

# ALLIANZ FOOTBALL LEAGUE



# Dún na nGall v Fear Manach



# Dún na nGall v

# Mhuineacháin



Sunday 24th February 2019

O'Donnell Park, Letterkenny

Ladies' Seniors: Midday • Mens Seniors: 2:00pm

Clár Oifigiúil €3 / £2

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Clár an Lae  
Páirc Uí Domhnaill  
24.02.2019 (Sun)



Lidl LGFA League Roinn 1 – Babhta 3  
12.00 p.m. Dún na nGall V Muineachán  
Allianz Football League Roinn 2 – Babhta 4  
Dún na nGall V Fear Manach

11:30	Stiles Open
11:42	Dún na nGall amach ar an bpáirc (Town end)
11.44	Muineachán amach ar an bpáirc (River end)
11.45	<b>Oifígh an Chluiche</b> amach ar an bpáirc
11.50	Toss
12.00	Tús an chluiche
12.32*	Leath-am
12.47*	Tús an dara leath
13:20*	Críoch an chluiche
13.35-13.40	<b>Both Co. Secretaries to present Team Lists in Referees Room</b>
13.38	<b>Dún na nGall</b> amach ar an bpáirc (Town end)
13.40	<b>Fear Manach</b> amach ar an bpáirc (River end)
13.45	Oifígh an Chluiche amach ar an bpáirc
13.55	Toss
13.57	Minute's Silence
13.58	Amhrán na bhFiann
14.00	Tús an chluiche
14.37	Leath-am <b>Dún na nGall</b> to leave the field immediately on half time whistle <b>Fear Manach</b> to leave the field once <b>Dún na nGall</b> have cleared the tunnel
14.52	Tús an dara leath
15.30	Críoch an chluiche

\* depending on 'added time



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## FOCAL ÓN CATHAOIRLEACH



**Ba mhaith liom fáilte a chuir roimh achán duine anseo go Páirc Uí dhomhnaill i Leitir Ceanainn inniú chuig an cluiche seo i roinn a dó de'n srath naisiúnta sa pheil idir Dún na nGall agus Fear Manach. Tá fáilte spesialta roimh na hOifigí, lucht banaistíochta, na himreoirí agus lucht tacaíochta CLG Fhear Manach. Tá súil agam go mbainfidh sibh sult agus taitneamh as an turas go Dún na nGall.**

A very warm welcome to everyone to O'Donnell Park today. A special welcome to Rory Gallagher and his players, and to all the County Board Officers, and supporters from County Fermanagh. Rory served Donegal GAA well in his time with us some years ago, and gives total commitment to whatever role he undertakes.

Allianz League Roinn 2 is turning into a very evenly balanced competition, and teams are striving for positions of promotion and survival in a few short weeks since it commenced. Today's game is a repeat of the 2018 Ulster Final and although Declan Bonner's Donegal won it convincingly at the end, today's encounter has the makings of a much closer

game. Many of the new younger players in our County are being introduced to Senior National League Div 2 Football because of the unavailability of others and this window of opportunity allows the players and management to have a serious look on how many can step up to the Championship squad for this year. Games like today will challenge their capabilities. Please encourage them throughout the game, with positive support.

In conclusion let me acknowledge the St Eunans Club in having their pitch and facilities in prime condition for today's match. Furthermore please co-operate with the venue stewards, and those with children take a few minutes at the end of the game, before exiting the grounds.

Mar fhocal scoir, ba mhaith liom buíochas a ghabháil libh go leir ar son freastal agus bainigí sult as an cluiche agus go mbeidh an bua ag an foireann is fearr,

*Michéal Mac Craith*  
**Chairman**  
**CLG Dhun na nGall**



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## Fáilte go Leitir Ceanainn

Cuireann fo-chumann Naomh Adhamhnáin fáilte romhaibh inniu go Páirc Uí Dhónaill i Leitir Ceanainn. Tá lúcháir orainn agus ar mhuintir Leitir Ceanainn go bhfuil cluiche mór mar seo sa pháirc inniu. Tá fáilte speisialta roimh fhoireann Fhear Manach ár gcomharsan, a n-oifigigh agus a lucht leanúna. Cuireann muid fáilte fosta roimh fhoireann Mhuineacháin i gcomórtas Peil na mBan.

Tá a lán oibre déanta ag oifigigh an chlub ag ullmhú don lá inniu agus tá súil againn go mbeidh gach duine sásta le himeachtaí an lae.

Ba mhaith liom buíochas a thabhairt do oifigigh CLG Dhún na nGall ar son cead a thabhairt dúinn an cluiche mór seo a bheith againn i bpáirc Uí Dhónaill. Buíochas fosta do na Gardaí Síochána agus do na Seirbhísí Otharchairr.

Tá Seán Ó Foghlú tofa anois mar Oifigeach Caidrimh Phoiblí don chlub agus d'oibrí sé go dícheallach ag eagrú an leabhar seo. Buíochas do Phól Mac Samhráin a rinne an obair seo le blianta fada. Tá Feargus Mac Aoidh Oifigeach na Gaeilge le CLG Naomh Adhamhnáin agus le Bord na Contae i mbun cúrsaí cumarsáide inniu.

Ádh mór oraibh uilig

*Cathal Mac Grianna,*  
Cathaoirleach  
CLG Naomh Adhamhnáin

### SAD PASSING OF JOHN MORRISON

There was some very sad news that came the way of Donegal fans - and so many others - last week with the passing of former coach John Morrison.



At the turn of the century, Morrison was part of Mickey Moran's backroom team during the 2000-2002 period.

During which time, Donegal reached an Ulster final against Armagh in 2002 and went on to contest an All-Ireland quarter-final that same year. A loss in the replay against Dublin brought an end to their time in Donegal.

Soon after, Morrison later joined forces with Moran once again when they helped to take Mayo to an All-Ireland final in 2006. Following a dramatic win against Dublin in the semi-final that year, they fell short in the final itself against a rampant Kerry side.

Morrison later managed Antrim, while he also had backroom roles with Derry and Leitrim during his lifetime. A member of the Armagh Harps club, Morrison was known as an innovative and inspirational coach.

Former Donegal star Kevin Cassidy, who played under Morrison, tweeted last week:

"Since I first met him in 2002 he has been with me every step of the way since ... Truly a once in a lifetime sort of guy."

### Buíochas:

Today's Match Programme produced and edited by Jonathan Foley (PRO, Naomh Adhamhnáin).

GRMA to all those that have contributed to the match programme: Brendan Devenney (BBC Sport NI and The Letterkenny Leader ); Chris McNulty (Donegal Sport Hub); Fr. Seán; and Donegal County PRO, John McEniff; Ladies PRO Maura McCrudden.

Thank you also to all our sponsors and advertisers, who make this publication possible.

Special thanks to the staff at Donegal Printing for all their help and work putting together today's programme and to Geraldine Diver as always for her great photographs.



Caitríona Solan from CLG An Clochán Liath is a former Ulster and five-time county champion in solo singing in Scór. A teacher of music and English, she has a huge interest in many genres from sean-nós to musical theatre.



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when price is forgotten*

**Best of Luck to Donegal on Sunday  
and in the year ahead.**

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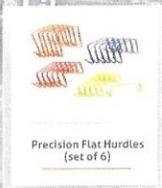
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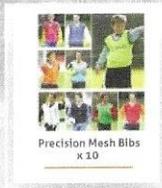
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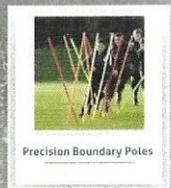
Precision Flat Hurdles  
(set of 6)



Precision Mesh Bibs  
x 10



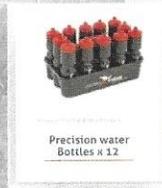
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## DUNEDIN CONNOLLY'S JFC QUARTER-FINAL VISIT TO O'DONNELL PARK



Back in December, today's venue played host to the All-Ireland JFC quarter-final clash between Donegal and Ulster champions, Red Hughs, and Scotland and British champions, Dunedin Connollys. Not surprisingly, there was a lot of local interest in the Killygordon side, but yet while little was known about the Edinburgh outfit, history will show that they too possess a huge Donegal connection to their name.



*Former Connolly's man  
and Letterkenny-native  
Jonathan Foley.*

The club was founded in 1988 by Belfast-native Anthony Haughey following a chance meeting with Father Éamonn Sweeney as the two attended an Irish dancing event near Leith Walk. After some idle chit-chat about how nice it would be to see the setup of a GAA club in the Scottish capital, things took off from there and through word-of-mouth, player interest grew and a team was born.

Their first ever game was played on the school playing fields of St Attracta's Primary School in Broomhouse and on that day, no fewer than six Donegal natives lined out for Connollys. Among them were Danny Bonnar, Andy and Paul O'Donnell as well as Tony, Richie and Charlie MacAuley.

All the rest were Scottish-born players, bar one, who was Haughey himself. As they progressed further on into the nineties, their fortunes improved and trophies were secured; largely through the help of Aidy Martin (Four Masters), Paddy McGee (Killybegs) and Tommy Deane (Kilcar).

In 2009, they made history by becoming the first ever non-English club to win the British Championship and they were led to this milestone by former Naomh Columba player, Cormac O'Gara.

After a few years out of coaching - although still with university teams at Napier University - the Glencolmille man returned to the helm as manager in 2012 and during his second stint in charge, O'Gara's teams won four Scottish Championships and, most significantly, a second All-Britain title in 2016. His last gift to the club before his departure soon after.

During the 2012-2016 period, there were also a number of other key figures from Donegal who left their mark.

The club's Ladies team reached an All-Ireland Junior final in 2013 and they were guided along the way there by Niamh Morrison (St Eunan's), Lydia Fowley (St Mary's) and Bridgeen McCarron (Buncrana).

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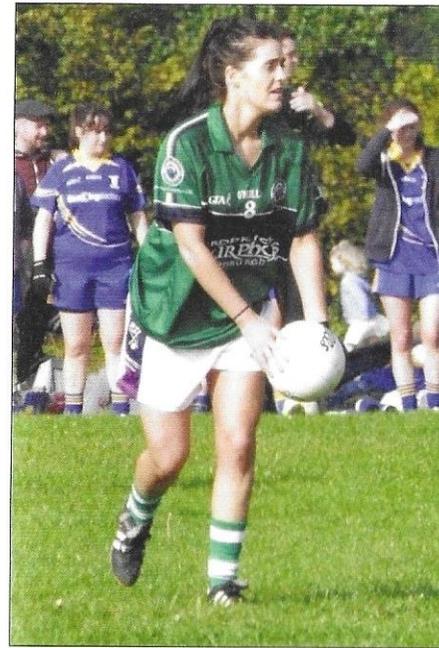
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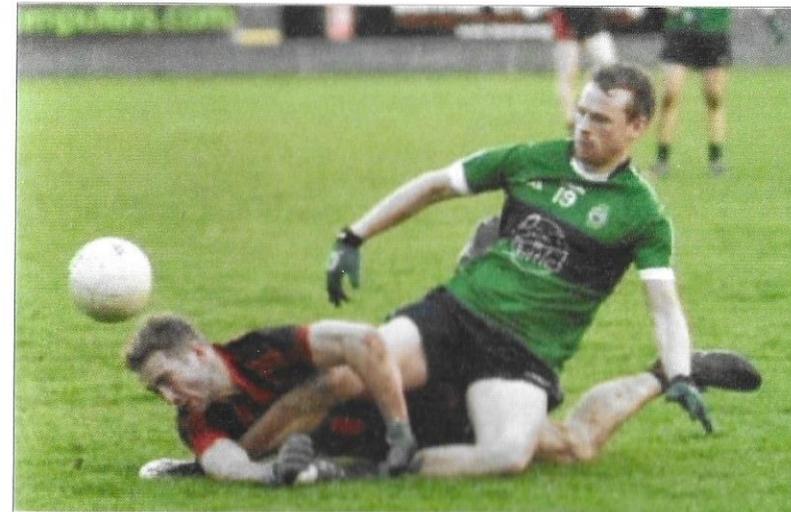
*Karen Feeney.*

Success on the Intermediate stage was tasted when they won back-to-back All-Britain titles in 2014 and 2015 and this success was aided by the talents of Angie Callaghan (St Eunan's) and Karen Feeney (Cloughaneely / St Michael's). These sides were also coached by Jonathan Foley (St Eunan's) who later took the role as manager. He currently serves as PRO right here at this very club.

