

cumann lútleas sael

COMAIRLE LIATRÓID-LAIME NA hÉIREANN

An Comóráil Bliantúil 1970

TUARASCÁIL AN RÚNAÍ AGUS CUNTAS AN AIRSÍD, 1969

Tionólfadh an Comóráil i gColáiste Mhuire, Cearnóg Parnell, 8é Cluic,
ar 22an Márta, ag 1.30 p.m.

AN CLÁN:

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|---|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Miontuairiscí. | 4. Tosaíocht na hOifigeach, 1970. |
| 2. Tuarascáil. | (a) Uachtarán. |
| 3. Tuairisc an Rúnaí agus Cuntas an Airsíd. | (b) Rúnaí. |
| | (c) Teacht an Ardcomhairle C.L.S. |
| | 5. Na Rúin. |

NA hOIFIGS, 1970.

Uachtarán: An Dr. Oir D. C. Ó Murchú (8é Cluic).

Rúnaí: Seosamh O Loingsig (8é Cluic).

Teacht an Ardcomhairle C.L.S.: Seosamh O Loingsig (8é Cluic).

NA RÚIN:

- (1) That the winners of the 1970 All-Ireland Senior Singles and Doubles championship be chosen to represent Ireland in the World Handball Championships—(Kerry).
- (2) With a view to solving the perpetual problem of being unable to meet our current expenses, that Central Council raise a fund by means of interest free loans from our members and other which, when invested, would give an annual income which would be sufficient to cover these expenses—(Kildare).
- (3) That a sub-committee be set up to deal exclusively with the promotion of handball and to examine ways and means of solving the main problems relating thereto, viz., scarcity of (a) suitable skins, (b) makers—(Kildare).
- (4) That one of the following competitions: (a) inter-club, (b) National League, (c) Gael Linn, to be confined to Novice players, that is players who have never won a provincial title in any grade—(Roscommon).
- (5) That a coaching course in handball be run each year—(Down).
- (6) That gloves made of leather or wool may be used in juvenile competitions—(Down).
- (7) That an 'under 12' doubles Tailteann championship be promoted—(Kilkenny).
- (8) That Council set up a Coiste na n-Óg with a view to promoting juvenile handball and that Council finance it—(Kilkenny).
- (9) That a sub-committee be formed to draft suitable rules for under-age competition or alternately that the rules submitted by the present Uachtarán be adopted—(Kilkenny).
- (10) That the handball championships at All-Ireland, Provincial and county levels be discontinued and that Rules 43, 56, sections (a), (c) and (d) Official Handball Guide, and Rules be amended accordingly. That Rule 60, sections (I), (II), (III), (IV) be deleted. That the following Rules in the G.A.A. Official Guide be amended: 220, 233, sections (a), (c), (d). That Rule 237, sections (I), (II), (III) and (IV) be deleted.

Tá mé an-bhuíoch do gach éinne a chuidigh liom, do bhaill liathróid láimhe a mheas. Faol mar a fheictear domsa é rinneadh níos mó dul chun cinn sna seascaidí na mar rinneadh i dtéimhse ar bith roimhe sin agus tig leis an gComhairle aghaidh a thabhairt ar na blianta atá romhainn agus muinín ann féin ina chumas leis an bhfeabhas agus an dul chun cinn a thabú.

Tá méan-bhuíoch do gach éinne a chuidigh liom, do bhaill an Chomhairle, do na Comhairlí Cúige, do na Coistí Contae agus d'Oifigigh agus do Bhaill Ardcomhairle Cumann Lúthchleas Gael.

ALL-IRELAND CHAMPIONS, 1969:

S.S.B.S.—J. Maher (Louth).
S.S.B.D.—J. Clery and P. Lee (Wicklow).
S.H.B.S.—J. Maher (Louth).
S.H.B.D.—W. Doran and G. Lawler (Kildare).
J.S.B.S.—P. Davin (Tipperary).
J.S.B.D.—N. Cahill and P. Masterson (Dublin).
J.H.B.S.—M. McAuliffe (Limerick).
J.H.B.D.—E. Deegan and J. Browne (Kildare).
M.S.B.S.—M. Brady (Dublin).
M.S.B.D.—J. and N. Quigley (Wexford).
M.H.B.S.—J. Quigley (Wexford).
M.H.B.D.—M. Brady and M. Williams (Dublin).

NATIONAL LEAGUE, 1969:

Dublin—J. Doyle, P. Masterson, N. Cahill, A. Byrne.

INTER-CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP, 1969:

Ballymote—M. Henry, D. Walsh, J. Mattimoe, E. Hannon.

