

Cumann Lúit-Óileas Saeðeal

COMAIRLE LIATHRÓID-LÁINE NA hÉIREANN

AN COMHÓAIL BLIANTÚIL 1957

TUARASCÓAIL AN RÚNAÍ AGUS CUNTAS AN AIRSIO 1956
Cionóir an Comhóail 1 uairis ósta dairnead, 1 agus 2 Sráid Danmairg, Ác Cliaic
an 18-3-57, 10.30 a.m.

AN CLÁR

- (1) Mion-tuairisicí.
- (2) TUARASCÓAIL.
- (3) TUAIRISC AN RÚNAÍ AGUS CUNTAS AN AIRSIO.
- (4) TOGAÓ NA h-OIFIGEAD, 1957.
 - (a) Uachtarán
 - (b) Leas-Uachtarán
 - (c) RÚNAÍ
 - (d) Teaceta ar an ÁRÓ COMAIRLE C.L.C.S.

NA h-OIFIGIÚ, 1957 :

Uachtarán : An Canónac Ro Oir Mac Amaltoin, S.P.V.F. (An Clár), An Canónac Ro Oir L. S. Ó. Ceardbail,
S.P.V.F. (Lumneac).

Rúnaí : S. Ó Loingsis (Ác Cliaic).

Teaceta ar an ÁRÓ COMAIRLE C.L.C.S. : T. D. Ó Cinnéide (Ciarrail), S. Ó Loingsis (Ác Cliaic).

NA RÚIN

- (1) Rule 54 be altered to read "In Championship matches players must be properly attired throughout the rubber, that is to say, they must wear clean tugs, singlets (bearing colours of county or province as registered with the G.A.A.) and light shoes (gym or boxing type). Players failing or refusing to do so shall forfeit the match. (Cabhan).
- (2) That the following addition be made to Rule 71: "If a player causes unnecessary or wilful delay during a match it shall be a foul. (Cabhan).
- (3) That a Stop-clock be placed where it can be seen in Gael Linn Cup Semi-Finals and Finals. (Clair).
- (4) That Tipperary's motion, No. 5, as presented to and adopted by Congress of 1956 be fully implemented. (Ciarrail).
- (5) That a player who wins a Junior All Ireland be eligible for Junior Championships again after two years if he does not take part in any Championships during this two year period. (Ciarrail).
- (6) The All Ireland Singles and Doubles Championship be included in this years fixture list for boys under 14 years of age. All matches best of three games of 21 aces. (Antrim).
- (7) That the question of expenses paid by Gael Linn for the Annual Tournament be discussed with a view to having more generous expenses paid. Present allowances are entirely inadequate and as a result counties are unnecessarily burdened. (Cill Coinnigh).
- (8) That G.A.A. Central Council be asked to provide tickets for All Ireland Hurling and Football Finals, for players and one official taking part in Handball Championship games on the mornings of these finals. (Cill Coinnigh).
- (9) That the question of deliberate delays by a player or players be discussed, and that a suitable rule be framed to remedy this matter. (Cill Coinnigh).
- (10) Rule 47—That the words "resumed from point of stoppage" be deleted, and that the following be inserted "replayed in full from the beginning." No account to be taken of the scores at the point of stoppage. (Cill Coinnigh).

COMAIRLE LIATHRÓID-LÁIME NA hÉIREANN

A Cairde Saoréal,

Ói an bliain seo éiríte an-sásúil.

Táim an-buairéac do gac buine a curais liom: rit na bliaina seo éiríte, do'sna bailiúid comairle, agus Comairli Cúige, do gac Coisde Comrae, agus do'n áro Comairle, Cumann Luit Cless Saoréal. Fe seo, cá le fáigil, tuairisc ar na comórtaisí, cuntas airgid, agus ghl.

