

Comhairle Iar-Bhunscoileanna Na Mumhan CLG

A.G.M

9th May 2022

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**2.Minutes of 2021 A.G.M.**

**Iar-Bhunscoileanna na Mumhan**

**18th May 2021**

**In Attendance:**

Colm Hayes, Eoin Ryan, David Minogue, Hugh Flavin, Liam O’Mahoney, Fergus Clifford, Declan Fitzgerald, Simon Stokes, Liam Lenihan, Willie Duggan, Stephen Enright, Paul Barden, Colm Sheehy, Dermot Lynch, Tom Maher, Ed Donnelly, Edward O’Neill, Michael Nash, Donncha Hickie, Sean O’Leary, Martin Ronan, Dermot Dooley.

**Fáilte:**

An Cathaoirleach, Colm Hayes outlined the ground rules to be observed during the meeting. He advised the meeting of the raise hand icon at the top of the screen if anyone wanted to contribute. He welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked everyone for taking the time to attend.

**Minutes:**

The minutes of the 2020 A.G.M. were read by David Minogue.

Proposed by Mike Nash. Seconded by Liam O’Mahoney.

**Matters Arising:**

There were no matters arising.

**Chairpersons Address:**

In his address, Cathaoirleach Colm Hayes welcomed everyone to the Munster Post-Primary Schools GAA AGM. He stated how the 2020/21 playing season had been a non-event due to Covid-19, forcing the cancellation of all Post-Primary school games across the province. However, he looked forward to the 2021/22 playing season with optimism and excitement and stated that Comhairle Iar-Bhunscoileanna na Mumhan are confident that they can provide all our players and schools the opportunity to play in Munster PPS competitions in the season ahead.

He welcomed Liam Lenihan, Chairman of Munster GAA to the meeting. He thanked the hardworking committee of Eoin Ryan (Games administration officer), Declan Fitzgerald (Munster PPS Vice-chairperson), David Minogue (Munster PPS Secretary), Hugh Flavin (Munster PPS Treasurer), Ed Donnelly (Munster PPS media and Communications manager), Liam O’ Mahoney (All-Ireland Post-Primary Schools representative), Mike Nash (Assistant secretary and All-Ireland Representative). He congratulated Liam O’Mahoney on his appointment by An Uachtaran, Larry McCarthy, as chairperson of the All-Ireland Post-Primary schools GAA recently.

He went on to praise the work of teachers and coaches for their commitment to promoting hurling and football in their communities during lockdown. He concluded by highlighting how we all now look forward with optimism and commitment to running a full schedule of games in all competitions, both hurling and football for the season ahead. He declared the future is bright.

**Guest Address:**

Liam Lenihan addressed the meeting. He thanked everyone for being invited to speak and said he was privileged to have access to schools. He was grateful to schools, Principals and teachers for the work they do. He informed the meeting of the work carried out by the Michael Cusack committee and encouraged people to visit the Cusack Centre in Clare. He complemented the 51 schools in Munster who had signed up to the GAA wellbeing programme and highlighted how all lesson plans associated with the programme were linked to the learning outcomes of the Junior Certificate. Liam congratulated Liam O’Mahony on his appointment and he wished all teachers and students the best of luck in upcoming examinations.

**Servicing Officers Report:**

Eoin Ryan commended the contribution of teachers during the lockdown. He pointed to the difficulty of being a teenager before the pandemic and how that had escalated during the pandemic. He thanked the committee for being available for meetings and thanked Colm Hayes, David Minogue, Hugh Flavin and Declan Fitzgerald for their work. He congratulated Liam O’Mahoney on his appointment and wished him every success. He informed the committee that there were no fixtures to report and he hoped that 2021/2022 would be a better year.

Colm Hayes thanked Eoin for his leadership during the pandemic.

**Secretary Report:**

In his report, David Minogue spoke about the importance of the Munster PPS registration system and having schools register their squads. The registration for 2020/21 had being cancelled due to the cancellation of post primary games. He informed the meeting of the passing of Motion 16 at congress on February 27th, 2021 as a result the post primary schools’ All-Ireland competitions shall be completed by the weekend following St. Patrick’s Day. He informed the meeting that the format for 2021/2022 senior competitions would be knockout. He thanked teachers and his fellow officers for their help and support.

