



# Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Dhún na nGall







# Páirc Sean Mac Cumhaill

Minor Division 1 Football Championship Final Saturday 19th September 2015 at 4.00pm

C.L.G. Naomh Adhamhnáin v C.L.G. Naomh Conaill

Réiteoir: Robbie O'Donnell

# Páirc Sean Mac Cumhaill

Minor Division 2 Football Championship Final Saturday 19th September 2015 at 2.00pm C.L.G. Cill Chartha v C.L.G. Balle Na nGalloglach Rélteoir: Paul Clifford





# Fáilte on Cathaoirleach

Is mor e an onoir domsa bheith anseo mar chathaoirleach Bord Na Leanai inniu.

It is indeed a great honour to welcome you all and the four finalists Clubs to Pairc Sean Mac Cumhaill this afternoon for our two County Minor Football Finals.

In our opening match we have Cill Cartha (Kilcar) and Baile Na nGalloglach (Milford) contesting the Minor B Final. In a transition time of emigration in our County it's a true reflection on where the underage work is successful and where great



youth Coaching is taking place. The Children's Board recognises the efforts and congratulate both Clubs on reaching the County Final. We encourage all the players and parents to thank the Minor Coaches for there time and work this year with the boys.

The pairing of Naomh Conaill (Glenties: Fintown) and Naomh Adhamhnain (Letterkenny) in today's Minor A Final is no surprise. Both Clubs are to be admired for their well structured underage Coaching programme. I continue to encourage all clubs inclusive of today's finalists to continue to give the youth of our County the opportunity to take part in Gaelic Games as the friendship and bonding within the Club underage teams last a lifetime. It is also only correct of me to acknowledge the unselfish work that takes place in the Northern and Southern Boards as well as the all county Children's Board.

I would especially recognise the workings of the Children's Board Secretary Jim Quinn who has looked after fixtures, and indeed today's programme. It is vital that we continue to bring the Minor Finals to our main County ground for there stand alone day of recognition, on the Donegal GAA calender of fixtures.

In conclusion I thank the Mc Cumhaills Club for having the pitch in immaculate condition and to the Referees Board and match officials in today's finals. We wish them well in their appointments.

Ta suil agam go mbainfidh achan duine sult as an la speisialta seo. Mise le meas Micheal Mac Craith Children's Officer Dun Na nGall.

Is Mise, le meas
Mícheál Mac Craith
Cathaoirleach - An Bord Leanaí

# **Ground Regulations**

- 01. All persons entering this ground are admitted only subject to the following Ground Regulations and to the Rules and regulations of Cumann Luthchcleas Gael. Entry to the ground shall be deemed to constitute unqualified acceptance of all these Rules and Regulations.
- 02. Fireworks, smoke canisters, gas- horns, bottles, glasses, cans, flags, banners, poles and other similar articles or containers, including anything which could or might be used as a weapon, are not permitted within the ground and any person in found to be in possession of such an article or container may be refused entry or ejected from the ground
- 03. The consumption of alcohol is not permitted within the ground and spectators are not permitted to bring alcohol into the ground.
- 04. The unauthorized climbing of any structure, walls or buildings in this ground strictly forbidden.
- 05 Unnecessary noise from the use of radio sets, gas-horns and behavior likely to cause confusion Of nuisance of any kind, including foul or abusive language, is not permitted in any part ot1he ground.
- Under no circumstances is it permitted to throw any object the pitch.

- 07. Unauthorised persons are not permitted to enter upon the field of play.
- Any person who fails to comply with the instruction from a Garda or Steward may be ejected from the ground.
- 09. In general, the right of admission is reserved to the Ground Management.
- The Ground Management reserves the right to refuse admission to or eject any person who refuses to be searched by a member of the Garda Siochana.
- 11 Any person who remains in or obstructs a gangway or circulation area may be ejected from the ground.
- 12. The Ground Management reserve the right for it's servants or agents to remove from the ground any person who does not comply with the Ground Regulations or whose presence In the ground could reasonably be construed as constituting a source of danger, nuisance or annoyance to other spectators.
- 13. All persons in the grounds are reminded of their obligation under Section 18(3) of the Fire Services Act 1981 to ensure that their behaviour does not present a danger from fire to anyone using the grounds.

# Amhrán na bhfiann

Sinne fiann a fáil,
Atá faoi gheall ag Éireann,
Buíonn dár slua
Thar toinn do ráinig chughhainn
Fé mhóid bheith saor,
Sean-tír ár sinsear feasta
Ní fhágfar faoin tíoran ná faoin tráill.
Anocht a theám sa bhearna baoil
Le gean ar Ghael chun baís nó saoil
Le gunna scréach faoi lámhach na bpiléar
Seo libh canaigh amhrán na bhfiann.

