

Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe
na hÉireann



An Chomhdháil Bhliantúil 1978



Tuarascáil an Rúnaí
agus Cuntas an Airgid



CONGRESS

will be held in

THE OFFICES, PÁIRC an CHRÓCAIGH

ON SATURDAY, MARCH 18 AT 2.30 P.M. AND CONCLUDING

AT 5.30 P.M.

AND

SUNDAY, 19 MARCH, AT 10.30 A.M.

Motions 1 – 8 will be taken on the opening day

CLÁR

1. Miontuairiscí.
2. Tuarascáil.
3. Tuairisc an Rúnaí.
4. Cúntas Airgid.
5. Toghadh na hOifigeach 1978.
 - (a) Uachtarán
 - (b) Cisteoir.
 - (c) Teachta ar Ard-Chomhairle, C.L.G.
 - (d) Teachta ar Ard-Choiste Forbartha, C.L.G.
6. Na Rúin.
In order that the proceedings of Congress be carried out without delay, the following Standing Orders will be observed:—

STANDING ORDERS

1. The proposer of a Resolution or an Amendment thereto may speak for 5 minutes but no more than five minutes.
2. A delegate speaking to a Resolution or an Amendment must not exceed three minutes.
3. The proposer of a Resolution or Amendment may speak a second time for three minutes before a vote is taken, but no other delegate may speak a second time to the same Resolution or Amendment.
4. The Chairman may at any time he considers a matter has been sufficiently discussed call on the proposer for a reply, and when that has been given a vote must be taken.
5. A delegate may, with the consent of the Chairman, move "that the question be put" after which, when the proposer has spoken a vote must be taken.
6. Standing Orders shall not be suspended for the purpose of considering any matter not on the Agenda except by the consent of a majority equal to two-thirds of those present and entitled to vote.

NA FEIDHEANNAIGH 1978

Uachtarán: M. de Bús (An Clár); P. Mag Aoidh (Maigh Eo); S. Ó Cléirchín (Baile Átha Cliath);
T. Breathnach (Dún na nGall); S. Mac Conraoi (Loch Garman).

Cisteoir: An Br. B.C. Ó Murchú (An Iarmhí)

Teachta ar Ard-Chomhairle C.L.G.: T. Ó Briain (Cill Chainnigh)

Teachta ar Ard-Choiste Forbartha C.L.G. An tÁth. S. Ó Nualláin (Muineachán); C. Mac Seoin (An Clár)

AUDITOR'S REPORT

The President and Members of
Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann,
Cumann Luthcleas Gael,
per Seosamh Uasal Ó Loinsigh,
Secretary.

A Cháirde,

We have audited the books of the Council for the Year to 31st December 1977. We enclose copies of the Income and Expenditure Accounts of the General Account and the Development Account together with Balance Sheet as at 31st December 1977.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE – GENERAL ACCOUNT

Income of the year amounted to £15,215 and Expenditure amounted to £14,051. This resulted in a Surplus of £1,164. In 1976 Expenditure exceeded Income by £403.

The principal increases in Income were:

Gate Receipts £586; Sponsorship £200 and Sale of Handballs and Gloves £392.

The principal changes in Expenditure were:

Teams' Expenses increase of £124; Handballs and Gloves decrease of £1,277 and Administration Charge paid to Central Council increase of £200.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT

Income of the year amounted to £20,208 and Expenditure amounted to £16,044. This resulted in a Surplus of £4,164. However £2,500 of this Surplus has been used to finance additional outlay on Croke Park Handball Court. In 1976 Expenditure exceeded Income by £1,629.

The principal variations relative to 1976 are as follows:

INCOME:	Increase	Decrease
Central Council Grant for International	£	£
Travel (no equivalent in 1976)	500	
Government Grant	500	
Sponsorship	1,340	
Subscriptions		413
Competition Entrance Fees	389	
R.T.E. Fees (two competitions in 1976)		1,100
Sale of Sports Equipment	860	
EXPENDITURE:		
Grants for erection of Handball Courts		2,106
Court Development Plans	212	
International Travel	1,413	
Sports Equipment		2,706
Top Ace Players Expenses (two competitions in 1976)		369
Printing of Rule Books (no equivalent in 1976)	201	

BALANCE SHEET

The Assets of the Council at 31st December 1976 amounted to £33,412. Liabilities came to £6,805. Assets exceeded Liabilities by £26,607.

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

Is sinne le meas,
D. O'CONNOR & CO.

GENERAL ACCOUNT

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 1977

EXPENDITURE		INCOME	
1977: Dec 31	£	1977: Dec. 31	£
To Teams' Expenses(Schedule 2)	1,775.89	By Affiliation Fees	89.50
Overage Competitions (Schedule 3)	420.73	Competition Entrance Fees	355.00
Handballs and Gloves	5,390.62	Gate Receipts (Schedule I)	2,233.81
Trophies	944.85	Grant from Central Council	1,000.00
Heating and Lighting	57.10	Government Grant (portion)	4,000.00
Congress Expenses	56.70	Sponsorship	700.00
Meetings Expenses	1,141.56	Sale of Handballs and Gloves	6,785.50
Presentations	105.60	Fines	52.00
Postage and Telephone	50.52		
Printing and Stationery	353.70		
Audit and Accountancy Fees	105.00		
Bank Interest and Charges	28.21		
Administration Charge paid to Central Council	2,500.00		
Administration Grants (Schedule 4)	1,075.00		
Typewriter and Amplification	46.00		
Excess of Income over Expenditure	1,164.33		15,215.81
	<u>15,215.81</u>		<u>15,215.81</u>

COMHAIRLE LIATHRÓID LÁIMHE NA hÉIREANN

DEVELOPMENT ACCOUNT

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER 1977

EXPENDITURE		INCOME	
1977		1977	
Dec. 31	£	Dec 31	£
To Grants for erection of Handball Courts (Schedule 6)	4,893.65	By Central Council Grant for erecting Handball Courts	6,600.00
Court Development Plans	318.22	Central Council Grant for International Travel	500.00
International Travel	3,485.25	Government Grant	5,000.00
Sports Equipment	2,349.64	Government Special Employment Scheme Grant	1,440.00
Coaching	3,287.63	Less: Paid away	(1,440.00)
Gael Linn Teams' Expenses (Schedule 7)	181.20	Sponsorship	2,350.00
Top Ace Players Expenses	515.63	Subscriptions	287.12
Trophies	179.00	Competition Entrance Fees	599.20
Renovations, Croke Park	175.00	Gael Linn Gate Receipts (Schedule 5)	228.02
Heating and Lighting	17.00	R.T.E. Fees	1,500.00
Telephone	7.91	Sale of Sports Equipment	2,501.40
All-Ireland Stand Tickets	1,170.00	Sale of Rule Books	43.55
Less: Sales	(1,017.50)	Ciste Gael Commission (net)	599.59
Printing of Rule Books	201.69		
Audit and Accountancy Fees	105.00		
Proportion of Outlay on 13 St. Josephs Avenue written off	175.00		
			<hr/>
			20,208.88
			<hr/>
Excess of Income over Expenditure	4,164.56		
	<hr/>		
	20,208.88		
	<hr/>		

