



Issue: Christmas 2025

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Kilkenny Supporters Club – Chairman's Christmas Message 2025

Dear Members, Friends, and Supporters,

As we approach the end of another year, I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to each one of you for your unwavering support, and commitment to the Kilkenny GAA Supporters Club. The spirit and camaraderie within our club continues to inspire, and it is your involvement that makes all our achievements possible.

2025 has been a year of progress, connection, and pride.

Our membership remains strong, with a growing number embracing modern payment options like Revolut and online renewals. Thank you to everyone who helped recruit new members and spread the 'word' and every new supporter strengthens our club and our teams. Many thanks for your generous contributions and participation in fundraising events. The annual Golf Classic was once again a highlight, bringing together members and friends for a day of sport and community, and raising vital funds for our teams. Equally, the fine evening we all joined together for the table Quiz.

The Black & Amber Forum in May was a standout event, drawing together supporters, business leaders, and GAA figures for a morning of lively discussion and networking. With MC Kieran Cuddihy at the helm, we heard from GAA President Jarlath Burns, Phil Hogan, and Derek Lyng, who shared insights on the future of Gaelic Games and Kilkenny's ambitions. The positive feedback and strong attendance reaffirmed the Forum's place as a flagship occasion for our club.

In 2025, Kilkenny hurling and camogie teams once again flew the black and amber with pride in 2025, with our senior squads battling deep into championship season and our underage panels showing real promise for the future. And in a moment that likely brought a smile to local supporters, Danesfort clinched the Kilkenny County intermediate hurling final—hard to keep a good parish down.

As we celebrate Christmas and look forward to 2026, let us continue to uphold the ethos and spirit of the Kilkenny GAA Supporters Club. Your support—through membership, fundraising, and volunteering—makes a real difference to our teams and our community.

On behalf of the committee, I wish you and your families a peaceful, happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year. Thank you for your dedication, and I look forward to seeing you at our events in 2026.

Nollaig Shona daoibh go léir!
Niall.

Message from the Treasurer

My thanks to all members for their continued support in 2025.

In addition to looking after the Kilkenny teams when playing in Dublin, we were able to support the team when playing the Leinster Championship fixture against Antrim in Belfast in April. We were also happy to support St. Lachtain's in their club All-Ireland Final. Your great support for our teams, especially the senior hurlers, ensured a strong demand for tickets for all matches up to and including the All-Ireland semi-final.

Membership continues to be stable, thanks to the efforts of members led by Jim Dunne and John Mooney and we again supported strongly the Hurlers Co-Op Draw. Thanks to all members for the continuing financial support. The Golf Classic under the stewardship of Eddie Nolan, John Nolan, Willie Grant, Luke Bird and Seanie Maher continues to be a significant fundraiser. As with every sector of society, we are faced with increasing costs, especially in catering for Kilkenny teams playing in Dublin. We continue to seek to grow our income base in 2026 and welcome suggestions from members that would assist in that endeavour.

At the end of the financial year on 30th September, the Club had a healthy balance in reserve and we continue to liaise with the County Board how best to utilise those funds for the benefit of Kilkenny GAA. We have worked closely with Barry Hickey, Treasurer, Kilkenny GAA County Board, for the many years in which Barry has held that position. As Barry proposes to step back from the role, I thank him for the guidance, support and friendship he has given to us all in the Dublin Branch of the Club. We are delighted that Barry will continue to be involved with Kilkenny GAA and look forward to working with him for many years to come.

My thanks and best wishes to all members for the Christmas season and 2026.

Seamus O'Neill

Message from the Membership Secretaries

Membership subscriptions continue to be healthy in 2025 with 7 new members added in 2025. Social activities have recovered post the Covid-19. Members have moved significantly from online payment to Revolut this year. Special thanks to the committee for driving the Membership efforts and to Niall Butler for coordinating the successful Hurlers Co-Op Draw. We were pleased to be able to hold our annual Golf Classic once again. Thanks to Eddie Nolan, John Nolan, and Willie Grant the event proved highly successful and continues to be our principal fundraiser.

Best wishes to all members for the Christmas season and for 2026.

Jim Dunne/John Mooney

A Special Thank You to Kevin Houlihan

As we close out the year, we want to take a moment to celebrate someone who has been at the heart of our Dublin Branch for decades. **Kevin Houlihan**, a proud Johnstown native and former player with both **Fenians GAA Club** and **Kilmacud Crokes**, is stepping down from his role as Vice-Chairman of the Kilkenny Supporters Club (Dublin Branch). Kevin's passion for hurling and his commitment to our community have been nothing short of extraordinary.

