

South Tipperary Senior Hurling Final

Match Programme

1997

# The Avonmore South Tipperary **SENIOR HURLING FINAL**

Cluain Meala,  
16 ú Samhain, 1997  
(2.45 i.n.)

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# Fáilte ón gCathaoirleach

Is é mo phribhléid ar son choiste chontae Thiobrad Árann Theas, fáilte a chur róimh go léir don chluiche cheannais Iománaíocht sinnsear inniu.

Gabhaim buíochas leis na fóirne agus le na daoine a chabhraigh linn.

Tá súil agam go mbeidh cluiche breá spórtiúl againn agus go mbainfidh gach éinne taithneamh as an lá.

It is indeed a great privilege for me to welcome the Gaels of South Tipperary and beyond to our South Senior Hurling final. Both Ballingarry and Mullinahone have been tremendous ambassadors for our division in the County Championship. May I congratulate Mullinahone on their magnificent display of skill and sportsmanship in the county final, likewise Ballingarry for their excellent performance against Clonoulty Rossmore. It could well have been an all South County final.

Today's game, with the brilliant credentials of both teams promises to be an enthralling contest.

The senior hurling championship in this Division has been an unqualified success.

May I compliment all the teams who facilitated in making it such a wonderful year for hurling culminating in today's final.

Our sincere appreciation and thanks must go to our Senior Hurling Championship sponsors Avonmore. I wish the company every success in the future, on its enterprise as Avonmore/Waterford.

Finally best of luck to both teams and to Willie Barrett, our referee and his officials for today. We extend our appreciation to our loyal supporters and ask you to support our sponsors. I trust all will enjoy a most outstanding game of hurling.

Mise le Meas  
Seamus Ceitinn



## An Réiteoir



Willie Barrett

Willie Barrett (Ardfinnan) is widely recognised as one of the country's top referees. He has officiated in all grades at every level and his greatest honour came in 1994 with his selection as referee for the All-Ireland Senior Hurling Final.

As well as giving sterling service of 20 years as a referee Willie is a current vice-chairman of South Tipperary Board and a former treasurer of that body.

His umpires today are Richie Boyle, Michael O'Mahoney, Seán Barrett and Dinny Whelan.

Linesman Seamus Roche and Liam Barrett.



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# The 86th South Tipperary Senior Hurling Championship

The 86th running of the South Tipperary Senior Hurling Championship has undoubtedly been the most successful ever staged.

Launched under the banner of Avonmore and run on a league basis for the first time in many years the championship produced many high profile games played before large attendances. The seven participating teams each enjoyed six games in the league stages which began on April 20th and concluded on August 2nd. Because of Inter County commitments and free Sundays it was not possible to

play the semi finals until Sept. 21st. These saw Mullinahone overcome Cahir and Ballingarry and Killenaule played an exciting draw. Sadly Killenaule captain Larry Hayes (R.I.P.) was tragically killed in a traffic accident on the night of the semi-final and as a mark of respect the replay was postponed until October 5th. Ballingarry won the replay. Regrettably the final has been delayed as the South Division was forced to nominate for the county quarter finals. However its appeal today looks greater than ever.

Best of Luck to both teams.

## "For the credit of the little village" Knocknagow

C.J. Kickham's Football and Hurling Club Mullinahone and its players would like to thank all those who supported them in their recent attempt to win the county senior hurling title.

We wish to thank all our supporters inside and outside the parish and within and without the South division. We appreciate the good wishes of the South Board and its officers and the clubs around the county, including today's opponents.

Thank you to all those sponsors who

together kitted out our panel of players so well for the big day. Buíochas also to those gael's who contributed to our training fund. The colour in the lead up to the final and at the game was most heartening. "And their splendid dress was shining, 'twas the green above the red." Although we didn't win the final we feel that we have much to be proud of.

Tá súil agam to mbeidh lá eile ag an bPaorach.