# C.L.G. Dhún na nGall

# CLUICHE CEANNAIS CRAOBH PEILE MIONÚR DHÚN NA NGALL

# **CLÁR AN LAE**

**1.40 pm.** Cill Chartha take the field and line up for team photograph

**1.43 pm.** Baile Na nGalloglach take the field and line up for team photograph

2.00 pm. Minor Division 2 Championship Final Cill Chartha v Baile Na nGalloglach

**3.20 pm.** Presentation of the Trophy by Mícheál Mac Cráith, Cathaoirleach An Bord Leanaí

3.40 pm. Naomh Adhmhnain take the field and line up for team photograph

3.43 pm. Naomh Conaill take the field and line up for team photograph

4.00 pm. Minor Division 1 Championship Final
Naomh Adhamhnáin v Naomh Conaill

**5.20 pm.** Presentation of the Trophy by Mícheál Mac Cráith, Cathaoirleach An Bord Leanaí

### **OFFICIALS**

# Minor Division 2 Championship Final Cill Chartha v Baile Na nGalloglach | Maor Line: Lee Jordan / Gerard McHugh Jr

Reiteoir:

Paul Clifford

Fourth Official:

Pat Wash

### **OFFICIALS**

### Minor Division 1 Championship Final Naomh Adhamhnáin v Naomh Conaill

Reiteoir:

Robbie O'Donnell

Maor Líne: Fourth Official: Leo Devenney / Val Murray Pat Wash

# Today's Referees

# Robbie O'Donnell (Naomh Muire, Íochtar Na Rosann)

Robbie O'Donnell has been a member of Naomh Muire, Lower Rosses, since his family returned from Glasgow in the Nineties.

He is married to Marion, and has five children, Robert, Emma, Jade, Jack and Thomas.

He has been Naomh Muire's Referee for up to twenty years, and has had the honour of being on the Ulster and National Referee panels for a number of years.

In Club football he has taken charge of two County Senior Finals in 2009 and 2012, as well as being in charge of County Intermediate, Junior and Under 21 Finals over the years.

At Inter County level he has refereed an Ulster Under 21 Final, and a Tommy Murphy Final, and a Division 3 National League Final in 2010, as well as two All Ireland Minor Quarter Finals and the 2011 All Ireland Minor Semi Final between Galway and Dublin. He was fourth Official in the 2010 All Ireland Final.

# Paul Clifford (Bun Cranncha)

### Pól Ó Clúmháin

D.O.B. 21 January 1969

Played underage football for Doire Colmcille and adult football for Steelstown. Played school football for St Columb's College in Derry, reaching the 1984 under 16 Ulster final.

Started refereeing in Derry in the year 2000, refereeing in Donegal since 2005 after moving to Buncrana in 2004. Was P.R.O. of Buncrana GAA for five years.



This will be my third County final after officiating at the 2013 under 16 county league final and the 2014 under 16 county championship final.

I have officiated at over 70 fixtures so far this season in the county and would like to thank my wife and family for their continued support.



CONSTRUCTION

Good luck to the CLG
Baile na nGalloglach
Minors from
Black & Doherty
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# C.L.G. Cill Chartha Minor Division 2 Championship PATHS TO THE FINAL

Regional Board			
First Round			
Kilcar	4-12	Naomh Ultan	2-7
Naomh Ultan	4-3	Kilcar	5-14
Regional Final			
Kilcar	2-8	Bundoran	2-6
County Semi-Final			
Kilcar	1-10	Cloughaneely	0-7

# C.L.G. Baile Na nGalloglach Minor Division 2 Championship PATHS TO THE FINAL

Regional Board			
Baile Na nGalloglach	2-17	Muff	2-8
Naomh Colmcille	0-0	Baile Na nGalloglach	1-5
Regional Quarter Final			
Baile Na nGalloglach	2-10	Fanad Gaels	1-9
Regional Semi Final			
Baile Na nGalloglach	1-12	Red Hughs	1-7
Regional Final			
Baile Na nGalloglach	1-12	Cloughaneely	1-8
County Semi-Final			
Baile Na nGalloglach	2-8	Bundoran	2-6

# C.L.G. Cill Chartha

# Kevin Lyons, Bainisteoir

We are really looking forward to this test against a very good side in Milford. They dispatched us very easily out of the league semi final some months back so we need to be at our very best to make a contest out of it.

Our minor team really consists of a couple of minors and under seventeen's, but is made up of mostly under sixteen's, who are really playing well in the division one championship and are through to the county semi final. In fact we will need at least three or four under fifth teens to make up our first fifth teen such is our shortage of older players.

I would like to finish off by wishing all the best to all the minor teams today and thanks also to my backroom team of John MacNulty and Michael Molloy and our physio Emma Mc Sweeney and i hope we can deliver the title down the trough to our supporters on Saturday.