During his time as Vice-Chairman, Kevin has:

- **Strengthened membership engagement and grown our Dublin Branch community**
- **Driven fundraising efforts that supported Kilkenny teams at all levels**
- **Taken a lead role in the annual Table Quiz, serving as quiz master for many years**
- **Helped generate support for flagship events such as the annual Golf Classic**
- **Fostered strong links between Dublin-based supporters and the Kilkenny County Board**

Kevin's dedication, vision, and tireless work have left an indelible mark on our club. We thank him sincerely for everything he has done and wish him every success in the future

A Special Thank You to Jane Lynam Treanor

We also extend our appreciation to Jane Lynam Treanor, who is stepping down from the committee after years of commitment and service. Jane has been a valued member of our team, contributing her time and energy to ensure the success of countless events and initiatives. We are grateful for her efforts and wish Jane continued success and happiness in the future.



Kevin on the Supporters Club forward line (second from right) and with Liam McCarthy centre stage

Golf Classic 2025

The organising committee wish to express their appreciation to all those who participated/sponsored a team for the Supporters Club Golf Classic 2025. The event proved once again to be a wonderful day weather-wise and played on a top class course with plenty of friendly competition and a great atmosphere.

The day was wrapped up with a fabulous meal enjoyed in an atmosphere of camaraderie that truly reflects the spirit of the Supporters Club, providing the opportunity for attendees to connect with others and to meet new faces. Thank you again for your support towards making the golf classic such a success.

Kilkenny GAA Supporters Club (Dublin Branch) Annual Golf Classic 2025 Results Table						
Result	Team name	Player (H'cap)	Player (H'cap)	Player (H'cap)	Player (H'cap)	Team Score
1	MW Hire	Matty Walsh (15)	John Tobin (26)	Joe Costello (19)	Owen Phelan (14)	97
2	Niall Butler	Niall Butler (19)	Donal McGovern (8)	Keith Taite (10)	Chris Thompson (16)	91
3	Tom McCormack	Tom McCormack (8)	Michael Kelly (18)	Philip Hand (12)	Liam Daly (18)	87
4	Eddie Cullen	Eddie Cullen (19)	Oisín Cullen (6)	Declan Murray (16)	Barry Murray (17)	87 (back 9)
5	Security Central	Paddy McCormack (21)	Wayne Uzell (19)	Rory McCarthy (9)	Robbie Ivers (5)	84
6	Michael Stone	Dermot Maher (4)	Brendan Hickey (12)	Padraic Fanning (15)	Vincent Hogan (18)	83
7	John Nolan	John Nolan (17)	Mick McGarry (19)	Liam Nolan (11)	Mick Callinan (11)	83 (back 9)
8	Academy Hotel	Christy Comerford (11)	Tom Mooney (16)	Anthony Dillon (16)	Michael Doherty (21)	82
9	Cathal Fitzgerald	Cathal Fitzgerald (22)	Seamus Loneragan (16)	John Rowe (22)	Ray Walsh (22)	82 (back 9)

Longest drive – Dermot Maher
Nearest the Pin – Wayne Uzell

The committee wish to express our sincere appreciation to all sponsors & participants and also to the members and management at Killeen Golf Club Kill for their help and cooperation in staging this event.

Eddie Nolan 086 2421924 John Nolan 086 8439590
Willie Grant 087 2561569 Seanie Maher 087 632 9533




Above is the Final Results table and a selection of photos from the Golf Classic 2025.

County Championship News

Hurling

The 2025 Kilkenny GAA County Hurling Championships



St. Canice's Credit Union Senior Hurling Championship

Congratulations to Ballyhale Shamrocks on their victory over O'Loughlin Gaels in the St Canice's Credit Union Kilkenny SHC Final with the final score line reading Ballyhale Shamrocks 1-18, O'Loughlin Gaels 0-12. This was a repeat of the final two years ago, with Henry Shefflin's charges achieving revenge after O'Loughlin Gaels won that match.

The win (a record 21st title for Ballyhale Shamrocks) saw Eoin Cody scoring a crucial second-half goal and their captain TJ Reid contributing 11 points on the day.

The Shamrocks have since defeated Kilcormac Killoughey of Offaly in the AIB Leinster Club SHC Quarter final, Clough Ballacolla of Laois in a close semi-final in Nowlan Park (1-18 to 1-15) and will face St. Martin's of Wexford in the Leinster Club SH Final on December 6th in Croke Park.

The Senior Hurling relegation final saw Lisdowney losing out to go down to Intermediate following their defeat to Graigue Ballycallan on a score-line of 3-18 to 1-10.

Michael Lyng Motors Hyundai Intermediate Hurling Championship

Congratulations to Danesfort on winning the 2025 Kilkenny GAA Hurling intermediate Championship. They defeated James Stephens in the Final to win the Hanrahan Cup for the fourth time in the history of the club. The win promoted Danesfort back to the senior championship for the first time in two years.

