



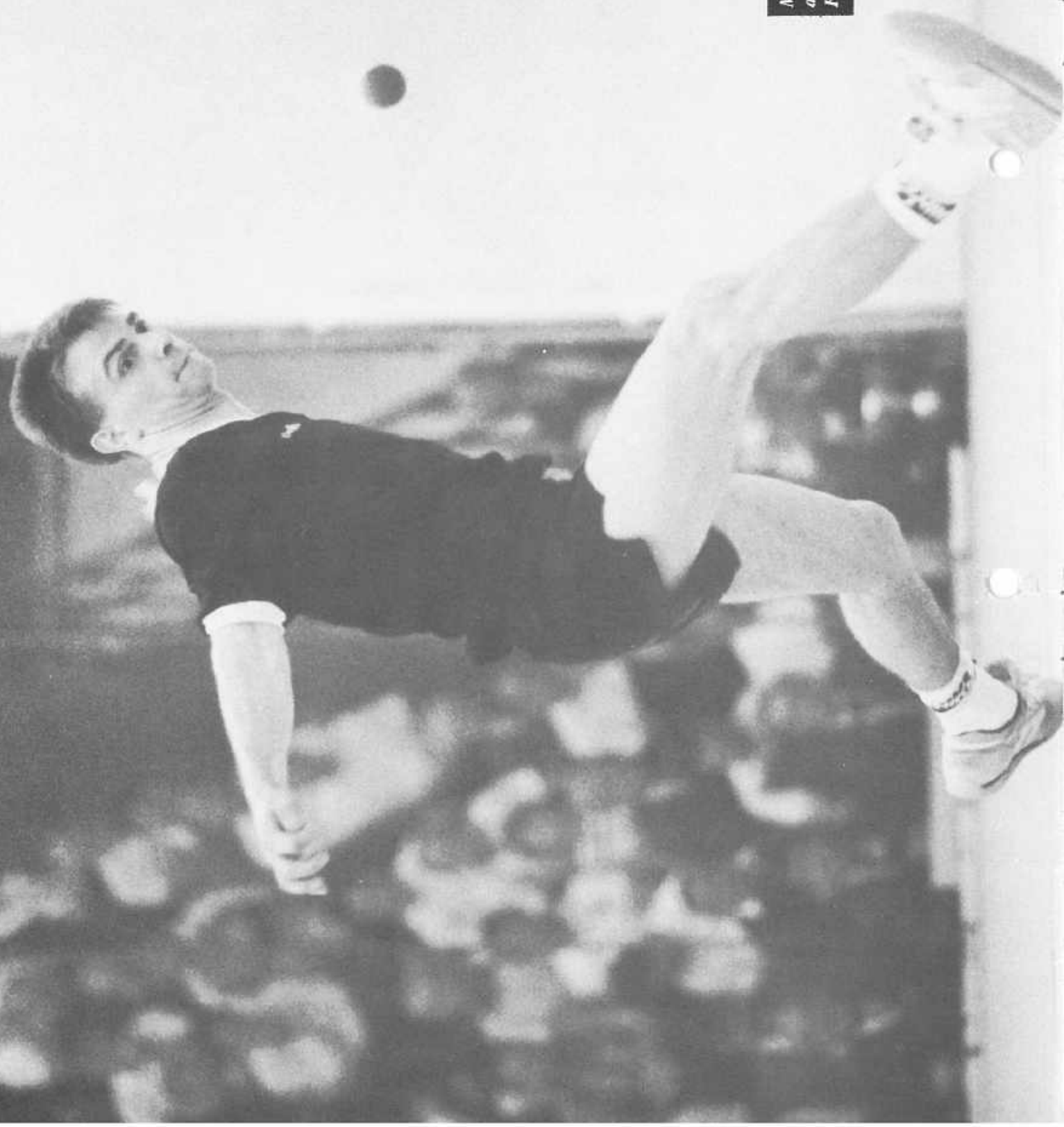
**HANDBALL**

**COMHAIRLE  
LIATHRÓID LÁIMHE  
NA hÉIREANN**

**An Chomhdháil Bhliantúil  
1992**



*Michael 'Duxie' Walsh, Cill Chainnigh, in action in the All-Ireland Senior Softball Singles Final winning his seventh successive title.*



# Tionólfar Comhdháil Bhliantúil 1992 Chomhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann

ar DÉ SATHARN, 21 MÁRTA, ag 6.00 i.n.

san

SPRINGHILL HOTEL, CILL CHAINNIGH

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## CLÁR OIBRE

1. Fáiltiú
2. Glacadh le Rialacha Seasta
3. Miontuairiscí na Comhdhála 1991
4. Tuarascáil an Riarthóra 1991
5. Cuntais an Airgid
6. Oráid an Uachtaráin
7. Oráid na nAoidheanna
8. Toghcháin
  - Uachtarán Tofa
  - Cisteoir
  - Teachta ar Ard Chomhairle C.L.G.
9. Na Rúin
10. Críoch

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## AINMNIÚCHÁIN 1992

**Uachtarán:** Seán Mac a' tSaoí, Conchúr Ó Mórdha.

**Cisteoir:** Cionnaith Ó Conbhuí.

**Teachta ar Ard Chomhairle C.L.G.:** Eamon Ó Briain, Tomás Ó Briain.

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## STANDING ORDERS

- (1) The proposer of a Motion or an Amendment may speak for not more than five minutes when making the proposal. He may speak a second time for not more than three minutes before a vote is taken.
- (2) A delegate seconding or speaking to a Motion or an Amendment may speak once only and must not exceed three minutes.
- (3) The Uachtarán 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.
- (4) A delegate may, with the consent of the Uachtarán, move "that the question be put" after which, when the proposer has spoken, a vote must be taken.
- (5) Standing Orders shall not be suspended for the purpose of considering any matter not on the Agenda except by the consent of the majority equal to two-thirds of those present and voting.



*All eyes on the action at the 60 x 30 finals on 31 Lúnasa.*

*Shane McCullagh, Tír Eoghain, receives his juvenile medal from John Joe O'Connor, Vice-President, Irish Handball Council.*



*Martin O'Neill, R.I.P., Handball Secretary 1932-1949*



*Jubilant Clare supporters applaud their heroes.*

# Tuarascáil an Riarthóra Náisiúnta

## RÉAMHRÁ

During the past year, 64 All-Ireland Championships were held in Singles and Doubles, 16 of these at juvenile level. Four Inter-Club Team of Four Championships were completed, the 60 x 30 inter-county National League was re-introduced and 17 national competitions were held in the education sector. In addition, 33 Irish players took part in the seventh World Handball Championships in Phoenix, Arizona and five young players took part in the USA Junior National Championships in December. All in all, it was a busy year on the playing courts with the prospect of even more competitions in 1992.

Some **notable features** were the return to the game of several players, increased coverage of handball in the national media, increasing attendances at All-Ireland finals, the first-time successes of several counties in particular grades, the excellent performances of several players in international competition, improvements in the quality of the Dunlop 40 x 20 and 60 x 30 handballs and the development of two new juvenile balls which replace those imported up to last year. On the other hand, **matters of concern** are the playing standards in hardball and 60 x 30 codes, the alarming decline in juvenile standards in some areas, the poor state of the game at post-primary schools level, the lack of good organisation of handball in Third Level Colleges and the low rate of usage of many facilities.

There are, however, some very **positive developments** which will help all units in 1992; a new Irish Open 40 x 20 Singles Championship is in progress, the final stages of which will be screened by RTE; the introduction of handball competitions for Primary Schools by Bord C.L.G. na mBunscol in every county with regional and national events which will parallel the INTO hurling and football mini-sevens; the organisation of a national fund-raising draw by the Council; the staging of a national 24-hour handball marathon – organised by the Naomh Mhuire Club, Leixlip – for Children's Cancer Research, and increased interest of players in administrative matters. All of these should help to enhance the profile of handball and all units must be ready to take on board every potential benefit which can accrue from them.

## ALL-IRELAND CHAMPIONSHIPS

Kilkenny (10), Tipperary (9) and Wexford (6) accounted for over half the All-Ireland singles and doubles titles in the three codes while 14 other counties shared the remaining 23 titles. The 22 softball All-Irelands went to nine counties while 12 won 40 x 20 titles.

In all, a total of 17 counties won All-Ireland titles in the adult grades in 1991.

Kilkenny won four of the six senior titles on offer. Michael "Duxie" Walsh continued his success in the 60 x 30 code when he won the Senior Softball Singles title for the seventh successive time. This is just one short of the eight in-a-row achieved by the late Paddy Perry from 1930 to 1937. The Kilkenny player partnered Eugene Downey to their fifth Senior Softball Doubles in-a-row to equal the achievements of the Hassett brothers of Tipperary (1934-38) and that of Paddy Downey and the late Jimmy O'Brien of Kerry from 1960 to 1964. The Senior Softball Finals were unique in that both were all Kilkenny affairs. Billy Bourke who made a welcome return to the handball scene was on the losing side on both occasions going down rather easily to his first cousin "Duxie" in Singles and partnering Ollie Harold, also making a return to the game, to a 21-15, 21-20 defeat in a very well contested Doubles final.



Ollie Harold, Cill Chainnigh, S.S.D. finalist.



John Gaffney takes a break after the 40 x 20 finals at Bullaghaderreen.

## First Senior Title Wins

Billy Bourke did achieve All-Ireland Senior success when he partnered Willie Pratt – winning his first ever Senior title – to victory in the Senior Hardball Doubles final against gallant Tipperary losers, Eddie Corbett and John O'Donoghue. The Tipperary partnership, however, achieved major success by winning the Senior 40 x 20 Doubles title in their first year in this grade by defeating Antrim's Billy Silcock and Thomas Maguire – 21-14, 21-14. They showed all the benefits of the team work and understanding which they had developed over a decade which has brought them numerous doubles titles from underage ranks through to Senior level.

Louthman Peter McAuley won his first ever Senior title by defeating three-in-a-row defending champion, Tommy O'Rourke from Kildare in the final of the Senior Hardball Singles Championship on a 21-14, 21-10 scoreline. Carlow's John Rossiter bridged a sixty year gap with a well-deserved win in the Junior Softball Singles final in defeating the luckless Michael Shiel from Galway who was forced to retire injured with Carlow leading 17-8 in the first game. This is the



John O'Donoghue and Eddie Corbett, Tipperary, winners of the 1991 40 x 20 Doubles title.





*Pádraic McCormack and Tom Derrig (Muighen), Tony Hayes, Cathaoirleach, Chomhairle Liathróid Láimhe na Munhan, and John Donlon and Niall Breen (An Clár) after the Junior Softball Doubles final.*

“Barrow” county’s second Junior Singles title – the first was won by Pa Delaney from the Borris Club in 1931.

Clare recorded a significant win in the Junior Softball Doubles final – the first since John Kirby and Michael Hogan’s win in 1971 – when John Donlon and Niall Breen resisted the challenge of Pádraic McCormack and Tom Derrig, Mayo – 21-7, 21-16.

## Junior Title for Sligo

There were jubilant scenes at the end of the Junior 40 x 20 Singles finals at Ballaghaderreen when Francis McCann lifted this title at his fourth attempt defeating Robbie McCarthy. There was some compensation for the Westmeathman when he and Jim Guilfoyle defeated Cavan’s Dominic Sheridan and Pat Donagh 11-21, 21-11, 21-20 at the Eugene Quinn venue in Armagh in the Doubles final. The same Westmeath pair contested the Junior Hardball Doubles final and despite outpointing Michael “Duxie” Walsh and John Connolly of Kilkenny by 53-48, they went down 21-15, 6-21, 21-17. Michael Walsh also won the Junior Hardball Singles title.

## Tipperary Win Four Minor Titles

It was a very special year for David Moloney from the Cashel Club in Tipperary who was on the winning side in all three

Minor Doubles finals as well as winning the Minor Hardball Singles All-Ireland medal. He and Noel Marshall retained their Minor Hardball Doubles title and he partnered Noel Murphy to victory in both 40 x 20 and 60 x 30 Minor Doubles finals.

Tyrone’s Ciarán Curran was on the losing side in both 40 x 20 and 60 x 30 Doubles finals partnered by Justin McClean to go down 21-18, 21-10 to the Moloney/Murphy partnership in the 40 x 20 court and Martin Toner in a 21-20, 21-15 defeat in the Softball Court. The Tyrone star was in top form in the 40 x 20 Singles final when he defeated Noel Murphy 21-10, 21-10 at the Kilbeggan venue where the Tipperaryman was unfortunate in carrying an injury into this game.

