the co-ordinating national team under Timmy Maher.
- A lot of hassle was created by the following:
  - a)Notification going to the wrong schools
  - b)Incorrect completion of forms
  - c)Not enough details on forms eg. School address and phone nos.
- The re-appearance of players playing in Croke Park continues. Timmy had to inform county secretaries that certain players couldn't play. The cut-off point should occur at school level. Schools should state on forms that child played in previous years and so child can't be selected at Regional Finals.
- A review on the Mini-Sevens was due: a committee would be set up to report back to AGM. Timmy would act as chairman.
- A representative from each province would be selected.
- Submissions for changes in the INTO Mini-Sevens Rules to be returned by county secretaries before Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup>. October, 2004.
- Portable goal-posts were unsafe and would need to be replaced by a more stable structure.
- Enquiries concerning tickets should be referred to Moira Graham.

Timmy was stepping down after 9 years as national co-ordinator of the Mini-Sevens. Michael Weed (Donegal) congratulated Timmy on his many years as national co-ordinator. He praised Timmy for his unfailing courtesy and nothing was ever a problem to Timmy. Many adults had fond memories of Timmy's hospitality to them on their arrival in Croke Park. Everyone thanked Timmy for all his years of dedicated service.

# \* <u>O' NEILL'S COMPETITION:</u>

The response from schools all over the country to the O' Neill's competition was a resounding success and details of the winners were read out by Jim O' Reilly. Jim thanked Tom Ryan for acting as national co-ordinator in this competition.

### Cumann na mBunscol – An Mhí

Jim O' Reilly congratulated Cumann na mBunscol An Mhi as 2004 was their 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. To mark this occasion a "Sport for All Day" was held on the 16<sup>th</sup> of June at various venues throughout county Meath. Each school selected ten pupils to participate in a sport of its choice eg. Rounders, Camogie, Football or Hurling. Games were of a non competitive nature with children from different schools forming part of the same team. Boys and girls were mixed in Rounders only.

It must be said that each school entered into the true spirit of the "Sport for All Day" and each participating school was presented with a commemorative plaque on the day.

All the schools that participate in Cumann na mBunscol An Mhi competitions will be represented in a special parade in Páirc Tailteann, Navan on the occasion of the Meath senior football championship final on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of October.

An art competition involving all the schools is in progress at present and the winners will be presented with prizes at the Cumann na mBunscol An Mhí football finals at Páirc Tailteann in November. The events will conclude with a presentation and celebratory function in the Newgrange Hotel, Navan on Friday the 12<sup>th</sup> November.

Frank Reidy (Meath) invited the chairman and secretary of Cumann na mBunscol Náisiúnta to this celebratory dinner. Frank stated that in its early stages Cumann na mBunscol An Mhi had only 11 schools participating in their competitions. Now they have a total of 96 schools involved out of a total of 102 schools in their county. Frank emphasised the importance of teachers in running Cumann na mBunscol activities. He was also very proud of the fact that every member of the 1999 Meath team had been involved in Cumann na mBunscol games.

# ✤ INTO CONGRESS:

The INTO Congress Stand was manned by Jim O Reilly and Jerry Grogan. It proved once again a marvellous publicity event for Gaelic games.

The adoption of the minutes was proposed by Breda Cleary (Waterford) and seconded by Martin Short (Antrim ).

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

- Our treasurer Pat Trainor thanked Allianz for their sponsorship money of €84,000 for the current year. Without Allianz money we would have difficulty surviving financially.
- The cancellation of the Scoilsport magazine was convenient as our resources were low.
- He thanked Margaret for succeeding in obtaining the O' Neill's franchise money (€4,867) from Tony Towell on 14/9/04.
- Gerry McDonnell (Munster) requested that a standardised Treasurer's Report be made available on our website at <u>www.scoilsport.org</u> so that counties could download it and make use of it to suit their needs. Pat promised that he would have one available for the AGM.
- The adoption of the Treasurer's Report was proposed by Michael Quinn (Tyrone ) and seconded by Jim Dempsey (Wexford).

#### AOB

Paddy Corbett (Mayo) would be in charge of the Regional Handball Finals in Connacht while P.J. Fitzpatrick (Clare) would be responsible for the Regional Handball Finals in Munster.

That concluded the business of the meeting.

My sincere thanks to the Coiste Náisiúnta, provincial and county officers for their co-operation during the year. Congratulations to Kerry on the excellent organisation of the recent AGM.

Margaret Cunningham ( Rúnaí )

# SECRETARY'S REPORT TO AGM 2005

#### ADMINISTRATION

An Coiste Náisiunta met on ten occasions since the AGM in Tralee, Kerry. The meetings to a large extent concentrated on Allianz sponsorship, the Roadstone Awards, the McDonalds' Lift & Strike Competition, our new Website, the Camogie Centenary Year, the O' Neill's Competition, All-Ireland tickets, Schools' Work Group, Coiste Gearáin, Buntús, Odyssey Internet Portals, the Go-Games and the Mini-Sevens.

#### \* ALLIANZ

We are eternally grateful to Allianz for their continued sponsorship of Cumann na mBunscol.

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- Members of An Coiste Náisiúnta, Jim O' Reilly, Margaret Cunningham, Pat Trainor and Malachy McGeeney met with Allianz on Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup>. December, 2004 and made the following proposals to Allianz.
- 1. Coiste Náisiúnta are committed to ensuring that county units deliver appropriate return to Allianz for funding received.
- 2. Responsibility for monitoring county units and collecting media coverage will be delegated to members of the National Committee. The latter will be expected to return publicity material to Slattery P.R. by an agreed date before monies are allocated.
- 3. Cumann na mBunscol Náisiúnta would undertake to promote the following projects annually which would acknowledge Allianz sponsorship.
- 4. Examples of possible practical projects;
  - Have a presentation in Croke Park on 8<sup>th</sup>. December awarding grants to counties for their Allianz projects on press and media coverage.
  - Allianz Exhibition of Excellence h
  - Exhibition Games on the occasion of the National League Finals (Hurling & Football) 2 x 10 minute games played between Div. 2 and the start of Div 1 Final. Across the pitch – team 8-a-side (Boys & Girls) Each county asked to nominate the player they consider their best. For the first year a draw is made at the AGM to decide who provides boys and girls. Thereafter it alternates (if a county provides a boy for football, then a girl for camogie ). On day, parents bring pupils to pre-arranged location as in Mini-Sevens. Parents have tickets. Children wear jerseys of opposing teams and they keep the jerseys Approximate cost for 2 days: 64 sets of gear Lunch for 64 children Admin. Cost for postage etc. National Co-ordinator c. All counties to rename their leagues Allianz Cumann na mBunscol Leagues. d. Allianz Indoor Football in Ulster and invite Allianz reps. to Ulster Final
  - e. Allianz Indoor Hurling in Munster
  - f. Put photos, names, addresses etc.of Allianz Reps. on our website.
- As a result of the above proposals, Allianz has agreed a sponsorship fee for the coming 3 years:

#### **490,000** in 2005, €100,000 in 2006 and €110,000 in 2007.

- County units are expected to have Allianz and Roadstone projects submitted on the same day i.e. Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup>. September at our GM in St. Pat's College.
- Caroline Meany (Allianz) promised to have Allianz stationary, envelopes, and stickers for jerseys available at our AGM.

#### \* ROADSTONE AWARDS

- Last year's Roadstone Awards Banquet was a resounding success.
- The Roadstone Awards Banquet took place in the Berkeley Court Hotel and we were very honoured to have the Minister for Education & Science, Mary Hanafin T.D. and the president of the GAA Seán O Ceallaigh in attendance.
- The closing date for 2005 entries is Saturday, September 24<sup>th</sup>. 2005.
- Allianz projects may also be entered into the PR section of the Roadstone Awards.