For her part, Feeney captained the side to the 2018 British Championship win and having already won an All-Ireland IFC title with Donegal back in 2010, the former Cloughaneely player can now boast that she was won national titles on both sides of the Irish Sea.

At present, Carndonagh-native, Éanna Newton - son of former intercounty player Des Newton - remains the one and only Donegal man in the setup at Connollys. Having won three successive All-Britains, they hope to return to Irish soil once again in the very near future. It

was tough on them to leave O'Donnell Park that day following a narrow two point loss (after extra-time) but having faced Naomh Colmcille in 2017, Red Hughs in 2018 so who's to say they won't lock horns with a local club side again soon.



*Dunedin  
Connollys  
v Red Hughs*

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## MacRORY CUP RETURN TO LETTERKENNY



Towards the end of last month, O'Donnell Park played host to its first MacRory Cup game in fifty years. One of our many associative schools, St Eunan's College, contested the affair with St Patrick's Dungannon. While it ended for these promising young talents, they could still take heart from a campaign where they gave a most valiant account of themselves.

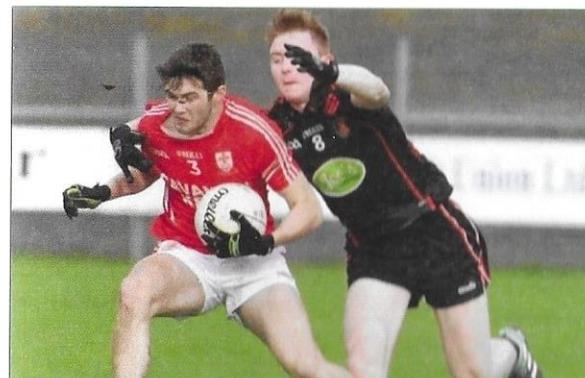
The concession of two quick-fire goals towards the closing stages of the first-half meant that the College students had given themselves a bit of a mountain to climb in the second. Hope was briefly rekindled when Conor O'Donnell fired into the net on 36 minutes, but it was to be a fleeting moment, as the Dungannon side reorganised and saw out a well-deserved victory.



*St Eunan's College senior team manager, Colm McFadden*

This was St Eunan's first participation in the MacRory Cup since 2015 and they didn't hold back on their planning and preparations for it at the beginning of the season. Training sessions regularly commenced at seven o'clock in the morning and the boys were also introduced to a more-scientific based training through the assistance of personal trainer Ryan McLoughlin.

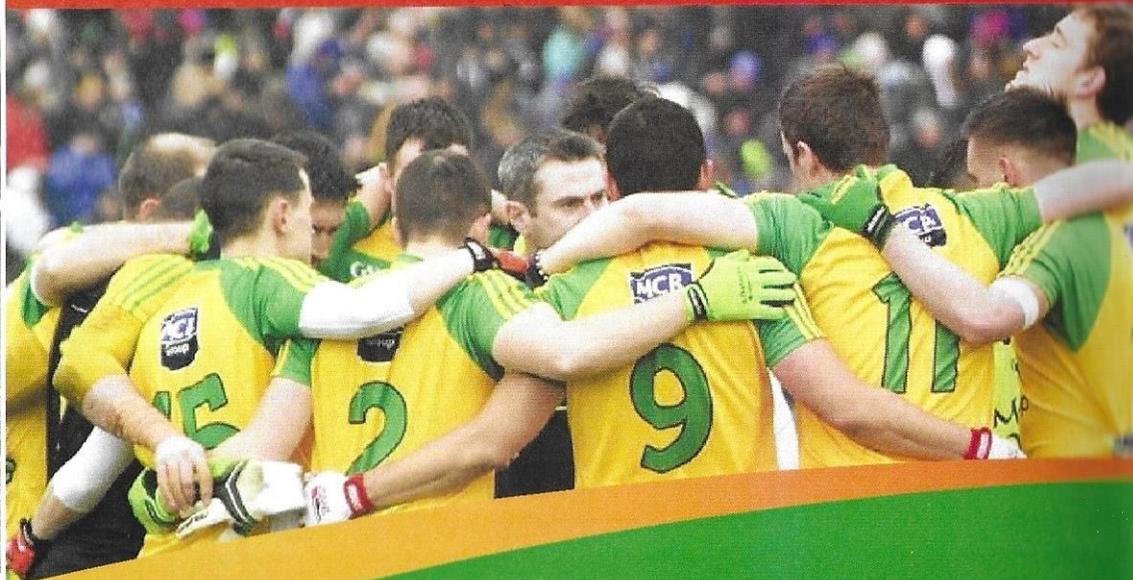
Off the field, it was felt that this return to the top-table of Ulster Colleges football had to be marked by way of a ceremonious launch in the school's recreation hall. On that day, local club persons, the media, sponsors, staff as well as past and current pupils were invited to hear the insightful and inspiring memories of numerous past captains, players and managers.



*St Eunan's College v St Patrick's Dungannon.*

One of the men standing on the stage that afternoon was Father Austen Laverty. In a somewhat iconic fashion, he produced a medal from his pocket and proudly displayed it to everyone there present. Father Laverty was the captain and now the sole-survivor of the 1955 St Eunan's team who lifted the Rannafast Cup.

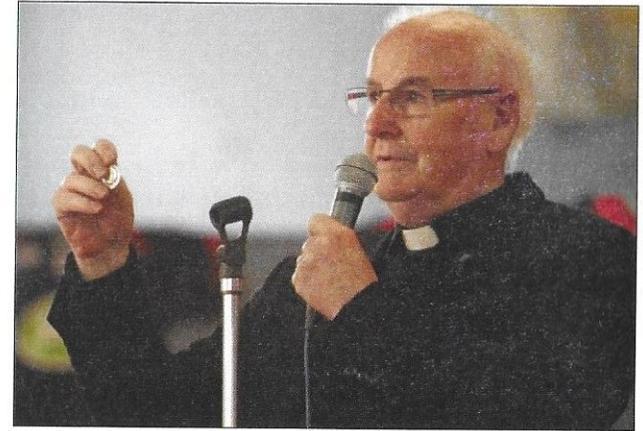
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He held his medal aloft as a means of encouragement toward the new generation for them to go one better and lift the MacRory Cup; the one major Ulster honour that has always eluded them. The event itself was organised by former Donegal under-20s coach, Gary McDaid.



*Father Austen Laverty.*

In attendance as special guests that day were key members of College teams down through the generations. Those included

were the school's 1959 team manager, Michael Cullen and players from the sixties and seventies such as Ted McLaughlin and Paul Carr. Also present were former manager Neil Gordon, former player Michael Murphy and current manager Colm McFadden.

Back on the field, the College got off to a great start when they defeated Patricians Carrickmacross in their opening game. In a closely-contested affair, a brace of successfully scored penalties by Shane O'Donnell proved to be the difference. A defeat in the following game to St Pat's Armagh meant that it was all to play for going into the third group game.

A hugely important victory against St Paul's Bessbrook and a draw in the other group meant that the way was paved for St Eunan's College to compete in this playoff for a quarter-final spot. The first game to be played on the O'Donnell Park turf since 1969 was a special occasion in its own right, but as mentioned, ended in defeat by way of a 2-7 to 1-6 scoreline.

Overall, the campaign they had this year will surely serve these young men with great experience for the future. It's also likely that it will inspire those involved with the younger teams at the school to follow in their footsteps in the years to come. The mantra they love to use on Sentry Hill is 'We Lead the Way' and here's hoping they will continue to do just that.



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## GAA HISTORY IN LETTERKENNY (1905-1927)



As part of an overall late nineteenth century national Gaelic revival, the Gaelic Athletic Association was formed in Thurles in 1884, which set about codifying games that were being played with different rules in various parts of the country. Although attempts were made to form clubs (such as Burt Hibernians in the 1890s), it was a slow start for the new organization to penetrate into Donegal. It wasn't until 23rd October 1905 that the Donegal GAA County Board was officially formed at a meeting in Mountcharles.

*By Kieran Kelly*

One month prior to the formation of this Board, on the 18th September 1905, a Gaelic club was established in Letterkenny for the very first time. Following a meeting in the Literary Institute, Bishop O'Donnell was chosen as patron of this "Lámh Dearg" club while Patrick Sweeney was made captain and James McMonagle vice-captain. On 26th December 1905, the club competed in a game of camán (hurling) in the East Donegal division against St. Mura's of Fahan. The match was played on the grounds of the Asylum Hospital (Bernard McGlinchey Town Park today) drawing a sizable crowd with Bishop O'Donnell in attendance. St. Mura's won the game 2-3 to 3 points.

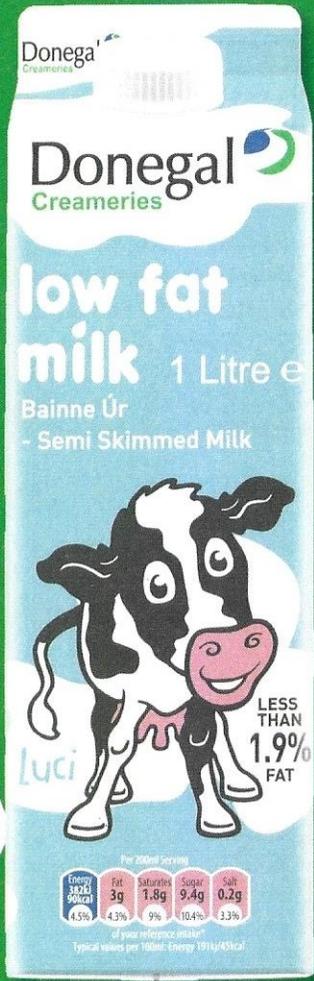
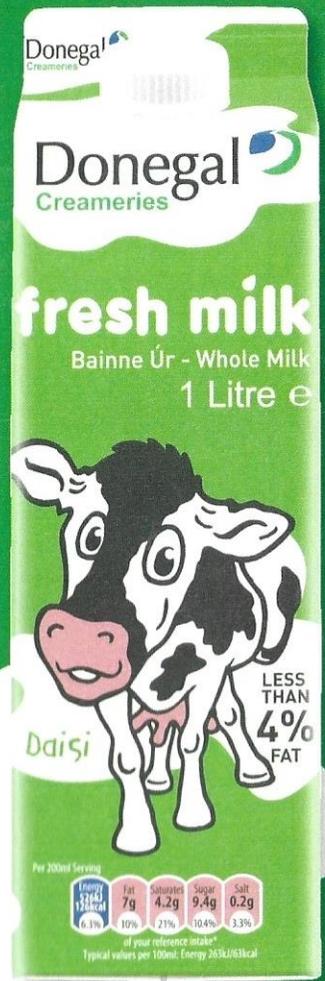
The Lámh Dearg team on that momentous occasion of the first recorded Gaelic match in the town was: Patrick Sweeney, Edward Sweeney, Edward Coyle, Bernard Crampsey, James McMonagle, Lawrence Robbins, James Rodden, John Blake, Joseph Cullen, John Campbell, Joseph Harkin, E. McLaughlin, A. McClean, John McGinley, David Gallagher, James Gildea and James Peoples. (Games of hurling and football were played as 13-a-side, and would remain so until the 1930s).

Due to factors such as the popularity of soccer, arranging transport to games and also organizational difficulties within the County Board, the GAA movement slipped into decline throughout Donegal after 1907. However, teams still were in evidence in Letterkenny playing in occasional tournaments. By 1911, two new clubs had replaced Lámh Dearg, "Tirconaill" and "Faugh A Ballagh" (sometimes referred to as the Fag a Bailes) and by 1913, there was even a "Robert Emmet GFC" representing Letterkenny. On 29th March 1916, "The O'Donnell's Gaelic Football & Hurling Club" was established with Rev. J.J. O'Doherty as President, Edward McDaid as Secretary and Patrick Dawson as Treasurer. All of these clubs were short-lived however.

By 1919, a new attempt at revitalizing the GAA took place, with a new County Board put in place following a meeting in Letterkenny with a county championship set up, to be played on a league basis with the county divided up into East and West divisions. "Letterkenny" competed against Castlefin, Killygordon, Clady and Rabstown in the East Donegal section of the County Championship.