COMHAIRLE LIATHRÓID LÁIMHE NA hÉIREANN

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31st DECEMBER 1977

LIABILITIES			ASSETS		
	£	£		£	£
Sundry Creditors for:			Assets:		
Handball Court Grants allocated (Schedule 8)	6,180.00		Cash on hands		9.50
Teams' Expenses	11.80		Bank Balance		660.32
Trophies	129.00		Investment in G.A.A. Club Development Scheme		100.00
Audit and Accountancy Fees	210.00				
Printing	275.00	6,805.80	Sundry Debtors for:		
Net Assets		26,606.88	Handballs and Gloves	1,287.00	
			Sports Equipment	243.00	
			Sponsorship	600.00	
			Loan to Shannon Handball Club	500.00	2,630.00
		33,412.68	Stock of Handballs, Gloves and Sports Equipment		460.00
			Outlay on 13 St. Joseph's Avenue	1,744.18	
Financed by:			Less: Proportion written off	524.18	1,220.00
Accumulated Surplus to date:			Outlay on Croke Park Handball Court per last Account	25,832.86	
Balance forward from last Account		21,277.99	Additional Outlay during year	2,500.00	28,332.86
Surplus on General Account for year		1,164.33			
Surplus on Development Account for year		4,164.56			
		26,606.88			33,412.68

AUDITORS' REPORT

To the members of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann:

We have prepared the foregoing Accounts and Balance Sheet from the books and records of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann and from information supplied and we certify them to be correctly drawn up in accordance with such books, records and information.

9 Parnell Square, DUBLIN 1.

16th February 1978.

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

COMHAIRLE LIATHRÓID LÁIMHE NA hÉIREANN

SCHEDULE 1
GATE RECEIPTS

		£
1977		
April		
2	Claremorris	23.50
3	Tullamore	11.10
10	Drogheda	12.60
	Ennis	6.00
23	Ballymacelligott	57.95
May		
29	Claremorris	62.80
June		
12	Mullinavat	16.00
	Mullingar	3.20
18	Cashel	12.60
18	Mullingar	3.50
19	Monaghan	4.70
	Ballyporeen	5.00
25	Gusserane	12.00
	Talbots Inch	2.00
26	Castlebar	3.60
	Ceanannus Mór	5.74
	Mullingar	3.10
July		
2	Arklow	15.40
3	Crinkle	14.50
	Croke Park	22.24
9	Gusserane	6.00
	Tuamgraney	23.50
10	Ballymote	9.30
16	Mullinavat	26.08
17	Crinkle	14.85
23	Mullingar	5.50
24	Croke Park	138.27
	Mullingar	4.92
31	Croke Park	20.39
Aug		
7	Ballina	9.00
	Croke Park	82.50
14	Ceanannus Mór	10.32
	Croke Park	93.30
20	Mullingar	4.20
21	Croke Park	85.56
	Loughmacrory	3.50
27	Gusserane	78.85
28	Castlebar	34.64
Sept.		
4	Croke Park	597.65
11	Talbots Inch	104.10
18	Tuamgraney	32.65
Oct.		
1	Croke Park	551.20
		<u>2,233.81</u>

SCHEDULE 11
TEAMS' EXPENSES

Armagh	10.40
Cavan	72.70
Clare	214.19
Donegal	52.80
Dublin	159.45
Galway	23.40
Kerry	27.60
Kildare	102.06
Kilkenny	141.40
Limerick	148.00
Louth	30.40

Mayo	154.10
Meath	35.00
Monaghan	38.40
Roscommon	60.36
Sligo	161.88
Tipperary	153.10
Tyrone	19.40
Wexford	103.75
Wicklow	67.50
	<u>1,775.89</u>

SCHEDULE 111

OVER-AGE COMPETITIONS

Grants to Provincial Councils	160.00
Travelling Expenses	200.73
Trophies	60.00
	<u>420.73</u>

SCHEDULE IV
ADMINISTRATIVE GRANTS

Connacht Council	150.00
Leinster Council	200.00
Munster Council	200.00
Ulster Council	100.00
Ladies Council	150.00
Ceannaras	275.00
	<u>1,075.00</u>

SCHEDULE V
GATE RECEIPTS - GAIL LINN

Jan.		
16	Ballymacelligott	39.60
30	Ennis	33.70
Feb.		
20	Tuamgreaney	8.10
27	Arklow	11.20
	Ballyporeen	11.50
	Castlebar	9.76
	Garryhill	22.80
	Loughmacrory	10.20
	Mullingar	5.88
Mar		
26	Croke Park	75.28
		<u>228.02</u>

SCHEDULE VI
GRANTS ALLOCATED DURING THE YEAR
FOR THE ERECTION OF HANDBALL COURTS

Annaghdown	500.00
Ballymacelligott	100.00
Ballyporeen	400.00
Carrick-on-Suir	200.00
Castletownbere	300.00
Crinkle	200.00
Gurteen	20.00
Mallow	400.00
Multyfarnham	400.00
St. Macartan's	1600.00
St. Vincent's	500.00
Tralee	173.65
Wexford	100.00
	<u>4893.65</u>

COMHAIRLE LIATHRÓID NA hÉIREANN

SCHEDULE VII

TEAMS' EXPENSES — GAEIL LINN

	£
Ballymote	8.30
Ballypatrick	6.00
Bridgetown	8.00
Drogheda	10.00
Dunshaughlin	11.54
Dublin	14.50
Falcarragh	11.56
Hospital	12.00
Kilgobnet	5.00
Kingscourt	12.50
Moone	13.00
Mullinavat	3.50
Roscommon	22.80
Tuamgraney	18.50
Wexford	12.00
Expenses paid direct by Central Council	12.00
	<hr/>
	181.20

