

COMAIRLE LIATHRÓID-LÁIME NA hÉIREANN

An Comóráil Bliantúil 1968

TUARASCÓIL AN RÚNAÍ AGUS CUNTAS AN AIRSÍO 1967

Tionólfar an Comóráil i rúig Ósta Bannreacu, 1 agus 2 Sráid Danmairg, áe Cliaí, an 31-3-'68 an a 1.30 a clog.

AN CLÁR:

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| (1) Mion-tuairisicí. | (4) Tosaí na h-Oiriseac, 1968. |
| (2) Tuairiscóil. | (a) Uachtarán. |
| | (b) Rúnaí. |
| (3) Tuairisc an Rúnaí agus Cuntas an airisí. | (c) Teadca an an áru Comhairle C.I.S. |
| | (5) Na Rám. |

NA h-OIRISÍ, 1968.

Uachtarán—R. Arneidh (Cill Mannain), S. O Matúna (Corcaigh), S. O Domhnall (Maigh Eo), S. O Catassigh (Gaillimh), P. de Grant (An Midhe), E. O Docharaigh (Ros Comain), An Br. B. C. O Murchu (Ath Cliath).

Rúnaí—S. O Loinisigh (Ath Cliath).

Teachtá ar an Ard Comhairle, C.L.G.—S. O Loinisigh (Ath Cliath).

NA RÚIN:

- (1) That Central Council meet on at least five occasions during the year.—(Ath Cliath).
- (2) That all All-Ireland finals be played in roofed courts.—(Ath Cliath).
- (3) That council be empowered to set up a special sub-committee consisting of as many members as they deem necessary to make arrangements for the World Handball Championships which will be held in Ireland in 1970.—(Aontruim).

PLAYING RULES.

- (4) That Rule 67, section VIII, be amended to read "The ball cannot be hopped between the short and service lines more than three times before service."—(Cill Coinnigh).
- (5) That Rule 66, section 2, be amended to read "Player winning the toss shall have first service for the first and successive odd games. The referee will decide on the ball to be used for the entire match. This will be the ball which conforms nearest to the stipulated regulations."—(Aontruim).
- (6) That Rule 66, section 2, be amended to read "The player winning the toss shall have first service. He shall also have choice of ball for first and successive odd games. Only the referee has power to change the ball during the course of any game."—(Cill Dara).
- (7) That Rule 66, section 3, be amended to read "In doubles matches the side starting each game is allowed one service. Thereafter during the game both players on each team are permitted to serve. At the beginning of each game each team will inform the referee of the order of service and this must be adhered to throughout the game. Failure to do so shall count as a 'hand out' and any aces scored on the illegal service shall not count."—(Aontruim).
- (8) That a new section (9) be added to Rule 67 "When a served ball rebounds from the front wall and touches the back wall before striking the floor it shall count as an illegal service. Two such serves shall count as a 'hand out.' Amend Rule 69, section 1, accordingly."—(Loch Garman).
- (9) That a new section (10) be added to Rule 67 "In service the ball is required to hit the front wall first. It can then hit one side wall but it must hit the floor behind the short line before hitting the second side wall or the back wall, provided it is not volleyed by the receiver. Violation of this Rule shall be a foul and two successive transgressions shall count as a 'hand-out.' Amend Rule 69, section 1, accordingly."—(Ath Cliath).
- (10) That a new section (7) be added to Rule 69: "A 'hand out' shall be awarded when a legally served ball touches the server on the fly."—(Loch Garman).
- (11) That a new section (10) be added to Rule 71: "A player is not permitted to run in over the short line to play a served ball on the fly. Violation of this rule shall be a foul."—(Ath Cliath).
- (12) Insert Rule 79 to read "A marker shall be appointed to keep a correct record of the order of service and the aces served, and shall keep the players informed as to the progress of the game."—(Loch Garman).
- (13) Amend Rule 81, section 1, to read: "The referee may grant one, but only one interval after the second or any succeeding game in a match."—(Aontruim).
- (14) That Rule 81, sections I and II, be deleted and replaced by the following: "In all matches there shall be a 5 minute interval after the second and fourth (if any) games."—(Cill Dara).

GENERAL.

- (15) That the Talteann games be played with the American ball.—(Cill Dara).
- (16) That a Talteann senior singles competition be run.—(Cill Dara).
- (17) That Rule 54 be amended to read "In championship, league and other official matches players must be properly attired, that is they must wear clean tugs and singlet or tee shirt (bearing the colours of the county as registered with the G.A.A.) for the duration of the match, also white socks, and shoes or boots (gym or boxing type only). In doubles matches both players must wear the same type of singlet or tee shirt. Penalty—Fine of £5 which must be paid before the county can participate in further competition."—(Ath Cliath).
- (18) Amend Rule 54 to read "In championship, league and other official matches players must be properly attired, that is, must wear clean tugs and singlet or tee shirt (bearing the colours of the county as registered with the G.A.A.) for the duration of the match, also white socks, and shoes or boots (gym or boxing type only). In doubles matches both players must wear the same type of singlet or tee shirt. Penalty—Forfeiture of match."—(Loch Garman).
- (19) That the entry fee for the Gael Linn competition be increased to 2/- per player.—(Loch Garman).
- (20) In all national league matches each team will play two singles and one doubles match. The singles matches to consist of two games of 21 aces and the doubles match to consist of three games of 21 aces. Each team must consist of four players and all matches must be played. The winner being the team with the highest aggregate score. Two points to be awarded to the winning team. In the event of level scoring each team will be awarded 1 point.—(Ath Cliath).
- (21) Delete the word "hardball" from Rule 50 and substitute it with the word "handball."—(Ath Cliath).
- (22) That a representative committee be set up to investigate the possibility of standardising the game as to rules, alleys, etc.—(Aontruim).
- (23) That Rule 58, section I, be amended to read "Having won a Junior All-Ireland championship in any year a player can still play in junior competition until the end of that year after which he will never again be eligible to play junior."—(Aontruim).
- (24) That Talteann matches in under 14, 16 and 21 grades be decided on aces rather than time.—(Cill Coinnigh).