1956 All-Ireland Champions

Senior Softball Singles: J. Ryan (Wexford)
Senior Softball Doubles: P. Downey and J. O'Brien (Kerry)
Junior Softball Singles: J. Maher (Louth)
Junior Softball Doubles: E. Connolly and S. Fleming (Mayo)
Minor Softball Singles: J. Murray (Kilkenny)
Minor Softball Doubles: J. Murray and M. Sullivan (Kilkenny)

Senior Hardball Singles: J. Ryan (Wexford)
Senior Hardball Doubles: J. Ryan and J. Doyle (Wexford)
Junior Hardball Singles: J. Maher (Louth)
Junior Hardball Doubles: J. Maher and J. McArdle (Louth)
Minor Hardball Singles: M. Sullivan (Kilkenny)
Minor Hardball Doubles: M. Sullivan and J. Murray (Kilkenny)

It is with pleasure I present to you this Annual Report covering the workings of the Irish Handball Association during the past year. The inclement weather provided quite a few headaches, but nevertheless it was possible to complete the full championship programme. Galway and Mayo made a welcome appearance in Minor and Junior Hardball respectively and we confidently look forward to the day when this, the most ancient form of handball, is played throughout the five Western Counties. Twenty-eight counties, comprising 154 Clubs affiliated—Donegal, Fermanagh, Derry, and Longford being the exceptions.

During the year Council was successful in securing five new trophies for the All-Ireland Championships. I take this opportunity to extend our very sincere thanks to the undermentioned donors for the magnificent manner in which they responded to our requests. Our thanks are due to our President, Very Rev. W. J. Cannon Carroll and Mr. Padraig O Caoimh who were largely responsible for securing these trophies. The donors of the new trophies were as follows:—

Irish Independent Newspapers Ltd.: Senior Softball Doubles Perpetual Challenge Cup.

Irish Press Newspapers Ltd.: Senior Hardball Doubles Perpetual Shield.

New Ireland Assurance Co., Ltd.: Junior Hardball Doubles Perpetual Challenge Cup.

Very Rev. W. J. Cannon Carroll, P.P.V.F.: Junior Softball Doubles Perpetual Challenge Cup.

Munster G.A.A. Council: Minor Softball Singles Perpetual Challenge Cup.

CHAMPIONSHIPS

The standard in our various Semi-Finals and Finals showed an improvement on last year. The majority of our matches were very keenly contested. John Ryan of Wexford once again established himself as the outstanding player in Senior ranks. He won both Singles titles and retained the S.H.B.D. title in partnership with J. Doyle. He has now won a total of thirteen National Titles and is second only to the renowned J. J. Gilhmarin in the honours list. D. Dillon making his initial appearance in a Senior Final put up a very creditable performance in Senior Hardball Singles when he took John Ryan to six games. P. Downey more renowned as a Doubles player gave the best performance of his career when he took J. Ryan the full distance in the S.S.B.S. final. Downey actually led two games to one at the interval. Kerry, renowned for their teamwork in Doubles once again demonstrated their ability when P. Downey and J. O'Brien were convincing winners over J. Ryan and J. Doyle in the S.S.B.D. Final. The Wexford players gained some measure of compensation when they defeated the Kerry pair in the S.H.B.D. Final. Louth making their first appearance in the final stages of the Junior Championship were successful in winning three titles. Joe Maher was an impressive winner of both Singles titles, and in partnership with Joe McArdle won the J.H.B.D. title. Maher should prove a decided acquisition to Senior ranks this year. It is worthy of record that these Louth representatives played all their matches, including Provincial games, away from home, as they had no regulation alley available at home. In what was generally agreed as the best J.S.B.D. final for some years, Eamon Connolly and Seamus Fleming of Mayo defeated Pat Kirby and M. Wiley of Clare, after four very keenly and closely contested games. A feature of this year's Junior Championship was the first ever appearance of Tyrone and Westmeath in an All-Ireland Semi-Final. Kilkenny added to their impressive list of All-Ireland successes when they made a clean sweep of the four Minor titles. This is the first occasion for any county to win all four in the one year. J. Murray won the M.S.B.S. title after a tough battle with M. Mullins of Limerick, while M. Sullivan was a decisive winner of the M.H.B.S. championship. Both these players teamed up successfully to win the two Doubles titles.