GAEL LINN, 1969:

J. Maher (Louth).

TAILTEANN CHAMPIONSHIPS, 1969:

Under 14 Softball Singles—Oliver Harrold (Kilkenny).
Under 14 Softball Doubles—John Barron and William McCarthy (Kilkenny).
Under 16 Softball Singles—Damien Kelly (Dublin).
Under 16 Softball Doubles—D. O'Sullivan and S. O'Connor (Cork).
Under 21 Softball Singles—P. Murphy (Wexford).
Under 21 Softball Doubles—P. McGarry and P. Bennis (Limerick).
Senior Softball Doubles—L. Molloy and D. McGovern (Meath).
Over 40 Softball Doubles—J. Doyle and J. Quigley (senior) (Wexford).

Now that we have come to the end of another decade, it is only fitting that we assess the position of handball. As I see it, the past ten years saw handball making more progress than in any previous decade, and the position now is that Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann can enter the '70's with confidence in its own ability to make even greater strides. The most outstanding features of this period were:—

(a) The introduction of competition at national level for players under 14, 16 & 21 yrs. of age and also for players over 40 years of age. As a result of these developments, we now have a full competition structure at national level, whereby players can progress from one level to another without the big age gap which existed in former years. We are indebted to the Willwood Sports Foundation for helping to make this possible.

(b) The tremendous upsurge in entries for the Gael Linn competition in the Sixties. When this competition was inaugurated in 1953-'54, a total of 160 players took part and it was never envisaged that it would reach the record proportions of this year's competition, where you have a total of 1,160 players taking part. This development would not have been possible were it not for the generous financial assistance received from Gael Linn each year.

(c) The decision to take part in the World Handball championships of 1964 and 1967 opened the way for our players to take part in International competition. In addition, it enabled our Council to play its part in organising handball on a world basis.

(d) The introduction of the 40 by 20 courts which give an added dimension to handball.

(e) The greatest shot in the arm handball got in this decade or, in fact, any other decade, was when the G.A.A.

Central Council decided to make a fixed sum available each year for investment in alleys. The main object of this scheme is to provide at least one roofed court in each county. This new Capital Investment Scheme has been received with great enthusiasm everywhere, and as a result there has been a big improvement in the number of roofed alleys in each province.

(f) As a result of the National League and Inter-Club championship, competition on a team basis is available for both club and county teams.

CONNACHT

Handball continues to grow in popularity in the affiliated counties with the possible exception of Galway. I feel an all out effort to organise juvenile and handball throughout the county could be the answer to the problem here. Roscommon once again was to the forefront in the promotion of juvenile handball. The county badly needs a roofed court and I feel confident that this position will be remedied in the very near future. Mayo once again lead the way with club affiliations and reports to hand indicate that enthusiasm is growing each year. Again this is a county that could well do with a few more roofed courts. Sligo continues to make progress and the Ballymote Club sets a headline for all clubs in the province. Plans are afoot to have a new court built on the outskirts of Sligo and work may start this year. For the second year Leitrim failed to affiliate and this is the more disappointing when you consider the number of alleys in the county. I feel the problem here is a lack of leadership at local level.

LEINSTER

Longford is the only county that failed to affiliate and there is no evidence of any immediate improvement in this position. Over the years efforts have been made to organise the county, but after an initial bout of enthusiasm, they again fell by the wayside. Wicklow, with its well-organised championship structure, continues to make solid progress. A new alley was built at Arklow and it will be roofed this year. The Arklow Club, led by Mick Barnes, Joe Ryan and Pat Kinsella, set a headline for all other clubs, as this alley was built solely by voluntary labour and at a cost well within the budget of most clubs. Renovations are being carried out on the Coolboy and Tinahely courts. Wexford, with three roofed courts, continues to make steady progress. I would like, however, to see a greater emphasis on the development of juvenile handball. Possibly the Enniscorthy club, which is being reorganised, will give the lead in this respect, as this town always had a great tradition for schools' competition. Louth, despite the success of Joe Maher, has made no progress. This is a county that over the years has promised so much but has achieved so little. Maybe the start of a new decade will bring with it a fresh bout of enthusiasm. Handball is well established in Offaly and the addition of at least one roofed court would prove of immense benefit to the county. While Laois affiliated, I cannot report any worthwhile progress. I feel this county is well worthy of the attention of the Leinster Council, as there is material for juvenile handball in most towns in the county. Handball in Meath is mainly centred around the Ceanannus Mer club and until such time as the other main areas of population are involved I cannot see much progress being made. The Dublin Minor Board is once again to be complimented on the magnificent job they are doing despite limited facilities. They certainly project a very good image for handball and prove beyond a shadow of doubt what can be achieved when you have dedicated leadership. The Dublin Senior Board is presently carrying out a reorganisation programme and I am hopeful that as a result of this, handball will take its rightful place in the City. Despite the decision last year to adopt an expansionist policy there has been no significant improvement in the position in Kildare. I would

