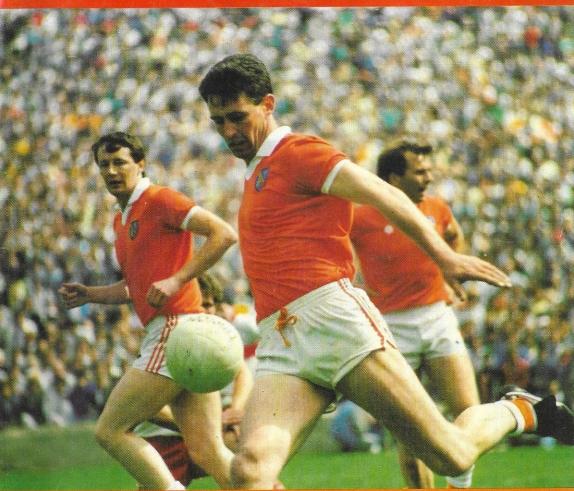


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Ulster Football Championship 1988
SEMI-FINALS

in

St. Molaise Park, Irvinestown on Sunday, 26th June, 1988

SENIOR (70 Minutes) :

Ard Mhacha v. Tír Eoghain

3.30 p.m.

Reiteóir: Michael Cranney (An Dún)

MINOR:

Dú na nGall v. Tír Eoghain

2 p.m.

Reiteóir: Michael Mallie (Ard Mhacha)

Clar Oifigiúil Micheal & Féireadha

Luach: 50p

© Foilsithe ag Comhairle Uladh Cumann Lúthchleas Gael, Béal Atha Beithe, Co. Muineachán.

Cover Photos :

Front: Armagh backs clear their lines. Back: Eugene McKenna, All-Star and International Traveller.

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Na Réiteóirí



Senior MICHAEL CRANNEY (An Dún)





Minor MICHAEL MALLIE (Ard Mhacha)

Buíochas

Comhairle Uladh wishes to thank all those who assisted in the production of today's programme, particularly Michael McGeary, Paddy O'Hara, Adrian Logan, John McGlinchey, Tony McGee, Kevin Hughes, John McAviney and Fintan McTiernan.

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Some Armagh Profiles

by Michael McGeary

Brian Canavan: The 28 year old Carrickcruppin clubman has been one of the county's most consistent and effective defenders for the best part of a decade. He has come through the ranks playing both with county minors and U-21's before making his senior debut in

A former Poly student he worked with Dunne's Stores for a long period before branching out on his own in his native Poyntzpass. A cousin of Declan, he revels in the big match atmosphere and he has emerged with credit from his many personal battles with Pat Spillane in Croke Park and other venues.





Kieran McGurk: In addition to being an accomplished midfielder the Garsfields clubman is also quite useful when it comes to converting penalties. When the heat was on against Mayo at Carrickon-Shannon in a relegation play-off he didn't let the side down.

And more recently against Donegal a fortnight ago at the Athletic Grounds he again was spot on with his penalty effort early in the second half. Since sampling Tyrone football with Kildress he has moved on to Sarsfields via Éire Og.

An outstanding fielder who uses the ball exceptionally well he would in all probability have represented his province last season but for a recurring hand injury. To date the 26 year old has won both Ulster, Junior and Senior medals with the county.

Kieran McNally: An outstanding centre half back who feels as much at home in Chicago as in his native Lurgan. His contribution to the team since making his senior debut in 1981 has been immense.

That contribution has been recognised nationally with a B & I award and a trip to the States as an All Star replacement earlier this season. A tower of strength in the number six jersey his coolness under pressure and his deep penetrating runs out of defence have made him a firm favourite with Armagh supporters.





Aidan Short: The 26 year old Rangers clubman has played in a variety of positions since first playing for the county in 1981. An outstanding basketball player in his student days at St. Patrick's College, Armagh, he has in recent times been handed the role of marker. Twelve months ago against Donegal he was in direct opposition to Martin McHugh and it was the same again at the Athletic Grounds a fortnight ago. Prior to that he had the task of curbing Peter McGinnity.

A son of Crossmaglen publican Paddy, Aidan is another Armagh defender with a key role to play this afternoon.