Is soiléir go bhfuil dul ar aghaidh deanta arís i mbliana i gcórsaí liathróid láimhe. De tharr na geomórtas nua sna Cluicí Tailteann dóibh sin faoi 21 agus 40 bliain d'aois tá freastal a dhéanamh anois ar gach roinn agus an t-áit san áireamh. D'ainneoin ar n-imeachtal go leir, áfach, is dóigh dom gur gha scrúdú a dhéanamh ar thogail agus ar fheidhmí ar n-eagrais lena chur in oiriúnt don bhlianta ara romhainn. Tá ga le doimhin-smaoineamh agus pleanail ciallmhar as a dtiocfaidh athmhúscailt spéise.

Tá me an-bhuioch do gach einne a chuidigh dom i rith na bliana do bhailín a chomhairle, dona Comharlú Cúige, dona Coistí Contae uile, agus fós, d'Oifigigh agus ball Ardeomhairle Chumann Lúthchleas Gael.

Seo leanas an Tuairiscáil Bliantúil ina bhfuil cur síos ar imeachtaí na bliana, maille le Cuntas an Airgid.

1963 ALL-IRELAND CHAMPIONS.

S.S.B.S.—S. McCabe (Monaghan).
S.S.B.D.—L. Molloy and D. McGovern (Meath).
S.H.B.S.—P. McGee (Mayo).
S.H.B.D.—P. McGee and P. Bollingbrooke (Mayo).
J.S.B.S.—P. McGarry (Limerick).
J.S.B.D.—M. Henry and J. Gaffney (Sligo).
J.H.B.S.—M. O'Gara (Roscommon).
J.H.B.D.—G. Lawler and R. Winders (Kildare).
M.S.B.S.—P. Murphy (Dublin).
M.S.B.D.—P. Murphy and P. Domigan (Dublin).
M.H.B.S.—G. Lawler (Kildare).
M.H.B.D.—G. Lawler and C. Winders (Kildare).

NATIONAL LEAGUE, 1963.

Wexford—R. Lyng, J. King, J. Howlin, and S. Buggy.

GAEL LINN, 1963.

T. McEllistrim (Kerry).

The year under review reveals that handball continues to make headway and that public support continues to increase. The introduction of the under 21 and over 40 Tailteann competitions now leaves all grades and age groups catered for at All-Ireland level. Handball not so long ago was confined to seven or eight months each year but with the introduction of new competitions and more roofed alleys in recent years the game has firmly established itself as a twelve months' sport. Despite the growth in our activities I still feel that the whole structure of our organisation will have to be examined if we are to gear ourselves to meet the challenge of the future. We need a new awakening of interest activated by intelligent thinking and planning so that we refuse to accept only what we have and become more alive to what we can achieve by earnest endeavour and wholehearted co-operation. Let us have confidence in our ability to plan for the future. It is only by clear and effective organisation at all levels that we can be sure that handball will continue to develop in the years to come.

CONNACHT:

Enthusiasm in the province is at a high level and organisation both at county and provincial level has never been better. The first roofed court in the province was opened last October and for this we are indebted to the Ballymore club. By their enthusiasm an industry they set a headline for other clubs in the province. The Killala club were quick to follow as they have recently roofed their court, which incidentally was only built a year ago. It only now remains for a gallery to be erected. This north Mayo club with no great handball tradition are to be complimented on their tremendous work in the space of two years. It is a typical example of what can be achieved where you have enthusiastic workers. These roofed courts will be a great asset to the province and should give handball a new lease of life. It now remains for some club in southern end of the province to undertake similar operations.

LEINSTER:

A total of ten counties affiliated, Laois and Longford again being the exceptions. During the year the Council set up a Study Group to examine the structure in all counties with a view to improving organisation and providing greater liaison with the G.A.A. County Committees. Three counties were selected for a start, Kildare, Louth, and Carlow. In Carlow a county committee was set up with six clubs affiliating against one in previous years. In Kildare a total of four clubs affiliated and efforts were concentrated on developing the weaker clubs by means of juvenile and novice competitions. No progress was reported from Louth despite the earnest efforts of the officials concerned.

The first ever Handball Seminar was held in Carlow during the year and this proved a very worthwhile venture with eight counties participating. The main topics were (1) County Committee — its organisation and its relationship with the G.A.A. County Committee; (2) Juvenile Handball; (3) Public Relations; (4) Handball in the future — its organisation and development.