# **Conor Doherty, Joint Captain**

It's great to be back in another county championship minor final. I think with our minor team this year we have come a long way since under fourteen and under sixteen, were we found it hard to compete but every year we have improved as players and as a team. we have a very young team, myself and two others would be the only ones that are eighteen, and we wouldn't have many at seventeen either. It would mostly consist of sixteen year olds, but our younger players have improved a lot and the under sixteens have had a great year making the regional county championship final in division One.

Our management of Kevin, John and Michael have been brilliant all year and without them we wouldn't be here today.

Minor championship final day is special and is one that doesn't come around to often,I was lucky enough to be involved in the minor team that won the division One final in 2012. This year I want to win this one more than any other one because it's my last year at minor and I want to end the year on a high.

Training has been going well at the minute and we know we will need a big performance this Saturday to overcome Milford. I would know a few players that play for Milford and over the last couple of years they are producing a lot of talented footballers and when we step out in Mac Cumhaill park this Saturday we will know that we will need a big performance over the full sixty minuets from everyone. If we can deliver the performance on the day well I think we have a great chance of getting over the line.

# Kilcar and Milford a novel final pairing

BY TOM COMACK (Donegal Democrat / Peoples Press)

When it comes to novel finals this afternoon's clash of Kilcar and Milford, in the Division Two final fits the bill.

Kilcar winners of four Minor A titles - two of them in the last five seasons- facing Milford, who are appearing in their first ever Division Two Championship decider. Milford have played in two Division Three finals. And those members of the Milford 2002 and '03 teams present in MacCumhaill Park, this afternoon will not need reminding they lost both - 2002 to an emerging Glenswilly and 2003 to Naomh Padraig (Muff).

That is why it may come as a surprise to most neutrals that Milford on the back of a 20 point Division Two County League semi-final victory over Kilcar earlier this year, enter this afternoon's tie as the favourites.

Milford go into the final having lost only two games this season. The lost their opening league game at the end of February and the Division Two County League final to Bundoran.

They lost our first league game to St Michael's we won all the rest including wins over Gaoth Dobhair, Cloughaneely and Fanad Gaels. They only other game they lost was to Bundoran, in the county league semi-final.

However, they avenged that defeat the week before last in the semi-final to book their place in this afternoon's decider.

Their other championship wins were over Naomh Padraig, Muff, Fanad Gaels, Red Hugh's and Cloughaneely.

Five the team - Ciaran Sheridan, Shay Durning, Patrick Ferry, Odhran Coll, Gavin Grier, Luke Trearty, Adam Serrinha and Kane Barrett - are all members of the Milford senior team, currently riding high at the top of the Division Three League team.

The remainder of the starting 15 all play senior reserve for the club.

Kilcar are on the other hand a very young

side with only three players - Conor Doherty, John James McNeilis and Eoin Byrne - in their last year as minors.

Daniel Lyons, John Gibbons and Pauric McShea, are the only 17 year

olds in manager Kevin

Lyons' squad. The rest is made up of 15 and 16 year olds.

"They are all very young and as always numbers are our problem," said the Kilcar boss who has John McNulty and Michael Molloy in his management team.

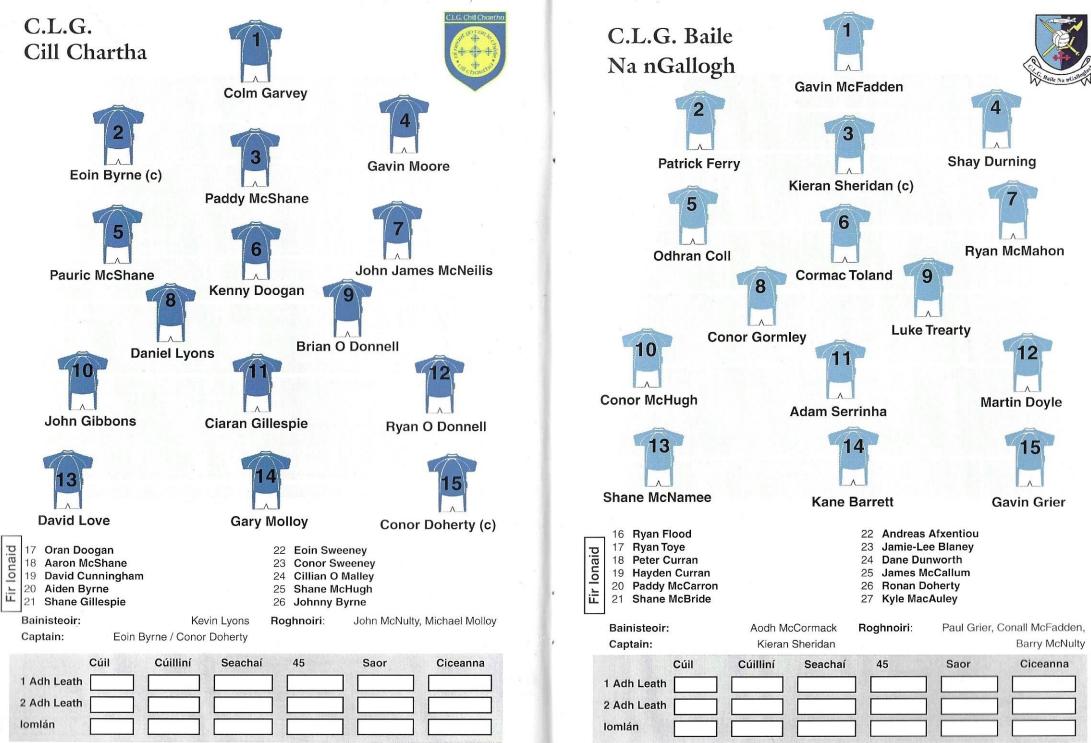
"But we are looking forward to the final and our objective as coaches at the club is to bring players through the age groups and by the time they come to minor that they have all the skills to graduate to senior football," said Kevin Lyons "This group have made great progress since U-14 when they did not win a game to losing a county league semi-final to Termon at U-16.