Proposed by Mike Nash Seconded by Declan Fitzgerald.

A discussion followed on the introduction of knockout competitions for the 2021/22 school year. It was requested that we wait until August to make a decision on the format for the school year ahead. It was agreed to gather club fixtures from each county and allow the CCC make an informed decision in August when there was a clearer picture. Colm Hayes thanked everyone for their contributions in the discussion.

**Media and Communications report:**

Ed Donnelly presented the meeting with a report. He informed the meeting that twitter following was under 7000 and that the website page views were approximately 20000. He commented that the twitter account had been static due to the pandemic and lack of games. He informed the meeting that there has been an increase in the streaming of GAA games and that this is an area the Munster PPS committee will have to look into. Due to spectator restrictions this may be an option to allow people view our games and he expected to stream more than just finals in the coming year.

**All-Ireland Report:**

Liam O’Mahoney informed the meeting that there were no competitions due to the pandemic. He thanked all the county representatives for their work. He highlighted how he would love to see All Ireland games played at county grounds to fit the occasion. He thanked and recognized the people who had started out with him on the Munster PPS committee and wished the new committee members who had now stepped up the best of luck.

**Treasurer Report:**

Hugh Flavin delivered the treasurer report. He thanked the committee for their support. He said that at present the priority was to protect funds. A deficit for the year of €3030.26 was announced. He informed the meeting that the decision was made to suspend grants to help protect funds and that it was hoped to have those grants reinstated going forward. He informed the meeting that the accounts presented were unaudited accounts and would be audited by BDO.

Proposed by Declan Fitzgerald. Seconded by Liam O’Mahoney.

**AOB:**

Liam O’Mahoney announced that the All-Ireland Post Primary schools A.G.M. was expected to take place in September.

Colm Hayes thanked Liam Lenihan for appearing as guest speaker and pointed to his fantastic passion for the role. He encouraged all attending to look at the Cusack centre and the going well programme.

The meeting concluded.

**3.Matters Arising**

**4. Chairpersons address**

I would like to thank all those who contributed to making the 2021/22 playing season a successful year both on and off the field for Munster Post Primary Schools. I would like to congratulate the winners of each competition in particular St. Josephs Secondary School, Tulla in a year of firsts for the school, winning their first Harty Cup game and going on to win their first TUS Harty Cup title, a fantastic story. I would also like to congratulate St. Brendan’s Killarney going on to win the TUS Corn Ui Mhuirí Competition. Congratulations to Ennistymon CBS winning both the TUS Munster PPS Un. 19 C hurling and football competitions.

I would like to take this opportunity to acknowledge how pleased we are to have secured a new sponsorship deal with our new partners TUS, which will assist us in running our large programme of games and help to promote Gaelic games across the province. We look forward to working with TUS in partnership over the next 3.5 years.

Special congratulations to the Munster representatives who claimed All Ireland success in the 2021/22 season. We had Munster representatives competing in six of the seven All-Ireland finals. Congratulations to Ardscoil Rís after this group of players previously lost the Dean Ryan Cup (2019), Harty Cup (2022) then going on to win their first Masita GAA All-Ireland Post Primary Schools (Un. 19 A) Croke Cup this year. Congratulations to St. Francis College Rochestown on winning the Masita GAA All-Ireland Post Primary Schools (Un. 19 B) Paddy Buggy Cup and Beara Community School for winning the Masita GAA All-Ireland Post Primary Schools (Un. 19 D Football) Br. Edmund Ignatius Rice Cup. Commiserations to St. Brendan’s Killarney who lost out narrowly to Naas CBS in the Masita GAA All Ireland Post Primary Schools (Un. 19 A Football) Hogan Cup final. Commiserations also to Ennistymon CBS who narrowly lost the GAA All Ireland Post Primary Schools (Un. 19 C Football) Dr. Eamonn O’Sullivan Cup and GAA All Ireland Post Primary Schools (Un. 19 C Hurling) Michael Cusack finals.