MUNSTER:

Handball in the province continues to make progress in most counties. The position in Clare and Waterford is not in keeping with that of the other counties. I feel a special effort must be made immediately to reorganise these two counties. Good news from Kerry is that the Ballymacelligott club have roofed their court. Only last September the initial efforts were made to get funds and in the short span of 5 months the job was completed. This is a further example of what can be done where you have dedicated officials and genuine enthusiasm. At present a big drive is under way in the county to organise clubs in other areas. I would especially like to see an active club in Glenbeigh where a fine court exists. This court is dedicated to the late Fr. Tom Jones, one of the greatest of our handballers. The Cappagh club in Limerick, who have one of the most unique ballcourts in the country, it is the main room of an old ruins, have finalised plans for the erection of a modern roofed court in the area. This is a fine achievement for a rural area and will give handball in Limerick a great boost. Work is expected to start almost immediately and the court should be available for this year's championships.

ULSTER:

Handball is confined to six counties and despite various appeals over the years no progress can be reported from Derry, Fermanagh and Down. Of the six active counties Cavan appears the strongest. Antrim is very severely handicapped by lack of alleys and until such time as the county has a number of regulation alleys I cannot foresee much progress. Enthusiasm in Tyrone is at a high level at present and plans are in the final stages to erect a modern roofed court at Cloughfin. Work will commence early this year. When this materialises this will give the province its first roofed court. During the year the Fomeroy court was completely renovated and it now compares favourably with other courts. Activity in Monaghan is confined to Clones and the recent successes of the county in the county in the senior softball championships has brought no improvement in the county. This is difficult to understand as I always found the Monaghan G.A.A. officials most helpful. Activity in Armagh is still confined to two clubs and there appears to be no immediate prospect of this position improving. Handball in Donegal is confined to the Falcarragh area and I am not aware of any efforts to organise it in other parts of the county.

CHAMPIONSHIPS:

The full championship programme was completed to time despite the loss of a days' play at Ballymacelligott due to weather conditions. The one pleasing feature of the wash-out at this venue was that it brought home forcibly the necessity for a roofed court in Kerry. Once again, Croke Park programmes enjoyed capacity attendances and on the eve of both Hurling and Football finals many people were turned away. It is apparent that steps must be taken to provide extra accommodation at Headquarters if we are to cater fully for our patrons.

The Winders family of Kildare carved a special niche for themselves when three members of the family qualified for All-Ireland finals in three different grades. Two of these were successful, Robin and Cecil, in J.H.B.D. and M.H.B.D., while the third member, Paddy, was on the S.H.B.D. team narrowly defeated by the holders, P. McGee and P. Bollingbrooke of Mayo. Another Kildare player to set an all-time record was Greg Lawler who won three All-Ireland medals and became the first-ever player to win minor and junior handball titles in the same year. Once again the handball senior championships were dominated by Mayo with P. McGee winning the singles and in partnership with Bollingbrooke retaining the S.H.B.D. for the third successive year. Meath won their first senior softball title when L. Molloy and D. McGovern won out in S.S.B.D. Meath have now won titles in all 3 grades of softball doubles over the past three years and these successes can mainly be attributed to fine facilities their players enjoy at Ceanannus Mor. The success of Mark O'Gara in J.H.B.S. was unique in that the final was his first match in the championship. In the earlier matches, Roscommon was represented by J. O'Brien who, however, was not available for the final. The success of M. Henry and J. Gaffney of Sligo was a fitting award for the perseverance of Ballymore club. Both these players are to be complimented for the magnificent manner in which they logged out for their matches. In winning J.S.B.S., Pat McGarry of Limerick joined his brother, Tom, who also won a junior All-Ireland medal. The success of Pat Murphy of Dublin in M.S.B.S. was a first-ever for the Metropolitans and a very fitting reward for the magnificent work their Minor Board is doing for the youth of the city. Dublin, the first winners of the M.S.B.D. championship, had to wait until last year for a second success. Pat Murphy was partnered by P. Domigan in this success.

NATIONAL LEAGUE:

A total of twenty-three counties competed in the National League which finished last November. The overall standard of play was high and competition in all groups was keen. However, the semi-finals were disappointing as both matches were one sided. Sligo defeated Kerry 8 games to 1; Wexford defeated Cavan by 7 games to 2.

In the final Wexford, winners of the initial competition in clearly outscored the holders, Sligo, by 8 games to 1.

GAEL-LINN:

The entry for the present Gael-Linn competition is somewhat below average. This, I feel, can be accounted for to some extent by the early closing date. The breakdown of the entries is as follows:-

Leinster—368
Connacht—216
Munster—160
Ulster—86

For this year's competitions all venues' matches are of 30 minutes duration while all other matches are of 20 minutes' duration. This new arrangement seems to be generally acceptable.

The final stages of last year's competition was played at Croke Park and resulted in a win for T. McEllistrim of Kerry.

