Over the next couple of week’s we are going to preview the Kilkenny Honda Centre Minor A, Minor B & Minor C Hurling Championships. This is to highlight all the wonderful work which is taking place in every square inch of this county. The work at underage level is hugely important and is often taking place away from the limelight where the real heroes of Kilkenny GAA work away each evening or morning to generate their future club heroes. Over 800 players will take part in the Kilkenny Minor Hurling & football championships. The draws for the league and the championships will soon be made to the clubs. Each week we will look back at the resulting championship two years ago at U-15 level and go through each panel whilst highlighting some unusual did you know facts about the clubs.

Minor A

The cream of the crop in the whole country usually square up in this famous of underage championships. This will be epic. All six sides will truly fancy their chances. The “Dream Team” from Palmerstown in the guise of Dicksboro will be putting their unbeaten championship record on the line. Harry Shine, Mikey Raggett & Sean Keenan will be looking to lead the charge to add to their substantial haul but standing in their way will be old nemsis Young Irelands led by Charlie Carter. Tullogher Rosbercon who have being a force at underage level for the last few years getting to a number of underage finals will have huge fire power in the guise of Danny Glennon whilst James Stephens, O’Loughlin Gaels and Roinn B winners Bennetsbridge will all fancy their hopes. Coming into the league stages of the competition will be Naas from Kildare.

U-15 Roinn A 2019

Many were hoping for a high class affair in the Duggan Steel U-15 Hurling championships as the leagues had thrown up some entertaining encounters which bodes well for the future talents of the county. It ended with Young Ireland’s lofting the league trophy for the two in a row. In the first round James Stephens gained revenge over Graigue-Ballycallan where a flurry of goals from the 9illage men was enough. Dicksboro had too much for O’Loughlin Gaels where Harry Shine Co ran riot in the first half whilst they also beat a young Clara side in the county semi-final. The other semi-final between Young Ireland’s and James Stephens was a much tighter affair and on the night Killian Carey proved to be the difference between the sides. All eyes turned towards a repeat of the league fi nal. Dicksboro 5-13 Young Ireland’s 3-10 Dicksboro Young Ireland’s clashed in this Duggan Steel 8-15 Roinn A Championship final in Clara with many hoping that would follow the classic nature of the close fought league final played during the Summer. The first half was a slow burner with Harry Shine and Killian Carey exchanging points but it exploded into life in the 15th minute when Shine and Johnny Keane exchanged passes which ended with Mikey Raggett sending the green fl ag waving. Young Ireland’s instantly responded with Ben Phelan flicking the sliothar to the roof of the net after Daniel Manning had squared the ball to him. Killian Carey followed this up with a goal of his own after the sliothar had ping ponged around the square. The mercurial centre forward followed this up with a pointed long range free. Declan Farrell had a big day in Shines goal which brought the Palmerstown outfi t back into contention. Manning and Shine swapped points before Farrell put his side back in front with a fi ne goal but Padraig Naddy had the fi nal day of the half with a long range point from out on the wing which cut Dicksboro’s short whistle lead to 3-2 to 2-. Ragget Kyle Maher got the first two points of the new half which saw a tremendous and courageous fight back launched by Young Ireland’s led largely by Carey who rattled off five points in a row including four from play which put them back in front and they could have being further in front only for some unlucky wides. Raggett and Keane landed points before Sean Keenan made a surge for goal and he blasted the ball to the roof of the net. Carey briefly lifted the siege with a converted free but Ragget () Keenan kept the pressure on with fi ve points. Carey then blasted a 21 metre free to the bottom right hand corner which put the game back into the melting pot but points from Keenan Shine cane after Carey was somewhat unlucky not to goal. A goal from Maher in injury time sealed the result where the Palmerstown men’s accuracy in front of goal proved to be the difference between the side

Bennettsbridge

Minor Management team for 2020 is Ben Tynan (manager) , Shane Doyle, (selector) David Treacy (selector) & Tommie Hughes (selector)

