Welcome to Extra Time, there is light now at the end of the Tunnel, we have received the RoadMap to allow us to plan for Games in the Summer of 2020. There is still though the need to be cautious and responsible, our Grounds are not yet open and we need to be patient, there will be time for all things, we just don’t need to do anything that compromises future prospects.

I need to emphasise again that Teams and Groups of players are not covered by GAA Insurance for activities that are currently taking place in our County, Teams training at local Council facilities, in Forest Parks, on Soccer Pitches, on Farmers Lands are putting at risk the health of your Players, your Club Members and their families, you are also going into other areas and other communities and putting people at risk. For the next 16 days we appeal to you to be patient to wait and look at the programme outlined today by CCC there is enough time to be able to be ready for a return to play.

Down GAA have also established a Covid-19 Return to play advisory group headed up by the County Chairperson and including other officers and with additional support from Danny Baxenden and Seán Lennon, the group can be contacted through myself as County Safety Officer and we will try and advise on any queries you might have.

CCC have worked hard to produce a Roadmap of fixtures and we hope that this too will lift the spirits of our people, we just need now to stay safe and then return to play.

SYMPATHY

Coiste Chontae an Dúin would like to extend our sympathy to the family of Eddie Hinds of Ballygalget who died during the week, Eddie was a former Inter County Hurler who won an Ulster Junior Championship Medal in 1956, he was also a former Treasurer of Ballygalget was the grandfather of current Club secretary Jodie Kelly, to his wife Mary and his son and daughters and the entire family circle, you are all in our thoughts and prayers.

We also extend our sympathy to our former Coaching Officer Seamus Ennis on the loss of his father in law Harold Carson whose funeral takes place on Saturday.

WALKWAYS

Congratulations to those Clubs who have made a great effort this week to open their Walkways in full compliance.

We appreciate that not every Club has such a facility and understand that in some grounds it is just not possible either. We need however to maintain standards over the next few weeks and to continue with the good record keeping policies.

CLUB CONSTITUTION

The Rules Advisory Committee is now commencing its work on the review of the Club Constitution.

It was noted by the committee at its meeting on Wednesday that the quality of the submissions received thus far were excellent. However, the volume of submissions were lower than expected.

It is accepted that units may have found it difficult to prepare submissions during the Covid-19 Emergency. Therefore, it was agreed to give units that have not made a submission a further opportunity to do so.

If you haven’t had an opportunity to prepare a submission and wish to do so, please submit at your earliest convenience, but no later than 7th July 2020, secretary.down@gaa.ie
An Coiste Bainistíochta at its meeting on 22ú Bealtaine discussed a number of child safeguarding matters and agreed a number of safeguarding matters as outlined below.

I would be grateful if you could forward this to all clubs in your county highlighting that each club must inform their county secretary no later than 30 June 2020 the name and contact details of their club Designated Liaison Person (DLP).

- That all Clubs use this temporary downtime from games and other activities to ensure that those appointed to work with children on our behalf have fulfilled the Association’s relevant child safeguarding requirements whereby coaches of underage teams must have completed vetting, have attended child safeguarding training and have a coaching qualification, all of which can be now commenced online.

- In order to ensure that every Club has appointed a Club Designated Liaison Person (DLP) to assist with any allegations of abuse, (a statutory requirement), that Clubs shall, by 30 June 2020, inform their County Secretary as to who they have chosen to as their Club DLP, along with the person’s contact details.

A list of Club DLPS shall subsequently be published on gaa.ie with the provision of online training for those who have yet to attend the Designated Liaison Persons training programme.

Coiste Bainistíochta reiterated that any concerns or allegation of abuse must be acted upon without delay by liaising and reporting such matters to the relevant statutory authority and to our respective Club and National Designated Liaison Persons who shall also assist this process if required. The GAA National Designated Liaison Person is Gearóid Ó Maoilmhichil who may be contacted at nationaldlp@gaa.ie.

Current child safeguarding services, including training, vetting and daily advice for our members continues to be available by contacting our National Children’s Office at nationalchildrensoffice@gaa.ie or by telephoning (01) 835 8675.