TAILTEANN CHAMPIONSHIPS:

The Tailteann Championships proved to be one of the highlights of the year. The number of competitions sponsored were increased by an addition of three extra competitions to cater for players under 21 and over 40. All grades were well supported and entries were up on the previous year. Details re winners hereunder:-

Under 14 singles—A. O'Shaughnessy (Westmeath).
Under 14 doubles—W. Long and J. Geary (Galway).
Under 16 doubles—N. McKenna and S. Smith (Meath).
Under 16 singles—M. O'Connor (Kerry).
Under 21 singles—P. McGarry (Limerick).
Under 21 doubles—V. and C. Grimes (Meath).
Over 40 softball doubles—M. and J. Walsh (Mayo).
Senior softball doubles—T. and J. McEllistrim (Kerry).

UNIVERSITIES:

Competition in the universities continues to improve. A total of four colleges competed in last year's Inter-varsity championship which was staged in Cork for the first time. However, I feel that no real worthwhile progress can be made until Dublin, Cork, and Belfast are equipped with regulation alleys.

A new Council to be known as Ard Chomhairle na nOllscoil has been set up by the G.A.A. Central Council to promote and develop Gaelic games in the colleges. It is also the intention to embrace other institutes of higher education in the near future. Our handballers should avail fully of this new body in their efforts to foster and develop the game within the universities.

COLLEGES:

While support for the All-Ireland colleges' championships continues to improve, I am still not satisfied that handball holds its rightful place in our colleges. I would appeal to the All-Ireland Colleges' Council to initiate an all-out drive during the coming year to improve the position. In this connection I might mention that my council are at all times on y too willing to help in coaching the students.

VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS:

I regret to say that as yet we have not made a breakthrough to the Vocational schools. Competition is at present confined to Dublin. I would ask the provincial councils to take this matter up with the Vocational Schools' Provincial Committee.

WORLD HANDBALL CHAMPIONSHIP:

The second official world handball championship was held in Toronto, Canada, from November 20-22, inclusive. A total of 4 countries competed—U.S.A., Canada, Mexico, and Ireland. The Irish representatives were S. McCabe (McGonaghan) in singles and L. Molloy and D. McGovern (Meath) in doubles. While success was not our lot, nevertheless our players acquitted themselves well despite the handicap of playing in the smaller courts and eventually finished in third place. Details re singles and doubles championships as follows:-

Singles

Canada (J. Maher) defeated Ireland (S. McCabe) 21-5, 21-10.
Canada (J. Maher) defeated Mexico (I. Hernandez) 21-4, 21-11.
Canada (J. Maher) defeated U.S.A. (C. Obert) 21-9, 21-9.
U.S.A. (C. Obert) defeated Ireland (S. McCabe) 21-10, 21-2.
U.S.A. (C. Obert) defeated Mexico (I. Hernandez) 21-13, 21-13.
Ireland (S. McCabe) defeated Mexico (I. Hernandez) 14-21, 21-10, 21-19.
Winner—Joe Maher (Canada). Runner-up—Carl Obert (U.S.A.).

Doubles

U.S.A. (O. and R. Obert) defeated Ireland (L. Molloy and D. McGovern) 21-4, 21-12.
U.S.A. (do.) defeated Mexico (I. Hernandez V. Yamer) 21-18, 21-7.
U.S.A. (do.) defeated Canada (M. Unreth, H. Tepperman) 21-12, 21-20.
Canada (M. Unreth and H. Tepperman) defeated Ireland (L. Molloy and D. McGovern) 21-9, 21-11.
Canada (do.) defeated Mexico (I. Hernandez, Y. Yamer) 21-1, 21-13.
Ireland (L. Molloy, D. McGovern) defeated Mexico (do.) 11-21, 21-10, 21-10.
Winner—Oscar and Ruby Obert (U.S.A.).
Runner-up—M. Unreth and H. Tepperman (Canada).

It is only fitting that we should offer our very sincere congratulations to Joe Maher, our former champion, on being the first-ever Irishman to win the world singles championship. This is indeed a tremendous performance and a fitting reward for the high degree of dedication he showed at all times. His main purpose in emigrating to Canada was to further his handball career and win for Ireland this elusive title. Despite his many successes since he left our country he has never lost his national identity and has proved a fine ambassador for our country. The G.A.A. Central Council have decided to honour his achievement by presenting a special plaque. I feel that we as handballers should also honour him in a very special way one of the finest players to ever grace our courts. I wish to pay tribute to him for the very generous and warm-hearted manner in which he looked after us during our stay. He was completely at our disposal and trained and coached our players in preparation for their matches.

I wish also to thank the Toronto G.A.A. for the reception accorded our players and also for the presentations which they made us. It was indeed very pleasing to us to find gaelic games so well established in this city.

On our return journey the New York Athletic Club acted as our hosts and we are indebted to our old friend, Charlie O'Connell, and his members for the manner in which they received us.

ALLEYS:

During the year grants were allocated as follows:-

- (1) £300 to Ballymacelligott for roofing court.
- (2) £100 to Cloughfinn for erecting new court. This club will receive further consideration when they have completed the roofing of the court.
- (3) £50 to Ballymote as balance of grant from last year.

Further it was agreed that the following grants will be paid out when money is available:-

- (1) £450 to Cappagh for building a roofed court.
- (2) £300 to Killa who have roofed their court.
- (3) £150 to Fermoy for renovation.