strongly urge the County Committee to make every effort to involve the students of Maynooth College in their handball activities. On leaving College these students, who will be leaders in our community, could render a big service to handball, which would amply repay all efforts. Carlow continues to make steady progress and the County Committee, which was established two years ago, is to be complimented on their work. A new roofed court is on the planning boards for Garryhill and we wish them every success in getting this venture off the ground this year. Kilkenny, for so long to the forefront of handball in the province, continues to maintain its position. May I suggest to the progressive Talbot's Inch club that they consider adding club rooms to their premises. During the year a number of meetings were held to reorganise Westmeath but it is too early yet to comment on the result of these efforts. The big problem in the county is the failure to get a properly organised club to take control of the roofed alley in Mullingar and to carry out the necessary work of constructing a gallery. This is one of the finest alley in the country and with leadership it could be of immense benefit to the youth of the town. I would like to pay a very special tribute to the Westmeath G.A.A. County Committee who, at all times, have been most helpful.

MUNSTER

The overall position in Munster is one of steady improvement and a greater awareness on the part of the clubs of the contribution they can make to promoting the Gaelic way of life. A typical example of this is the Cappagh Club in Limerick, where they built a new roofed alley and have set as their target the involvement of both men and women in their activities. Despite what has been said to the contrary in many G.A.A. circles, this club has proved beyond a shadow of doubt that Ceili dancing has a definite place in the life of our community. During the past year they made £300 on Ceilidhe alone. The general position in the county is one of steady advance, with new alleys lined up for Kilmeedy and Pallasgreen in the near future. Tipperary once again tops the list with 16 clubs affiliated. A number of roofed courts would give a great impetus to the game in the county. I am aware that the Roscrea club have plans to roof their alley in the very near future. If roofed alleys were available in the South and west of the county it would leave the position reasonably satisfactory. Cork continues to make progress. The big problem here is the complete lack of roofed alleys. The county has set as their target the provision of two roofed courts, one in Cork City and another in the Kanturk areas. The Cork G.A.A. County set an example to most other counties when they levied all G.A.A. clubs with a fee of £1 and the total proceeds will go to a special fund to build alleys within the county. Once again I regret to say that there has been no worthwhile progress in Waterford. Club affiliations in Kerry still remain the same and I feel the time has come for an all out drive to get clubs formed in the south and west of the county. Handball is played regularly in the Waterville area but no club is affiliated. Again there is a very fine alley in Glenbeigh, but no club. I feel the best approach would be an all out drive to organise juvenile handball and this can be best done through the schools. I appreciate that Kerry have their financial problems, as they receive no annual grant from the G.A.A. County Committee. A new alley was opened in Shannon and the recently formed club affiliated to the Clare County Committee. This gain was to some extent offset by the lack of activity in Newmarket-on-Fergus. The Tuamgraney club are working on plans to roof the existing alley and it is the intention to broaden the scope of their activities to involve the local community. This is, indeed, a progressive move.

ULSTER

Ulster, for so long the weakest province, made very definite progress and, in fact, set a headline by having three roofed alleys built during the year. Two of these alleys are in Tyrone—at Loughmacrory and Cloughfin—and both clubs are to be complimented. In both cases, facilities are available for other community activities. The Loughmacrory club has a fine community hall, with facilities for all types of indoor recreation. The Falcarragh club in Donegal has built a second alley and this new structure is roofed and will prove a great boon to the area. Again this is a typical example of what can be

done where you have dedicated officials. Plans are afoot for a new roofed alley at Ballybofey and work should start shortly. It is also the intention to build a new alley at Ranafast and work should commence when the site problem is cleared up. Antrim has made no progress and the picture is not too hopeful, as the big drawback is lack of adequate playing facilities. While Armagh has adequate facilities, I feel they are not being developed to their full potential. Possibly the Clann na hEireann would consider roofing one of their alleys. I know there are construction problems but I feel, with expert advice, these can be overcome. The position in Monaghan showed no improvement, with activity confined to the Clones club. Monaghan is a county with a reasonable handball tradition, and I am sure that if an all out effort was made to promote juvenile handball throughout the county that the response would more than justify the effort. While one club from Down affiliated, the position is somewhat on a par with Antrim. A reorganisation programme carried out by the Cavan County Committee was successful and five clubs affiliated. In addition, the Loch Gowna club has set about renovating their alley and will affiliate this year. The Kilnaleck club has emerged as one of the most progressive in the county and they have plans to roof their alley this year.