It should be noted by our clubs that the absence of games or other related activities we should never dilute the core requirements that any person chosen to coach children or work with underage teams must be vetted, must have attended child safeguarding training and must have a coaching qualification. These requirements are enshrined in rule and in legislation.
NEW WEEKLY GAA GOLD SERIES BEGINS ON TG4 ON SUNDAY

TG4 have produced a brand new 10 part series called ‘GAA Gold’ which will start to air on Sunday afternoon at 5.40pm. Broadcast each Sunday on TG4 at 5.40pm and repeated on Monday evenings at 8.30pm. ‘GAA GOLD’ is a brand new half hour television series which will look back on the main events on the 1980’s GAA Calendar.

GAA GOLD is a new archive based series from TG4 that looks back at the 1980’s through the prism of the GAA year. Each programme focuses on one year and we travel through the GAA season with a mixture of all of the classic games, news stories and music hits from that year. The first programme of the series starts with the year 1980 and the programme charts that year’s twists and turns on Gaelic fields throughout the land with league finals, provincial finals, All-Ireland semi-finals and All-Ireland finals. That year end ends with Joe Connolly’s emotional and evocative speech on the steps of the Hogan Stand with the cheeky line of “People of Galway, we love you!”

In 1982 All Ireland Football Final, there was Séamus Darby’s famous goal that shocked Kerry - and the nation - to end their five in-a-row hopes. In the Hurling Final the Cats claimed their 22nd All Ireland title captained by a young man named Brian Cody.

In 1983 we will see Jimmy Barry-Murphy’s famous rocket goal against Galway in the All-Ireland semi-final. Michael O’Hehir on commentary said “This is one you need to see in slow motion but the slow motion won’t even slow it down!”. In the Minor hurling final there is a young man named Niall Quinn playing for the Dubs against Galway. He scored a great point on the day and would go on to score 21 international goals for the Republic of Ireland soccer team. The Football Final that year saw 4 players sent off in the Dublin v Galway battle.

The series will include the 1984 Ulster Football Final - Frank McGuigan was on fire for Tyrone that day and scored 11 points from play - each one better than the last as Tyrone claimed their first provincial title since 1973 in Clones. This was also the GAA’s centenary year with the All-Ireland Hurling Final held in Semple Stadium between Cork and Offaly. We will see the first ever International Rules tests between Ireland and Australia from that year with plenty of action on and off the ball.

In 1986 we have some action from the first ever Ladies Football Final to be played at Croke Park. The Kerry’s Ladies team went one better than the men as they claimed a ‘five in-a-row’ with victory over Wexford. There are other more quirkier events in the GAA season too. In 1987 a National Football League Quarter-final between Dublin and Cork ended in a draw. Cork failed to reappear for extra-time so Dublin ran the ball down unopposed and shot into an empty Cork net to claim a very unusual victory.

All of these great memories can be seen in this new ‘GAA GOLD’ series with the soundtrack of the era - a mix of both international and Irish acts such as U2, Thin Lizzy, The Pogues, Mamas Boys, The Undertones, Cry Before Dawn, Sinéad O’Connor, The Dubliners, The Hothouse Flowers, The Stunning and many more.

TG4 schedule for Sunday 14 June
2.35pm  All Ireland Gold - Antrim v Offaly in the 1989 All Ireland Hurling Semi Final
4.00pm  Dublin v Mayo in the 2017 All Ireland Senior Football Final
5.40pm  GAA GOLD - 1980 (GAA GOLD looks back on the main events on the 1980 GAA Calendar).