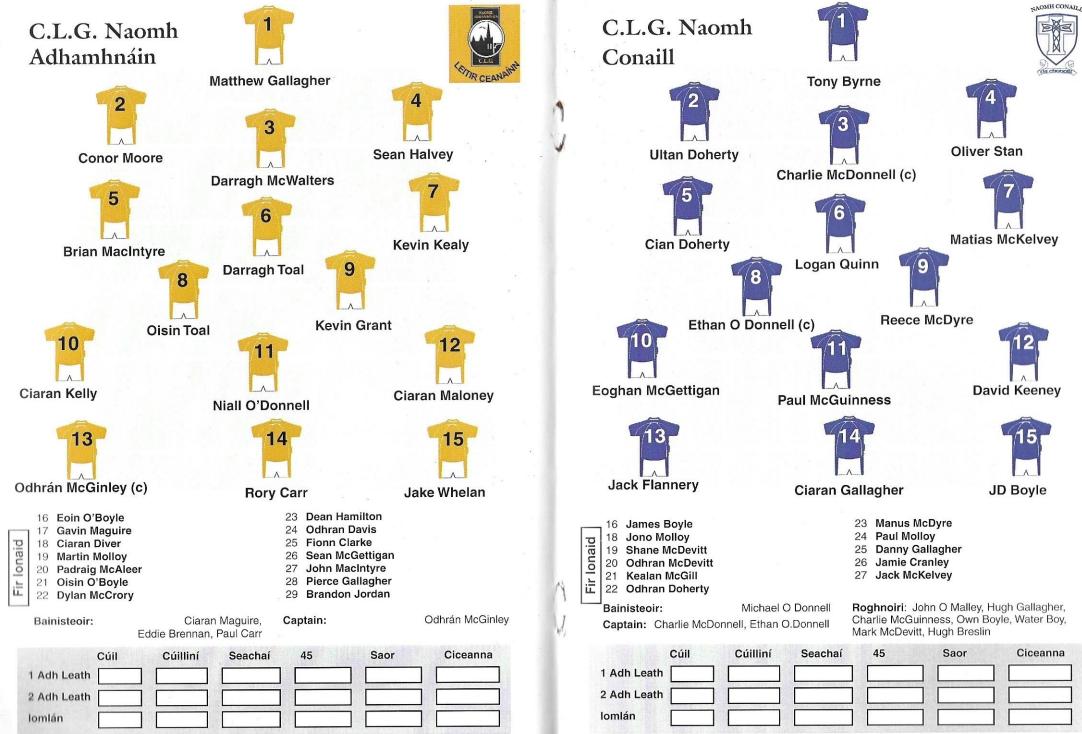
Kilcar have produced their best form in the championship after a poor league campaign.

They began their championship wit back to back wins over Naomh Ultan before they defeated, Division Two leagie champions Bundoran, in the Southern Regional final.