ALL-IRELAND CHAMPIONSHIPS

The full programme of championship matches was carried out to schedule. In the case of the Ceanannus Mor programme, the matches had to be transferred to Croke Park, as the local alley was unplayable due to condensation. The Roscommon committee are to be complimented for their decision to forego the right of a neutral venue to allow the full programme to be transferred. Joe Maher once again established himself as the outstanding singles player in the country. The success of the Wicklow pair, Joe Clery and Paddy Lee, in S.S.B.D. was indeed welcome, as it was over 30 years since the county last won a senior title. Kildare, after a lapse of 20 years, won the S.H.B.D., which must have been ample compensation for so many near misses in recent years. Dublin, after a lapse of 16 years, won the J.S.B.D. title. In winning the J.H.B.S., Mick McAuliffe gave Limerick its first-ever title in this particular championship. Kildare, with E. Deegan and J. Browne, regained the J.H.B.D. title, which they held two years ago. The success of P. Davin in J.S.B.S. brought back the title to Tipperary after a lapse of 28 years. Wexford retained the two minor titles which they won last year. In M.S.B.D., J. Quigley was partnered by his younger brother Noel. This gave the family an unique honour, as their father, John (senr.) had already won All-Ireland and over 40 Tailteann championships. The final of this championship, which lasted over 1½ hours, was one of the finest games of handball seen for some years, and the Kerry brothers, Brendan and Michael O'Connor, even though defeated, are to be complimented for the part they played. Dublin scored a double when winning the M.S.B.S. with M. Brady and the M.H.B.D. with M. Brady and M. Williams. This was the Metropolitans first-ever M.H.B.D. championship success.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

Teams from all four provinces took part in the National League. Dublin, who defeated the holders Wexford on the way to the final, won a very close final against Tipperary.

INTER-CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP

The inter-club championship which was inaugurated proved an outstanding success, with over 40 clubs from Ulster, Leinster and Connacht taking part. It is difficult to explain the absence of Munster clubs from this competition with so many strong club teams in the province. The final, which was played under very trying conditions, provided handball of a high order and both clubs are to be complimented on their displays. Entering the last game of the seven game match, only two aces separated the teams, and in the final game the Ballymote club just edged in front in the final stages to win by a narrow margin over the Dublin Garda team.

TAILTEANN CHAMPIONSHIPS

Once again these championships received nationwide support and the standard in all grades was exceptionally high. In winning the under 16 doubles for the second year in succession, the Cork boys, D. O'Sullivan and S. O'Connor, became the

holders of three Tailteann medals, as they were runners-up in the under 14 doubles in 1967. Pat McGarry of Limerick became the holder of three Tailteann gold medals when he won the under 21 doubles in partnership with P. Bennis. He won the singles in this grade in 1967 and '68 and did not compete in the singles last year.

UNIVERSITIES

Progress is still slow in the Universities, mainly due to lack of alleys. With the exception of Galway, no other University has its own alley. I expect a big improvement in this position during the year, as 40 by 20 roofed alleys are being built in the new sports complex at Queen's University. Plans are also under way for the erection of two 40 by 20 alleys at University College, Dublin. Now it only remains for some move from Cork University.

GAEL LINN COMPETITION

The total entry for the current competition is 1,160 players, which exceeds all previous figures. As these players are drawn from all parts of the country, it gives indication of the strength of the Council. The following is the breakdown of the entries:—

Leinster	512 players
Munster	240 "
Connacht	208 "
Ulster	200 "

The final stage of last year's competition was played at Ballymote and resulted in a win for J. Maher of Louth, who has now set an all time record in winning this competition for the fourth time.

GRANTS FOR ALLEYS

The following grants were allocated during the year:—

Falcarragh—new roofed court	£450
Killarney—new roofed 40 by 20 court ...	£300
Arklow—new roofed court	£150
(A further grant will be available when the roofing is completed).	
Croke Park—new roofed court	£600
Newport, Co. Tipperary—handball complex	£100
(Exgratia grant).	
Mullingar—roofing alley	£50
(Additional grant).	

GENERAL

● Coaching/Leadership courses are a must if we are to meet the challenge of the future. If each Provincial Council could sponsor even a one-day course this year, it would be a big breakthrough. Central Council will give every help in organising such a course.

● It is the intention to produce a book on coaching this year.

● Supplies of the new playing rules booklet are available at 6d. each. Every effort should be made to get these booklets into all the schools and colleges. We are indebted to the Willwood Sports Foundation for their sponsorship.

● It is the intention to produce a special book giving hints on alley construction and also outline drawings.

● We should take a hard look at the position of handball and decide on our future policy in regard to this code.

● The standard of county reports has improved considerably. Might I suggest that each county make an effort to have them included in the annual G.A.A. County Report. This is already being done in some counties.