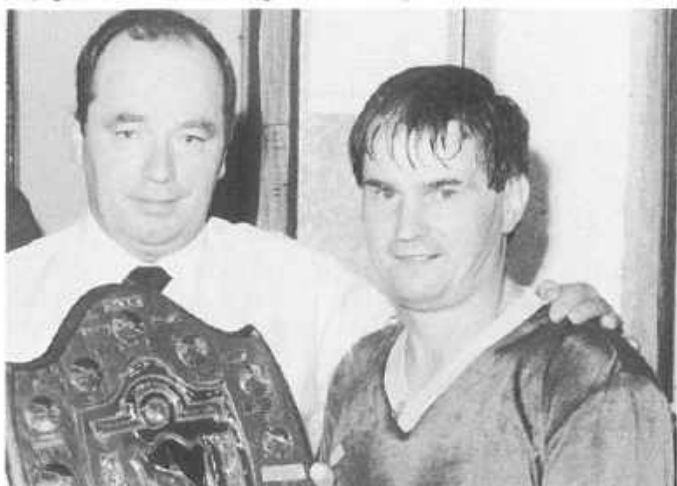
Wexford won the Minor Softball Singles title in the person of Brian Gilhooly from the Castlebridge Club who gave an excellent display of positive handball when he defeated Ciarán Heneghan from Roscommon 21-13, 21-13 at Ceannáras.

## Under-21 Championships

Kilkenny’s Graham O’Brien had an excellent year when he defeated Cavan’s Jimmy McKeon – 21-15, 12-21, 21-10 in the U21 Softball Singles final and partnered Eamon Law to defeat Jimmy McKeon and Niall McDonnell in the U21 40 x 20 Doubles final. Jimmy McKeon had an excellent win in the U21 40 x 20 Singles final and won his first All-Ireland title in any grade when defeating Clare’s Fergal Coughlan 21-13, 21-17



*Francis McCann (left) who won Sligo’s first ever 40 x 20 title with runner-up Robbie McCarthy from Westmeath.*



*The Handball President presents the Dunlop Shield to John Rossiter, Carlow, following the J.S.S. final at Ceannáras Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann.*



*Kit Finnegan, Leas-Uachtarán, presents the M.S.S. trophy to Brian Gilhooly, Loch Garman.*

in a very well contested final at Ballaghaderreen. This was Cavan's first ever win 40 x 20 All-Ireland title in any grade other than juvenile.

Wexford's Tommy Hynes followed his Minor Softball Singles victory of 1990 by partnering Paul Carty to win the U21 Doubles Softball title in which Cavan's Jimmy McKeon was partnered by Brendan McCormack.

## Ulster Counties Do Well

Ulster counties made a major impression in the 1991 40 x 20 Championships winning 6 of the 14 finals for which they qualified. Antrim's Collie O'Hare won both Novice titles partnering Jim Garland in Doubles. Noel Raymond from Kerry provided the opposition in the Singles final with Richard Willoughby and Pat Doyle from Wicklow contesting the Doubles. Peter McNamara from Limerick defeated Martin Bruen of Roscommon in the Novice Softball Singles Final while Paddy Hoare and Willie O'Dwyer of Tipperary defeated Cavan's Joe Dillon and Jim McGovern in the Novice Doubles Final which was played at Ceannáras.

## Masters Grades

Munster and Leinster counties dominated the Masters grades taking nine of the ten 40 x 20 titles and ten of the twelve Softball All-Irelands. The exception to the Munster/Leinster dominance in the overage categories in 40 x 20 was Cavan's victory in the Masters A Doubles final when Greg Sheridan and Patsy Hand defeated Wexford's Ned Buggy and Jimmy Goggins on the score 18-21, 21-20, 21-9 in an enthralling encounter. Greg Sheridan also contested the Masters A Singles final losing to John Kirby who won yet another All-Ireland medal.

The Masters A Softball Singles final was a very keenly contested affair in which Liam Roache from Mayo defeated Pakie Mullins, Tipperary, 21-7, 10-21, 21-18. Ned Buggy and Jimmy Goggins took their third Masters A Doubles title in a row for Wexford and reversed their 40 x 20 defeat against Patsy Hand and Greg Sheridan on the scoreline 21-12, 21-15. Jim McClean from Antrim had a comfortable victory against John Casey, Meath, in the Masters B 40 x 20 Singles final and Mick Lambert, Wexford took the masters B 60 x 30 Singles title with a convincing win over Séamus Clarke from Mayo. This was the reverse of their fortunes in the Masters B Doubles final in which Michael Corbett partnered Séamus Clarke to a 21-9, 21-6 victory over Jim Doyle and Mick Lambert, Wexford.

Earlier in the year, the Mayo pair gave best to John Ferncombe and Michael McGrath, Tipperary, won the Masters B Doubles 40 x 20 medals.

## Silver Masters Finals

John Browne from Kildare defeated Nicholas Clancy of Galway in the Silver A 40 x 20 Singles final at Ballaghaderreen and he retained his 60 x 30 Silvers Masters A Singles title in convincing style defeating Paddy Walsh from Sligo later in the year in a game in which the Sligoman, after a slow start, lost on the score 21-18 in the second. Doc Hennessy and Jim O'Neill from Kilkenny continued on their winning way taking the Silver Masters A Doubles 60 x 30 title over Paddy Walsh and Francie Cawley from Sligo in an excellent game 21-19, 18-21, 21-6.

In the Silver Masters A 40 x 20 Doubles final, the Kerins brothers, Willie and Nicholas, took yet another All-Ireland title to Kerry defeating Seán Heaney and Michael O'Reilly from Mayo.

Seán Lee representing Tipperary won both All-Ireland Silver Masters B Singles titles defeating Charlie Nugent from Antrim 21-13, 20-21, 21-7 in the 40 x 20 code and Tyrone's John Curran in the Softball final.

Cork won the Silver Masters B Doubles 40 x 20 title in which Sam Tanner and Brendan O'Brien defeated Charlie Nugent and Tommy Shannon from Antrim.

Wexford collected yet another overage title in the Silver Masters B 60 x 30 Doubles final with John Cogley and Billy Murphy defeating John Heneghan and Tommie Hynes of Roscommon 7-21, 21-18, 21-17 in a very well contested final at Croke Park.

## Golden Masters Finals

Louthman Joey Maher had a rather easy victory in the Golden Masters 40 x 20 Singles final defeating Matt Grier from Mayo to win his fourth title in this grade — just one short of Mickey Walsh's (Mayo) five Golden Masters Singles titles.

Pat O'Keeffe and Eddie Leahy from Kilkenny won their fourth successive Golden Masters 40 x 20 Doubles title and in doing so, created a new record of five national titles in that grade for their county.

Wexford's sixth 60 x 30 title was won by Noel Beaver who defeated Michael Naughton, Roscommon, 6-21, 21-11, 21-10 in the Golden Masters A Singles final.

A former Wexford player, Dick Walsh, partnered Liam Ferguson to victory when Dublin defeated Roscommon's Michael Naughton and Frank Kenny, 21-13, 21-15 in the Golden Masters A Softball Doubles final.



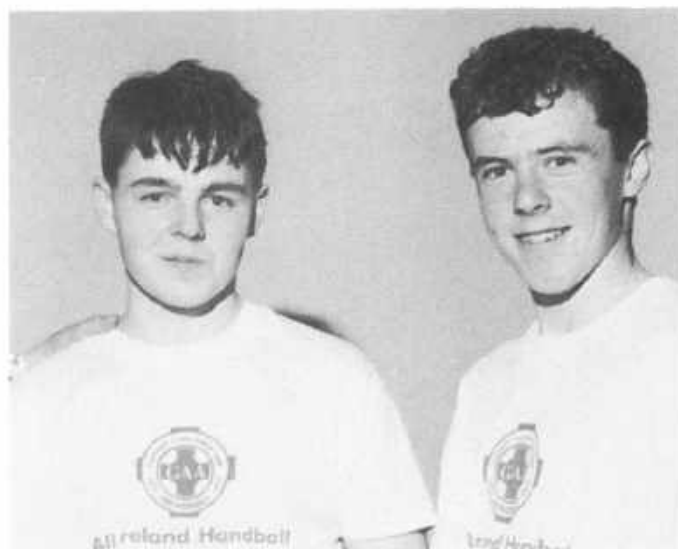
*Michael Shiel, Gaillimh, J.S.S. finalist, receives his runner-up medal.*

Dublin won both inaugural Golden Masters B Softball finals. Matt Ryan defeated Seán McKeon contesting Leitrim's first ever All-Ireland final while in Doubles Mick O'Brien and Ray Quinn defeated Martin Grier and Davy Macken of Mayo.

## ALL-IRELAND JUVENILE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Six counties won the eight All-Ireland 40 x 20 Juvenile finals – and all were firsts in the respective grades for those counties. Three of those winners – Carlow, Wexford and Cavan – were among the seven which shared the 60 x 30 juvenile medals. Of these, Carlow's Adrian Ryan and Kenneth Kane were completing a double success at U14 level while Michael Finnegan of Cavan was the only juvenile to win both singles titles in any underage grade in 1991.

Stephen O'Hara of Clare had a fine win over Paul Flynn from Mayo in the U14 40 x 20 Singles final. Stephen Farrell from the Crossakiel Club which was formed in 1986 won Meath's first ever U14 Singles 60 x 30 medal defeating Shane McCullagh from Tyrone 15-12, 15-11. The Banner county had a second 40 x 20 success when twins Liam and Declan Frawley, U14 Doubles champions in 1989, defeated the 1990 U14 Doubles winners Mark Kelly and Michael McHale from Roscommon in the U16 final. Conal Curran and Plunkett Kelly combined well to win the U16 Softball Doubles final – they won the U14 Doubles title in 1989 – to record Tyrone's first success in this grade. Simon McGrath took the U15 40 x 20 Singles title to Wexford defeating the ever improving Down star James Cunningham in an excellent final. Kilkenny players won both U15 60 x 30 titles. Willie Murphy from the Kilfane Club had a comfortable win over Peter Flanagan, Roscommon, in the



*Damian Given and Rory Grugan, Tyrone, who won that county's first Under-15 Doubles 40 x 20 title.*

By the end of the 40 x 20 season, 19 counties had shared the seventy 40 x 20 Juvenile titles in the U14 to U17 grades since juvenile competition began in 1979. Twenty-one counties have won a total of 142 softball medals in the same grades. Kilkenny lead the field with 27 60 x 30 titles in seven of the eight championships followed by Dublin with 14 wins in five grades and Meath with 12 titles in five grades. Clare head the 40 x 20 table with 10 victories over seven of the eight grades followed closely by Kilkenny's 9 titles in 6 grades.

## JUVENILE STANDARDS

It is a matter of concern that the provincial juvenile championships are dominated by a small number of counties. It is not difficult to identify a few common characteristics in the successful counties. The players' clubs are well organised, have good structures, follow a juvenile development plan and have regular coaching under the careful guidance and supervision of dedicated personnel.

In general, the clubs are supported by a good juvenile policy and competitions structure at county level and their players flourish as a result. In addition to most of the All-Ireland winners, there is clear evidence that having realised that standards are poor, juvenile handball is becoming better organised in ten more counties. This augurs well for the future and those counties are bound to reap rich rewards in the next decade.



*Ciarán McDonald and Philip Galligan, An Cabhán, winners of the 1991 Under-15 40 x 20 Doubles title.*

Singles final while Tom Hanrahan and Alan Hawe defeated Philip Galligan and Edmond Matthews from Cavan in the Doubles. Ciarán McDonald partnered Philip Galligan to win the U15 40 x 20 Doubles title earlier in the year defeating Seán Nolan and Jason Murphy of Wexford 15-14, 8-15, 15-9 in a memorable final.

In the U17 40 x 20 final, Paul Graham from Antrim defeated Raymond Fogarty of Laois 15-14, 5-15, 15-14. However, the Laoisman had consolation later in the year winning that county's first ever All-Ireland Handball title defeating Brian Sheridan of Cavan in the U17 Softball Singles title. Tyrone players, Rory Grugan and Damien Given, were victorious over Gavin Buggy and Nickey Barnes of Wexford in the U17 40 x 20 Doubles final but the Wexford pair won the softball medals in a fine victory over Paul Duffy and Dermot Smith from Cavan.

## INTER-CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

Wexford clubs figured very prominently in the Leinster Inter-Club Championships and won both Novice All-Ireland titles. The St. Mary's Club from Wexford town won the Novice 60 x 30 Inter-Club title defeating Lisacul from Roscommon in a well contested final. The fact that this was St. Mary's second successive Novice Inter-Club victory speaks volumes for the strength of that club. Ramsgrange took the 40 x 20 Inter-Club title to Wexford defeating Tydavnet, Monaghan on the score 115-90 in a very entertaining series of matches at Ceannáras.