GAEL LINN

Following the decision of last year's Annual Congress re expenses for group finals Council took up this matter with Gael Linn and after much discussion it was eventually agreed by Gael Linn that they would meet all reasonable expenses for group finals after due allowance had been made for Gate receipts.

The 1955-6 play-off took place at Ballypatrick. John Ryan of Wexford regained the trophy he last held in 1953-54 when he defeated C. Delaney (Kilkenny) in the final. Earlier Delaney had defeated the holder D. Dillon. Outstanding performance was that of P. Kirby of Clare who held J. Ryan to level scoring in the Semi-Final, Ryan winning in extra time.

The entry for the 1956-57 competition exceeded all expectations. A total of 38 venues, comprising 304 players taking part. This is certainly a record for any handball competition and a very definite indication of the growing popularity of the game.

TOSTAL

The Tostal Competition was carried out as usual. Leinster being the only Province to hold a Provincial Competition—five counties taking part. Connacht and Munster nominated players. Ulster after earlier agreeing to take part had to withdraw and their place was taken by Tipperary. Kilkenny represented by the Delaney Bros., Joe and Christy were the eventual winners. As in previous years the total Gate receipts were divided between the counties travelling to the venue. However the attendance was very small and as a result each county only received £1 16s. 2d. as their share of the Gate. Council approached the Tostal Committee for a special grant to meet travelling expenses. In reply they stated that grants were not allocated to Sports organisations. At no time has this competition proved a success financially and I feel that Council should give it very serious consideration before deciding to promote it in the future.

GENERAL

An application has been received from the South African Handball Association for permission to affiliate to our Association. They have recently erected two new alleys and are to be commended for their magnificent work. The G.A.A. Central Council have recommended that we accept their affiliation.

The position of handball showed a slight improvement. Laois were newcomers in Leinster, while Galway, Mayo and Roscommon took part on a limited scale in Connacht. The success of Louth in this year's Junior Championships should give great encouragement to other Counties as this was only their second year to take part in the hardball championships. During the year a quantity of balls were distributed to Connacht and Ulster.

Early last year the supply position was very acute as no suitable covering was available. The various Irish Tanneries were approached for their help but only Messrs. Callaghans of Limerick were in a position to supply suitable hide. They deserve our thanks for their co-operation. I have been assured that they will make every effort to meet our requirements in the future.

I would take this opportunity to appeal to all counties to organise the game in the schools. With a few possible exceptions no county is making any real worthwhile effort. We must realise that the whole future of handball depends on the development of the game with the youth. The material is there and it is only waiting on you to organize it. Do not fail in this most important aspect of our work.

During the year two new venues were allocated fixtures—Newport, Co. Mayo and Tuamgraney, Co. Clare. In both cases I feel Council were justified. Newport only received two weeks notice of the fixtures and yet they were in a position to erect a magnificent concrete gallery. A fitting tribute to the local committee ably led by Rev. Fr. Horan. In Tuamgraney the local enthusiasts erected two side galleries to provide extra accommodation. The approach to the Tuamgraney alley is without doubt the most picturesque in the country. On each side of the concrete path leading to the alley are well laid out lawns; with well stocked flower beds. Many other Committees could follow the Tuamgraney example and give our alleys an attractive appearance.

AMERICA

While in America on business our President availed of the opportunity to contact the handball players and officials in New York. After many discussions with Mr. Charles J. O'Connell, President National Handball Committee of America, it was agreed that if at all possible he would arrange for two American players, preferably Ginty and Hyde, to come to Ireland in 1957. He has got a promise that the return fares of the two players will be paid from American sources. Hyde, a nephew of Michael O'Halloran of Cork, is the present Junior Champion of U.S.A., while Ginty a native of Sligo, was Senior U.S.A. Champion in 1955.

