



Issue: May 2021

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With the phased return of GAA action and the vaccination rollout well underway, there is greater hope that a semblance of normality will soon return to our lives. Covid 19 has again raised its head with the postponement and rescheduling of the Allianz Hurling League match against Wexford.

There have been many talking points, as always, from league games played thus far, whether it be team and individual player performances, the impact of new rules, the numbers of frees awarded or the condition of grounds. The article below in this month's newsletter will hopefully provide an insight into the great work, expertise and resources that have been put into making UMPC Nowlan Park an award winning GAA stadium. On page 2 readers are invited to help identify a Kilkenny player from circa 1923. As always, the committee hopes that members and their families and friends are keeping well. The vaccination rollout brings hope of an end to these uncertain times.

Results to date:

Allianz Hurling League Roinn 1 Group B

Round 1	Kilkenny 1-20	Dublin 0-18
Round 2	Kilkenny 1-28	Antrim 3-15
Round 3	Kilkenny -	Wexford - Sun May 30 th 3pm

Littlewoods Ireland National Camogie League Division 1 Group 3

Round 1	Kilkenny 1-08	Dublin 0-06	- Sat May 15 th .
Round 2	Kilkenny -	Offaly	- Sat May 29 th 2.30 pm

For all County and Club Fixtures lists & Results visit the newly updated Kilkenny GAA Website - click link <https://kilkennygaa.ie/fixtures-results/>

Membership:

Its renewal time for club membership and the committee has decided to keep the membership fee at €25 for 2021. Your support over the years is very much appreciated. The club requires the support of the members to function with all monies generated by membership, donations and social activities going directly to support Kilkenny GAA. As always, members receive earliest communication of selected teams for League and Championship matches and members are also be included in a draw for All Ireland tickets should Kilkenny qualify.

Kilkenny Supporters Club Dublin Branch Newsletter May 2021

In line with the lifting of Pandemic restrictions, the committee hopes to be in a position to schedule all of our annual social activities for 2021:

- Golf classic
- Quiz night
- Race night
- Annual dinner dance.

Please renew your membership by direct debit or alternatively on line. via the following link...

https://member.clubforce.com/memberships_addcart_m.asp#Anchor

If you wish to renew by cash or cheque please forward payment to your member on the committee or directly to a membership secretary. New or existing members are asked to provide up to date e-mail or mobile phone contact details to Jim Dunne at (085) 1120428 to ensure they receive team news, club newsletters, notification of upcoming events and information from KilkennyFan@gmail.com.

Photos from the Archives:



Kilkenny 1922 All Ireland Hurling Champions

Kilkenny beat Tipperary 4-2 to 2-6 in the 1922 final played at Croke Park on 9 September 1923.



Kilkenny Hurler circa 1923

Could this National Library of Ireland photo be Bill Kenny?

The team that played consisted of: **Back row:** Peter Dunne, Jack Rochford, Mick Heffernan, Tom Tierney, Bill Brennan, Ned Purcell, Eddy Dunphy, Lory Meagher, Dick Grace, Matty Power, Bill Kenny, Mick Brennan. **Middle row:** Sean Gibbons, Martin Lalor, Jimmy Tobin, Paddy Donoghue, Watty Dunphy (capt.), Mark McDonald, John Holohan, Pat Glendon, Tim Scott, Mick Dalton. **Front row:** Martin Egan, Tommy Carroll, Dick Tobin, John Roberts, Pat Aylward, Tom Walsh. The woman in the middle row is a Miss Gorey.