● Every effort should be made to make our roofed courts more attractive for both players and spectators. The first essential is the installation of hot and cold showers. This could be followed by the erection of club rooms or a community hall. By building a structure of this nature, we could establish the handball club as the focal point of the community and thereby provide a much-needed service.

● Have we ever thought of involving ourselves in the social problems of the community? There are many ways in which we can render a service. Why not visit the sick and lonely? Why not help the aged who very often are unable

to look after their needs? There are numerous ways in which we can play our part in helping out in our own parish activities.

● What of the future? Our guidelines must be clear and distinct and have a high degree of imagination if we are to lift our sport to new levels. Let us be courageous in our planning for the future.

● Have we good relations with our G.A.A. County Committee? If not we should make every effort to remedy this position. This can best be done by attending the various G.A.A. meetings within your county and by becoming actively identified with the various activities of that body.

● Ladies can play a vital part in our activities and we should make every effort to encourage them. It is not just good enough to ask them to work for us without offering them something in return. Why not give them a few places on your committee? Why not allow them to use the indoor alley for their own activities a few nights a week?

WORLD HANDBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The third official World Handball Championships will take place in our country this year. It was the intention to stage the matches in late May, but due to circumstances outside our control we had to postpone them until early October. The new dates are Monday, 5th October, to Saturday, 10th October, inclusive. All matches will be played at night. A total of five countries have so far accepted invitations to compete. Efforts are also being made to contact European countries and it is possible that some of these countries may compete.

The Ard-Chomhairle, ever conscious of its duty to do what is best for Irish handball, gave very careful consideration to all aspects of this promotion before finally deciding to go ahead with the arrangements. In making this decision, the council realised that it was placing a very big burden on all handballers, as the first priority was the erection of a suitable court to stage these championships. In view of the fact that the present court has proved inadequate to meet the needs of the All-Ireland finals of recent years, council had no alternative but to go ahead with arrangements to build a new court. The World championships has only accelerated a decision that would have had to be made within the next year or so. In fact, were it not for the fact that we have to build this court, council could have met the full commitments of these championships from the gate receipts. I might mention that this decision was only made after prior consultation with the Officers of the G.A.A. who, through the Central Council, are giving a very sizeable grant to meet part of the cost. Again the Ard-Chomhairle felt that the successful promotion of these championships could have a big effect on the development of handball in the future. With the anticipated Press and T.V. coverage, handball would be brought more and more in front of the general public, and this in turn could lead to a rejuvenation in areas where the game is stagnant or non-existent.

I would like to pay a very special tribute to the members who are serving on the World Championship Committee. Over the past nine months, they have been meeting at least once weekly, and were it not for their dedication and enthusiasm, it would not have been possible to make the progress we have over this period.

One final word—The success of these championships rests on the shoulders of all handballers. Please ensure that your clubs fully support this big undertaking. You may be called upon to support various fund raising schemes and I would ask that you support them fully. Let us show to other sporting bodies that we in handball have the ability to take on a major sports promotion to make a big success of the occasion.

RAFFLE

As an initial venture in fund-raising, the Ard-Chomhairle promoted a raffle with very attractive prizes. Each G.A.A. and Handball Club was sent a supply of tickets and attractive commission was offered. This raffle was fully backed by the G.A.A. Officers and they made appeals at various times to all clubs to support fully the efforts of the Handball Council. Despite these appeals, the response from G.A.A. clubs was practically negligible, as the returns from these clubs averaged out at about 1/4 per club. The response from handball clubs averaged out at about £5 per club. However, if the Dublin

contribution, especially the Minor Board and the Na Fianna club, was taken away from this figure it would only average out at about £8-10-0 per club.

It is the intention to launch within the next few weeks the most attractive draw ever sponsored by our council and I appeal for the wholehearted support of all clubs. There will be a total of 21 most attractive prizes and each club will be allowed 50% commission on all sales. In addition, for every 5 cards sold the club or seller will be allowed a free card, thereby giving 20 chances to win one or more of the attractive prizes. The attractive commission offered should enable all clubs to solve their financial problems and to build up sizeable capital for future development.

GENERAL APPEAL FOR FUNDS

The Ard-Chomhairle has launched a general appeal for funds. This appeal is divided into three categories:—

- (1) The general public and business firms;
- (2) G.A.A. clubs. This appeal, which is fully supported by the G.A.A. Central Council, is aimed at getting every member to subscribe 2/-;
- (3) Handball clubs. Each club is asked to get all members to subscribe as much as possible. Also to appeal to all business firms and friends in the county.