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*Best of Luck to both Teams*



# South Tipperary Senior Hurling Champions Down the Years

1908	Glengoole	1930	Boherlahan	1952	Swan	1974	Swan
1909	Racecourse	1931	Killenaule	1953	Killenaule	1975	Carrick-on-Suir
1910	Racecourse	1932	Killenaule	1954	Killenaule	1976	Carrick-on-Suir
1911	St Ailbe's, Emly	1933	Swan	1955	Killenaule	1977	Carrick-on-Suir
1912	O'Leary's	1934	Moyglass	1956	P. Pearse's	1978	Swan
1913	Cashel	1935	Swan	1957	Na Piarasigh	1979	Carrick-on-Suir
1914	Cashel	1936	Swan	1958	Swan	1980	Ballingarry
1915	Boherlahan	1937	Fethard	1959	Swan	1981	St. Mary's
1916	Killenaule	1938	Fethard	1960	Marlfield	1982	St. Augustine's
1917	Boherlahan	1939	Swan	1961	Killenaule	1983	Swan
1918	none	1940	Killenaule C.Y.M.S.	1962	Marlfield	1984	Swan
1919	Fethard	1941	Killenaule C.Y.M.S.	1963	Killenaule	1985	Swan
1920	none	1942	Killenaule	1964	Marlfield	1986	Swan
1921	none	1943	Killenaule	1965	Carrick-on-Suir	1987	Ballingarry
1922	none	1944	Swan	1966	Carrick-on-Suir	1988	Killenaule
1923	Kilmoyler	1945	Swan	1967	Carrick-on-Suir	1989	Killenaule
1924	Boherlahan	1946	Swan	1968	B' Bacon Grange	1990	Swan
1925	Boherlahan	1947	Swan	1969	Carrick-on-Suir	1991	Killenaule
1926	Boherlahan	1948	Swan	1970	Marlfield	1992	Ballingarry
1927	Boherlahan	1949	Ballingarry	1971	Carrick-on-Suir	1993	Mullinahone
1928	Boherlahan	1950	Swan	1972	Carrick-on-Suir	1994	Ballingarry
1929	Boherlahan	1951	Coolmoynes	1973	Carrick-on-Suir	1995	Mullinahone
						1996	Ballingarry



*Pictured at the launch of Avonmore's sponsorship of the South Tipperary Senior Hurling Championship – John Duggan, Chairman Avonmore, Jimmy Keating, Chairman South Tipp Board G.A.A.*



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# Clonmel / Carrick-on-Suir Games Development Programme is up and running

On May 15th this year a special Games Development scheme for the urban areas of Clonmel and Carrick-on-Suir was launched in Clonmel GAA Centre by Munster Council Chairman, Noel Walsh.

The scheme, under full-time coach Johnny Cummins of Ardfinnan, is sponsored by the Munster Council and the County and South Boards and supported by the FÁS GAA coaching programme.

An ambitious programme has been embarked upon and with the active support of the clubs and schools great strides have been made:

The coaching scheme is active in the schools in both towns; Primary, Secondary, Vocational, boys and girls.

Summer camps were organised in St Olivers, Marlfield, St Marys/Commercials and Carrick, catering for 450 children.

6th class hurling and football blitzes were run off involving the schools in both towns and a further U13 blitz is planned before Christmas.

One day mini-leagues were organised in the housing estates throughout the Summer.

Transition year coaching courses are planned shortly in Carrick, CBS and the Presentation Convent, Clonmel.

An indoor hurling programme is currently in progress in St Olivers parish and the clubs in both towns are running their own programmes. Indoor blitzes are planned in December and again in early 1998.

A regular two-weekly article appears in the local paper, South Tipp Today, with profiles and photographs of the rising young stars in Clonmel and Carrick.

From little acorns great oak trees grow and it is hoped that with this unique development programme, aimed at its youngest members, the GAA in Clonmel and Carrick-on-Suir will grow and prosper in the years to come.

