

# CÓM-DAIL BLIADHANTAMHAIL

TUAIRISC AN RUNAIDHE AGUS CUNNTAS AN AIRGID, 1947.

TIONOLFAR AN CHOMHDHAIL BLIADHANTAMHAIL I DTIGH OSTA BAIRREAD,  
I AGUS 2, SR. DANMAIRC, ATH CLIATH, AR 16/3/48, AG 7 P.M.

## AN CLÁR

1948

- (1) Tuarscail (1946-'47)
- (2) Tuairisc an Rún agus Cuntas Airgid, 1947.
- (3) Toghadh na h-Oifigh 1948 Séisúir.
  - (a) Cathaoirleach.
  - (b) Leas-Cathaoirleach.
  - (c) Na Cisteoirí (2)
  - (d) An Rúnaidhe.
  - (e) Baill ó'n gCúigí ar an Ard-Comhairle.
- (4) Abhbhair Rúin.

*Dunan*  
*Dunan*  
*Dunan*

### NA h-OIFIGIGH 1948:—

- (a) Cathaoirleach—S. O Briain (Cill Coinnigh); S. Mac Craith (Cill Coinnigh).
- (b) Leas-Cathaoirleach—S. T. O Sceallaigh (Midhe); T. S. Mac Uilleagóid (Corcaigh); S. O Bergin (Sligigh).
- (c) Cisteoir (2)—P. D. Braoin (Loch Garman); C. Báirread (Ath Cliath); S. Mac Craith (Ath Cliath); M. O'Neill (Loc Garman); P. O Murchadha (Ath Cliath).
- (d) Runaidhe—S. C. O Cleirigh (Ath Cliath); A. O Cleirigh (Ath Cliath); R. Mac Conmhaoil (Ath Cliath); T. S. Mac Uilleagóid (Corcaigh); G. O Moghrain (Muigheo).
- (e) Baill or an Ard Comhairle:—  
Connacht—P O Cinneide (Ros Comain); S. O Bergin (Sligigh).  
Laighin—A O Cleirigh (Ath Cliath); S. Mac Giolla Mairtin (Cill Coinnigh).  
Mumha—P. Mac Craith (Tiobrad Arainn); T. S. Mac Uilleagóid (Corcaigh).  
Uladh—P Mac Conmidhe (Aontruma); A. O Muireadaigh (Ard Macha).

### Adhbhar Run:—

- (1) (a) That Provincial Councils be revived or, alternatively, that the Central Council meet at least once per month.  
(b) That the G.A.A. Central Council be approached with a view to appointing wholtime organisers of the game throughout the country (Ath Cliath).
- (2) That the Ulster Council, G.A.A., be asked to stage at least a junior soft ball championship this year (Dun na nGall).
- (3) That the present rule No. 53, page 169, Official Guide, G.A.A., be changed to read: "The floor shall not be less than 60 feet or more than 63 feet long, and not less than 28 feet and more than 32 feet wide. Height of front wall, 30 feet. Height of back wall, at least 9 feet." (Lughaidh).
- (4) (a) Decentralisation of finals—finals to be distributed more among the counties.  
(b) That away players should observe more punctuality in attendance at their matches and not keep spectators awaiting their arrival.  
(c) That secretaries of the counties in which inter-county matches are staged be asked to send results to daily papers.  
(d) Better publicity and advertisement needed to give the game a fillip (Loc Garman).
- (5) Why were not expenses for semi-finals and finals paid in 1946. Mayo submitted bill for £12, and received £7 without explanation. A motion relative to this matter was discussed at Handball Congress, 1947. The then Secretary (Mr. M. O'Neill) gave an assurance to Mayo's delegate that the balance would be paid at once, but this was never received (Muigheo).
- (6) (a) That Council should organise and encourage a three-wall soft-ball championship within the respective counties.  
(b) That steps should be taken to provide an adequate supply of balls early in the season so as to ensure a higher standard of play. (Ros Comain)
- (7) (i) That some effort should be made through the appropriate sources to investigate the possibility of gaining financial benefit for the erection of ball courts from the Government Grant of £25,000 to the Dublin Corporation for athletic improvements.  
(ii) That the G.A.A. Central Council be asked to take over the affairs of the Handball Association lock, stock and barrel.  
(iii) That the Central Council's first major development should be the covering-in and re-modelling of the Croke Park Court, this work to be put in hand immediately.  
(iv) That officials of the Council be appointed by the Handball Executive to take all gate receipts at semi-final and final All-Ireland championship fixtures. (Sligigh)

A Chairde Gaedheal,

Ag seo sios tabhairm sceal an tseisiuir caithte dibh. I rit na bliadhna seo rinneas mo dhithceall an obair Comhairle a gheanaimh, agus anois 's mo thairim go n-eiligh chuile rud maith go leor linn.

