

# History 2021

## Two Football Titles in New Grades.

### Another Scór All Ireland.

#### Club Officers

President:	Fr Joe Delaney A.P.
Vice Presidents:	Fr John O'Keeffe P.P., Michael Collins, Ned Ryan (Óg), Michael O'Mahony, Noel O'Gorman
Chairman:	James Collins
Vice Chairman:	Ollie Kennedy
Secretary:	Mary Bourke
Assistant Sec:	Ray Meaney
Treasurer:	Martin Kennedy
Assistant Treasurer:	Maria Collins
PRO:	Alfie O'Brien
Registrar:	Rosemary Ryan
Development Officer:	John O'Brien
Board Delegate:	Cora Moroney
Children's Officer:	Cora Moroney
Oifigeach Gaeilge:	Donncha De Flóid
Coaching Officer:	Mike Coffey (Red)
Schools Liaison:	Cora Moroney
Recruitment Officer:	James Nolan
Health & Well Being:	Martin Guilfoyle
Committee:	Cecil Ryan, Pat Brennan, Pdraig Tobin, Phelim Ryan, Keith McIntyre, Dave Noone, Hugh McLoughlin, Majella Coffey, James Flanagan, Laura Guiney.

#### Juvenile Committee

Chairman:	Ollie Kennedy
Vice Chair:	Mike Coffey (Red)
Secretary:	Ray Meaney
Treasurer:	Maria Collins
PRO:	April Drew

## **Team Management**

Senior Hurling:	Tom Moylan (Manager), Michael Coffey (Shower), David Hickey, Phelim Ryan, Joe Quaid (Coach). Mick Wall also assisted.
Junior Hurling:	John O'Mahony, Connie McGrath, Eoin Bonfield. Ger Bradley assisted with coaching.
Junior Football:	Padraig Tobin (Manager), Tom McGlinchey, Eoin Bonfield, Ailbe Coffey
Under 19 & 21:	James Nolan (Manager), Conor Floyd, Kealan Floyd, Mike Ryan.
Under 17:	Podge Hogan (Manager), Diarmuid Collins, Padraig Tobin, Sean O'Brien, Odran Floyd.
Under 15:	Shane Gavin (Manager), Declan Poole, Tom Fogarty, Ollie Kennedy, Ray Meaney, Larry McGrath, Kealan Floyd, Colin Floyd.
Under 13:	Hugh McLoughlin (Manager), Dave Roche, Dave Noone, Keith McIntyre, James McKeogh, Alfie O'Brien, Declan Carrig, Paraic Kennedy, Conor O'Mahony
Under 11:	Mike Coffey Red (Manager), David Troy, Brian Healy, John O'Mahony, John Landers, John Berkery, Conor Gleeson, Ger Gaffney, Mike Boland, Ross McGrath, Dan Maher, Pat Byrne, Ronan Hayes, Martin Carey, Richie Ryan, Paul Ryan (C), Pakie Ryan (C).
Under 10:	Managers: Mark Fitzgerald & Brian Heffernan. James Coffey, Johnny Flynn, Kevin Coffey, Ann Marie Kennedy, Paul Hogan, Moira Moylan, Conor Hickey
Under 9:	Joe Hogan (Manager), Padraig Malone, Dermot Duggan, Edward Earle, John, McBride, John O'Mahony, Mark Brassil, Mary Coffey, Mike Coffey (Sh), Ronan Grimes, Rose Casey, Cian Flanagan, Niall Duffy.
Under 8:	Richie Butler (Manager), Barry Coleman, Karen Moloney, Maureen Coffey, Laura Guiney, Val Kennedy, Fergal Jordan, Paul O'Donoghue, John Savage, Shane Murphy, Darren Bourke, Maurice Curtin.
Under 7:	Managers Graham Ryan & David Hickey. David O'Brien, Emmet Maher, Aidan O'Gorman, David Barry, John Kennedy, Valerie Dowling, Mary Savage.
Under 5:	Paddy Jones, Niall Fitzgerald, Murtagh Crawford, Eamonn McCormack, Cian O Toole, John Mooney

## **Covid-19**

The coronavirus and its many variants continued to impact life in 2021. Restrictions and lockdowns prohibited all gatherings of people at the beginning of the year. Inter-county players were eventually permitted to commence training in April, with leagues getting underway in May, championships in June and All Ireland Finals completed in August. Restricted attendances were allowed into venues and live streaming of games became commonplace. Club players returned in May, played leagues in June-July and championships commenced in August. Thus the 'split season' was born and was deemed to be a welcome development to continue in future years.