Con Hogan



*Pictured in the GAA Centre Clonmel, for the launch of the Gaelic Games Development Scheme for Clonmel & Carrick-on-Suir Urban Areas was this group from Clonmel Clubs.*

Photo Pat Mullally

Best wishes to both teams from:

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# Balingarry



Balingarry team which drew with Killenule in the South Senior Hurling Semi-Final which was held in Clonmel on Sept. 21st. Included (front row): Michael Ivors, Liam Fitzgerald, Paddy 'Blondie' Ivors, Gary Ivors, Michael McGrath, Morgan Ivors, Liam Cahill, Nigel Cleere, Donal Shelley. Back Row: Michael Fitzgerald, Thomas Duggan, Brian Walton, Don Lyons, Martin Lyons, William Maher, Johnny Lawlor, Seamus Keady.

Photo: Mullally



# Baile an Gharraí

Colours: Maroon & White

## Fir Ionaid:

(16) M. Mac Craith  
**Michael McGrath**

(17) L. Mac Gearailt  
**Liam Fitzgerald**

(18) S. Ó Corcáin  
**Seamus Corcoran**

(19) Liam De Cróc  
**Liam Croke**

(20) C. Ó Conaill  
**Kevin O'Connell**

(21) S. Ó Caollaí  
**Seamus Kealy**

(22) A. De Cléir  
**Adrian Cleere**

(23) M. Ó Guaithaire  
**Martin Goldsboro**

(24) S. Ó Bháltún  
**John Walton**

(25) Eamon Ó Cathail  
**Eamon Cahill**

(26) T. Ó Daltúin  
**Tomas Dalton**

(27) B. Ó Laloir  
**Brendan Lawlor**

(1)

A. Breathnach  
**TONY WALSH**

(2)

M. Mac Iomhair  
**MICHAEL IVORS**

(3)

M. Ó Liatháin  
**MARTIN LYONS**

(4)

M. Mac Iomhair  
**MORGAN IVORS**

(5)

B. Ó Bháltún  
**BRIAN WALTON**

(6)

T. Ó Duigan  
**TOMÁS DUGGAN (capt)**

(7)

N. De Cleir  
**NIGEL CLEERE**

(8)

S. Ó Laloir  
**JOHNNIE LAWLOR**

(9)

P. Mac Iomhair

**PATRICK (BLONDIE) IVORS**

(10)

G. Mac Iomhair  
**GARY IVORS**

(11)

M. Mac Gearailt  
**MICHAEL FITZGERALD**

(12)

L. Ó Cathaill  
**LIAM CAHILL**

(13)

D. Ó Liatháin  
**DON LYONS**

(14)

L. Ó Meachair  
**WILLIE MAHER**

(15)

D. Ó Sealbhaigh  
**DONAL SHELLEY**

**ROGHNÓIRÍ:** Tommy Norton (*Trainer / Selector*),  
Kevin Shelley, John Molloy (*Selectors*).

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L. Ó Conchúir

**LIAM O'CONNOR** (Capt.)

(2)

A. Daltúin

**TONY DALTON**

(3)

S. de Breit

**SEAN BRETT**

(4)

S. Ó Bolgair

**JACKIE BOLGER**

(5)

P. Ó Cathail

**PAUL CAHILL**

(6)

N. Ó Laocha

**NOEL LEAHY**

(7)

C. Ó Macháin

**KYRAN VAUGHAN**

(8)

S. Ó Laocha

**JOHN LEAHY**

(9)

E. Ó Ciara

**EDDIE CAREY**

(10)

P. Ó Ceallaigh

**PAUL KELLY**

(11)

B. Ó Meara

**BRIAN O'MEARA**

(12)

D. Ó Meachair

**DAMIEN MAHER**

(13)

M. Ó Tóibín

**MOSSIE TOBIN**

(14)

E. Ó Briain

**EDWARD O'BRIEN**

(15)

P. Cróc

**PAT CROKE**

**ROGHNÓIRÍ:** Sean Waltzer, John Croke, Jimsy Kelly,  
Theo English (Coach).



## Fir Ionaíd:

(16) E. Ó Ceallaigh  
**Eoin Kelly**

(17) A. Ó Sionnaigh  
**Alan Foxe**

(18) D. Haicéid  
**Dermot Hackett**

(19) S. Mac Cormaic  
**John McCormack**

(20) C. Ó Meara  
**Kevin O'Meara**

(21) Paul Ó Curáin  
**Paul Curran**

(22) M. Mac Sceacháin  
**Michael Skehan**

(23) G. Daltúin  
**Ger Dalton**

(24) C. Ó Cinnéide  
**Kieran Kennedy**

(25) B. Ó Súilleabháin  
**Brendan O'Sullivan**

(26) G. Mac Coisteala  
**Ger Costelloe**

(27) T. Ó Cathail  
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# Mullinahone