FINANCIAL

The Financial Report makes rather gloomy reading. At the end of the year the deficit was £161 12s. 3d. after making due allowance for stock of handballs and cash due. The figure appearing in the Balance Sheet is in excess of this amount, but this is accounted for by the inclusion of cost of medals, Audit fee and Insurance which are never paid until the following year. Teams travelling expenses are the highest on record and can be attributed to the following reasons: (1) The inclement weather caused postponement of portion of the Newport programme. Same was rearranged for Galway; (2) The programme arranged for Ballymore-Eustace on 26th Oct. had to be transferred to Clogh as the Kildare venue, even though roofed, was unplayable due to condensation. This resulted in a much smaller attendance as the majority of those present at Ballymore-Eustace could not make the extra journey to Clogh at such short notice; (3) For the All-Ireland Semi-Finals and Finals players were drawn from almost the four corners of each Province. I cannot recall any other year in which players were so scattered; (4) Gate receipts showed a considerable decrease and again the inclement weather was mainly responsible.

The publicity given to handball continues to improve. We are indebted to the National and Provincial press for the space given. Radio Éireann did show some improvement, but as yet we cannot feel satisfied that handball is being fully catered for by the National Radio.

I would like on your behalf to return our sincere thanks to Messrs. S. McFearn and P. O Caoimh for their continued interest in our welfare. To the G.A.A. Central Council, G.A.A. Provincial Secs. and the various G.A.A. County Committees for their help and assistance. To the various Handball Secs., Provincial and county, and to that band of voluntary workers who steward our venues and help in the hundred and one little odd jobs that arise from time to time.

In conclusion I wish to return my sincere thanks to our President, Very Rev. W. J. Cannon Carroll, P.P.V.F. for the help and advice he has given me at all times. Council are very indebted to him as he travelled to all fixtures and meetings at his own expense. Further he also met the total cost of all his Postage and Telephone A/cs. Whenever possible he took along players and officials free of charge.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered in the Franciscan Church, Dublin for the happy repose of the souls of all deceased members.

Go ndeanaidh Dia trócaire ar a n-anamhaca.

AN SON COMAIRLE LIATHRÓID-LÁIME NA hÉIREANN
SEOSAM Ó LOINGSIÚ

AUDITORS REPORT

The President and Members of:
The Irish Amateur Handball Association,
per Seosamh nasal O Loingsigh,
Honorary Secretary.

27 MERRION SQUARE, N.,
DUBLIN.
8th February, 1957

A Chairde,

We have audited the Books of the Association for the year ended 31st December, 1956. We enclose General Income and Expenditure Account and Special Tournaments Income and Expenditure Account for the year together with Balance Sheet showing the financial position of the Association at the end of the year.

General Income and Expenditure Account

Income for the year amounted to £622 13s. 11d. and Expenditure came to £841 7s. 3d. Expenditure for the year exceeded Income by £218 13s. 4d.

As compared with the preceding year, when Income exceeded Expenditure by £45 2s. 2d. Income decreased by £47 1s. 1d. but Expenditure increased by £216 14s. 5d. The decrease in Income is accounted for by a fall of £48 6s. 5d. in Gate Receipts offset by a slight increase in the sale of Handballs. The increase in Expenditure is mainly due to increases under the following headings to the extent mentioned: Teams' Expenses, £212 4s. 9d.; Handballs, £16 5s. 6d.; Printing and Stationery, £6 18s. 3d.; Secretary's Travelling and Hotel Expenses, £14 7s. 6d. and Meeting Expenses, £6 16s. 4d.; Officials' Expenses at Semi-Finals and Finals declined by £9 6s. 2d. and the following Expenses in 1955 had no equivalent in 1956: President's Postage and Telephone, £5 10s. 0d.; President's Travelling and Hotel Expenses, £6 7s. 6d.; Expenses of Delegate to All-Ireland Congress, £5 16s. 3d.; Grants to Clubs, £10 0s. 0d. and Rule Books written off £15 0s. 0d.