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Lisnaskea Emmets are now in the third stage of their club development programme. Stage One involved the resurfacing and enlarging of the playing area. Stage Two consisted of providing seating facilities for spectators on the north bank. This present stage will provide dressing-rooms, committee rooms, etc. In order to meet the cost of this project, the club have launched a Five-Star Draw (as illustrated). Tickets are £30 Stg. each and can be paid for with three monthly instalments of £10. Anyone interested in purchasing a ticket can contact Martin Teague, Lower Main Street; Tommy McDermott, Macknagh; or by writing to Brian Armitage, Treasurer, Lisnaskea Emmets G.A.C., Main Street, Lisnaskea, Co. Fermanagh.

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An Cuimhin Leat?

To date Armagh have lifted seven Ulster senior titles the most recent being 1982 when they beat Fermanagh 0-10 to 1-4.

Armagh lost to Frank Mc-Guigan and Tyrone in the 1984 final on a 0-15 to 1-7 scoreline, but four years earlier beat Tyrone in the corresponding match 4-10 to 4-7. Twelve months ago at the semi-final stage Armagh ousted Tyrone 5-9 to 1-9.

Armagh beat Cavan on a 1-6 to 0-5 scoreline in the 1953 Ulster final and went on to reach the All Ireland final before losing to Kerry.

In 1977 Armagh beat Derry in the Ulster final 3-10 to 1-5 before losing to Dublin in the All Ireland final.

Armagh have a particularly good record against Connacht counties for 12 months ago they beat Roscommon in a relegation play off to retain their division one status and repeated the feat this season against Mayo at Carrick on Shannon.

In the league Armagh have the proud distinction of never having been out of division one and in addition they reached both the 1983 and 1985 finals only to lose to Down and Monaghan respectively.

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Fierce Rivalry



Fierce rivalry over the years between Armagh and Tyrone has always guaranteed a tense, tough close game. Twelve months ago, however, Tyrone had one of those days they would prefer to forget, when still basking in the reflected glory of the '86 campaign, they went down heavily 5-9 to 1-9 to Armagh, in the Semi-Final of the Ulster Senior Football Championship.

All season, injuries had been a huge Tyrone headache, and starting that day without the services of John Lynch, Paddy Ball, Eugene McKenna and Keyin McCabe, was too great an impediment for a vastly weakened side.

Some little time later, Art McCrory brought to an end, a long and fruitful care as Tyrone manager, and assistant Donal Donnelly took over control, for the commencement of the National League.

Nine points from seven matches in Division 3, and a defeat by Antrim 1-5 to 0-5 in the early states of the McKenna Cup, could not be considered ideal preparedness for the current championship.

Nevertheless, in a glorious exhibition of skill, determination and back-up play, Tyrone made light of past showings, and turning on the style, comprehensively defeated Antrim 3-13 to 2-4 in a one sided Championship 1st Round tie.

Armagh finished their Division 1 National League programme with 5 points from 7 games, and then performed a neck-saving exercise by beating Mayo 2-8 to 2-6, in a play-off series.

Two games in the championship, against Fermanagh and Donegal, could hardly have been in greater contrast.

Leading Fermanagh at half-time 2-7 to 0-4, chiefly through the clever play and finish of wingers Joev Cunningham and Jim McConville, Armagh were fortunate to survive a second-half awakening by Fermanagh, but held out to win by 2 points

Despite an inept and fragmentary effort by Donegal on June 12th, in the 2nd match, there was no question about an improved Armagh display, winning 2-10 to 8 points.

Ger Houlihan, Joey Donnelly, John Grimley and sub goalman, Fergal Harney were stars of a fully committed team, which seemed to be running into form at just the right time.

With both sides stepping up a gear on previous outings, hopefully, last year's bad-tempered affair will be forgotten, resulting in a Semi-Final more in keeping with the ability and endeavours of so many first-class players. Paddy O'Hara



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Gerry Arthurs of Keady

Gerry Arthurs, pictured at the 1984 All-Ireland Hurling Final in Thurles with Martin O Neill who served as Leinster Secretary for 42 years; between them a remarkable total of 85 years' service as provincial secretaries.