- Entry Form and Categories will soon be available on our website at www.scoilsport.org
- Provincial units of Cumann na mBunscol are free to enter any category that is relevant to them.
- The Judges' decision is final and canvassing will disqualify. Entries in the "Publications" category must have been actually published!
- In the event of standards not being reached in any particular category, the Judges reserve the right not to make an award.
- Assessors should have the discretion to reallocate prizes in the event of insufficient entries in particular categories.
- Only nominated schools would be filmed.
- Counties who had received nominations in the other categories would supply Matt Purcell (Marty's photographer) with three photos that capture the flavour of the entry. This would include one wide shot of school, magazine, incentive etc. to be followed by close up of group or participants. The photos should reveal what the theme/focus/philosophy of the project is all about.
- The photos from the counties should be in jpeg format and they should be e-mailed to <u>harmonyrow.ennis@eircom.net</u> They should make it clear on the e-mail which county or school the pictures are from.
- The photos mentioned would be displayed on the screen as the nominations are called out.
- Many thanks to Eamonn Mullen (Roadstone Co-ordinator), Ronnie Delany and David Roche (Roadstone), Marty Morrissey and the Board of Assessors on the excellent work that they do.
- Cumann na mBunscol would like to express their sympathies to Marty Morrissey on the recent death of his father Martin.
- Cumann na mBunscol also wish a speedy recovery to Ronnie Delany who was hospitalised recently.

### \* MC DONALD'S SKILLS PROGRAMME

The McDonald's Skills programme was discussed in detail at our General Meeting in September. Further information on this may be found in the minutes of the General Meeting 2004 which are also available in this booklet.

#### \* WEBSITE

- Our website is a valuable addition to Cumann na mBunscol.
- Application forms and info on the various competitions (Mini-Sevens, Handball, Roadstone Awards and O' Neills) are now available on our website.
- Photos from the Roadstone Awards and the O' Neill's Awards can easily be downloaded from our website and so make the job of our PROs much easier.
- The AGM Booklets may also be downloaded.
- Members may refer to the website for addresses and phone nos. etc. of various officers.
- Details of Allianz Reps. and O' Neill's Reps. are also available on our website.
- We would appeal to more counties and provinces to submit any relevant material to <u>mgtcunningham@hotmail.com</u>.

### \* <u>CAMOGIE CENTENARY YEAR</u>

• Cumann na mBunscol Náisiúnta wished Cumann Camogaiocht na nGael every success in their centenary celebrations. The exhibition games at the Camogie All-Ireland Finals in Croke Park were very impressive especially when 2,500 children formed C100 in the middle of the pitch.

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The response from schools all over the country to the O' Neill's competition was a resounding success and the Presentation of Awards took place in Croke Park on Friday, 10<sup>th</sup>. December, 2004. The format was as follows:

A visit to the GAA Museum

@ 12.00 noon

Sit-down Lunch @ 13.00 hrs.

Presentation & Photos @ 14.00 hrs. in the Ash Suite

The prizes were presented by Pauline Britton of O' Neills. Dave and Pauline Britton are the schools' agents for O' Neill's gear and equipment. Details of the national and provincial winners are also available in this booklet. O' Neills are prepared to sponsor this competition in 2005. The application forms are available in this booklet as well as being on our website. Many thanks to Tom Ryan for acting as national co-ordinator in this competition.

# \* ALL-IRELAND TICKETS

I urge all counties to keep a record of all tickets allocated to you. I would also like to remind you that you are personally responsible for ensuring that your tickets do not end up on the black market

# \* SCHOOLS' WORK GROUP

- Eamon Mullen attended Provincial meetings to draw up a wish list of how best Gaelic Games can be developed and promoted in our schools.
- He also wanted to find out about any difficulties that individual counties are facing plus examples of good practice. Coaching in the schools, coaching courses for teachers as a summer course, club involvement in schools, inducements from other codes, filling committees, equipment, etc-----
- This will be submitted to the Schools' Work Group.
- Details of this report may be found in the Development Report in this booklet.

# \* <u>COISTE GEARAIN</u>

- The need for each county to have a Coiste Gearáin and proper procedures to deal with disputes has to be emphasised once again as some counties experienced difficulties during the year.
- One difficulty was the playing of extra time in the event of a draw at full time.
- An Coiste Contae would need to have a policy on this:
- The Coiste Contae should make it clear that extra time would be played before the match started.
- The referee should be informed about the possibility of extra time.
- If no clear arrangements were in place it looks likely that a replay is in order.
- If a school is unhappy they can then appeal the decision of the Coiste Contae to an Coiste Gearán having first written to the Coiste Contae putting their case.

# ✤ BUNTUS

• The Buntus bags now contain materials on Gaelic Games. Below are details of changes to Buntus:

#### New equipment added to bag:

4 Hurleys & 4 Indoor Sliotars

4 Fluff Balls & 4 Badminton Rackets

### **Multi Sport:**

2 new cards specific to GAA Games All other cards have adaptations for GAA games

### **Play Bag**

2 New Cards -

Warm Up/Cool Down Card

Including People with Disability Card

5/6 new diagrams representing GAA on relevant cards e.g. child with hurley in his hand Buntús Play is not sport specific so there is no direct reference to GAA or any other specific sports.

# **\*** ODYSSEY PRESENTATION

- Representatives of Odyssey Internet Portals gave a presentation to An Coiste Náisiúnta on redevelopment of the national website, with the possibilities of developing county websites, fixtures' tools and additional sponsorship
- It was agreed to allow them proceed with the next stage of their proposal: a meeting between them and Allianz. This was done with the clear understanding that our current agreement with Allianz would not be compromised.
- Niall Heneghan from Odyssey met with Allianz but the latter were not interested in proceeding with the venture this year.

# \* <u>GO\_GAMES PRESENTATION</u>

• A presentation on the "Go Games" and a demonstration of these games will be made at our AGM today. We may need to review our activities with reference to the "Go Games".

#### ✤ <u>HANDBALL</u>

- Details of the handball dates for 2005 are available on our website. They are also available in this booklet under Handball Report and Minutes of our General Meeting.
- Malachy would like to explore the possibility of a handball day for weaker counties.
- Malachy would like to inform this meeting that this is his final year as Handball Officer.

# \* MINI - SEVENS

- All stages of the Mini-Sevens had progressed smoothly and excellently once again this year. Our appreciation is due to the county organisers, regional hosts and the co-ordinating national team under Timmy Maher.
- Background info on children participating in Croke Park would be appreciated.
- Details on the Mini-Sevens and all relevant information are now available on our website at www.scoilsport.org
- No Review Committee was set up as no submissions for changes in the INTO Mini-Sevens Rules had been returned by county secretaries.
- Timmy was stepping down as national co-ordinator of the Mini-Sevens. We would all like to thank Timmy for 9 years of dedicated service.
- There is an urgent need to appoint a national co-ordinator. Margaret e-mailed county secretaries requesting nominations but none were forwarded.
- A co-ordinator need not be on the National Committee.
- There was a good possibility that Timmy's back-up team would be available
- Jim O' Reilly undertook to take the role for one year, while a more permanent solution was being pursued.

My sincere thanks to An Coiste Náisiúnta, provincial and county officers for their co-operation during the year. I would like to welcome Tommy Moran to our AGM today. Tommy has been appointed as liaison person between Central Council and An Coiste Naisiunta.