Taim ana-buidheach go gach duine a cuidigh linn i rit na bliadhna, dosna Ballaibh Comhairle, do gach Coisde Co., do gach imirtheoir, agus do'n Ard Comhairle C.L.C.G.

Istigh geobhairf tuairisc infuicnora agus a theastas cunntas, airgid agus sceal an Runaidhe, agus taim ciunte go mbheadh sibh sasta leo.

Seo thios mar leanas lucht ceannais na h-Eireann, 1947.

## LITHROID CRUAIDH

S.B.—Cill Coinnigh.  
S.C.—Cill Coinnigh.  
Sr.B.—Cill Dara.  
Sr.C.—Cill Coinnigh.

## LIATHROID BOG

S.B.—Ath Cliath.  
S.C.—Sligh.  
Sr.B.—Loch Garman.  
Sr.C.—Ath Cliath.  
M.C.—Muigheo.

1947.

The full championship clár, which included nine All-Ireland grades, was successfully completed.

In the hard ball code J. J. Gilmarin (Kilkenny) again proved the master, and has now the unprecedented record of having 25 All-Ireland medals to his credit over a span of a dozen years.

Gilmarin and Dalton (Kilkenny) retained their senior Hard Doubles title for the third successive year, beating the former Junior title-holders, Drumgoole and Duggan (Wexford) in the final. In the Soft Ball code Sligo must be heartily congratulated on winning its first Senior Soft Ball Doubles title. J. Bergin and J. O'Rourke were worthy representatives of their brilliant win over the 1942 champions, Collins brothers (Tipp.), and should give a big fillip to the game in the western county. In the Senior Soft singles L. Rowe (Dublin) went one better than in 1946 to annex the title from a gallant loser, J. Bergin (Sligo).

The Junior grade was remarkable for the success of such exceptional youths as R. Grattan, 18-year-old Kildare boy, who won the Junior Hard singles, and J. Ryan, 19-year-old Wexford boy, winner of the Junior Soft singles.

The Minor Soft doubles, which was won by Mayo on an objection from Dublin, shows that Co. Committees should give more thought to the rules governing minor competitions, with special emphasis on the legality of the players from age point of view. Counties abusing the age rule ought to be censured severely; indeed, the question of suspension ought to be at stake in such cases.

## FINANCIAL

I leave to the auditors the Report in this respect, and the table hereunder will give you a survey of the years back:—

	Balance to Credit.	Deficiency	
	£ s d	£ s d	
1932	— — —	163 1 5	and £54 15 1 International.
1933	— — —	37 14 5	
1934	— — —	16 4 3	
1935	49 0 5	— — —	
1936	98 17 1	— — —	
1937	143 2 9	— — —	
1938	121 19 11	— — —	
1939	52 7 8	— — —	
1940	— — —	12 4 4	
1941	39 12 4	— — —	
1942	— — —	43 1 1	
1943	8 0 6	— — —	
1944	24 16 4	— — —	
1945	— — —	23 8 11	
1946	— — —	8 7 2	
1947	— — —	23 6 4	

Increased expenditure under the heading "Teams' Expenses" was the main cause of the deficiency shown in the period under review. A prolonged bus strike last September, during which month many important championship finals were decided, was the primary cause of smaller gate receipts and higher travelling expenses. The above table is interesting from the viewpoint that a determined effort is being made to recover from the Olympic Council £54 15/1 lying to the credit of this Council.

The motions cover many aspects of the working of the Association. I do not wish to detract from the merits of the motions by commenting on a few of them briefly. The first motion on the agenda concerns the revival of Provincial Councils. This motion came before Congress last year and it was unanimously decided to revert to the provincial system for the 1948 championships. As early in the season as last July the Connacht Handball Council was formed, so the headline has been set, and it is to be hoped that the other three provinces will be formed in the near future. All four provinces participated in the championship series last year. You will notice that the motion with regard to the alteration of the rule governing the specifications of a handball court brings forth an interesting point. At the start of the season I circulated the rules in draft form to all the counties, but I deferred the printing of them for two main reasons. First, I thought it advisable that a special committee be set up to examine the rules from the point of view of stabilisation, and secondly, the high cost of printing the rules in booklet form is a matter for further consideration. I shall have more to say on this matter at the Convention. Another motion deals with bringing-in and re-modelling of the Croke Park ballcourt.