## **Representative Teams**

- Colin Floyd was a member of the extended Tipperary senior hurling panel for 2021.

- Diarmuid O Riordan wore the number 15 jersey on the Tipp minor football team and scored a goal in their only Munster Championship outing against Limerick.
- Mark Forde was goalkeeper on the Tipp Under 16 football team.
- Shane Flanagan and Damien O’Brien were part of the county Under 15 hurling team.
- Adam Power and Callum Poole played with Tipp Under 15 footballers.
- Cillian Collins and Darragh Mackey were on the Tipperary Under 14 football squad. Cillian was also on the North Under 14 hurling team, while Cathal Hannon played on the North Under 14 football team.
- Conor McLoughlin, Charlie Tobin, Kevin Fitzpatrick, Harry Noone, Cormac Shanahan and Luke McIntyre were selected on the North Under 13 hurling panel.



Diarmuid O’Riordan  
Tipp Minor Footballer



Mark Forde  
Tipp Under 16 Footballer



Oisín Kennedy  
All Ireland Community Games Winner

## Miscellaneous

- All registration was done online via the new ‘Foireann’ app.
- Under 12 player, Oisín Kennedy won the gold medal in the All Ireland Community Games Long Puck competition with a record puck of 91.8 metres
- Under 17 player, Aidan Ryan played for Munster under 18 schools team in the rugby interpro series.
- The Allen Family from Cragg (Thiasy, James, Tom and Ruth) participated in RTE’s Fittest Family contest. They received huge local support and grabbed the attention of the nation. They were narrowly beaten in the final.
- The annual Golf Classic was held at Nenagh Golf Club on 20<sup>th</sup> August.
- The annual Cúl Camp, coordinated by Collette Collins and Cathriona O’Brien, was held in Lacken Park in August, with 183 children attending.
- Newport GAA established a partnership with O’Neills Sports to enable club merchandise to be purchased online.

- Healthy Club initiatives continued during 2021, including the Every Step Counts Virtual Challenge, participation in the Darkness into Light project and publication of numerous recipes for healthy eating.
- John Delaney, having completed his term as PRO of the North Board, was appointed as the Board's Development Officer. Later in the year he added the role of Assistant Treasurer. Cora Moroney continued as the Board's Children's Officer and as chairperson of the County Health & Wellbeing Committee.
- Rockvale Rovers LGF won the county Under 14 'D' Cup Final defeating Boherlahan 3-8 to 2-5.
- Newport/Ballinahinch camogie team won Féile Camogie Division 3, defeating Shannon Rovers in the final. Their minors won the County 'C' Championship, defeating Kilruane in the final in January 2022. They were also silver medal winners in the County Community Games Camogie Competition.

## Senior Hurling

### County League

13<sup>th</sup> June in Newport: Newport 2-11 Sean Treacys 0-16  
 27<sup>th</sup> June in Dolla: Newport 1-15 Silvermines 0-18  
 11<sup>th</sup> July in Clonakenny: Clonakenny 3-17 Newport 2-18

### North Championship

5<sup>th</sup> August in Portroe: Nenagh Éire Óg 1-21 Newport 2-9

### Co. Championship (Séamus Ó'Riain Cup)

29<sup>th</sup> August in Dolla: Templederry 5-20 Newport 1-17  
 12<sup>th</sup> Sept in Nenagh: Newport 3-26 Silvermines 4-11  
 25<sup>th</sup> Sept in Nenagh: Clonakenny 1-20 Newport 0-17

### Relegation:

9<sup>th</sup> October in Nenagh: Newport 0-25 Lorrha 0-14

Newport had a very lack-lustre league campaign. They were fortunate to get the better of Sean Treacys in the opening round when Conor O'Mahony (injured), Sean O'Brien (travelling) and Odhran Floyd (Covid tied) were absentees. Colin Floyd (2-3) was a big threat up front, Rob Houlihan was prominent in defence while Cian Flanagan and Jack Delahunty formed an industrious midfield partnership.