It is too early yet to give any indication as to what the response from these appeals will be. However, at the end of the year, approximately £600 was collected under category (1). In the case of the appeal to G.A.A. clubs and handball clubs, these only got under way after Christmas.

GRANTS

During the year, Antrim lost one of its most dedicated players when the late Gerry Holmes collapsed shortly after finishing his first round Ulster championship match against Donegal. This is the first time, to my knowledge, that we had such a tragedy at one of our matches. In an effort to help his widow, the Ard-Chomhairle gave a small grant. Unfortunately, with our limited funds, we have no provision for such tragic events. The G.A.A. Central Council, ever appreciative of our limited resources, gave a grant of £500 and we are indebted to them for this generous gesture.

During one of the All-Ireland semi-finals, the very popular Mayo player, Mickey Walsh, met with a serious injury and was hospitalised for some time. Again, we have no provision to meet cases of this nature, as our players are not covered by the G.A.A. Accident Scheme. While it is very seldom that we have serious injuries, nevertheless, there should be some provision for players.

FINANCE

No. 1 a/c:

While gate receipts were somewhat below last year's record return, they were never the less the second highest on record. Were it not for the fact that we had to transfer the matches from Ceanannus Mor at the last minute due to weather conditions, this figure would have been much higher. The overall position is that the overdraft has increased from last year and there is very little likelihood of this being reduced, as with handball developing more and more each year, expenses are bound to increase.

No. 2 a/c:

Again this account showed a small surplus after giving a £50 grant to Mullingar.

No. 3 a/c:

The position now is that we have a balance on hands of approximately £2,500, which is the nucleus of the fund for

for the erection of the new court at Croke Park. When you realise the cost of building the new court you will appreciate the immense effort that is required from all members if we are to meet our target.

PUBLICITY

Publicity at both National and Provincial level continues to improve, and we are indebted to the various Press correspondents for their help and co-operation. The flow of information to the Press continues to improve, and this fact has been favourably commented on. However, I still feel that we can improve the position even further, especially at local level, if each County Committee was to appoint a Press Officer who would be responsible for releasing all information to the Press at all levels. In addition, he could make the necessary representations at all levels to have handball included where it is not already getting coverage. During the year we have found that tremendous amount of goodwill exist towards handball and it is our responsibility to avail fully of this. There is not much point in criticising the Press if there is a breakdown or lack of communication on our part.

Television coverage improved somewhat but not sufficient to meet our demands. We have been promised full coverage for the World Championships and the follow up should be an overall improvement in the coverage of our future events. While there may have been problems with the filming of matches, there is absolutely no excuse for the failure of handball results to appear on the various sports programmes. As I see it, we, as viewers, are too tolerant and until such time as we make our feeling known there will not be much improvement. This is not just the responsibility of the Ard-Chomhairle but the responsibility of each individual member.

Again we are indebted to the Uachtarán, Ard Rúnaí, and members of the G.A.A. Central Council for their continued support in our efforts to lift handball to new levels. A special word of thanks to both Seamus O Riain and Seán O Siobhain, who have spent many hours with us discussing the various arrangements re the World championships and the new court. At all times they have been most sympathetic and understanding and the assurance that we have their support has been of great encouragement to the Ard-Chomhairle.

I would like to pay a tribute to the G.A.A. Provincial Councils and the many G.A.A. County Committees for their help to handball within the areas of their jurisdiction.

I wish to pay a very special tribute to our Uachtarán, An Br. Iir. B. C. O Murchú. His energy, dedication and enthusiasm knows no end and this was particularly in evidence during the past year, which was a very demanding one in view of the forthcoming World championships. To the members of the Ard-Chomhairle, World Championship Committee, the various Provincial Councils and County Committees, my very sincere thanks for your generous help and co-operation.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass has been offered for the happy repose of the souls of all deceased members. Go ndeanal Dia trocaire ar a n-anamacha.

ONE FINAL WORD—1970 IS THE YEAR WHEN WE CAN LIFT HANDBALL TO A NEW PLANE. THIS IS THE YEAR IN WHICH WE NEED YOUR FULL SUPPORT. NEXT YEAR WILL BE TOO LATE.

Ar son Chomhairle Laithroid Laimhe na hÉireann,

SEOSAMH O LOINSIGH.

