

Co. Tipperary Senior Football Final  
Match Programme  
2014

Cumann Lúthchleas Gael  
Tiobraid Árann



**Clean Ireland Recycling**

[cleanireland.ie](http://cleanireland.ie)

PROUD SPONSORS OF TIPPERARY GAA HURLING & FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP 2011

**CLEAN IRELAND RECYCLING**  
**Tipperary Senior Football**  
**Championship FINAL**

**LEAHY PARK, CASHEL**  
**Sunday, 21st December 2014**

*Paulie De Mont*  
Runaí



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## Fáilte ón gCathaoirleach Coiste Chontae



**F**ÁILTE ROMHAIBH go léir go dtí Cluiche Cheannais Peil Tiobraid Árann i Caiseal inniu. Fáilte fé leith roimh na foirne as an Luachmágh-Caisleán Laighnigh agus Cathair Dun Iascaigh, na h-imreoirí agus na h-oifigigh agus an reiteoir. Ta súil agam go mbeidh cluiche sportúil againn inniu.

County football final day is here again and it is my pleasure on behalf of the County Board to welcome all our valued patrons to Cashel today for what promises to be a great final. I extend a special welcome to the teams from Loughmore-Castleiney and Cahir and to their management teams, club officers and supporters.

Today's final has all the promise of being an exciting encounter as the clubs concerned – Loughmore-Castleiney and Cahir – have fought hard throughout the championship campaign and now that they are in sight of silverware both teams will want to finish what has been a long season in style. Loughmore-Castleiney have the added incentive of putting back-to-back titles together, while Cahir, who had their last county final victory in 2003, will be anxious to add to their roll of honour.

For obvious reasons the championships have run late in 2014 and while it's a bit unusual to be playing the final just a few days before Christmas, the football clubs and players have however been very understanding about it and have provided some very entertaining games in the lead up to the final. It's going to be an intriguing battle then for the O'Dwyer Cup and I look forward to a game that will be an exhibition of good football skill, that will have the passion and intensity that the clubs are renowned for and that will be enjoyed by all our patrons.

The great Arravale Rovers team of 1985 are remembered in today's match programme. Their great county final victory of twenty nine years ago was celebrated in style in the Ballykisteen House Hotel on Sunday evening last where the players, their partners and club officials enjoyed an evening of hospitality sponsored by Ballykisteen House Hotel, the Nationalist newspaper and the county board.

I want to take the opportunity of thanking Clean Ireland Recycling for their sponsorship of all our championships for 2014 and look forward to their much valued participation in the future.

Best wishes today to Paddy Russell from the Lattin-Cullen club who referees today's final and to his officials. Paddy is now one of the most experienced and long serving referees in the county and has given sterling service to the GAA at County and National level.

Finally my thanks to the County CCC for their splendid work in what was an extremely difficult year in bringing so many of our championships to a successful conclusion and to the Cashel King Cormacks club for the excellent facilities on offer and for making them available for today's final.

Go mbeidh sar cluichi againn le cunamh Dé!

**SEÁN Ó NUINSEAIN**

Cathaoirleach Coiste Chontae Thiobraid Árann



## Fáilte ón gCathaoirleach Bard Peil



**F**ÁILTE romhaibh go leir go dtí Cluiche Ceannais Peil Tiobraid Árann. Fáilte fé leith roimh na h-imreoirí, na h-oifigigh agus an reiteoir agus tá súil agam go mbeidh sar chluicha spoiriúla againn.

Welcome all to Leahy Park, Cashel for the 2014 final of the Tipperary Senior Football Championship. The unique pairing of Cahir and Loughmore-Castleiney in today's final adds to the sense of expectation to a game that has the pundits divided on the possible outcome.

The improving standard of Tipperary football is no doubt filtering through to the club scene at all levels with both today's finalists coming through a number of very competitive games on their paths to a final that promises to be a tight contest.

Loughmore-Castleiney, the reigning champions, having completed a first ever double by any club in Tipperary last year, are attempting to retain the title for what will be a first ever two in a row football titles for the club – a record this team of quality players will no doubt be eager to achieve.

Cahir, the surprise package of the Championship, are an improving side who have been moulded into a formidable team. Having last won the title in 2003, this Cahir team is special in that it boasts a number of experienced players who have integrated well with quality young players to form a team with all the attributes to be a match for the best. This final has all the ingredients to be an epic encounter.

In wishing both teams the best of good luck, I wish to express the same sentiment to the match officials. Paddy Russell is one of a growing number of quality referees that Tipperary can be proud of.

It's all to play for, the scene is set for what promises to be an enjoyable contest.

**SEOSAIMH Ó hANNAGÁIN**

## Buiochas

We hope you enjoy reading today's programme. It has been produced with the assistance of Tom Maher (Assistant County Secretary), Eddie Loneragan (Cahir Secretary), Pat Healy (Loughmore-Castleiney PRO) and the Cahir and Loughmore-Castleiney clubs. Many thanks to Noel Dundon, Michael Dundon, Seamus J. King and John Guiton for contributing articles and to Arravale Rovers for the profiles of their players. A special word of thanks to Andy Jay, John D. Kelly and Bridget Delaney for their photographs.

GER CORBETT, Programme Editor



- 1.08 CAHIR amach ar an bpáirc**
- 1.10 LOUGHMORE-CASTLEINEY amach ar an bpáirc**
- 1.25 Pre-Match Parade led by the Diarmuid Ó Hurley Pipe Band Cashel**
- 1.28 Amhrán na Bhfiann**
- 1.30 Tús an chluiche – Clean Ireland Recycling County Senior Football Final 2014**
- 2.02 Leath-am**
- 2.12 Tús an dara leath**
- 2.45 Críoch an chluiche**
- 2.50 Presentation of the Corn Uí Dhuibhir (Dwyer Cup) to the winning captain by Seosamh Ó hAnnagáin, Cathaoirleach Coiste Péil Tiobraid Árann, followed by presentation of “Man of the Match” award (Sponsored by John Quirke jewellers, Cahir)**

## MATCH OFFICIALS

<i>Referee:</i>	<b>PADDY RUSSELL</b> (Lattin-Cullen)
<i>Standby Ref:</i>	<b>Brian Tyrrell</b> (Clonmel Commercials)
<i>Linesman:</i>	<b>Michael Duffy</b> (Arravale Rovers)
<i>Sideline Official:</i>	<b>Padraig Skeffington</b> (Cashel King Cormacs)
<i>Umpires:</i>	Seamus Currivan (Golden Kilfeacle), Mark Russell (Lattin-Cullen), Tommy Fitzgerald (Solohead), James Ryan (Arravale Rovers).