SCHEDULE VIII

HANDBALL COURT GRANTS PAYABLE

Annaghdown	500.00
Ballintubber	500.00
Ballymacelligott	100.00
Ballyporeen	400.00
Boherbue	500.00
Carlow	100.00
Carrick-on-Suir	100.00
Castlebridge	300.00
Croke Park	1,680.00
Galway	300.00
Kilfane	200.00
Kingscourt	500.00
Mallow	400.00
Multyfarnham	400.00
Roscommon	200.00
	<hr/>
	6,180.00

SCHEDULE IX

GRANTS FOR THE ERECTION OF
HANDBALL COURTS

Annaghdown	500.00
Ardcath	200.00
Arklow	500.00
Ashburton	200.00
Ballina (Co. Tipperary)	300.00
Ballintubber	500.00
Ballymacelligott	1,000.00
Ballymote	300.00
Ballyporeen	600.00
Baltinglass	300.00
Boherbue	500.00
Bohermore	50.00
Brandon	500.00
Bray	100.00
Caherline	50.00
Cappagh	450.00
Capwell	200.00
Carlow	100.00
Carrick-on-Suir	800.00
Cashel	500.00
Cashel C.B.S.	150.00
Castlebar	400.00
Castlebridge	300.00

Castleisland	500.00
Castletownbere	300.00
Claremorris	500.00
Clonmel	500.00
Cloughfinn	250.00
Collooney	100.00
Coolgreaney	300.00
Crinkle	400.00
Cullen	400.00
Delvin	200.00
Dunleer	400.00
Ennis C.B.S.	800.00
Enniscorthy	500.00
Falcarragh	450.00
Fethard	500.00
Galway	300.00
Garryhill	400.00
Gurteen	20.00
Gusserane	500.00
Kilfane	200.00
Kilgobnet	400.00
Kilkishen	450.00
Killala	450.00
Kingscourt	1,000.00
Laharna	300.00
Limerick C.B.S.	50.00
Lisdoonvarna	400.00
Loughanure	200.00
Loughmacrory	250.00
Mallow	400.00
Mitchelstown	800.00
Moneygall	500.00
Mothel	60.00
Mullinavat	200.00
Mullingar	550.00
Multyfarnham	400.00
Na Fianna (Dublin)	400.00
Newport (Co. Tipperary)	100.00
New Ross	200.00
Newtown Blues (Drogheda)	400.00
Oldtown	450.00
O'Rahillys (Drogheda)	500.00
Roscommon	600.00
St. Flannans (Ennis)	50.00
St. Josephs Boys Club (Wexford)	100.00
St. Macartans	1,600.00
St. Vincents	500.00
Shannon	900.00
Tagmacconnell	100.00
Timoleague	400.00
Tinahely	250.00
Tralee	1,173.65
Tuamgraney	400.00
Tulla	500.00
Tullamore	400.00
Westport	300.00
Wexford	400.00
	<hr/>
	32,153.65

NA RÚIN

General

- 1.(1) That Riail 216 (111) be rescinded (i.e. requiring Congress to rotate between the Provinces). (An Iarmhí)
2. That Rule 211 be revised to allow all affiliated counties one representative on Central Council. The counties to bear the full travelling expenses of their delegates. (An Clár).
3. That the Uachtarán immediately appoint an Alley Development Committee as per Rule 213 and insist that meetings are held at regular intervals to ensure that (A) proper standards of Court Construction are maintained (B) advice on Court Construction is available when required. (An Clár).
4. That Ladies representatives have no votes at County Board and Central Council meetings. (Cill Mhantáin).
5. That Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann consult with R.T.E. with a view to setting up a 40 x 20 Top Ace Competition. (Corcaigh).
6. That the possibility of Insurance of players be investigated immediately by Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann. (An Iarmhí).
7. That the winners of the All Ireland 60 x 30 Senior Softball Singles and Doubles Championship be sent with the All Stars to the U.S.A. in 1979. (Loch Garman).
8. That Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann seek an urgent meeting with the Ard Chomhairle of Cumann Lúthchleas Gael with a view to reiterating the commitment of Cumann Lúthchleas Gael to the promotion of Handball. That Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann call on the Ard Chomhairle of Cumann Lúthchleas Gael to issue the following directive to all the units under its jurisdiction. "That where a club is carrying out development or providing facilities on property vested in the Association that the building of a Handball Court be given priority over any other game which is not a declared part of the Association and at all times that it be binding on clubs to give Handball priority over Squash". (Corcaigh).

CHAMPIONSHIPS AND COMPETITIONS

- 9.(A) That Riail 236 (11) be amended as follows:

- (a) That on and from 1978 grading in Softball shall be independent of grading in Hardball and vice versa.
- (b) That on and from 1978 players graded Senior as of now because of winning an All-Ireland Championship in a Junior grade may be re-graded Junior, at the discretion of their Provincial Council and with the approval of Central Council, in Softball if the Championship won was in Hardball or in Hardball if the Championship won was in Softball.
- (c) That on and from 1978 a player winning a Junior All-Ireland Championship in Hardball shall be eligible to play Junior in Softball until such time as he may with an All-Ireland Junior or Senior Softball Championship.
- (d) That on and from 1978 a player winning a Senior All-Ireland Championship in Hardball shall be eligible to play Junior in Softball until such time as he may win a Junior or Senior All-Ireland Softball Championship.

- (e) That on and from 1978 players graded Senior as of now because of winning an All-Ireland Junior Hardball Championship may be regarded Junior for Softball at the discretion of their Provincial Council and with the approval of Central Council. (An Iarmhí).