GAA GOLD Television Series on TG4

- Programme 1 - 1980  Sunday 14 June 5.40pm  (Repeated Monday 15 June 8.30pm)
- Programme 2 - 1981  Sunday 21 June 5.40pm  (Repeated Monday 22 June 8.30pm)
- Programme 3 - 1982  Sunday 28 June 5.40pm  (Repeated Monday 29 June 8.30pm)
- Programme 4 - 1983  Sunday 5 July 5.40pm  (Repeated Monday 6 July 8.30pm)
- Programme 5 - 1984  Sunday 12 July 5.40pm  (Repeated Monday 13 July 8.30pm)
- Programme 6 - 1985  Sunday 19 July 5.40pm  (Repeated Monday 20 July 8.30pm)
- Programme 7 - 1986  Sunday 26 July 5.40pm  (Repeated Monday 27 July 8.30pm)
- Programme 8 - 1987  Sunday 2 August 5.40pm  (Repeated Monday 3 August 8.30pm)
- Programme 9 - 1988  Sunday 9 August 5.40pm  (Repeated Monday 10 August 8.30pm)
- Programme 10 - 1989  Sunday 16 August 5.40pm  (Repeated Monday 17 August 8.30pm)
FUNDING

This is to inform you that the Department for Communities are launching a £15.5 million COVID-19 Charities Fund to help local charities facing financial difficulties as a result of the current public health emergency, on Monday 15 June 2020.

Further information about the fund and who is eligible to apply is available at the following link:
www.communities-ni.gov.uk/covid-19/charities-fund

Any enquiries or requests for further information can be sent to:
covid19charitiesfund@communities-ni.gov.uk

ULSTER GAA WEBINAR

The registration form for the Ulster GAA Webinar 4 is now open. The session will commence at 7.30pm on Wednesday, 17th June. Please click on the following link to register:
Webinar 4 - Q&A Tony Scullion talks to Malachy O’Rourke

A Q&A with the former Fermanagh & Monaghan Senior Football Manager - Topics will include:
- Qualities of a successful manager.
- The transition from club to county management.
- Motivating players to buy in to team goals.
- Managing conflict in a squad environment.

YOUNG LEADERS PROGRAMME

With a road map now in place for us to get back to playing our games, Ulster GAA are hosting an online youth forum as part of our Young Leaders Programme.

This event entitled ‘Leading the way for tomorrow’s GAA’ will take place on Tuesday 23rd June at 7pm and is open to 16-24 year olds to participate.

This session will:
• Give our youth the opportunity to discuss what protocols are in place
• Discuss lockdown and how it will effect clubs going forward
• Suggestions what clubs need to do to get back on their feet
• Discuss how others have kept motivated in lockdown

To register for this forum please click on the eventbrite link below:
youngleadersprogramme.eventbrite.co.uk

Registration Closes: Monday 22nd June 2020 at 5pm.

The event will be hosted via Microsoft Teams. You can access Teams through your web browser, or you can download the Teams application onto your device. All registered participants will be emailed the link to the webinar on the morning of Tuesday 23rd June.

If you have any further queries on this event please email ashelene.groogan.ulster@gaa.ie

Note: All participants aged under 18 years old will be asked to complete a Parental Consent Form following registration.
Since the publication of the Guidelines on Safe Return to Gaelic Games on 5 June, the GAA, LGFA and Camogie Association have partnered to develop a Covid-19 Club Education Programme to help those involved in Clubs return safely to Gaelic Games activities.

Through education on roles and responsibilities, the programme aims to reinforce how collective responsibility can help protect the health and welfare of all those involved in Gaelic Games and minimise the risk of transmission of Covid-19 in local communities.

The programme will be delivered in stages with the initial offering focussing on Covid Supervisors and Club Officers. More detailed information for Players and Parents/Guardians of underage Players, and Team Personnel such as Managers, Coaches and Medical Personnel will be issued during the week starting 16 June.

A number of Key points worth noting:
• Clubs will not be expected to record the temperatures of players when they arrive for training/games.
• Adult players and parents/guardians of underage players will be required to complete an online Health Questionnaire once prior to their return to GAA Activities.
• Adult players and parents/guardians of underage players will then be required to declare, before each training session/game, that their health status has not changed.
• An online system for the health questionnaire will be provided centrally by the GAA. This is the only system that should be used.
• Further details in relation to the online Health Questionnaire will be circulated next week. Also, plans will be communicated next week on specific Covid-19 education for referees and games development staff, e.g. sample coaching activities etc.