Danesfort followed up their County Final win with a victory over St Mogue's, Fethard of Wexford in the AIB Leinster Club IHC 25 Quarter Final and having beaten Dublin club Commercials in the Semi Final in UPMC Nowlan Park. They went on to win the Tommy Murphy Cup after overcoming Ratoath in the Leinster Club IH Final (2-15 to 0-12). We wish Danesfort all the very best in the upcoming All Ireland Series.

In the Intermediate Relegation final, Fenians lost out by just 2 points in their match with St. Martins which will see them playing at Junior level next season.

Junior Hurling Championship

Congratulations to Tullaroan won the JJ Kavanagh Junior A Hurling Championship for a fourth time with a 7 point victory over Threecastles in the final at UPMC Nowlan Park on a score-line of Tullaroan 0-23; Threecastles 2-10.

Congratulations to Glenmore overcame Tullogher Rosbercon after extra time to win the JJ Kavanagh Junior B Hurling Championship and to achieve a Junior B league and championship double. The game was level at full time after Glenmore had clawed back a 5-point deficit in the closing stages of the game but went on to outscore their rivals in extra time. Final Score Glenmore 2-16; Tullogher Rosbercon 0-19 (a.e.t.)

Congratulations to Kilmacow who were winners of the 2025 Iverk Produce Junior C Hurling Final after overcoming C League champions Piltown by 2 points with the final score line reading Kilmacow 1-18; Piltown 2-13.

The 2025 Kilkenny GAA County Football Championship

JJ Kavanagh Kilkenny Senior Football Final 2025

Congratulations to Mullinavat on capturing their eighth Kilkenny Senior Football title after a 10 point victory over southern neighbours Mooncoin in the Senior Football Final. Mullinavat will now go on to represent Kilkenny in the Leinster Intermediate Championship next Autumn. Final Score Mullinavat 1-21; Mooncoin 0-14.

The Senior Football relegation final saw Conahy Shamrocks secure status after beating Clara.

JJ Kavanagh Kilkenny Intermediate Football Final 2025

Glenmore 2-19 Graiguenamanagh 3-8.

Camogie



Kilkenny Camogie announced their new senior camogie management in succession to Tommy Shefflin, who stepped down after just one season in charge. The new Senior Camogie Management team comprises Jimmy Meagher (St. Lachtain's), David Dowling (Tullaroan), Eoin Murphy (Conahy Shamrocks), Kieran Brennan (James Stephens), Stephen Farrell (St. Lachtain's) & Strength Conditioning Lead Coach - James Kelly (O'Loughlin Gaels).

Michael Lyng Motors Hyundai Senior Camogie County Final

In a reversal of last year's outcome, congratulations to Dicksboro (1-14) on overcoming Senior League final winners Piltown (0-12) to reclaim the Biddy Barry Memorial Cup and the Michael Lyng Motors Hyundai Senior Camogie County SC title. Dicksboro since went on to enjoy a comprehensive win over Birr in the AIB Leinster Senior Semi Final and overcame Oulart the Ballagh by the slimmest of margins in the Final (0-17 to 1-13).

The Relegation Final saw the Rower Inistioge (0-15) overcome Barrow Rangers (0-11).

Intermediate Camogie

Abbott Intermediate County Final Danesfort (2-10) Mooncoin (2-3)

Kilkenny River Court Junior Camogie

Kilkenny Rivercourt Hotel Junior County Final Dicksboro (1-13) John Lockes (1-12)

Rivercourt Hotel Junior B Final - Erins Own (1-10) Slieverue (2-6)

Junior C Final - Thomastown (0-12) Glenmore (0-09)

Congratulations to Muckalee on becoming the first Kilkenny club in 21 years to win the Leinster Junior Football Club title. Enjoying a dream season and after winning their semi-final of the AIB All Ireland LGFA Junior Club Championship against Menlough Skehana of Galway, they have now booked a place in the final. With history within touching distance, we wish them every success.

Membership Drive 2025

The Kilkenny GAA Supporters Club (Dublin Branch) exists primarily to generate funding to support the Kilkenny county teams and provide a social dimension to its members.

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.

Belonging as a member may extend to playing your part by supporting Supporters Club activities and participating in events such as the Golf Classic or Quiz.

The membership rate remains €25.

Revolut - The club are happy to facilitate members that wish to pay their membership via Revolut. Send directly to Seamus O'Neill (087 2234789) and please include your name when paying.

Bereavements

Our Deceased List for 2025 is as follows:

Helen O'Brien (Nee Palmer), John Cantwell, Pat McGrath, Sean Skehan, Pamela Gorman, Josephine Rainsford, Richie Tierney, Tom Gregg, Josie Healy (Nee Somers), Bill McDonald, John Mackey, Breid Doyle, Ray Cannon, Ned Buggy, Jimmy Hurley, Mick Dooley, Michael Murphy and Jim Galavan.