They were lucky to come away with a draw against Silvermines. Cian Flanagan was again prominent, Darragh Carroll had a good first half and Colin Floyd (1-3) was the main scorer, while his brother, Thomas made his senior debut. Victory over Clonakenny would have earned qualification for the League Final, but Newport seemed to lack strength and competitiveness in a tight game in wet conditions. With Colin Floyd again to the forefront, scoring 2-2, Newport looked likely winners when leading by 3 points entering the final 5 minutes. Clonakenny finished stronger, even though down to 14 men for the last quarter. Newport had only one sub (unused) toggled for this game.

Newport made a good start in their first championship game and led by 2-4 to 0-5 at the first water break, with goals coming from Colin Floyd and Daniel Carew. They were showing great tenacity in difficult weather conditions, but a defensive slip up gave away a goal after 25 minutes. Nenagh employed a sweeper and worked the ball well out of defence, gradually gaining the upper hand. Newport posed little threat in the forward line during the second half and Nenagh ran out easy winners.

2 goals from first half mistakes sent Templederry on their way in the first round of the county championship. Newport played quite well, amassing a creditable score, all of which came from play. Darragh Carroll led the way with 6 points, but 4 goals from Sean Ryan put the game out of reach.

10 players got into the scoring act when Newport repeated the previous year's emphatic victory over Silvermines. Kealan Floyd with 0-10 (5f), Colin Floyd 2-2 and Daniel Carew 0-6 were the leading marksmen, but a concern was the concession of 3 goals from placed balls to Jason Forde.

Newport went into their final group game against Clonakenny as strong favourites but the Mid Tipp side proved to be their nemesis again, being much more competitive and giving little time and space to the forwards. Newport's frustration was evident in the concession of numerous frees and a third quarter goal was the decisive score as Clonakenny grew stronger as the game went on, leaving Newport well beaten and disappointed. Daniel Carew and Darragh Carroll were among the few to enhance their reputations. The disappointment was amplified when word came through that Silvermines had beaten Templederry, consigning Newport to a relegation battle with Lorrha, Burgess and Sean Treacys.

Newport were drawn to play Lorrha and they proceeded to produce their best wine when most needed to see off the challenge of a depleted Lower Ormond outfit who later lost to Burgess and dropped to the Intermediate grade. Newport restructured their defence for this game and with 12 players getting on the scoresheet they put in an impressive performance, leaving one to wonder "what might have been." Sean O'Brien was outstanding in defence, while Pa Ryan was back to his best in attack.

Team v Lorrha: Paul Hogan, Rob Houlihan, Conor O'Mahony, Andrew Hickey; Cian Flanagan (0-2), Sean O'Brien, Odhran Floyd (0-1); Conor Floyd (0-1), Peter O'Sullivan (0-1); Daniel Carew (0-3), Darragh Carroll (0-3, 1f), Aidan Moloney (0-1); Kealan Floyd (0-3f), Colin Floyd (0-3), Pa Ryan (0-4).

Subs: Thomas Floyd for A Moloney; Aaron O'Neill (0-2) for D Carroll; Aidan Ryan for R Houlihan; Eoin Shinnors for P O'Sullivan.

Others who lined out during the year included Jordan Young, Jack Delahunty, Ben Wixted, Martin Carey, and Brendan Coffey, while Niall Duffy and Oran Connors were also part of the panel

### **Junior Hurling 'B'**

22 <sup>nd</sup> August in Kilcoleman:	Newport 2-18 Burgess 0-17
27 <sup>th</sup> August in Newport:	Newport 0-20 Silvermines 0-20
4 <sup>th</sup> Sept in Portroe:	Newport 1-13 Portroe 0-16
10 <sup>th</sup> Sept in Newport:	Newport 4-16 Lorrha 5-6
26 <sup>th</sup> Sept in Puckane:	Ballina 3-29 Newport 3-16 (Qr Final)

Fielding a blend of youth and experience, ranging in age from 18 to 43, the juniors put in some great performances. 2 goals from Oran Connors helped them over the line in a hard-fought contest with Burgess. Eoin Shinnors (0-13, 8f) was the leading light in a rip-roaring game with Silvermines. Another tight game followed when Portroe earned a draw with a late free. Newport's defence, marshalled by veterans Harrington and Coffey, stood firm on this occasion. Having conceded no goals in their opening 3 games, they gave away 5 to Lorrha, making life difficult for themselves in their final group game. Martin Carey was the most influential player. First half injuries to Mike Coffey and Martin Carey diminished Newport's chances against a slicker and fitter Ballina side. They were over-dependent on Eoin Shinnors for scores – he accounted for 2-12 (1-8f), with Mike Quigley adding 1-2 and Oran Connors 0-2. Michael Flannery made some wonderful saves.