Kells, Co. Meath, defeated 1990 finalists, St. Coman's from Roscommon in the 60 x 30 Open final and MacDiarmada of Antrim won that county's second successive 40 x 20 Open Inter-Club title when Billy Silcock and the Rainey brothers, Brendan, Joe and Larry defeated Talbot's Inch 134-120.

It is imperative that the value of holding the Open Inter-Club Championships be seriously questioned. When one considers (a) the low level of entries at provincial level, (b) the number



of postponed fixtures, (c) the overall attitude of clubs and players to the competition and (d) the staging of an All-Ireland Open final without the support – in one case – of even one club member on either side, one cannot but conclude that the Open Inter-Club Championships should be discontinued.

The level of entries for the Novice Inter-Club Competition was satisfactory in most provinces and there is no doubt that this competition has the support of our clubs. They are much more interested in the competition, their attitude is much more positive and they place a much higher regard on the championship than is the case in the open grade. The Novice Inter-Club competitions have great potential for the average club and with good promotion of the competition, there should be many more entries for the Novice Inter-Club Championships.

## CHAMPIONSHIP REVIEW

In reviewing the All-Ireland Championships in general, we acknowledge the co-operation of players and of Club and County officials for their role in ensuring that all our competitions were completed on schedule. There is, undoubtedly, a great variation in some grades from one province to another in terms of both the number of entries in those grades at provincial level and of the standard of play in those particular grades. This variation is inevitable in the case of the overage A grades where the level of entries is somewhat restricted. However, questions must be asked about these and some other grades in which many players had their first competitive match at either provincial final, All-Ireland semi-final or even All-Ireland final stage of the competition.

This twin problem of the level of entries and the standard of play raises the question of the organisation of the 40 x 20 and 60 x 30 Championships. There is a strong body of opinion suggesting that they are far too protracted and that the Championship should be played over a much shorter time scale. This question should be urgently reviewed, particularly with the addition of a number of new competitions. Many of the championships in singles and doubles should be played over a much shorter period with, perhaps, some of the All-Ireland semi-finals and finals taking place over one weekend in tournament format as is the case in other countries. I feel strongly that consideration should be given to staging some of the main championships in one code in parallel with championships in other grades in the other code and vice versa.

At first glance, this might seem a radical proposal but it would have many benefits. It would lead to greater use of both 40 x 20 and 60 x 30 courts and help to alleviate the pressure on court

bookings in both courts as the seasons now stand.

Consideration should also be given to the staging of Juvenile 40 x 20 Championships in the second half of the year followed by the International Trials for the USHA Championship team. This should encourage more entries for the Trials and ensure a better standard of competition following on the 40 x 20 Juvenile season. It would also allow the advantage of having players attuned to the 40 x 20 code for a longer period of time in advance of the US Championships.

We must also seriously address the problems associated with staging the All-Ireland Softball semi-finals and finals in August and September. Because of the huge media coverage of the All-Ireland Hurling and Football Championships, our Handball Finals and, in particular, our major finals at Croke Park on the eves of the football and hurling finals never receive the attention or publicity in the national media which they rightly deserve. In addition, the August holiday period can break a player's preparation for the All-Ireland Championships as well as causing problems in arranging fixtures. With proper planning and co-operation, a possible sequence of All-Ireland events for a calendar year could be as follows:

January-March: Irish Open Championships.  
 March-April: Main 40 x 20 Championships.  
 April-May: Juvenile and Masters 60 x 30 Championships.  
 July: Main 60 x 30 Championships.  
 September: Hardball Championships.  
 September-October: Juvenile 40 x 20 Championships, Junior Trials, Masters 40 x 20 Championships.  
 60 x 30 National League.  
 October-December: Inter-Club 60 x 30 and 40 x 20 Championships.

Our present level of national competition, including the new Irish Open 40 x 20 Singles Championship, demands that we review our overall fixtures programme. Fixtures Committees at all levels must take into account the annual tournaments which are staged by so many clubs around the country. These tournaments have a rightful place in our national, provincial and county calendar of events and the effort of clubs in staging tournaments must be appreciated at all levels of the organisation. It is incumbent, therefore, on all fixture-making bodies to co-operate as fully as possible in facilitating the smooth running of those tournaments. It is inevitable that there will be fixture clashes from time to time but these must be avoided as far as humanly possible. Players may be faced with difficult choices about taking part in tournaments and we must be mindful of this in arranging our fixtures.



*Michael "Duxie" Walsh (left) with John Joe O'Connor, Shena Walsh and Seán Lee (referee) following the S.S.S. final.*

## INTERNATIONAL HANDBALL

A full report on Ireland's fortunes in the Seventh World Championships in Phoenix, Arizona in February 1991 was included in the Annual Report to Comhdháil 1991 but a brief summary will review the position in the context of last year's activities.

A total of 33 Irish players, with 43 entries, took part in 18 events winning a total of four titles, two of the finals being all Irish affairs. Ireland also contested two other finals and a total of 17 semi-finals in all.

### IRISH WINNERS:

- 15 and Under: Michael Finnegan, An Cabhán.
- 23 and Under: Walter O'Connor, An Mhí.
- B Singles: Paul Walsh, An Clár.
- A/B Doubles: Egin Jensen, An Mhí and Eugene Downey, Cill Chainnigh.

### IRISH RUNNERS-UP:

- 17 and Under: Ciarán Curran, Tír Eoghain.
- 19 and Under: Fegal Coughlan, An Clár.
- 23 and Under: Peter McAuley, An Lú.
- B Singles: Ned Buggy, Loch Garman.

## World Handball Council

Seosamh Ó Loinsigh, Iar Riarthóir, stepped down as President of the World Handball Council after many years of service in developing and restructuring international handball. Caimin Jones, Handball Delegate to GAA Central Council, was chosen

*Presentations by team coach Jimmy King on behalf of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann to World Handball Champions.*



Michael Finnegan (15 and Under)



Walter O'Connor (23 and Under)

as President-elect of the World body and will take over the office of President at the next World Championships.

Ireland was given the option to host the eighth World Championships in 1994 and the Irish Handball Council is presently considering the matter. The staging of this prestigious event would demand a great deal of planning and organisation. It would also cost a considerable amount of money. However, the Council is confident that with the support and co-operation of handball units, COSPÓIR, sponsors and Cumann Lúthchleas Gael, the finance can be generated so that Ireland continues in her leading role by hosting the World Championships and doing justice to our proud record in international handball.

## USA Championships

A team of three players, under Team Manager, Seán McEntee, with two others travelling independently, took part in the USA Junior Championships in December and won two of the three events in which they competed. Ciarán Curran, Tyrone, enhanced his status by winning his third US crown in successive seasons while Michael McHale, Roscommon, became the first Connacht handballer to win an American national championship. The third team member, Adrian Benson from Dublin, was defeated by the eventual winner in his 19 and Under semi-final while Brian Grennan (Offaly) and Michael Finnegan (Cavan) reached the semi-final stages of the 15 and Under and 17 and Under events won by Michael McHale and Ciarán Curran respectively. Louthman Peter McAuley won the USA 23 and Under national title in June.

Congratulations to all five players on their excellent performances and to Seán McEntee who was a very caring and capable Team Manager.



Paul Walsh (B Singles)



Eugene Downey and Egin Jensen (A/B Doubles)



*Peter Mulryan, Cathaoirleach, makes a presentation on behalf of the Connacht Handball Council to Michael McHale to mark his victory in the USA 15 and Under championship. On left is Pakie Hoare, Cathaoirleach Choiste Liathróid Láimhe Roscomáin.*

The policy of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann in taking part in the USA Junior Handball Championships over the past decade has certainly been vindicated during that period. Nine players have won a total of 18 American underage titles since Michael "Duxie" Walsh won the 15 and Under title in 1981. All are actively playing the game at present and all have won All-Ireland titles. Our players — and, therefore, the game in Ireland — have benefited immensely from the competition in the USA. They have attained higher standards of play and contributed to the development of international handball. The main differences between Irish and American playing standards seem to follow a pattern in which the Irish set the pace and the standard at underage level. However, because players outside Ireland play the 40 x 20 international code only and have regular competition, tournaments and championships throughout the year, they perform better and achieve more than our top players as they go through their peak years. Perhaps it is now the time to consider that Ireland take part officially in the US National Championships in June each year so that the standards set and the impetus gained from the American junior experience can be followed through logically to that higher level of competition. This could only be good for handball in Ireland.

The details of our team's performances in the US Juniors in Dallas in December last follow while the Team Manager's report is included elsewhere in this publication.

#### 15 AND UNDER:

- First Round** Michael McHale dft D. Dumrauf (Illinois) 21-4, 21-9.
- Quarter-finals:** M. McHale dft S. Smith (Texas) 21-3, 21-2.  
B. Grennan dft J. Resendez (California) 21-18, 21-7.
- Semi-finals:** M. McHale dft D. Silveyra (California) 21-20, 21-12.  
B. Grennan lost to M. Bargman (Canada) 21-10, 21-6.
- Final:** M. McHale dft M. Bargman 21-18, 21-7.

#### 17 AND UNDER:

- First Round:** Ciarán Curran dft J. Keasling (Illinois) 21-0, 21-2.  
Michael Finnegan dft M. Gustafson (Sth Dakota) 21-5, 21-19.

- Quarter-finals:** C. Curran dft B. Marshall (Illinois) 21-1, 21-3.  
M. Finnegan dft C. Gonsalves (Boston) 21-9, 21-1.
- Semi-finals:** C. Curran dft O. Zamora (Illinois) 21-3, 21-0.  
M. Finnegan lost to J. Komsthoef (California) 21-14, 21-15.
- Final:** C. Curran dft J. Komsthoef 21-3, 21-11.

#### 19 AND UNDER:

- First Round:** Adrian Benson dft T. Maguire (Boston) 21-5, 21-7.
- Quarter-final:** A. Benson dft B. Warren (Canada) 21-20, 21-7.
- Semi-final:** A. Benson lost to D. Chapman (California) 21-9, 21-15.

## THIRD LEVEL COLLEGES

The Third Level Colleges Championships were very ably hosted by University of Limerick. We appreciate very much the role of the College Handball Club and the Sports Officer, Jacinta Duffy, in organising the weekend's events. The social function for the players and supporters on Saturday night and the presentation dinner following the finals are an integral part of the activities and give the players from the various colleges an opportunity to meet socially in a convivial atmosphere.

UCG again won the Championship while Eamon O'Neill from the Garda College was victorious in the Open Singles Competition. All of the games were played at Co. Clare venues and we are greatly indebted to Caimin Jones, County Handball Secretary and the various clubs and officials in the county who provided the facilities and helped with the organisation of all the games.

One of the main difficulties regarding handball at Third Level is the problem of contacting the Clubs early in the new academic year. In an effort to overcome this and to begin the playing season earlier in the year, the 1992 AGM will be held in conjunction with the Inter-Varsity Championships in Dublin in April. The Colleges Council intends to establish links with the hurling and football clubs in various colleges to try to establish a handball club where none presently exists. A major effort must be made to re-establish clubs in UCC and St. Patrick's College, Maynooth where it appears that the game has not been played for the past two years.



*Pakie Hoare, referee, receives a presentation following the Senior Softball Doubles final.*



## POST-PRIMARY COMPETITIONS

The Vocational Schools Council organises its own provincial and All-Ireland Championships in the 40 x 20 court. Our thanks are due to the Council for their work at this level and our hope is that many more schools will take part in the Vocational Schools competitions in the future.

There are great variations in how the game is organised at Colleges level around the provinces, each one of which has its own system. This has not been totally satisfactory and the Central Fixtures Committee has met with provincial colleges representatives to review the situation. This resulted in some increase in the entries for the 40 x 20 Colleges Championships but much more needs to be done in establishing contacts with schools in general and, in particular, with those schools attended by well-known handball players. The format and timing of the provincial colleges championships must be reviewed and the system must be much more closely associated with the GAA Colleges Councils.

## NA BUNSCOILEANNA

A format for the introduction of handball at Primary School level has been developed by Cumann na mBunscol and Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann. This promotion will parallel the INTO Hurling and Football Mini-Sevens series and will have four stages — school, county, regional and national.

Every school is eligible to enter the programme which will be organised, administered and controlled by Cumann na mBunscol with the co-operation and assistance of handball units at club, county and national levels.