Minor Panel for 2020 is

|  |
| --- |
| Sean Byrne |
| Diarmaid Greene |
| Oran Lavery |
| Paddy Walsh |
| Paul Mahon |
| Adam Cullen |
| Jack Campion |
| Tim Kelly |
| Joe Hughes |
| James Hughes |
| Eoin O Connor |
| Luke Mc Bride |
| Charlie Fitzgerald |
| Noah Walsh Brennan |
| Johnny Cash  Jack Forristal  Kyle Ryan  Bill Nolan  Conor Molloy  Stephen King Kohler  Gearoid Kent  Bill Hughes  Cillian Harding Kelly |

Minor Team sponsor for 2020 is PJ Cullen, Centra Bennettsbridge

Young Irelands

Bord na nÓg:

Chairman: Stephen Drennan

Vice Chairman: Niall Byrne

Secretary: Karina Langton

Assistant Secretary: Mary Higgins

P.R.O. Loraine Carroll

Minor Management Team 2021

Trainer: Charlie Carter

Physical Trainer: Michael Maher

Selectors: Cathal Fitzgerald

Pat O’Neill

John O’Grady

Minor Panel 2021

Patrick Langton

Sean Fitzpatrick

Padraig Naddy

Michael Knox

Killian Carey

Charlie Brennan

Jamie Middleton

Ray Lawson

Rory Farrell

Charlie Fitzgerald

Daniel Manning

Barry Dunne

Aaron Hosey

Darragh Travers

Jamie Carter

Ben Phelan

Bobby Brennan

Robin Carey

Eoin O’ Neill

Diarmuid Langton

Timmy Brennan

Luke Phelan

Luke O’ Donnell

Minor Team Sponsor: Farm & Industrial Supplie

Did You Know?

In 1996, while playing Glenmore in the first round of the Senior Championship down in Ballyhale, a streaker (yes, you read this correctly!!) entered the field of play! After being escorted from the pitch– socially distanced of course – by players Pat O’Neill and Christy Heffernan, Young Irelands went on to win the game that day and continued their winning “streak” to become County Senior Champions later that year!

**Tullogher Rosbercon:**

**Bord na nÓg:**

* Chairperson: Jason Murphy
* Secretary: Carmel Morrissey
* Treasurer: Seán Kennedy
* PRO: Michael Ryan

**Minor Management Team:**

John Murphy

Seán Kenedy

Pat Hartley

James Mullally

**Minor Panel:**

Adam Arthurs

Kevin Aylward

Fionn Connolly

Padraig Dooley

Danny Glennon

Jack Handrick

Finnbar Kelly

Dan Kennedy

David Kennedy

Aidan Lawlor

Jamie Lyng

Joe Malone

Cathal Mooney

Niall Mooney

Andrew Murphy

Lar Murphy

John Murphy

Martin Murphy

Ryan Murphy

Jamie O’Connor

Fergal O’Shea

JJ Ryan

Sean Ryan

**Minor Team Sponsor**

Breen Hardware & Fleetwood Paints

**How they got on at U15 level in 2019:**

U15 Roinn B Champions 2019

**Interesting Fact**

Fourteen years before the founding of the G.A.A. in November 1884 a type of Gaelic football match took place in Shanbogh between Tullogher and Glenmore.

The ditches at each end of the field served as goalposts with the object of the exercise for each team being to get the ball over the ditch as many times as possible in order to win the game.  
From the very brief description of the game given in local newspapers of the time it appears that tripping, wrestling, lifting the ball off the ground and carrying it for long distances were allowed. When darkness began to fall the game was terminated and called a draw as each team were credited with four overs apiece.