**Good luck**  
to the Donegal team in the 2019  
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The Letterkenny Rovers GAA Team who won the Championship in 1927

In 1924, two new clubs were established in Letterkenny, the "Geraldines" and "Letterkenny Rovers". As well as competing in the championship, both of these teams competed in the Dr. McGinley Cup (or East Donegal Hospital League) against teams from Raphoe, Stranorlar, Ballybofey, Clonleigh and Carrigans. The rivalry between both town clubs was quite fierce with many matches between them developing into hard-hitting and raucous affairs.

Both of these clubs shared a pitch at Ballymacool, known locally as the Burn Field but sometimes reported in the press as either 'Geraldine Park' or just simply 'Ballymacool Grounds'. The 1925/26 season saw mixed fortunes for the Letterkenny clubs. The Geraldines won the Dr. McGinley Cup (League) without defeat while Rovers were defeated in the County Championship Final by Ardara. The Rovers team did not have long to wait for success though - the following season saw them win the County Championship. Run on a league format, victory in Newtowncunningham against Carrigans on 4th March 1927 assured them of the title with a scoreline of 1-5 to 0-3. This strong Rovers team consisted of Patrick Doherty (capt.), Michael Peoples, John Harvey, William O'Donnell, John McManus, Anthony Gallagher, Frank Larkin, Jack Doherty, William Strain, William Roarty, Hugh McGlynn, Patsy Sweeney, Phil Doherty and John Larkin.

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## FLASHBACK TO 2018: ULSTER SFC FINAL

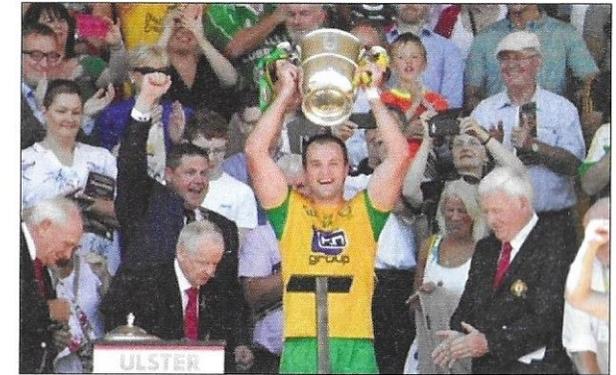
Sunday 24 June 2018  
Donegal 2-18 Fermanagh 0-12



When Donegal last met Fermanagh in the Championship, one only has to go back to last season and to a day that will be fondly remembered by everyone connected with Tír Chonaill. A gloriously sunny June afternoon in Clones that saw the men in green and gold lift the Anglo-Celt Cup for the first time in four seasons. It was so special, even a certain leader of the DUP showed up to be there.

*By Jonathan Foley*

Despite going in as strong favourites on the day, Declan Bonner's side remained as focused as ever. Many of them still felt the pangs from losing the provincial final only a few years earlier. Although 2014's win may have banished the memory of the 2013 loss, players and supporters alike were still carrying the haunts from the 2015 and 2016 Ulster Final defeats that followed.



Donegal rode into the final that year following a relatively comfortable win against Down in the semis. They were to be without the services of Neil McGee (suspension) and they knew they were up against their own former manager in Rory Gallagher. A man who resigned his post amid a flurry of negativity that came his way - particularly on social media - the previous season.

*Ulster Champions.*

Fermanagh certainly weren't coming along to make up the numbers that day either.



*Michael Murphy in action.*

Their tails were well and truly up having pulled off a surprise victory against Monaghan three weeks earlier. A day when a late goal from their captain and leader, Eoghan Donnelly, brought jubilant scenes of celebration to the people of the Erneside county.

On the day of the final itself, it was they who drew first blood with the opening score and it took a wonderfully-struck shot from distance by Odhran MacNiallais to level things up in the eighth

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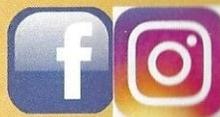
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*Goal!!*

minute. For the next six minutes or so, things became rather cagey and defensive and it took a well-worked goal by Eoin Bán Gallagher to bring a bit of daylight between the teams.

A neat little interchange of passes found its way across the Fermanagh goalmouth and the ball was palmed in by the outstretched reach of the Killybegs corner-back; not a bad way to notch your first ever score in Championship football.

The aforementioned Donnelly reduced the deficit with Fermanagh's third score - and their first from open play - when he slotted over from distance. His work was cut out very quickly, however. Within a matter of a few short moments, Ryan McHugh weaved and charged his way through a packed defence and fired the ball into the rough of the net.

His seventh goal in Championship football was secured and going by his impassioned celebration, you got the feel that this was as important to the Kildare man as any that had gone before.

During the early exchanges of the second-half, Paul Brennan fired one over the bar with the outside of his right boot and it was testament to how important this man was becoming to any of the plans that had been laid out by Declan Bonner. As the fortieth minute loomed, Donegal were in command and they had the proverbial cushion of nine point lead.

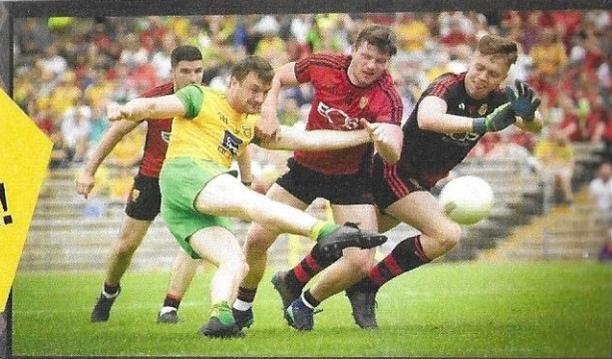
Séamus Corrigan would strike back for Rory Gallagher's team with a lovely effort from a difficult angle. The gap was reduced and maybe a slight glimmer of hope set in for the so-called underdogs.

In the short aftermath of that score, both teams came close to finding the net, however Fermanagh were stopped in their tracks because of an adjudged foul on goalkeeper Shaun Patton and for Donegal, Jamie Brennan thought he had scored, but he was to see his effort overruled for a square-ball infringement.

As the sides exchanged scores, Ciaran Thompson scored arguably the point of the day. A curling effort from that superb left foot of his and although the Naomh Conaill man could



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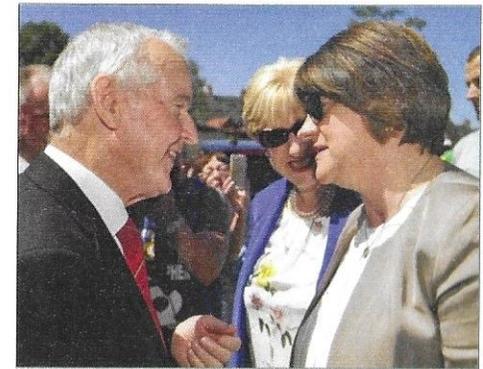
rightfully celebrate the point, he certainly owed a lot to Eoin Bán Gallagher, whose superb run provided the assist.

From then on in, things went from bad to worse for Fermanagh after midfielder Ryan Jones was dismissed for a second yellow card offence. As the minutes passed by, Donegal were in cruise-control and they seemed to be able to pick their opponents apart with relative ease. As the final whistle blew, Donegal's four year wait to become Ulster champions was over.

Their ninth Ulster title was secured and the party could begin in earnest although, it must be noted that the team - and indeed the county - were sad to learn of Paddy McBrearty's injury that day.

Prior to this, the last time Declan Bonner had been involved in a Ulster Final at this level with Donegal was twenty years earlier.

On that particularly dull day in 1998 Donegal hearts were broken when an injury-time goal by Joe Broolly snatched victory for Derry in a damp, wet and dull St Tiarnach's Park. On this day in 2018 however, the sun shone on a smiling and victorious winning manager as he celebrated the latest generation of successful Donegal players.



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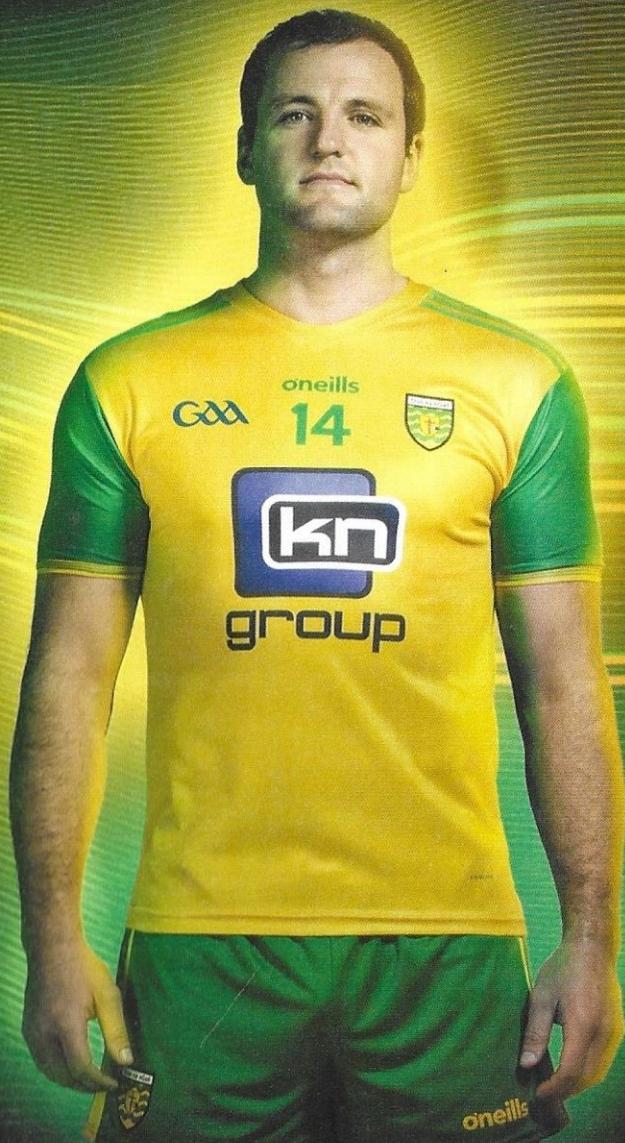
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## NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE 1930-2019

- |                           |                   |                   |                         |
|---------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Deireadh Fómhair 1930  | Dún na nGall 1-5  | Fear Manach 0-2   | Béal Átha Seanaidh      |
| 2. Aibreán 1931           | Fear Manach 1-4   | Dún na nGall 0-3  | Bealach Féich           |
| 3. Samhain 1933           | Dún na nGall 4-3  | Fear Manach 0-6   | Inis Ceithleann         |
| 4. Eanáir 1934            | Fear Manach 2-2   | Dún na nGall 0-1  | Srath Laoil             |
| 5. Samhain 1934           | *Dún na nGall 1-5 | Fear Manach 5-6   | Inis Ceithleann         |
| 6. Samhain 1936           | Dún na nGall 1-8  | Fear Manach 0-2   | Na Cearna (Irvinestown) |
| 7. Samhain 1936           | Dún na nGall 8-7  | Fear Manach 3-1   | Machaire Gathláin       |
| 8. Meán Fómhair 1947      | Dún na nGall 3-7  | Fear Manach 2-6   | Bealach Féich           |
| 9. Deireadh Fómhair 1948  | Dún na nGall 4-8  | Fear Manach 1-4   | Na Cearna               |
| 10. Deireadh Fómhair 1950 | Dún na nGall 0-12 | Fear Manach 0-3   | Na Cearna               |
| 11. Meán Fómhair 1951     | Dún na nGall 4-6  | Fear Manach 1-5   | Na Gleanntaí            |
| 12. Deireadh Fómhair 1952 | Dún na nGall 2-9  | Fear Manach 1-7   | Na Cearna               |
| 13. Deireadh Fómhair 1953 | Dún na nGall 2-7  | Fear Manach 1-6   | Na Gleanntaí            |
| 14. Deireadh Fómhair 1954 | Dún na nGall 2-8  | Fear Manach 0-2   | Na Cearna               |
| 15. Meán Fómhair 1955     | Dún na nGall 2-8  | Fear Manach 0-6   | B.Á.S.                  |
| 16. Meán Fómhair 1956     | Dún na nGall 1-11 | Fear Manach 0-9   | Na Cearna               |
| 17. Meán Fómhair 1957     | Dún na nGall 3-6  | Fear Manach 1-4   | Dún na nGall            |
| 18. Meán Fómhair 1958     | Dún na nGal 3-6   | Fear Manach 0-8   | Na Cearna               |
| 19. Samhain 1959          | Fear Manach 0-7   | Dún na nGall 0-4  | Na Cearna               |
| 20. Samhain 1960          | Dún na nGall 1-7  | Fear Manach 0-6   | Leitir Ceanainn         |
| 21. Samhain 1961          | Fear Manach 3-8   | Dún na nGall 1-10 | Na Cearna               |
| 22. Samahin 1962          | Dún na nGall 1-11 | Fear Manach 1-8   | Bealach Féich           |
| 23. Deireadh Fómhair 1963 | Fear Manach 0-10  | Dún na nGall 0-4  | Na Cearna               |
| 24. Meán Fómhair 1964     | Dún na nGall 1-10 | Fear Manach 1-7   | Leitir Ceanainn         |
| 25. Deireadh Fómhair 1965 | Dún na nGall 4-7  | Fear Manach 1-6   | Na Cearna               |
| 26. Samhain 1965          | Dún na nGall 2-9  | Fear Manach 1-8   | B.Á. S.                 |
| 27. Deireadh Fómhair 1966 | Dún na nGall 3-15 | Fear Manach 2-5   | B.Á.S.                  |
| 28. Deireadh Fómhair 1967 | Fear Manach 2-8   | Dún na nGall 0-9  | Na Cearna               |
| 29. Samhain 1968          | Dún na nGall 1-15 | Fear Manach 2-5   | Bealach Féich           |
| 30. Deireadh Fómhair 1969 | Dún na nGall 0-13 | Fear Manach 1-7   | B.Á.S.                  |
| 31. Márta 1971            | Fear Manach 0-9   | Dún na nGall 0-4  | Na Cearna               |
| 32. Deireadh Fómhair 1976 | Dún na nGall 4-14 | Fear Manach 2-12  | Na Cearna               |