Mullinahone who beat Cahir in the Avonmore Senior Hurling Semi Final, which was held in Clonmel on Sept. 21st. Included are (front row): Kyrán Vaughan, Damien Maher, Eddie Carey, Liam O'Connor, Capt. Pat Croke, Declan McNamara, Jackie Bolger. Back Row: Eddie O'Brien, John Leahy, Noel Leahy, Paul Kelly, Brian O'Meara, Sean Brett, Michael Skehan, Mossie Tobin.

Photo: Mullally



# Hurling before 1884



*By Dr. Patrick C. Power*

A game played with a ball and a stick was known in Ireland, Scotland and England from times immemorial. Eventually, this game developed into hockey in England, shinty in Scotland and hurling in Ireland. The game played with a bossed hurley and a fast-moving ball became the established form of play in the South of Ireland out of the two main forms of hurling that were played on this island. This is the hurling game that we have today and it was played south of a line from Dublin to Mayo since 1699 and probably for much further back in time, maybe for a thousand years and even as far back again.

The hurling game of these days was played from May Day until Hallowe'en, that is, 6 Bhealtaine go Samhain, as it was put in Irish. It was a seasonal game, therefore, unlike shinty as well as the hurling that was played north of the Galway-Dublin line, which were winter games.

The old hurling game was played on any surface that was dry and flat. It could be played on large flat fields or on level sandy ground. It was also played on beaches or by river-banks, when the heat of summer had dried the "inch" or riverholm, that been flooded or at least boggy in the November to May period. A typical example of this in County Waterford are the Chapel Inches in Modeligo.

The best ball that was in use was made of a raw material that was available only with the coming of the month of May. When the cows began to shed their coats at this time of year, the hair was scooped off their backs by hand and formed into a volatile hurling ball, called ruainnsin or roansheed. This ball enabled the game to be played with speed and the dashing liveliness that characterises any good hurling. It should be stated that the roansheed was used to play handball also. Sometimes the roansheed had a leather cover. In the other form of Irish hurling and in shinty the ball was made of wood and called by various names, such as a crag or crig.

The hurleys used in the southern Irish region were made by many types of wood but ash was the

favourite one. The boss as an essential part of this hurley. It made it possible for a hurler to bring the roansheed along in a solo run. The solo-run is of great antiquity in hurling and it was almost impossible to carry it out with either the shinty stick or the bossless hurley. It was a distinctive feature of the ancient southern Irish hurling game.

The hurling pitch was in these days sometimes marked with something resembling sidelines. In some cases the pitch was roped like a modern boxing ring. However, any sidelines or endlines were to keep spectators clear of the pitch rather than to confine the players to it. Players could play the ball outside the lines, as they wished or were allowed by their opponents to do! There was no fixed number of players on a team but twenty-one was quite common in the 18th century. It varied very much from area to area. Cork seemed to have sixteen and indeed a hurling team in County Cork was often known as "the sixteen". Numbers greater than about thirty, say, were very rare. Teams of a hundred and more played a wild cross-country game with hurley and ball but this was scubeen and not hurling. By the way, scubeen could also be played with a football.

There were no goals at the two ends of the field but bows. A bow was a long willow rod with its ends set in the ground. It was higher than an average man and not too wide. One score through the bow won the game for the scoring team. This meant that a game might last a few minutes or end scoreless after hours of play. It was very difficult to score through the bow, because it was so narrow. The custom arose of playing a series of three games to decide a challenge. If one team won the two first games, that decided the issue, but if the result was one each, then the decisive "blood-game" was played to establish a winner.