I would also like to wish a speedy recovery to our treasurer Pat Trainor who is very ill in hospital.

Margaret Cunningham ( Rúnaí )

# HANDBALL REPORT

Once again I am pleased to report on a very successful year of handball exhibitions. There was little change in the number of counties participating (23). Monaghan entered for the first time and their representatives gave a great account of themselves especially the u-13 doubles team who represented their county in Croke Park. Sixteen counties were represented over the two days namely, Kilkenny, Roscommon, Limerick, Armagh, Wexford, Mayo, Cork, Donegal, Galway, Kildare, Kerry, Antrim, Clare, Tyrone, Leitrim and Monaghan.

Communication appears to be a problem within some counties particularly those that leave the handball clubs to organise the Cumann-na-mBunscol exhibitions. It is important that a teacher/s are present at these and that Cumann-na-mBunscol guidelines are followed. Last year children accompanied by handball club representatives arrived in Croke Park without knowing that they were playing exhibitions. This led to confusion and disappointment.

#### The format is:

- 1. Counties organise their own exhibitions.
- 2. County secretary sends the completed entry form to the National organiser.
- 3. Counties send their representatives to a regional venue.
- 4. Children are chosen at the regional venue to play at Croke Park.
- 5. Regional organiser sends list of players to play in Croke Park to the National organiser.
- 6. Medals are awarded to all county representatives.
- 7. T-shirts in provincial colours are given to every child who plays in Croke Park.

All regional co-ordinators reported very successful events. My sincere thanks to Paul Kinsella in Leinster, Peter Heaney in Connacht, P J Fitzpatrick in Munster and John Finch in Ulster for organising the handball days in their province.

The overall standard was excellent. The exhibitions were keenly contested and ran very smoothly. Donal Fallon, Kildare was an excellent referee who encouraged all the participants.

Many thanks to Donal for his contribution over the years to Cumann-na-mBunscol handball days.

The Irish Handball Association also provided two referees. All contributed greatly to the enjoyment and success of the days. Thanks also to Jim O'Reilly and Eamon Mullen for their continued support.

The catering in 2004 was much superior than previous years and parents and children welcomed free admission to the museum.

#### **IMPORTANT POINTS TO NOTE:**

1. The Primary Schools Handball day is intended to give regional representatives an opportunity to play in Croke Park against pupils from other counties. 2. This is not a knock-out competition - children are given the chance to play more than once; this would not be possible in a knock out competition.

3. A match consists of two games. Each game is up to eleven points.

#### HANDBALL DATES IN CROKE PARK

Girls under 11 singles and doubles

Girls under 13 singles and doubles

Boys under 13 singles and doubles

Boys under 11 singles and doubles

April 16th at 10.30 am

April 16th at 1.00 pm

April 23rd at 10.30 am

April 23rd at 1.00 pm

Maolseachlainn MacGeibeannaigh

# **DEVELOPMENT REPORT**

The Seventh Annual **Roadstone/Cumann na mBunscol Awards** took place in the Berkeley Court with Ms. Mary Hanafin, Minister for Education and Science as guest of honour and special guest Uachtarán CLG Seán O Ceallaigh. This was another successful event and a presentation night enjoyed by all guests fortunate to be there. Congratulations to all the award winners and nominees, to those first time entrants and especially to Cumann na mBunscol Londain .

The full list of winners is available in this booklet.

The work of Marty Morrissey who has been involved since the inception of the awards has to be commended. He brings a professionalism to the night which makes it the social highlight of the Cumann na mBunscol year. I want to thank Marty Morrissey and his panel of assessors, Helen O'Rourke, Seosamh MacDonncha, Jarlath Burns, and Jim O'Sullivan for agreeing to judge the entries. I also want to thank Roadstone and their Managing Director Mr. Michael Grogan for their continued support of the awards. This year sees the retirement of Michael as managing director of Roadstone Provinces. May I wish him and his wife Nuala a long and happy retirement. I also want to thank Ronnie Delany and David Roche for all their help in making the Awards Banquet such a success. I must express our delight and gratitude that the sponsorship will continue for another year. As I have said on previous occasions some categories attract more entries than others but as we are about playing and promoting games I would plead with all units to enter one of the games categories this year. The school and publication categories are well supported. Thanks to those units who are regular entrants. To those who have not been successful don't lose hope.

This year saw the launch of the **Lift and Stike** hurling promotion in association with Mc Donald's. It had a similar structure to the Catch and Kick. Pat Daly Coaching and Games Manager in Croke Park is proposing to launch the Catch and Kick/ Lift and Strike programme in April/May. It is proposed to have First Touch (7/8year olds) exhibitions games in Hurling here during the summer – a school team (10) players where a concerted effort is made to promote Hurling will be selected at County level – to represent the County in Croke Park.

Schools will be provided with the GO Games equipment -sliotars and footballs- in

September together with the Go Games DVD, Manual and copy of the U-Can Skill Awards. The Club/School Coordinators will then take an active involvement in the roll out of these.

The following children made it to the final exhibition stage in Croke Park. James Black/Gerard Mc Bride Antrim Conor Mc Nally/Fintan Corvan Armagh Darren Mullins/Cathal Moore Clare Eoin Brennan/David Drake Cork Ciaran Matthewson/Dean Mc Devitt Donegal Conor Doherty/Connor Dorrian Down Tomás Mc Andrew/ Ronan Murray Mayo Jim O Brien/ Stefan O Brien Wicklow

There was disappointment at the standard and quantity of the hurleys provided. The skill elements were found to be too difficult and there were fewer coaching sessions than were promised.

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Thanks is due also to all the GPOs who acted as county coordinators.

A meeting of the **Provincial Officers** took place with the Cóiste Náisiúnta in September and activities and events in each province were outlined. Exhibition games continue to be played in all provinces.

In **Ulster** indoor games are popular with increased participation and counties sending representatives to provincial blitzes. Seven out the nine Ulster counties participated in handball. The Ulster Council made a substantial increase to its grant to Cumann na mBunscol Uladh. Representative games were held in Clones, Ballybofey, Casement Park and the unique Ulster Final in Croke Park.

- In **Munster**, there was a successful indoor hurling promotion in each county. There was a welcomed increase in handball with Cork and Kerry to the fore.
- Finance was not an issue. There was a primary teachers' course where 41 participants attended Mary Immaculate College in July 2004. The Calvita Primary game is a hugely successful promotional tool and attracts great spectator interest. Eight such games were played while boys played at the Munster football final and girls fielded for the Munster hurling final.

In **Connacht**, the Coaching Manager John Tobin had developed close links with Cumann na mBunscol and was very supportive. The Connacht Council besides their annual grant also gave an extra €5,000 towards the added administration costs, which all counties were incurring. This was greatly appreciated.

At the exhibition games, County Boards now provided the teams with full replica gear. John Tobin, the Connacht coaching manager, has been very supportive of Cumann na mBunscol. A teachers' summer course was held in the Connacht Council's offices in the last week in August 2004. Counties are striving to make every effort to provide coaching sessions in the schools with suitable personnel. An innovative primary schools coaching scheme is about to be launched in Sligo in association with the Sligo IT.

**Coiste Laighin** of Cumann na mBunscol were busy as usual promoting a varied game programme. Mini games were played in Parnell Park, Carlow, Croke Park (6) including a visit from Bishop Chandler School in Warwickshire. There was a handball day in Kilkenny while there was a very successful indoor blitz for hurling in Tallaght. Coiste Laighin have developed a partnership with St. Patrick's College whose students help with refereeing and organising the mini games. Comhairle Laighin are to be commended on their twice-yearly newsletter, which is very informative.