During the season a new floor was put into this court, and the question of roofing it is, I understand, receiving attention. I would like to inform you that the covered court at the Garda Depot, so kindly put at the disposal of the Association in the years past for championship games, will not be available this season.

The 1948 nominations for the Presidency include the name of Mr. S. O. Briain, the present President, and Mr. S. McGrath (Kilkenny). There are no fewer than five nominees for the secretaryship of the Association. In this connection it is my intention not to seek re-election for the following reasons. At the time I accepted the position about a year ago I was domiciled permanently in Dublin, but later in the season circumstances necessitated the transfer of my home to Sligo. Due to frequent transfers in my occupation I would find it extremely difficult to attend quarterly meetings of our Council, and much as I would prefer to exercise a closer personal supervision over the running of important All-Ireland fixtures during the season, I doubt if I could cope with my wish successfully. I thank sincerely all those who helped me during the past season, more especially Mr. S. O. Briain, the present President; Mr. Martin O'Neill (my predecessor), whose advice on handball matters I much appreciated, and Mr. R. McConville, Secretary, Co. Dublin Handball Board, who deputised for me in my unavoidable absence from the more important championship fixtures. I wish, also, to place on record my thanks to Mr. H. Conlon, Sec., Co. Dublin G.A.A. Board, who so kindly placed a meeting room at the disposal of our Executive Council during the season.

The game received wide publicity during the past season, and on more than one occasion a write-up for the final championship games was in the headlines. This, indeed, is encouraging, but there is still room for improvement. A detailed report of every All-Ireland championship final in every grade would help to eliminate recurring references to individual players. Articles on the game appeared in many periodicals during the season under review. In some of these articles there was too great a display of individuality, and if the game is to prosper and become more widespread in our towns and villages it would be well if more practical and praiseworthy efforts were made to put it on a sounder footing, and have less of the eloquent lip-service and grandiose accounts of yesteryear handball activities. In making this statement I do not wish to take from the merits of those who blazed the handball trail before us, but we have in our midst to-day at least one player, J. J. Gilmarin, of world calibre who, so far, has been denied the opportunity of meeting the star handball exponent of America, where the game is extremely widespread and popular. The slender finances of our Association would not allow us to entertain the idea, but it has been suggested on more than one occasion that our parent body, Central Council G.A.A., should consider favourably such a project with a view to its implementation. Maybe the idea is far-fetched! Anyway, I am am sure the incoming executive will be particularly interested in the publicity of a game that can rank as the most scientific of ball games, demanding all the attributes that constitute a worth-while pastime and a virile, healthy manhood.

## CONCLUSION

Handball delegates and enthusiasts had looked forward during the past season to a meeting with the G.A.A. executives, which was suggested by the President of the G.A.A., Mr. D. O. Ruairc, who with the Gen. Sec. of the G.A.A., Mr. P. O. Caoimh, attended the 1947 Handball Convention. The proposed meeting with these officials did not materialise before this report was written, because of the prolonged absence on two occasions of Mr. P. O. Caoimh, firstly in New York and secondly his subsequent illness and convalescence. At a recent G.A.A. Convention a discussion on handball took place. Mr. P. O. Caoimh stated at this meeting that the Central Council G.A.A. should take over complete control of handball. A motion to that effect is put down in this report, and I leave it to the incoming executive to discuss the matter fully. However, I wish to make a few passing comments. If, by taking over complete control of the game, it is the intention of the Gen. Sec., G.A.A., to awaken the apathy of the majority of the G.A.A. Co. Boards towards handball in order to restore the game to its former high level, it may be a worth-while experiment. Whatever be the outcome, surely no small measure of credit is due to the small band of enthusiasts who put so much energy and hard work into the control and administration of the game for the past 25 years. Happily, some of the enthusiasts to whom I refer are still in our midst and will be disappointed to learn of the suggestion put forward by Mr. O. Caoimh towards the game at a time when they looked forward to a fruitful meeting with the G.A.A. executives so that handball could be put on a firmer basis. If the game is to survive, organisation within the counties is of paramount importance, much more so than inter-county rivalry culminating in the winning of All-Ireland titles. The general consensus of opinion was that the G.A.A. Central Council would have given a hearing to the motions put forward by our delegates before making the suggestion that all will not be well with the game until controlled by the parent body.

Before I close, we are mindful, as always, of our departed ones, and to those of our members who in the season past have suffered bereavements we extend sympathy. In this connection I refer especially to the G.O.M. of handball, the late Mr. M. Byrne, our representative on the G.A.A. Central Council, whose death occurred a few months ago. The late Mr. Byrne had almost 52 years' service in the G.A.A.; he always showed himself an able legislator on handball matters, and held many different offices, including that of President while on our Executive Council. May this Wicklow stalwart rest in peace. Holy Mass will be offered for the repose of the souls of our departed members.