Sincere condolences to the families and friends of all departed members and deepest sympathies to those, in any way associated with our club or the wider GAA household, who had a recent bereavement.

Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-anamacha.

Hurlers Co-op Draw 2025

The club would like to thank all those who bought Hurlers Draw 2025 tickets. This year marked the 43rd year of the draw which has generated significant sums of money for clubs and county facilities over the years.

Congratulations to the following Supporters Club ticket holders who were 2025 Draw winners, Denis Dunleavy, a winner in Draw No 1 and Darragh Butler, a prize-winner in Draw No.4.

Team Management and Players

The committee wish county managers, selectors, their back room teams and of course the players across all codes every success in competitions in the season ahead.

As a follow on to the Cats winning a sixth in a row Leinster Championship in 2025, Derek Lyng has been given a new two-year term in August. Derek now into a fourth season will be joined by Eddie Brennan, Peter O'Donovan, Michael Rice, former Limerick player and Goalkeeping coach Timmy Houlihan and former Dublin hurler Niall Corcoran.

Gordon Byrne (Erin's Own) was ratified as the new Kilkenny minor hurling manager with Stephen Morgan (James Stephens), Liam Lacey (St Patrick's), Robert Jackman (John Lockes), Billy Quinn (Mooncoin), and Brian Doherty (John Lockes) joining him as coaches with JJ Grace (St Lachtain's) in the role of Lead Strength & Conditioning Coach.

Henry Shefflin takes over from Mark Dowling as the U20 manager and will be joined by O'Loughlin Gaels manager Brian Hogan as a coach/selector, Graigue-Ballycallan's Richie O'Neill, former county

minor coach Seán Kelly of St Martin's as head coach and James Gittens (Dicksboro) as coach/selector.

Kerry native Christy Walsh was ratified as Kilkenny Junior Football Manager for the 2025 season with JJ Grace as coach and Paddy McConigley, Andy O'Brien and Brian Sheeran as selectors.

Eoin Hennessy (Dicksboro) was ratified as Kilkenny minor football manager with a management team that includes Pat Nolan (Blacks & Whites), Davey Lyons (Kilmoganny), Brendan O'Sullivan (Thomastown), and former Kildare player Kevin O'Callaghan as Strength & Conditioning Coach.

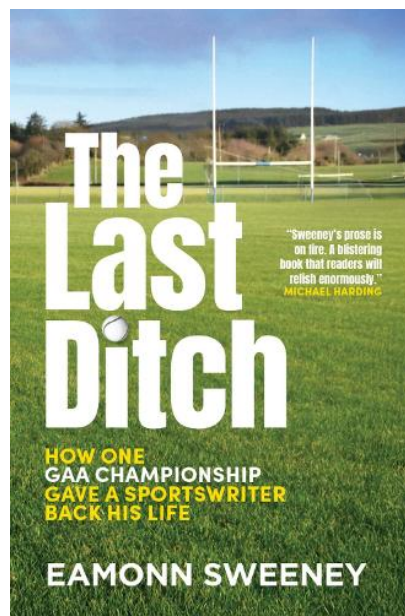
Best wishes to Sean Kelly in his role of Performance Lead with Na Cait Óga. Sean joined Kilkenny GAA as a Games Development Co-Ordinator in 2016 and took up the role of Athletic Development Lead in June 2023.

Some recommendations for book-loving GAA fans this Christmas

The Last Ditch: How One GAA Championship gave a sportswriter back his life by Eamon Sweeney

Off the field, it is the story of one man's embrace of a changing Ireland as he takes back his life. Both an unforgettable sports memoir and a deeply personal account, *The Last Ditch* is a heartfelt celebration of resilience, the healing power of connection and the unifying spirit of the GAA.

The Last Ditch is a story about mental health, hidden shame and a life-changing moment in a remote train station. It's about a hurling championship which may have been the greatest ever played and a football championship which definitely was not. It's about unlikely triumphs, remarkable renaissances, shocks, cliff-hangers and heartbreaks on the pitch.



The GAA Covered

by John Kelly

The match day programme is part of the very fabric of the GAA and in *The GAA Covered* this glorious document gets its long overdue day in the sun.

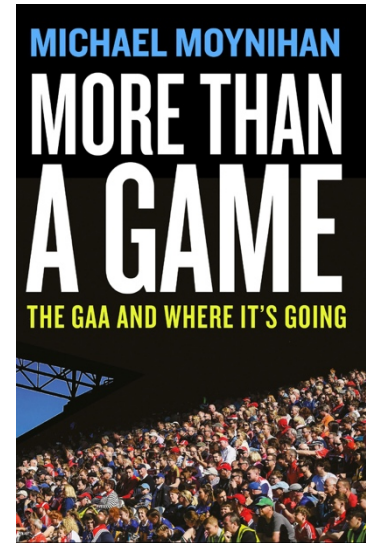
The GAA Covered is a stunning visual compendium of over 100 years of GAA programme covers from 1913 to the present day. Each page of this comprehensive collection features striking images of that year's provincial and All-Ireland final match programmes, along with superb captions of context and colour. John Kelly's labour of love will mesmerise GAA fans – from the diehard who will appreciate the compilation of such a wide range of programmes to the casual fan who will be enthralled by the immense beauty of the book.