I would like to thank the Munster Council staff for their continued support. In particular, a special word of thanks to Eoin Ryan (Munster PPS Games Administration Officer) and Ed Donnelly (Munster GAA Communications Manager) for their work. I would like to thank Eoin Ryan for his professionalism, dedication and commitment to his role having completed his third year as Munster PPS Games Administration Officer. Eoin and each of the county servicing officers deserve a special mention for their dedication and ability to get a very busy programme of games played off on time no matter what the weather conditions were over the 2021/22 season.

Also, a word of thanks also to those who have contributed to the greater exposure of our games in both the print media and on social media this year. Here, I would like to thank Ed Donnelly and Eoin Ryan for promoting Munster Post Primary Schools competitions not alone on the dedicated website but also through social network channels such as Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.

To the hard-working committee who have given of their time and expertise in ensuring that our games have been organised, promoted and run in such a professional manner. Declan Fitzgerald (Vice-Chairperson), David Minogue (Secretary), Hugh Flavin (Treasurer), Mike Nash (All-Ireland Post Primary Schools GAA Representative), Liam O’Mahoney (Chairperson of Ireland Post-Primary Schools) and the Munster Council deserve great credit for their vision in developing our games at school level. I would also like to acknowledge the valuable contribution given by our Council members on the CCC; Fintan O’Connor (Waterford), Martin Ronan (Clare), Donncha Hickey (Kerry), Ed Cronin (Cork), Mike Nash (Limerick) and Kieran Hickey (Tipperary).

I would also like to extend a word of gratitude to all referees and officials who have taken time and effort in ensuring that the highest standards of refereeing which has been applied to all our school games this year. All officials give freely of their time throughout the year to officiate at school’s games at all levels and we really appreciate it.

To the teachers, coaches, students, school managements and parents who continue to support the promotion of our Gaelic Games throughout the province at all levels, your contribution is much appreciated. Playing school sports has a very positive effect on students’ well-being in the short term and in the long term the memories of the fun that they had will live on for many years to come.

As we look to the year ahead with optimism, we expect to run our full programme of games at Munster GAA Post-Primary schools in the 2022/23 playing season without interruption from Covid-19. Look forward to working with you all in the season ahead.

Colm Hayes

Colm Hayes

Cathaoirleach Iar Bhunscoileanna na Mumhan

**5.Servicing Officer Report**

***Munster PPS GAA Fixture review and analysis Sept 2021 – March 2022***

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ***Under 19 Hurling*** | ***Games Played*** | ***Walkovers*** |
| ***A*** | ***18*** | ***0*** |
| ***B*** | ***17*** | ***0*** |
| ***C*** | ***25*** | ***1*** |
| ***D*** | ***15*** | ***3*** |
| ***E*** | ***19*** | ***2*** |
| ***TOTALS*** | ***94*** | ***6*** |
| ***Under 19 Football*** |  |  |
| ***A*** | ***21*** | ***0*** |
| ***B*** | ***13*** | ***0*** |
| ***C*** | ***23*** | ***0*** |
| ***D*** | ***21*** | ***3*** |
| ***E*** | ***19*** | ***9*** |
| ***TOTALS*** | ***97*** | ***12*** |
| ***Under 16.5 Hurling*** |  |  |
| ***A*** | ***7*** | ***0*** |
| ***B*** | ***23*** | ***0*** |
| ***C*** | ***20*** | ***0*** |
| ***D*** | ***21*** | ***1*** |
| ***E*** | ***17*** | ***2*** |
| ***TOTALS*** | ***88*** | ***3*** |
| ***Under 16.5 Football*** |  |  |
| ***A*** | ***9*** | ***0*** |
| ***B*** |  |  |
| ***C*** |  |  |
| ***D*** |  |  |
| ***E*** |  |  |
| ***TOTALS*** | ***9*** |  |
| ***Under 15 Hurling*** |  |  |
| ***A*** | ***7*** |  |
| ***B*** |  |  |
| ***C*** |  |  |
| ***D*** |  |  |
| ***E*** |  |  |
| ***TOTALS*** |  |  |
| ***Under 15 Football*** |  |  |
| ***A*** | ***7*** | ***0*** |
| ***B*** | ***16*** | ***0*** |
| ***C*** | ***21*** | ***1*** |
| ***D*** | ***25*** | ***0*** |
| ***E*** | ***19*** | ***9*** |
| ***TOTALS*** | ***88*** | ***10*** |
|  | ***383*** | ***31*** |