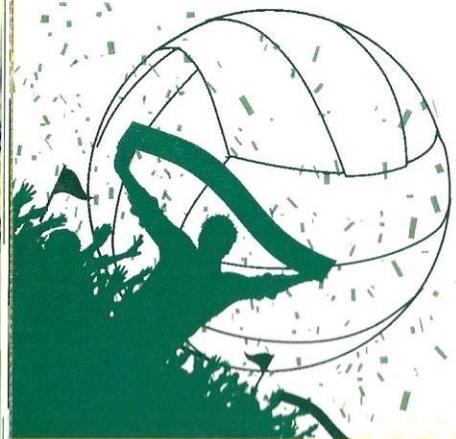
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33. Deireadh Fómhair 1977	Dún na nGall 2-7	Fear Manach 0-10	Bealach Féich
34. Eanáir 1978	Dún na nGall 0-13	Fear Manach 0-10	Bealach Féich
35. Márta 1978	Dún na nGall 2-7	Fear Manach 0-13	Bealach Féich
36. Samhain 1978	Fear Manach 0-10	Dún na nGall 0-9	Lios na Sciath
37. Bealtaine 1979	Fear Manach 1-9	Dún na nGall 0-3	Fionntrá
38. Nollaig 1979	Fear Manach 0-6	Dún na nGall 0-6	Lios na Sciath
39. Samhain 1980	Fear Manach 0-4	Dún na nGall 0-4	Bealach Féich
40. Márta 1983	Dún na nGall 3-12	Fear Manach 2-9	B.Á.S.
41. Aibreán 2007	Dún na nGall 1-13	Fear Manach 2-9	Bealach Féich
42. Feabhra 2019	Leitir Ceanainn		

<b>DÚN NA NGALL</b>	<b>WON 29</b>
<b>FEAR MANACH</b>	<b>WON 9</b>
<b>DRAWS</b>	<b>3</b>

\*There is some uncertainty about whether this 1934 game was a N.F.L. game or a Jubilee Cup (1884-1934) game (or both!).

\*Dún na nGall were awarded the game when they protested against Fear Manach's J. McCullagh.

## GROUND REGULATIONS for O'Donnell Park

- All persons entering O'Donnell Park, Letterkenny are admitted only subject to the following Ground Regulations and to the Rules and Regulations of the Gaelic Athletic Association. Entry to the ground shall be deemed to constitute unqualified acceptance of all these Rules and Regulations. Any person who fails to comply with these Ground Regulations may be refused entry or removed from the ground.
- Fireworks, smoke canisters, gas-horns, bottles, glasses, cans, flags, banners, poles and other similar articles or containers, including anything, which may be used as a weapon, are not permitted within the stadium.
- The consumption of alcohol is not permitted within the ground and spectators are not permitted to bring alcohol into the stadium.
- The unauthorized climbing of any structure, walls or buildings in the ground is strictly forbidden.
- Unnecessary noise such as that from the use of radio sets, gas-horns and behaviour likely to cause confusion or nuisance of any kind, including foul or abusive language, is not permitted in any part of the ground.
- Under no circumstances is it permitted to throw any object onto the pitch.
- Unauthorized persons are not permitted to enter upon the field of play at any time before, during or after the games.
- The Ground Management reserve the right to refuse admission or to eject any person who refuses to be searched where such a search is deemed necessary.
- A person may not obstruct a gangway, stairwell or circulation area at any time. Standing is not permitted for Health and Safety reasons at the back of the Stand.
- All persons entering or in the ground are reminded of their obligation to ensure that their behaviour does not present a danger from fire or other occurrence to anyone using the premises.
- Smoking is not permitted in the Main Stand. Smoking Areas are located at the back of the Stand.
- The Ground Management reserve the right for its 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.
- All spectators are asked to follow the instructions of Stewards at all times.

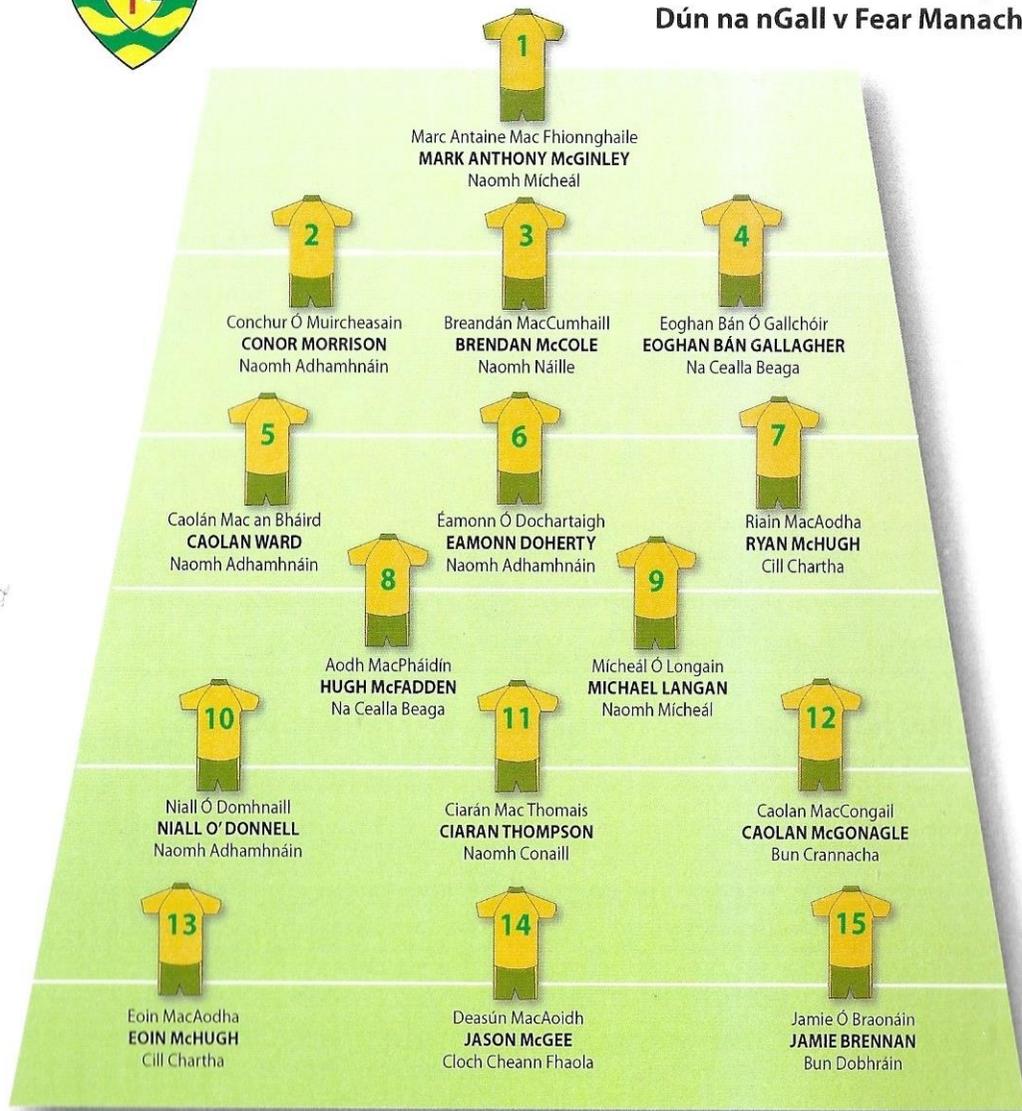


# Donegal Dún na nGall

Manager: Deaglán Mac Cnáimhsí

O'Donnell Park,  
Letterkenny  
2.00pm

Dún na nGall v Fear Manach



### FIR IONAD

16. Seán Ó Peatáin, **SHAUN PATTON**, Naomh Adhamhnáin. 17. Leo Mac Giolla Uain, **LEO McLOONE**, Naomh Conaill.  
18. Mairtín Mac Giolla Chainnigh, **MARTIN McELHINNEY**, Naomh Mícheál. 19. Stiofán Mac Meanman, **STEPHEN McMENAMIN**, Aodh Rua, Cúl na nCuirridín. 20. Peadar Ó Mocháin, **PEADAR MOGAN**, Naomh Náille. 21. Pól Ó Braonáin, **PAUL BRENNAN**, Bun Dobhráin.  
22. Oisín Ó Galláin, **OISIN GALLEN**, Sean Mac Cumhaill. 23. Mairtín Ó Raghallaigh, **MARTY REILLY**, Sean Mac Cumhaill.  
24. Lorcán Ó Conchubhair, **LORCAN CONNOR**, Na Dunaibh. 25. Mícheál Ó Murchú, **MICHAEL MURPHY**, Gleann tSúil.  
26. Antóin Mac Leannacháin, **TONY McCLENGHAN**, Bun an Phobail.