- 9.(B) That Rule 247 be amended to allow separate grading for 60 x 30 Softball Championships, 60 x 30 Hardball Championships and 40 x 20 Championships, e.g. A Player winning a Junior Softball All-Ireland title in 1978, be eligible to play Hardball and 40x20 Championships at Junior level in 1979. (Cill Dara).
10. That the Irish Open Singles and Doubles Championships be an open draw and not a seeded one. Rule 226 to be amended. (Baile Átha Cliath).
11. That the Championships for the following age groups — Under 21 and Over 50 — get a better deal. (Cill Mhantáin).
12. That the Masters Singles and Doubles Championship 60 x 30 be played on the Open Draw System with no restriction on entries. (Loch Garman).
13. That the definition of players eligible to take part in Novice Championships or Competitions under the jurisdiction of the Central and Provincial Councils be revised so as to debar from such Novice Competitions or Championships players who have won a Provincial Under 21 Championship title. (An Clár).
14. That Central Council organise an Under 21 Singles and Doubles Championship in 40 x 20 Courts. Rule 226 to be amended. (An Mhí).
15. That the early rounds of the Atlas Travel under 22 Trials be played on a regional basis in order to reduce the amount of travelling involved. (An Mhí).
16. That the Willwood Tailteann Under 12 Singles and Doubles matches consist of the best of 3 games of 15 aces. (Cill Chainnigh).
17. That a 40 x 20 Willwood Tailteann Games Competition be organised. (Corcaigh).
- 18.(A) That the Second Division of the National League be restored. (Cill Mhantáin).
- (B) That the current National League be replaced by a League operating on a promotion and relegation System with the top counties in Division 1 and the other counties graded accordingly. (Corcaigh).
19. That a 60 x 30 Senior and Junior Inter-County team Championship be inaugurated from Provincial to All-Ireland level. Each team to consist of 4 players. (Corcaigh).
20. The Gael Linn Competition to be run on a handicap basis. The handicaps to be as follows:—Inter-County Senior — 15 aces, Inter-County Junior — 10 aces, Inter-County Novice Scratch, Club Senior — 10 aces, Club Junior Scratch, Club Novice + 12 aces, Club beginners + 25 aces. (Corcaigh).
21. That a Junior Club Championship be inaugurated from Provincial to All-Ireland level. This competition to be played in 40 x 20 Courts with each team consisting of 4 players. (Corcaigh).
22. That a Junior 60 x 30 Club Championship from Provincial to All-Ireland level be inaugurated. Each team to consist of 4 players. (Corcaigh).

ALL-IRELAND CHAMPIONS 1977

60 x 30 COURT

Coca-Cola	
S.S.S.	P. Ó Ciarba (An Clár)
S.S.D.	R. Laighean; S. Ó Bogaigh (Loch Garman)
S.H.S.	P. Mag Aoidh (Maigh Eo)
S.H.S.	S. an Gheimridh; G. Ó Leathlobhair (Cill Dara)
J.S.S.	S. de Róiste (Luimneach)
J.S.D.	P. an Gheimridh; T. Ó Ruairc (Cill Dara)
J.H.S.	L. Mac Carthaigh (Tiobraid Árann)
J.H.D.	U. Ó Mocháin; S. Bennis (Luimneach)
M.S.S.	S. Mag Shamhráin (An Mhí)
M.S.D.	S. Mag Shamhráin; M. Mag Shamhráin (An Mhí)
M.S.	T. Ó Riain (Tiobraid Árann)
M.H.D.	T. Ó Riain; L. Ó Dónaill (Tiobraid Árann)
Under 21 S.S.	D. Ó Dúlainn (Ros Comáin)
Under 21 S.D.	P. an Gheimridh; T. Ó Ruairc (Cill Dara)
N.S.S.	S. Ó Longargáin (Corcaigh)
N.S.D.	S. Ó Longargáin; B. Ó Briain (Corcaigh)
Over 40 S.S.	L. Ó Céirín (Ciarraí)
Over 40 S.D.	L. Ó Céirín; T. Ó Céirín (Ciarraí)

40 x 20 COURT

S.S.	P. Ó Ciarba (An Clár)
S.D.	P. Ó Ciarba; M. Ó Ciarba (An Clár)
J.S.	P. Ó Muiris (Corcaigh)
J.D.	M. Mac an Bhaird; G. Ó Scoláí (Gaillimh)
M.S.	T. Ó Riain (Tiobraid Árann)
M.D.	T. Ó Riain; G. Breathnach (Tiobraid Árann)
N.S.	D. Ó Ceallacháin (Corcaigh)
N.D.	P. Hob; P. Ó Fionnán (Uibh Fhailí)
Over 50 S.	M. Breathnach (Maigh Eo)
Over 50 D.	M. Breathnach; A. Ó Dálaigh (Maigh Eo)

WILLWOOD TAILTEANN

60 x 30 COURT

Under 12 S.	S. Fitzell (Tiobraid Árann)
Under 12 D.	S. Breathnach; M. Breathnach (Cill Chainnigh)
Under 13 S.	P. Ó Donnabháin (Luimneach)
Under 13 D.	P. Ó Ceallacháin; P. Mac Cuinneagáin (Baile Átha Cliath)
Under 14 S.	L. de Búrca (Cill Chainnigh)
Under 14 D.	E. Mac Bhloscaidh; A. Mac Cionnaoith (Baile Átha Cliath)
Under 15 S.	T. Ó Laocha (Loch Garman)
Under 15 D.	R. Ó Loinsigh; S. Ó Laoi (Baile Átha Cliath)
Under 16 S.	M. Mac Pháidín (Baile Átha Cliath)
Under 16 D.	S. Mac Gabhann; M. Mag Shamhráin (An Mhí)

GAEL LINN

P. Ó Raghallaigh (Cill Chainnigh)

TEAM COMPETITIONS

Inter-Provincial Mumhan:

P. Mag Fhearaigh; S. Ó Ciarba;
D. Ó Ciarba; A. Mac Alastraim;
M. Ó hÓgain.

National League Loch Garman:

S. Ó Bogaigh; S. Gógan; T. Ó Dughaill;
N. Beaver; S. Furlong; R. Aighleart.

60 x 30 INTER-CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

Novice:	Moycullen: T. Scríog; A. Audley; M. Ó Maolalaidh; S. Ó Flaitheartaigh.
Senior:	Roscommon: M. Breathnach; S. Ó Briain; D. Ó Dúlainn; B. Ó Callaráin.

40 x 20 INTER CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

Novice:	Capwell: D. Ó Ceallacháin; B. Ó Briain; S. Tanúir; S. Ó Cróinin.
---------	---

R.T.E. TOP ACE

S. Ó Ciarba (An Clár)

UNIVERSITIES

Championship:	U.C.D.: C. Ó Coinn; E. Ó Briain; S. Ó hÍfearnáin; G. Ó Gadhra; N. Ó Mainnin; P. Mac Craith.
League:	U.C.G.: S. Mac Maoilir; M. Ó Siall; P. Ó Breacáin; D. Mac Grifín; P. Ó Corcoráin; M. Ó Cathasaigh.

