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Kilkenny - Leinster SH Champions 2025



Congratulations to the Kilkenny players, the panel, management and backroom team on their achievement of winning a sixth consecutive Leinster SH Championship.

Having won a Leinster '6 in a row', this marks the third time the Cats have achieved this feat. Kilkenny overcame Galway with the final score reading 3-22 to 1-20.

This win provided Kilkenny with their 77th Leinster title and in the Provincial Roll of Honour they now lead Dublin (24 titles) Wexford (21), Offaly (9), Laois (3) and Galway (3).

John Donnelly lifting the Bob O'Keeffe trophy.

All Ireland Senior Hurling Championship 2025

The Kilkenny seniors will make their way to Croke Park next weekend for the eagerly-awaited clash between Kilkenny and long-time rivals Tipperary for the second of the weekend's All Ireland Senior hurling semi-final matches.

Sunday's clash at Croke Park (July 6th) will have a 4pm throw-in with the Kilkenny Vs. Tipperary Senior Camogie Championship Q. Final played beforehand (1.30pm).

Dublin and Cork will have clashed in the other SH semi-final on the previous day (5pm throw-in). The winning teams will of course earn a place in the All-Ireland Senior Hurling final to be played in Croke Park on Sunday, 20th July 2025 at 3.30pm.



With 60 championship wins chalked up between them (Kilkenny - 34, Tipperary - 26), these two counties have previously faced each other in just 5 All Ireland Senior Hurling Semi-Final matches.

The first-ever semi-final encounter between Kilkenny and Tipperary was in the 1900 All-Ireland Senior Hurling Championship. However, due to delays which proved were not uncommon in the early years of the championship, the match was actually played on the 29th June 1902 on the outskirts of Carrick on Suir. Tipperary secured a narrow victory on the day (1-11 to 1-8).

(In 1922 Kilkenny won their sixteenth Leinster title before later lining out in the All-Ireland final against Tipperary. In an exciting game Tipperary were leading by three points with three minutes to go but Kilkenny fought back to score two goals to secure a memorable victory. It would be forty-five years before Kilkenny were once again victorious over Tipperary in the championship).

Their second semi-final encounter was in August 1958 with Croke Park as the venue. In that year Kilkenny had retained the Leinster Cup but, in a change to the format of the championship where Galway given to a bye to the final, the Cats were defeated in the All-Ireland semi-final, (1-13 to 1-8), continuing Tipp's dominance.

The third semi-final encounter between the sides was on the 18th of August 2002. After a long gap, the teams clashed when the back door system dictated that Tipperary could not face Clare in the semi-finals. Kilkenny 1-20, Tipperary 1-16 was the result at Croke Park that saw the Cats finally putting a stop to the Premier's run of victories with D.J. Carey voted Man of the Match.

Andy Comerford's men went on to defeat Clare in the 2002 final (2-20 to 0-19) to achieve their 27th All-Ireland senior hurling title. Following the win, Philip Larkin joined his grandfather Paddy and his father Fan as the third generation of the family to secure an All-Ireland SH medal. Also, with his All Star award, Philip and Fan became the first ever Father and Son hurling All Star award winners.



Noel Hickey edging to break past Eugene O'Neill of Tipperary (with Derek Lyng poised to support) during the Kilkenny Vs. Tipperary All Ireland SH Semi-Final clash in 2002.

The fourth semi-final encounter between the sides was on 17th of August 2003 at the 'new Croke Park' which was officially opened with a supporter capacity of 82,300. The Cats were again victorious over Tipp in this back-to-back encounter (3-18 to 0-15) with Henry Shefflin voted as Man of the Match.

The Cats, led by D.J. Carey, went on to defeat Cork in the closely-contested 2003 SH final (1-14 to 1-11) and to capture a 28th All Ireland senior hurling title for the county.

The fifth and most recent semi-final meeting of the sides was in the 2012 Semi-Final where Kilkenny totally dominated Tipp and went on to win by double scores (4-24 to 1-15). The 18 point finishing margin marked Tipperary's heaviest defeat in an All-Ireland championship match since 1897. At half time Tipp lead by one point, (1-10 to 1-09). In a second-half scoring surge, Kilkenny dominated, scoring 3-15 in a 35-minute spell, beginning with Aidan Fogarty's goal, followed by goals from Larkin and Reid with Lar Corbett spectacularly failing in his mission to man mark the great Tommy Walsh.

Eoin Larkin then went on to lead his side to All Ireland victory over Galway (after a replay, for the first time in 53 years), with the final scoreline reading 3-22 to 3-11. This win marked the Cats ninth All Ireland SH success in thirteen championship seasons.

Hurlers Co Op Draw 2025

Congratulations to Denis Dunleavy of the Dublin Branch of the Supporters Club on his win in the first Hurlers Co-op Members Draw of 2025. The Chairman and committee wish all those who purchased tickets the best of luck in the remaining draws.



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.