Each County Board has a **Coaching and Games Committee** and in light of proposed changes in the role of G.P.Os, it is vital that Cumann na mBunscol has an active delegate attending the meetings. Schools and Clubs need to develop stronger links, which is mutually beneficial. The delegates need to ensure that money provided for coaching by the Irish Sports Council through Croke Park is used productively and efficiently. We need to insist that the 8-

week Coaching Models as set out under the Under Age Strategic Plan take place. We must make our voices heard at County Board otherwise we are part of the problem. Ní neart go cur le chéile.

In meeting the **Provincial units** recently they strongly expressed the view that continued top class and regular coaching must be provided for all primary schools. As it is becoming increasing difficult to attract new blood to get involved on committees to continue the essential and vital work of Gaelic games promotion, it was suggested that consideration should be given to the appointment of a servicing officer to each county.

I am coming to the end of ten years on the national committee. I have thoroughly enjoyed my work and meeting with hard working officials around the country. Cumann na mBunscol is a great organisation and deserves every support from County Boards to Croke Park. I feel the progress has been immense from our partnership with Allianz to our relationship with Roadstone which provides a social outlet for all the hardworking officials around the country .We are continuing to renew our association with O Neills. Our profile has been to the fore both at Central Council and through excellent media exposure in the match programmes at Croke Park. We continue to be represented on the schools committee and coaching committee in Croke Park. We have voting rights on County Boards and I would urge all Coistí in the counties to ensure that a representative attends County Board meetings on a regular basis.

In conclusion I want to thank the counties for their help and courtesy during the year. Finally thanks to all my colleagues on the National Committee for their help and support and friendship down through the years.

On a personal note I wish to sympathise with Marty Morrissey on the sudden death of his father before Christmas. Ar dheis Dé go raibh sé. May I wish a speedy return to full health to Jerry Grogan and Ronnie Delany. We think especially of Pat Trainor and his family at this time. May we continue to have the enthusiasm and energy to promote our games.

#### Ar aghaidh linn le chéile.

Slán agus beannacht.

Eamon Mullen

# Mini - Sevens Report 2004

Once again this year 240 boys & girls got the opportunity to display their skills in Croke Park on the occasions of the All-Ireland Hurling & Football Semi-finals and finals. All 32 counties were represented as usual and this factor remains the strength of the Mini-Sevens. There are no strong or weak counties, all are represented.

The G.A.A as an organisation can be very proud of providing such a wonderful opportunity for our young boys & girls.

As in every other year, many cards and letters were again received this year from players, referees, umpires, linesmen and their parents thanking Cumann na mBunscol, Cumann Lúthchleas Gael and the INTO for the wonderful time that they had in Croke Park each Sunday during August and September.

As well as players, 20 boys and girls participated each Sunday as umpires, linesmen, runners and flagbearers. We had many written requests from parents and children seeking an opportunity to partake in these roles.

For the fifth year running we had young people refereeing the mini - games and this has proven to be an outstanding success. The referees have come through the "Young Whistlers" scheme organised by Cumann na mBunscol, Átha Cliath. We hope that the experience of refereeing in Croke Park will encourage these young people to continue refereeing in to the future and that it will give them a positive image of the role of the referee in our games. The

"Young Whistlers" are now very much an accepted part of Mini-Sevens days in Croke Park.

Arís I mbliana ritheadh comórtas ar TG4 agus b'e an duais ná an buaitheoir a bheith mar maor 'sna Mini-Sevens ag Cluiche Cheannais Peile na hÉireann. B'é Pádraig Ő hŐgáin as Baile an Fhirtéiriigh, Co. Chiarraí a bhuaigh i mbliana agus bhí an-lá ar fad aige i bPáirc an Chrócaigh.

Everybody concerned was very appreciative of the attendance of Uachtarán C.L.G. Mr. Seán Kelly in Clonliffe College on the mornings of the All-Ireland finals and of the considerable amount of time he spent with us, taking photographs and chatting with the participants. We thank him for that and for the considerable amount of time he spent with us.

The I.N.T.O was represented on each of the six Sundays by its President, Mr. Austin Corcoran. Each Sunday, he emphasised the organisations commitment to the series and he was very appreciative of the work being done for Gaelic games by Primary school teachers throughout the country.

I would like to thank Austin for his support each Sunday.

A word of thanks also to Mr. John Carr, General Secretary of the I.N.T.O whose commitment to the concept of the Mini-Sevens is well known and we thank him for all his help and assistance over the years. Thanks also to Catherine Byrne of the I.N.T.O for her help throughout the year and to all involved with the In-Touch magazine.

.Dhein Máire Ní Graham sár-obair arís I mbliana, mar atá déanta aici le blianta fada anuas agus táimid thar a bheith buíoch di.

Ba mhaith liom buíochas a gabháil don fhoireann ar fad i bPáirc an Chrócaigh a chabhraíonn linn i gcónaí agus go háirithe iad siúd a thugann tacaíocht dúinn gach Domhnach.

Táimid thar a bheith buíoch do Liam Ó Maolmhichíl de bharr an méid suime atá aige sa scéim I gcónaí.

Bíonn an-cóibriú againn ón Artane Boys Band. Is breá leis na páistí siúl amach taobh thiar den banna cheoil cháiliúil sin. Is minic a deireann páistí linn gurb é sin an rud ba mhó a thaitnaíonn leo ar an lá.

Tá buíochas ar leith ag dul dos na múinteoirí ó Chumann na mBunscol, Átha Cliath a bhíonn ann gach Domhnach ag feachaint chuige go mbíonn gach rud in oiriúint dos na páistí.

Tá buíochas freisin ag dul do oifigigh Chumann na mBunscol, Coiste Náisiúnta go mór mór Malachy McGeeney, Jim O'Reilly agus Jerry Grogan. Bhí sár obair Jerry le feiscint arís i mbliana tríd an méid Poiblíocht a fuaireamar don scéim 'sna nuachtáin, irisleabhair agus 'sna cláracha gach Domhnach.

Míle buíochas mar sin, do gach éinne a raibh baint acu leis na Mini-Sevens na bliana seo agus táimid ag súil le 2005 nuair a bheidh an seans iontach seo ar fáil arís do pháistí na tíre.

The attached table shows the number of schools that took part in each discipline throughout the 32 counties. I would like to thank the host counties who organised the Regional festivals. They were, as usual, well organised and very skilful players were selected in all disciplines.

Condae	Peil	Peil Na mBan	Iomáint	Camógaíocht
Leitrim	20	19	15	12
Galway	101	65	66	49
Sligo	60	58	24	20
Antrim	45	30	30	45
Fermanagh	22	21	15	10
Derry	23	12	10	17
Louth	50	48	12	6
Monaghan	28	28	3	8
Cavan	52	40	10	17
Donegal	103	91	8	4
Wexford	54	42	48	30
Carlow	24	18	20	16
Westmeath	18	16	8	6
Meath	55	47	21	11
Kildare	36	22	14	14
Laois	12	10	6	4
Waterford	27	24	26	20
Offaly	23	11	18	11
Cork	83	73	44	35
Kerry	78	52	14	4

Condae	Peil	Peil Na mBan	lomáint	Camógaíocht
Armagh	51	32	18	28
Longford	28	18	7	5
Clare	16	12	28	25
Roscommor	ר 9	4	8	7
Мауо	143	114	4	0
Tipperary	50	42	60	46
Tyrone	48	25	7	7
Down	18	12	18	10
Kilkenny	27	8	40	24
Dublin	115	45	81	40
Limerick	21	15	20	28
Wicklow	16	11	11	5

#### \* NOMINATIONS 2005

Uachtarán:	Malachy Mc Geeney ( Ard Mhaca ) outgoing.
Cathaoirleach:	Jim O' Reilly ( Corcaigh ) outgoing.
Leas Cathaoirleach:	Tom Ryan ( Ath Cliath ) outgoing.
Secretary:	Margaret Cunningham ( Portlairge ) outgoing.
Assistant Secretary:	Richard Bowles ( Gaillimh ) outgoing.
Treasurer:	Pat Trainor ( Aontroim ) outgoing.
PRO:	Jerry Grogan ( Ath Cliath ) outgoing.
Development Officer:	Paul Duggan ( Armagh )
Delegate Central Council:	Timmy Maher ( Ath Cliath ) outgoing.

