

Issue: April 2025

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Championship 2025

The welcome return of the 2025 Senior Hurling Championship will see Kilkenny's Leinster campaign commencing against Galway on April 19th at UPMC Nowlan Park. The Cats, who are aiming to secure a sixth consecutive provincial title, will be looking to avenge their Round 2 Allianz League defeat by the Tribesmen.

The 2025 Allianz Hurling League gave us plenty to chew on. Matches showcased both challenges and triumphs for the Kilkenny Seniors who are navigating a period of change under Derek Lyng. While silverware slipped beyond the team's grasp, there were flashes of brilliance. A notable victory was their 0-29 to 0-20 win over Limerick at UPMC Nowlan Park, highlighted by Martin Keoghan's seven points and TJ Reid's ten-point contribution. This win secured their place in Division 1A for the next season after finishing 3rd place behind League finalists Tipp and Cork.

With close to 30 different players fielded during the league, Derek Lyng is providing for experimentation whilst building experience and squad depth. The retirement of seasoned players like Cillian Buckley, Walter Walsh, and Conor Fogarty will likely provide emerging talents such as Zach Bay Hammond, Harry Shine, Luke Hogan, Pádraig Moylan and Killian Doyle with the opportunity to step up and into the boots of legends.

Opponents that await in the Leinster Championship along with match details are listed in the graphic below. Games at the business end of the All Ireland Championship are then set to follow. The Cats came close to grabbing Liam MacCarthy in recent years, this team has unfinished business.



2025 Leinster Senior Hurling Championship

Kilkenny VS Galway
[19th April - 3:45PM] UPMC Nowlan Park
Antrim VS Kilkenny
[27th April - 2PM] Corrigan Park
Kilkenny VS Offaly
[10th May - 6PM] UPMC Nowlan Park
Kilkenny VS Dublin
[18th May - 3pm] UPMC Nowlan Park
Wexford VS Kilkenny
[25th May - 2PM] Chadwicks Wexford Park

Avonmore **Tirlán**

Electric Ireland Minor Hurling Championship 2025

Kilkenny Minor hurlers are in Tier 1 of the Minor hurling Round Robin league along with Dublin Galway and Wexford.

They will begin their Leinster MHC Tier 1 campaign on Easter Sunday (April 20th) facing Wexford in UPMC Nolan Park (2pm).

A quick turnaround will see the Cats playing Galway in Round 2 on Saturday April 26th in UPMC Nowlan Park (1.30pm) with their Round 3 and final Tier 1 game away to Dublin on Saturday, May 3rd , in Parnell Park.

U20 Hurling Championship

Kilkenny's U20 hurlers as Tier 1, Group 2 winners are into the semi-final of the O'Neills.com Leinster U20 Hurling Championship. The committee wish to congratulate the squad on their wins over Wexford and Dublin and wish them the best in their upcoming Provincial Semi Final.

U19 Development League Final

Congratulations to the U19's on their 1-24 to 3-16 win over Dublin in a close and exciting game.

Calendar of Events 2025

Golf Classic 2025

Our annual Supporters Club (Dublin Branch) golf classic will take place at Killeen Golf Club on Friday 29th August 2025. The organising committee will circulate details in advance and, as always, your support for this event, which generates valuable funding to enable the club to actively support Kilkenny GAA, is greatly appreciated.

Black and Amber Forum

The next Kilkenny GAA Black and Amber Forum, sponsored by **Plusvital**, will be held on the 22nd of May in the InterContinental Hotel in Dublin. This new initiative broadens the opportunity for people and businesses to connect with Kilkenny GAA, one of the most recognisable and prestigious sporting brands in Ireland.

Kieran Cuddihy will once again be MC for this event with Uachtarán GLC Jarlath Burns, Former EU Commissioner Phil Hogan and Kilkenny GAA Manager Derek Lyng pencilled in for what promises to be a morning of interesting addresses and discussions.

The Chairman and committee of the Kilkenny GAA Supporters Club (Dublin Branch) ask that members support this event and by spreading the word, help to make it another success.

BLACK & AMBER FORUM

BUSINESS BREAKFAST

INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL, DUBLIN



Jarlath Burns, Uachtarán CLG



Phil Hogan
Former EU Commissioner



Derek Lyng
Kilkenny GAA Manager

MC: Kieran Cuddihy, Newstalk

DATE: 22 MAY 2025

TIME: 07:30AM - 09:30AM

Join us as influential figures from the worlds of sport and business come together to share their unique insights and experiences.

Your support is very important to us.