More than a Game by Michael Moynihan
The GAA and where it is going

The GAA is more than a game. It's a cornerstone of Irish identity – woven into parishes, families and the national psyche. But behind the passion and pride lies a question that has never really been asked. Where is the GAA going?

In this revealing and timely book, acclaimed journalist Michael Moynihan explores how the GAA is changing, and what it means for the Ireland it serves. Is it still a grassroots, amateur participation movement? Is it a delivery system for elite sport? Is it a real estate organisation with thousands of premises? With sharp insight and deep research, Moynihan tackles the big questions – from unregulated payments to stadium sponsorships, broadcasting controversies, and postponed games for pop concerts. Moynihan lifts the lid on the inner workings of the GAA at a crossroads.

At once thoughtful, balanced and bold, Moynihan shows us the organisation behind the headlines – and why its future matters to us all.



TJ: A True Legend of Kilkenny Hurling



We don't always need to look to the past to find hurling legends – some shine brighter than others and few stand taller among them than TJ Reid, a player defining greatness in real time at both club and county level.

Over the history of hurling in Kilkenny, greats continue to be identified by just a first name or initials. Joining Pa, Henry, DJ, JJ the initials 'TJ' stand alone and independent of the Reid name to identify another hurler who has reached iconic status. At 38, Thomas Joseph Reid continues to deliver performances (and scores) at the highest standard along with the record of achievements (some listed below) and that speaks for itself.

A most dominant of forwards for club and county, TJ is rightly regarded as one of the greatest players of both his generation, if not of all time.

TJ currently stands as the second-highest All-Ireland championship scorer ever with 39 goals and 641 points = 758 points (as of September 2025), trailing only Cork's Patrick Horgan. No stranger to Croke Park, his first appearance goes all the way back to the first Sunday of September 1998, when Kilkenny played Offaly in the Senior All Ireland Final and Cork in the Minor, 10-year-old TJ, listed as a pupil of Ballyhale NS was a player in the mini-sevens.

A legend with Ballyhale Shamrocks, for over two decades, TJ was the sub goalkeeper when Shamrocks U14's won Féile in 1998, he was only 10. In 2004 he also played as a teenage goalkeeper (16y/o) before his move outfield and to the forward line. He now has twelve Kilkenny Senior Club Hurling Winners medals in the bag after Ballyhale Shamrocks won a record 21st county SH Final this year.

As captain, TJ proudly raised the Tom Walsh Cup, 19 years after his first county medal in 2006. With Ballyhale Shamrocks, TJ has also won 6 All-Ireland Club SH Championship medals.

TJ played on the Kilkenny U21 team that won All Ireland finals in 2006 and 2008 before joining the seniors in 2007, a Kilkenny team that was on the crest of a wave. From 2000 to 2009 the Cats had won the most All Ireland SH titles in a decade (7), most All Stars and Hurlers of the Year awards. TJ played his part making his debut in 2008. From 2008 to 2015, including his 2010 captaincy, TJ was central to seven Liam McCarthy triumphs. That Kilkenny SH team's All Ireland winning achievements rolled on to 2015, marking the year TJ added a seventh SH medal, along with a Hurler of the Year Award, plus another All Star to his accolades. The All Ireland SH Final winning drought has been a sting only soothed by the hope raised by the 6 in a row Leinster SH final 2025 win by the Cats under Derek Lyng. TJ currently possesses a total of sixteen All-Ireland hurling medals, seven with the Kilkenny seniors, six with Shamrocks Ballyhale, two with the Kilkenny U-21's and one with St. Kieran's College.

Science tells us that male athletes typically peak physically in their mid-to-late 20s, and then incrementally lose VO2 max capacity for the rest of their lives. The V in VO2 max stands for volume, while O2 stands for oxygen. As such, VO2 max measures how much oxygen your body consumes while exercising and is an objective way to tell just how fit you are - a higher VO2 max means the heart and lungs are more effectively supplying blood to muscles, and that muscles are efficiently extracting and using oxygen from your blood and correlating to better physical fitness. In his Elite Coaching Consultant role TJ is credited as being *'dedicated to helping driven professionals and high-achieving individuals cultivate an elite mindset and achieve their most ambitious objectives'*. Rigorous, smart conditioning has evidently prevented any significant drop-off in TJ's own fitness levels feeding his continued ability to deliver age defying performances and at the highest level.