**Bainisteoir:** Deaglán Mac Cnáimhsí. **Maor Fóirne:** Carl de Léis. **Roghnóir (1):** Pól Mac Congaill. **Roghnóir (3):**

**Medic (1):** An Dr. Caoimhín Ó Móráin. **Medic (2):** Cathal Ó hEileas. **Kit Man:** Oisín Ó Canáin.

**Maor Uisce (1):** Gearóid Ó Baoill. **Maor Uisce (2):** Andy McGovern. **Maor Uisce (3):**

**Rúnaí Contae:** Aidín Uí Ghíolláin. **Cathaoirleach Contae:** Mícheál Mac Craith.

**Captain Name:** HUGH MCFADDEN.

# Fermanagh Fear Manach

Manager: Rory Gallagher



### Referee

Padraig Hughes  
(Ard Mhacha)

### Stand By Referee

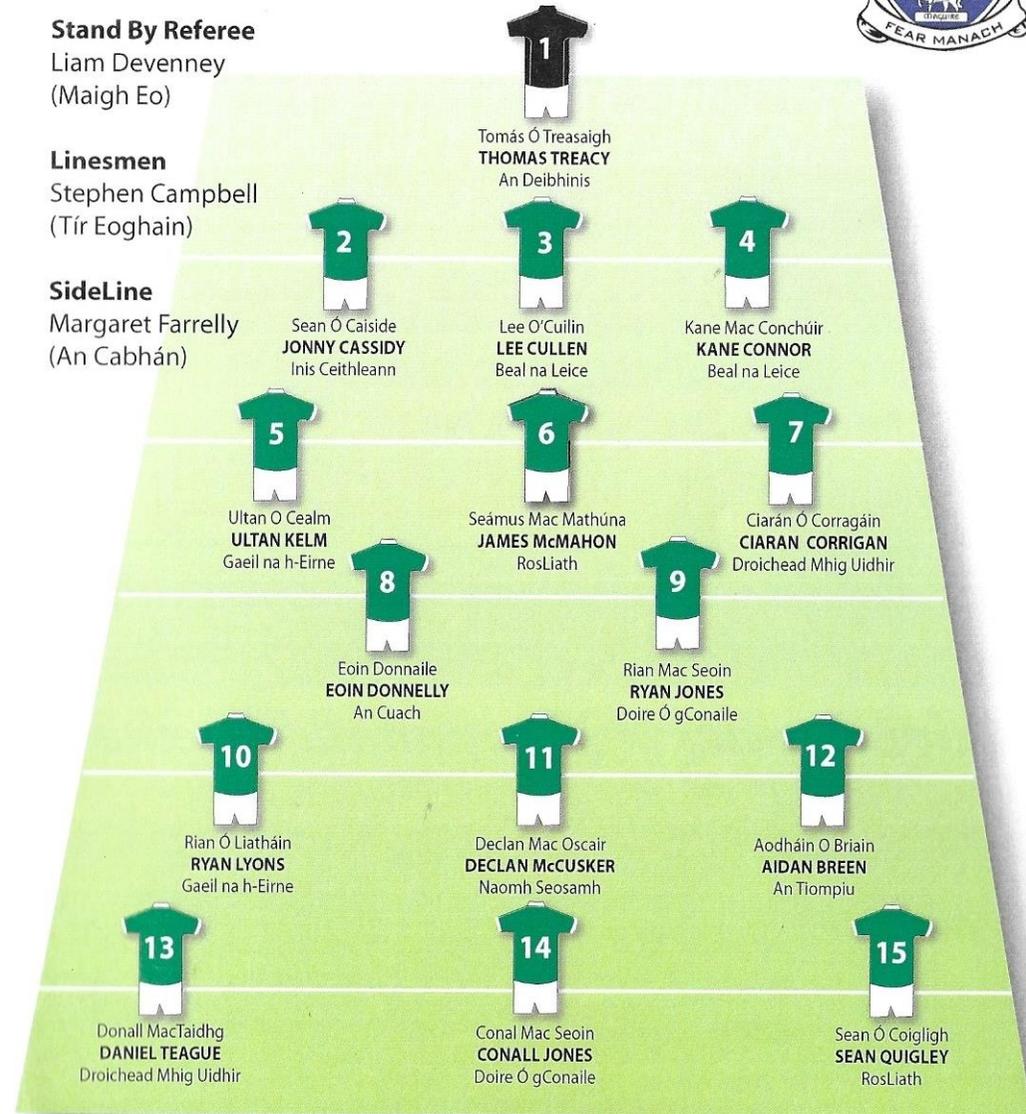
Liam Devenney  
(Maigh Eo)

### Linesmen

Stephen Campbell  
(Tír Eoghain)

### SideLine

Margaret Farrelly  
(An Cabhán)



### FIR IONAD:

16. Séamas Mac Craith, **JAMES McGRATH**, Béal Cu. 17. Éamann Mac Aodha, **EAMON MCHUGH**, Doire Ó gConaile. 18. Cian MacManis, **CIAN McMANUS**, Tigh Mór. 19. Tiarnan Ó Dalaigh, **TIARNAN DALY**, Doire Ó gConaile. 20. Garvan Mac Seoín, **GARVAN JONES**, Doire Ó gConaile. 21. Tomás Ó Cléirigh, **TOM CLARKE**, Lios na Scéithe. 22. Caoimhín MacDonaill, **KEVIN McDONNELL**, Na Cearna. 23. Seán Mac Gilleáin, **SHANE MCGULLION**, Doire Ó gConaile. 24. Pádraig Ó Reighill, **PATRICK REIHILL**, Inis Ceathlín. 25. Daragh Mag Corráin, **DARRAGH MCGURN**, Beal na Leice. 26. Pol Mac Oisicair, **PAUL MCCUSKER**, Naomh Seosamh.

**BAINISTÍOCHT Bainisteoir:** Rory Gallagher, **Medical:** Dr Niall Cibson. **Maor Uisce:** (1), (2), (3), (4) **Rúnaí:** Tom Boyle.

**Cathaoirleach:** Greg Kelly




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## AN STAIR

Only Doire and Tír Eoghain have faced Dún na nGall more often than Fear Manach have faced us in the National Football League. On occasions we have been the best of neighbours and played our home games against the Ernemen in Béal Átha Seanaidh, a stone's throw away from the Fear Manach border. Six encounters there. Nine times we have hosted them in Bealach Féich. Sometimes our mood was meaner and we took them to Machaire Gathláin and to Na Gleanntaí and to Fionntrá by the sea and, most insidiously, to Srath Laoil on the Carraic - Mín an Aoire road, if it was a road back in 1934! They had the last laugh that day when they beat us in Straleel. Our revenge was sweet as we were successful in the next 14 League encounters with them. We played them once in mBaile Dhún na nGall and twice in Leitir Ceanainn. We won both here. It is forty years since they beat us in the League.

### FIRST TIME HERE - 1960

Fear Manach's first League visit to Leitir Ceanainn was on November 6, 1960. The first half was very even and the sides were level at 0-3 each at half-time. Dún na nGall had an excellent third quarter to go 1-6 to 0-3 ahead. Fear Manach fought back but Dún na nGall held on to win 1-7 to 0-6. Séamus Hoare had a great game in goals for Dún na nGall while Fear Manach's midfielders Vincent Green and Éamonn Courtney impressed.

### Dún na nGall:

	<b>Séamus Hoare</b> (St. Eunan's):	
<b>Fionn Gallagher</b> (Cloich Cheannfhaola)	<b>Joe Carroll</b> (St. Eunan's)	<b>Michael Ronaghan</b> (St. Eunan's):
<b>Seán O'Donnell</b> (Dungloe)	<b>John Hannigan</b> (St. Eunan's) (Capt.)	<b>Noel O'Donnell</b> (St. Eunan's):
<b>Seán Ferriter (Na Fianna) and P.J. Flood (Donegal):</b>		
<b>P.J. McDermott</b> (Donegal) (1-1)	<b>Andy Gallen</b> (Mac Cumhailis) (0-2)	<b>Brendan McFeely</b> (Mac Cumhailis) (0-1):
<b>Owenie McBride</b> (Gaoth Dobhair) (0-3)	<b>Jackie McDermott</b> (Ballyshannon)	<b>Seán McCormick</b> (Ballyshannon).

Subs: Paddy Ward (Carrick-on-Shannon) for Ronaghan.

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## Fear Manach:

---

	John O'Neill:	
Owen Callaghan	"Sean Maguire" (0-2)	Frank Mulligan:
Brendan Rooney	Jim Cassidy	Liam McMahon:
	Vincent Green and Éamonn Courtney:	
Des O'Rourke	J.J. Treacy (0-3)	P.T. Treacy:
J. Curran	John Maguire (0-1)	Éamonn Flanagan.

---

**Subs:** H. Murphy for J. Curran.

Every time the 'Democrat' referred to the Fear Manach full-back his name was in inverted commas!

## LAST LEAGUE ENCOUNTER – 2007

Dún na nGall enjoyed a wonderful Division 1A League campaign in 2007. They won in Cork and in Omagh; they beat Maigh Eo in Ballybofey, Baile Átha Cliath in Ballyshannon and Clarraí here in Letterkenny. They qualified for the semi-finals when they drew in Limerick, even though they had half-a-dozen unexplained absentees! They were able to 'rest' Paul Durcan, Barry Monaghan, Neil Gallagher, Kevin Cassidy, Christy Toye, Rory Kavanagh and Colm A. McFadden for the Fear Manach match in Bealach Féich on April 8. Fear Manach were in the ascendancy for most of the first half and led by 2-4 to 0-3 at one stage. Three late first-half points reduced the deficit to four points at half-time – 2-4/0-6. Dún na nGall sent in the reinforcements – Dunnion, Monaghan, Cassidy, Toye and Wappa McMenamin – and they made the difference. Kevin Cassidy got the vital goal and Kevin McMenamin the winning point at the death 1-13/2-9. Dún na nGall went on to beat Cill Dara and Maigh Eo and win the League.

## Dún na nGall:

---

	Michael Boyle:	
Peter Witherow	Neil McGee	Thomas Donoghue:
Frank McGlynn	Karl Lacey	Éamonn McGee:
	Joe Friel and Ryan Bradley (0-1):	
Johnny McLoone (0-1)	Michael Hegarty (0-3)	Adrian Sweeney (0-4):
Denis Boyle (0-1)	Benny Byrne	Michael Doherty

---

**Subs:** Barry Dunnion, Barry Monaghan, Kevin Cassidy (1-1), Christy Toye, Kevin McMenamin (0-2). **Manager:** Brian McIver.



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**Fear Manach:**

**Chris Breen:**

Shane Goan

Shane McDermott

Niall Bogue:

Shane Lyons

Martin McGrath

Tommy McElroy (0-1):

Barry Owens and Tom Brewster (0-3):

Ciarán McElroy

James Sherry (0-1)

Mark Little (1-0):

Éamonn Maguire (1-2)

Jonathan McGurn

Colm Bradley (0-2)

**Subs:** Peter Sherry, Ciarán O'Reilly, Brian óg Maguire, Ryan Keenan.

**Manager:** Charlie Mulgrew.

**Centurion**

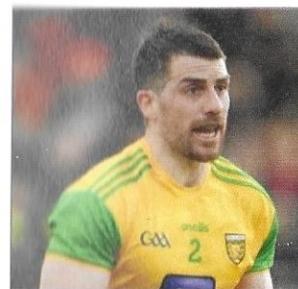
**Paddy McGrath** (before 2019 N.F.L.)

**DEBUT:**

30 May 2010 in S.F.C. v An Dún  
Bealach Féich (came on as sub).

**FULL DEBUT:**

26 June 2010 in S.F.C. v Ard Mhacha.  
Crois Mhic Linnáin.

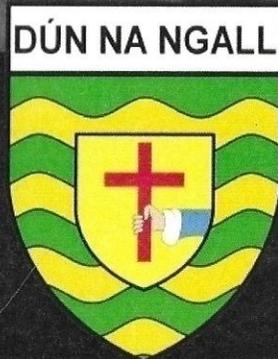
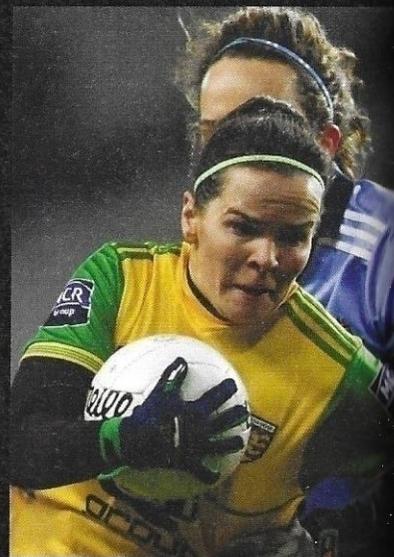


Paddy McGrath

	McKenna Cup	N.F.L.	S.F.C.	
2010	-	-	2	2
2011	3	6	6	15
2012	2	6	7	15
2013	-	4	5	9
2014	-	-	6	6
2015	2	7	6	15
2016	3	8	6	17
2017	-	7	5	12
2018	-	2	6	8
	<b>10</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>99</b>



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## Leo McLoone

### DEBUT:

17 Feb 2008

NFL v Mayo, Castlebar-sub

### FULL DEBUT:

4 July 2009

SFC v Carlow, Ballybofey



Leo McLoone

	McKenna Cup	N.F.L.	S.F.C.	Total	Scores
2008	-	2	-	2	-
2009	-	-	5	5	0-3
2010	2	5	-	7	0-3
2011	2	3	2	7	0-7
2012	-	7	7	14	2-6
2013	-	7	5	12	0-5
2014	3	7	6	16	2-5
2015	-	-	3	3	0-2
2016	3	7	3	13	1-2
2017	-	-	-	-	-
2018	3	7	7	17	1-6
	<b>13 (0-6)</b>	<b>45 (1-15)</b>	<b>38 (5-18)</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>6-39</b>
<b>2019</b>	-	97 Clare 98 Meath			
	-	99 Tipperary			
		100			

# Do you need an MRI, X-Ray or Ultrasound?

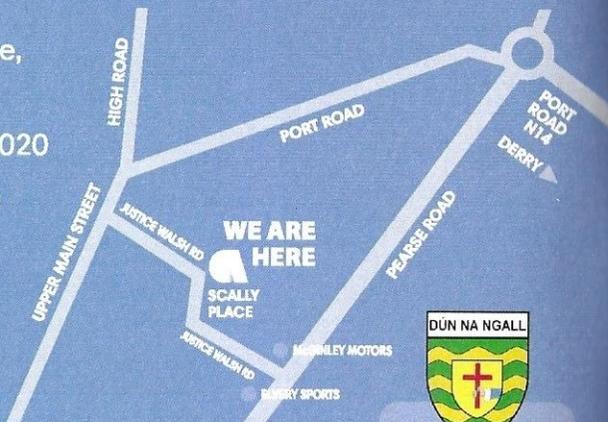


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## ST EUNAN'S MINOR BOARD PRESENTATION



The St Eunan's GAA Minor Board Presentation event took place in the Mount Errigal Hotel earlier this month to acknowledge the significant successes of our youth teams during the 2018 season; with county and divisional titles won on many fronts; Football, Ladies Football, Hurling and Camogie.