THIRD LEVEL COLLEGES

Championship:	St. Patrick's Dublin: G. Ó hUaine; D. Ó Sírideáin; D. Ó Briain; M. Ó Braonáin.
Special Novice League:	Trinity College: D. Ó hAinglainn; C. Bambaire; D. Ó Cruallaigh; G. Loughman; S. Ó Coighligh.
Singles:	U.C.D.: C. Ó Coinn

Bliain eile sasúil ab ea an bhliain fe athbreithniú. Tá an Liathróid Láimhe ag dul ar aghaidh ar fud na tíre anois. Tá a lan cúirteanna nua faoi thógáil agus seanchúirteanna faoi aththógáil. Tá go leor daoine óg agus aosta ag imirt anois. Tá feabhas ar obair na gCailíní ach níl cinnnte go bhfuil morán comhoibriú ag teacht ó clubanna na bhfear. Ba mhaith liom roinn na gCailíní a fheiscint i ngach club Liathróid Láimhe.

Gabhaimid buíochas le hArd-Chomhairle C.L.G. le C. Ó Murchú, Uachtarán, agus Seán Ó Siocháin, Ard-Stiúrthóir. Mo bhuíochas le gach ball de'n Ard-Chomhairle, leis na Comhairlí Cúige, leis na Coistí Contae agus le gach cinne a chuidigh liom i rith an bhliain seo caite.

Handball has made remarkable strides over recent years and indications are that the growth rate will continue at an even faster rate in the years ahead. It is pleasing to record that there is a growing interest by G.A.A. clubs in a number of counties and this has led to the construction of courts on playing fields. However, despite the growing interest, I don't think it is fully appreciated by G.A.A. clubs in general that in Handball, played in modern indoor courts, they have one of the finest indoor games in the world.

It is a game which develops all parts of the body and can be played right through one's lifetime. In recent surveys carried out by experts in the U.S.A. handball appeared at the top of the list. I feel there still remains a big selling job to be done to these clubs and this can only be done by an all-out drive backed fully by all units of the Handball Council and the parent body the G.A.A. In selling handball not alone are we selling one of the greatest 'get fit' games but we are also selling one of the oldest of our National games, which is now being played under modern conditions on a par with the best you find in any indoor sport.

Let us look at some of the factors which brought about this remarkable change in recent years:

- (1) The large increase in the number of roofed courts constructed, being constructed and the number of existing courts being roofed and renovated.
A total of over £1,000,000 has been spent on this work during the past five years and this money in the main has been raised by the clubs themselves. This is a true indication of the initiative and ability of handball personnel to meet the challenge of the present and prepare for the future. With the emphasis now on "Sport for All" handball is playing its part in providing a service to the Community by constructing modern facilities for all age groups who wish to play handball solely as a means of participating in a healthy form of recreation, or, for the more competitively minded who want to take part in competition.
- (2) Coaching Courses are now held at the following levels:—
 - (A) National Course (Week)
 - (B) Provincial Courses (Weekend)
 - (C) County and Club courses (Day or Weekend)
- (3) The emphasis now being laid on handball as a means of lifetime recreation.
- (4) The development of Juvenile handball which caters for all boys and girls from under 12 to 16 years of age, and the extension of the championship programme to cater for the Over 40 and Over 50 players.
- (5) The Free Advisory Service and plans that are available to all clubs undertaking court construction.
- (6) As a result of the G.A.A. Capital Investment Scheme, it is now possible to give limited grants to 13 clubs each year.
- (7) The sizeable grants received from the Dept. of Education have helped to meet part of the Administration, Coaching and equipment expenses each year. Without these grants it would be impossible to keep developing from year to year.
- (8) The development of handball at University and Higher Education Level.
- (9) The acceptance of handball as a suitable game for television has played a major part and the regular R.T.E. series have been responsible for generation widespread interest.
This would not have been possible were it not for the fact that the G.A.A. built the glass court at Páirc an Chrócaigh, thereby giving the game a fitting setting to receive full exposure.

THOMOND COLLEGE

Despite regular representation and many promises there has been no real worthwhile efforts to provide handball courts or to include handball on the curriculum of our National College of Physical Education. This position is all the more difficult to understand when one considers:—

- (A) The amount of money handball clubs have spent on court construction in recent years. I can confidently say that few organisations have shown such growth in playing facilities over the years since the P.E. College was opened.
- (B) This growth rate has been acknowledged by the Sport and Youth Section of the Dept. of Education by increased grants each year. This makes it all the more difficult to understand why another section of the same Dept. sees fit to exclude facilities for the coaching of handball at the National College of Physical Education.
- (C) There is very positive evidence now to justify the demands that teachers qualifying through our National College should be capable of coaching one of the oldest of our national games.

ALL-IRELAND CHAMPIONSHIPS

The full championship clár was carried out to schedule in the 40 x 20 and 60 x 30 courts. Once again Pat Kirby was the dominant figure in winning the Coca-Cola Senior Singles Championship for the fourth successive year and also retaining the 40 x 20 Senior Singles and Doubles. Pat announced his retirement from the 60 x 30 championships after winning the title but will continue to play in the 40 x 20 championships for the present. Certainly his presence will be missed in the Coca-Cola Championships as he always provided top class entertainment and his decorum in the court set an example for all. P. McGee of Mayo equalled the record of Tom Soye of Dublin in winning the S.H.S. for the sixth time. Wexford's R. Lyng and S. Buggy joined up as partners after a few years lapse and were successful in winning the Coca-Cola Doubles.

Kildare had a welcome change of luck when G. Lawler and C. Winders won the S.H.D. in clear cut fashion, and P. Winders and T. O'Rourke won the Junior and Under 21 Doubles Championships.

Limerick had a welcome reward for their perseverance when J. Roche won the J.S.S. and V. Moane and J. Bennis won the J.H.D. Cork made a welcome re-appearance in the honours list with successes in the 60 x 30 N.S.S., N.S.D., and 40 x 20 J.S.S. and N.S.S. This is an indication of the progress handball is making in the county. Tipperary's Tony Ryan was very impressive in winning four Minor titles, two in the 60 x 30 court and two in the 40 x 20 court. He is the first player to win four Minor titles in the same year. W. McCarthy after some years of trying brought the J.H.S. title to Tipperary; a just reward for his perseverance. Meath were again rewarded for their dedication to juvenile promotion when S. McGovern won the M.S.S. and partnered M. McGovern to win the M.S.D. Galway, despite a dearth of roofed courts, were convincing winners of the 40 x 20 J.D. This is a tribute to their dedication as they have to travel over 40 miles for proper training facilities.

The overage competitions provided dual successes for Mayo and Kerry. It is encouraging to see former Junior and Senior players still taking part.