Thank you TJ.

TJ has won notable honours with:-

- **St Kieran's College** All-Ireland Colleges HC (1): 2004, Leinster Colleges SH Championships (2) 2004, 2005,
- **Ballyhale Shamrocks** Kilkenny U-21 HC (4): 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, Kilkenny SH Championship (12): 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2012, 2014 (captain), 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2025 (captain). Leinster Senior Club HC (8): 2006, 2008, 2009, 2014 (captain), 2018, 2019, 2021, 2022. All-Ireland Senior Club HC(6): 2007 2010, 2015 (captain) 2019, 2020, 2023.
- **Waterford Institute of Technology** Fitzgibbon Cup (1): 2008
- **Leinster** (Railway Cup 2021 and 2014)
- **Kilkenny** All-Ireland SHC (7): 2007, 2008, 2009, 2011, 2012, 2014, 2015. Leinster SHC (14): 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010 (captain) 2011, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025. National Hurling League (5): 2009, 2012, 2014, 2018, 2021. All-Ireland U-21 HC (2): 2006, 2008. Leinster U-21 HC (3): 2005, 2006, 2008.

Notable Individual Awards include..

- GAA-GPA All-Star Hurler of the Year (1): 2015
- The Sunday Game Player of the Year (1): 2015
- GAA GPA All Stars Nominations (13): 2010, **2012, 2014, 2015**, 2016, 2017, 2018, **2019, 2020**, 2021, **2022, 2023**, 2025 (His 7 GAA GPA All Star awards are in bold).

- All-Ireland Senior Hurling Championship Top Scorer (3): 2019, 2022, 2023
- Gaelic Writers' Association Hurling Personality of the Year (1): 2022

(Stats current as of Dec 7, 2025).



*TJ with strong Kilkenny fan,
James Butler*



*TJ with Kilkenny supporters Pat
(RIP) and Mairin McGrath*



*TJ in a St Kieran's
College jersey*

Quiz Night

The Supporters Club Quiz Night at the Academy Plaza hotel back in March 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). The Quiz provided an opportunity for members/relations and friends to interact in what was a lively evening, with plenty of laughs and good-natured rivalry among the teams. The event was expertly hosted by our Treasurer Seamus O'Neill, who having set the questions, also performed the role of Quiz Master on the night.

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





GAA QUIZ

Q 1. What player was the All Ireland Senior Hurling Championship Top Scorer in 2025

Q 2. What player was the All Ireland Senior Hurling Championship Top Goal Scorer in 2025

Q 3. Name the player that scored the most goals for Kilkenny in the All Ireland Senior Hurling Championship 2025

Q 4. Name a player that scored more goals than points in the All Ireland Senior Hurling Championship

Q 5. The Ireland Senior Hurling Final 2025 was an all Munster affair for the what number of occasions in the history of the sport?

Q 6. In what decade did Cork win their most All Ireland Senior Hurling Championship titles

Q 7. Who was the leader of Kilkenny when they captured their first All-Ireland SH title?



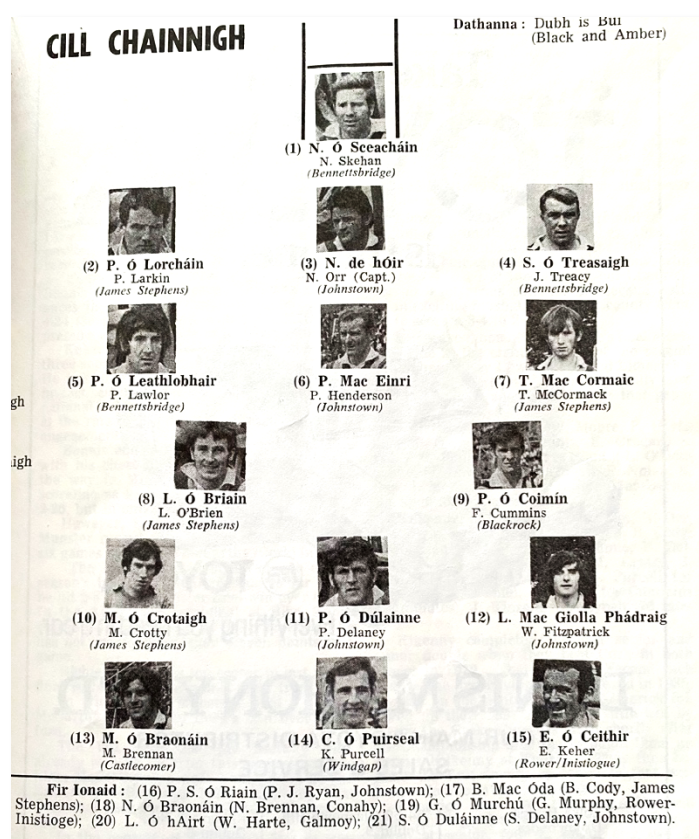
Q 8. In the 2025 All-Ireland Senior Hurling Championship, what two teams played a match yielding the highest points (i.e., total of over-the-bar scores, not counting goal values) recorded in one match?