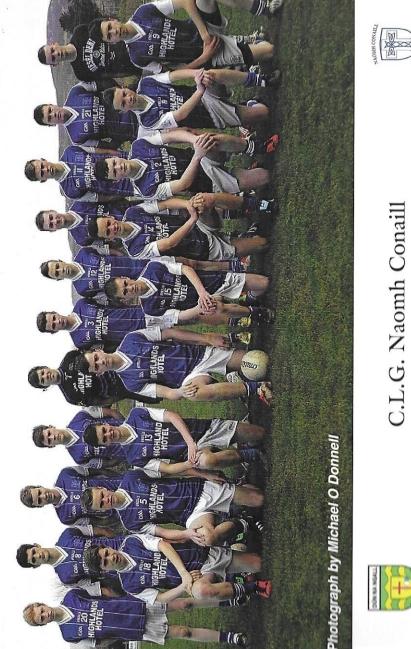
County minor ace Conor Doherty, Eoin Byrne, John James McNelis, Daniel Lyons, member of this season's Donegal McGuigan Cup team along with Gary Molloy, Brian O'Donnell and John Gillespie - members of this years Donegal Buncrana Cup team - are the big name players in the Kilcar line-up.

Kilcar defeated a strong Cloughaneely in the county semi-final to make this afternoon's showdown.











# C.L.G. Naomh Adhamhnáin









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# Minor Division One Roll of Honour

### 16 Titles

Naomh Adhamhnáin (St Eunan's) (1 as Leitir Ceannain)\* 1931\*, 1938,1941, 1946, 1947, 1948, 1950, 1972, 1973, 1974, 1978, 1993, 1994, 1995, 2008, 2011.

### 12 Titles

Aodh Ruadh Béal Átha Seannaidh (Awarded Title as opponents declared illegal)\*

\*<u>1935</u>, \*<u>1936</u>, <u>1937</u>, 1961, 1963, 1979, 1980, <u>1981</u>, <u>1982</u>, <u>1988</u>, <u>1990</u>, <u>1992</u>.

### 9 Titles

Gaoth Dobhair 1933, 1934, <u>1958</u>, <u>1959</u>, <u>1960</u>, 1976, 1987, 1999, 2014.

### 8 Titles

Naomh Conaill (Na Gleanntaí) (2 with Ard an Rátha)\*

1939, 1945, 1962, 1969\*, 1970\*, 2003, 2004, 2009.

Ard an Rátha (2 with Na Gleanntaí)\* 1952, 1954, 1965, 1969\*, 1970\*, 1983, 1991, 1997

### 6 Titles

An Clochán Liath ( 1 as Ruagairí Na Rosann)\* 1949,1953\*,1956, 1966, 1967, 1968.

### 5 Titles

Na Cealla Beaga 1984, 1985, 1989, 2005, 2006.

### 4 Titles

Cill Chartha (Kllcar) 1964, 1998, 2010, 2012.

Na Ceithre Máistrí (Four Masters) 1996, 2001, 2002, 2007

### 2 Titles

Sean Mac Cumhaill's 1957, 1971. Naomh Columba (1 as Gleann Cholm Cille)\* 1975\*, 1986.

Bun Cranncha (Buncrana) 2000, 2013.

### 1 Title

An Cor Liath (were awarded the title as their opponents were declared illegal)\* 1940\*