As you come into St. Molaise Park this afternoon, its an odds on bet that you saw Gerry Arthurs chatting with one of his many acquaintances. The Keady official has, for the past half-century, been the best-known and respected official on the Ulster G.A.A. scene.

As a player, Gerry's first inter-county appearance was in the Down colours in 1924! He captained the Armagh Junior team which won the Ulster championship in 1926, but through injury missed the All-Ireland Final of the competition when the first ever All-Ireland title came to Ulster. Gerry captained the team again in 1927, only to be beaten by Cavan in the Ulster Final. That Cavan team also won the national title and earned the Breffne county its first All-Ireland. Gerry continued to play with the county up to 1931, and in the meantime played club football in both Armagh and Monaghan on a regular basis!

Gerry was elected secretary/treasurer of the Armagh Board in 1923, and held the position of treasurer for forty-one years. He recalls an annual convention in Crossmaglen in 1924

when only four clubs affiliated, and none of those was from Armagh city.

Gerry was elected secretary of the Ulster Council in 1934 and held the position up until 1976. As an administrator and innovator, Gerry became a legend, and is recognised and admired throughout the whole country and beyond. The remarkable progress the G.A.A. made in Ulster during his forty-three years at the helm is a tribute to his dedication, his integrity and his ability to inspire those around him. Even here today, Gerry is assisting in the staging of our games, and his friendly greeting to old friends is as sincere and as appreciated as it has been for well over half a century.

One of Gerry's most treasured memories is of acting as umpire in the historic Polo Grounds All-Ireland of 1947. Other members of Gerry's family also contributed much to the Armagh G.A.A., notably Father Hugh, who was also a member of the 1926 All-Ireland team; the late Father Frank, who starred in the memorable Ulster senior final of 1939, against Cavan; and Bishop Eugene, who won McRory Cup honours with St. Patrick's.

It's no secret that Gerry's greatest ambition has still to be realised — to see the Sam Maguire Cup in the Orchard County. Perhaps today's game will bring that dream a little

close

ARD MHACHA

Dathanna: ORAISTE agus BAN

B. Mac Giolla Fhiondain Brian McAlinden (Capt.) (Sarsfields)

2 S. O Donghaile S. O Gormaile A. Mac an Ghirr Joey Donnelly John Grimley Aidan Short (Portmore) (Harps) (Rangers) B. O Ceannubhain C. Mac an Fhaili P. O Raifeartaigh Peter Rafferty Brian Canavan Kieran McNally (Carrickcruppen) (St. Paul's) (Grange) C. Mac Uirc M. Mac Uilin Kieran McGuirk Martin McQuillan (Sarsfields) (St. Patrick's) 10 11 D. O Ceannubhain C. O hEarnaigh M. O Tuathaigh Declan Canavan Colin Harney Martin Toye (Carrickcruppen) (Pearse Og) (Maghery) 13 14 15 S. O Cuinneagain G. O hUallachain S. Mac Conbhaill Joey Cunningham Gerard Houlihan Iim McConville (Rangers) (Pearse Ogs) (Rangers)

Fir Ionaid: 16, Paul Grimley (Pearse Ogs); 17, Vinnie Loughran (Keady); 18, Dermot Dowling (Killeavy); 19, Niall Smyth (Mullahoran); 20, Mark Grimley (Harps); 21, Fergal Harney (Pearse Ogs).

ARD MHACHA	Cúil	Cúilíní	Seachaí	45 m	Saor-Chiceanna
1ú Leath		20			
2ú Leath				A. A. C.	
Iomlán					