Q 9. What two teams played a match yielding the highest aggregate total (goals + points converted to points) in the 2025 championships (including lower tiers).

Q 10. In what year was the First Performance given by the Artane Boys Band for the G.A.A. 1886, 1887 or 1888 ?

Q 11. What curious coincidence links the All Ireland SH finals of 1907 and 1939?

Q 12. What was the year that the team in the graphic to the right lined out for Kilkenny in an All-Ireland SH final? and Who did they defeat?



“The Clash of the Ash”

The hurley and sliotar are symbols immediately recognisable throughout Ireland and abroad as uniquely Irish. But beyond this they are also symbols of the commitment, dedication and skill required to master this challenging yet fulfilling game.



No matter how many times you’ve sat in the stand or stood on the side-line, the thrill of hurling never fades. Whether it be to witness a perfect side-line cut, the bravery of a full-back under pressure and a high ball, or to add voice to the roar that erupts when the net shakes, such are moments that we don’t forget. Hurling is simply more than just a game, it’s a deeply ingrained part of our heritage representing county pride, community identity and a connection with our traditions and past. It’s simply part of who we are.

Hurling has been handed down for over 2,000 years, is played on muddy fields and manicured grounds alike and is considered a “living cultural tradition” by UNESCO since 2018. Each swing of the hurley connects generations — fathers and daughters, grandmothers and grandsons — all sharing the same sense of pride and belonging.

Ireland’s National Inventory of Intangible Cultural Heritage describes *hurling as an intrinsic part of Irish culture which it is not limited to one community but rather goes to the heart of the social fabric of modern-day Ireland as it plays an unparalleled role in the promotion of physical fitness,*

health & well-being, inclusiveness, team spirit and community identity. Hurling provides people in Ireland and abroad with an irreplaceable connection to the past and a sense of identity that ties back to the folklore, myths and legends that surround the game. Ultimately the game is about connection – a connection to the past, a connection to heritage and a connection to a community and each other and in so doing, they achieve a sense of belonging.

What makes hurling truly special, though, isn't just the action on the pitch, it's what happens around it. Hurling clubs often serve as community centres or hubs where people of all ages can connect. From the smallest to the biggest, every club is built on volunteers who mark pitches, wash jerseys, along with countless other tasks. Volunteer numbers within the GAA amounts to 6% of the adult population in Ireland. Match days are reunions as much as competitions — a place where generations meet, friendships rekindle, and stories grow taller with every retelling. In modern-day Ireland, hurling provides a platform to embrace and include all communities in Irish society. In schools and clubs nationwide, children of all backgrounds and nationalities are given the opportunity to pick up a hurley and to share the enjoyment that comes from playing the game. Hurling is played in 74% of Primary schools and 66% of post primary schools

Modern hurling has evolved into one of the fastest field sports in the world, but its soul remains the same. Training may have gone high-tech with the use of drones, GPS vests, and nutrition plans, but when the sliotar drops, skill and instinct takes over. The heartbeat of Kilkenny hurling remains simple: family, pride, and community. The game is passed down through generations — hurley's carved in sheds, sliotars flying across green fields, and advice shouted from the side-lines by parents or guardians who once played there themselves.

From the marshalling of Ollie, the marksmanship of Eddie K, the power of Lory, the skill of Henry to the relentless brilliance of TJ, Kilkenny has produced a long succession of warriors renowned for their ability and skill. The county's hurling legacy, built on discipline, skill, and a fierce work ethic is the stuff of true legends, forged by generations of players who gave everything for the jersey and to the cheers of supporters who have kept the faith. Win or lose, in Kilkenny, hurling isn't just a sport, it's a way of life. From Ballyhale to Bennettsbridge, Thomastown to Tullaroan, Paulstown to Piltown, it's about belonging. Belonging to something important, a townland, parish, county, province that you continue to be proud of and support. It's about that shared belief that no matter how tough the battle, we are Kilkenny, we will never lie down.

Current and past Irish Governments have also made successive efforts to safeguard Hurling. The State have included a special reference to 'Gaelic Games' in the Physical Education curriculum for Primary School children to encourage widespread participation in Hurling. Furthermore, for the past decade, Sport Ireland, has provided annual funding for the deployment of full-time coaching personnel who provide coaching in schools and aim to support and upskill volunteers. In addition, the State has provided capital funding supports for the construction of many of the Hurling stadia nationally. All of these efforts reflect the commitment of the Irish State to increasing and supporting participation in Hurling.