Team v Ballina: Mike Flannery, Mark Harrington, Paddy Jones, Cathal Floyd; Rory O'Connor, Mike Coffey, Mike Quigley; Nigel Jones, Jack Ryan (Cooper); Eoin Shinnors, Vinny Moloney, Christy O'Connor; Oran Connors, Martin Carey, Stephen Coffey.

Subs: Daniel Egan for M Coffey (inj); Conor Keating for M Carey (inj); Colin Coleman for S Coffey; Kieran McCabe for P Jones (inj); S Coffey for D Egan (inj).

Niall Duffy had been a regular in all earlier games but missed out through injury.

Others who played a part were Brendan Coffey, Oisín O'Reilly, Brian McAuliffe, Eoin McGrath.

### **Junior Football 'A'**

23 <sup>rd</sup> October in Portroe:	Portroe 4-13 Newport 3-9.
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Leading by 2-7 to 0-5 at the interval and adding a goal from a penalty soon after the break, appeared to have Newport in an unassailable position. But a second half collapse saw an 18 point turn-around before the end.

Missed goal chances when wind-assisted in the opening half, misplaced passes, unnecessary fouling and an apparent lack of fitness led to their downfall.

Team: Brendan Coffey, Rob Houlihan, Conor Floyd, Paul Hogan; Cian Flanagan (0-1), Sean O'Brien, Daniel Egan; Odhran Floyd, Aaron O'Neill; Jack Delahunty (1-3f), Peter O'Sullivan (0-2), Kealan Floyd; Aidan Moloney, Colin Floyd (1-2), Daniel Carew (1-1).

Subs: Brian O'Sullivan for A Moloney; Colin Coleman for D Egan.

## **Under 21 Hurling 'B'**

20<sup>th</sup> November in Newport: Borrisokane 2-26 Newport 1-3

Team: Luke Collins, Diarmuid Cantillon, Rory O'Connor, Stephen McCormack; Colin Coleman, Thomas Floyd, Daniel Egan; Brendan Coffey (0-1), Stephen Coffey (1-2f); Emmet Floyd, Diarmuid O'Riordan, Oran Connors; Adam Moloney, Nathan Hartigan.

Newport started with 14 players. Jamie Moloney was a late introduction to make up the numbers, while Sean Nolan was a second half substitute. The scarcity of players and the general display reflected the difficulties with this particular age group up through the ranks from Under 12.

## **Under 19**

### Hurling 'B'

2<sup>nd</sup> July in Newport: Newport 1-16 Portroe 1-13

7<sup>th</sup> July in Kilcoleman: Burgess 4-11 Newport 1-13

14<sup>th</sup> July in Newport: Kilruane MacDonaghs 1-23 Newport 0-11

### Football 'B'

13<sup>th</sup> October in Ballingarry: Newport 4-12 Borrisokane 5-9 AET. Newport won on penalties (North Final)

7<sup>th</sup> November in Tipp Town: Upperchurch-Drombane 4-18 Newport 1-5 (Co. semi-final)

0-12 from the stick of Stephen Coffey helped Newport to an exciting win over Portroe in the first round of the hurling championship, where Lee Ryan received an injury which ruled him out of the remaining rounds. They had a good battle with Burgess, but were unable to come back from a 4 goal flurry by Eoin Grace.

They had no answer to a slick Kilruane outfit in their final game.

Team: Kevin O'Brien, Thomas Byrne, John Lee, Aaron Coleman; Eoin McGrath, Rory O'Connor, Darren Coffey; Niall Duffy, John Ryan; Stephen Coffey, Jack Ryan, Daniel Egan; Stephen McCormack, Oran Connors, Brian Tobin.

Subs: Dan Ryan, Luke Collins, Adam Moloney.