***Munster PPS GAA Competition winners 2021/2022***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Competition Name** | **Grade** | **Winners** | **Runners Up** |
| **Corn an Artaigh**  | 19 AH | St Josephs Tulla | Ardscoil Ris |
| **Corn Thomáis Mhic Choilm** | 19 BH | Rochestown College | Charleville CBS |
| **Corn Risteard Uí Mhathúna** | 19 CH | Ennistymon CBS | Pres Ballingarry |
| **Corn Sheáin Uí hAnragáin** | 19 DH | Salesian Col Pallaskenry | SMGS Blarney |
| **19 E Hurling** | 19 EH | C I & I Abbeyfeale | Meanscoil SN Rinn |
| **Corn Uí Mhuirí** |  19 AF | St Brendans Killarney | Tralee CBS |
| **Corn Dhonncha Uí Nuanáin** | 19 BF | Abbey CBS | Mount St Michael Roscarbery |
| **Corn Sheáin Uí Mhurchú** | 19 CF | Ennistymon CBS | Dungarvan CBS |
| **Corn Sheáin Uí Mhaolomhnaigh** | 19 DF | Beara CS | Salesian Col Pallaskenry |
| **19 E Football** | 19 EF | St Caimins Shannon | Gaelcholaiste Mhuire AG |
| **Corn an Rianaigh** | 16½ AH | St Flannans | Ardscoil Ris |
| **Corn Shéamais Uí Dhonnchú** | 16½ BH | Rice College Ennis | Our Ladys Templemore |
| **Corn an Dara Uí Dhonabháin** | 16½ CH | Coachford College | Mitchelstown CBS |
| **Corn Chiaráin Uí Dhrisceoil** | 16½ DH | St Munchins Limerick | Pres Ballingarry |
|  | 16½ EH | Colaiste Mhuire Thurles | Nenagh College |
| **Corn an Fhriúnnaigh** | 16½ AF | Mercy Mounthawk  | St Flannans |
| **Corn Liam Uí hUiginn** | 16½ BF |  |  |
| **Corn Roibeard Uí Bhuachalla** | 16½ CF |  |  |
| **Corn Seosamh Uí Néill** | 16½ DF |  |  |
|  | 16½ EF |  |  |
| **Corn Aodh Uí Dhudha** | 15 A H | Thurles CBS | DeLaSalle Waterford |
| **Corn Réamainn Uí hÓgáin** | 15 B H |  |  |
| **Corn Shéamais Mhic Ghabhann** | 15 C H |  |  |
| **Corn Chaoimhín Uí Mhearáin** | 15 D H |  |  |
| **15 E H** | 15 EH |  |  |
| **Corn an Bhráthair Choilm Taft** | 15 A F | Tralee CBS | St Flannans |
| **Corn Éamainn Uí Dhonnchú** | 15 B F | Pat Academy Mallow | Clonakilty CC |
| **Corn Éamainn Uí Mháirtín** | 15 C F | St Pats Castleisland | Castletroy College |
| **Corn Mháirtín Mhic Chonmara** | 15 D F | St Josephs Spanish Point | St Brogans Bandon |
| **15 E F** | 15 E F | John Bosco Kildysart | Gaelcholaiste Mhuire AG |

**All Ireland Competitions**

**Croke Cup (AH) –** Ardscoil Ris **Winners**

**Paddy Buggy Cup (BH) –** Rochestown College **Winners**

**Br Edmund Ignatius Rice (DF)-** Beara CS **Winners**

I would like to thank each school that participated in Munster PPS competitions this year for their co-operation and assistance in getting so many games played and also congratulate those schools who collected silverware along the way. I would also like to pay tribute to our very hard-working committee and also the 6 County Servicing Officers whose work often goes unnoticed. Furthermore, I would like to thank Kieran Leddy, John Brennan, Ed Donnelly, Mary O Mahoney, Nuala Nealon and the Munster Council Officers and members for their support and Willie O Connor and the Munster Hearings committee for their efforts. Finally, on a very personal note I would like to thank Declan Fitzgerald, Fintan O Connor and Eamonn Phelan in the past few weeks. It was and is very much appreciated!