Go ndheanaid Dia trocaire ar a n-anamacha.

Saoghal agus slainte dibh go leir,

G. O. MOGHRAIN, Runaidhe.

(ar son Cumann Liathroid-Laimhe Na h-Eireann)



# IRISH AMATEUR HANDBALL ASSOCIATION, GAELIC ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION.

REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR THE PERIOD FROM 9th FEBRUARY, 1947, TO 14th FEBRUARY, 1948.

EXPENDITURE.				INCOME.			
1948—Feb. 14.				1948—Feb. 14.			
To Teams' Expenses	£	s	d	By Affiliation Fees:	£	s	d
Dublin	42	19	0	Cork	0	5	0
Galway	15	16	0	Donegal	0	12	0
Kildare	12	0	0	Dublin	0	3	0
Kilkenny	31	5	0	Galway	0	12	0
Mayo	18	2	0	Kildare	0	5	0
Meath	14	5	0	Kilkenny	1	0	0
Roscommon	5	0	0	Louth	0	6	0
Sligo	29	6	6	Mayo	0	8	0
Wexford	21	10	0	Meath	0	6	0
			190 3 6	Roscommon	0	8	0
Wages			4 5 0	Sligo	0	5	0
Medals			46 8 0	Tipperary	0	4	0
Meeting Expenses			20 5 0	Wexford	0	5	0
Secretary's Petty Expenses			7 7 0				5 4 0
Secretary's Travelling Expenses			9 9 0	Entrance Fees:			
Secretary's Honorarium			50 0 0	Cork	0	7	6
Printing and Advertising			10 13 6	Donegal	0	5	0
Purchase of Handballs			2 9 0	Dublin	1	15	0
Audit Fee			5 5 0	Galway	0	17	6
Refund of Objection Fee			2 0 0	Kildare	1	15	0
Bank Charges			1 1 0	Kilkenny	1	15	0
				Louth	0	12	6
				Mayo	1	0	0
				Meath	1	5	0
				Roscommon	1	0	0
				Sligo	1	0	0
				Tipperary	1	15	0
				Wexford	1	15	0
							15 2 6
				Objection Fees			2 0 0
				Gate Receipts:			
				Aug. 4th, at Talbot's Inch	1	9	6
				Aug. 4th, at Hollymount	10	3	0
				Aug. 24th, at Croke Park	5	7	0
				Aug. 24th, at Roscommon	6	3	9
				Aug. 24th, at Bridgetown	4	15	8
				Aug. 24th, at Talbot's Inch	3	10	6
				Sept. 7th, at Depot, Dublin	9	12	0
				Sept. 14th, at Depot, Dublin	2	2	0
				Sept. 21st, at Depot, Dublin	15	13	0
				Sept. 21st, at Hollymount	6	11	5
				Sept. 28th, at Depot, Dublin	14	16	0
				Oct. 5th, at Talbot's Inch	27	1	0
				Oct. 12th, at Depot, Dublin	2	6	0
							109 10 10
				Grant from Central Council	100	0	0
				Special Grant from Central Council	100	0	0
							200 0 0
				Sale of Handballs			2 9 6
				Balance, being Excess for Period of			
				Expenditure over Income			14 19 2
			349 6 0				349 6 0

## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 8th FEBRUARY, 1948.

LIABILITIES		ASSETS	
Sundry Creditors:		Cash at Bank	14 9 8
Medals for 1946	46 8 0	Sundry Debtors:	
Medals for 1947 (as estimated by Secretary)	45 0 0	Central Council, Special Grant	100 0 0
Honorarium to Secretary	50 0 0	Kildare—Affiliation Fees, 1947	5 0
	141 8 0	Wexford—Entrance Fees, 1946	17 6
		Galway—Handball	4 6
			101 7 0
		Stock of Handballs	2 5 0
		Purcell Cup (in possession of L. Rowe, Dublin)	
		Deficiency as at 9th February, 1947	8 7 2
		Add: Excess for period of Expenditure over Income	14 19 2
			23 6 4
	141 8 0		141 8 0

Prepared from the Books and Vouchers of the Irish Amateur Handball Association, Gaelic Athletic Association, and certified to be correct and in accordance therewith.

D. O'CONNOR & CO.,

Chartered Accountants.

Auditors.\*

A Chairde,

REVENUE ACCOUNT.

### BALANCE SHEET.

D. O'CONNOR & CO.