TÍR EOGHAIN

Dathanna: BAN agus DEARG

A. de Scealton Aidan Skelton (Drumquin)

2	3	4
R. Mac an Rothaich	C. Mac Gairbheith	P. O Broin
Raymond Munroe	Ciaran McGarvey	Paul Byrne
(Carrickmore)	(Aghyaran)	(Aghyaran)
5	6	7
S. O Loingsigh	N. Mag Fhinn	P. O Baoill
John Lynch	Noel McGinn	Paddy Ball
(Castlederg)	(Killyclogher)	(Aughabrack)
8		9
P. O Donnchaidh		H. Mac Cluair
Plunkett Donaghy		Harry McClure
(Aughabrack)		(Clonoe)
10	11	12
C. Mac Caba	E. Mac Cionna	S. O Conbhuir
Kevin McCabe	Eugene McKenna	Stephen Conway
(Clonoe)	(Augher)	(Cookstown)
13	14	15
D. O hAgain	P. O Coireallain	P. O Cuinn
Damien O'Hagan	Patsy Kerlin	Paudge Quinn
(Coalisland)	(Omagh)	(Ballygawley)
	` ' '	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,

Fir Ionaid: 16, Finbar McConnell (Newtownstewart); 17, Sean Donnelly (Trillick); 18, Enda Kilpatrick (Pomeroy); 19, Terry McCann (Killyclogher); 20, Sean McNally (Brackaville); 21, Colm Donaghy (Mov).

TIR EOGHAIN	Cúil	Cúilíní	Seachaí	45 m	Saor-Chiceanna
1ú Leath					
2ú Leath			2		
Iomlán					

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Some Tyrone Profiles

by Adrian Logan—UTV

Kevin McCabe is one of those versatile players who can perform in any position on the field. The Bank of Ireland All Star plays at full forward with his club Clonoe. It was his penalty which beat Galway and put Tyrone into the All Ireland final of '86. He had two Ulster Senior championship medals and his other interests include boxing. When the King of Clones is Boxing McCabe is always close at hand in the ring after the decision. No doubt he'll be looking to provide his own knock out blow today.





Ciaran McGarvey of Aghyaran is the gentleman of the side. One of the most underestimated players in the game many felt he was "robbed" of the All Star award in '86. He did later win the Tyrone Democrat/McConnell player of the year. And with a height advantage of 6ft 21/2 inches its hardly surprising Basketball is his number one sport. And his most difficult opponent . . . Eoin Liston . . . Ger Houlihan may change his mind after this afternoon.

Damien O'Hagan is sharp on the ball and thats hardly surprising when you think that in his younger days he was an accomplished

Along with Coalisland and Dungannon athletic clubs he performed with distinction in several Ulster and Irish championships. A classy footballer who played in Cork for a time. Recently married Damien is an All Star that has to be watched and like all athletes will be hoping to be first through the tape, today.





Eugene McKenna another of Tyrone's All Stars and the leader of the attack. One of the best all round players in the game. Many people believe his injury in the All Ireland final cost Tyrone the Sam

Has an interesting job. A few weeks back he was in Iran installing bullet proof windows for a Sheik over there. A bit like Jack Charlton this leader of men likes fishing and no doubt he's hoping for a good catch this afternoon.

Tyrone will beat Armagh Footballers but they won't beat their berries

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An bhfuil fhios agat . . .

In two club championship matches in Tyrone Kevin McCabe has scored a total of 4 goals 14 points. McCabe has already shattered the championship scoring record and his club Clonoe still have to play their semi final. Of Tyrone squad today seventeen were involved in that famous run to Croke Park in 1986. The last time Tyrone and Armagh met in the Ulster final was 1984. Tyrone won 0-15 to 1-7. Frank McGuigan was the star that day scoring 11 points from play. When Armagh and Tyrone met in last years seim-final Armagh won by 5-9 to 1-9. The goal scorers were Martin McQuillan, Denis Sealey, Ger Houlihan, Shane Skelton and Jim McCarville. Tyrones goal was scored by Eugene McKenna. Armagh top scorer so far is Joey Cunningham with a total of 2-7 after two matches against Fermanagh and Donegal. The last time Armagh won the Ulster title was in 1982. They beat Fermanagh 0-10 to 1-4. They also beat Tyrone in a cracking final in 1980 4-10 to 4-7. The first time Tyrone and Armagh met in the Ulster final was 1890. Armagh Harps beat Cookstown Owen Roe O'Neills 2 goals 8 points to 1 goal 2 points at Lisburn. Fr. Sean Hegarty had a strong connection with Tyrone football. When he was curate in Kildress he was also their team manager and playing mid field for Kildress was Ciaran McGurk.