The captain of a team in the pre-1884 hurling game was really the leader and was all-powerful. He decided who was to play and where. He negotiated the size of the loop with the opposing captain and the rules that were to be observed in any game. He was known as "captain" in the parish, even when he had ceased to play. It even could happen that he could be a non-playing captain. The last of the great captains, who played



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In recent years the South Tipperary GAA Board has received significant sponsorship from various groups and three new sponsors have been added to the list for 1997.

The Board is deeply grateful to all sponsors for their outstanding support.

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later under G.A.A. rules, was Jamsey Kelleher of Dungourney. The place of the captain nowadays has been taken by committees and decision-makers of all description and the modern captain is a place imitation of the captain in the old game.

In the old hurling game there was no referee, although there were representatives of each captain at the two bows. These arbitrated whenever a score was in dispute. Order was kept in the 18th century by the chief promoters of hurling, who were the landlords. The landlord may have been captain of a team also, playing or simply riding about watching the game and keeping order among the spectators. There is not one report from the 18th century of a rowdy game. After 1798 when the landlords no longer cared for hurling and kept their distance from the people, it was otherwise and a hurling game was often more a riot than a sporting event. When Michael Cusack went about the revival of hurling, he decided to introduce referees to keep order.

On the field the teams seem to have been in three sections. There were the defenders of the bow, the wingers and the bulc.

The defenders always included the captain and two men stood with him some paces out from the bow and probably four further out, if the team were a twenty-one man group. This was the defence. There never was a goalie in the old hurling.

The bulc were those who fought over the ball on the ground in a close-fought unyielding manner, seven against seven in the twenty-one man team. They played the ball on the ground and their tough physical play might remind one of the rugby scrum in some ways.

When the ball at last broke out from the bulc, a winger took it on the boss of his hurley and ran with it followed by at least two comrades to whom he passed the ball back, if he was in trouble. There was no fore-ball and the ball had to be passed back as in rugby. The winger, if he was lucky enough, put the ball through the bow from the front or else he went over the end-line and put it in from the rear. This, of course, won the game for his side.

No hand-passing was ever allowed. In the 19th century those who did so were considered incompetent players indeed. Swinging from the right was the normal play. It is said that Jamesy Kelleher had to train his players in early G.A.A. days how to pull from the left as well and that some of them never mastered this form of play.

In the 18th century, the golden age of hurling, there were matches held between baronies and counties as well as between provinces. However, there never was anything like a knock-out

championship, such as we have nowadays. Heavy wagers were placed on the games and players often were presented with gifts whenever they won.

The players were led on to the field by at least one piper. The winning team always had a hospitality barrel to drink from after the match and there is a description from 1699 of the piper standing near the barrel playing music, while the victor's had their fill.

It appears that players in these landlords' games wore sashes, such as the Yellow Bellies of Wexford did, and also caps, that may have been like jockeys' caps. They also seemed to have played often if not always in their bare feet. The speed and agility of the players excited great amazement in strangers when they attended a hurling game for the first time.

Besides the landlords' matches there were the matches played on ancient festivals, such as that on May Day, the first day of the hurling season. These games were of greater antiquity than any other ones and may have had their origins before the coming of Christianity to Ireland. In ancient times there were two types of hurling, the bow-game and hole-game. The former one has been described, while the latter had a hole in the field wall as "goal" or bow. Another form of game was that where a trench in a field or a fence separated the teams and each tried to put the ball across to the other side. In a trench-match in Dungarvan in the middle of the 19th century, such was the ferocity of the playing that two men were killed.

On the Blasket Islands and Inshkea off the coast of County Mayo women and men playing hurling together at the end of the last century. It may well be that these two examples were survivals of a widespread custom throughout the country. Modern camogie pales in comparison with the rough-and-tumble hurling that these women played on the islands, as they challenged the young men at their own game.

The great hurling counties in the olden days were Counties Wexford, Kilkenny, Tipperary, Cork, Clare, Galway and Laois/Offaly, but it was played in all the counties of Ireland. In the 19th century the game deteriorated to the extent that in some places it was not considered appropriate to allow a respectable woman to attend a hurling match. The title, buachaill báire, that means "hurling lad" had come to mean a trickster or undependable. On the other hand cailín báire, "a hurling girl" came to mean a badly behaved girl and was quite an insulting term to apply to any young woman. Michael Cusack rescued the game from both semi-oblivion and ill repute.