Schools can organise a **school event** using whatever facilities are available to decide their entrants for the county competition. Each school may select one singles and one doubles entry for both boys and girls for the county stage with a maximum of six players to represent mixed schools. The format at **county level** will be an inter-schools competition to decide the county's representatives at regional level in boys singles and doubles and in girls singles and doubles.

Bord na mBunscol will organise the **regional and national events** in conjunction with the handball units. Games will be decided on the best of three games to 11 points at county level. Service will be alternated as in tennis or table tennis with each win by either server or receiver counting as a score. This will level off the potential advantage of the strong server. Competitive games will be organised at school and county levels only and the emphasis at regional and national events will be on the execution of handball skills and the playing of exhibition games.

This Primary School promotion is a great opportunity to introduce the game at this level and every club must support this development in a very positive way. Every club which does so will certainly reap rich rewards and the whole promotion is in the overall interest of the game.

COMHAIRLE LIATHRÓID LÁIMHE NA hÉIREANN wishes to congratulate those counties which already organise handball at Primary Schools level. We appreciate very much the interest of Cumann na mBunscol in promoting handball through its national and county structure and we have every confidence that this new development will be of great benefit to the pupils, to their teachers and schools and their communities..

## PRESENTATION OF GAMES

Our fixtures are the shop window for handball and for all handball units. It is essential, therefore, to improve in every possible way the presentation of our Championships at every level. This includes everything that happens at and around the venue from the time the first person comes until the last person



*A fine study of J. J. Jennings, former Handball Council President and Fr. Martin Jennings, Connacht Secretary, at the All-Ireland Finals on 31st August.*

leaves. We thank all venues and organisers for the staging of our national competitions during 1991 and particularly those which made special efforts to improve the presentation on previous years. This was welcomed very much by players and spectators alike and further efforts in this regard will ensure that players enjoy playing and that spectators will attend games in increasing numbers.

The continuing changes in the presentation of the major All-Ireland finals at Croke Park were very much appreciated. The attendance of Peadar Ó Cuinn, Uachtarán Cuman Lúthchleas Gael and Liam Ó Maolmhuir, Ard Stiúrthóir, was welcomed by everybody. Our thanks are due in great measure to Mick Dunne for acting as M.C. on each occasion in a very professional manner.

The presentation of our games also includes the role of the referee and other officials and we are very grateful to all those referees and other personnel who officiated at our games during the year. Their role is a vital one in the overall presentation of a handball occasion and their influence on how players carry themselves on court cannot be emphasised strongly enough.

## TOURNAMENTS

Congratulations to all those clubs who hold Annual Tournaments and, in particular, our thanks are due to those clubs which host tournaments for players other than those in the top grades. Most of our tournaments are of a very high standard in presentation and general arrangements with tremendous player satisfaction in participating.

It is important that all clubs hosting tournaments involving inter-county players apply to the National Fixtures Committee for clearance for their tournaments before the start of the year. These dates can then be included in the national calendar of events so that all units are aware of those dates when arranging their own fixtures.

Every unit which organises a tournament must insist that the conditions of entry and the format for the tournament are met by every player who accepts an invitation or submits an entry. No tournament organisers should be pressurised by any players into changing the format already established for any tournament.

## IRISH OPEN CHAMPIONSHIPS

The RTE Top Ace series from 1973 to 1984 greatly enhanced the image and popularity of handball. The game will receive a new impetus again this year when the final stages of the new



Irish Open 40 x 20 Singles Championship will be screened on RTE.

A feature of the Open will be the introduction of a tie-breaker to 11 points instead of the usual third game to 21 points. There were sixty entries for the competition in which the top 16 players were seeded. The level of interest in the competition is very encouraging and the number of enquiries suggest that the level of entries will be much higher in the future.

The former Top Ace series proved very popular with TV viewers and coincided with the huge growth and development of indoor handball facilities in Ireland. The Irish Open series together with the handball promotion at Primary Schools level will greatly increase the awareness of the game in the coming months and clubs should avail of every opportunity to increase their membership and enhance their role in local community as a direct result of these developments.



*Tony Breen, Loch Garman, in action in the Irish Open.*



*Under-15 Singles 40 x 20 All-Ireland winner — Simon McGrath, Loch Garman.*

## CUMANN LÚTHCHLEAS GAEL

Congratulations to Cumann Lúthchleas Gael on a marvellous year's activities in 1991 and on the far-seeing Stadium Development Plan. This is an essential development for the Association. It is a realistic plan which will lift the whole Association for decades to come and it deserves the enthusiastic support of all our units.

Our thanks to the GAA Ard Chomhairle for the financial support provided for handball at central level. As, always, our hope is that this will increase so that we can develop handball as our only indoor national and Gaelic game.

## QUALITY OF HANDBALLS

The quality of handballs had been a major concern, particularly at juvenile level for several years. With the introduction of the new red juvenile ball and the blue family ball developed by Gerry McCormack and his company, a constant supply of good quality handballs for juveniles is now available. The quality of the initial batches of Dunlop 40 x 20 international ball varied quite considerably but the introduction of new technology has improved the quality of this ball quite significantly. There have also been improvements in the quality of recently produced softballs so that all round, our handballs should be much more reliable and give better service than heretofore.

Our thanks are due to Gerry McCormack for his pioneering work in developing the quality of the handballs and also to all

those players and officials who helped by giving feedback on the qualities of each type of ball. Some advantages of the new juvenile balls are that they replace the imported handballs and are very suitable for introducing the game to juveniles and can be played with the palm of the hand rather than with the closed fist thus helping children to develop the skills at an earlier stage.

Because of the smaller size of the new juvenile ball, the Handball Council has made the wearing of protective eyeguards compulsory for those using this ball. This is in the interest of player safety and the possibility of the mandatory wearing of eyeguards for all handball codes may become a reality if present efforts to introduce a player injury scheme are successful.

## FÉILE NA nGAEL

Féile na nGael was again organised in Tipperary where the Handball Committee and the host clubs did an excellent job in organising the five competitions, two in 60 x 30 and three in 40 x 20, and we thank all those who helped in any way to make this possible. A special thanks is due to Ken Conway for his organisation of the whole programme and for co-ordinating the events at all the venues.

Congratulations to the Féile na nGael Executive and to the local organising committee on the staging of the 21st Féile with its splendid presentation of the hurling and camogie matches, the extensive social and cultural programmes, the Féile Mass in Semple Stadium followed by the magnificent parade through the town of Thurles and the national Féile finals. This major GAA Youth Festival required a tremendous amount of detailed planning at each of the venues and at every associated event. Féile is now a well established event in the GAA calendar and we owe a great debt of gratitude to those responsible for the initiation and ongoing development of Féile. Any review of Féile would be incomplete without a special word of congratulations to Pádraig P. Guthrie who, as Rúnaí of An Coiste Stiúrtha Náisiúnta, has been the driving force behind Féile and to Séamus Ó Riain, Iar-Uachtarán, C.L.G., for his initial interest in and ongoing guidance for this marvellous G.A.A. Youth Movement.

Féile '92 will be held in Galway where there has been much juvenile handball development during the past few years. This will provide an excellent opportunity for Galway Clubs to develop the standard of handball further and to host the visiting Clubs from all parts of the country. Handball in Féile will revert to a three-day event this year with "round robin" matches commencing at noon on Friday 26th June. The play-off stages will be held on the Saturday followed by the Féile Mass and parade on the Sunday.

All counties are encouraged to make a special effort to be represented in Féile '92 and to benefit from the experience of a wonderful weekend of GAA youth activity.



*Patsy Hand, Cavan (centre), celebrates Sligo's victory with Francis McCann and Paddy Walsh.*

## PUBLIC RELATIONS/PUBLICITY

There has been a significant improvement in the level of coverage for handball over the past year. Fixtures and results have been featured on national radio and television programmes and we appreciate the co-operation of the producers and presenters of RTE's Sports programmes in this regard.

A weekly handball column has been restored to the *Irish Press* and we are grateful to John Redmond, Group Sports Editor, in facilitating this. Our thanks to Liam Gorman, *Irish Press* Handball Correspondent, Roddy Hyland, *Irish Independent* Handball Correspondent and Seán Potts who channels our results to the national media for their great work over the past year. Mark Lane, before his move to the RTE Newsroom, was extremely efficient in the latter role and we wish him every success in his new post. The *Irish News* has re-established its weekly handball column, very ably provided by Richard Murphy while Joe Lennon features handball in his GAA column in the *Sunday News*. Handball also features prominently in the *Cork Examiner* and coverage of the game in most provincial papers and many of the community radio stations is very impressive. It is our experience that information provided for the various media will be used in some measure but not always as prominently as we would wish. However, we are pleased with the overall improvements and are confident that these will help to improve the profile of and interest in handball.

We also thank Owen McCann for his features in the *Sunday Press* and GAA magazines, while a very welcome development has been the inclusion of handball in *Gael Sport*, the new official GAA magazine. *Gaelic Sport* and *Gaelic World* also include coverage of handball in their publications and the game has featured very prominently in a small number of GAA Annual publications. There is much room for improvement in this area and handball units, and PROs in particular, must provide well-presented and adequate material for inclusion in the GAA publications.

### Seán Clerkin

No review of the communications and public relations area would be complete without reference to the tremendous work of Seán Clerkin over a thirty-year period in relaying handball news through his features, articles, reviews and handball notes in the national media. He has given tremendous service to the game and to our members and we hope that he will have many happy memories of his years as handball PRO. We thank Seán, his wife and his family for their great co-operation and kindness over the years in providing an excellent service to handball.



Seán Clerkin (centre) who retired from his post as Handball P.R.O. (1961-1991) receives a presentation from Néill Ó Cathail, Uachtarán and Seamus Mac Conraoi on behalf of the Irish Handball Council.

## Mick Dunne

Mick Dunne has been a lifelong friend of handball and through his good offices, the game has benefited greatly from TV and radio coverage. He played a major role in the establishment of the RTE Top Ace series and although now retired officially from RTE, he will play a major part in the presentation of the forthcoming Irish Open 40 x 20 Singles Championship. We wish him well in his retirement and know that he will always continue his interest in handball in Ireland and at international level.

## AWARDS

The presentation of the B + I Handballer of the Year Award has been a feature of the game for a long number of years. The Handball Council appreciates very much the contribution of B + I to an award scheme which was highly valued by players and the handball public alike. We are pleased that National Irish Bank will now sponsor the Handballer of the Year Award as part of their sponsorship of the GAA Awards.

A number of counties and other units have awards schemes in place and I feel that we should review our position in this regard at national level. The incoming Development Committee could well consider the establishment of a scheme of national awards covering such items as (a) Juvenile development at Club level, (b) best presented Club facilities, (c) best Club/County publication, (d) best Club handball notes, (e) best County report. Many other items could be examined and such a scheme could benefit the organisation and game in many ways.

## HANDBALL MARATHON FOR CHILDREN'S CANCER RESEARCH

The Irish Handball Council warmly welcomes the initiative of the Naomh Mhuire Club, Leixlip, in organising a major fund-raising Handball Marathon in aid of Children's Cancer Research. This joint promotion with Our Lady's Hospital for Sick Children is worthy of the support of every person in Ireland. There is scarcely a family which has not been touched in some way, directly or indirectly, by cancer. This is even more poignant when the patient is a child. And this is what makes the Handball Marathon so special.

The Handball Marathon will also be an occasion when people of any age can try their hand at handball. It is an enjoyable sport for individuals, for families and for groups of any kind. It is a lifelong sport which provides healthy recreational activity to suit one's age, level of fitness and interest in competition. The Marathon will be an opportunity to join in the fun, try out handball and contribute to the very worthy cause of cancer research.

The Irish Handball Council congratulate Our Lady's Hospital and the Naomh Mhuire Handball Club, Leixlip, on promoting and organising this magnificent fund-raising venture. We urge everyone to support them in generating the much-needed funds. Finally, we wish the Handball Marathon every success in the knowledge that it will give a new lease of life to many sick children and bring their families as much light, faith and hope as the Moran family of Celbridge experienced in their lives.

## COMMUNICATIONS

Motions to a number of county conventions suggest that information regarding national events and fixtures in general is not distributed as widely as it might be within counties. General information is circulated to counties and provinces on a weekly basis but this must be disseminated on a much wider scale.

In an effort to communicate more directly with clubs and

members, a copy of this annual report will be provided for all registered members. We are hopeful that this will make people in general much more aware of the work of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann.