The introduction of these grants for capital investment by the G.A.A. Central Council has given a new impetus to the drive to provide roofed courts in all counties. At present an application is before the G.A.A. committee seeking an increase in this annual grant of £400 and I feel confident that it will receive favourable consideration.

Looking to the future I would like to submit the following suggestions for your consideration:-

- (1) That we establish a special committee — Bord na gCúirt — to examine all applications for grants and make the necessary recommendations. This committee could also explore the possibility of having definite grants allocated to each Provincial Council and G.A.A. County Committee.
- (2) They could also make available proper plans and advise generally on all matters re building, trusteeship, etc.
- (3) I feel the time has come when we must give serious consideration to the lack of alleys in the big centres of population. Take most of our cities and what do we find? Cork, Galway, and Belfast have no alleys, while Dublin and Limerick have only limited facilities. We cannot afford to ignore the importance of these big centres if handball is to hold its rightful place in the national structure.
- (4) Our alleys are generally cold and unattractive during the winter months and as a result our attendances are very small. I feel we must make our alleys more attractive for both players and spectators, and this can be done by:
 - (A) Installation of a certain degree of heating in our alleys.
 - (B) Provision of cold and hot showers.
 - (C) Provision of proper facilities for developing the social life of the handball club.
 - (D) With proper development the alley could become the social centre of the whole parish.
 - (E) Our members should identify themselves with the various social works of the parish.

EQUIPMENT:

Counties are reminded that Rule 54 makes definite provision for the attire to be worn by players in championship matches. I regret to say this rule is very often ignored by counties. The shabby appearance of some of our players—even very prominent ones—takes away from the whole dignity of the occasion and projects a very poor image for handball. It underlines the urgent necessity for a general improvement in the attire of all county players. Any player accorded the honour of representing his county should present himself neatly and properly attired—i.e., clean tugs, singlet, socks and shoes.

The use of protective gloves is something that could be encouraged more especially for players who have soft hands or who for many good reasons are afraid of hand injuries.

GENERAL:

We must give serious consideration to the introduction of coaching courses in all provinces. Skilled coaching is essential especially if we are to make headway in the schools and colleges.

It is regrettable that the Department of Education only saw fit to allot one hour to handball at their official courses last July in Droichead Nua. Surely handball is worthy of better treatment. The position in the North of Ireland was even worse as handball was the only national sport omitted from the course which was sponsored by the Government. This is something the Ulster officials will have to right without delay.

On the question of fitness, I feel that our accepted standard is below the basic standard of other countries. In Ireland the tendency is to play handball to get fit whereas our approach, especially at championship level, should be to get fit to play handball. If we attain a higher degree of fitness it naturally follows that we develop a greater degree of proficiency.

During the year Rev. E. T. Neville, C.C., was appointed to the G.A.A. Policy Committee. We are fortunate in having such a capable and dedicated official as our representative on this committee.

On the question of rules I would suggest that we set up a special sub-committee to tidy up the Rule book with a view to (1) producing an up-to-date rule book with all the rules in their appropriate section; (2) producing a special booklet on playing rules only and also a list of suitable hints for beginners, for distribution to schools and colleges.

Are the various G.A.A. clubs supporting handball as they should? This is a very debatable point especially when you see the number of clubs who in the last few years have provided facilities for the playing of other games, i.e., Pitch-and-Put, Badminton, etc., and at the same time have made no effort to provide facilities for handball. A number of these clubs have clubrooms and to these I say why not include an indoor handball alley. While it may not be possible to erect a regulation 60 by 30 by 30 court there is no reason why one of the smaller international-type of courts could not be erected as they only measure 40 by 20 by 20. Handball will give many hours of enjoyment to your members and is an ideal means of training for both football and hurling.

Once again I appeal for an all-out drive to foster handball with the youth. As a sporting organisation we have a definite responsibility to provide good, healthy exercise for the youth of our country. Counties who have undertaken this work in recent years have been well repaid for their efforts. To quote one example alone—in Dublin a total of 2,500 matches were played during the year under the auspices of the Dublin Minor Board.

Teiflis Eirann failed once again to make any worthwhile contribution to handball. With the exception of two or three references to the game the sport received no other coverage. Many other of the minor sports only played in pockets throughout the country are worthy of filming while handball, which enjoys nation-wide support both by players and spectators, is completely ignored. It prompts me to ask is it a deliberate policy to play down national sports. Despite the fact that invitations have been issued to television officials to attend some of our more important matches I cannot recall one occasion when any

of them attended. I feel we must accept some of the responsibility for this lack of coverage as we have failed to make the necessary protests to the authorities concerned. It is only by consistent and regular protests that results can be achieved.

I have been informed by the Irish Dunlop Co. that the new moulds have arrived and they expect to be producing the new type of softball early in April.

The Leinster Council held a most successful seminar during the year. This was something new in handball and it certainly proved a very worth-while exercise. I feel that all provinces should endeavour to hold at least one such seminar each year. It enables delegates to come together and discuss various aspects of our work and if necessary adapt a new approach to solving some of our problems. The normal business of council meetings is to discuss matters of a routine nature and as a result no time is available for anything else.