**Paddy Russell**

## Referee Paddy Russell whistles a merry tune

**E**MILY MAN Paddy Russell takes charge of this afternoon's Clean Ireland Recycling County senior football final and he is a man well used to this gig. In fact, he is certainly Tipperary's most experienced football referee and despite the long service given – he has been refereeing since he was seventeen years of age – he is still enjoying it and loving the interaction with players, clubs and Gaels of the county.

Having scaled the heights and refereed at the highest level in the country, Paddy says that on the county scene nothing quite beats the thrill of officiating at the flagship occasion in the code in The Premier County. County Final day is where each referee aspires to be, just like All-Ireland Final day is where it is at for those on the inter-county panel.

“You always get a great buzz when you get the call for the County Final. It is the biggest day in the county and to be involved in it is a major honour. I suppose referees are like players in that you can have good days and you can have bad days. But, just like players, you prepare and train for all days and just hope that it works out for you when you take to the pitch. Sometimes it runs well and you make all the right calls, but sometimes it doesn't work out as you might have planned either. You have to take the

rough with the smooth and just move on,” Paddy says.

There is a major recruitment drive on in Tipperary at the present time for referees and Paddy Russell is one case-in-point of a man who loves doing what he is doing, and who would encourage anyone with a remote interest in becoming a knight of the whistle, to do so.

“Refereeing is very rewarding and it keeps you involved in the game on the pitch. Of course you will have cases where people are giving out and stuff is going on, but by and large there aren't too many problems at all. In fact, I have found that where lads might have been shouting in at me or giving out, they generally come back later and apologise for their actions. I know what it is like to be on the sideline too and when Emly are playing you'd be very biased in your view. I suppose from my experience as a referee, I can see the two sides of the story, whereas most of those who get excited on the sideline or on the field, can only see one side of the story.

“We certainly need new blood and more referees and I would love to see the clubs of the county responding and recruiting a few more. As I said, it is a very satisfying job and I am thoroughly enjoying it,” Paddy said.

We wish Paddy and his officials all the best for the final this afternoon and many more years of happy whistling.

*Welcome from*



**Clean Ireland Recycling**

cleanireland.ie

FRONT SPONSOR OF TIPPERARY GAA HURLING & FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP 2014

## ***Cahir's 2nd county title or Loughmore-Castleiney's 13th in Leahy Park***

*– a message from club championship sponsors Clean Ireland Recycling*

**I**N A YEAR in which Tipperary senior footballers clearly emerged as a football force, Clean Ireland Recycling joins you in eager anticipation of today's final.

Football Final day in Tipperary is a special occasion for football fans from across the Premier County and much further afield but, for a variety of reasons, today has even more to offer than normal.

It's Cahir's first appearance in the final since Galtee Rovers defeated them in 2008 but they will have special memories of 2003 when they won their first and only title, defeating near neighbours Ardfinnan.

Then there's the intrigue of Loughmore-Castleiney's pursuit of back-to-back county football titles following their unique double in 2013 when they won both senior hurling and football county titles. Indeed since the turn of the century, nine different teams have claimed the O'Dwyer Cup but no one has won back-to-back titles since Moyle Rovers' three-in-a-row from 1998-2000.

There's a feast of football to look forward to as some of the best players in Tipperary take to the field in search of coveted county honours.

County final day is, indeed, a special one in Tipperary and Clean Ireland Recycling is proud and privileged to be associated with it. This is our second year as sponsors of both the Tipperary hurling and football championships and though we all look forward to the blue riband event that today undeniably is, we have been equally delighted to see first-hand the incredible effort and delight in successes and participation across all ranks and levels, from minor up to senior.

As a family founded and owned business operating in every parish across the county, we appreciate the amazing grass roots collective that is the GAA here in Tipperary.

A word of congratulations also has to go to all involved in staging today's event. Clean Ireland Recycling's success is very much built on logistics and we understand the effort required to ensure everything goes off smoothly today and on time. So well done all.

As a company we have been proud to be recognised over three successive years at a national level with the Repak Award for Kerbside Collection Service of the Year, which essentially means we are standard bearers in what we do. That hasn't come easy but, rather, with both perspiration and inspiration. The winners today will require both these characteristics along the way and, save for a draw, by the time the victor climbs the steps to accept the O'Dwyer Cup, we will have got to enjoy another memorable day no doubt of football in Leahy Park.

**CAROLINE WALSH**  
Financial Controller



FRONT COVER PHOTOGRAPHS – Aidan Casey (Cahir) by Andy Jay and Evan Sweeney  
(Loughmore-Castleiney) by John D. Kelly.



# Form and tradition favours reigning champions

By: MICHAEL DUNDON



**T**IPPERARY football is in a good place right now. The county senior side won promotion to division three of the National Football League this year, and is looking forward to meeting some of the 'bigger guns' in competition in the new year. Under-age structures in the county are operating effectively and Tipperary sides are competing with a fair measure of success against all opposition.

Against this background is set the county senior football final which features the holders, Loughmore-Castleiney and Cahir. First off, it must be said that it is regrettable that whichever club triumphs, there will be no opportunity for them to measure themselves against Munster opposition. What a disappointment for the two clubs involved to be deprived of the honour of flying the county banner in the prestigious Munster Club Championship.

No point in allocating blame now but this is something which should not happen again. Championship structures need to be examined to avoid a recurrence. Providing additional games for clubs is an admirable ambition but if too many games are meaningless and lead to a protracted and somewhat confusing schedule, are they really serving a purpose?

That's for another time. Right now the issue is whether Loughmore-Castleiney, who made their own piece of history last year by winning both senior hurling and senior football championships, can hold on to their football crown and O'Dwyer Cup in the face of opposition from a Cahir side which has surprised many by reaching the final. At the start of the year, not many would have tipped Cahir to reach the decider, but they are here on merit and optimism is high that they will take this campaign to the ultimate level.

In the semi-final they accounted for the 2011 champions and beaten finalists last year, Thomas MacDonaghs. Prior to that, in the quarter-final, they saw off Éire Óg, Anacarty/Donohill after a replay. The extra game will be standing to Cahir at this stage as they were waiting in the wings for a considerable time for the business end of the cham-

pionship to get under way.

Loughmore-Castleiney have taken advantage of their elimination from the hurling championship to sharpen their football skills and in their semi-final repeated their win over Aherlow Gaels, the 2010 champions. Their first half display in that game was as good as they have given for a long time and they will be hoping for more of the same in today's final.