*Peter McAuley, Louth, who won his first ever senior All-Ireland medal and the American 23 and Under championship in June 1991.*

## ADMINISTRATION

I feel it is opportune for all units from club to national level to review their administration structures with particular reference to the committee structures at the upper levels. There is a great need to establish links between similar committees at county, provincial and national levels. There should be more direct links between those units with regard to work in areas such as coaching, juvenile developments, fixtures and administration. Consideration might also be given to establishing a three-year term for some central committees, for example, the Coaching Council and the Development Committee with their term of office to co-incide with that of the Uachtarán. This would help facilitate the implementation of various plans and projects over a three-year period which does not necessarily happen over the present twelve month period following which committee elections take place. The three-year term has been very successful in Cumann Lúthchleas Gael where the vast majority of committees and work groups are now operating that system. A similar move would greatly benefit handball.

## COSPÓIR

Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann wishes to record its appreciation of the grant-aid received from the **COSPÓIR** allocation of **National Lottery funds**. Without this, it would be impossible to maintain full-time service to handball. We also acknowledge the grant of £4,600 towards the cost of taking part in the 1990 USHA Championships and the 1991 World Championships and look forward to receiving major financial assistance for the staging of the next World Championships in Ireland in 1994.

On another note, our expectation — as outlined in the report to Comhdháil 1991 — was that our top players would receive substantially more than the £1,000 grant to Michael Walsh in 1990 when the **Grants to Outstanding Sportspersons** were announced for 1991. This was not the case: Michael Walsh again received £1,000 under the scheme and we compliment him on

this. But Handball Council members and our players were greatly disturbed by the fact that our three World and two USA Junior champions who submitted applications received no grants whatsoever. The grant-aid to handball players over the past four years is as follows — and the totals tell their own story:

	1988	1989	1990	1991
	£	£	£	£
M. Walsh	—	1,500	1,000	1,000
W. O'Connor	750	750	—	—
P. McAuley	750	—	—	—
	1,500	2,250	1,000	1,000

A total of 75 people from 21 sports received £137,250 between them in 1990 while 63 from 18 sports got £127,000 in 1991. One handballer received £1,000 in each of those years. In an effort to underline the value of these grants to handball as an ancient Irish sport with its major contribution to the development of world handball, a comprehensive document on Irish handball was submitted to COSPÓIR together with the 1992 applications. Our sport deserves very significant recognition and let us hope that this will be so when the grants are decided for 1992.

## FINANCE

As has been the case for several years, the lack of adequate funding is a difficulty for Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann. The Council plans to hold a national draw to raise money for the promotion and development of the game.

Other funding initiatives are in hand and a detailed development plan for handball, with a request for significant financial assistance, was submitted to Cumann Lúthchleas Gael in 1991. However, a sustained effort over a five-year period will be required to put the Irish Handball Council on a sound financial footing.



*James Cunningham, An Dún, Under-15 Singles 40 x 20 finalist.*



*Jim McCulloch, Aontroim, watches his country's juvenile girls in action in the All-Ireland final while Pat Ryan, Cill Dara, referees the game.*

## CEANNÁRAS LIATHRÓID LÁIMHE

An Coiste Bainistí Ceannáras has made a major effort to promote the use of national headquarters and this is proving successful. The bar operation showed a good profit in 1991 but the Club has made a further loss. The increased membership will help both areas and I feel that we are at last beginning to



overcome the difficulties of the late 1980s which badly affected the Centre. Weekly usage of the Ceannáras gymnasium has increased fourfold in the past six months and the Centre has the potential to attract many more members.

The 40 x 20 gallery and court have been decorated and the dressing rooms have been refurbished. Up-to-date security and safety equipment has been installed. The facilities need continuous upgrading; otherwise people will not be interested in using the Centre.

The Ceannáras Social Committee has done excellent work in organising a wide range of functions which have brought a new dimension to the place.

I wish to thank our Bar Manager, Michael Treacy, on his dedication and service to the Ceannáras Club. He has carried out his duties in a very efficient way and we are grateful to him for his genuine interest in all aspects of the Club.

On behalf of all who use the Centre and of those who attend for games, I wish to thank Caretaker, Richard McMullen, on his long and dedicated service to the Handball Centre and to members generally.

We also thank the casual helpers whose assistance and contributions are very much appreciated and valued. Finally, our thanks to the Ceannáras Committee under Cathaoirleach, Eamon Ó Briain, on their interest in and work for the Handball Centre.

## COMHAIRLE NA mBAN

Comhairle na mBan reported a successful year, completing their usual 40 x 20 and 60 x 30 All-Ireland Championships. The ladies took a significant initiative in organising a new mixed juvenile competition, sponsored by Gael-Linn, in which 16 teams took part. Bhí lá iontach ag na Clubanna a ghlac páirt ann agus tá an cosúlacht ann go mbeidh i bhfad níos mó comórtasai mar sin againn as seo amach, agus níos mó clubanna páirteach iontu.

Brídín Uí Mhaolagáin retired from her position as Uachtarán, Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na mBan and was elected Uachtarán of Cumann Camógaíochta na nGael. Gabhaimid buíochas di as ucht gach a rinne sí chun liathróid láimhe do na mná a fhorbairt agus a eagrú agus táimid cinnte go mbeidh tréimhse fiúntach aici sa phost seo.

Aine Uí Neachtain became President of the Ladies Handball Council and has had a very successful past year in office.



*Toni O'Byrne, Iar Rúnaí Comhairle na mBan, and Vincent Wynne, incoming Ladies Council delegate to the Handball Council.*



*Mary Lindsay, Antrim, following the action in the girls juvenile finals.*

## SYMPATHY

During the past year, a number of prominent handball personnel passed on to their eternal reward. Máirtín O'Neill who served as Handball Secretary from 1932 to 1949, partnered Luke Sherry (Cill Mhantáin) to become the first players to win two Senior Softball Doubles titles (1930, '31) in succession. The late Harry Haddock, Ard Mhacha, was the first player to bring an All-Ireland handball title to Ulster in 1948 and continued to play the game until last year.

Jimmy O'Brien was the first Kerryman to win an All-Ireland title, the inaugural Minor Softball Singles Championship in 1949 following which he won nine Senior Softball Doubles medals – a record which still stands – and a total of 15 All-Ireland medals from 1949 to 1972. Christy Delaney, Cill Chainnigh, won a Senior Softball Doubles national title in 1954.

Steve Casey, Gaillimh, who was Connacht Secretary for over thirty years and served as Uachtarán of Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann from 1959 to 1962 was a most competent and efficient administrator. May these men who were so prominent in handball circles, bringing enjoyment and

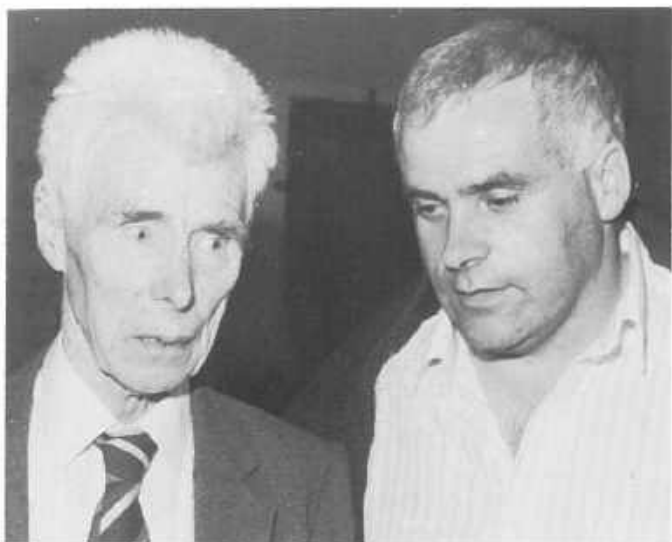


*Mixed Doubles pairs in the inaugural Under-14 Gael Linn competition. I láthair freisin: Brídín Uí Mhaolagáin, Iar Uachtarán Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na mBan, Roibeárd Mac Gabhráin, Gael Linn agus Aine Uí Neachtain, Uachtarán, Comhairle na mBan.*



entertainment to thousands of people during their lifetimes, now enjoy prominent places in heaven.

To their families and friends, Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann extends the sympathy of all handball personnel.



At the Softball Finals were the late Harry Haddock, Ard Mhacha (J.S.S. champion in 1948) and Patsy Hand, An Cabhán.



The late Steve Casey, former Handball Council President, presents the Silver Masters A Singles winner's medal to John Browne, Cill Dara (top) and the runner-up medal to Nicholas Clancy, Gaillimh.

## BUÍOCHAS

Ba mhaith le Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann buíochas a ghabháil le hArd-Chomhairle agus le Coiste Bainistí Cumann Lúthchleas Gael as ucht a dtacaíocht do liathróid láimhe. Ár mbuíochas, freisin, do Liam Ó Maolmhicil, Ard-

Stiúrthóir agus foireann na h-oifige as ucht an chabhair agus an chomhairle a thug siad dúinn i rith na bliana.

I wish to thank the GAA staff for their advice and support in many ways during the year. **Robert Allen** and **Muireann Ní Mhainín** who meet people as they come to Áras Daimhín have been most helpful and many others have assisted us in several ways also.

We also wish to thank all GAA units and personnel who assist in any way with handball at club and other levels. Without their help and support, handball members would have a much more difficult task in promoting and administering the game. We acknowledge in particular the tangible recognition of handball by most GAA County Committees by way of grant-aid, facilitating handball flag days/collections at County Finals, giving the County Handball Committee the opportunity to produce the programme for a major home fixture in the Royal Liver League, providing administrative help for handball and featuring the game in annual publications.

Our thanks are due to all those who help to administer handball affairs at various levels of the organisation. Without the dedication and commitment of so many **voluntary officials**, it would be impossible to carry out our extensive fixtures schedule from county to national level.

Thanks also to the members of all our **Central Committees** for their attendance at and contributions to meetings and for their advice and assistance in many other ways. I wish to thank our **Uachtarán, Néill Ó Cathail**, for his help and guidance throughout the year; he has always been available for advice and discussion and this is greatly appreciated.

I also wish to thank **Cionnaith Ó Conbhuí, Cisteoir**, for his role in budgeting and financial planning. His professional expertise in this area is most valuable.

The thanks of all handball personnel are due to our **players** who take part in the championships. We often take them for granted but the vast majority of players give total commitment to handball and we appreciate the efforts which they make to prepare for the championships. Many of them are also involved in coaching and administration and, hopefully, many more will follow in these vital areas. The Council acknowledges that players can make a very valuable contribution to the organisation of handball in the broadest sense and held an initial meeting with players in December to discuss matters of mutual concern. This policy will be continued throughout 1992.

On behalf of all handball units I express our thanks and appreciation to Áine Ní Reideacáin for her very valuable work in providing the essential links with our units and officials through her secretarial and communication skills. I hope the service provided by central office has been satisfactory and that, together with players and officials, we can improve the level of service to the game.

## FOCAL SCOIR

I believe that 1992 can be a watershed in the world of handball: many events and promotions will provide the springboard and impetus for developing the game at school and club levels. We must take advantage of the opportunities which the public awareness of the game will offer for developing our clubs and structures. We can establish a good basis for the future and I hope that when we review the Council's affairs in 1993 we can report that there will have been much progress.

Leanaimís leis an dea-obair d'ár gcluiche agus ár mbaill.

*Lorcán Ó Ruairc*

LORCÁN Ó RUAIRC, RIARTHÓIR Náisiúnta

# Team Manager's Report — USHA Junior Championships

DALLAS, TEXAS — 27-29 DECEMBER 1991

## SUN, 22 DEC. 91

The Irish handball team left Dublin Sun. 22 December 1991 at 0640 and consisted of team members:-

- 15 and Under — Michael McHale, Co Roscommon.  
— Brian Grennan, Co Offaly.
- 17 and Under — Ciaran Curran, Co Tyrone.  
— Michael Finnegan, Co Cavan.
- 19 and Under — Adrian Benson, Dublin.

Also travelling were support party of Kit Finnegan, Cavan, Michael McCloskey, Dublin, Mrs Patricia McEntee, Belfast and myself as Team Manager.

Mr Niall Cahill, President, Irish Handball Council and relatives of the players saw us off from the airport.

Our outward journey was rather uneventful except that during the long Atlantic leg of the trip, I managed to get the lads a visit to the "flight deck". Incidentally, the flight engineer who was from Belfast had some knowledge of handball and wished the squad a successful tournament.

The weather in Dallas was springlike and remained that way for the duration of our stay. We booked into the Fairmount Hotel in the heart of downtown Dallas, a top class hotel just across the street from the YMCA which was the venue for the championships.

## MON. 23 DEC. 91

We paid our first visit to the "Y" at 10.00am to get an early start on training. The hospitality and friendliness extended to us by all concerned is worthy of note. Our first training session was really to get the "strangeness" of the surroundings out of the system and was very successful in this regard.