# \* MOTIONS 2005

1. That Coiste Naisiunta in consultation with Provincial and Co. Treasurers of Cumann na mBunscol, explore the possibility of drawing up a standard type for annual financial supports.

Co. Thiobraid Árann

2. Constitution Section F, Sub-section (d) be amended to read :That the national A.G.M of Cumann na mBunscol be held in Dublin, or at a suitable central location.

Co. Thiobraid Árann

3. To be included in the Mini-Sevens Rules: Any school entering an overage player in the Mini-Sevens games should be disqualified from entering that competition in their own county in the following year.

Uladh

4. Constitution Section : National Handball Skills Programme Section 5 (1) be changed to read: That the current Under 11 age group in handball should be changed to an Under 12 age group on 1st. July.

Uladh

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# **Roadstone Winners 2004**

#### Cat. 1: Best Hurling Initiative or Initiatives of the Year

London	Sarah Henry 1st.
Wexford	John Brennan 2nd.
Leinster	Gerry O' Meara 3rd.
Cat. 2: Best Football Initiative or Initia	tives of the Year
Leinster	Gerry O' Meara 1st.
Galway	Gerry Hussey 2nd.
Cat. 3: Best Handball Initiative or Initia	atives of the Year
Armagh	Malachy McGeeney 1st.
Galway	Gerry Hussey 2nd.
Cat. 4: Camogie Centenary Award	
Waterford	Seamus Fitzgerald
Armagh	Kathleen Woods
Sligo	Nora Kearins
Leinster	Gerry O' Meara
Cat. 5: County Publication of the Year	
Limerick	Joe Lyons & Ciarán Crowe

#### Cat. 6: Annual Fixtures/Information Booklet of the Year

Antrim	Martin Short	1st.
Dublin	Gerry O' Meara	2nd.
Sligo	Aisling Tighe	3rd.

#### **Cat. 7 Public Relations of the Year**

Armagh	Paul Duggan	1st.
Cork	Tony O' Farrell	2nd.
Waterford	Margaret Cunnin	gham 3rd.

### Cat. 8: Cumann na mBunscol School of the Year – Large and Small

#### Large Schools:

St. Mary's, Rathfarnham, Dublin	Edward O' Ri	ordan 1st.
Scoil Barra, Beaumont, Cork	Liam Weir	2nd.
Claregalway N.S., Co. Galway	Pat Coen	3rd.

#### **Small Schools:**

Glenville N.S., Co. Cork	Máiréad Ó Callagh	an 1st.
Carrowholly N.S., Co. Mayo	Peter Carney 2nd.	
Coolarne N.S., Turloughmore, Co. Galway	Pat Moore 3rd.	

# Cat. 9 Adjudicators' Special Commendation Award

St. Colman's P.S., Lisburn	Marie Therese Robinson
Down	Paddy Hardy
Galway	Richard Bowles
St. Declan's N.S., Waterford	Eamonn Mac Gearailt

# **ROADSTONE NATIONAL AWARDS 2005**

# Categories:

- 1. Best Hurling / Camogie Promotion of the Year
- 2. Best Promotion of Football for the Year
- 3. Best Handball / Rounders Promotion of the Year

#### 4. Assessors' Merit Award

This will be awarded to a school, county or province that, in the opinion of the assessors, has achieved a high standard of entry, without winning a category. There will be 4 Awards, 1 for each Province.

#### 5. County Website / Publication of the Year

Submissions in this category should include any relevant County or Provincial publication. Creativity, imagination and appeal to a wide range of ages should be the criteria. Copy of the publication should be submitted be it print or electronic but only with a clear outline of a strategic plan and targets achieved. Evidence of publication to the satisfaction of the assessors must be submitted.

#### 6. Annual Fixtures/Information Booklet of the Year

A copy of the current county fixtures and information booklet should be submitted. Electronically produced fixtures are also acceptable and will have equal status and CD ROMs and Floppy Disks should be included.

#### 7. Public Relations of the Year

Entries should describe the organisation's public relations strategy and philosophy. Details of successful use of varied media in reaching the target audience should be outlined and submitted.

#### 8. Cumann na mBunscol School of the Year – Large and Small

The winning schools in this category should have achieved a high standard in the promotion of Gaelic Games – football, hurling, camogie, handball, rounders – among as many children as possible within the school. Entries should outline and illustrate the strategies and initiatives used to promote games, to include children of all ability levels, to provide effective coaching of any other appropriate approaches. Detailed school information should be part of the entry.

#### Counties may enter any three of the categories 1-7

Provincial units of Cumann na mBunscol are free to enter any category that is relevant to them.

The Judges' decision is final. In the event of standards not being reached in any particular category, the Judges reserve the right not to make an award. Canvassing will disqualify.

Closing Date : Saturday, 24th. September, 2005

Entry Form and Categories will also available on our website at www.scoilsport.org

Scoil Scoil Bud
SC

# CUMANN NA mBUNSCOL



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AWARDS 2005

CATEGORY: CUMANN NA mBUNSCOL SCHOOL OF THE YEAR		
SCHOOL:		
ADDRESS:		
PHONE NO:		
E-MAIL ADDRESS:		
TEACHER CONTACT:		
IS YOUR SCHOOL: LARGE: More than 116 PUPILS		
SMALL: Less than 116 PUPILS		
NO. OF CHILDREN ON ROLL:		
DO YOU GET ASSISTANCE FROM LOCAL G.A.A. CLUB/S? YES NO		
NAME OF CLUB/S:		
OTHER DETAILS, IF APPROPRIATE:		
PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:		
SIGNATURE OF TEACHER:		
SIGNATURE OF PRÍOMHOIDE:		
SIGNATURE OF CHAIRPERSON, BOARD OF MANAGEMENT:		
SUBMISSIONS IN THIS CATEGORY SHOULD NOT EXCEED A3 SIZE		
CLOSING DATE: SEPTEMBER 24 <sup>th</sup> . 2005		

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#### **Results**

# **Category** A

#### National Winner :

(Set Track-suits, €500 O' Neills Voucher)

Villierstown NS, Villierstown, Cappoquin, Co. Waterford

#### **Provincial Winners :**

# (Set of Gear, €100 O'Neills Voucher)

Munster :	Ennis CBS, Co Clare
Connaught :	Sc Bríghde N., Kinvara, Co Galway
Ulster :	St Martin's PS, Garrison, Co Fermanagh
Leinster :	SN Muire na nGael, Dundalk, Co. Louth

County Winners : (€100 O'Neills Voucher)