Special Tournaments Income and Expenditure Account

Income for the year amounted to £67 8s. 6d. and Expenditure came to £68 9s. 6d. Expenditure exceeded Income by £1 1s. 0d. As compared with the preceding year, when Expenditure exceeded Income by £1 15s. 7d., Income increased by £27 16s. 6s. and Expenditure increased by 27 1s. 11d. The increase in Income is mainly due to an increase of £25 13s. 0d. in Gate Receipts. The increase in Expenditure is mainly due to an increase in Teams' Expenses and Meals of £51 9s. 7d. offset by a charge in the year 1955 of £4 3s. 7d. for President's Travelling Expenses which had no equivalent in the year under review.

Balance Sheet

The Assets of the Association at 31st December, 1956 amounted to £3 8s. 6d. Liabilities at the same date came to £229 0s. 9d. Liabilities exceeded Assets by 225 12s. 3d.

As in previous Accounts no value has been placed on Cups and Trophies of the Association which are set out on the face of the Balance Sheet for record purposes only.

The Books were presented in good order for audit and were vouched satisfactorily.

Is sinne le meas,

D. O'CONNOR & CO.

Irish Amateur Handball Association, Gaelic Athletic Association Income and Expenditure Account for the Year ended 31st December, 1956

EXPENDITURE				INCOME			
1956—December, 31	£	s.	d.	1956—December, 31	£	s.	d.
To TEAMS' EXPENSES				By AFFILIATION FEES:			
Cavan	14	17	6	Antrim	18	0	
Clare	44	5	0	Armagh	4	0	
Galway	21	3	0	Carlow	4	0	
Kerry	15	2	6	Cavan	4	0	
Kilkenny	46	4	0	Clare	8	0	
Limerick	6	19	0	Cork	14	0	
Louth	70	3	6	Down	4	0	
Mayo	52	12	0	Dublin	1	2	0
Monaghan	11	14	0	Galway	14	0	
Tipperary	8	8	6	Kerry	10	0	
Tyrone	39	17	0	Kildare	4	0	
Westmeath	3	17	6	Kilkenny	14	0	
Wexford	80	14	6	Laois	8	0	
Cars hired by Council for Semi-Final and Final Fixtures	103	3	0	Leitrim	4	0	
			519 1 0	Limerick	16	0	
Officials' Expenses at Semi-Finals and Finals			10 3 8	Louth	6	0	
Rent of Croke Park			5 5 0	Mayo	12	0	
Handballs			30 3 6	Meath	2	0	
Advertising			14 14 0	Monaghan	8	0	
Medals, Engraving and Cleaning Trophies			61 5 0	Offaly	10	0	
Insurance of Cups and Shields			1 0 0	Roscommon	10	0	
Secretary's Travelling and Hotel Expenses			21 5 6	Sligo	10	0	
Printing and Stationery			32 9 3	Tipperary	1	10	0
Secretary's Telephone	16	9	7	Tyrone	4	0	
Less: Refund from Gael Linn Tournament Account	1	10	0	Waterford	8	0	
			14 19 7	Westmeath	1	0	0
Secretary's Postage	12	5	4½	Wexford	1	6	0
Less: Refund from Gael Linn Tournament Account	2	4	10	Wicklow	14	0	
			10 0 6½				15 8 0
Meeting Expenses			55 15 8	By GATE RECEIPTS:			
Secretary's Honorarium			50 0 0	1956—Aug. 12 Croke Park	8	4	0
Audit and Accountancy Fees			9 9 0	12 Talbots Inch	9	6	0
Cheque Book and Bank Charges			2 18 8	19 Newport	25	0	0
Gratuity to Caretaker			1 0 0	26 Tuamgraney	23	12	0
Cleaning Courts			10 0	26 Croke Park	10	0	
Mass Offering			10 0	Sept. 2 Galway	4	12	0
Petrol for drying Courts			16 10½	9 Clogh	20	9	0
			841 7 3	16 Ballypatrick	41	19	4
				23 Croke Park	31	13	6
				Oct. 7 Croke Park	19	16	6
				28 Clogh	12	10	6
							197 12 10
				Central Council—Annual Grant			400 0 0
				Sale of Handballs			9 13 1
				Excess for Year of Expenditure over Income			218 13 4
							841 7 3