UPMC Nowlan Park

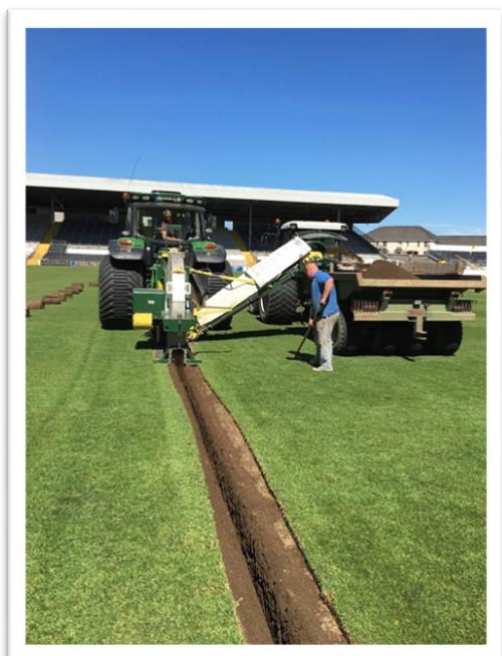
Opened in 1927 and named after James Nowlan, the longest serving President of the GAA (1901 to 1921), Nowlan Park has served as the home of Kilkenny Hurling for over nine decades. In recent years Nowlan Park has been the recipient of a number of prestigious awards that stand testament to the commitment of the Co Board and to the excellent standard of works undertaken by the head groundsman and his team. UPMC Nowlan Park is the winner of the Irish Independent best ground 2021 (in addition to the pitch, this award took account of spectator and stadium facilities). It has also the best inter-county pitch in the country in the GAA National Pitch Awards for 2018 and 2019 (the last time the award was handed out).

In 2014 John Coogan began maintaining the Kilkenny GAA training grounds and In 2016 John was appointed head groundsman at Nowlan Park. Mick O Neill and Timmy Grogan had taken excellent care of Nowlan Park for decades and prior to the the arrival of John.

A lot of time and resources go into keeping Nowlan Park at the high standard that people have come to expect. The stadium gets a lot of use, wear and tear and such issues must be addressed. Intense over seeding is carried in a highly managed way throughout the growing season through various applications totalling 1000kg of Ryegrass consisting of a variety of mixtures and types.

A recent article by Alan Mahon, Ireland editor of TurfPro, a highly regarded UK based weekly digital publication distributed to over 7000 turf care professionals, featured UPMC Nowlan Park under the title, 'Nowlan Park - THE HEART AND SOUL OF KILKENNY'.

The article takes an in depth trip through works undertaken to get the pitch to its award winning standard and covers an impressive menu of pitch maintenance activities to include Re-seeding Top-dressing, Weed control, Scarifying, Irrigation, Sanding, Fertilising and Mowing.



Drain installation using a Wizz Wheel
Photo John Coogan

Deep rooting of the turf was deemed a most important job by John. Through a programme of deep aeration (four times a year), the installation of a pitch drainage system (in 2018) and by intense over-seeding the pitch developed its deep rooting sward of ryegrass. 60 tonnes of sand is applied twice a year to help even out the surface and alleviates any thatch build-up that occurs from returning of the grass clippings. This keeps the pitch dry and firm for the players to play on.

Sod around the goalmouths (approximately 80 square metres of turf).is replaced twice a year.

The water source to feed the sprinklers comes from the stadium's own two wells. While the pitch drains were being installed John took advantage of the Wizz Wheel and installed the pipes and cables for a new irrigation system. This saved a lot of time and money and in 2019 18 pop up sprinklers and a water tank, with a capacity of 70,000 litres, were installed.

For important matches and televised games a liquid feed is applied to give a quick 'green up' to the sward. A big well done to John, Kevin and all involved. Click following link for full article:-
<https://landpower.newsweaver.co.uk/turfpro/1xc7plnezzm2iomsbocr3i?email=true&lang=en&a=2&p=59329807&t=30399352>

Our 'Meet the Committee Member Q&A' in this issue is with the Club Chairman, **Niall Butler**.

What part of the county do you hail from? - *Danesfort*

Did you play sports at school or with a local club? - *We played lots of games in school depending on the seasons, and it was mostly hurling with Danesfort GAA Club*

Any honours or notable sporting achievements? - *No major honours; some league wins (Minor with Danesfort and Under 21 with Kilmacud Crokes), Under 21 championship (Kilmacud Crokes) and National Hurling League division 2 (Dublin 1997)*

Give us three words that describe you? - *Positive, active, and appreciative.*

Do you have a particular hobby or pastime? - *Gardening, music and exploring new cultures.*

What are your main interests? - *Outdoor family pursuits, sports (Hurling, New England Patriots) and gastronomy.*