The Mid Tipperary side have long been the division's main standard-bearers at the business end of the football championship and this looks set to continue as they blend promising youngsters with seasoned campaigners in seamless fashion. In John and Liam McGrath they have two of the brightest attacking stars in the county. Noel McGrath is the play-maker supreme for them, while David Kennedy, Tom King, and Evan Sweeney are players with a wealth of experience at the top level.

Cahir are not lacking in this department either and several of their squad have worn the county jersey with distinction at various levels. Goalkeeper Brian Enright, Benny Hickey, Paddy O'Flaherty and Robbie Costigan have proved their quality against the best in the game and with able support from the Caseys, Eddie Kenrick, and Dean Loneragan, this is a formidable Cahir outfit with serious ambitions.

So who will win? Form, and tradition favours the reigning champions. They have shown that they have

what it takes and if they play to their best, they will take some stopping. They also have John Meagher, the All-Ireland winning minor fullback of three years ago, back in action again after being sidelined through injury for much of the summer. He came on as a sub in their semi-final win and his availability is a welcome option for the management.

Cahir will say, and rightly so, that champions are there to be beaten. The South representatives are in a confident vein of form at present and the momentum they have built up could carry them to the success they have craved for so long.

Essentially, it boils down to which side performs on the day. As in all sport, that is an imponderable which only time will determine. No doubt these clubs will produce a contest worthy of the county final and which will do justice to their respective talents.





# James McGRATH

## CAHIR CAPTAIN

By: NOEL DUNDON



**H**aving been there in 20013 when Cahir last won the O'Dwyer Cup, Captain James McGrath is perhaps better placed than anyone to appreciate the importance of getting to the County Final, and the fact that the chance might not come around too soon again.

The attacker has been plying his trade for the South men for many years and as he moves into the 'experienced' bracket now alongside the likes of Benny Hickey, Brian Enright, Padraig Whelan and Paddy O'Flaherty, he knows that an opportunity like today's might not come around too soon again.

"We have been going now for more than a year. We were back training this time last year even before Tom McGlinchey came to us and we decided that we were going to give it a real go for 2014. We never thought that the season would be so long, but when you are winning games and making progress through the championship, you don't mind it dragging on all that much," he says.

Cahir have been in the mix over the last few seasons – last year's exit to Aherlow was particularly hurtful – and when they got together to set out their plans for this year, there was a real determination to push on and make a big play for silverware. There have been many scary moments along the way, but James points to a spine of steel which has been developed in recent months and which has helped to get them over the line, when they might not have done so in the past.

"I think that is something Tom has brought to us and Colm O'Flaherty too and Paul Frazer. They have a good mix on the sideline – they don't panic and that is showing with us on the field too. We take things as they come and we have reacted to dangerous situations throughout the season and managed to use our experience to get us out of trouble. Tom always

(Photo: Andy Jay)

says that football is more than just football. You have to have belief as well and they have managed to instill that sense of belief in us this season," he says.

There are quite a few of the class of 2003 involved still at this stage and while people may point to their experience as being vital, James also alludes to the younger guns in the squad who have added hugely to the sense of renewal and enthusiasm. Even recently Eddie Kendrick returned home from Canada and added another spark to the team – a spark which may just be powerful enough to ignite the fuse which could down the county champions.

"It's a big task for us, facing the county champions and what champions they are. We have huge respect for them and for what they achieved last year – an amazing feat really. But, we are going to Cashel to focus on what we can do and it would be a tremendous achievement if we could pry the silverware from them. We'll certainly be going all out to do it," James said.

“ You have to have belief and management have instilled that sense of belief in us this season. ”

## Friends of Tipperary Football – Big plans for 2015

By: JOHN GUITON



**T**HE Friends of Tipperary Football are planning a major fundraising drive in 2015.

Details of an initiative to support the development and promotion of football in the Premier County will be revealed early in the new year, while plans are also in the pipeline for the staging of another fundraising golf classic and a series of monster bingo sessions. The 'Friends' will leave no stone unturned in their efforts to support all teams to the maximum at a very exciting stage in the history of Tipperary football.

2014 will be remembered, especially, for the huge success of Tipp senior footballers in winning the National League, Division Four crown, and their high-profile championship performances. The players and team management of Peter Creedon, Michael O'Loughlin, Tommy Toomey, Eoghan Cooney, Gerry McGill, Michael McGeehan, and Haley Harrison, were the subject of much favourable comment from many leading GAA pundits such as former All-Ireland winning Offaly Manager, Journalist Eugene McGee. The well-known author expects Tipp to make a big impact in the national league and championship next year.

In keeping with a fruitful season on the playing fields, the Friends enjoyed a most successful year. The 'feel good factor' surrounding Tipp's growing reputation in the football world was reflected in the outstanding success of the 'Friends' events, the main feature being the annual Mr Mister Menswear, Cahir, sponsored Golf Classic.

Many of Tipperary's best known GAA names were among over seventy teams who took to the majestic Thurles golf course on July



*Hugh Coghlan, Secretary of Friends of Tipperary Football, making a presentation of two All-Ireland Football tickets to the winner of 'Friends' 2014 draw, Martin Ryan, Ballyluskey, Drangan. On right is Liam Barrett, Grohane, Ballingarry, seller of the winning ticket and member of the Friends of Tipperary Football.*

19th in one of the great occasions of the sporting year in the county. Many of Tipp's GAA luminaries of yesteryear joined forces with the stars of the modern era in a spectacular event aimed at supporting the preparation and development of our football teams in all grades.

With Tipperary football riding the crest of a wave, Premier County fans were anxious to show their support for the endeavours of team management, players, and all associated with the various county squads. Chief organiser of the classic Martin O'Dwyer and his team received a massive response to their months of first class planning and preparation, and are deeply appreciative to the teams who participated in the event. They also express their gratitude to the many commercial concerns and individuals who provided generous sponsorship towards the funding of the classic, Thurles Golf Club for putting their facilities at the disposal of the organisers, and the very

*Continued on page 17 ➤*



# Cahir



The Cahir panel prior to their semi-final victory over Thomas MacDonaghs. (Photo: Andy Jay)

**T**ODAY Cahir contest its third County Senior Football Final, having won one and lost one.

In 2003 we were successful against Ardfinnan, winning our first Co. Senior Football Title. In 2008 we lost out to Galtee Rovers by 2 points.