Stage one of training involves:
1. A Club Briefing via webinar to explain the role of Covid Supervisors/Club Officers and common Club queries addressed by the Advisory Group since the publication of the Guidelines, e.g. preparation of facilities. (Tuesday June 16th at 6.00pm)
2. A certified eLearning Module covering the main aspects of the Guidelines and roles of all stakeholders. All stakeholders (players/team personnel/covid supervisors and parents/guardians) must complete this module. (Available from Thursday 18th June)
3. Educational Resources such as a Guidebook, FAQ list, how-to videos, posters, infographics, and checklists. (Available now at https://learning.gaa.ie/covid19)

The resources prepared aim to complement the constant information, advice and support available to Clubs through County Committees and Provincial Councils.

Key Information - Club Briefing
The first webinar will explain the main section in the safe return Guidelines and common queries addressed by the Advisory Group since the publication of the first version on 5 June.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title:</th>
<th>Covid-19 Club Briefing</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Presenters:</td>
<td>Shay Bannon, Dr. Kevin Moran and Feargal McGill.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audience:</td>
<td>Covid-19 Supervisors / Club Officers, plus affected volunteers, and staff at all levels.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date:</td>
<td>Tuesday, 16 June.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time:</td>
<td>6 – 7 p.m. – Recording to be shared afterwards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location:</td>
<td>Live broadcast via Microsoft Teams.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration:</td>
<td>To register, please click here</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Key Information - eLearning Module
A certified eLearning module will be available from the middle of next week onwards. It will contain the most up-to-date information for Players, Parents/Guardians and Team Personnel and enable participants to get a Certificate to verify completion to their Club.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title:</th>
<th>Covid-19 Club Education Module</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Audience:</td>
<td>Covid-19 Supervisors and Club Officers, Players and Parents/Guardians of Underage Players, and Team Personnel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date/Time:</td>
<td>Available from Thursday, 18 June – completion time approximately 30 minutes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Location:</td>
<td>Accessible via any laptop or mobile device</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration:</td>
<td>Details on accessing the module will be provided next week.</td>
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Key Information - Educational Resources
The resources issued in the first stage include:
- A detailed Guidebook
- Role Overview for Covid Supervisors
- An infographic version of the Return to Activity Roadmap
- Posters for use in Club facilities

The Covid-19 Education team is also working on a Manual which will be released next week.

Due to the rapid changing nature of the public health advice, all resources will be labelled with the date of last update and amended as quickly as possible after the Gaelic Games organisations approve changes.

To access these resources and for the latest information, visit https://learning.gaa.ie/covid19
COVID-19 GUIDELINES ON SAFE RETURN TO GAELIC GAMES

Please Click here to view the latest Covid-19 GUIDELINES ON SAFE RETURN TO GAELIC GAMES

While this document provides a guide for a safe return for Gaelic Games activity, it is important to note that further, more detailed, advice and guidance will need to be provided in the coming weeks on specific areas contained within this document such as online training modules, the role of the Covid Supervisor, advice on recording player temperatures, advice on, and samples of signage and so on. It is also envisaged that separate and updated advice on the Safe Return for inter county players will be published during Phase 4 and closer to the resumption time for inter-county activity.

The document contains:
1. Introduction and Context
2. Medical Information
   - Background Information / Transmission of Virus / Symptoms / Staying Safe - 5 Rules to Follow / Assessing Risk & Vulnerable Groups / Adult and Underage Groups / Health Questionnaire
3. Preparing for a Safe Return
   - Preparing Facilities / Covid Supervisors for Gaelic Games / Scheduling of Activities / Education of Club Members / Protocol for Participation
4. Basic Information for Players Coaches and Team Personnel
   - Key Control Measures / Education / Responsibility
5. Safe Return Summary and Checklist
6. Gaelic Games Safe Return Roadmap – PHASES
7. Sample Health Questionnaire Form for Gaelic Games

Seán Óg Mac an tSaoir
Seán Óg McAteer
Runaí Coiste Chontae an Dúin
46-48 Main Street, Castlewellan, County Down. BT31 9DG
Mobile : 07739700705  Tel: 028 437 70880

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