Tamhnach An tSalainn (Mount Charles) 1951

An Craoslach (Creeslough)
1955

Ruairí Mac Easmuinn (Roger Casement's) 1977

# MINOR CHAMPIONSHIP DIV 1 RESULTS FROM 1931 - PRESENT

By Charlie Ó Dónail

1931	Leitir Ceannain	2-05	Na Gleanntaí	0-04	1975	Gleann Cholm Cille	1-12	Seán Mac Cumhaill's	0-06	
1933	Gaoth Dobhair	1-04	Leitir Ceannain	0-02	1976	Gaoth Dobhair	1-07	Gleann Cholm Cille	1-04	
1934	Gaoth Dobhair	3-10	Béal Átha Seannaidh	1-04	1977	Ruairí Mac Easmuinn	3-12	Ruagairí Na Rosann	0-09	
1935	*Béal Átha Seannaid	h	Na Curaidh		1978	N. Adhamhnáin	2-13	Gaoth Dobhair	1-08	
1936	*Béal Átha Seannaid	h	Na Curaidh		1979	Aodh Ruadh B.Á.S	1-05	N. Adhamhnáin	1-04	
1937	Béal Átha Seannaidh	0-06	An Clochán Liath	0-05	1980	Aodh Ruadh B.Á.S	2-02	Na Ceithre Máistrí	0-07	
1938	N. Adhamhnáin	2-02	Na Gleanntaí	1-03	1981	Aodh Ruadh B.Á.S	1-03	Na Ceithre Máistrí	0-03	
1939	Na Gleanntaí	2-02	Béal Átha Seannaidh	0-02	1982	Aodh Ruadh B.Á.S	0-13	Ard an Rátha	0-08	
1940	*An Cor Liath		Na Curaidh		1983	Ard an Rátha	1-03	Gaoth Dobhair	0-02	
1941	N. Adhamhnáin	2-07	Na Gleanntaí	1-04	1984	Na Cealla Beaga	2-14	Gleann Fhinne	1-08	
1945	Na Gleanntaí	0-09	Gaoth Dobhair	1-05	1985	Na Cealla Beaga	2-06	Aodh Ruadh B.Á.S	1-08	
1946	N. Adhamhnáin	5-07	Naomh Cróine	0-01	1986	Naomh Columba	0-08	Na Dúnaibh	0-05	
1947	N. Adhamhnáin	3-05	Na Gleanntaí	1-03	1987	Gaoth Dobhair	1-09	N. Adhamhnáin	0-07	
1948	N. Adhamhnáin	3-03	Gaoth Dobhair	0-02	1988	Aodh Ruadh B.Á.S	1-12	N. Adhamhnáin	1-08	
1949	An Clochán Liath	3-02	Naomh Adhamhnáin	0-03	1989	Na Cealla Beaga	2-07	Na Ceithre Máistrí	1-05	
1950	N. Adhamhnáin	3-05	T/nach an tSalainn	1-02	1990	Aodh Ruadh B.Á.S	1-12	Sean Mac Cumhaill's	0-06	
1951	T/nach an tSalainn	3-07	Ard an Rátha	1-01	1991	Ard an Rátha	1-10	Aodh Ruadh B.Á.S	1-08	
1952	Ard an Rátha	4-10	N. Adhamhnáin	0-03	1992	Aodh Ruadh B.Á.S	4-07	N. Adhamhnáin	1-05	
1953	Ruagairí Na Rosann	4-13	Na Gleanntaí	2-06	1993	N. Adhamhnáin	1-09	Aodh Ruadh B.Á.S	1-07	
1954	Ard an Rátha	2-03	Caisleán na Finne	0-07	1994	N. Adhamhnáin	2-18	Ard an Rátha	4-07	
1955	An Craoslach	2-05	Erin's Hope	0-06	1995	N. Adhamhnáin	2-12	Ard an Rátha	1-12	
1956	An Clochán Liath	5-08	Dún na nGall	0-01	1996	Na Ceithre Máistrí	2-12	Aodh Ruadh B.Á.S	0-08	
1957	Seán MacCumhaill's	2-04	Ard an Rátha	1-06	1997	Ard an Rátha	0-12	N. Admamhnáin	0-08	
1958	Gaoth Dobhair	2-05	Ard an Rátha	2-04	1998	Cill Chartha	0-09	Na gCeithre Maistrí	1-06	draw
1959	Gaoth Dobhair	3-05	Béal Átha Seannaidh	0-06		Cill Chartha	4-03	Na gCeithre Maisrtí	0-11	replay
1960	Gaoth Dobhair	2-03	An Clochán Liath	1-05	1999	Gaoth Dobhair	2-15	Ard an Rátha	0-04	
1961	Béal Átha Seannaidh	5-05	An Clochán Liath	2-09	2000	Bun Cranncha	1-15	Naomh Adhamhnain	1-07	
1962	Na Gleanntaí	2-03	Bun Dobhráin	0-01	2001	Na Ceithre Máistrí	2-06	Naomh Mícháel	0-07	
1963	Béal Átha Seannaidh		Na Gleanntaí	1-06	2002	Na Ceithre Máistrí	3-05	Na Ceall Beaga	1-10	
1964	Cill Charthaigh	2-07	Na Ceithre Máistrí	2-04	2003	Naomh Conaill	1-11	Bun Cranncha	2-05	
1965	Ard an Rátha	1-09	Gaoth Dobhair	0-07	2004	Naomh Conaill	2-05	Cill Chartha	0-11	draw
	An Clochán Liath	2-10	Gaoth Dobhair	0-04		Naomh Conaill	0-08	Cill Chartha	0-06	replay
	An Clochán Liath	1-04	Gaoth Dobhair	0-04	2005	Na Cealla Beaga	1-11	Ard an Rátha	0-07	
1968		6-06	Naomh Naille	0-06	2006	Na Cealla Beaga	2-09	Naomh Conaill	0-11	
1969	Ard an Rátha	2-10	Naomh Mícheál	2-02	2007	Na Ceithre Máistrí	1-07	Naomh Conaill	1-05	
	Na Gleanntaí				2008	N. Adhamhnáin	1-09	Naomh Mícheál	1-07	
1970	Ard an Rátha	1-09	Bun Cranncha	0-05		Naomh Conaill	1-14	N. Adhamhnáin	0-11	
	Na Gleanntaí			anomatos II			0-07		1-03	
	Seán Mac Cumhaill's		Ard an Rátha	0-08			3-07	Ard an Rátha	0-03	
		4-16	Ard an Rátha	1-05			2-11	N. Adhamhnáin	2-04	
		0-16	Dún nan Gall	0-05			0-12	St. Eunan's	0-10	AET
1974	N. Adhamhnáin	1-11	Béal Átha Seannaidh	2-04	2014	Gaoth Dobhair	0-11	Dungloe/Na Rossa	0-06	