Irish Amateur Handball Association, Gaelic Athletic Association
Income and Expenditure Account—Special Tournaments for the Year ended 31st December 1956

EXPENDITURE				INCOME			
1956—December, 31		£	s. d.	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
To EXPENSES—				By Grant from Gael Linn to cover Expenses			
GAEL LINN TOURNAMENT :				,, Gate Receipt—Gael Linn Tournament :			
Clare .. .. .	..	3	0 6	April 22 at Ballypatrick .. .. .	..	28	10 0
Dublin .. .. .	..	12	0 0	,, Gate Receipt—Tostal Competition : .. .. .	..	5	8 6
Galway .. .. .	..	12	3 0	May 13 at Horse and Jockey .. .. .	..	1	1 0
Kilkenny .. .. .	..	12	0 0	,, Excess for Year of Expenditure over Income .. .. .	..	1	1 0
Tyrone .. .. .	..	9	5 8				
Wexford .. .. .	..	8	4 0				
Officials' and Players' Expenses paid direct by Council .. .. .	..	18	18 0				
Stewards' Expenses .. .. .	..	2	10 0				
			55 5 2				
,, TEAMS' EXPENSES—							
TOSTAL COMPETITION :							
Galway .. .. .	..	1	16 2				
Kerry .. .. .	..	1	16 2				
Kilkenny .. .. .	..	1	16 2				
			5 8 6				
,, Handballs .. .. .	..		1 14 6				
,, Advertising .. .. .	..		16 0				
,, Engraving Cup .. .. .	..		7 6				
,, Audit Fee .. .. .	..		1 1 0				
,, Stationery .. .. .	..		2 0				
,, Postage and Telephone .. .. .	..		3 14 10				
			68 9 6			68	9 6

Irish Amateur Handball Association, Gaelic Athletic Association
Balance Sheet as at 31st December, 1956

LIABILITIES		ASSETS	
Bank Overdraft—No. 1 Account	169 18 2	Stock of Handballs	2 10 0
Less : Cash at Bank—No. 2 Account	5 1 5	Sundry Debtors for Handballs	18 6
	164 16 9	FOR RECORD PURPOSES ONLY :	
Cash due Secretary	4 0	Purcell Cup—in possession of John Ryan (Wexford)	
	165 0 9	Dr. Harty Cup—in possession of J. Ryan (Wexford)	
Sundry Creditors for :		Elvery Shield—in possession of J. Maher (Louth)	
Medals	52 10 0	Dunlop Shield—in possession of J. Maher (Louth)	
Insurance of Cups and Shields	1 0 0	Irish Independent Cup—in possession of P. Downey and J. O'Brien (Kerry)	
Audit Fees	10 10 0	Irish Press Shield—in possession of J. Ryan and J. Doyle (Wexford)	
	64 0 0	Very Rev. Canon Carroll Cup—in possession of S. Fleming and E. Connolly (Mayo)	
		New Ireland Cup—in possession of J. Maher and J. McArdle (Louth)	
		Corn Comhairle na Mumhann—in possession of J. Murray (Kilkenny)	
		Deficiency as at 31st December, 1955	5 17 11
		Add : Excess for Year of Expenditure over Income—per :	
		General Account	218 13 4
		Special Tournaments Account	1 1 0
		Deficiency at date	225 12 3
	229 0 9		229 0 9

We have examined the foregoing Accounts and Balance Sheet of the Irish Amateur Handball Association, have compared them with the Books and Vouchers submitted to us and we certify them to be correct and in accordance therewith.

27 Merrion Square, N., DUBLIN.
8th February, 1957.

D. O'CONNOR & CO.,
Chartered Accountants, Auditors.