Cork : Tipperary :	Sunday's Well BNS, Blarney Rd. St Colmcilles, Templemore
Clare :	St. Cuan's NS., Kilbaha
Limerick :	CBS Sexton St.,
Galway :	SN Naomh Thomáis, Tobar Pheadair
Sligo :	St. Brendan's NS, Carton Point
Leitrim :	St. Joseph's GNS., Mohill
Antrim :	Edmund Rice CBPS
Monaghan :	Killeevan NS, Newbliss
Armagh :	St. Joseph's PS, Convent Hill, Bessbrook
Down :	St. Mary's PS, Rathfriland
Tyrone :	St. Patrick's PS, Dungannon
Derry :	St. Brigid's PS, Magherafelt
Dublin :	Pope John-Paul 11, Malahide
Offaly :	Sc Bhríde BNS, Kilcruttin, Tullamore
Longford :	Sacred Heart NS., Granard
Kildare :	Sc na Mainistreach, Celbridge
Kilkenny :	Newmarket NS., Hugginstown
Wicklow :	Marino Sch, Bray
Meath :	St. Michael's NS, Trim
Carlow :	Bennekerry NS.,
Laois :	Derrylamogue NS., Rosenallis
Wexford :	Kilmyshall NS., Bunclody

# Cumann na mBunscol/O'Neill's GAA Project 2004

### **Results**

# **Category B**

#### National Winner :

(Set of Jerseys)

Ciara Rafferty, SN Muire na nGael, Dundalk

# County Winners : (County Jersey)

Mayo : Sligo : Leitrim : Galway : Roscommon :	Kayleigh Winters, Sc Croí Ró-Naofa, Bangor-Erris Eimear O'Connor, St. Joseph's NS., Templeboy Macdara Mac Conchoille, SN N Pádraig, Tarmon Róisín Nic Aodh, GS Mhic Amhlaigh, An Coimín Mór Conor Neilan, Abbey NS, Roscommon
Waterford :	•
Clare :	Chloe Lake, Sc Mhuire, Abbeyside Katrina McNamara, St. Mochulla's NS., Tulla
Kerry :	Ciara Maunsell, Sc an Chroí Naofa, Tralee
Limerick :	Treasa Coleman, St. Anne's NS., Rathkeale
	Anna Hayes, Sc Mochaomhóg, Two-Mile-Borris
Tipperary : Cork :	Mark Hine, St. Finbarr's BNS, Seskin, Bantry
Monaghan :	Kieran Shannon, Sc Mhuire, Latton, Castleblaney
Armagh :	Niall Smyth, St. Mary's PS., Lurgan
Fermanagh :	Cora McCann, St. Paul's PS., Irvinestown
Antrim :	Paul McTansey, Edmund Rice CBPS., Belfast
Cavan :	Niamh Connors, Killinkere NS, Virginia
Down :	Ryan McCabe, St. Joseph's, Convent Hill, Bessbrook
Derry :	Martin Duggan, St. Brigid's PS., Knockloughrim,
Tyrone :	Eilish Rafferty, St. Mary's PS., Aughnacloy
Westmeath :	Patricia Moran, St. Manchan's NS., Tubber
Wexford :	Aoife Murphy, Clongeen NS., Foulksmills
Offaly :	Li Xiao Ting, Sc Bhríde, Clara
Longford :	Caoimhe Nally, St. Matthew's NS., Ballymahon
Meath :	Catherine Hanratty, Carrickleck NS., Kingscourt
Louth :	Holly Fitzsimons, Sc Mhuire, Fatima, Drogheda
Wicklow :	Áine McCabe, Sc Caoimhín N., Gleann Dá Loch
Carlow :	Brian O'Toole, Ballon NS.
Dublin :	Saud Qazi, Muslim NS, Clonskeagh
Laois :	Aileen Hartnett, Derrylamogue NS., Rosenallis
Kildare :	Stephanie Higgins, St. Mochuo's NS., Rathcoffey
Kilkenny :	Adam Duggan, St. Senan's BNS., Kilmacow
•	



### Cumann na mBunscol/O'Neill's

#### Schools' GAA Project

Cumann na mBunscol and O'Neill's have teamed up to give children the opportunity to focus on Gaelic Games in the context of their school. There are prizes to be won in every County and Province as well as nationally.

#### Category A :

(Open to all children individual or group – max 5)

Project entitled :

"Tell us about your local G.A.A. Club"

**Category B** : Individual Infant's – 3<sup>rd</sup> Class Or Primary 1 - Primary 5

"Colour the Poster"

#### Prizes :

Category A	Category B
National Winner - 1 X 25 Track-suits & 3 Adult Jackets - €500.00 Voucher	<u>National Winner</u> : - Set of Jerseys School Colours
<ul> <li>4 Provincial Winners</li> <li>4 X set of Jerseys, Togs &amp; Socks in school colours</li> <li>€100.00 Voucher</li> </ul>	32 County Winners - County Jersey
32 County Winners - 32 X €100.00 Vouchers	

Entries, accompanied by completed entry form, to be sent to National Co-ordinator, **Tom Ryan**, 192 Gracepark Road, Drumcondra, Dublin 9 by <u>May</u>, 31<sup>st</sup>, 2005 Winners announced in June, 2005.

#### Rúnai Náisiúnta

Margaret Cunningham, Knockateemore, Abbeyside, Dungarvan, Co. Waterford. Phone: 058-43173 (h) , Fax: 058-43123, Phone: 024-96301 (S), Mobile: 087-6332325, E-mail: mgtcunningham@hotmail.com







# CUMANN NA mBUNSCOL

# O'NEILL'S SPORTS PRIMARY SCHOOL PROJECT

### "TELL US ABOUT YOUR LOCAL G.A.A. CLUB"

SUBMISSIONS IN THIS CATEGORY SHOULD NOT EXCEED A3 SIZE IT SHOULD BE A GROUP ENTRY WITH A MAXIMUM OF FIVE PUPILS CLOSING DATE: 31<sup>st</sup>. May, 2005

	CLOBING
SCHOOL:	

<b>ADDRESS:</b>	

PHONE NO: \_\_\_\_\_

E-MAIL ADDRESS:
-----------------

TEACHER CONTACT: \_\_\_\_\_

NO.	OF CHILDREN ON ROLL	

SIGNATURE OF TEACHER

SIGNATURE OF PRÍOMHOIDE:

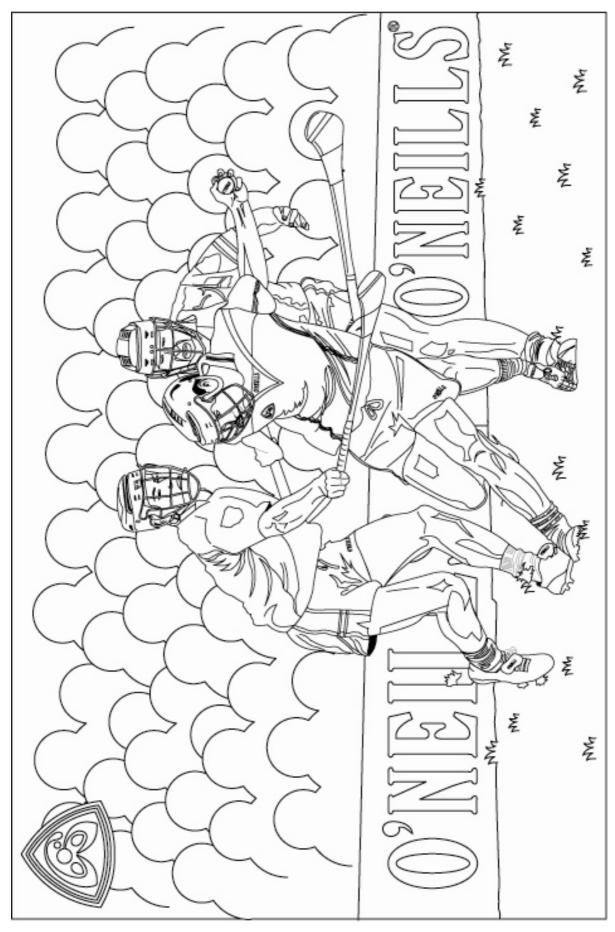
NAMES OF CHILDREN INVOLVED IN PROJECT:

- 1\_\_\_\_\_2
- 3
- 4
- 5

#### ENTRIES SHOULD BE POSTED TO

Mr Tom Ryan 192 Gracepark Road Drumcondra, Dublin 9

Mobile: 087-2857669 E-mail: tomryan@gaa.ie



An Coiste Náisiúnta

# CONSTITUTION: DRAFT FEBRUARY, 2004 CHANGES IN BOLD PRINT

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

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

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

(B) Schools with G.A.A. 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 in all the Primary Schools of Ireland and other affiliated areas.