COMHAIRLE LIATHROID LAIMHE NA h-EIREANN, CUMANN LUTHCHLEAS GAEIL
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1969

EXPENDITURE				INCOME			
1969				1969			
Dec. 31:				Dec. 31:			
	f	s	d		f	s	d
To Teams' Expenses:				By Affiliation Fees:			
Cavan	10	0	0	Antrim	0	4	0
Dublin	27	0	0	Armagh	0	4	0
Kerry	70	5	0	Carlow	0	10	0
Kildare	15	10	0	Cavan	0	8	0
Limerick	46	5	0	Clare	0	4	0
Louth	17	15	0	Cork	1	0	0
Mayo	54	10	0	Donegal	0	4	0
Monaghan	23	15	0	Down	0	2	0
Roscommon	57	0	0	Dublin	1	0	0
Sligo	15	0	0	Galway	0	8	0
Wicklow	5	0	0	Kerry	0	6	0
Players' Expenses paid direct				Kildare	0	6	0
by Association	103	19	0	Kilkenny	0	18	0
				Laois	0	8	0
				Limerick	0	10	0
Handballs			445 19 0	Louth	0	4	0
Handball Gloves			65 1 6	Mayo	1	4	0
Advertising			22 1 7	Meath	0	6	0
Trophies and engraving			9 10 6	Monaghan	0	2	0
Insurance on Trophies			124 9 3	Offaly	1	0	0
Postage	20	11	8	Roscommon	0	12	0
Less:				Sligo	0	16	0
Refund from Gael Linn				Tipperary	1	12	0
Account	27	10	0	Tyrone	0	8	0
Refund from Antrim	5	0		Waterford	0	4	0
			7 15 0	Westmeath	0	8	0
				Wexford	0	16	0
Telephone	27	14	1	Wicklow	0	12	0
Less:							14 16 0
Refund from No. 2 Account	8	0	0				
			21 16 8	Gate receipts:			
				21/6/69 at Croke Park	12	6	9
Printing and Stationery			19 14 1	22/6/69 at Croke Park	1	9	6
Honorary Secretary's Travelling			57 9 5	28/6/69 at Croke Park	3	12	0
and Hotel Expenses				29/6/69 at Croke Park	7	5	6
Meeting Expenses			37 5 0	10/8/69 at Loughmascroly	10	6	0
Audit Fee			152 18 0	10/8/69 at Limerick	14	11	0
Secretary's Honorarium			10 10 0	17/8/69 at Ballymore Eustace	6	13	6
Caretaker			100 0 0	17/8/69 at Roscommon and			
Ex gratia Grant late S. Holmes			3 0 0	Ballymote	8	11	7
Mass Offerings			50 0 0	23/8/69 at Kingscourt	9	12	0
Bank Charges			3 3 0	24/8/69 at Ballymote	21	9	3
			3 0 0	30/8/69 at Ballymacelligott	5	15	3
				31/8/69 at Ceanannus Mor	15	17	0
				6/10/69 at Croke Park	76	10	6
				14/10/69 at Croke Park	2	7	6
				21/10/69 at Ceanannus Mor			
				and Croke Park	12	10	0
				27/10/69 at Croke Park	106	2	0
				5/10/69 at Ballymote	35	16	0
							350 14 10
				By Grant from Central Council			600 0 0
				Sales of Handballs			55 16 3
				Balance, Excess for Year of			
				Expenditure over Income			107 3 5
			1,128 10 6				1,128 10 6

GAEL LINN ACCOUNT

[illegible]

INTERNATIONAL AND TOURNAMENT ACCOUNT

EXPENDITURE		INCOME	
1969 Dec. 31:		1969 Dec. 31:	
To Public Appeal Expenses,	f s d	By Members' Subscriptions	f s d
Postage and Printing	158 17 9	Grant from Ciste na Banban	111 6 0
Stationery	10 17 4	Raffle Receipts	75 0 0
Amplifier, Croke Park	40 14 0	Less: Expenses	1,225 18 0
Cheque Book	1 5 0		435 12 9
Audit Fee	2 2 0		
		Public Appeal	790 5 3
		Special Draws	596 15 6
Balance, Excess for Year	213 16 1		52 10 9
Income over Expenditure	1,412 1 5		
	1,625 17 6		1,625 17 6

COMHAIRLE LIATHROID LAIMHE NA h-EIREANN, CUMANN LUTHCHLEAS GAEL
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1969