To day we have a blend of experienced players from those teams and some talented young footballers. Survivors from 2003 are Brian Enright, Robbie Costigan, Benny Hickey, Paddy O'Flaherty, James McGrath, Padraig Whelan, Diarmuid Tarrant, Tom O'Gorman and Noel O'Gorman and Paul Frazer who is a selector today.

In recent years Robbie Costigan played for Tipperary and Munster, winning an inter-provincial and a Tommy Murphy Cup medal as well as a NFL Division 3 medal and a McGrath Cup medal. Benny Hickey and Brian Enright also won Tommy Murphy Cup medals. Ger Hally and Paul McEvoy won Munster Under-21 Football medals in 2010 while Dean Lonergan and Eoin Donaghy were part of the All-Ireland winning Minor panel of 2011. Ger Hally won a Division 4 NFL medal in 2014.

During the last 10 years we have developed a second field with access to two school fields in the new Duneske complex. Much voluntary work has gone into developing the fields and we are forever indebted to these unsung heroes who gave and continue

to give their time to develop and maintain the fields and look after the teams.

This year we have fully enclosed our Duneske field and erected new ball stop nets. This has secured our property and made it much safer for children.

There are currently over thirty teams being catered for by the Senior, Juvenile, Ladies Football and Camogie clubs and it is a sight to behold all four pitches being played on fine Summer evenings. Our very successful "Draw the Joker" fundraiser is held every Sunday night and this ensures funds are available for training teams, maintaining fields and planning further development.

We wish the team and management the best of luck today and hope they can bring home this coveted County title.

## Club Officers

*Chairman:*  
John O'Connor

*Secretary:*  
Eddie Lonergan

*Treasurer:*  
Micheál Fahy

*PRO:*  
Ger O'Brien

## Team Management

*Manager:* Tom McGlinchey

*Selectors:* Colm O'Flaherty  
Paul Frazer

*Physio:* Karen Coughlan

*Kit Manager:* Gavin Berry

## PLAYER PROFILES

	Age	Occupation
<b>Aidan Casey</b>	26	Farmer
<b>Conor Casey</b>	20	Student, UCD
<b>Liam Casey</b>	19	UCD Student
<b>Robert Costigan</b>	32	Teacher/Business Analyst
<b>Eoin Donaghy</b>	20	Student
<b>Brian Enright</b>	2	Retail manager
<b>Ian Flannery</b>	19	Student
<b>Gerald Hally</b>	25	CS Rep.
<b>Benny Hickey</b>	35	Electrician
<b>Liam Howard</b>	20	Student
<b>Eddie Kendrick</b>	23	Fish Monger
<b>Dean Lonergan</b>	21	Plumber
<b>James McGrath</b>	32	Carpenter, MBC Timber Frame

	Age	Occupation
<b>Niall McKenna</b>	19	Student
<b>Johnny McMahon</b>	23	Butcher
<b>Edmond Meehan</b>	24	Electrician
<b>Shane Murphy</b>	23	Goods in Manager
<b>Mikey O'Connor</b>	18	Student. UL
<b>Sean O'Connor</b>	23	Farmer
<b>Evan O'Dwyer</b>	22	Postman
<b>Paddy O'Flaherty</b>	31	Sales Rep., Gas Networks Ireland
<b>Noel O'Gorman</b>	32	Fitter
<b>Tom O'Gorman</b>	34	Aircraft Engineer
<b>Diarmuid Tarrant</b>	34	Electrician
<b>Padraig Whelan</b>	31	Teacher



*Cahir and Thomas MacDonaghs players tussle for possession of the football during the semi-final.  
(Photo: Andy Jay)*

## PATH TO THE FINAL

Date	Versus	Round	Venue	Score
07/05/14	Moyne/Templetuohy	1	Boherlahan	0-18 to 2-11
15/05/14	Clonmel Óg	2	Monroe	0-13 to 0-05
02/08/14	Arravale Rovers	4	New Inn	1-11 to 0-11
20/08/14	Commercials	5	Monroe	1-11 to 1-09
30/11/14	Éire Óg Annacarty	Q/F	Cashel	3-06 to 0-15
07/12/14	Éire Óg Annacarty	Q/F Replay	Cashel	0-10 to 0-05
14/12/14	Thomas MacDonaghs	S/F	Templetuohy	2-10 to 3-05



# Cahir



Dathanna: Bán agus Glas



16. **EVAN O'DWYER**  
E. Ó Dubhuir

19. **JOHNNY McMAHON**  
S. Mac Mathúna

22. **EDMUND MEEHAN**  
E. Ó Miacháin

25. **NIALL McKENNA**  
N. Mac Cionaoith

17. **DIARMUID TARRANT**  
D. Ó Toráin

20. **TOM O'GORMAN**  
T. Ó Gormáin

23. **NOEL O'GORMAN**  
E. Ó Gormáin

18. **EOIN DONAGHY**  
E. Mac Donnchaidh

21. **LIAM HOWARD**  
L. Ó hIomhair

24. **IAN FLANNERY**  
I. Ó Flannabhra

## ROGHNÓIRÍ

Manager: Tom McGlinchey. Selectors: Colm O'Flaherty, Paul Frazer.  
Physio: Karen Coughlan Kit Manager: Gavin Berry.



# Loughmore-Castleiney

*Dathanna:* Glas agus Dearg



16. <b>RICHIE MAHER</b> R. Ó Meachair	20. <b>TOMMY MAHER</b> T. Ó Meachair	24. <b>DIARMUID BRENNAN</b> D. Ó Braonáin	28. <b>DINNY BRERETON</b> D. Bréartún	32. <b>SHANE NOLAN</b> S. Ó Nualláin
17. <b>DEREK BOURKE</b> D. de Búrca	21. <b>JOHN MEAGHER</b> S. Ó Meachair	25. <b>SHANE HENNESSY</b> S. Ó hAonasa	29. <b>BRIAN McGRATH</b> B. Mac Craith	33. <b>JOHNNY CAMPION</b> S. Caímpion
18. <b>TOMMY LONG</b> T. Ó Longáin	22. <b>JOSEPH HENNESSY</b> S. Ó hAonasa	26. <b>BILL O'CONNELL</b> B. Ó Conaill	30. <b>PADDY MOYNIHAN</b> P. Ó Muineacháin	
19. <b>JOSEPH NYLAND</b> S. Ó Nualláin	23. <b>CIAN HENNESSY</b> C. Ó hAonasa	27. <b>HENRY MAHER</b> A. Ó Meachair	31. <b>EDDIE CONNOLLY</b> E. Ó Conghaile	

## ROGHNÓIRÍ

*Manager:* Declan Laffan. *Selectors:* Seamus Bohan, Pat McGrath. *Trainer:* Alan O'Connor.  
*Physio:* Cathy Doran. *Equipment:* Kieran Kiely, Kevin Stapleton



# Loughmore-Castleiney

**T**ODAY the Loughmore-Castleiney club will be bidding for a 13th County senior football title, and also aiming to achieve another piece of history by putting back-to-back senior titles together.