- (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 endeavour to have our national games accepted as part of the curriculum in primary schools by the Department of Education &Science.

### (4) To promote Gaelic Games in an atmosphere of fun and enjoyment.

- (**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.
  - (2) To provide a means whereby talks and negotiations can take place with the Department of Education & Science, the G.A.A. and other relevant bodies to promote the aims and interests of "Cumann na mBunscol".
  - (3) To establish and administer funds for the general administration of the organisation and provide financial assistance to affiliated areas by:
    - a. Making submissions and requests to state agencies for financial assistance, grants and special concessions.
    - b. Making submissions and requests to the G.A.A. for grants and financial assistance.
    - c. Raising sponsorship and other finances nationally to help with the overall promotion of the games.
    - d. Using the "Scoilsport logo" in franchising arrangements with business and industry to help raise funds.

- (4) To provide advice to members on the best ways of promoting Gaelic Games in Primary Schools.
- (5) To endeavour to raise standards in all affiliated areas by(a) Coaching (b) Seminars (c) Publications.
- (6) To identify weaknesses with the co-operation 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 both 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 Croke Park.
- (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.

### (E) The philosophy of "Cumann na mBunscol" shall be:-To promote Gaelic Games in an atmosphere of fun and enjoyment.

### (F) Constitution:

e.

"Cumann na mBunscol" shall be constituted as follows:

- (1) Annual General Meeting
- (2) Ordinary General Meeting
- (3) Special General Meeting
- (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.
    - (  ${\bf 4}$  ) Two delegates from each affiliated area ( non-voting ).
- (d) The hosting of the AGM shall rotate between the four provinces.

### The Business of the AGM Shall be:

- (1) Welcoming of Delegates.
- (2) Minutes.
- (3) Matters arising from Minutes
- (4) Correspondence
- (5) Address of Chairperson.
- (6) Secretary's Report.
- (7) Treasurers' Report.
- (8) Other Reports as necessary.

(9)Elections

- President.
- Chairman.
- Vice-Chairman.
- Secretary.
- Assistant Secretary
- Treasurer.
- P.R.O.
- Development Officer.
- Delegate to Central Council.
- (a) Provincial Delegate Leinster.
- (b) Provincial Delegate Ulster
- (c) Provincial Delegate Munster.
- (d) Provincial Delegate Connaught.

(10) Motions.

(11) Addresses of invited Speakers.

(12) A.O.B.

• N.B. Provincial Delegates will be elected only in the absence of a delegate from that province been elected to the National Committee.

### \* Ordinary General Meeting:

- 1. A general meeting of Cumann na mBunscol will be held annually in September.
- 2. The National Officers shall choose a suitable venue for the meeting.
- 3. The General Meeting shall consist of:
  - (a) The officers of Cumann na mBunscol
  - (b) Two delegates from each County
  - (c) Two delegates from each Provincial Council
  - (d) Two delegates from each affiliated area (non-voting).
- 4. The business of the Ordinary General Meeting shall be:-
  - (a) Welcoming of delegates
  - (b) Minutes
  - (c) Matters arising from minutes
  - (d) Correspondence
  - (e) Reports on current business
  - (f) Financial Report

**N.B.** Every third year the Ordinary 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 at the special written request of 12 or more County/Provincial Coisti stating the reason for such a meeting.
- 2. On the receipt of 12 or more written requests for a Special General Meeting, the Secretary must inform the Chairman who will call a meeting within 14 days.
- 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. 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 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. These sub-committees to be endorsed by the AGM or GM.

# 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 preside at all meetings of Cumann na mBunscol.
- 7. The Cathaoirleach shall see that the rules of the organisation are enforced sensibly and fairly on all occasions.
- 8. 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.

- 9. All sub-committees set up by the National Committee will be chaired by another member other than the Cathaoirleach and Leas-Chathaoirleach.
- 10. The Secretary shall minute all meetings and ensure that a copy of the minutes be available for the next meeting.
- 11. All routine correspondence with affiliated areas shall be done by the Secretary.
- 12.. All correspondence with the GAA, State Departments and Public Bodies shall be carried out by the Secretary in consultation with the other bodies.

## 13. The Treasurer shall be responsible for

- (a) The maintenance of proper financial records.
- (b) The lodgement of all income into the Bank Account of Cumann na mBunscol.
- (c) The issuing of all cheques.
- (d) An annual audit of the accounts.
- (e) Presentation of accounts to the Annual General Meeting.

## 14. The PRO shall in consultation with the other officers:

(a)Take every available opportunity to publicise Cumann na mBunscol and to ensure that the organisation has a high profile.

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

(c) Prepare a newsletter and distribute it to all affiliated areas.

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

(e) Ensure that all suitable G.A.A. promotional material be available to all schools.

(f) Meet with the Four Provincial P.R.O.'s within a few months of the A.G.M. to formulate a coherent P.R. policy for the current year.

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

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

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

(c)Examine applications made by County Committees for development grants and make recommendations there on to the National Committee.

(d)Meet with the Four Provincial Development Officers within a few months of the A.G.M. to formulate a coherent development policy for the current year.

16. 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.

# 17. The remaining members of the National Committee shall be the President, Assistant Secretary and if necessary Provincial delegates.

18. 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. A General Meeting of each Provincial Council will be held annually.
- 3. Those entitled to vote at this meeting shall be the officers and two delegates from each county.
- 4. At this meeting the delegates will elect officers and a committee to run the affairs of the Provincial Council between meetings.
- 5. This committee shall promote the aims of Cumann na mBunscol and endeavour to raise the standards of Gaelic Games within the Province.
- 6. Each Provincial Council will liaise with An Coisti 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.
- 7. Two delegates from each Provincial Council will attend the Annual General Meeting, General Meeting and Special Meetings of Cumann na mBunscol.
- 8. A report of yearly activities and statement of accounts must be forwarded to the National Secretary annually.
- 9. Each Provincial Committee will notify and invite a delegate from An Coiste Naisiunta to the Provincial AGM.

# \* 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.
- 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.
- 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 Gearan' within the County. The decision of An Coiste Gearan will be final.

(a) An Coiste Gearan should be elected at the AGM. Members of 'An Coiste Gearan' should not be officers or members of the Committee within the County.

- 8. A comprehensive report of yearly activities together with a statement of Accounts must be forwarded to the National Secretary annually.
- 9. Two delegates from each County will attend the Annual General Meeting, Ordinary General Meeting and Special Meetings of Cumann na mBunscol.

# **10.** Each county shall formally adopt a constitution, a copy of which shall be forwarded to An Coiste Náisiúnta for ratification.