LIABILITIES		ASSETS	
	£ s d		£ s d
Sundry Creditors for:		Cash on hands	0 8 0
Audit and Accountancy Fees	15 15 0	Cash at Bank, No. 2 Account	62 9 0
Trophies	91 17 3	Cash at Bank, No. 3 Account	2,887 6 9
Ballymote Grant	50 0 0		
Killarney Grant	300 0 0		
Cash due Secretary for Postage	0 13 4	Less: Overdraft No. 1 Account	2,930 3 9
			521 13 5
	458 5 7	Due for Handballs (Clare)	1 17 9
Central Council for investment in Grounds, per last Balance Sheet	2,400 0 0	Collectors' Bags, per last Balance Sheet	1 2 6
Advanced during year	1,600 0 0	Stop Watch	5 0 0
	4,000 0 0	Investment in Handball Alleys:	
Balance to credit at 1st January, 1969	462 10 9	Arklow	150 0 0
Less: Excess for Year of Expenditure over Income, General Account	107 3 5	Ballymacelligott	300 0 0
	355 7 4	Ballymote	350 0 0
Add: Excess for Year of Income over Expenditure, Gael Linn Account International and Tournament Account	40 16 3	Cappagh	450 0 0
	1,412 1 5	Cloghfinn	250 0 0
Balance to credit at date	1,808 5 0	Falcarragh	450 0 0
		Killala	450 0 0
		Killarney	300 0 0
		Loughmaerory	250 0 0
		Mullingar, per last Balance Sheet	£300
		Advanced during Year	50
			350 0 0
		Newport, Co. Tipperary	100 0 0
		Oidtown	450 0 0
			3,850 0 0
		For record purposes only:	
		Dr. Harty Cup in possession of J. Maher (Louth)	
		Purcell Cup in possession of J. Maher (Louth)	
		"Independent" Cup in possession of J. Clery and P. Lee (Wicklow)	
		"Irish Press" Cup in possession of W. Doran and G. Lawlor (Kildare)	
		New Ireland Cup in possession of E. Deegan and J. Browne (Kildare)	
		Canon Carroll Cup in possession of N. Cahill and P. Masterson (Dublin)	
		Dunlop Shield in possession of P. Davin (Tipperary)	
		Elvery Shield in possession of M. McAuliffe (Limerick)	
		Comhairle Mumhan in possession of M. Brady (Dublin)	
		"Gaelic Weekly" Cup in possession of J. and N. Quigley (Wexford)	
		Hassett Cup in possession of J. Quigley (Wexford)	
		Gael Linn Cup in possession of J. Maher (Louth)	
	6,266 10 7		6,266 10 7

We have prepared the foregoing Income and Expenditure Accounts of the General Account, Gael Linn Account and International and Tournament 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.
3rd March, 1970.

The President and Members of
Irish Amateur Handball Association,
Gaelic Athletic Association,
per Seosamh Uasal O Loughsigh,
Honorary Secretary.

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

3rd March, 1970

A Chairde,

We have audited the books of the Association for the year ended 31st December, 1969. Enclosed please find General Income and Expenditure Account, Gael Linn Income and Expenditure Account and International and Tournament Account for the year and Balance Sheet showing the financial position of the Association at 31st December, 1969.

GENERAL INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Income of the year comprising Affiliation Fees £14 18s. 0d.; Gate Receipts £350 14s. 10d.; Grant from Central Council £800 and Sales of Handballs £35 15s. 3d. amounted to £1,021 7s. 1d. Expenditure came to £1,128 10s. 6d. Expenditure exceeded income by £107 3s. 5d.

As compared with the preceding year when Income, to the nearest £, exceeded Expenditure by £16 Income was less by £8 and Expenditure was greater by £115. On the Income side of the Account Gate Receipts were less by £36 and Sales of Handballs were greater by £45. On the Expenditure side of the Account Teams' Expenses were less by £64; the charge for Handballs was greater by £37; the charge for Trophies and Engraving was greater by £27; Postage was greater by £7; the charge for Printing and Stationery was greater by £8; Honorary Secretary's Travelling and Hotel Expenses were greater by £8 and Meeting Expenses cost £17 more. The Account under review is charged with Handball Gloves £22 and ex gratia Grant £50 which had no equivalents in the preceding year.

Gael Linn Income and Expenditure Account

Expenditure of the year came to £316 18s. 2d. Gate Receipts amounted to £57 14s. 5d. and a Grant of £300 was received from Gael Linn to meet expenses. The Gate Receipts and the Grant exceeded the expenditure by £46 16s. 3d.

INTERNATIONAL AND TOURNAMENT INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

Income of the year comprising Members' Subscriptions £111 6s. 0d.; Grant from Ciste na Banhan £75; Raffle Receipts, net £790 5s. 3d.; Proceeds of Public Appeal £596 15s. 6d. and proceeds of Special Draws £32 10s. 9d. amounted to £1,625 17s. 6d. Expenditure came to £213 18s. 1d. Income exceeded Expenditure by £1,412 5s. 5d. In the preceding year Income exceeded Expenditure by £244 18s. 6d.

BALANCE SHEET

The Assets of the Association at 31st December, 1969, including investments in Grounds £3,850, amounted to £6,266 10s. 7d. Liabilities at the same date, including £4,000 advanced by Central Council for investment in Grounds, came to £4,458 5s. 7d. Assets exceeded Liabilities by £1,808 5s. 0d.

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 means,

D. O'Connor and Co.