**O’Loughlin Gaels**

Bord na nOg  
Chairperson- Brian Fox  
Secretary- Niamh Carroll  
Treasurer- Sean Casey  
PRO - Eoin Lawlor  
  
Minor Management team: Alan O'Brien (Manager), Paul Phelan, Dinny  
Tyrrell, Brian Kelly, Alan O'Meara  
Minor Panel: Árón Ó Meachair, Bréannain De Bhál, Breandán Mac an  
Mhíle, Conchubhar Ó Dálaigh, Eoghan Ó Binéid, Dónal Briers, Caoimhín  
de Bhaldraithe, Éimhín Ó Néill, Darren Ó Ceallaigh, Éimhín de Búrca,  
Fionn Ó Leathlobhair, Anraí Ó Grádaigh, Anraí Mac Roibeaird, Anraí Ó  
Meachair, Seán Aighlmear, Seán Sionóid, Josh Ó hEidhin, Ciarán Ó  
Dubhshláine, Marcas Ó hUallacháin, Micheál de Buitléir, Orestas  
Balsys, Finn Ó hÓgáin, Eoghan Mac Cionnaith, Ruairí Ó Flannagáin,  
Ruaidhrí de Gaillí, Tadhg Ó Meára, Alistair Ó Sirideán  
Minor Team sponsor:   
  
How they got on at U-15 level in 2019- Lost to Dicksboro in Q-F  
Did you know: (Something funny from the club's past or unknown fact)  
The club crest shows a triangle of landmarks associated with the main  
areas of the parish- the Fort in Dunmore, The Holy Well in Johnswell  
and the O'Loughlin Memorial Church of St. John the Evangelist in the  
city, all converging on O'Loughlin Gaels Clubhouse at its centre.

**Dicksboro**

Minor Management 2021- Mickey Walsh (manager) Davy Ryan, Conor O' Grady, Podge Lacey, James Gittens, Peter Fitzpatrick, Edward Moylan

Minor Panel 2021

1.Michael Clarke

2. Conor Kavanagh

3. Mick Carroll

4. Fionn Mcgarry

5. Tom Mcphillips

6. Johnny Keane

7. Sean Keenan

8. Cillian Hackett

9. Mikey Raggett

10. Sean cullen

11.Harry Shine

12. Peter Conroy

13. Sean Knox

14. Sam Tynan

15. David Mullrooney

16. Tom O Neill

17. Denis Dalton

18. Charlie Miller

19. Luke bourke

20. luke morrissey

21. christy murphy

22. Nathan pollard

23. Billy Fitzpatrick

24. Joey dalton

25. Mark cleere

26. Mark mcphillips

27. Declan o farrell

28. Adam hayes

29. Killian dollard

30. Jamie mcgrath

31. David fitzpatrick

32. Kyro merhem

33. Thomas cassin

34. Kyle maher

Minor Team sponsor- AUT EVEN

Captain for the year- not picked yet

How they got on at U-15 level in 2019- under 15 county champions that year.We lost the league final to Young Irelands by a point. Both sides well matched.The county final was a great win over a strong Young Irelands team on the October Bank Holiday played in Clara!

Bord na nOg- Frank Morrissey

Chairperson- Eddie Holohan

Secretary- Shane Kavanagh

Treasurer- Jason Dempsey

PRO - Conor O Grady

**James Stephens**

Sean Adams

Oisin Bateman

Sean Casey

Aidan Cashin

Joe Cleary

Fionn Cody

Eoin Deely

Danny Delaney

Cias Dunne

Eoin Forde

James Gladney

Brian Gladney

Shane Glynn

Ronan Grace

Joe Greene

Liam Holohan Jnr

Jack Kelly

Paddy Lacey

Sam Larkin

Darragh Lawlor

Stephen Manogue

Sam McEvoy

Liam Moloney

Andy Murphy

Jack Noonan

Patrick O’Neill

James O’Shea

Jamie Peters

Daniel Power

Michael Power

Stephen Kellett

Billy Wall Young

Bill Whelan

Management Team: Tom Leahy, Joe Hennessy, Brendan Long, Leo Hennessy, Noel Morrissey, John O’Donoghue, Cian Kenny & Michael Power.

Club Officers

Bord na nOg Chairman: Martin Phelan

Bord na nOg Secretary: Richie Cody

Co Bord Delegate: Val Malone

Chairman: Paddy Neary

Secretary: Niall Connolly

James Stephens lead the roll of honour in the Minor A titles with 13. They will be very determined to halt the men from Palmerstown clad in maroon & white in catching them at the top of this roll of honour.

Next week we take a look at the Roinn B teams in the Minor Championship.