## TUES. 24 DEC. 91 — SERIOUS TRAINING

This morning the squad was back in the "Y" for a major workout. We had play on the types of court that would be used in the championships. Thankfully, the totally enclosed court of yesterday would not be used. I was quite pleased with the action during training. Everyone gave top effort, and the improvement of play over that from the jet-lagged limbs of yesterday was noticeable. There were a few problems here and there but mainly of a tactical nature that could be ironed out. This was due in the main to the incredible difference in the speed of the ball around the court consequently could lead to all sorts of "set-ups" being given to opponents. This problem was, if not completely eradicated, at least reduced to a non-worry level. The heat of the courts was such that any stamina weakness would quickly become apparent and I felt that Brian Grennan, a wholehearted little battler, was suffering in this area.

In the evening, I had another group coaching chat with the lads. This was to prove a feature after each day's action and at which everybody was asked to give their observations both on what they themselves felt on their own performance and on other members of the squad. I believe that this particular exercise was of major importance. Kit Finnegan also took part in these sessions from time to time. Even though it was Christmas Eve, and the lads were a long way from home, morale was high. No injury worries to report at this time.

## CHRISTMAS DAY. 91.

A day of rest and relaxation. Mass in local Spanish Cathedral, 12.00 noon. Christmas dinner at around 7.00pm. Everyone in great form. The squad had phone calls home.



*Ciaran Curran from Tyrone who won his third successive American Junior title by taking the 17 and Under championship in Dallas.*

## THURS. 26 DEC. 91

To-day — the eve of battle — we had another very satisfactory workout. Little niggles beginning to appear. Ciarán had some slight bone bruise — got ice on it straight away. The draws were posted this morning and with the excitement that this engendered other developing ailments were quickly dispelled. The seedings on the whole were quite favourable. No complaints.

## FRI. 27 DEC. 91 — OPENING ROUNDS

First into action this morning was **Michael McHale** who had a first round match against Dan Dumrauf of Des Plaines, Illinois. Michael had a comfortable if somewhat nervous win — understandably so — 21-4, 21-9. Thankfully, he was not too heavily extended as I was becoming increasingly worried about the heat in the courts, and McHale was in action again at 5.00pm. Anyway, plenty of fluid was the order of the day. **Brian Grennan** had the easiest of all possible starts as his late entry opponent failed to materialise.

In the 19 and Under bracket, **Adrian Benson** proved too strong for Boston's Tim Maguire 21-3, 21-2 and as he too faced a second round match at 5.00pm, it was rather pleasing that the first round matches were little more than an easy introduction to handball American style.

In the evening quarter-final, **McHale** dismissed the challenge of Shawn Smith of Corpus Christi, Texas 21-3, 21-2. Brian Grennan's first taste of the action was a tough match against Jaime Resendez of Commerce California. He weathered the first 21-18 and took the second 21-7.

**Adrian Benson** met Brad Warren of Ontario, Canada. This proved to be one of the finest matches of the tournament. Warren, a powerful left-hander who in fact has only one hand, was subsequently awarded man of the tournament for this major performance against Benson. I overheard a spectator remark to his friend "That is the finest game of handball I have ever witnessed". Benson was at 20-20 in the first when he returned an unbelievable ball from left court that let him in to serve out the

game. In the second Warren's magnificent challenge faded 21-7 in the face of some great play by Benson who secured his place in the semi-final against the much talked-about David Chapman of Long Beach, California.

**Ciarán Curran** coasted through his opening match at 7.00pm against a rather ineffective Jason Keasling of Mt. Prospect, Illinois 21-0, 21-2 in the first of the 17 and Under matches. **Michael Finnegan** after an easy opener 21-5 over Mike Gustafson of Sioux Falls, South Dakota had a tough battle all the way in the second. He is a never say die player and held on to win 21-19. The first day of competition was over and all Irish interest was still alive.

#### SAT. 28 DEC. 91 — A CRUCIAL DAY

An early morning phone call from Jimmy Magee and "Saturday Two To Five" got the day off to a good start. The 17 and Under players were in action early this morning. Both Curran and Finnegan were due to play at 9.15am. **Curran** met Bill Marshall of Glen Flynn, Illinois recording 21-2 in the first. The second, however, did not follow the same script because Curran had to raise his game to top level to take the game 21-13. Curran's shoulders were beginning to give cause for concern. **Finnegan** in his match with Cory Gonsalves of Boston was getting it hard to find his rhythm. However, once in the groove it was all one-way traffic winning 21-13, 21-1. The semi-finals in this bracket were on at 3.15pm.

**Benson** went on court against Chapman at 10.30am. In the first Benson fell into playing Chapman's slow game and just couldn't find any way in to trouble or upset his opponent and went down 21-9. Chapman's shots were startlingly accurate but I knew that Adrian was capable of a much better performance. In the second Chapman had gone 5 points clear before Adrian started to get his game together. An excellent game and it was those 5 points that separated them at the end. I must say, at this stage, that 16 year-old Chapman is an exceptionally gifted player who to my mind, from what I witnessed, adds a new dimension to handball . . . he has already downed a couple of pro-players. Having said that, it also goes that Benson gave a great display in that second game. He can justly feel proud of his performance here this week.

At 11.45am **McHale** and **Grennan** went into their semi-finals against David Silveyra of Commerce, California and Mike Bargman of Ontario, Canada, respectively.

Silveyra was a fine young player, very deceptive and possessed excellent offensive and defensive qualities. He secured a comfortable cushion throughout the game between himself and McHale and things looked rather ominous at 20-17 down.



*Ireland's latest international handball champion, Michael McHale from St. Coman's Club, Roscommon, who won the USA 15 and Under title in Dallas, Texas, on 29th September 1991 from a field of 23 entries.*

McHale held on to level the scores at 20-20. I saw McHale shape-up for a left-hand blaster. I think I shut my eyes and prayed for a pass but the prayers were answered in another way because all I saw was that blue Ace roll out! I couldn't believe it. Does nothing for the manager's heart condition! McHale had taken the first. Between games McHale suffered a nose bleed and his arms were tiring very fast. Somehow, he was readied for the second game. In the event, Silveyra couldn't sustain his effort of the first and the stronger McHale went into an early lead and stayed there to win 21-12. We had our first finalist of the tournament.

**Brian Grennan** came unstuck against a very able Mike Bargman. He never managed to get into the game and after a valiant effort made his exit on 21-10, 21-6.

In the afternoon, we were all back for the 3.15pm semi-final of **Curran** versus Oscar Zamora of Des Plaines Illinois and **Finnegan** against the strong James Komsthoef of Walnut Creek, California. Ciarán had a virtual walk-over as Zamora, a great friend of the Irish contingent, was carrying an injury and though on occasion showed glimpses of his true ability was not able to offer any worthwhile resistance. Ciarán was into the final with a 21-3, 21-0 scoreline.

**Michael Finnegan**, meanwhile, was having a major problem with Komsthoef. Time and again, he had his man tactically beaten only to let him off the hook by failing to deliver on the final coup de grace. The scores were 21-15, 21-14 in a hard bruising contest. Suspect refereeing certainly did not benefit Finnegan in that first all important game. However, at the end of the day, Finnegan's customary sharpness was adrift at the crucial time.

Semi-finals day came to an end with two of our party through to the finals. Both Curran and McHale were suffering from sore shoulders. Unfortunately, we were unable to secure the services of a physio. Later I managed to obtain some sports injury ointments which I duly administered. The medical improvisation appeared to work as both declared themselves fully fit by nightfall.

The evening came to a close after the tournament banquet. An early to bed occasion.

#### SUN 29 DEC 91. — FINALS DAY.

Early breakfast and time to spare before the 10.30am start. Both finals were on at the same time on adjacent courts so it was a matter of trying to be in two places at the same time. Kit kept me up to date as I moved between the two. From an early stage, it was obvious that **Ciarán Curran** had the measure of Komsthoef and rattled out a 21-3 first game win. This allowed me to concentrate very much on the very tight affair between **Michael McHale** and Bargman. The early exchanges went in favour of the Canadian and only a point or two separated them as they duelled their way towards 21. McHale's power on the pass shot finally turned the tide in his favour to win out the first 21-18. The opening period of the second in which again McHale's power proved decisive was the determining factor that resulted in Bargman dropping the head and thereafter McHale simply went into cruise control to win the USHA 15 and Under Championship title. The score in the second was 21-6.

Ciarán, though in command during his second game found the going much tougher. He could not afford to let up because Komsthoef was, if nothing else, a real battler and I felt if he found a way into the game, he could cause trouble. My worries were obviously held by a minority of one, because Kit et al assured me there was nothing to worry about. I came around to the same conclusion—when Curran became champion with a second game scoreline of 21-11!

The USHA Junior Championships, Dallas, Texas 1991 had been brought to a successful conclusion, to continue the levels of success first started in this grade officially in 1981 with Michael "Duxie" Walsh of Kilkenny.



## RELAXATION — AND HOME

I would like to say thanks to Brídín Uí Mhaolagáin at this point because through her good offices by ringing a friend, Ken Foster, in Dallas — who, though an American through and through with no discernible drop of Irish blood in his veins, was nevertheless loud in his support for the Irish squad. Ken brought the whole Irish party out to his home and right royally entertained us. A memorable final evening in Dallas.

We arrived home in Dublin around 3.30pm New Year's Eve where the party was met by Lorcán Ó Ruairc and relatives of various members of the party. Also there to give us a VIP reception were Terry Leyden TD, Jimmy King, Chairman of the Coaching Council and Seán Lee also of the Coaching Council both of whom had put in a lot of work in preparing the squad for the championships. Pakie Hoare was there, rightfully proud of his young Roscommon protege. The reception was nicely rounded off with formalities in the VIP lounge of Dublin airport.

## THANKS

I would like at this point to thank Kit Finnegan for his help, freely given at all times. To Michael McCloskey who kept the whole party in a happy mood. To — I dare not forget — my wife who helped greatly with her medical knowledge for the various ailments that affected the stars.

To the stars themselves — a happy, troublefree bunch of lads whom I was proud to be associated with in all their endeavours. They did everything that was asked of them, and more. I say again, that which I said at the airport reception — if I could have hand-picked the squad, I could not have picked better! They were a credit to their country and their sport. Fine ambassadors.

Finally, my thanks to all those who allowed me to be a part of Dallas '91; to the members of my party who helped everything go so smoothly and to the squad — all of whom combined to give me a handballing occasion that I will always remember. Thank you all!

—SEÁN Mac an tSAOÍ, Team Manager.

Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann extends special thanks to the following benefactors of Irish Handball:

- ARD CHOMHAIRLE C.L.G.
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## FÉILE NA nGAEL

### 60 x 30 Roinn I: GARRYHILL, CO. CEATHARLACH

Adrian Ó Riain, Marc Ó Donnchú  
Cionnaith Ó Catháin, Daithí Stapleton

*Skills Test:* Barra Mac Eochaidh

Adrian Ryan, Mark O'Donoghue  
Kenneth Kane, David Stapleton

Barry Gough

Castlebridge, Co. Loch Garman

### 60 x 30 Roinn II: FAHY, CO. UIBH FHÁILÍ

Pól Ó Gleannáin, Seán Ó Murchú,  
Breandán Ó Gleannáin,  
Stiofán Ó Gleannáin

*Skills Test:* Pól Ó Gleannáin

Paul Glennon, Seán Murphy,  
Brendan Glennon  
Stephen Glennon

Paul Glennon

Fahy, Co. Uibh Fáilí

### 40 x 20 Roinn I: TOONAGH, CO. AN CHLÁIR

Seán Ó Madagáin, Ralph Ó Cuilleánáin,  
Adrian Ó Mearnáin, Brian Ó Mearnáin

*Skills Test* Antóin Ó hÉalaí

Shane Madigan, Ralph Cullinan  
Adrian Marrinan, Brian Marrinan

Tony Healy

Ballydesmond, Co. Chorcaí

### 40 x 20 Roinn II: LISPOLE, CO. CHIARRAÍ

*Skills Test* Micheál Ó Néill

Michael O'Neill

Templeudigan, Co. Loch Garman

### 40 x 20 Roinn III: GLENBEIGH, CO. CHIARRAÍ

Dominic Ó Loinsigh, Antóin Ó Loinsigh  
Seán Seosamh Ó Curirc, Stiofán Ó Sé,  
Caoimhín Ó Murchú

*Skills Test* Dominic Ó Loinsigh

Dominic Lynch, Anthony Lynch  
John Joe Quirke, Stephen O'Shea,  
Kevin Murphy

Dominic Lynch

Glenbeigh, Co. Chiarraí



# NA RÚIN

## REGISTRATION

1. That Riail 6 Fo-Rialacha C.L.L.E. be amended as follows:  
"General Rules of the G.A.A. apply except in the case of Registration, where the registration fee for adults shall be £3.  
(a) Each year before the 1st of March, the County Secretary shall forward the list of full members for the year to Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann."  
Remainder of Rule to remain unaltered.