Tickets €100 each
Table of 10 - €1,000

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Quiz Night

The recent Supporters Club Quiz Night at the Academy Plaza hotel proved to be a great success with a total exceeding €1,500, raised on the night. It was the first quiz for a number of years and the sub group that organised the event were greatly heartened by the turnout (with 22 tables taken). Sincere thanks to all those who attended and a special shout out to Chadwicks and to the many individuals who provided prizes for the draw. The Academy Plaza hotel served as an ideal venue for the event and the sub group wish to pay compliments to the Management and staff on duty for all their help and assistance in setting up the venue. A special word of thanks to our Treasurer Seamus O'Neill, who having set the questions, also performed the role of Quiz Master.

Results were as follows:

1st Place: Table 16 – (Sue O'Neill's team) – 54 points.

Joint 2nd Place: Table 2 (Denis Tobin's team) and Table 14 (Cormac Duffy's team)– 53 points



Quiz Sub Committee members Laura Dalton, Kay Cannon, Niall Butler (Dublin Branch Chairman) John Mooney, Seamus O'Neill and Dermot Hearne.

A selection of photos of participating teams in the Quiz Night are included on the following pages.

Kilkenny Supporters Club Dublin Branch Newsletter April 2025





Membership Drive 2025

Being part of the Dublin Branch of the Kilkenny GAA Supporters Club is about shared identity, shared emotion, and shared purpose. Whether you're at UPMC Nowlan Park on a wet winter's day or following scores from at home or abroad, you're part of something that's deeply rooted and real. You're not just a spectator or audience member — your membership means you are fuelling the heartbeat of Kilkenny GAA.

Belonging is really at the heart of it.



Belonging to the Dublin Branch isn't just about having your name on an email list or getting a newsletter. It's something deeper, more personal. It's that sense that you're part of an alliance — one that spans parishes, generations, and borders. It's the way your heart lifts, on sight of the black and amber stripes, or after that post-match chat dissecting tactics, performances and team-sheets.

Belonging also means there's a place for everyone — whether you're a former player, a lifelong season ticket holder, a hurler on the ditch or someone who's only just found their way into the club. It's not about how much you know or how many matches you've been to, it's about care, and the pride stitched deep into the fabric of every Kilkenny GAA jersey.

Belonging on match days may be the quiet prayers before throw-in or at the closing stages, or joining in the roar that rises when we score a point or rattle the net. Stretching beyond match days, belonging may be symbolised by the car sticker, the flag in the window, or that crest on your beanie hat or garment.

Belonging is also about playing your part, by supporting Supporters Club activities and participating in events such as the Golf Classic or Quiz.

Our Supporters Club isn't just about raising money — it's also about raising spirit, standards and the awareness of players and their backroom teams that we will support them, win, lose or draw.

So thanks a million for your support, it's very much appreciated. The Dublin Branch has been in existence over 25 years now and functions only on the basis of such support and the revenue generated. The funds raised on foot of membership fees and our fundraising events, e.g. the quiz and the golf classic, go directly to financing Kilkenny GAA. This is done in liaison with the Kilkenny GAA Board and funds are allocated to Kilkenny hurling and camogie clubs that are competing in All-Ireland competitions.

You can join or renew your membership of the Dublin Branch of the Kilkenny GAA Supporters Club using one of the following options.

1. By **Standing Order** – Form available from any member of the committee.
2. By **Revolut** by sending €25 to our Treasurer Seamus O Neill (087 2234789) - please include your name in the message.
3. By **cheque** (made payable to Kilkenny Supporters Club) and

a) posted to Seamus O'Neill, Club Treasurer, at 46 Glenageary Park, Glenageary, Co Dublin A96 A3X9 or

b) given to any Member Committee.

4. By **Cash** to any Member Committee.

5. **Online** via the following link [Click here to join the Dublin Branch of Kilkenny GAA Supporters Club](#). Scroll to the bottom of the webpage to select your Registration Plan.

Membership benefits include:

- Matchday squads are provided to members (emails/WhatsApp) in advance of general media release.
- Club Newsletters
- League and Championship tickets, (member's applications) including an All-Ireland Final ticket draw for Supporters Club members (when Kilkenny are participating).
- A Kilkenny Supporter's Club car sticker.

If you know of any Kilkenny persons living in Dublin who may be interested in joining the club, please refer them to either membership secretary listed hereunder.

John Mooney phone 086 6406148 email Johnmooney1509@gmail.com or

Jim Dunne 085 1120428 email jpkdunne@gmail.com

Remember, when you join or renew, you're not just supporting a season — you're supporting a legacy, the memories of legends and the hope in the young lads and lassies coming through.

Thank you.

Results

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

Hurling Trivia – Where was the first All-Ireland hurling final?

The match took place on Easter Sunday 1888 in John Farrell's field at Railway Road in Birr Co Offaly. Co. Tipperary (Thurles Sarsfields) defeated Co Galway (Meelick) 1-1 to 0-0.