WORLD HANDBALL ASSOCIATION

A World Handball Association was set up during the recent championships in Toronto, with Mr. Charles O'Connell of the U.S.A. as President. The main object of the association is to promote and develop handball throughout the world, also to draw up schedules for future world championships. The Unified Rules of America were adopted as the international rules and each country sponsoring championships must adopt these rules. In the case of Ireland the rules with the exception of the rule re roof play will apply. It was agreed that the next world handball championships will be held in Ireland during May, 1970. The Irish softball will be used for all matches.

The sponsoring of the world championship by our country will prove quite costly and will entail a considerable amount of work if we are to make them an outstanding success. I feel we should set the wheels in motion immediately by setting up a special committee to look after all arrangements, including fund raising.

Now that we are having regular contact with other countries I feel it might be a good thing if we could organise a party of players to travel to the U.S.A. for a series of exhibition matches. Many players have expressed the opinion that they would like to sample the American type of handball and I feel sure that if Council organised a special party it would be supported. It would, however, be necessary for each player to meet his own expenses. This could be done by planning a trip for, say, 1969, and in the meantime setting up a special Savings Fund to which all intending travellers could subscribe at regular intervals. This way the burden would not be too heavy. It might even be possible to avail of some of the very cheap charter flights which leave at regular intervals. I feel that it would be a very worth-while experience for our players and that their game would benefit as a result.

RAFFLE:

While support for the raffle showed an increase the net profit was disappointing. This can be attributed to the following reasons:-

- (1) Increased cost of printing and increased prizemoney.
- (2) The decision of Council to extend the raffle to enable county committees to benefit. This new departure is one that commends itself highly as each county committee can avail of the raffle to improve its finances. Each county committee is asked to return £10 from the sale of tickets and the balance collected is retained by the county committee. Unlimited supplies of tickets are available to each county. Thus counties now have the opportunity of

running a raffle, by availing of council tickets, for an outlay of £10, which is negligible when compared with the cost of running a raffle on your own. A number of counties availed of this scheme last year with considerable profit in some cases and I feel that this year should see more counties availing of this very attractive offer.

FINANCE:

No. 1 A/C.—Despite the extra expense incurred by the wash-out at Ballymacelligott it was possible to reduce the overdraft on this account by approximately £60. The main contributing factor was the increase in gate receipts which, for the first time, exceeded £300. At present the overdraft is £440. If gate receipts continue to improve it should be possible to show a further reduction this year.

No. 2 A/C.—There is a small surplus to credit after meeting the expenses of the last Gael-Linn competition, and also giving a small grant towards the cost of roofing Ballymore court.

No. 3 A/C.—The expenses of the team travelling to the world championship made quite a hole in this account. However, the position would have been much worse had it not been for the generous grant of £250 by the G.A.A. Central Council towards these expenses. In addition the G.A.A. gave a special grant of £300 towards the cost of renovating and repairing Croke Park alley. This money was paid over to the Dublin Board who carried out the work. The net position is that we have £410 on hands which will provide the nucleus of the fund for the forthcoming world championships in 1970.

PUBLICITY:

Publicity continues to improve and we are indebted to both the national and provincial papers. Once again I would stress the importance of forwarding information to the various correspondents, also please forward photographs as they give an added dimension to articles.

Again, we are indebted to the President, Ard-Runal, and members of the G.A.A. Central Council for their help and guidance. The support accorded handball in recent years has given a new impetus to the drive to foster the game throughout the country.

Our President, Gearóid Mac Gabhann has completed his 3rd year of office and retires this year per rule. It is fitting that I should pay a special tribute to him for his unselfish service and it is indeed fitting that during his term of office, Ulster appeared for the first time in the list of senior All-Ireland winners. At all times he was available to help in the many matters that arose from time to time. I feel confident that handball will have the benefit of his services for many years to come.

I am deeply grateful to the members of Council, provincial officials, and county officials, and the many others who helped in no small way during the year.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass has been offered for the happy repose of the souls of all departed members. Go ndeanaidh trocaire ar a n-anamca.

Ar son Comhairle Liathroide Laimhe na hÉireann

SEOSAMH O LOINSIGH.

24th February, 1968.

A Chairde,

We have audited the Books of the Association for the Year ended 31st December, 1967. Enclosed please find General Income and Expenditure Account, Gael-Linn Account and International and Tournament Account for the Year and Balance Sheet, showing the financial position of the Association at 31st December, 1967.

GENERAL INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Income of the Year, consisting of Affiliation Fees £15 10s. 0d.; Gate Receipts £305 11s. 0d.; Grant from Central Council £800 0s. 0d.; Sales of Handballs £12 17s. 6d., and Sales of Rule Books £1 6s. 6d., amounted to £305 5s. 0d. Expenditure of the Year came to £291 12s. 6d. Income exceeded Expenditure by £13 12s. 6d. In the preceding year Income exceeded Expenditure by £29 13s. 4d.

As compared with that year Income (to the nearest £) was greater by £80 and Expenditure was greater by £76. The increase in Income was mainly attributable to an increase of £92 in Gate Receipts, partly offset by a reduction of £13 in Sales of Handballs. On the Expenditure side of the account Teams' Expenses were greater by £23; the charge for Handballs was less by £21; the charge for Medals and Trophies was greater by £35; the charge for Printing and Stationery was greater by £18; the Honorary Secretary's Travelling and Hotel Expenses were greater by £15, and Meeting Expenses were less by £14.