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# *Down Memory Lane*



*The Ballingarry Gaels team which won the County Minor Hurling Championship (A) Title in 1995*



*The Mullinahone team that won the South Senior Hurling Championship Title for the first time in 1993*

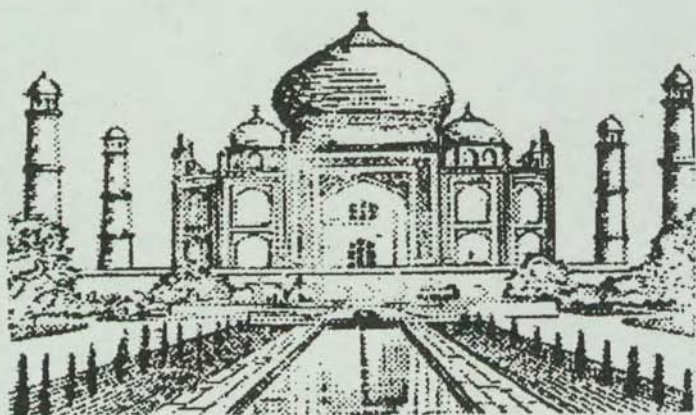


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## *Displaying the flag:*

1. No flag or pennant should be flown above the National Flag.
2. Where either an even or an odd number of flags is flown in line on staffs of equal height, the National Flag should be first on the right of the line (i.e. on the observer's left as faces the flags).
3. Where the odd number of flags is displayed from staffs grouped so that there is one staff in the centre and higher than the others, the National Flag should be displayed from the centre staff.
4. When the National Flag is displayed with another flag from crossed staffs, the National Flag should be on the right, i.e., the flag's own right or on the left of an observer facing the flags, and its staff should be in front of the staff of the other flag.
5. When displayed on a platform, the Flag should not be used to cover the speaker's desk, nor should it be draped over the platform. It may be displayed above and behind the speakers say, on a wall, with the green on the right if horizontal or on top if hung vertically.
6. No lettering or picture of any kind should

be placed on the Flag and it should never be used as a decoration.

7. A damaged, faded or worn flag should be destroyed.

8. With some exceptions, the Flag should be displayed in the open only between sunrise and sunset.

## *Saluting the Flag*

9. When the National Anthem is played in the presence of the Flag, all present should face the Flag. Those without headgear salute by standing to attention, hands straights down the sides with fingers clenched and thumbs forward, feet at an angle 45 degrees. *This applies, for example, to footballers standing at attention for the Anthem at the commencement of a game. It is suggested that hurlers should hold the hurley, with the bas on the ground, by their right sides.*

## *General*

10. Rule 4, Official Guide, lays down that the National Flag should be displayed at all matches.

11. Clubs should provide a proper flag pole at the Club ground or Club premises.

\* \* \* \* \*

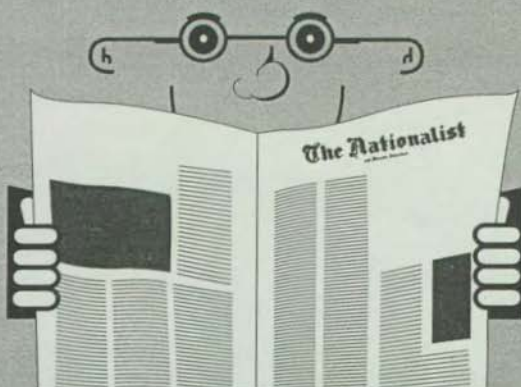
*Amhrán na bhFiann, I rise to hear, our anthem sung by all, I face our flag remembering the stars of the camán, who thrilled me in my boyhood days before my head was grey, caring not who won or lost, once hurling won the day.*



*South Board chairman Jimmy Keating makes a presentation to the South Tipperary Under-16 hurling team who won the Munster championship for the first time in 1997.*

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