Rated as one of the strongest dual clubs in the Country, County football titles have been won in 1914, '40, '46, '55, '73, '77, '79, '83, '87, '92, 2004 and 2013. Although only stepping up to senior ranks in 1981, County hurling titles have been won in 1988, 2007 and 2013 and were crowned Munster club champions in 2007/08 season.

However, 2013 will long be remembered in the parishes of Loughmore/Castleiney as the club gained immortality by winning both football and hurling senior titles, thus becoming the first club to do so in the County. The hurlers were captained by Ciaran McGrath with Derek Bourke lifting the O'Dwyer Cup to make history. Excellent performances were also displayed in the Munster club championship, defeated by Na Piarisigh, Limerick (hurling) and Dr. Crokes, Kerry in football.

Over the last few years our club rooms at Cuiguilla were redeveloped with new dressing rooms and kitchen, toilets, referees room etc where a major fund raiser over a few years by many helping hands cleared the financial

debt shortly after completion.

Perhaps in recent years when finances are difficult to come by for the everyday running of the club, the weekly club lotto along with the County Board Draw, are the main income to the club. Following our highest jackpot figure of €17,500 won some months ago, it now stands at €6,650.

It would be remiss not to mention the great work of the juvenile club who week after week look after the young boys and girls of the parish and have some very good teams in the making at present.

Finally we would like to thank all our sponsors who subscribe so generously to the club and help our training fund. Also to our excellent supporters who never fail to turn out in the many different climates that prevail for our games.

**Pat Healy (PRO)**

## Team Management

<i>Manager:</i>	Declan Laffan
<i>Selectors:</i>	Pat McGrath Seamie Bohan
<i>Physio:</i>	Cathy Doran
<i>Trainer:</i>	Alan O'Connor
<i>Equipment:</i>	Kieran Kiely, Kevin Stapleton



Loughmore-Castleiney's Liam Treacy breaks through the challenge of Arravale Rovers Conor McManus in the quarter-final.

(Photo: John D. Kelly)

## PLAYER PROFILES

	Age	Occupation
Shane Nolan	24	Teacher
Joseph Hennessy	20	Student
Derek Bourke	30	Engineer
Lorcan Egan	20	Student
Aidan McGrath	23	Student
David Kennedy	37	Garda
Tom King	33	Civil Servant
Ciaran McGrath	26	Civil Servant
Tomás McGrath	22	Student
John McGrath	20	Student
Liam Treacy	21	Student
Noel McGrath	23	Bank Official
Liam McGrath	21	Student
Evan Sweeney	30	Civil Servant
Cian Hennessy	24	Fund Banker
Willie Eviston	23	Works in Insurance
Tommy Long	33	Intel employee

	Age	Occupation
Joseph Nyland	19	Student
Johnny Campion	26	Works in Insurance
John Ryan	23	Student
Tommy Maher	20	Student
Bill O'Connell	18	Student
Diarmuid Brennan	27	Agricultural Rep
Henry Maher	23	College Graduate
Paddy Moynihan	24	Engineer
Denis Brereton	20	Student
Brian McGrath	20	Student
Shane Hennessy	26	Teacher
Eddie Connolly	29	Bank Official
Dominic Brennan	38	Teacher
John Meagher	21	Student
Eamon Connolly	23	Student
Richie Maher	21	Student

### Club Officers

*Chairman:*  
Dick Egan  
*Secretary:*  
Tom McGrath  
*Treasurer:*  
Jim Nolan  
*PRO:*  
Pat Healy

### PATH TO THE FINAL:

Loughmore-Castleiney 3-06,	Thomas McDongahs 1-04
Loughmore-Castleiney 1-13,	Ardfinnan 0-11
Loughmore-Castleiney 1-11,	Ballyporeen 1-10
Loughmore-Castleiney 1-08,	JK Brackens 1-11 (Mid)
Loughmore-Castleiney 0-10,	JK Brackens 0-06 (County)
Loughmore-Castleiney 0-12,	Arravale Rovers 0-09 (Q.F.)
Loughmore-Castleiney 3-05,	Aherlow Gaels 0-08 (S.F.)



(Photo: Bridget Delaney)

Loughmore-Castleiney Management (from left): Seamus Bohan, Declan Laffan (Manager) and Pat McGrath.



# David KENNEDY

LOUGHMORE-CASTLEINEY CAPTAIN

By: NOEL DUNDON



THE prospects of veteran Loughmore-Castleiney captain David Kennedy lifting the O'Dwyer Cup this afternoon have made for a very exciting few days for the midfielder who has been playing senior for his club for a remarkable 21 years.

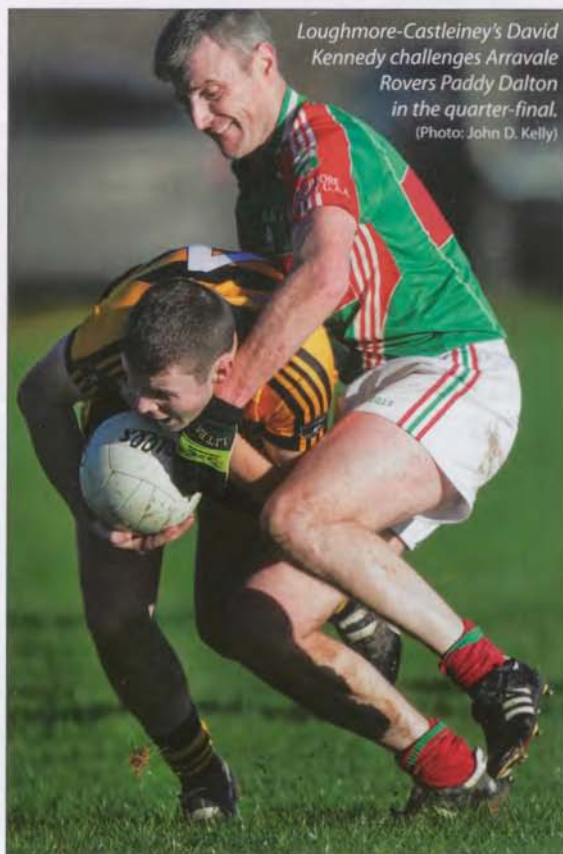
When it comes to name checking great clubmen and guys who have been at the coalface and given their all for their colours, David Kennedy will surely be in the mix. He was renowned for his commitment when lining out in the heart of the Tipperary defence back in 2001 when the Liam McCarthy Cup was captured and he also played football at the highest level for The Premier County, both at underage and adult levels.