GAEL-LINN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

The Expenditure of the Year amounted to £305 18s. 11d. Gate Receipts amounted to £24 3s. 9d. and a Grant of £800 was received from Gael-Linn to meet Expenses. The Gate Receipts and the Grant exceeded the Expenditure by £48 4s. 10d.

INTERNATIONAL AND TOURNAMENT INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Income of the Year, comprising Gate Receipts and Special Grant from Central Council re World Championships at Toronto £286 4s. 3d.; Members' Subscriptions £24 6s. 0d.; Grant from Ciste na Banban £50, and Profit on Raffle £29 5s. 4d., amounted to £459 15s. 7d. Expenditure came to £264 15s. 11d. Expenditure exceeded Income by £295 0s. 4d.

In the preceding Year Income (to the nearest £) exceeded Expenditure by £188. In that year no Games were held, which affected this account. The Profit on Raffle in this year was just slightly above that of last year, while Members' Subscriptions declined by £19.

BALANCE SHEET

The Assets of the Association at 31st December, 1967, including Investment in Grounds £1,150 0s. 0d., amounted to £1,158 0s. 3d. Liabilities at the same date, including Central Council for Advances for Investment in Grounds £800, came to £1,017 4s. 11d. Assets exceeded Liabilities by £140 15s. 4d.

No value was placed on Cups and Trophies which are set out, for record purposes only, on the face of the Balance Sheet.

As usual, the Books were presented in good order for audit and vouching was satisfactory.

Is sinne le meas.

D. O'CONNOR & CO.

COMHAIRLE LIATHROID-LAIMHE Na HEIREANN, CUMANN LUTHCHLEAS GAEIL

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1967

EXPENDITURE		f s d	f s d	INCOME		f s d	f s d
1967: Dec. 31				1967: Dec. 31			
To Teams' Expenses:				By Affiliation Fees:			
Armagh		8 0 0		Antrim		4 0	
Cavan		16 10 0		Armagh		4 0	
Dublin		2 15 0		Carlow		2 0	
Galway		31 8 6		Cavan		10 0	
Kerry		89 10 0		Clare		4 0	
Limerick		33 10 0		Cork		18 0	
Mayo		55 17 9		Donegal		4 0	
Meath		27 5 0		Dublin		2 0 0	
Monaghan		30 10 0		Galway		12 0	
Offaly		14 15 0		Kerry		6 0	
Roscommon		23 15 0		Kildare		8 0	
Sligo		13 15 6		Kilkenny		14 0	
Tipperary		10 0 0		Leitrim		8 0	
Tyrone		10 10 0		Limerick		12 0	
Wexford		24 0 0		Louth		6 0	
Players' Expenses paid direct				Mayo		1 0 0	
by Association		58 13 0	450 14 9	Meath		8 0	
Handballs			29 3 0	Monaghan		2 0	
Advertising			9 9 6	Offaly		18 0	
Hire of Amplifier			2 0 0	Roscommon		12 0	
Medals and Trophies			108 9 8	Sligo		16 0	
Insurance on Trophies			2 12 6	Tipperary		1 8 0	
Postage		22 7 8		Tyrone		10 0	
Less: Refund from Gael Linn				Waterford		4 0	
Account		6 10 0	15 17 8	Westmeath		16 0	
Telephone		20 3 5		Wexford		16 0	
Less: Refund from Gael Linn				Wicklow		8 0	15 10 0
Account		4 0 0	16 3 5				
Printing and Stationery			50 8 8	Gate Receipts:			
Honorary Secretary's Travelling			28 5 0	June 18 at Croke Park		2 5 0	
and Hotel Expenses				" 24 at Croke Park		10 2 8	
President's Travelling and Hotel				" 25 at Croke Park		7 15 6	
Expenses		8 5 0		Aug. 5 at Croke Park		10 19 10	
President's Telephone and Postage		4 0 0		" 6 at Newport		5 15 0	
Meeting Expenses		63 6 6		" 13 at Roscommon		18 17 0	
Audit Fee		10 10 0		" 20 at Ballymore-Eustace		11 5 6	
Secretary's Honorarium		2 2 0		Kingscourt		7 5 0	
Mass Offerings		4 5 0		" 26 at Ballymacelligott		14 16 0	
Cheque Book and Bank Charges				" 27 at Lurgan		8 10 0	
Subscription to "Gorta"		100 0 0		Sept. 2 at Croke Park		49 10 3	
Less: Subscriptions received from				" 10 at Roscommon		28 3 0	
Clubs		83 19 9	16 0 3	" 17 at Ceanannus Mor		27 13 6	
Balance, Excess for Year of Income			13 12 6	" 23 at Croke Park		57 18 0	
over Expenditure				Oct. 1 at Ballymote		44 14 9	305 11 0
			935 5 0	Grant from Central Council			600 0 0
				Sales of Handballs			12 17 6
				Sales of Rule Books			1 6 6
							935 5 0