**6.Secretary Report**

**Iar-Bhunscoileanna na Mumhan**

**Monday 9th May 2022**

A chairde, fáilte roimh go léir anseo anocht. The 2021/22 school year was another challenging year for everyone. We were all delighted to see our school teams return to the field of play. Unfortunately, the Corona virus pandemic did see some disruption to our fixtures but fortunately all competitions were run and every school had the opportunity to take part.

**Registration:**

Registration is now completed online using our user-friendly GDPR compliant Munster PPS Registration tab. Each school is supplied with a unique code at the beginning of each school year to log on to the Registration tab. Below is a breakdown of registration for the 2021/2022 school year.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Competition** | **Total No. of Teams** | **Registered on Time** | **Registered Late** | **Not Registered** |
| U-15 Hurling | **96** | **61** | **14** | **21** |
| Junior Hurling | **98** | **83** | **9** | **6** |
| Senior Hurling | **101** | **83** | **7** | **11** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| U-15 Football | **106** | **90** | **5** | **11** |
| Junior Football | **109** | **80** | **9** | **20** |
| Senior Football | **108** | **87** | **9** | **12** |
|  |  |  |  |  |
|  | **618** | **484** | **53** | **81** |

This season saw 484 (78%) of the 618 school squads competing across 30 competitions registered in full and on-time. 53 (9%) of the squads were registered late while 81 (13%) of squads were not registered at all. Worryingly there was a high number of unregistered teams this year. This was particularly evident in the two competitions held after Christmas and is something we must look to improve.

Schools will receive correspondence in relation to registration of their squads for the 2022/2023 school year in September 2022.

**Competitions regulations and format 2021/22**

As a result of the Corona-virus pandemic there were a number of competition regulation changes in 2021/2022. The Under 19 A Hurling and Under 19 A Football were run on a first round, losers group format. While all other competitions were run on a knockout basis for the 2021-2022 school year. The “A” competitions were run on a Provincial basis. All “B, C, D & E” competitions were completed on a regional basis. These measures were brought in to cut down on travel time and minimise the amount of time spent by students in close proximity to each other on buses. Games up to and including competition quarter finals were played on a home and away basis. Where the distance between the 2 schools competing in a home/away fixture was greater than 150km and/or 2 hours travel time one way, a neutral venue was arranged.

On 2nd of December our draws for the TUS Dr. Harty Cup and TUS Corn Ui Mhuirí quarter finals were drawn live via Microsoft teams with teachers from the participating schools present.

On Wednesday January 5th with ongoing uncertainty in schools following the Christmas period and a rise in Covid 19 cases nationally, Comhairle Iar-Bhunscoileanna na Mumhan made the decision to postpone senior games that week and postpone the U15 hurling and U16 ½ football competitions until February. On Monday January 10th the decision was made to schedule all remaining senior school games on Saturdays to avoid any issue arising with school cover.

U15 Hurling and U16 ½ football competitions at B, C, D and E took on a new format for the 2021/2022 school year due to the postponements and difficulties around securing venues to host the blitzes during times of bad weather. The final format was individual games up to and including quarter finals followed by a finals day where semi-finals and finals were played on the same day. We were all eager to see these competitions played as some of the players involved in these competitions had never played Munster PPS competitions.

**Competition Regulations 2022/23**

Currently our regulations state that, in the event of a draw, finals go to a replay. That will be changed to read in the event of a draw, the result will be on the day. Going forward all finals will be finished on the day including TUS Dr. Harty Cup and Corn Uí Mhuirí finals. This will bring our competitions in line with what happens in intercounty Munster hurling and football competitions.

**Sponsorship**

In January 2022, The Technological University of the Shannon (TUS) and Munster Post Primary Schools GAA signed a sponsorship deal that will see the newly designated TU provide sponsorship and support to the provincial post primary school hurling and football competitions until 2025.

The 30 Munster PPS competitions which will now be rebranded to include TUS, for example the TUS Dr Harty Cup and TUS Corn Uí Mhuirí.