*(Corcaigh)*

### 2. COUNTY COMMITTEE

That Riail 13 Fo-Rialacha C.L.L.E. be amended as follows:

- (F) "Prior to the 1st May each year, a County Committee shall submit to the Provincial Council a list of all affiliated clubs in the County with a fee of £10 per club (one half of which shall be transferred to Central Council before 1st July each year). Counties failing to comply with this rule shall forfeit representation on the Provincial Council and shall not be allowed compete in the current year's championships until lists and fees are furnished".

- (G) This Section to be deleted.

*(Corcaigh)*

## PROVINCIAL CONVENTION

3. That Riail 14 Fo-Rialacha C.L.L.E. be amended as follows:  
"A Provincial Convention shall be held prior to Annual Congress". Remainder of Rule to remain unaltered.

*(Corcaigh)*

4. That Riail 17 Fo-Rialacha C.L.L.E. be amended as follows:  
"A candidate for election as a Provincial Officer shall be nominated by a County Committee. Only Motions carried at County Convention may be submitted by that County Committee for consideration of the Provincial Convention. Such motions and nominations shall be made on Motion and Nomination paper, which shall be completed and returned to the Provincial Administrator at least one month prior to the Convention."

*(Corcaigh)*

5. That Riail 18 Fo-Rialacha C.L.L.E. be deleted.

*(Corcaigh)*

## ANNUAL CONGRESS

6. That Riail 26 Fo-Rialacha C.L.L.E. be amended as follows:  
"The Annual Congress shall be held on a Saturday and/or Sunday prior to the Annual GAA Congress. The venue to be selected by Central Council. It shall consist of the outgoing Council (voting rights as on the outgoing Council) the President Elect, and delegates from the counties on the basis of three delegates from a county. In cases where there is only one club in a county, it shall be entitled to only one delegate. Officers or Council members cannot appoint proxies to represent them at Annual Congress. The immediate Past-President shall be an ex-officio member for the year following his termination of office. Provincial Administrators and Past-Presidents shall be entitled to

attend and speak but shall not have voting rights."

Amend Rule 26 accordingly.

*(Cill Chainnigh)*

7. That Riail 26 Fo-Rialacha C.L.L.E. be amended, the following to be deleted from Rule:

"One of whom must be Under 21 years of age on 1st January of the year of Congress".

*(Corcaigh)*

8. That Riail 29 Fo-Rialacha C.L.L.E. be amended as follows:

"**Special Congress:** In special circumstances and with the support of a two-thirds majority of its members, Central Council may summon a Special Congress. Special Congress to consist of the same representation as is allowed at Annual Congress."

*(Corcaigh)*

9. That Riail 31 (a) Fo-Rialacha C.L.L.E. be amended as follows:

"Only Motions carried at County Convention and made on the Motion/Nomination paper may be submitted for discussion at Annual Congress. Such Motions shall be made on the Motion/Nomination paper which shall be sent to the County Committee at least eight weeks prior to Annual Congress which shall be completed and returned to the Riathóir at least six weeks prior to Congress."

*(Corcaigh)*

10. That Motions for Congress cannot be ruled out of order purely because appropriate rules have not been quoted.  
Amend Rule 31 (b) accordingly.

*(Baile Átha Cliath)*

## CHAMPIONSHIPS

11. That age qualification for age-related Championships be based on qualifying age being reached before the start of the Championship.

Amend Rule 47 accordingly.

*(Baile Átha Cliath)*

12. That Fo-Riail 47A Fo-Rialacha C.L.L.E. be amended as follows:

"Inter-County 60 x 30 and 40 x 20 National Leagues".

*(Cill Chainnigh)*

13. That Fo-Riail 48D Fo-Rialacha C.L.L.E. be amended as follows:

"The Under 21 Championships are confined to players in the 19-21 age bracket. Players must be 19 years of age or over and under 21 years of age on 1 January of the year of the championships."

*(Cill Chainnigh)*

14. That Riail 47D Fo-Rialacha C.L.L.E. be amended to read "Under 23 Softball and 40 x 20 Singles and Doubles". Delete Fo-Riail 48 section "B" and replace with "the Under 23 Championships are open to all players under 23 years of age on 1st January of the year of championships".

*(An Cabhán)*

15. That the 40 x 20 Inter-Club Championships be played immediately after the 40 x 20 All-Ireland Championships.

*(Cill Chainnigh)*

16. That the Junior Team of Four Inter-Club Championships in 60 x 30 and 40 x 20 be played to All-Ireland level.

*(Cill Chainnigh)*

17. That the Junior 60 x 30 and 40 x 20 All-Ireland Inter-Club Championships be re-introduced.

*(Loch Garman)*

18. That a 40 x 20 Open Doubles and Softball Open Doubles be introduced in tournament form which would be named Irish 40 x 20 Open and Irish 60 x 30 Open. Entries to be accepted from partnerships (not necessarily from the same county).

*(An Cabhán)*

19. That Riail 50 Fo-Rialacha C.L.L.E. be deleted.

*(Corcaigh)*

20. That Riail 57 Fo-Rialacha C.L.L.E. be deleted.

*(Corcaigh)*

## GRADINGS

21. That Riail 49(A) (i) and (ii) Fo-Rialacha C.L.L.E. be amended as follows:

- (i) "An Inter-County novice player shall not have won an inter-county All-Ireland Novice, Minor, U-21, Junior, Senior, Masters, Silver Masters or Golden Masters Championship in 40 x 20".

- (ii) "An Inter-County novice player shall not have won an inter-county All-Ireland Novice, Minor, U-21, Junior, Senior, Masters, Silver Masters or Golden Masters Championship in 60 x 30."

*(Ceatharlach)*

22. That Riail 49(E)(i) Fo-Rialacha C.L.L.E. be amended as follows:

"A Novice shall not have represented his county in Junior or Senior Championships in 60 x 30 and shall be over 19 years of age."

*(Tiobraid Árann, Cill Chainnigh)*

23. That Riail 49(E)(ii) Fo-Rialacha C.L.L.E. be amended as follows:

"A novice shall not have represented his county in Junior or Senior championships in 40 x 20 and shall be over 19 years of age."

*(Tiobraid Árann, Cill Chainnigh)*

24. That a team for the National League in 60 x 30 consist of one pair of Novice players and two pairs of Junior players or players who have not won a Senior All-Ireland title in 40 x 20 or 60 x 30.

*(Ceatharlach)*

*Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann  
wishes to thank*

# THE NATIONAL LOTTERY

*for funding provided under*

**THE NATIONAL LOTTERY SCHEME**



*At the 40 x 20 Juvenile Finals — John Molloy (referee) and Kit Finnegan, Fr. John Gilhooley, Jimmy McKeon and Dominic Sheridan, all from Cavan.*

# Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann

## CEANNÁRAS CLUB

### INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNTS for the year ended 30th September 1991

	IR£	IR£	30-9-1990 IR£
<b>INCOME</b>			
Membership Fees .....	5,430		5,215
Court Booking Fees .....	3,860		5,400
Other Fees .....	1,136		353
Shop Sales .....	10,242		8,308
Less: Cost of Sales .....	(7,590)		(5,578)
	<u>2,652</u>		
		13,078	<u>13,698</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE</b>			
Wages .....	13,606		12,700
Telephone .....	834		—
Light and Heat .....	5,117		5,214
Repairs and Cleaning .....	106		206
Accountancy Fees .....	375		375
Sundries .....	799		596
Security .....	761		—
Insurance .....	94		—
		<u>21,692</u>	<u>19,091</u>
Deficit for Year .....		(8,614)	(5,393)
Opening Deficit .....		(15,060)	(9,667)
Closing Deficit .....		<u>(23,674)</u>	<u>(15,060)</u>

### BALANCE SHEET As at 30th September 1991

	IR£	IR£	30.9.1990 IR£
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Stock on Hand .....	1,116		1,023
Debtors .....	<u>2,591</u>		—
	3,707		<u>1,023</u>
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Bank Overdraft .....	24,610		11,713
Creditors .....	<u>2,771</u>		<u>4,370</u>
	27,381		<u>16,083</u>
<b>NET LIABILITIES</b> .....		<u>(23,674)</u>	<u>(15,060)</u>
<b>FINANCED BY</b>			
Accumulated Deficit to Date .....		<u>(23,674)</u>	<u>(15,060)</u>

### ACCOUNTANTS REPORT

We have prepared the forgoing Profit and Loss Account and Balance Sheet from the books, vouchers and information supplied to us by Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann and we certify same to be correct and in accordance therewith.

GORMAN QUIGLEY & COMPANY, Chartered Accountants.

3 Boyne House, Harolds Cross Bridge, Dublin 6W.

We approve these accounts and confirm that we have made available all relevant records and information for their preparation.



# Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann

## CEANNÁRAS CLUB *Lounge*

### TRADING AND PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT for the year ended 30th September 1991

	IR£	IR£	30-9-1990 IR£
SALES .....	88,374		80,429
COST OF SALES .....	53,862		55,192
GROSS PROFIT .....		34,512	25,237
<b>OVERHEAD EXPENSES</b>			
Wages .....	14,071		16,056
Pension Premium .....	1,020		1,010
Light and Heat .....	3,412		3,005
Repairs, Cleaning and Bar Ware .....	2,980		2,968
Security .....	269		295
Licence Renewal .....	1,581		643
Accounting Fees .....	600		600
Insurance .....	79		—
Sound System .....	681		—
Sundry Expenses .....	1,321		1,426
		26,014	26,003
NET PROFIT/(LOSS) FOR YEAR .....		8,498	(766)
COMHAIRLE LIATHRÓID LÁIMHE NA hÉIREANN		—	11,887
		8,498	(12,653)
OPENING SURPLUS .....		8,901	21,554
CLOSING SURPLUS .....		17,399	8,901

### BALANCE SHEET As at 30th September 1991

	IR£	IR£	30.9.1990 IR£
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>			
Bank .....	35,678		22,773
Cash on Hand .....	364		446
Prepayments .....	536		—
Stock .....	5,584		6,318
Debtors .....	—		554
	42,162		30,091
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>			
Creditors .....	24,763		21,190
NET ASSETS .....		17,399	8,901
<b>REPRESENTED BY</b>			
Accumulated Surplus to Date .....		17,399	8,901

### ACCOUNTANTS REPORT

We have prepared the forgoing Profit and Loss Account and Balance Sheet from the books, vouchers and information supplied to us by Comhairle Liathróid Láimhe na hÉireann and we certify same to be correct and in accordance therewith.

GORMAN QUIGLEY & COMPANY, Chartered Accountants.

3 Boyne House, Harolds Cross Bridge, Dublin 6W.

We approve these accounts and confirm that we have made available all relevant records and information for their preparation.