But, his status within Loughmore-Castleiney is legendary and having won two county senior football titles already, adding a third would be extra special, given his role as captain.

"I never captained Loughmore-Castleiney to win anything really so this would be a real joy if we were to win today. I have two county senior football medals but I also lost a share of finals to the likes of Aherlow, Ardfinnan, Moyle Rovers and Commercials. I suppose in a club like ours, over the last few years, we have been fortunate to be in the shake-up in both the football and hurling, and

you always have a realistic chance of getting to the county final. That helps to keep you motivated and drives you on as a player," David says.

Having an addition to the family back in April and with a 156 mile round trip from his home in Naas to Castleiney for training, it would have been easy for David to walk away from the club on many occasions. It's not



Loughmore-Castleiney's David Kennedy challenges Arravale Rovers Paddy Dalton in the quarter-final.  
(Photo: John D. Kelly)

easy leaving his wife Karen with the two kids – Daire and Cillian – for a few hours, a few times a week. Karen, a Killarney lady does not hail from a strong GAA family. Rather it is rally driving and rowing which occupies their spare time. But, when she became embroiled in the Kennedy family, she quickly learned of the kind of lengths David and his brothers Philip, Noel and John would go to for the green and red of the club. There is great back-up in the family for David and he deeply appreciates the support from all quarters.

"I love going to training and I suppose when we finished up last year after the Munster Club and the with the new arrival, it was late April or May before I came back. That was the longest spell I had been out, but I loved getting back into it. I'm fortunate that I tend to keep my fitness and thankfully injuries have been avoided. I look at some of the lads now like Liam and John McGrath

“Lifting the O'Dwyer Cup would be very special for me.”

and John Meagher and see the amount of time they are losing through injury and I just count myself very fortunate not to have had that kind of layoff during my career," he says.

David Kennedy is one of the games good guys – a player whose honesty, on and off the field, allied to his total dedication to his club and county, make him stand apart. It would be fabulous to see him lead his side to retain the county championship.

Cahir, however, might not be so accommodating and will have other ideas. Either way, the chances are David will be back again in 2015 doing what he loves and for the club he loves too.

many people who helped in the organisation surrounding the event.

'Friends' Chairperson Michael Power (Moycarkey-Borris) expressed his "delight at the outstanding success of the 2014 classic" and highlighted the "tremendous goodwill and support that exists for Tipperary football in what has been a very progressive season."

The Chairperson extends his gratitude to the general public for their generosity and kindness in supporting other fundraising events, including monster bingo sessions held in the beautiful Dome at Semple Stadium and a draw for All-Ireland football tickets. Martin Ryan, Drangan, was the winner of the pair of All-Ireland tickets. The winning draw ticket was sold by 'Friends' committee member, Liam Barrett.



*Hugh Coghlan, Secretary of Friends of Tipperary Football, making a presentation of set of gloves on behalf of 'Friends' to Tipperary senior football team captain Paddy Codd to mark the team's memorable 2014 league and championship campaign.*



*Michael Power (left), Chairperson of Friends of Tipperary Football, presenting a laptop on behalf of the 'Friends' group to Tommy Toomey, analyst with Tipperary senior footballers in recognition of the team's success in the National League and Championship of 2014.*

As 2015 beckons, the 'Friends' invite new members to join their ranks. Should you wish to help the committee on the ongoing programme of support for our teams you are welcome to contact any member of 'Friends'. The committee would also very much appreciate offers of financial sponsorship for its many planned activities in 2015.

At the recent annual meeting the following 'Friends' officers were re-elected for 2015 – Chairperson: Michael Power (Moycarkey-Borris); Vice Chairperson: Barry O'Brien (Fr Sheehy's Clogheen); Secretary: Hugh Coghlan (Moynety-Templetuohy); Treasurer: Michael Power





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# Arravale win County Senior Football title in their Centenary Year

By: SEAMUS J. KING



**A**RRVALE ROVERS won the county senior football title of 1985 when they defeated Loughmore-Castleiney in a replayed final at Leahy Park, Cashel on November 17th. In doing so they bridged a forty-four year gap and celebrated their centenary year in the best possible way.

There wasn't much promise of future glory in the team's performances in the O'Donoghue Cup early in the year. In four games they lost three and won one, conceding 3-32 while scoring 2-16. The selectors, Seamus O'Donoghue, Dan Sheridan, Sean Moore and Jimmy O'Connell, were so con-

cerned that they organised a series of challenge games in preparation for the championship clash with Emly.

While Arravale's performance was an improvement on the team's display against the same opposition in the O'Donoghue Cup, they still lost to Emly by 0-10 to 1-4 in the first round game. The championship had eight teams and it was run on a knockout and losers group basis that turned out to be most unsatisfactory. It took from May 5th to August 2nd to complete the first round game between Lattin-Cullen and Cashel. Then because of the unavailability of Cappawhite and Galtee Rovers to play the West final in time to meet county deadlines, the board nominated Galtee Rovers and Arravale Rovers to play in the county

## PLAYER PROFILES

### 1. **TOM TWOMEY (Capt)**

Very Agile with a long kick out. He was an outstanding captain. Tommy served with the club for many years as a player and coach/manager before becoming a Senior Football Selector with Tipperary.

### 2. **JOE BROWNE**

Mayo man known for his high fielding and tenacious tackling. His positional play and reading of the game were outstanding traits in one of the most popular men ever to wear the number two jersey for Arravale.

### 3. **PAT McCORMACK**

Pat also fondly known as the Bomber gave sterling service to Arravale for a long number of years. He was renowned for his

high fielding and all round toughness in the edge of the square. Represented his county at Senior level for many years.

### 4. **DAVID WALSH**

Youngest member of the backline known for his football prowess and ball handling skills. David was outstanding throughout the campaign. Corner back in the 1984 Minor All Ireland final and also played U21 for his native county.

### 5. **WILLIE MADDEN**

From Liscarroll in the County Cork Willie was known for his fielding, positional play and wonderful distribution. Played with both codes with equal excellence until work commitments took him from us

after a short number of years.