History was made when Newport won the inaugural Under 19 football championship and did so in a most exciting manner, winning after extra time and penalties under lights at Knockshegowna's pitch. Newport found themselves in the final after the withdrawal of Ballinahinch/Templederry. They could consider themselves fortunate to take the laurels as Borrisokane were probably the better team but failed to convert all their scoring opportunities. A comedy of errors in the Borrisokane goalmouth yielded an early own goal which kept Newport in touch up to half time when they trailed 2-4 to 1-4. They levelled soon after the resumption when a long range free from Diarmuid O'Riordan deceived the defence and ended up in the net. It was tit-for-tat, thereafter, with little between the teams at any stage. Further goals from Diarmuid Cantillon and James Tobin had Newport in control with a four point lead and ten minutes remaining. However, Borrisokane then posted 1-3 without reply and looked likely winners before injury-time points from Jay Ryan and Diarmuid O'Riordan tied up the scores at 4-9 each at the final whistle. Newport took command in extra time and held a 3 point lead entering the last five minutes. A Borrisokane goal ensured a nervous closing few minutes, but the sides remained tied at the call of time and a penalty shoot-out followed. Gavin Mellerick, Daniel Egan Jack Ryan and Aaron Coleman converted and following a Borrisokane wide, Mark Forde saved to give Newport the title on a 4-3 verdict.

Mark Forde was the hero, not just for his penalty save but also for a number of fine stops during the game. Daniel Egan (captain), Jack Ryan, Stephen Coffey and Jay Ryan also stood out while Diarmuid O’Riordan was accurate from frees.

A fortuitous early goal got Newport off to a good start in the county semi-final, but, thereafter, they were no match for Upperchurch-Drombane for whom Luke Shanahan (2-11) was to the fore. Newport’s young team appeared to lack pace and physicality compared to their Mid Tipp opponents.

Team in North Final: Mark Forde, Shane Murray, Stephen Coffey, Aaron Coleman; John Lee, Aidan Ryan, Jay Ryan (0-3); Daniel Egan, Jack Ryan; Brian Tobin, Lee Ryan (0-1), Stephen McCormack; Diarmuid Cantillon (1-0), Diarmuid O’Riordan (1-6, 4f), Gavin Mellerick (0-1).

Subs: Luke Collins for A Ryan (inj); Kevin O’Brien for S Murray; Daniel Ryan for D Cantillon; James Tobin (1-1) for B Tobin; Conor McHugo for D O’Riordan. Also Sean Nolan, Paul Bourke and Christopher Egan.

John Ryan took the place of Aidan Ryan, Daniel Ryan started for Diarmuid Cantillon, while James Tobin began in place of his twin brother in the county semi-final. Subs introduced included Luke Collins, Kevin O’Brien, Diarmuid Cantillon, Paul Bourke and Brian Tobin.



### North Tipp Under 19 ‘B’ Football winners 2021:

Back: Aidan Ryan, Brian Tobin, Sean Nolan, Conor McHugo, Diarmuid O’Riordan, Diarmuid Cantillon, Jay Ryan, Kevin O’Brien, Shane Murray, Stephen McCormack, Luke Collins, John Lee, Gavin Mellerick, Stephen Coffey.

Front: Daniel Egan, James Tobin, Daniel Ryan, Lee Ryan, Paul Burke, Mark Forde, Jack Ryan, Aaron Coleman, Christopher Egan.

## Under 17

### Hurling ‘B’

12 <sup>th</sup> July in Borrisoleigh:	Borrisoleigh 2-21 Newport 0-8
19 <sup>th</sup> July in Newport:	Newport 2-14 Ballinahinch/Templederry 1-9
26 <sup>th</sup> July in Moneygall:	Clonakenny/Moneygall 0-24 Newport 2-12
2 <sup>nd</sup> August in Newport:	Newport 2-15 Kiladangan 1-14
9 <sup>th</sup> August in Newport:	Newport 6-7 Kilruane MacDonaghs 3-14
16 <sup>th</sup> August in Borrisokane:	Newport w.o. Borrisokane
23 <sup>rd</sup> August in Newport:	Newport 2-15 Burgess 0-19
6 <sup>th</sup> September in Ballina:	Newport 1-17 Kiladangan 2-12 (Qr Final)
13 <sup>th</sup> September in Kilcoleman:	Newport 3-10 Moneygall/Clonakenny 2-12 (semi-final)

19<sup>th</sup> September in Dolla: Borrisoleigh 3-13 Newport 2-10 (North Final)  
2<sup>nd</sup> October in Clonmel: Clonmel Óg 2-16 Newport 2-3 (Co Qr Final)