**11.** Each County Coiste adopt a code of practice in line with any of the following:

Cumann Luthchleas Gael, I.N.T.O., Sports Council Code of Ethics in Sport and Children First.

- 12. When affiliating to Cumann na mBunscol annually, teachers and B.O.M. agree to be bound by the rules of Cumann na mBunscol.
- **13.** County committees shall accept correspondence only from the school through the Chairperson, the principal or the designated teacher.

### **Associate Membership:**

- (a) Other affiliated areas may be accepted as associate members of Cumann na mBunscol provided that they have a properly constituted committee set up in accordance with the aims and objectives of Cumann na mBunscol.
- (b) Associate membership will entitle areas to send two delegates in a non-voting capacity to the Annual General Meeting, Ordinary General Meeting and any Special General Meeting.
- (c) Associate units will be entitled to receive all new documentation together with any new promotional material issued by Cumann na mBunscol.

# \* Standing Orders: Updated on 24.3.98

- 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 the last Friday in January.
- 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 14 days before 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 week 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 neccessary 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 canditate 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 or General Meeting. Other speakers may only address the AGM when prior arrangements are made through the National Committee.

# \* National Mini-Sevens:

- 1. The National Mini-Sevens will be run each year culminating in Croke Park on All-Ireland Final and Semi-Final days.
- 2. At the first meeting at the National Committee after the General Meeting, a National Co-Ordinator will be appointed. Counties may submit the names of interested candidates to the National Committee for consideration.
- 3. The National co-ordinator will, in consultation with the National Committee, be responsible for the running of the 'Mini-Sevens' from regional level to completion on All Ireland Final Days.
- 4. All grievances and complaints at County level will be dealt with at County level.
- 5. All grievances and complaints, after the County stages have been completed, will be made in writing to the National Co-Ordinator and will be dealt with by the National Committee.

- 6. Failure to comply with rules and bye-laws will result in immediate suspension from that year's series.
- 7. The rules and by-laws including organisation, playing rules, age limits and rules Governing stages of the games will be considered every three years.
- 8. A sub-committee will be set up by the National Committee and all affiliated areas will be asked to make submissions on all aspects of the Mini-Sevens to the sub- committee.
- 9. The sub-committee will examine all submissions and will put recommended changes or additions to the rules or the organisation of the games to the National Committee.
- 10. The National Committee will examine all recommended changes and additions to the rules or the organisation of the games and decide if they are in order and acceptable for consideration.
- 11. All new proposals will be circulated to affiliated areas at least 21 days before the Annual General Meeting.
- 12. Amendments and agenda to the proposed changes which shall be in the name of an affiliated area or Provincial Council and adopted at a meeting of that body must reach the National Secretary not later than one week before the Annual General Meeting.
- 13. The Annual General Meeting will consider all new proposals, together with amendments and agenda and accept or reject them according to usual procedure. (A change of rule will need a 2/3 majority).
- 11. All adopted changes or additions will come into effect for the following years games.

# \*National Handball Skills Programme:

- 1. The National Handball Skills Programme will be run each year culminating in the alleys at Croke Park in May/April as a National handball skills day/days.
- 2. At the first meeting of the National Committee after the General Meeting, a National Co-Ordinator will be appointed. Counties may submit the names of interested candidates to the National Committee for consideration.
- 3. The National Co-Ordinator will, in consultation with the National Committee, be responsible for the running of the Handball skills programme from regional level to completion on National Handball skill days.
- 4. Singles and doubles games will be organised for both girls and boys on a noncompetitive basis.
- 5. There will be two sections according to age
  (1) Under 11 1st Jan
  (2) Under 13 1st Jan
- 6. All grievances and complaints at County level will be dealt with at County level.
- 7. All grievances and complaints after the County stages have been completed will be made in writing to the National Co-Ordinator and will be dealt with by The National Committee.
- 8. Failure to comply with rules and by-laws will result in immediate suspension from that year's series.
- 9. The rules and by-laws including organisational, playing rules, age limits and rules

governing the staging of the skills programme will be considered every three years.

- 10. All aspects of the skills programme will be considered by a sub-committee set up by the National Committee and submissions will be sought from each affiliated area as with the 'Mini-Sevens'.
- 11. All proposed changes will be put to the Ordinary General Meeting and will be dealt with in the usual manner.
- 12. All adopted changes or additions will come into effect for the following years skills programme.

### \* Grievances and Complaints:

- 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 Gearan to deal with appeals arising from decisions of the County Coiste.
- Complaints, Objections and Counter Objections: Any complaints or objections must be lodged with the Runaí Chontae in writing within 4 school days of the game. The Runaí informs the other party who also has 4 school days to respond in writing. The matter can then be dealt with by the Coiste Contae. 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 4 school 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.

- 5. Grievances, complaints and objections dealing with issues outside County Juristiction will be dealt with by the National Committee. The decision of the National Committee will be final.
- 6. Sanctions will be taken against any area or member who brings the organisation into disrepute.

### \*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.
- 4. Failure of a County to furnish a secretary's report. Withholding of grants.

5. Failure to hold an A.G.M. Withholding of all monies due to that County Coiste.

6. Failure of Counties to honour obligations to sponsorship agreements. Witholding of sponsorship monies.

### Allianz Ireland p.I.c.

Allianz (11)

Cumann na mBunscol c/o Mrs Margaret Cunningham Knockateemore, Abbeyside Dungarvan Co Waterford

8th February 2005

#### Re: Public Liability DN RPL 3282981 INSURED NAME:Members ftb Cumann na mBunscol

Dear Margaret,

We confirm that the above mentioned Policy indemnifies Cumann na mBunscoil in respect of their legal liability for the organisation of inter alia, G.A.A. and Athletics fixtures including coaching sessions at schools within the Republic of Ireland.

The Limit of Indemnity is €2,600,000 any one accident and the current period of cover is 5th December 2004 to the 4th December 2005.

We trust all is in order, but should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Yours sincerely,

Jonne Waldson.

Yvonne Waldron Social Unit

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#### Allianz Northern Ireland

Cumann na mBunscol c/o Mrs Margaret Cunningham Knockateemore, Abbeyside Dungarvan Co Waterford

22nd December 2004

Policy No: BT RPL 0657690 RE Insured Name: Cumann na mBunscol

Dear Mrs Cunningham,

Thank you for renewing the Policy.

As requested we confirm that the above Policy indemnifies Cumann na mBunscol in respect of their legal liability for the organization of ,inter alia, GAA and Athletic fixtures including coaching sessions at schools within Northern Ireland .

The Limit of Indemnity is Stg 2,000,000 any one accident.

The current period of policy cover is 5/12/04 to 4/12/05.

All subject to the Standard Policy Wording, Terms Exceptions , Conditions and Endorsement Wordings therein and thereon.

Yours sincerely,

Stephen Fitzing

Stephen Fitzsimons Religious, Education & Social COMMERCIAL- BELFAST

Belfast BT2 8AB Ref. BTC

Allianz House Telephone : 028 9089 1209 21 Linenhall Street Fax : 028 9043 4222 Website : www.allianz-ni.co.uk E-mail : stephen.fitzsimons@allianz-ni.co.uk Directors: T.D. Kingston (Chairman), B. Murphy (Group Chief Executive), B. Bovermann (German), D. Farrell, P. Fitzpatrick, R. Hagemann (German), M. Rafferty, D. Went. M. Katterry, D. Went. Allianz Northern Ireland is a trading name of Allianz Corporate Ireland p.1.c. registered in treland No. 143108 and Allianz Ireland p.1.c. registered in Ireland No. 2667. Registered Office: Burlington House, Burlington Road, Dublin 4.



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