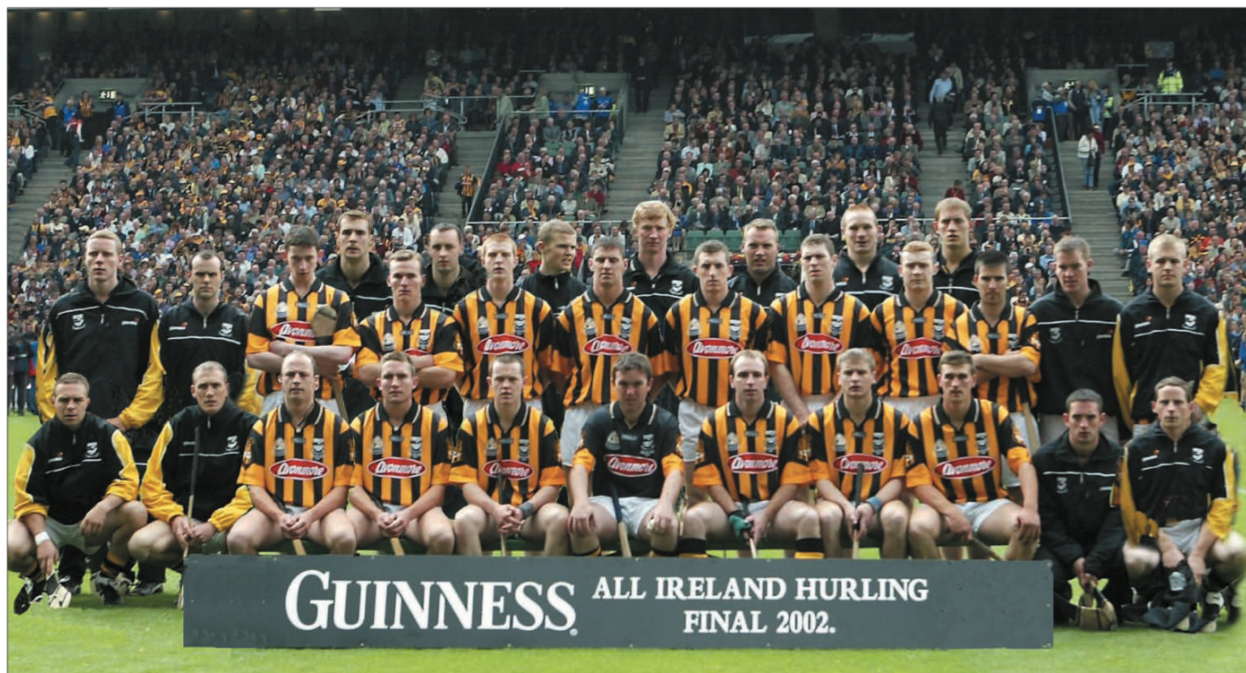
Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-anamacha.

Kilkenny Vs. Tipperary GAA Quiz!

1. The 2016 SH semi-final between Kilkenny and Tipperary was the last before what major rule change?
2. Which goalkeeper has kept the most clean sheets in SH semi-final matches between Tipp and Kilkenny?
3. Were any of the Kilkenny Vs. Tipperary SH All-Ireland semi-final matches played in a venue other than Croke Park?
4. What year was the first All-Ireland senior hurling final broadcast in colour by RTE?
5. Which hurling great made his last championship appearance in the 2013 All-Ireland qualifier in Nowlan Park?
6. What was unique about the result of the All Ireland SH decider on 7 September 2014?



Image from the Archives



Kilkenny All-Ireland Senior Hurling Champions 2002

Back: Aidan Cummins, Alan Geoghegan, Tommy Walsh, John Power, PJ Ryan, Walter Burke, Diarmuid Mackey.

Middle: James Ryall, Brian McEvoy, Martin Comerford, Noel Hickey, Henry Shefflin, John Hoyne, Derek Lyng, Jimmy Coogan, Peter Barry, Philly Larkin, Sean Dowling, Paul Cahill.

Front: Charlie Carter, Steven Grehan, Andy Comerford (Capt.), Eddie Brennan, Michael Kavanagh, James McGarry, DJ Carey, JJ Delaney, Richie Mullally, Brian Dowling, Pat Tennyson.

Quiz Answers

Answer 1: Answer: Introduction of the advantage rule and clearer definitions around head-high tackles (implemented in 2017)

Answer 2: Eoin Murphy

Answer 3: Yes, the 1900 final (played 29th June 1902 at Deerpark outside of Carrick on Suir).

Answer 4: The 1971 Kilkenny V Tipperary championship decider was the first final broadcast in colour by RTÉ, Eddie Keher scored a record 2 goals and 11 points, however, he still ended up on the losing side as Tipperary won on a score line of 5–17 to 5–14.

Answer 5: Brendan Cummins

Answer 6: Following on from 2012 and 2013, the 2014 decider Kilkenny Tipperary was the third year in a row that an All-Ireland SH final finished level. Looking back historically and prior to 2012, the last year the Senior Hurling final finished level was in 1959 (Kilkenny Vs. Waterford).

END OF NEWSLETTER