### 6. **TOM RICHARDSON**

One of the team leaders on the field Tom was slight of frame but more than made up for that with his excellent ball skills and all round football sense. He went on to give wonderful years as club chairman, team coach, fundraiser etc until his untimely early passing. He is sadly missed to this day.

### 7. **DENIS KENNEALLY**

Flamboyant wing back with great speed, known for his attacking play from wing back and urging of team mates when heads would be down. Denis was also not slow to make his feelings known when he did not agree with some on field





**ARRAVAL ROVERS – County Champions 1985.** Back row (l.-r.): Richard Crowe, Pat McCormack, Billy Cronin, Joe Browne, Paul Landers, Willie Gilsonen, Tony Meagher, James 'Jayo' O'Donoghue (RIP), Brendan Fogarty, Willie Crowe, Pat Kelly, Willie Madden, Martin Lowry, Karl Lowry. Front row (l.-r.): Jimmy Lowry, Arthur Ryan, Johnny Lowry, Denis Kenneally, Tommy Toomey, Tom Richardson (RIP), Davy Walsh, Damien Quinlan, Barry Walsh, John Conroy (RIP), Michael McCarthy, John Crowe and Willie Dillon.

quarter-finals. The West final was eventually played on December 1st and Galtee Rovers won their 13th title.

In the meantime the losers group was played and Arravale Rovers showed a marked improvement on earlier performances. They defeated Golden-Kilfeacle by 3-7 to 0-5 on July 13th and Lattin-Cullen by 1-5 to 0-0 on August 11th. Arravale had, therefore, to play the runners-up in the West final for the right to go forward to the county quarter-finals as the division's second team but, as we saw above, the West final didn't take place and

Cappawhite sportingly agreed to Arravale accompanying Galtee into the quarter-finals. The play-off game between Arravale and Cappawhite was never played as it had lost all relevance by December.

#### QUARTER-FINAL

In this manner Arravale found themselves competing for county honours when they played county champions, Fethard, in the quarter-final at Cahir on September 15th. It wasn't the best opposition for a team that had struggled to get through the West division. However, the introduction of some

decisions. Very popular with his team mates.

#### 8. WILLIE CROWE

One of the great high fielders of a football this was never more evident than in the second half of the replay when he won ball after ball to get his forwards moving. Tipperary Footballer of the year in 1985 - a richly deserved honour. Played Junior and Senior Football with his County for a number of years. Starred with the club for years at both hurling and football.

#### 9. PAUL LANDERS

Paul was a wonderful skilful footballer blessed with speed skill and all round natural football ability. With his midfield partner he was responsible for

many a score in the drawn game and reply. Also a terrific Irish dancer it was easy to see where he got his great footballing feet from. Played minor Football and Hurling for Tipperary.

#### 10. CARL LOWRY

Was introduced off the bench in the drawn game, starting the replay his work rate ball carrying and all-round skill helped to steady the ship when the going got tough. Played for his county on numerous of occasions.

#### 11. BRENDAN FOGARTY

Another of the younger players who had made his breakthrough to Seniors early in his career. Big strong bustling centre forward whom centre backs found hard to manage, Brendan was a

maker and scorer of many scores. He played a vital role in the goal which was to ultimately decide the game.

#### 12. TONY MEAGHER

From a proud Arravale family Tony was blessed with great feet, football intelligence and great free taking ability. He left a major imprint on both games with his will to win and many scores. Played under age and Senior for his County.

#### 13. BARRY WALSH

Small in size but full of skill, high work rate and all round football ability his contribution to the cause that November day was immense.

#### 14. WILLIAM (BILL) CRONIN

Known affectionately as "Big Bill"



Players and selectors of the Arravale Rovers 1985 County SFC team who were honoured at a fúntia in Ballyskisteon on December 14th 2014. Back row (l-r.): Denis Kenneally, Tony Meagher, Karl Lowry, Johnny Lowry, Willie Dillon, Jimmy Lowry, Tommy Lowry (representing his late father Martin), Pearse Richardson (representing his late father Tommy). Middle row (l-r.): John Crowe, Joe Browne, Willie Madden, Bill Cronin, Pat McCormack, Tommy Toomey, Paddy Kelly, Damien Quinlan, Seamus O'Donoghue (Selector). Front row (l-r.): Sean Moore (Selector), David Walsh, Josephine Ryan (representing her late father Dan Sheridan who was a selector), Nicole McLoughlin (representing her late brother Jayo O'Donoghue), Sadie Conroy (representing her late husband John Conroy), His Grace Most Rev. Dr. Dermot Clifford, Jimmy O'Connell (Selector). Not present: Paul Landers, Michael McCarthy, Willie Crowe, Richard Crowe, Brendan Fogarty, Arthur Ryan, Willie Gilsenan, Barry Walshe.

young blood from the minor team strengthened the Arravale side and one of these Johnny Lowry, made a major contribution to an unexpected victory.

The game was only five minutes old when Lowry rocked the champions with a goal.. Fethard gradually got a grip on things and led by 1-5 to 1-2 at the interval. However, Arravale re-started in a whirlwind

fashion and Lowry scored his second goal within five minutes following a pass from Billy Cronin. The game had still to be won and this happened through the speed of the younger Arravale forwards, ably assisted by their more experienced comrades and in the end they scored a sensational victory by 2-7 to 1-7 over most people's favourites.

he was the target man of the forward line and unselfishness led to many a score. Looked after the younger players in both finals like a father. When the need arose late in the game he travelled outfield to win many a tough aerial ball to calm the game. His contribution to Arravale over the years could never be questioned.

#### 15. JIMMY LOWRY

Another man following in a great family GAA tradition he was one of the younger team members. He was inspirational at corner forward and scored the goal that was to have a decisive say in the outcome of the game. Enjoyed a long and distinguished career with

Arravale at both hurling and football.

#### 16. PAT KELLY

Introduced in the closing stages this veteran of many a battle, he showed his worth with many a great tackle and ball carrier. His County medal was a well deserved honour for his many years of service. He was also physical trainer to the team.

#### 17. JAMES (JAYO) O'DONOGHUE

Played in the drawn final and made a huge contribution. He was one of the babies of the team and enjoyed a fine career both as a players and coach in his teaching days. Jayo's departing of this life at a young age devastated the entire

county GAA community.

#### 18. JOHNNY LOWRY

Another from a great GAA tradition he was also was one of the babies of the team who will ever forget his two goals and a point in the county quarter final v Fethard and his contribution in the semi final victory. He played at all levels of football for his county until his career was cut short by injury.