Ciaran McGurk was voted last years Player of the Year by the

Armagh squad.



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Common Aim — Differing Views

By KEVIN HUGHES (Sunday World)



The respective managers of today's minor championship semi-finalists have several other things in common, one of which is the footballing village of Carrickmore. But they have totally contrasting views on one interesting topic!

Letterkenny ESB employee, Joe Winston, who used to live in that isolated Tyrone district, is currently in charge of the Donegal Under-18 team and he confesses to being a vociferous advocate of much more under-age inter-county competition.

"Two years ago we put a team in the Ted Webb Cup, which is for Under-16 sides, and is run in conjunction with the Connacht Championships. About 12 of those players have progressed to the present minor team and you can see that they are blending well with one

"Donegal have decided to maintain their policy of providing their young players with that useful outlet and I feel we will gain plenty of benefit from the link with Connacht in the years to

"There isn't a similar set-up in Ulster football, even though I think Down, Antrim and Meath have something akin to the idea going on amongst themselves. But I believe strongly that it's time there was a new one.

"I have heard all the arguments before. The Ulster Council will say there's enough football and if you introduce something like this for Under-16's then very soon you'll hear cries for them to bring in another tournament for the Under-14 age group. But I am not convinced by these," added Joe.

However, his counterpart in the Tyrone Minors dugout this afternoon, Carrickmore man Frank Martin, has firm convictions to the contrary.

"For a start, I would not be prepared to take on a young team groomed initially by someone else. And at that age I suspect the people in charge would be schoolteachers and I fear that the early influence from them leaves some lads with a lack of person leadership qualities.

"With Vocational Schools, McGrory Cup, County Minor and Club footballing commitments there's more than enough for the schoolboys. Parents, I dare say, wouldn't approve of the arrival of any more distractions at an age when it's hard enough for the youth to find time for everything.

"Don't forget, many of the young people who would be in the Under-16 teams would also be involved with minors and many of these other sides," added Frank emphatically.

Today in Irvinestown, though, there'll be no time to think of these issues — at least not until one or other of them is celebrating a win that will book their place in Clones on July 17th.

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Today's Minors



The Donegal team which defeated Fermanagh in the quarter-final.



The Tyrone team which defeated Antrim in the first round.

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Experience . .

By TONY McGEE

(Irish News and B.B.C.)



The old and the young — in terms of experience that is — are represented in today's Ulster senior semi-final by Brian McAlinden and Paul Byrne. It's something of an annual trip for one but a complete new scene for the other.

It's hard to believe but this is Brian McAlinden's 13th senior championship campaign. He's a hardened veteran of the rocky road but, of course, belies his years of toil in the name of Armagh.

In stark contrast, Paul Byrne from the hamlet of Aghyaran — he's close to being a Donegal man! — steps out for his first Ulster senior semi. He made his championship debut against Antrim and is the only "newcomer" in the Tyrone ranks.

"I'm glad that we had an easy day against Antrim," the 24-year-old corner-back tells me. "I was a bit worried about that game — it was a new experience for me — but, thankfully, things went well and I appreciated the fact that there wasn't a great lot of pressure on us."

Electrician Byrne has put a little extra spark into the Tyrone rearguard but if he hasn't much experience at county level he sure has at club level. He has been wearing the No. 3 jersey in the St. Davog's senior team since the tender age of 15!

The deeds of 'keeper Brian McAlinden are well-known of course. He is the longest serving Armagh man and has even the memories of an All-Ireland senior final behind him. And another memory that he doesn't cherish so much. He missed the quarter-final game against Donegal a few weeks ago which was a complete new experience for the Derrytrasna kitchen furniture manufacturer.

Reflects the 33-year-old Brian: "That's the first championship game I can ever recall missing since I joined the Armagh senior team at the end of 1974. It felt strange watching the game from the sidelines... and also watching the great performance of Fergal Harney in goals. It made me wonder if I was at the end of my days!"

It was an old tummy bug which kept McAlinden out of that game but, naturally, he was pleased with what he saw from his colleagues.