### Football

#### North/Mid League

6<sup>th</sup> June in Newport: JK Brackens 3-8 Newport 1-7  
13<sup>th</sup> June in Nenagh: Newport w.o. Nenagh Éire Óg  
21<sup>st</sup> June in Littleton: Moycarkey-Borris 6-9 Newport 2-11  
28<sup>th</sup> June in Newport: Dúrlas Óg 5-6 Newport 0-8  
5<sup>th</sup> July in Ballina: Ballina 4-22 Newport 0-5

#### Championship 'A'

10<sup>th</sup> November in Ballingarry: Newport 3-10 Ballina 1-8 (North Final)  
5<sup>th</sup> December in Ballina: Newport 0-12 Kilsheelan-Kilcash 1-7 (Co Qr Final)  
18<sup>th</sup> December in Newport: Dúrlas Óg 1-8 Newport 2-3 (Co semi-final)

In 2016, the GAA voted to change the age grade of minor from Under 18 to Under 17. Two separate competitions were actually run at inter-county level in 2017 to ensure that players would not miss out on a chance to play minor for their county. Tipperary eventually decided to go with the Under 17 grade at club level in 2021. The Under 21 grade was retained in hurling but an Under 19 competition was also introduced to help bridge the gap. The restructuring was completed with the introduction of Under 13 and 15 to replace the 'even' age grades which had been in place for almost half a century.

Newport's Under 17's fielded 30 different players throughout the season. Among the activities they enjoyed were a Running League, Online S&C sessions and a visit to Lahinch Surf School. They completed their hurling round robin with 5 wins and 2 defeats. Lee Ryan was the stand-out player throughout, posting 2-8 against Burgess, 5-5 against Kilruane and 1-8 against both Kiladangan & Ballinahinch, while John Lee was always prominent in defence. They went on to show remarkable resilience in the knock-out stages. They trailed by 6 points at half time and by 4 at the second water break in the quarter final against Kiladangan, but a strong finish saw them gain the upper hand. Lee Ryan accounted for 0-13 (11f) in this game and he later scored 2-7 in the semi-final. They trailed by 5 points at the interval in that semi-final and appeared to be giving second best to a more accomplished Moneygall/Clonakenny side. However, they got stuck-in and became more competitive in difficult weather conditions. A goal from a penalty and a late point put them in front at the final whistle, following which, a fracas marred a brilliant victory.

An early Lee Ryan goal got Newport off to a good start in the final, but Borrisoleigh proceeded to raise 3 green flags in the opening 30 minutes, one before half time proving to be a killer blow. Newport upped their work rate in the second half, made life more difficult for their opponents and brought the lead down to 4 points – the best of the scores being a brilliant goal from Dan Ryan. However, Borris regained the initiative and ran out comfortable winners. Best were Gavin Mellerick, Dan Ryan and Callum Poole.

Newport were sluggish and disappointing in the county quarter final and trailed 2-8 to 0-1 at the interval. They improved somewhat for the second half but could not match the South champions. Aaron Coleman was one of the few to impress.

Team in Final v Borrisoleigh: Damien O'Brien, Aaron Coleman, Tom Allen, Paul Burke; Kevin O'Brien, John Lee, Gavin Mellerick; Dan Ryan (1-1), Stephen McCormack; Luke Collins, Dara Kennedy (0-2), Shane Flanagan (0-1); Callum Poole, Lee Ryan (1-5, 5f), Brian Tobin.

Subs: Diarmuid O'Riordan for L Collins; Aidan Ryan for D Kennedy; James Tobin for B Tobin.

Also on the panel: Bryan Nolan, Conor McHugo, Keith Hogan, Eoghan Browne, Sean Nolan, Dara Cantillon, Diarmuid Cantillon, Robbie Murray, Chris Egan.

Cillian Collins, Aidan Ryan and Diarmuid O'Riordan started in place of the injured Damien O'Brien, Tom Allen and Dan Ryan in the county quarter final.

It was with some apprehension that Newport faced Ballina in the North Football Final, considering the disparity between the teams when they had met in the league earlier in the year. However, they proceeded to produce a wonderful display and pulled off a deserved, if unexpected victory, thus recording another first in the new minor grade, emulating the feat of the Kyle team which won the first minor football championship played in North Tipperary (in 1940).