Hurlers Co Op Draw 2025

The Hurlers Co-op Members Draw 2025 tickets are now available. This is the 43rd year of the draw which has generated significant sums of money for clubs and county facilities over the years.

The Supporters Club will soon be getting our allocation of tickets to sell and the Committee are asking members to support the draw.

1st, 3rd & 5th Draws	
1st Prize	*Car valued at €20,000 or cash €15,000
2nd prize	Cash €2,000
3rd Prize	Cash €600
4th-5th Prize	Cash €500
6th-7th Prize	Cash €400
8th-9th Prize	Cash €300
10th - 13th Prize	Cash €250
14th - 18th Prize	Cash €200
19th - 25th Prize	Cash €150
26th - 32nd Prize	Cash €100

2nd & 4th Draws	
1st Prize	Holiday valued €6,000 or cash €5,000
2nd-8th Prize	Cash €1,000
9th Prize	Cash €600
10th-11th Prize	Cash €500
12th-13th Prize	Cash €400
14th-15th Prize	Cash €300
16th-19th Prize	Cash €250
20th-22nd Prize	Cash €200
23rd-25th Prize	Cash €150
26th-32nd Prize	Cash €100



Tickets are priced at €50 for 5 draws and entrants are in to win prizes up to and including a CAR (in 3 draws) and a HOLIDAY (in 2 draws). This year there is a total prize fund of €130,000.

The draw committee is led by Gerri Hickey from Piltown. The committee wish to join PJ Kenny, Cathaoirleach Kilkenny GAA in acknowledging the work of this group and to thank Gerri for all the work she is doing to support community and county through this 'value for money' draw.

The Kilkenny GAA Hurlers Co-op draw tickets are available now, please contact any member of the committee.



Bereavements

Sincere condolences to the families and friends of all those, in any way associated with Dublin Branch of the Kilkenny GAA Supporters Club, who passed away recently.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-anamacha.

Handball News

Oneills.com All-Ireland 4-Wall Senior Doubles title

Congratulations to Kilkenny duo, Peter and Patrick Funchion of Kells Handball Club, who were recently crowned All-Ireland Senior 40x20 Doubles champions after defeating Cork's Daniel Relihan and Michael Hedigan 18-21, 21-18, 11-4 in a dramatic decider at the National Handball Centre in Croke Park. It was the first Kilkenny victory in this competition for 27 years and since 1998 when D.J. Carey and the late Michael 'Ducksy' Walsh were the victors.

Minor Doubles

Congratulations also to Andrew Brennan (Talbots Inch) and Sean Morrissey (O'Loughlin Gaels) who won the 40x20 All-Ireland Minor Doubles Final against Galway opponents in the National Handball Centre in Croke Park. After a closely contested final they won 21-18 after two superb rallies.

Camogie News

Division 1A Very National Camogie League



The win for Kilkenny in Saturday's final round of games in Division 1A of the Very National Camogie League cemented their place in the top division for next year. Dublin needed to beat Kilkenny to preserve their top-flight status, but Kilkenny, also in relegation danger, racked up a comfortable 2-16 to 0-14 score line to win.

Despite racking up the highest score of the day, it was the clean sheet that was most satisfying according to captain Katie Power, who returned to the side for the first time after injury to operate in front of the full-back line.

Emerging talent including Ava Brett in her first season, Steffi Fitzgerald and Laura Murphy who are seen as players that will drive performances in the Leinster Championship and the All-Ireland.

Minor A All Ireland Championship

Congratulations to the David Maher and his Kilkenny Minor Camogie team on defeating Limerick (4-14 to 0-8) to reach the Minor A All Ireland Championship Final. Strong performances Versus Galway and Limerick after a disappointing group stage (where they finished third) see them facing Cork on April 27th. Best wishes to the squad in the final.



The Camogie Association, along with their proud sponsor Allianz, are excited to announce the 64 clubs that will be participating on Monday 5th May in Croke Park for the annual Allianz Camán to Croker event.

The event is part of the #StopTheDrop campaign developed by Allianz which aims to decrease the drop-out rate of children in sports. Keeping young people actively involved in team sports and encouraging lifelong participation in physical activity is a shared goal across the Gaelic Games family.

Congratulations to the following Kilkenny Clubs, Emeralds Camogie Club, Rower Inistioge, Slieverue and St Anne's who have been selected to participate on April 27th through a random open draw following their participation in the feeder events of Camán across the Four Provinces.

Test your knowledge with this edition's GAA Quiz!