Outgoing Minor Board chairman Pauric Daly in his words of welcome said:



*Rory Kavanagh, Ciaran O'Donnell and Caolán Ward.*

"This annual club event acknowledges the tremendous commitment and efforts season after season that our underage club managers, coaches and mentors devote to the development of our young players and teams."

"This club event also acknowledges the significant successes that our young players achieved in winning titles and in player and team development during the past year. We also applaud our Scór na nÓg participants who achieved successes at county level with our quiz team qualifying for an All-Ireland final."

"The on-field efforts of our players and coaches is supported by dedicated members on the Club Executives who maintain and develop the structures where our players and club can flourish. We thank the parents and guardians and families for their continued support for our club activities which benefit the club's youth members in so many ways" he added.

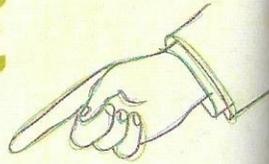


*Under-15s Óg Sport and Under-16s Division 3 team.*

Mr Daly extended his thanks to the sponsors of the teams for their continuing support and the Mount Errigal Hotel for hosting the event.

The MC for the event was Ciaran O'Donnell who kept proceedings on schedule on an evening where 14 club teams were to receive medals; with appreciation awards also presented to club volunteers with Mr Ciaran McLaughlin, vice-President of the Ulster

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Council GAA and National Chairman of the GAA coaching and development workgroup as guest of honour.

Club players Rory Kavanagh and Caolan Ward were interviewed on stage and both offered great insights and advice to the young players present on their football experiences and development through the coaching structures at O'Donnell Park. Along with Brian MacIntyre, they kindly helped with the distribution of medals.



Under-16 camogie team.

The many highlights throughout the St.Eunan's GAA Club Minor Board year 2018 were referenced with significant successes at the Minor grade with county titles won in the following grades: Minor Football county championship and league winners, Northern Board League, minor camogie (county finalists) and to the minor hurling team for their county championship and league titles.

The minor Ladies footballers were presented with their county championship winners' medals. The minor Ladies team also completed a successful trip to the Continental Youth games in Boston; winning the Premier championship title and representing the club so well at this North American Championship.

Thanks was expressed to those who contributed to the fund-raising efforts and to the sponsors who assisted this memorable trip.

The under-11 and under-12 girls' footballers received their Go-Games medals. Medals were also presented to our under-12 camogie team. The under-12 footballers received their Go-Games medals in addition to the U13 Div.2 Shield title medals and this team also won the James Gallagher Memorial Cup at this annual club tournament.



Minor Hurlers.

The under-12 hurling team won the Donegal hurling championship and the club under-15 Óg-Sport footballers won the Northern Board title and were finalists in the Co. Óg Sport Final. In addition, the team also won a county title as did the under-16 Division 3 champions.

Medals were presented to our two under-14 Féile teams. The



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Féile Hurling team were national finalists against Four Roads (Roscommon) and our under-14 camogie team were Donegal championship finalists and Féile semi-finalists.

Thanks was expressed on the fundraising and sponsorship which facilitated the progress of both teams throughout 2018.

Presentations of medals at under-16 level included the Ladies' football team and the under-16 camogie team who both won county championships in 2018. The Under-16 hurling team were presented with their Ulster Shield Division 1 title medals.

During the event, Ciaran Haran - Club Executive - outlined some successful club events organised throughout the years: including Blitzes across the four codes and club tournaments such as the Gary Doyle Tournament, the Benny Carr Memorial matches, the James Gallagher Tournament and the club's annual St Patrick's Day parade entry (Best Sports Entry winners, 2018).

Appreciation awards were received by a number of key personnel who have applied their time, effort and resolve through so many channels for the Minor Board. There are too many to name just now but in an open letter by Mr Pauric Daly, he extended his most profound thanks and gratitude to them all for their great endeavours.

*Photos courtesy: Geraldine Diver*



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# GAOTH DOBHAIR, DONEGAL AND JOHN MORRISON



**Well what you can say about Corofin? Full credit to them on their win because they play football like nobody else. Most teams nowadays go for this 13+2 or 14+1 style but Corofin buck that trend and play the game as they see it, which is great.**

**By Brendan Devenney**

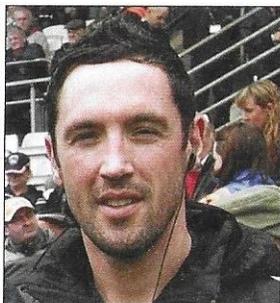
Listening to Kieran Fitzgerald after the game, he seemed somewhat disappointed with the performance they put in, so that will tell you the standards that they've set.

Some people might look at the mistakes that were made, but there's no point in dwelling on that. These things happen in club football. Pure and simple.

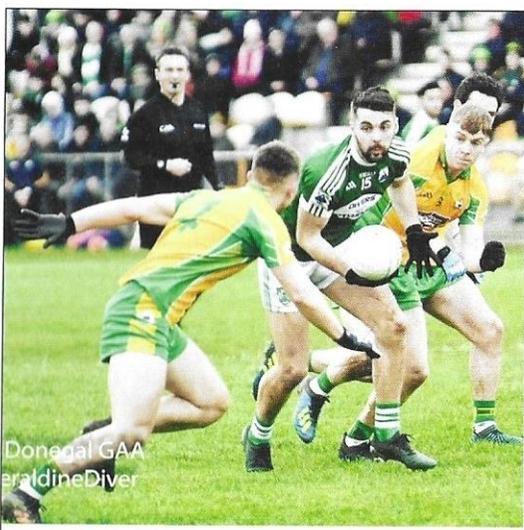
Gaoth Dobhair will of course be disappointed, especially the moment they conceded a goal so close to halftime, but it was a sign of how the Galway side always kept them at an arm's length.

Let's not forget of course that this is a superb side that they were facing. A club who've tasted numerous successes on the county, the provincial and All-Ireland stages in recent times.

Gaoth Dobhair certainly weren't beat out the gate, so to speak, and can be proud of how far they've journeyed this year.



*Brendan Devenney*



Donegal GAA  
eraldineDiver

They've paved the way for Donegal clubs to follow, taken on and beaten some of the powerhouses of Ulster football and this can only be good for the County as a whole.

Here's hoping it sparks the creation of new players that will come on the scene and, in turn, benefit the club and county scene here in Donegal.

On the intercounty stage itself, we have Fermanagh coming to O'Donnell Park on Sunday. Letterkenny has not always been a happy hunting ground for Donegal but here's hoping we can put that right this weekend.

Obviously we've some worries to consider. Although there is speculation

about Michael Murphy coming back in but we'll still be without leaders like Paddy McBrearty and fatigue will no doubt play a part with the Gaoth Dobhair lads.

Nonetheless, while I'm not a fan of how Fermanagh play, I'm very hopeful of Donegal getting back on track after the recent defeat to Tipperary.

On a sad note, we sadly had to say farewell to John Morrison last week. A great guy who I'm proud to say was one of the best coaches I ever had the honour of training under.

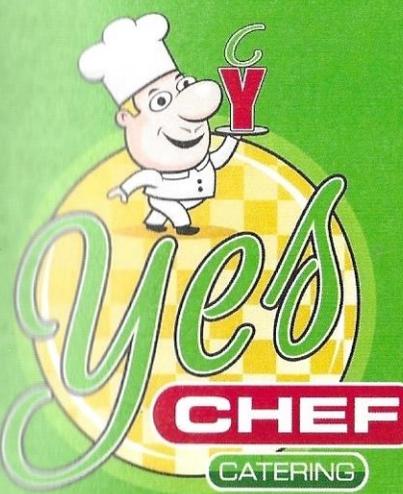
A lot of us like to brag that we are unique individuals who don't care what other people think and he truly epitomized that belief.

He'd often been the victim of ridicule across Ulster - for how he'd dress in Doc Martin boots and Armagh socks at training - but when he joined our setup under Mickey Moran, we all took to him very well.

His training was thoroughly enjoyable, his pre-match talks were stirring and he was simply superb at man-management. He'll be sadly missed, that's for sure.



*John Morrison*



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## When Gaoth Dobhair won the 2006 Donegal SFC, times were different.



**BY CHRIS MCNULTY**  
(Donegal Daily/Donegal Sport Hub)

Stephen Cassidy bagged the goal that downed St Eunan's on a soft Ballybofey Sunday and Gaoth Dobhair were kings.

Declan Bonner was the man in the Bainisteoir's coat 13 years ago when Gaoth Dobhair reigned supreme.

Gaoth Dobhair went into combat without James Gallagher, their captain, who had got married, while Cassidy was on holiday, and lost 0-12 to 1-4 to Crossmaglen.

It would be 12 years before they met Cross again.

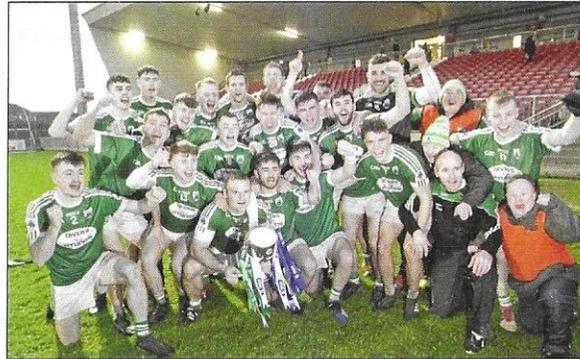
The curtain fell for Gaoth Dobhair after '06, but in 2018 the team on a mission saw the whole of the moon – and more – again.

This time, they weren't content with Dr Maguire. The bigger prizes didn't seem so distant any. More.

Since St Joseph's – now defunct – in 1975 won Ulster, no Donegal club had topped the

senior club scene in the province. Killybegs, Naomh Conaill and Glenswilly had been to the final, but without any joy.

"For many years, we seemed happy to come out and win the county title," was Declan Bonner's take on why Donegal's record, for so long, was so poor.



"We were seen as an easy touch in Ulster. That has changed in recent years.

"We have been so close but Gaoth Dobhair got over the line and they've opened the door now. A number of teams out there are well capable of doing what Gaoth Dobhair did – and that makes for a very interesting club championship."

Indeed, Gaoth Dobhair have removed the Indian Sign that once haunted Donegal's teams on a provincial quest. That they even began to think that Croke Park on St Patrick's Day was possible is perhaps testament in itself to where they stood ahead of last weekend's All-Ireland semi-final against Corofin.

Kevin Cassidy, before the Ulster semi-final against Crossmaglen, mentioned how it was massive for 'my crest to come shoulder-to-shoulder with theirs.'

They could be proud of their endeavours even if they did leave Carrick-on-Shannon with more than a tinge of regret.

"In a few weeks, you'll look back and think that there, but we have lost an All-Ireland semi-final and an opportunity to play on Paddy's Day," Eamon McGee noted.

"For the likes of Cass, Neil and myself, those chances aren't going to come around too often.