# ALL-IRELAND HANDBALL CHAMPIONS 1991

## 60 x 30

S.S.	Micheál Breathnach	Michael Walsh	Cill Chainnigh
S.D.	Micheál Breathnach, Eoin Ó Dunai	Michael Walsh, Eugene Downey	Cill Chainnigh
J.S.	Seán Rossiter	John Rossiter	Ceatharlach
J.D.	Seán Ó Donalláin, Néill Ó Braoin	John Donlon, Niall Breen	An Clár
M.S.	Brian Mac Giolla Ghualla	Brian Gilhooley	Loch Garman
M.D.	Daithí Ó Maolomhnaigh, Nollaig Ó Murchú	David Moloney, Noel Murphy	Tiobraid Árann
N.S.	Peadar Mac Conmara	Peter McNamara	Luimneach
N.D.	Pádraig de hÓra, Laim Ó Duibhir	Paddy Hoare, Willie O'Dwyer	Tiobraid Árann
U21 S.	Graham Ó Briain	Graham O'Brien	Cill Chainnigh
U21 D.	Tomás Ó hEidhin, Pól Ó Cárthaigh	Tommy Hynes, Paul Carty	Loch Garman
Mas A S.	Liam de Róiste	Liam Roache	Muigheo
Mas A D.	Eamon Ó Bogaigh, Séamus Ó Gógán	Ned Buggy, Jimmy Goggins	Loch Garman
Mas B S.	Micheál Laimbeart	Michael Lambert	Loch Garman
Mas B D.	Séamus Ó Cléirigh, Micheál Ó Coirbín	Séamus Clarke, Michael Corbett	Muigheo
SMA S.	Seán de Brún	John Browne	Cill Dara
SMA D.	Daithí Ó hAonasa, Séamus Ó Néill	Doc Hennessy, Jim O'Neill	Cill Chainnigh
SMB S.	Seán Ó Laoi	Seán Lee	Tiobraid Árann
SMB D.	Liam Ó Murchú, Seán Ó Coigligh	Billy Murphy, John Cogley	Loch Garman
GMA S.	Nollaig Beaver	Noel Beaver	Loch Garman
GMA D.	Risteárd Breathnach, Liam Mac Fhearghais	Dick Walsh, Liam Ferguson	Baile Átha Cliath
GMB S.	Maitiú Ó Riain	Matt Ryan	Baile Átha Cliath
GMB D.	Micheál Ó Briain, Réamonn Ó Cuinn	Mick O'Brien, Ray Quinn	Baile Átha Cliath

## HARDBALL

S.H.S.	Peadar Mac Amhaláí	Peter McAuley	An Lú
S.H.D.	Liam de Búrca, Liam de Prat	Billy Bourke, Willie Pratt	Cill Chainnigh
J.H.S.	Micheál Breathnach	Michael Walsh	Cill Chainnigh
J.H.D.	Micheál Breathnach, Seán Ó Conghaile	Michael Walsh, John Connolly	Cill Chainnigh
M.H.S.	Daithí Ó Maolomhnaigh	David Moloney	Tiobraid Árann
M.H.D.	Daithí Ó Maolomhnaigh, Nollaig Marascal	David Moloney, Noel Marshall	Tiobraid Árann

## 40 x 20

S.S.	Micheál Breathnach	Michael Walsh	Cill Chainnigh
S.D.	Eamon Ó Coirbín, Seán Ó Donnchú	Eddie Corbett, John O'Donoghue	Tiobraid Árann
J.S.	Proinsias Mac Anna	Francis McCann	Sligeach
J.D.	Roibeárd Mac Cárthaigh, Séamus Mac Giolla Phóil	Robbie McCarthy, Jim Guilfoyle	An Iarmhí
M.S.	Ciarán Ó Corráin	Ciarán Curran	Tír Eoghain
M.D.	Daithí Ó Maolomhnaigh, Nollaig Ó Murchú	David Moloney, Noel Murphy	Tiobraid Árann
N.S.	Cóilín Ó hEithir	Collie O'Hare	Aontroim
N.D.	Cóilín Ó hEithir, Séamus Gearlann	Collie O'Hare, Jim Gartland	Aontroim
U21 S.	Séamus Mac Eoin	Jimmy McKeon	An Cabhán
U21 D.	Graham Ó Briain, Eamon de Lá	Graham O'Brien, Eamonn Law	Cill Chainnigh
Mas A S.	Seán Ó Ciarba	John Kirby	An Clár
Mas A D.	Greagóir Ó Sioradáin, Pádraig Mac Laithimh	Greg Sheridan, Patsy Hand	An Cabhán
Mas B S.	Séamus Mac Giolla Éain	Jim McClean	Aontroim
Mas B D.	Seán Ferncombe, Micheál Mac Craith	John Ferncombe, Michael McGrath	Tiobraid Árann
Sil Mas A S.	Seán de Brún	John Browne	Cill Dara
Sil Mas A D.	Níoclás agus Liam Ó Céirín	Nicholas and Willie Kerins	Ciarraí
Sil Mas B S.	Seán Ó Laoi	Seán Lee	Tiobraid Árann
Sil Mas B D.	Somhairle Tanúir, Breandán Ó Briain	Sam Tanner, Brendan O'Brien	Corcaigh
GM S.	Seosamh Ó Meachair	Joey Maher	An Lú
GM D.	Pádraig Ó Caoimh, Eamon Ó Laocha	Pat O'Keeffe, Eddie Leahy	Cill Chainnigh

## ÓGÁNAIGH — 60 x 30

Faoi 14 S.	Stiofán Ó Fearghaill	Stephen Farrell	An Mhí
Faoi 14 D.	Adrian Ó Riain, Cionnaith Ó Catháin	Adrian Ryan, Kenneth Kane	Ceatharlach
Faoi 15 S.	Liam Ó Murchú	Willie Murphy	Cill Chainnigh
Faoi 15 D.	Antóin Ó hAnnracháin, Alan Ó hEachach	Tony Hanrahan, Alan Hawe	Cill Chainnigh
Faoi 16 S.	Micheál Ó Fionnagáin	Michael Finnegan	An Cabhán
Faoi 16 D.	Conal Ó Corráin, Pluncéid Ó Ceallaigh	Conal Curran, Plunkett Kelly	Tír Eoghain
Faoi 17 S.	Réamoinn Ó Fógartaigh	Raymond Fogarty	Laois
Faoi 17 D.	Gaibhnín Ó Bogaidh, Nioclás Barnes	Gavin Buggy, Nickey Barnes	Loch Garman

## ÓGÁNAIGH — 40 x 20

Faoi 14 S.	Stiofán Ó hÓra	Stephen O'Hara	An Clár
Faoi 14 D.	Adrian Ó Riain, Cionnaith Ó Catháin	Adrian Ryan, Kenneth Kane	Ceatharlach
Faoi 15 S.	Siómón Mac Craith	Simon McGrath	Loch Garman
Faoi 15 D.	Ciarán Mac Domhnaill, Pilip Ó Gallagáin	Ciarán McDonald, Philip Galligan	An Cabhán
Faoi 16 S.	Micheál Ó Fionnagáin	Michael Finnegan	An Cabhán
Faoi 16 D.	Liam Ó Freaghlaf, Deaglán Ó Freaghlaf	Liam Frawley, Declan Frawley	An Clár
Faoi 17 S.	Pól Ó Greacháin	Paul Graham	Aontroim
Faoi 17 D.	Damian Mac Guibhlín, Ruairí Ó Grógáin	Damian Given, Rory Grugan	Tír Eoghain

## TEAM CHAMPIONSHIPS

### **60 x 30 OPEN: CEANNANAS MÓR, CO. NA MÍ**

Seamus Mac Samhráin, Tomás Ó Sioradáin, Micheál Mac Samhráin, Seán Ó Maolmhuaidh, Séamus Ó Raghallaigh  
James McGovern, Tom Sheridan, Michael McGovern, John Molloy, Jimmy Reilly

### **60 x 30 NOVICE: NAOMH MHUIRE, CO. LOCH GARMAN**

Máirtín Ó Bogadh, Breandán Ó Murchú, Traolach Ó Broin, Gearóid Ó hÉalaí, Breandán Ó Cárthaigh  
Martin Buggy, Brendan Murphy, Terry Byrne, Ger Healy, Brendan Carty

### **40 x 20 OPEN: MAC DIARMADA, CO. AONTROMA**

Liam Silcoe Breandán Ó Réanaí, Seosamh Ó Réanaí, Labhrás Ó Réanaí  
Billy Silcock, Brendan Rainey, Joe Rainey, Larry Rainey

### **40 x 20 NOVICE: RAMSGRANGE, CO. LOCH GARMAN**

Séamus Ó Dúill, Marc Ó Murchú, Seán Ó Conbhúí, Brian Ó Dúill  
Jim Doyle, Mark Murphy, John Conway, Benny Doyle

## COLÁISTÍ — 60 x 30

Sóisear S	Lorcán Ó Mocháin	Lorcán Maughan	St. Joseph's, Glenamaddy
Sóisear D	Brian Ó Greannáin, Barra de Milne	Brian Grennan, Barry Milne	St. Brendan's C.S., Birr
Sinsear S	Dominic Mac Gearailt	Dominic Fitzgerald	Good Counsel, New Ross
Sinsear D	Micheál Ó Fionnagáin, Daithí Mac a' tSaoi	Michael Finnegan, David McEntee	St. Patrick's College, Cavan

## COLÁISTÍ — 40 x 20

Sóisear S	Micheál Ó Fionnagáin	Michael Finnegan	High School, Carrickmacross
Sóisear D	Micheál Mac Éil, Marc Ó Ceallaigh	Michael McHale, Mark Kelly	Roscommon C.B.S.
Sinsear S	Ciarán Ó Corráin	Ciarán Curran	Omagh C.B.S.
Sinsear D	Seosamh Ó Dálaigh, Pól Mac Eochagáin	Joe Daly, Paul Geoghegan	Kilkenny C.B.S.

## CEARDSCOILEANNA — 40 x 20

Sóisear S	Conal Ó Curráin	Conal Curran	Dean McGuirk School
Sóisear D	Conal Ó Corráin, Pluncéid Ó Ceallaigh	Conal Curran, Plunkett Kelly	Dean McGuirk School
Sinsear S	Nollaig Ó Murchú	Noel Murphy	Cashel Vocational School
Sinsear D	Nollaig Ó Murchú, M. Ó Cuinn	Noel Murphy, M. Quinn	Cashel Vocational School

## COMHAIRLE ARD-OIDEACHAIS

### **CHAMPIONSHIP: U.C.G.**

Feargal Mac Cochláin, Feargal Ó Mocháin, Seosamh Ó Mocháin, Seosamh Ó Ciarbha, Marcus Ó Conchubhair  
Feargal Coughlan, Fergal Maughan, Joseph Maughan, Joseph Carey, Marcus O'Connor

### **Open Singles: Eamon Ó Néill**

Eamon O'Neill

Garda College.

### **60 x 30 NATIONAL LEAGUE: CILL CHAINNIGH**

Damian Ó Briain, Seosamh Mac Antóin, Pilib Ó Parsúin, Máirtín Ó Nualláin, Piaras Ó Caoimh, Eamon de Lá  
Damian O'Brien, Joseph Mac Antóin, Philip Parsons, Martin Nolan, Piers O'Keeffe, Eamon Law.





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MEAMRAM 16/'91

CHUIG: RÚNAITHE CONTAE/CÚIGE, BAILL de na LÁR-CHOISTÍ  
Ó: LORCÁN Ó RUAIRC, RIARTHÓIR NAISIUNTA : DATA: 1.7.1991

1. HARDBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

The Minor hardball Doubles final was won by David Moloney and Noel Marshall who defeated Noel Murphy and Michael Carrie in an all-Cashel final on the scoreline 21-17, 7-21, 21-13.

2. SENIOR SOFTBALL CHAMPIONSHIPS

(a) ROUND 1 RESULTS

J O'Donoghue (Tipperary) dft R McCarthy (Westmeath)  
21-19, 21-10

W O'Connor (Meath) dft W Fitzgibbon (Tipperary)  
21-12, 21-4

E Corbett (Tipperary) dft F McCann, Sligo.  
21-19, 14-21, 21-11.

(b) FIXTURES

At Ceannáras, Saturday 6 July, 7.30pm

Eddie Lee (Dublin) v Tommy O'Rourke (Kildare)

Billy Bourke (Kilkenny) v Pat Donagh (Cavan)

3. 40 X 20 EXHIBITION GAME

Peter McAuley and Walter O'Connor will play an exhibition game in the 40 x 20 court at Ceannáras, Páirc an Chrócaigh on Saturday next at 7.30pm before the 60 x 30 matches. The game is being recording by Transworld T.V for international transmission later this month or in August in a short feature on handball.

4. REGISTRATION - 1991

Registration for 1991 are still awaited from several counties.

5. FÉILE NA nGAEL - RESULTS

<u>Roinn</u>	<u>Buaiteoirí</u>	<u>Runner-up</u>	<u>Skills winner</u>
60x30 I	Garryhill (Carlow)	Templeudigan (Wexford)	Barry Goff, <i>C. Goff</i> ( <del>Templeudigan</del> ).
60x30 II	Fahy (Offaly)	Horse & Jockey (Tipperary)	Paul Glennon (Fahy)
40x20 I	Toonagh (Clare)	Ballydesmond (Cork)	Tony Healy (Ballydesmond)
40x20 II	Lispole (Kerry)	Carrickmacross (Monaghan)	Michael O'Neill (Wexford)
40x 20 III	Glenbeigh (Kerry)	Silvermines (Tipperary)	Dominic Lynch (Glenbeigh)

Lorcán Ó Ruairc.

**A**t 7.57 am, on Thursday, 19th July, 1984, an earthquake struck the east coast of Ireland. Recording 5.5 on the Richter scale, the tremor caused little damage.

The real shock, however, was that it happened at all. And it proves the point that one has to expect the unexpected.

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