OVER-AGE COMPETITIONS

The inclusion of Singles and Doubles Competitions for players in the over 40 and over 50 age brackets are proving very popular and each year shows an increasing number participating. The year 1978 will see the addition of two further competitions for players in the over 40 bracket. They will be played in 40 x 20 courts. This is in line with Government policy encouraging the older people to become active in Sport.

NATIONAL LEAGUE

In an effort to provide extra competition, the 1977 League was divided into four sections, with six teams in two sections and five each in the other two sections. The competition was well balanced and in some matches only a few aces separated the teams at the end of play. Generally the constitution of teams to include Novice, Junior and Senior is proving very successful and providing much more open competition.

GAEL LINN COMPETITION

For the 1977-78 Competition it was decided to have two sections: one catering for 60 x 30 Courts and the other for 40 x 20 Courts — a player to take part in one section only. This new format proved successful and should grow from strength to strength.

The 1976-77 Final stage was played at Ceannaras, Páirc an Chrócaigh, and resulted in a win for Paddy Reilly of Kilkenny to give him his first success in this competition.

The breakdown of entries was as follows:

60 x 30		40 x 20	
Leinster	376	Munster	112
Connacht	136	Ulster	56
			80 80
			40 —

INTER-CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

The standard of competition was high in all grades with Roscommon winning the Senior title for the first time. The success of Capwell in the Novice 40 x 20 and Moycullen in the 60 x 30 Novice was a welcome breakthrough for both clubs as they have been competing for some time without success. The 40 x 20 Senior championship was the only one unfinished at the end of the year.

WILLWOOD TAILTEANN

The Willwood Tailteann Competitions continue to play a very important part in the development of juvenile handball as they cater for all age groups, in Singles and Doubles, from the Under 12's right up to the Under 16's.

It is remarkable the number of players who came up through these competitions who now figure prominently in Minor, Junior and Senior ranks.

INTER-PROVINCIAL

The decision to change over to a one-day system for the final proved successful. Munster retained the title for the second year, but, in doing so, had to contend with tough opposition from Leinster.

ALL-IRELAND COLLEGES

The changed format for the All-Ireland Colleges Championships proved very successful as it led to the involvement of a greater number of colleges. There is still plenty of scope for the development of handball at this level but this will not be capitalised on until the All-Ireland Colleges Council set up a Special Sub-Committee whose sole function will be the promotion of handball.

VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS

Handball is making steady progress despite the lack of proper playing facilities. However, it is only fair to say that there is a high degree of commitment forthcoming from the Vocational officials.

COMMUNITY GAMES

Handball at Community Games level continues to make headway and, as a result, handball in general benefits as a number of their members become attached to clubs.

It is pleasing to record that a number of our handball officials help in the administration of these competitions.

HIGHER EDUCATION

There is a steady improvement in Higher Education Handball. As usual the Universities are very active with Leagues and Championships despite the lack of facilities in most Universities. A healthy sign here has been the levelling up of standards.

Eight Third Level Colleges are now taking part in the Higher Education Leagues and Championship. The big problem to major development in these Colleges is complete lack of courts and were it not for the facilities provided by our Clubs the position would indeed be bleak.

Surely it is not too much to expect that when recreational facilities are being provided that a handball court be included.

LADIES HANDBALL

The increase in playing numbers continue and prove the point that handball can be an attractive game for ladies. It is, however, disappointing that more support is not forthcoming from the Male clubs. These same clubs are very often glad to use the ladies for fund raising and social occasions and yet give no encouragement to organising a ladies playing Section.

Recently their Council issued a "Ladies Action Call" magazine to all handball clubs in an effort to generate support. While this is good in that it brings Ladies Handball to the attention of clubs, I feel something more is required if results are to follow. In my view the immediate follow

up to this is to make personal contact with these clubs, county committees and Provincial Councils. You achieve much more in one personal visit than in a multitude of letters.

I would also ask the Ladies in counties where the game is sufficiently strong to organise County Committees as this would help to develop the game within the county.

GOVERNMENT GRANT

The Annual Government Grant again showed an increase and we are very appreciative of this as we feel it is an indication of the goodwill that exists in the Dept. of Education and a desire on their part to show appreciation of the progress handball is making.

It would indeed be difficult, if not impossible, for us to meet our commitments to Coaching, Administration, Equipment and Development without this grant-in-aid.

R.T.E.

The Top Ace and subsidiary competitions were recorded in December for showing in 1978. There was a slight change in the format in that one of the eight places was reserved for the winner of a play-off between the J.S. and Under 21 S. Champions. For the first time two players from the same county met in the Top Ace Final.

PRELIMINARY ROUND

D. Doolin (Roscommon)	defeated J. O'Rourke (Limerick)	13-12 (after extra time)
--------------------------	---------------------------------	-----------------------------

1st ROUND

J. Kirby (Clare)	defeated O. Harold (Kilkenny)	15-9
R. Lyng (Wexford)	defeated P. McGarry (Limerick)	24-11
J. O'Brien (Roscommon)	defeated P. Reilly (Kilkenny)	11-8
S. Buggy (Wexford)	defeated D. Doolin (Roscommon)	13-11

SEMI-FINALS

R. Lyng	defeated J. Kirby	18-5
S. Buggy	defeated J. O'Brien	17-16 (after extra time)

FINAL

R. Lyng	defeated S. Buggy	24-10
---------	-------------------	-------

DOUBLES EXHIBITION

P. Reilly; O. Harold (Kilkenny)	defeated P. McGarry; J. Roche (Limerick)	18-17
---------------------------------------	---	-------

JUNIOR CLUB JUVENILE COMPETITION

SEMI-FINALS

A. Kenny; E. Mac Bhloscaidh (Dublin)	defeated E. Cleary (Wexford) G. Coughlan (Clare)	14-10
W. Burke (Kilkenny)	defeated C. McGovern (Meath) J. Scannell (Tipperary)	13-8
J. Cassidy (Sligo)		

FINAL

W. Burke; J. Cassidy	defeated A. Kenny; E. Mac Bhloscaidh	17-7
-------------------------	---	------

These annual television tournaments are proving very popular and generate an amount of support for handball in all areas. At this stage I feel some consideration should be given to the future of this Competition.

It is only fitting that I pay tribute to Fred Cogley, Michael O'Carroll and Mick Dunne for their help and co-operation in ensuring that the television series provides a good image for handball.

INTERNATIONAL

A team of four players,— P. Kirby, P. McGee, P. McCormack and M. McEllistim, travelled to the U.S.A. to take part in a series of games in Chicago, San Francisco and Los Angeles, and also to compete in the U.S.A. Championships at St. Louis.