For the next three and a half years, TUS will work in partnership with Munster PPS to provide further support to the post primary competitions both on and off the pitch. This will include financial investment, support in promoting the post primary school competitions, providing campus facilities for matches, and examining opportunities to provide coaches and strength and conditioning personnel to schools as part of an agreed development framework. Both organisations will also explore potential postgraduate research opportunities appropriate to the overall objectives of the Munster council.

**Referees**

I would like to acknowledge the work and dedication of our referees in the running of our games. Without their cooperation our games would not be able to take place. I would also like to remind everyone of the vital rule that referees play in our games and they deserve our upmost respect at our games.

**Crowd Behaviour**

There was an increasing occurrence of anti-social behaviour at a small number of Munster PPS games in the last year. Whilst the majority of supporters/students are well behaved there is a minority who have arrived at venues and who have created hostile atmospheres by their aggressive chanting and use of flares, smoke bombs and fireworks. There is no place for this behaviour at any sporting event. Munster PPS has done and will continue to make complimentary tickets available to schools for teachers to attend games and assist stewards in supervising students/supporters. Regardless of whether games take place during the week or at the weekend, players represent schools on the field of play and supporters/students represent the school off it. Schools found to be in breach of Munster PPS and/or ground regulations could face penalties of deduction of team grants, and/or the loss of All Ireland final tickets. We all have a responsibility to help make our games a safe and enjoyable place for every supporter.

**Grading conference**

Grading’s is an area that the committee are constantly reviewing since the amalgamation of both the vocational and college competitions nine years ago. The committee hosts a grading’s conference annually before the commencement of competitions. The grading conference was hosted in June last year to adjudicate on the grading affiliation applications submitted by schools. Each county was represented by two individuals from the school’s sector and the findings from the conference were implemented. Ultimately the committee is aiming to make the competitions as competitive as possible for all participants involved. It is viewed as essential to increase participation and standards across the board. The Gradings conference for the 2022/2023 school year will be held in June. Correspondence in relation to grading will be issued to all schools in the coming week.

**Míle Buíochas**

Comhairle Iarbhunscoileanna Na Mumhan would like to extend its thanks to the Munster council staff for their continued support. In particular, special word of thanks to Eoin Ryan and Ed Donnelly for the extraordinary volume of work they carry out. We would like to thank all the members of the committee and servicing officers that work diligently to ensure the promotion of Gaelic games in post primary schools across the province. We would like to thank Éamonn Phelan who has assisted with the running of the recent U16 ½ Football and U15 Hurling competitions.

I would also like to acknowledge all the teachers, coaches, parents and school managements who work so hard to promote our games. Long may your hard work continue and we look forward to working with you again in the new school year.

Finally, the committee would like to extend its thanks to the clubs and groundsmen around the province that make their venues available for the hosting of our games, their continued support is greatly appreciated and invaluable to the running of school’s competitions.

Le meas,

Daithí Ó Muineog

Rúnaí Iar-Bhunscoileanna na Mumhan.

**7.Treasurer Report**



**8.All-Ireland Report**

**9. Munster PPS Media & Communication**

Our social media platforms are updated regularly. A live Twitter feed is available on the website and the committee has found that this provides an excellent way of sharing information. As articles and information are released on the website, they are also released as a live tweet. Our Twitter account is not just of benefit to schools and supporters, but also to national media who use it to access instant information, picking up results quickly.

Since the start of the 2021 / 2022 school year and the resumption of Munster GAA Post Primary Schools fixtures, the number of web site visitors and page views have returned to pre-Covid 19 levels. Our Twitter following on @munsterpps has increased to 9277 followers.

Having facilitated the live streaming of Dr. Harty Cup and Corn Uí Mhuirí Finals free of charge in recent years, the committee agreed to stream a small number of games behind a paywall in November 2021, including Round 2 matches in the Dr. Harty Cup and Corn Uí Mhuirí as well as the Dean Ryan Cup Final between St. Flannans Ennis and Ardscoil Rís Limerick. Despite the games being on mid-week, there was a higher-than-expected number of subscribers for each stream. Live Streaming is certainly an area of potential growth for the committee in the future while balancing the impact on gate receipts.

The committee will continue the promotion of the Munster Post Primary Schools competitions not alone on the dedicated website but also through social network channels such as Facebook, Twitter and YouTube. We look forward to bringing supporters and followers information on games in the very near future.

**10. AOB**