GAEL-LINN ACCOUNT

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1967

EXPENDITURE:				INCOME:			
1967:	£	£ s d		1967:	£ s d	£ s d	
Dec. 31				Dec. 31			
To Refunds of Travelling and Hotel Expenses to Venue Championships:				By Gate Receipts:			
Athenry	12 0			26/2/67 At Ceanannus Mor	17 0		
Ballintubber	4 17 0			Taghmon	6 12 9		
Ballyanne	1 0 0			Ballymore Eustace	3 4 0		
Ballymacelligott	38 17 6			Tuamgraney	2 14 0		
Castlebar	7 6			5/3/67 Talbot's Inch	2 0 0		
Charlestown	18 10 0			12/3/67 Charlestown	5 16 6		
Clogh	4 5 0			Roscommon	1 14 6		
Clogheen	10 0 0			Clones	4 16 0		
Clones	11 0 0			8/4/67 Croke Park	26 9 0		
Cloaghfinn	1 2 6					54 3 9	
Coolboy	8 12 0			Grant, Gael-Linn		300 0 0	
Drumshanbo	5 0 0						
Dublin	12 0						
Enniscorthy	3 10 0						
Galway	15 10 0						
Gortahork	13 8 0						
Haulbowline	13 1 0						
Kilbane	7 6						
Killeigh	4 2 6						
Mullaboran	3 0 0						
Mullinavat	15 0						
Mullingar	1 10 0						
Neragh	13 0						
Newport	4 15 0						
Rathkeale	2 0 0						
Roscrea	4 10 0						
Tinahely	6 12 0						
Ullard	5 5 0						
Expenses paid direct by Association	32 19 6						
		214 14 0					
Medals and Replicas		19 4 5					
Handballs		7 12 0					
Sec's Travelling and Administration Expenses		25 0 0					
Telephone Expenses refunded to Venue Secretaries		15 12 6					
Advertising		10 0					
Meeting Expenses		8 8 0					
Postage		6 10 0					
Telephone		4 0 0					
Audit Fee		3 3 0					
Cheque Book		1 5 0					
Balance, Excess for Year of Income over Expenditure		48 4 10					
		<u>£354 3 9</u>				<u>£354 3 9</u>	

INTERNATIONAL AND TOURNAMENT ACCOUNT

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1967.

EXPENDITURE:				INCOME:			
1967:	£ s d	£ s d		1967:	£ s d	£ s d	
Dec. 31				Dec. 31			
To World Championships:				By World Championships:			
Teams' Travelling and Hotel Expenses:				14/10/67 At Croke Park	16 11 0		
Mayo	£22 0 0			21/10/67 Croke Park	19 13 3		
Meath	4 10 0					35 4 3	
Monaghan	5 10 0			Special Grant from Central Council	250 0 0		
		32 0 0				286 4 3	
Travelling, Hotel and Sundry Expenses at Championships in Toronto		630 13 11		Members' Subscriptions		34 0 0	
Audit and Accountancy Fee				Grant from Ciste na Banban		50 0 0	
		662 13 11		Special Grant from Central Council for Repairs at Croke Park	300 0 0		
		2 2 0		Less: Paid to Dublin Handball Council	300 0 0		
		<u>£664 15 11</u>					
				Receipts from Raffle	190 16 0		
				Less: Expenses:			
				Printing and Stationery	£58 10 9		
				Advertising	1 4 0		
				Postage	5 15 11		
				Prizes	30 0 0		
					101 10 8		
				Balance, Excess for Year of Expenditure over Income		89 5 4	
						205 0 4	
						<u>£664 15 11</u>	

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1967

LIABILITIES:			ASSETS:		
	£ s d	£ s d		£ s d	£ s d
Bank Overdraft—No. 1 Account	442 6 6		Due for Handballs (Clare)		1 17 9
Less: Cash at Bank:			Collectors' Bags per last Balance Sheet		1 2 8
No. 2 Account	£21 4 9		Stop-Watch purchased during Year		5 0 0
No. 3 Account	410 6 10		Investment in Handball Alleys:		
	431 11 7	10 14 11	Ballymacelligott—advanced during year	300 0 0	
Sundry Creditors for:			Ballymore, per last Balance Sheet	£274 0 0	
Medals	90 15 0		Invested during Year	28 0 0	
Audit and Accountancy Fee	15 15 0			300 0 0	
Cloughfinn Handball Alley	100 0 0	206 10 0	Cloughfinn—invested during Year	100 0 0	
Central Council for Investment in Grounds		800 0 0	Killala	150 0 0	
Balance to Credit at 1st Jan., 1967	283 18 4		Mullingar	300 0 0	1,150 0 0
Add: Excess for Year of Income over Expenditure:					
General Account	13 12 6				
Gael-Linn Account	48 4 10				
	345 15 8				
Less:					
Excess for Year of Expenditure over Income—International and Tournament Account	205 0 4				
Balance to Credit at date		140 15 4			
		<u>£1,158 0 3</u>			<u>£1,158 0 3</u>

We have prepared the foregoing Income and Expenditure Accounts of the General Account, Gael-Linn Account and International and Tournaments Account and the foregoing Balance Sheet from the books and vouchers submitted to us and from information supplied, and we certify them to be correct and in accordance therewith.

9 Parnell Square,
DUBLIN 1.
24th February, 1968.

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