### Notes:

MOLES.									
1932	No competition								
1935	Béal Átha Seannaidh were awarded the title as their opponents were declared illegal								
1936	Béal Átha Seannaidh were awarded the title as their opponents were declared illegal								
1940	An Cor Liath wer	e awarded	the title a	s their opponents we	re declare	d illegal			
1998	Cill Chartha		0-09	Na gCeithre Maisti	í 1-06	draw			
1998	Cill Chartha		4-03	Na gCeithre Maisr	:í 0-11	replay			
2004	Naomh Conaill	2-05	Cill Cha	artha	0-11	draw			
2004	Naomh Conaill	0-08	Cill Cha	artha	0-06	replay			

# C.L.G. Naomh Conaill

# Michael O Donnell, Bainisteoir

Naomh Conaill minor manager is Michael O Donnell. This is Michael second year in charge of Naomh Conaill minor team. Having allreadyt won the county minor league Michael is hoping to win the double this year. Having played football at all levels for Naomh Conaill Michael is now passing on his experience and knowledge to the next generation. Michael would be the first to tell u that its all about the

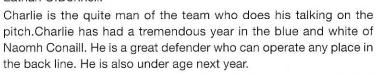


team and its the entire squad and his backroom team that has made this team so successful this year.

On behalf of Naomh Conaill minor Board and the entire Naomh Conaill Club we wish Michael the team and all our suportors a great day out in the final.

# **Joint Captains**

Naomh Conaill have joint team captains in Charlie McDonnell and Eathan O.Donnell.





What more can we say in regard to Eathan O.Donnell. Eathan has represented his county at minor level for the passed two years and we will remember his winning point against Dublin last year.

We wish Charlie and Eathan and the team all the best in the final.



# O'Donnell - Naomh Conaill ready for final test

BY FRANK CRAIG (Donegal Post)

Naomh Conaill minor boss Michael O'Donnell admitted that his side was still smarting from it's Southern Regional final defeat when it locked horns with Gaoth Dobhair in the county semi-final last time out.

The Glenties lads were upset by Aodh Ruadh there and their boss concedes that the Ballyshannon outfit was full value for its victory. However, he knew that Naomh Conaill were capable of much better and they proved that in the drawn encounter against Gaoth Dobhair.

Despite a late Micheál Carroll equaliser in that clash, O'Donnell felt that his players had found their confidence once again. Don't let the two-point winning margin here fool you. Naomh Conaill could and should have won this game by a much more comfortable margin.

But for the heroics of opposing netminder Gavin Sweeney, who made five stunning stops over the hour, Naomh Conaill might have been out of sight going into the last quarter. In Naomh Conaill's defence, these weren't spurned chances - it was simply a case of Sweeney proving almost impossible to beat.

Because of those individual exploits. Naomh Conaill were still holding on in the end. But for a relieved O'Donnell, the most important thing at the final whistle was that his side had taken the victory and won through to the final.

### Disappointed

He said: "To be honest, we were very disappointed with the performance that

night. We just didn't show up. Fair play to Aodh Ruadh, they were fully deserving of their victory. Thev showed serious intensity that evening.

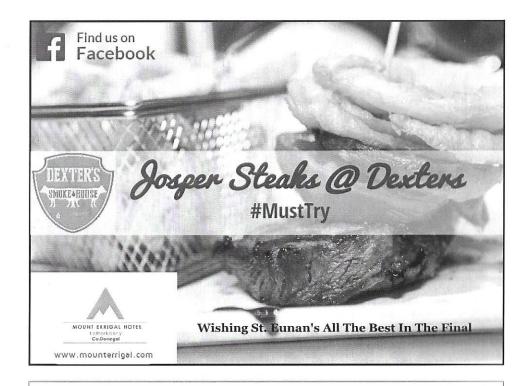


"We regrouped the next day down at the field (Davy Brennan Park) and we had a good chat between ourselves. There was a lot of soul searching done. We knew that if we didn't find that intensity and desire in ourselves against Gaoth Dobhair then we'd be out of the championship."

### Eunan's challenge

Since the respective Northern and Southern Regional deciders, both sections' champions, Aodh Ruadh and Gaoth Dobhair, have fallen at the semifinal hurdle. O'Donnell agrees that this particular minor championship has been as competitive as you might or might not wish for.

"This is a tough minor championship," he added. "The two regional winners have now been eliminated and the two runners up are through to the final. That's how tough it is. From U12 and U14 up, Naomh Conaill and St. Eunan's have been used to playing in county finals so we're expecting another serious test. We're just delighted we're there."