1. Who scored the first goal for Kilkenny in their famous 2008 All-Ireland SH final demolition of Waterford?
2. Kilkenny won their first Leinster Senior Hurling title in what year?
3. In what year did the first 70 minute All Ireland hurling final take place?
4. Who did Kilkenny defeat in the 2003 All-Ireland SH semi-final?
5. Who won the first camogie All Ireland Championship?
6. In what year did Kilkenny camogie win their first All-Ireland senior championship final?
7. How many All-Ireland Club Championships had Ballyhale Shamrocks won as of the end of 2024?
8. In 1992, Kilkenny defeated which team to win the All-Ireland SH title?
9. Who was the last Kilkenny goalkeeper before Eoin Murphy to win an All-Star award?
10. What was the score difference in Kilkenny's largest ever victory in a SH Leinster final?

This edition of meet the Committee Member Q&A is by our Club Secretary Laura Dalton Walsh

What part of the county do you hail from?

Conahy is home – always has been, always will be, even if I've been in Dublin 27 years.

Did you play sports at school or with a local club?

A small bit in school however I'm a way better supporter than player.

Are you working or retired?

Working in Financial Services Industry.

Give us three words that describe you?

Dependable, Calm (unless it's during a match) and Positive.

Do you have a particular hobby or pastime?

Post holidays me is full of hobbies and healthy habits. Regular me is.....working on it!



Name your Favourite:

- **Person** – *My husband Jack. No competition! He's my biggest supporter through life's up and downs and the one who makes me laugh every day.*
- **Food** - *Steak and trimmings, always top of the list!*
- **Song/s** – *Anything by Bon Jovi really – if I had to pick 'It's my Life' & 'Living on a Prayer'.*
- **Holiday** – *Our honeymoon in Australia must be the favourite – an unforgettable trip.*

Name your Favourite sporting:

- **Occasion** – *All Ireland Final.*
- **Venue?** *Croke Park on any day.*
- **Memory?** *On local level, seeing Conahy win the Junior All Ireland was incredibly special for our parish. On the National stage, 2009 All Ireland Final Stands out, Kilkenny at their peak, followed by great celebrations.*

From what era would your favourite team be drawn from?

2000's – Kilkenny, A golden era.

What's one job you would never do?

I would never be a Politician – I find it hard to say no. I'd be signed up to ten committees and promising the world before lunchtime!

Is there something you wish you were better at?

Answering Q&A's and not overthinking the answers!...

....on a more serious note, I wish I was better at switching off – the phone, the lists, work.....I'm great at staying busy but not so good at pausing.

If you could meet any person, past or present, which one would it be?

From the past – My parents, I'd give anything for one more cup of tea and a chat around the kitchen table, to me that would beat meeting any famous person. You don't realise how precious the ordinary moments are until they're gone.

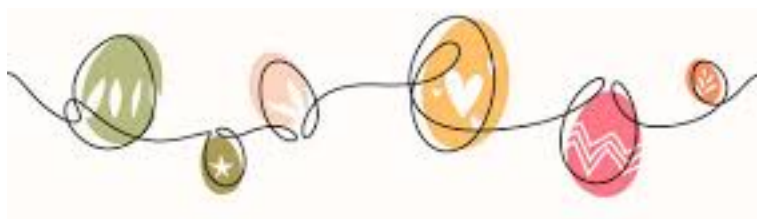


Image from the Archives



The victorious Conahy Shamrocks panel pictured after beating Carrickshock to win the clubs first Junior Title in 1976. Conahy Shamrocks 1-12, Carrickshock 0-8. By doing so they completed the double that year having already won the county Junior Championship.



Ollie Walsh clears Kilkenny's lines with an almighty drive on the day the Cats came from behind to snatch a memorable victory over Cork in the 1969 All Ireland Senior Hurling Final . The final scoreline read Kilkenny 2-15, Cork 2-9 to record Kilkenny's 17th Championship Victory.

Quiz Answers

Answer 1: *Eddie Brennan.*

Answer 2: *1893.*

Answer 3: *1975 – Kilkenny beat Galway, (Eddie Keher scoring 2-7), in the first 70 minute final. An 80 minute game had been experimented with from 1970 -1974. Prior to that, games had been 60 mins long.*

Answer 4: *Tipperary.*

Answer 5: *Dublin* (Galway defeated in the 1932 final at the Sportsfield in Galway (3-5 to 0-2).

Answer 6: *1974* (They defeated Cork by 4 points in the final).

Answer 7: *9.*

Answer 8: *Cork.*

Answer 9: *PJ Ryan (2009) He won man of the match in the All Ireland Final that year also.*

Answer 10: *21 points.*

The Chairman and Committee of the Dublin Branch of the Kilkenny GAA Supporters Club would like to take this opportunity to wish our members and their families a Happy Easter.

END OF NEWSLETTER