"But that's football and you're not guaranteed anything. It was a great opportunity to be here."

The sights and sounds of supporters from all across Donegal showed McGee that the desire for club success stretches beyond the parish boundaries once the county championship has been and gone.

He said: "Hopefully the standard is set now for Gaoth Dobhair and Donegal to push on, and become heavyweights in Ulster, and hopefully some team will make that breakthrough to Paddy's Day."

Donegal's clubs are now mixing with and matching at the top level.

In the Ulster Junior Championship, Naomh Colmcille were winners in 2017 and Red Hughs kept the prize in Donegal this time around.

There was something magical about it all too – and a real sense of now or never

In December, when Red Hughs navigated a potentially tricky quarter-final against Dunedin Connollys from Edinburgh, Shane Gallagher defied a broken jaw – and the accompanying wires – to come off the bench and score the winning goal.

"I talked to him about it before the game and 'no regrets' was the last thing he said to me," Seosamh Mac Ceallabhuí, the Red Hughs manager, explained.

Stephen McMenamin – a member of the Donegal senior squad and one of Red Hughs' leading lights – rose to speak to his team-mates at one stage.

The rallying call was clear: 'We're never, ever going to be in this position again.'

The words and the actions of the likes of Red Hughs and Gaoth Dobhair has perhaps served as motivation in all corners of the county as one year has, all of a sudden, become the next.

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## FÁILTE ÓN UACHTARÁN



**Cuirim fáilte roimh gach éinne ag Cluiche Lidl Sraith Náisiúnta Roinn 1 idir Dún na nGall agus Muineacháin i bPáirc Uí Dhomhnaill. Tá súil agam go mbainfidh sibh an-taitneamh sa chluiche seo idir dhá cheann de na contaetha tosaigh sa chluiche i Peile na mBan.**

Welcome to this afternoon's Lidl National League Division 1 fixture between Donegal and Monaghan at O'Donnell Park in Letterkenny. We're anticipating a hugely-competitive game between Donegal, the TG4 Ulster Champions, and their provincial rivals, Monaghan. I'm sure you'll enjoy the standard of fare on offer between two of the game's leading counties.

This is an historic afternoon for the Donegal ladies as they share a double-bill with their male counterparts in Letterkenny. Maxi Curran's players have made an impressive start to the 2019 Lidl National League campaign, and have won their first two matches of the season in Division 1. In Round 1, Donegal travelled to Croke Park and produced a powerful display against the Lidl National League and TG4 All-Ireland Champions Dublin. Donegal's performance marked them out as a team to watch in 2019 and they followed up with a home victory over Mayo in Round 2, a game that was streamed Live

on the LGFA Facebook Page from Convoy, with people tuning in from all over the world to catch the action. It's been a testing start for Monaghan, who have lost their opening two fixtures. The Farnley County suffered a loss to Westmeath in Round 1 but produced a much better performance against Galway last time out, and lost narrowly by two points. Niall Treanor is settling into his new role as Monaghan manager and I'm sure the best is yet to come from a talented group of players. Donegal and Monaghan last met in a competitive fixture in June 2018, when Donegal won the TG4 Ulster semi-final, before lifting the provincial crown with victory over Armagh. When the counties met in the 2018 Lidl National League, Donegal had just three points to spare against Monaghan. Today's game is another of our 'double-header' fixtures and the cooperation the LGFA and our male counterparts is wonderful to see.

I would like to thank Lidl for their ongoing #SeriousSupport of our National Leagues, and we are now well into the fourth year of our partnership. They have been truly wonderful sponsors and, if you have not already done so, I would urge you to participate in their 2019 initiative which will see 159 Post-Primary Schools receive jerseys and equipment. I would



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*Best wishes to the  
Donegal Ladies Team*

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also like to thank the diligent work of our CEO Helen O'Rourke and the staff in the LGFA offices who have helped to make occasions like this a possibility.

Last evening, we had Dublin v Mayo live on eir sport, while our Facebook Page brought viewers the Cork v Tipperary game from Páirc Uí Rinn. Despite our increased levels of coverage, I would urge our supporters to get out in even greater numbers for the remainder of the Lidl League campaign to give our players the encouragement and support that they truly deserve at the various matchday venues.

Finally, I would like to wish the very best of luck to the Donegal and Monaghan players, their county boards and supporters. I'd also like to pay tribute to the officiating teams and all of the essential volunteers on duty this evening. I hope you have a memorable experience.

Míle buíochas.

*Maire Ní Jí*

**Uachtarán,  
Cumann Peil Gael na mBan**

## LEAGUE TABLE & REMAINING FIXTURES

LIDL National Football League Division 1								
Team	Played	Won	Lost	Drawn	Points For	Points Against	Points Diff	Points
Donegal	2	2	0	0	32	23	9	6
Galway	2	2	0	0	23	15	8	6
Dublin	2	1	1	0	37	27	10	3
Mayo	2	1	1	0	30	31	-1	3
Westmeath	2	1	1	0	19	17	2	3
Cork	2	1	1	0	15	13	2	3
Tipperary	2	0	2	0	26	44	-18	0
Monaghan	2	0	2	0	17	29	-12	0

\* League Table after two games played

## Ladies Remaining Fixtures

**Saturday 2nd March - Round 4**  
Donegal (H) v Tipperary

**Sunday 7th April - Round 7**  
Galway (H) v Donegal

**Saturday 16th March - Round 5**  
Cork (H) v Donegal

**Play off/Relegation**  
- 13th/14th of April

**Sunday 24th March - Round 6**  
Donegal (H) v Westmeath

**Semi Final - 20th/21st of April**

**Final - Div 1 & 2 - 5th of May**

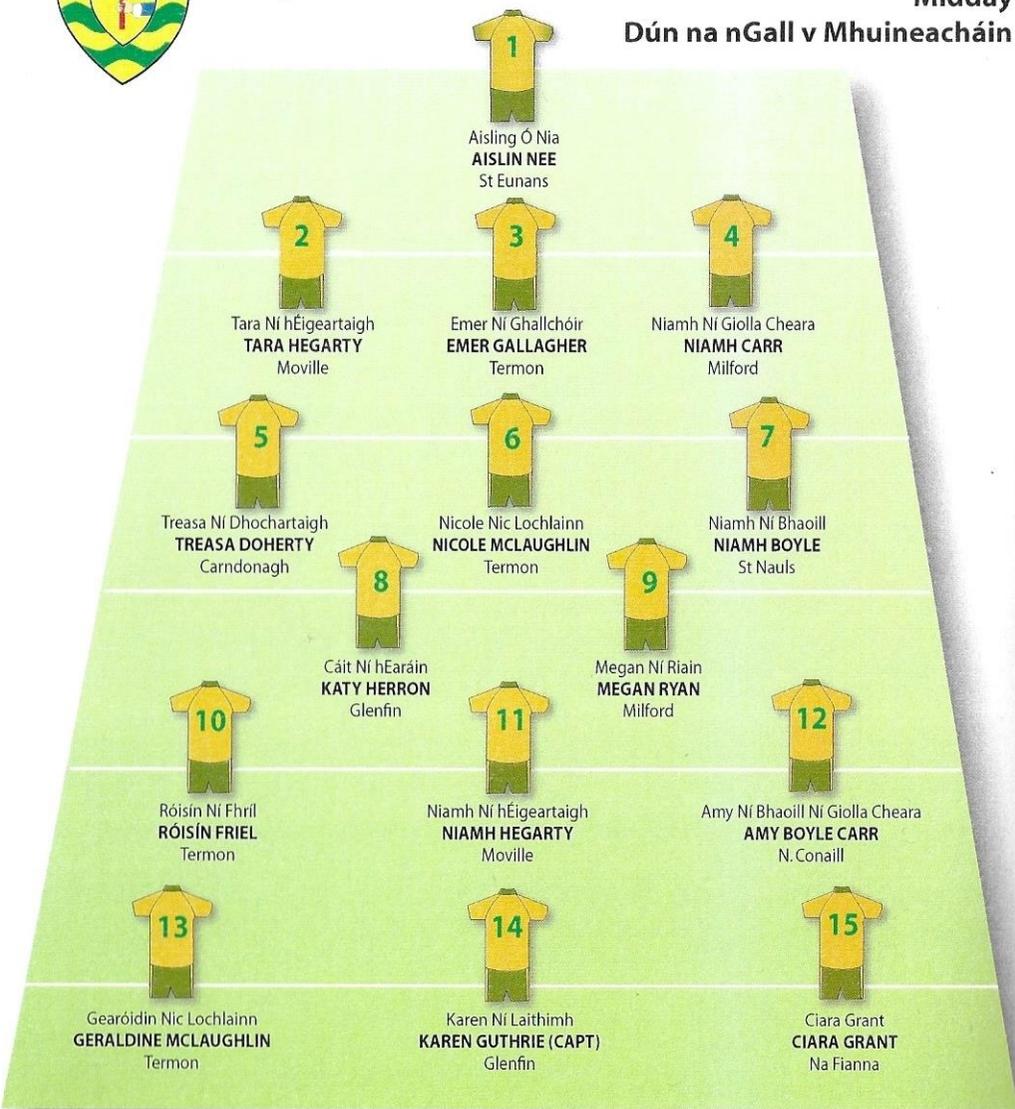


# Donegal Dún na nGall

Manager: Maxi Curran

O'Donnell Park,  
Letterkenny  
Midday

## Dún na nGall v Mhuineacháin



**FIR IONAD**

16 Aoife Nic Cholgan, **AOIFE MCCOLGAN**, Malin. 17 Eibhlín Nic Fhionnaile, **EVELYN MCGINLEY**, Cloughaneely. 18 Saskia Ní Bhaoill, **SASKIA BOYLE**, Dungloe. 19 Kaneshia Nic Choinnigh, **KANESHIA MCKINNEY**, St Eunans. 20 Sinéad Nic Fhinneachta, **SINÉAD MCGINTY**, Glenfin. 21 Julie Ní Threartaigh, **JULIE TREARTY**, Na Dunaibh. 22 Anna Ní Fhlannagáin, **ANNA FLANAGAN**, St Eunans. 23 Nicole Ní Mhuineacháin, **NICOLE GORDON**, Urris. 24 Shannon Nic Ghrodaigh, **SHANNON MCGRODDY**, Na Dunaibh. 25 Shannon Nic Lochlainn, **SHANNON MCLAUGHLIN**, Termon. 26 Lauren Ní Ghiolla Cheara, **LAUREN CARR**, Fanad Gaels. 27 Elaine Ní Mhaolaodhóg, **ELAINE MELAUGH**, Red Hughs. 28 Anna Marie Nic Fhloinn, **ANNA MARIE MCGLYNN**, Glenfin. 29 Deirdre Ní Fhoghlú, **DEIRDRE FOLEY**, Cardonagh.

**BAINISTÍOCHT:** Bainisteoir: **MAXI CURRAN**, Na Dunaibh. Mentors: **JOHNNY MCGINLEY** - Glenswilly, **GARY WALSH** - Aodh Ruadh, **ALAN O'CONNELL** - St Eunans, **NADINE FRIEL** - Glenswilly, **MARIE MCCOLGAN** - Red Hughs. Physio: **SARA HERRON**, Glenfin. Captain Name: **KAREN GUTHRIE**, Glenfin.

# Monaghan Mhuineacháin

Manager: Niall Treanor (Truagh)



**Referee**

Gerry Carmody  
(Mayo)

**Umpires**

James King,  
John King,  
Jonathan King,  
David Jordan

**Lines people**

Siobhán Coyle,  
(Fanad Gaels)  
Pat Barrett  
(Milford)

**4th Official**

Gus Chapman,  
Sligo



**FIR IONAD:**

16. A. Ní Chiara, **ALANNA McCAREY**, Scotstown. 17. C. Nic Treinir, **CASEY TREANOR**, Scotstown. 18. R. Ní Aodha, **REBECCA HUGHES**, Eire Óg. 19. R. Nic Dhonaill, **RACHEL McCONNELL**, Donaghmoyne. 20. A. Haimlín, **AMY HAMILL**, Emyvale. 21. E. Nic Treinir, **EADAIOIN TREANOR**, Truagh Gaels. 22. B. Nic Giolla Uir, **BRIONAN McALEER**, Seans. 23. G. Nic Cionaoith, **GRAINNE McKENNA**, Tyholland. 24. A. Ní Chiara, **ABBIE McCAREY**, Scotstown. 25. N. Ní Ruanaidh, **NICOLE ROONEY**, Eire Óg.