# Best of luck to the Naomh Adhamhnáin from



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is just one success story from that Colleges competition. Darach O'Connor entering its fourth season of Ulster

played huge roles for the 2014 history-Tony McClenaghan from Inishowen John Campbell, Danny Monagle and unrsery.

Donegal representation at schools level in only be a good thing if it led to more elsewhere in the county - and this could rumblings of possible amalgamations a real success story. There have been Donegal, never mind elsewhere, has been actually came across road blocks in The Colaisti Inis Eoghain initiative – which making minors..

will be interesting. previously missing links. Their progress 21s. They are attempting to join up the while Bonner has gone up to the Underbeen put in as the new minor manager Under-16 and Under-17 level and has Shaun Paul Barrett has had success at

> success at this grade and advanced onto McHugh are among those to have tasted Patrick McBrearty, Mark and Ryan Doherty, Manus Boyle, Tony Boyle, once prided in Donegal. John Joe competition was something that was

> Donegal's progress is stunted largely. It is in the schools grades where senior teams.

> Vocational Schools competition in recent punched in the high grades of the trend for schools of its size having while Colaiste na Carraige has bucked a one of the few exceptions to the rule, College that won the MacLarnon Cup is Murphy-led team of 2007 from St Eunan's at schools level too often. The Michael where it's at. Donegal does not win titles be-all anymore. The MacRory Cup is counties like Tyrone and Derry is not the The Vocational Schools competition in

> Inishowen schools team, which is now of Colaisti Inis Eoghain, the combined A big development has been the advent

side included Paul Mayo. The Donegal a final win over guided Donegal to McHugh Martin Cup and in 1999 was the Ted Webb the Buncrana Cup The precursor to

too-distant past. regularly for Donegal teams of the not-Dunnion and Conall Dunne, who played contained Michael Maguire, Barry their back pockets. That squad also Toye, who now have Celtic Crosses in Durcan, Colm McFadden and Christy

a fringe member of previous county McIver, and Ronan MacMiallais, who was Michael Doherty, a regular under Brian of 2000, that also included Four Masters' figures of the Buncrana Cup winning side Karl Lacey and Eamon McGee were key

Thomas McKinley having departed the graduate from the 2007 team, with this year, while Dermot Molloy is the only graduate to the Donegal senior squad Luke Keeney came off the 2008 panel to

failures is something that many have tried successes and Minor Championship The drop-off between Buncrana Cup sdnad last year.

Bonner, the newly-installed Donegal and only playing club football," Declan straight to minors were left in a vacuum Buncrana Cup and who would't go "Previously, those guys who won the to remedy.

way forward and hopefully we'll see the them at a high level. That has to be the around 17 years old and worked with "What we did is take those lads who are Under-21 manager says.

Schools Vocational The .7991 glory with the Under 21s of 1982 and contained many players who had tasted Donegal's All-Ireland crop of 1992 fruits of it in years to come."

# Joining the missing links

BY CHRIS McNULTY (Donegal News)



Coleman at centre-Seamus

раск.

Chonaill men claimed the fine scalp of Carroll netted the goals as the Tir O'Donnell, Nathan Gavigan and Michael 3-6 to 0-3 win over Tyrone. Ethan Paul Barrett's team scored an impressive In the 2013 Buncrana Cup final, Sean competition, three years running now. McGuigan Cup, the Ulster Under-17 Donegal have also won the Jim

of which wasn't played, won the

the 2007 final against Cavan, the replay

in 2000 and the county has, not including

DONEGAL'S first Buncrana Cup success

competition seven times.

something that was absent in this corner been a clear pathway for players, football for Donegal and of late there has of them have gone on to play minor Sean McHugh, Stephen McMenamin. All including the goalscorers, as well as Some impressive displays were on show, the Red Hands.

should provide us with some cautionary Gaelic football in Donegal - but history It bodes well, of course, for the future of breviously.

taking that crop on a magical journey to Bonner repeated the trick in 2014 before League and Ulster double; and Declan 2006 when Sean Clerkin led them to a Ulster Minor Football Championships, in Since 1996, Donegal has won only two

Shane Boyle, Paul McGinley and Gerard Antrim at Croke Park. Declan Walsh, featured in the 2006 Ulster final win over 2005 Buncrana Cup winning sides subs, fourteen players from the 2004 and of keeping the talents flowing. Including It has been the big success story in terms the All-Ireland final.

success, while the 2004 team included Jersies in the past to varying levels of Mulhern have worn senior Donegal Gallagher, James Carroll and Kevin Mark McGowan, Eoin Waide, Daragh the All-Ireland winning panel last year. Leo McLoone and Martin McElhinney on Walsh was joined by Michael Murphy, From the 2004-05 Undery 16 teams, Ward were the exceptions in that.

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Good luck to the CLG Cill Chartha in the Minor Championship from the Blue Haven Country Hotel