The tour was generally successful if somewhat tiring due to the heavy schedule of fixtures. The players acquitted themselves well. Once again we learned that a high degree of physical fitness is necessary if players are to project a good image for Irish handball.

The full team competed in the U.S. Championships. All four players took part in the Singles Championship, but, with the exception of Pat Kirby, made no real worthwhile impression. The performance of Pat was outstanding. Despite giving over 8 years to the next oldest player in the championship, he won his way to the last eight and, in the process, defeated some of the top ranked players in the U.S.A. This was Kirby at his brilliant best playing way above what we expect of him at home. In fact had Kirby competed in the MASTERS Singles, for which he was eligible, there is no doubt that he would have won easily. Instead he opted for the more prestigious Open Singles and proved yet again that he is a great player and that there is no substitute for skill and dedication.

P. McGee and P. McCormack gave a creditable performance in holding the eventual Champions M. Kelly and S. McDowell to a tie-breaker in their second round clash.

Looking to the future I feel we must concentrate more on preparing players if we are to take part with distinction in international competition. This year a decision was taken to reserve two places for players under 22 years of age and a special competition was organised with a total of 40 players taking part. The competition, which was run on the Round Robin System from the Preliminary round to the Final stage, was an outstanding success. The enthusiasm of the players and the improvement from round to round was remarkable and very encouraging. To qualify the two players had to play at least 12 matches over a 5 week period. The players will now undergo special training and coaching prior to their departure for the U.S.A. In contrast there was a very poor entry from Senior players for the other Competition which was to decide the third place on the team. This is difficult to understand and can only be explained by either lack of interest or desire to be selected without taking part in trials.

COACHING

The Fourth National Coaching Course was held in Gormanstown from 31 July to 6 August under the direction of Pat Kirby, our Coaching Director. All the participants took part in a written examination and Coaching Certificates were awarded to (A) Club Coaches and (B) Senior Coaches on the results of these examinations. It was necessary for each student to secure at least 67 marks out of 100 to qualify for a Certificate. Again we are indebted to Pat Kirby and his assistants for the manner in which the Course was conducted.

Many one or two day coaching courses were held at Club, County and Provincial level. A welcome breakthrough was the special courses held over a week in Down and also Tyrone. These courses were supported by the Sports Council of Northern Ireland. In addition a special weekend course was held in Belfast under the auspices of this body. It is gratifying to record that we are now receiving every help and co-operation from the Sports Council of Northern Ireland.

CISTE GAEL

Despite our many appeals, the response to Ciste Gael is very disappointing and I would strongly urge all our clubs and county committees to make a fresh effort to promote this fund raising Scheme which is geared to help all Units of the G.A.A. Surely each club and committee could do with an additional source of revenue and there is no better way of achieving this than by supporting our own Special Scheme.

HANDBALL COURT DEVELOPMENT

The handball court construction programme continues at a very steady rate. The G.A.A. Special Capital Investment Scheme of £6,600 was in operation again during the year and despite this it was not possible to meet all demands. As it was a total of £7,493 was allocated in grants and even at that 12 clubs building new courts had to be deferred to 1978 for consideration. Indications are that this growth rate will continue and if we are to provide even minimal subsidies the G.A.A. will have to maintain, and even increase, the present level of grants.

GRANTS WERE ALLOCATED AS FOLLOWS:

Monaghan	£1,600	Two roofed 40 x 20 courts and two roofed 60 x 30 courts
Wexford	£200	Dressing Rooms
Annaghdown	£500	Roofed 40 x 20 court
Ballyporeen	£400	Roofed 40 x 20 court
St. Vincent's	£500	Roofed 40 x 20 court
Mallow	£400	Roofed 40 x 20 court
Carriack-on-Suir	£200	(additional Grant) Roofed 40x20 court and roofed 60 x 30 court
Multyfarnham	£400	Roofing existing 60 x 30 courts
Castletownbere	£300	Roofing existing 60 x 30 court
Crinkle	£200	Roofing existing 60 x 30 court
Tralee	£173	(additional Grant) Two roofed 40 x 20 courts
Ballymacelligott	£100	(additional Grant) Roofed 40 x 20 court
Gurteen	£20	Special Grant for renovation
Ceannaras	£2,500	Construction of roofed 40 x 20 Court, Gymnasium and refreshment Lounge.

PROVINCIAL COUNCILS

The emphasis at Provincial Level, with the exception of Munster, is largely on activities. I would suggest that consideration might be given to the setting up of Development Committees as the Councils as presently constituted have a full workload with general administration and, as a result have little time to devote to development. With the amount of goodwill that now exists for handball I feel it is important that we have a body of officials who can capitalise on this. I could see such a committee becoming involved in such things as:—

- Developing a closer liaison between Handball and G.A.A. clubs
- Encouraging G.A.A. clubs to promote handball and construct courts
- Organising Coaching Courses with the co-operation of the Coaching Council.
- Making every effort to ensure that handball courts are included in schools and Community Centres.
- Establishing a closer liaison with Provincial Secondary Schools Committees and Vocational Schools Committees.
- Encouraging the development of Ladies Handball.

CEANNARAS

Approval has been received in principle from Coiste Bainisti for the development of Ceannaras to include a roofed 40 x 20 Court, Gymnasium cum Games room and lounge. This development will impose a big financial burden but I am confident that this can be met within a reasonable time.

It is pleasing to record that the Dublin Corporation has sanctioned an Amenity Grant of £15,000.

The Centre when fully developed should provide a fitting Headquarters for handball in addition to serving as a Community Centre for the residents of the area.

The past year was a successful one despite showing a deficit at the end of the year. This was indeed satisfactory when allowance is made for a sum of £1,400 paid to the G.A.A. during the year for arrears of wages.

During the year Aine Ní Cheallacháin, who was servicing handball and Ceannaras, retired and it is only fitting that I

pay tribute to her for the efficiency and dedication shown during her time with us, Irín Ní Ghláibhín came to us last October. I am confident that she will be very helpful and courteous.

INCOME		EXPENDITURE	
	£		£
Shop Receipts	8818.25	Wages	3529.69
Bookings	1336.25	Wages (Arrears)	1400.00
Membership	950.00	E.S.B.	891.29
Sauna	92.00	Repairs	501.97
Phone	62.13	Phone	214.84
Grants	950.00	Fuel	479.07
Deficit	724.91	Shop Purchases	5815.81
		Sundries	92.62
		Bank Charges	8.25
	<hr/>		<hr/>
	£12,933.54		£12,933.54

Irín Ní Ghláibhín
An Br. B.C. O Murchú

EQUIPMENT

Supplies of specially designed T-Shirts and Togs are now available from Head Office. Arrangements can be made to have the T-Shirts suitably inscribed. Handball Gloves, 40 x 20 and Juvenile balls are also available.