"Tyrone will be a different story," he reasons. "They don't give up the ghost until the match is over. However, when we were able to stay in Division One I knew we had a good, strong team and even though Tyrone have some of the best players in Ireland — Damien O'Hagan and Eugene McKenna, for example, I have every confidence in Armagh."

Paul Byrne would agree with Brian McAlinden about the quality of the Tyrone players. And he is delighted to be part and parcel of the side.

"I was in the panel during 1983/'84 but didn't get into the championship side. Then I missed out for a time but got back into the squad again for the last National League campaign. I got five matches then and also played in the Dr. McKenna Cup, so I have now become something of a regular.

"The championship is different, of course, but that game with Antrim has helped to settle me. Yes, Armagh will be different but I'm looking forward to the challenge . . . and the experience. For me, this semi-final is all that matters for the moment — the final doesn't even enter my head." insists Paul.

It seems the young and the old do think on the same lines. One day at a time, as fanatical Monaghan supporter Gloria sings about, is the theme song of both Paul and Brian.

TÍR EOGHAIN

MINOR

Dathanna: BAN agus DEARG

C. O Blee Cathal Blee (Aughabrack)

E. Mag Cathail Emyln McGale (Drumragh)

C. Mac Giolla Dhuibh Conor McElduff (Carrickmore) F. O Doibhlin Fay Devlin (Ardboe)

5
P. Mac Suibhne
Paul Sweeney
(Carrickmore)

T. Mac Fhinn Tony McGinn (Omagh) P. O Donnghaile
Paul Donnelly
(Beragh)

B. Mac Fhinn Barry McGinn (Omagh)

A. Mac Giolla Padraig Adrian Kilpatrick (Dungannon)

10

A. Mac Coise Adrian Cush (Donaghmore) B. O Searraigh Brendan Sherry (Eglish) 12
M. O Raifeartaigh
Marcus Rafferty
(Kileeshil)

13
B. O Dalaigh
Brian Daly
(Derrylaughan)

14 E. Mac Cafraidh Eamonn McCaffrey (Eskra) P. O Ceannabhain Peter Canavan (Killydogger)

Fir Ionaid: 16, Gerard Foley (Cookstown); 17, Anthony Quinn (Stewartstown); 18, Dermot Loughran (Carrickmore); 19, Aidan McGrath (Strabane); 20, Adrian Donnelly (Beragh); 21, Paul Boyle (Urney).

TIR EOGHAIN	Cúil	Cúilíní	Seachaí	45 m	Saor-Chiceanna
1ú Leath		-		П	
2ú Leath		1 - 20	A CONTRACTOR OF THE CONTRACTOR		2
Iomlán			55.400 at 411		

DÚN na nGALL

MINOR

Dathanna: GLAS agus BUI

D. O Nuallain Denis Nolan (Four Masters)

M. Mac Aoidh Michael McGee (Aodh Rua) 3
D. O Domhnaill
Declan O'Donnell
(St. Eunan's)

D. O Gallchoir Declan Gallagher (Ardara)

M. O Dochartaigh Mark Doherty (St. Eunan's) D. O Conallain
Damien Conlon
(Aodh Rua)

7 B. O Gallchoir Barry Gallagher (Aodh Rua)

M. Mac Seain Mark MacShane (Kilcar) T. O Baoil
Tony Boyle
(Dungloe)

10 S. Mac Giolla Bui Stephen McKelvey (Fintona) 11 S. O Dufaigh John Duffy (Aodh Rua) 12 L. O Braonain Luke Brennan (Ardara)

13 S. O Domhnaill John McDonnell (Kilcar) 14
D. O Brisleain
Donal Breslin (Capt.)
(Gaoth Dobhar)

B. O Cuinneagain
Barry Cunningham
(Killybegs)

Fir Ionaid: 16, Patrick Bonner (Dungloe); 17, David O'Dowd (St. Eunan's); 18, James Dillon (St. Eunan's); 19, Kieran Keown (Aodh Rua); 20, Dessie Cunningham (Naomh Columba); 21, Aidan Burke (Naomh Columba).

DUN na nGALL	Cúil	Cúilíní	Seachaí	45 m	Saor-Chiceanna
1ú Leath		-			
2ú Leath					
Iomlán					