#### 19. ARTHUR RYAN

Another who played in the 85 championship and made a major contribution in getting the team to the final. Loyal member of the panel and very popular with his team mates.

#### 20. MICHAEL MCCARTHY

Michael was a veteran of the



## SEMI-FINAL

Arravale's opponents in the semi-final were Templemore and they beat them impressively at Holycross on October 27th. Arravale were on top from the word go but not until close to halftime did they put themselves in a comfortable position when they led by 2-6 to nil. The trend continued in the second half and Arravale were never threatened and well-deserved their facile victory of 4-10 to 1-2.

## FINAL

The county final was played at Cashel on November 3, with Loughmore-Castleiney the opposition.

Arravale led by 1-1 to 0-3 after a tense, unspectacular first half. They seemed to get a grip on proceedings in the early part of the second-half but they couldn't shake off Loughmore and a point by Pat McGrath brought the sides level and back to Cashel for the replay two weeks later.

**The Arravale team was as follows:** T. Toomey (Capt.), J. Browne, P. McCormack, D. Walsh, W. Madden, T. Richardson, D. Kenneally, P. Landers (0-1), W. Crowe, T. Meagher (0-2), B. Fogarty, J. O'Donoghue, Jimmy Lowry, Billy Cronin (1-0), Johnny Lowry.

**Subs:** C. Lowry, B. Walsh, P. Kelly.

**Referee:** Tommy Lonergan (Kilsheelan).



Tommy Toomey, Arravale Rovers Captain, receives the O'Dwyer Cup from Football Board Chairman Hugh Kennedy after the replay in Cashel.

## REPLAY

The replay was at Cashel on November 17th and both sides showed improvement on the drawn game. Arravale were probably that bit better in the first half but only showed a lead of 0-4 to 0-2 at the interval. Loughmore dominated the third quarter and drew level. A great performance by Willie Crowe prevented them getting in front and with fourteen minutes to go Arravale went ahead with a goal by Johnny Lowry. The closing quarter was hectic during which Arravale pulled out all the stops to hold on and win by 1-5 to 1-3.

It was a happy Hugh Kennedy, chairman of

panel who has played in and lost a previous county final. Another great clubman whose many talents as a person were used by the selectors as an example to all.

### 21. DAMIEN QUINLAN

Another young player whose loyalty to the club knew no bounds. Great footballers and hurler who won All Ireland Junior Hurling honours with his county.

### 22. MARTIN LOWRY

A young man and elder brother of Jimmy and Johnny, Martin gave his all to the cause when his many talents were needed. He was a highly respected member of the panel. Again like others his death at a young age

was a major blow to the club. His son Tommy is here today to represent his late father.

### 23. WILLIE GILSENAN

In any other club he would have been first choice goalie but for the excellence of Tommy. Willie gave long years of dedicated service to Arravale and was much admired. He went to also win a County Junior Football medal.

### 24. JOHN CROWE

Stalwart of many a battle John was also a loyal and hardworking clubman who gave years of dedicated playing service to the cause.

### 25. JOHN CONROY

John came to us from the North

of the County, but through his work and many years off playing hurling and football he was admired by all. Again his departure from this life at a relatively young age caused great sorrow to all in the club who got to know his many wonderful talents.

### 26. RICHARD CROWE

One of the three Crowe brothers on the panel Richard was always available when needed and played many a great game for the club.

### 27. WILLIE DILLON

A young man who played all grades of football for the club. Willie could always be relied upon to at all times give his best in all games.

the football board and loyal Arravale Rovers supporter, who presented the O'Dwyer Cup to winning captain, Tommy Toomey.

**Arravale Rovers:** Tommy Toomey (Capt.), Joe Browne, Pat McCormack, Davy Walsh, Willie Madden, Tommy Richardson, Denis Kenneally, Willie Crowe, Paul Landers, Carl Lowry, Tony Meagher (0-3), Brendan Fogarty (0-1), Barry Walsh (0-1), Billy Cronin, Jimmy Lowry (1-0). *Sub:* Paddy Kelly for Jimmy Lowry.

*Referee:* Tommy Lonergan (Kilsheelan).

## MUNSTER

Arravale Rovers had to lineout a week later in the Munster Club championship. The venue was Páirc Uí Chaoimh and their opponents were the Cork champions, St. Finbarr's. They were no match for their opponents. The Cork champions led by 2-6 to nil at half-time and were in front by 2-11 to 0-3 at the final whistle.

## Path to Final

### WEST:

26/05/1985 - Clonoulty:

Emly 0-10, Arravale Rovers 1-4

### LOSERS GROUP:

13/07/1985 - Bansha:

Arravale Rovers 3-7, Golden-Kilfeacle 0-5

11/08/1985 Emly:

Arravale Rovers 1-5, Lattin-Cullen 0-0

### PLAY-OFF:

Arravale Rovers v Cappawhite (not played)

### COUNTY:

QUARTER-FINAL - 15/09/1985 - Cahir:

Arravale Rovers 2-7 Fethard 1-7

SEMI-FINAL - 27/10/1985 - Holycross:

Arravale Rovers 4-10 Templemore 1-2

FINAL - 03/11/1985 - Cashel:

Arravale Rovers 1-5 Loughmore-Castleiney 0-8

REPLAY - 17/11/1985 - Cashel:

Arravale Rovers 1-5 Loughmore-Castleiney 1-3



Photographed are the Arravale Management at the match in Cork against St Finbarr's (l.-r.): Seamus O'Donoghue (Selector), Paddy Kelly (Coach), Dan Sheridan (RIP Selector), Jimmy O'Connell (Selector) and Sean Moore (Selector).

## A Banana Republic!

ONE OF sideshows to the controversy about the nomination of two teams from the West division for the county quarter-finals was a well-publicised clash between the division and the county chairman, Michael Lowry. After the West nominated its two teams following pressure from the county board, the latter decided to postpone a football quarter-final between Kilruane MacDonaghs and Templemore because of a junior hurling match involving Kilruane. If quarter-finals could be put back why had the West division to nominate? In response the West secretary, Jerry Ring, criticised the county board and the county chairman and suggested that perhaps the division would be better off doing its own business and ignoring deadlines. The county chairman reacted by reading a prepared statement at a county board meeting castigating Jerry Ring and stating there would be no Banana Republics in Tipperary while he was in his position!

In response the West board wrote to the County board giving full backing to Jerry Ring. The letter also condemned the statement made by the county chairman and sought an apology. No such apology was made and the controversy rumbled on for some months.





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