PUBLICITY

The general standard of publicity continues to improve each year and we are indebted to the National and Provincial Press, Radio and Television for this coverage.

At all times the Ard-Chomhairle is prepared to help in securing increased publicity by issue of regular Press Releases. You are asked to co-operate by forwarding all relevant information and also photographs, action and stills.

FINANCE

The year under review was satisfactory from a financial point of view. However, with our ongoing development programme there is actually going to be increased demands on our financial resources and, as a result, we must find new sources of revenue. The development of Ceannaras may need a financial injection in the initial stages until such time as the Centre generates its own cash surplus.

To give some indication of the financial growth of the Council it is worth noting that in 1972 our turnover was £6,000 whereas our turnover in 1977 was £41,000. This very big increase in our turnover naturally brings with it many extra responsibilities.

Our Uachtarán, Micheál de Bús, retires this year and I would like to pay a very special tribute to him for his dedication, enthusiasm and initiative. During his term, he added lustre to the office. He can look back on his term of office with satisfaction as handball made unprecedented strides. His commitment was to the overall development of handball not just one aspect of it. I am confident that he will be available in the future to help in this work. On my own behalf and on behalf of the Council, I wish to express a deep appreciation of his understanding and kindness at all times.

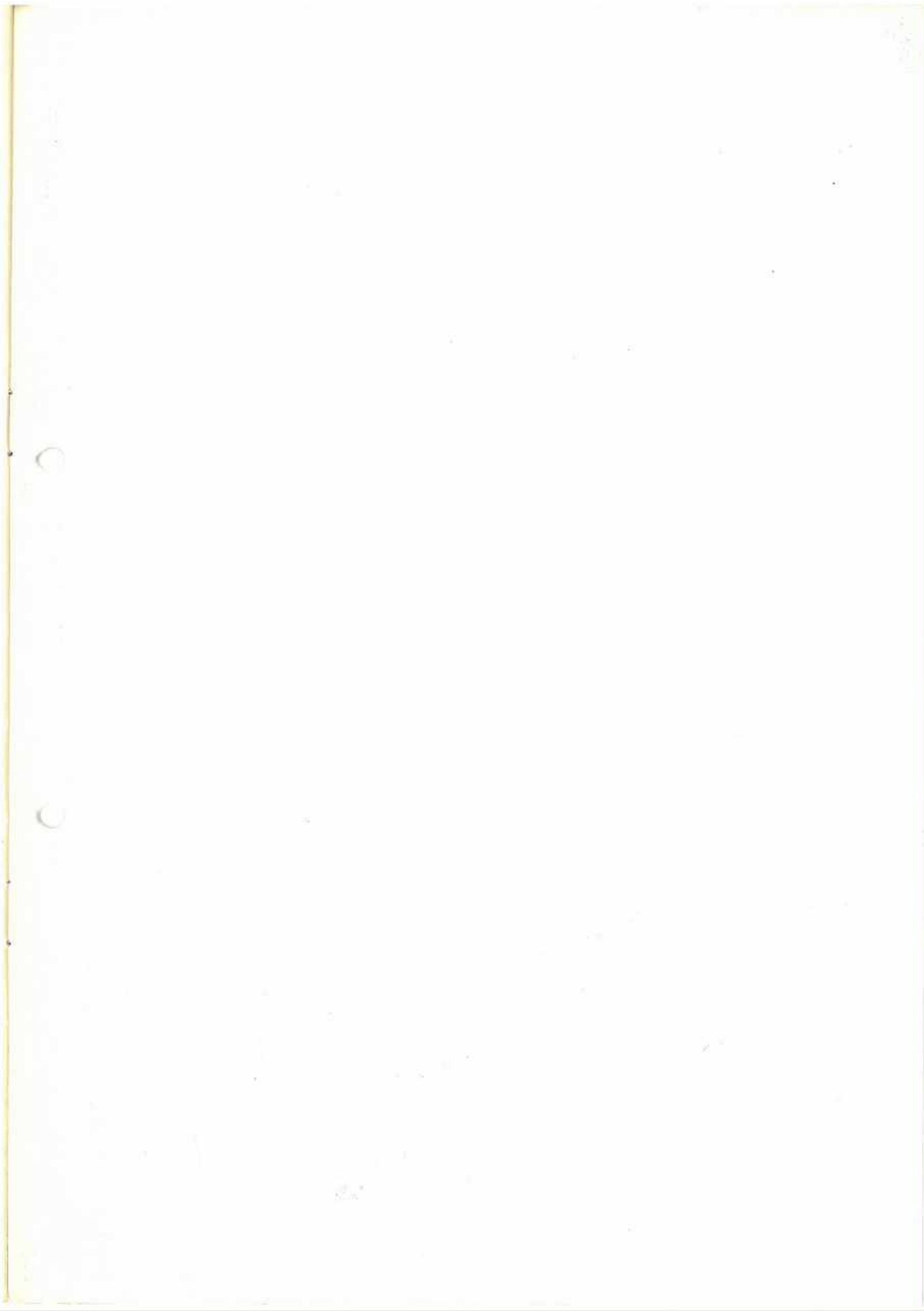
Again I wish to express our appreciation of the help and assistance which is given at all times by C. G. Murchú, Uachtarán, C.L.G. and Seán Ó Síocháin, Ard-Stiúrthóir. Also to the members of the Ard-Chomhairle, Coiste Bainisti and other Sub-Committees.

To the members of Ard-Chomhairle Liathróid Láimhe, sincere thanks for your help and co-operation. To our Provincial Councils, County Committees and our many voluntary workers, my thanks and may we all continue to work together in a true spirit of harmony to achieve our ultimate objective of spreading handball to every town and village.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass has been offered for the Happy Repose of the Souls of all deceased members.

Go ndeanáí Dia Trocaire ar a n-anamacha.

Seosamh Ó Loinsigh,
Riarthóir.





The G.A.A Shop at Croke Park has a wide range of G.A.A souvenirs, gifts, equipment and publications, some of which are available by post. Send a 7p stamp for lists.

Special terms are available to G.A.A. Clubs and Schools.
Write for Club List to:

G.A.A. Shop, Páirc an Chrócaigh, Baile Átha Cliath 3