**BAINISTÍOCHT:** Bainisteoir: N. O'Treinir, **NIALL TREANOR**, Truagh. Mentors: C. Ó Murchú, **CIARAN MURPHY** - Sean McDermott, A. Treanor, **ADAM TREANOR** - Aghabog. 4th Official: A. Nic Cionaoith, **ANGELA MCKENNA**, Tyholland. Physio: M. Ó Dochraigh, **MARK DOCKERY**. Captain Name: C. Ní Chuirnain, **CORA COURTNEY**, Donaghmoyne.



# Donegal aren't getting carried away

By Frank Craig | DONEGAL NEWS

**Donegal are looking to make it three NFL wins from three this afternoon in Letterkenny when they take on Monaghan (throw-in, 12 noon).**

Maxi Curran's side spectacularly accounted for double champions Dublin on opening night in Croke Park and followed that up a fortnight ago by adding another three points to the board with a battling win over Mayo in Convoy.

With so many doubts existing over the side's potential this term after a spate of high-profile departures, the manager has challenged the group to build on their impressive and early head of steam.

"We'll not want to take the foot off the pedal now," said Curran. "You'd have to think that a win over Monaghan would definitely see us safe in Division 1. It won't be easy. Monaghan put up a very good display against Galway two weeks ago.

"They're defensive, they like to get bodies back. They're very hard to break down. Letterkenny, for us, it's a good place to have them. We have improvements to make. We won the last day but there were areas we weren't happy with.

"The weather was a factor in some of that. But we're making errors that we can't afford to carry into the business part of the year. We've had a good start but no one is getting carried away.

"We got Dublin at the best possible time. Mayo are rebuilding and, as it happens, Monaghan are doing a little rebuilding too. They are short the core of big names they'd usually have like Sharon Courtney, Rachel McKenna and Ellen McCarron.

"It's a good time to be meeting Monaghan too to be honest."

Donegal are top of the table and tails are most definitely up. Experienced heads like Karen Guthrie and Geraldine McLaughlin have already erred on the side of caution and warned their young gun team-mates that nothing can be taken for granted in what is always a seriously competitive top tier of ladies football.

Curran is singing off the same hymn sheet. The Downings man agrees that a dose of reality is never too far away from being dished out in Division 1 if any air of complacency is allowed to creep in.

Donegal are coming in off the back of a two-week lay off. It's given them an opportunity to knuckle down on the training field over the weekend in between.

"As it happened we were missing about nine through sickness and illness last weekend so the break probably came at a good time for us," he continued. "It gave us a chance to take

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stock and catch our breath a little. This time of year can be heavy going when it's week on week.

"So it was good to get the week off and take a wee step back and look at a few things."

Monaghan, traditionally one of the real powerhouses in Ulster ladies football, haven't lifted a provincial title since 2013 when they famously achieved an historic four-in-a-row. They are currently pointless and rooted to the bottom of the Division 1 standings.

They're in real danger of being cut adrift. With that in mind, Curran knows they'll be extra determined to take something away from Letterkenny.

"They have been in Division 1 for a long time. They'll not want to go down. They still have the makings of a very good side. They still have so much talent. But it's a home game, a double header in Letterkenny. Our girls will want to come out swinging."



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# Donegal rue costly second half as

DONEGAL ..... 0-10  
FERMANAGH ..... 0-13

BY RYAN FERRY

DONEGAL'S promotion hopes were dealt a blow in O'Donnell Park on Sunday as they lost out to Fermanagh by three points.

Declan Bonner's team were reduced to 14 men in the 19th minute when Caolan McGonagle was sent off.

They overcame that setback at first and led by four points at half-time, although they could have been even further in front.

However, the home side were dismal in the second half, and Fermanagh gradually clawed back their deficit.

Bonner's charges were left with only 13 players on the field for ten minutes when Stephen McMenamin was sin-binned, and the Erne side turned the screw.

Fermanagh were the hungrier team and they closed the game out in style, while a lethargic Donegal could only muster two frees in the whole second half.

The win puts Rory Gallagher's Fermanagh above Donegal in the table, and they will take heart from the result, before the sides meet again in the Ulster Championship quarter-final on May 26.

Donegal were looking for an improved performance from their disappointing showing against Tipperary two weeks ago, and they were disappointed to see their promotion hopes dealt a blow.

Fermanagh were looking for a similar performance to their win over Donegal in the same amount of points as Donegal.

Rory Gallagher's team had been criticised for their ultra defensive tactics in the first couple of league matches.

The Erne men brought the same approach to O'Donnell Park, but Donegal were prepared for that, and they started with plenty of width in their play.

Fermanagh had 15 players in their own '45' when Donegal opened the scoring in the second minute with Jamie Brennan landing a beauty from distance.

Michael Langan added an excellent free, before Fermanagh got off the mark when Conall Jones found his range.



Rory McGee is challenged by Fermanagh's Declan McMenamin and Alan Rain.

Donegal were looking for an improved performance from their disappointing showing against Tipperary two weeks ago, and they were disappointed to see their promotion hopes dealt a blow.

Donegal were patient, but when the opportunity arose, they weren't afraid to shoot and Oisín Gallen kicked a great point.

Ciarán Thompson added a free as Donegal moved four ahead, but they were then dealt a blow in the 19th minute when they were reduced to 14 men after Caolan McGonagle was sent off.

Sean Quigley kicked a free for Fermanagh, and Ciarán Corrigan added another after Langan hit the post with a free.

Donegal's assignment didn't change that much with their numeri-

cal disadvantage, as Fermanagh were slipping bodies back and trying to play on the counter.

Bonner's men stuck to their task and McGee slotted over a second point in the 26th minute, before Eoghan 'Ban' Gallagher got on his name on the scoresheet after injecting pace into a move.

Fermanagh weren't offering much in attack, and they were lacking discipline in defence and Langan lofted over a free in the 33rd minute.

It was a tough physical battle and Pádraig Hughes issued six yellow cards in the first half – four of them to Donegal.

Sean Quigley had the final say of the first half but his side still trailed by four at half-time.

There was plenty of single in the match, and there were words exchanged between the teams as they came out for the second half.

The sides then started a wrestling match before the ball was thrown in, and referee Pádraig Hughes brandished five yellow cards, with Donegal's Jason McGee and Hugh McFadden, as well as Fermanagh's Che Cullen, Ryan Jones, and Aidan Breen all receiving bookings.

Michael Langan got the second half scoring under way, but Ciarán Corrigan pointed for Gallagher's team in the 42nd minute.

Donegal were having difficulty winning their own restarts, and with a man less they couldn't work any short kick-outs,

and Fermanagh picked up the breaks when Mark Anthony McGinley went long.

Gallagher's side started to grow in belief and they made it a one-score game when Quigley drilled over a left-footed point.

Donegal then held possession for the best part of three minutes, but they couldn't pick a hole in the Fermanagh defence, and the Erne men eventually turned over possession and worked the ball up the field and Corrigan fisted over.

Bonner's side were too slow and ponderous when on the ball, but they did get their first point in 18 minutes through a Langan free after Hugh McFadden won a throw up and was fouled.



Jamie Brennan charges ahead of Fermanagh duo Eoin Donnelly and Jonny Cassidy.



Fermanagh's Ryan Lyons in action against Donegal's Niall O'Donnell.

# Erne men claim the spoils

## THE GAME AT A GLANCE

WITH RYAN FERRY IN O'DONNELL PARK

**MAN OF THE MATCH**  
Ciaran Corrigan had a great game for Fermanagh and he had the engine to get up and down the pitch for the seventy plus minutes. The half-forward finished with a tally of four points, and he used the ball intelligently throughout.

**THE WHISTLER**  
Donegal manager Declan Bonner was furious with the referee after the match, and he was adamant that he got Caolan McGonagle's dismissal wrong. Paudie Hughes brandished 14 yellows, a black card, and a red card, and he never had total control of the match, and allowed too many mini skirmishes to break out and disrupt the running of the game.

**TURNING POINT**  
Donegal were two points ahead when Eoin McHugh touched the ball on the ground in the 61st minute. It was a tricky free, but it was moved in and Stephen McMenaamin was then shown a black card. Quigley slotted over the free at his leisure, and Fermanagh dominated the next ten minutes when Donegal were down to 13 men.

**TALKING POINT**  
Donegal's poor record at O'Donnell Park continued on Sunday, and now it will take a lot of things to fall their way to secure promotion, while they will be nervously looking over the shoulders as they are not safe from relegation yet. The team played reasonably well in the first half, but they weren't clinical enough when they were on top. As has been the case in all four league games to date, Donegal lost their way in the second half, and there were not enough people willing to take responsibility when scores were needed. The sides will meet again in four months in the championship, and Donegal have an awful lot of work to do before the summer.

**WHAT'S NEXT?**  
Donegal return to action next Saturday night when they take on Armagh in MacCumhail Park at 7.15pm.

However, that didn't prevent the desired boost and Aidan Breen carried over from Saturday, before Quigley left the minimum between the sides in the 61st minute.

Donegal went down to 13 players after Stephen McMenaamin was black-carded and was sent to the sin bin for ten minutes.

It was always going to be a big ask from that juncture, Paul McCusker levelled matters in the 64th minute, and Fermanagh then hit the front when that man Corrigan fisted over again three minutes later.

Donegal lost their shape completely when down to 13 players, and Breen was able to get up the field and put two points between the teams.

Langan inexplicably dropped a routine free short and that summed up a thoroughly underwhelming second half.

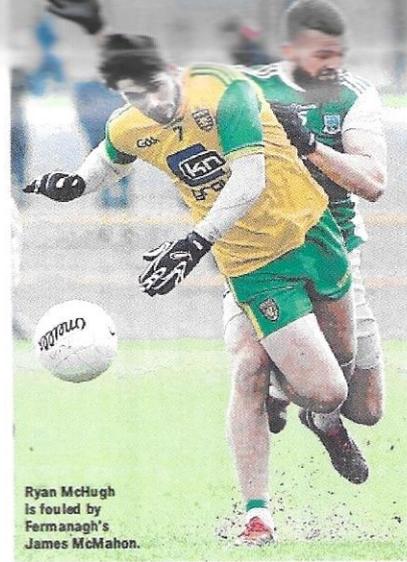
Ulltan Kelm rounded off Fermanagh's victory with a fine point, and judging by their reaction to the full-time whistle it meant a lot to them, and they will be heartened ahead of the championship.

Donegal warmed Michael Murphy up on the sideline, but they declined to put him on even when they required a goal late on.

However, Murphy and some of Donegal's other big hitters will be needed next week if Bonner's side are to fulfil Langan and keep their hopes of promotion alive.



Donegal's Stephen McMenaamin under pressure from Sean Quigley.



Ryan McHugh is fouled by Fermanagh's James McMahon.

### TEAMS

**Donegal:** Mark Anthony McSherry; Caoilan Ward, Brendan McCole, Stephen McMenaamin; Eoghan 'Ban' Gallagher (0-1), Eamonn Doherty, Ryan McHugh; Hugh McFadden, Jason McGee (0-2); Caden McGonagle, Ciaran Thompson (0-1, 1f), Michael Langan (0-4, 4fs); Niall O'Donnell, Jamie Brennan (0-1), Oisín Gallen (0-1). Subs: Paul Brennan for McGee (52 mins), Eoin McHugh for Doherty (56 mins), Leo McLoone for Gallen (64 mins), Peadar Mogan for Langan (73 mins).

**Fermanagh:** Thomas Treacy; Lee Cullen, Che Cullen, Jonny Cassidy; Aidan Breen (0-2), Che Cullen, James McMahon; Ryan Lyons, Ryan Jones; Ulltan Kelm (0-1), Ciaran Corrigan (0-4), Declan McCusker; Daniel Teague, Conall Jones (0-1), Sean Quigley (0-4, 2fs). Subs: Kevin McDonnell for Teague (33 mins), Paul McCusker (0-1) for Lyons (44 mins), Eamonn McHugh for McDonnell (68 mins), Ryan Lyons for Breen (73 mins), Tiarnan Daly for Cassidy (75 mins).

Referee: Pádraig Hughes (Armagh).



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