Name your Favourite:

Person? - *Would have to be Rose 😊*

Meal? - *Beef - Rib eye steak with all the trimmings.*

Song? – *maybe 'The Foggy Dew' or 'Bad'.*

Holiday destination? *Slow US road trip including Yosemite and Bryce canyon or skiing the 'Hannenkamm' in Austria.*

Name your Favourite sporting:

Occasion? - *All Ireland hurling final.* **Venue?** – *Nowlan Park.*

Memory? - *All Ireland senior hurling final 2006.*

Sporting personalities of all time? - *Mohammed Ali, Tom Brady, Tony McCoy.*

Who is your favourite hurler of all time? - *DJ Carey.*

What's your earliest All Ireland related memory? - *Johnny Flaherty's goal in the closing minutes of the 1981 final and the sheer excitement from the Offaly supporters*

From what era would your favourite team be drawn from? - *2006 – 2015 era*

Is there something you wish you were better at? – *Carpentry.*

What is one job you would never do? - *Shelling fish in an assembly line; tried it, but couldn't develop the correct technique!*

Tell us something you are proud of? - *My family and watching their own experiences and personalities develop.*

What is the most memorable place you have visited? - *Inca Trail, Peru.*

If you could meet any person, past or present, which one would it be? - *Elvis Presley.*

If you could change something in the world, what would it be? - *Improve the level of healthcare and make the healthcare system work better for everyone.*

Name something that's on your bucket list? *Visit Fiji and the Pacific Islands.*

Test your knowledge with this month's GAA Quiz!

Q1. Name 5 hurlers with 9 All Ireland medals?

Q2. a) Name the all-time top GAA hurling scorer?

b) with how many points scored?

i) 485

ii) 484 or

iii) 482



Q3. Name a Kilkenny player who has won an All Star as a forward and a back?

Q4. Two Waterford hurlers also achieved the above feat, name them?

Q5. Name the two Kilkenny players that have won 9 All Star awards?

Q6. What team were All Ireland Club champions in 2011?

Q7. Name the Kilkenny hurlers who have won an All-Ireland Medal in 3 different decades?

Q8. Who scored 2 - 11 in an All-Ireland hurling final and ended up on the losing side?

Q9. What year saw the first colour broadcast of an All-Ireland by RTE?

Q10. Name the Kilkenny Man who steered Offaly to All Ireland victory in 1985?

Q11. How many championship appearances did JJ Delany have for Kilkenny:

a) 66

b) 56 or

c) 76

Q12. Who was man of the match in the 2012 Kilkenny V Galway replay?

Q13. Name the All Ireland hurling final replay year/s where Richie Power was a goal scorer?

Q14. In how many All Ireland hurling finals was Eddie Brennan a goal scorer?

Q15. Between 1959–1977 Eddie Keher played 50 All-Ireland Senior Hurling Championship games for Kilkenny, what was the total number of points Eddie scored? **A) 440 b) 441 c) 444?**

Answers on the next page.

GAA Quiz Answers

Q1. JJ Delaney, Noel Skehan, Jackie Tyrrell, Noel Hickey and Tommy Walsh.

Q2. Henry Shefflin – a) 485 points.

Q3. Tommy Walsh.

Q4. Michael Brick Walsh and Ken Mc Grath.

Q5. Tommy Walsh and DJ Carey.

Q6. Clarinbridge, Ballyhale Shamrocks won the title the previous year!

Q7. Frank Cummins and Noel Skeahan both collected All Ireland Medals in the 1960's, 70's and 80's.

Q8. Eddie Keher.

Q9. 1971 – Kilkenny V Tipperary which also was an 80 minute game.

Q10. Dermot Healy.

Q11. a) 66, making JJ the 4th most capped hurler of all time behind Michael Brick Walsh (76) Brendan Cummins (73) and Henry Shefflin (71).

Q12. Walter Walsh.

Q13. 2012 and 2014, Richie also scored in the 2010 final and the 2014 draw.

Q14. Three = 2000 2007 and 2008.

Q15. b) 441pts - Eddie is credited with an overall championship score of 35–336 equating to a scoring average per game of 8.78 pts.