As we look to another season, one thing is certain, hurling's heart beats as strong as ever. Whether you're shouting from the terrace, tuning in on the airwaves or watching games in the comfort of your sitting room, here's to another season of passion, pride, and pure Kilkenny spirit, may the black and amber fly high once again.

GAA QUIZ ANSWERS

Answer 1. Seán Currie Dublin (4–68) - 80 points.

Answer 2. A. John Mc Grath 7 goals – John scored $7 - 16 = (37 \text{ pts})$ across the championship and was tied with Dublin's Cian O'Sullivan as the top scorer from play.

Answer 3. Martin Keoghan 6 goals – Martin scored $6 - 15 = (33 \text{ pts})$ across the 2025 championship and was the third highest scorer from play.

Answer 4. Oisín O'Donoghue Tipperary 3 goals and 2 pts, Niall McGarel (Antrim) 1 goal 0 pts
Conal O'Riain (Dublin) 1 goal 0 pts

Answer 5. Sixth, Previous All-Munster All-Ireland Finals were:

- **1997:** Clare v Tipperary
- **2013:** Cork v Clare
- **2020:** Limerick v Waterford
- **2021:** Cork v Limerick
- **2024:** Clare v Cork

Answer 6. 1940s: 5 surpassed by Kilkenny who won 6 All Ireland SH finals between 2000 and 2009.

Answer 7. Jer Doheny (Tullaroan).

Answer 8. The match between Limerick (0-28) and Dublin (2-24) - 52 points.

Answer 9. The match between Westmeath (4-22) and Carlow (7-23) - 78 points (Joe McDonagh Cup, Round 4).

Answer 10. 1886 on June 14th. The band was founded by the Irish Christian Brothers in 1872.

Answer 11.

- a. The teams on each occasion were Kilkenny and Cork.
- b. The final score margin on each occasion was one point (*1907 = Kilkenny (Mooncoin) 3-12 to Cork (Dungourney) 4-8, played on 21/06/1908 in Dungarvan. 1939 = Kilkenny 2-7 to Cork 3-3 played 3/9/1939 in Croke Park*).
- c. The match on each occasion was won by a last-minute point for Kilkenny.
- d. The scorer of the last-minute winner, on each occasion, was named Jimmy Kelly.

Answer 12.

- a. 1974 (1/9/1974) in Croke Park
- b. Limerick.

Kilkenny, captained by Fenians clubman Nicky Orr were victors on a score line of 3-19 to 1-13 to seal a 19th SH championship title for the Cats.

**Division 1A ALLIANZ LEAGUE FIXTURES 2026:**

Kilkenny	V	Offaly	January 25 - 2 pm.	UPMC Nowlan Park
Limerick	V	Kilkenny	February 8 - 3.45 pm.	TUS Gaelic Grounds
Kilkenny	V	Waterford	February 22 - 1.45 pm.	UPMC Nowlan Park
Kilkenny	V	Cork	March 1 - 3.15 pm.	UPMC Nowlan Park
Galway	V	Kilkenny	March 7 - 5.15 pm.	Pearse Stadium
Tipperary	V	Kilkenny	March 21 – 7 pm.	FBD Semple Stadium
League Final			4th/5th April 2026	

LEINSTER GAA HURLING SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIP 2026 FIXTURES

R1	Galway	V	Kilkenny	18/19.4.2026	Pearse Stadium
R2	Kilkenny	V	Wexford	25/26.4.2026	UPMC Nowlan Park
R3	Offaly	V	Kilkenny	9/10.5.2026	Glenisk O'Connor Park
R4	Kilkenny	V	Kildare	16/17.5.2026	UPMC Nowlan Park
R5	Dublin	V	Kilkenny	23/24.5.2026	Parnell Park
Final	1st Placed Team	V	2nd Placed Team	6.6.2026	Croke Park

The 2026 All- Ireland hurling final will take place on Sunday, July 19th.

Image from the Archives



CLUICHÍ CEANNAIS
IOMÁNA na hÉIREANN
 PÁIRC AN CHRÓCAIGH 1-9-1974

SINSIR
 3.15 p.m.
 (80 Nílméad)



S. O'FOGHLÚ (Lumneach)



N. ORR (Cill Chainnigh)

MIONÚIR
 1.30 p.m.
 (68 Nílméad)



LUACH
10p

OFFICIAL PROGRAMME

Seán Ó'Nochlainn
 Ard Stiúrthóir

The Kilkenny defence set path to goal in the Leinster final 1974 v Wexford.

All Ireland SH Final 1974 programme cover (left). The Cats, Captained by Nicky Orr were victors with the final score reading Kilkenny (3-19) Limerick 1-13).

Kilkenny 2026 jersey (below)



**We wish all our Members and Friends a
 Happy and Healthy 2026**

*From the Kilkenny GAA Supporters Club
 (Dublin Branch) Chairman & Committee.*

END OF NEWSLETTER