### North Tipp Under 17 'A' Football champions 2021

Back: Dara Kennedy, Diarmuid Collins, Bryan Nolan, Paraic Hogan, Christopher Egan, Dara Cantillon, Tom Allen, Gavin Mellerick, Stephen McCormack, James Tobin, Mark Forde, Luke Collins, Diarmuid O'Riordan, Sean Nolan, Diarmuid Cantillon, Kevin O'Brien, Pdraig Tobin, Odran Floyd.

Front: Robbie Murray, Michael Hewitt, Damien O'Brien, Shane Flanagan, Lee Ryan, Callum Poole, Daniel Ryan, Aaron Coleman, Paul Burke, Cillian Cantillon, Brian Tobin.

Due to maintenance works at Lacken Park, the county quarter final game with Kilsheelan had to be transferred to Ballina. The South side started in whirlwind fashion and put two quick points on the board, as Newport were finding it difficult to cope with their running game. However, their shooting was wayward and although Newport did not even register a wide until the fourteenth minute, they settled into the game and found themselves ahead at the interval on an 0-4 to 0-3 scoreline. But a Black Card for Dan Ryan saw them under pressure and after twenty minutes they were 1-1 in arrears. Newport stepped up their performance for the closing stages, scoring four points without reply to draw level at 1-5 to 0-8 and force extra time. Indiscipline and the concession of frees cost Kilsheelan dearly. Nine of Newport's points came from frees and they could afford the luxury of missing a penalty in added time. The story of Kilsheelan's woes could be summed up in two black cards, two red cards and two mentors sent from the field. Newport finished the stronger, pulling off a surprise win over the reigning league champions.

The semi-final was a similar story. Dúrlas Óg dominated possession from the start but missed many scoring opportunities. When Gavin Mellerick converted a penalty in the tenth minute, it gave Newport momentum and they held a 1-2 to 0-3 lead at the interval. A physically stronger Thurles outfit were in the driving seat following a goal in the fifth minute of the second half and they went on to build on their advantage. A late goal, when John Lee poked the ball home from a crowded square, was some consolation for Newport. Gavin Mellerick was Newport's most impressive player throughout the campaign; Diarmuid O'Riordan converted many frees; Dan Ryan, playing in a sweeping role, got on a lot of ball and Mark Forde was a reliable goalkeeper; Stephen McCormack was a tireless worker and captain.

Team in North Final: Mark Forde, Aaron Coleman, Tom Allen, Shane Flanagan; Kevin O'Brien, John Lee, James Tobin; Stephen McCormack (Capt), Gavin Mellerick (1-1); Luke Collins, Diarmuid O Riordan (1-8, 1-6 f), Lee Ryan; Brian Tobin (1-0), Dan Ryan, Callum Poole.

Subs: Sean Nolan for John Lee (inj); Paul Burke for Luke Collins (inj)

Aidan Ryan started in place of John Lee and Sean Nolan in place of Aaron Coleman against Kilsheelan, while Conor McHugo and Dara Kennedy were introduced during the game.

John Lee was back in place of Aidan Ryan for the county semi-final, while Aaron Coleman and Dara Kennedy came off the bench

Also on the panel: Diarmuid Cantillon, Dara Cantillon, Mike Hewitt, Chris Egan, Robbie Murray, Keith Hogan, Eoghan Browne, Bryan Nolan

## Under 15

### Football 'A'

10<sup>th</sup> June in Newport:

Newport 2-9 Nenagh Éire Óg 1-8

24<sup>th</sup> June in Ballina:

Ballina 3-11 Newport 1-4 (North Final)

## Hurling 'B'

8 <sup>th</sup> July in Newport:	Lorrha 3-10 Newport 2-12
15 <sup>th</sup> July in Kilcoleman:	Newport 6-10 Burgess 2-13
22 <sup>nd</sup> July in Puckane:	Newport 1-20 Kiladangan 0-6
29 <sup>th</sup> July in Newport:	Newport w.o. Borrisokane
12 <sup>th</sup> August in Moneygall:	Newport 2-13 Moneygall/Clonakenny 1-16
9 <sup>th</sup> September in Moneygall:	Newport 3-30 Kiladangan 0-5 (Qr Final)
26 <sup>th</sup> September in Toomevara:	Lorrha 4-8 Newport 0-9 (semi-final)

## Féile na nGael

21 <sup>st</sup> August in Ballylooby:	Newport 4-9 Loughmore-Castleiney 1-3
	Newport 1-5 Knockmealdown Gaels 0-8
	Newport 2-5 Kiladangan 0-3
Semi-final in Dundrum:	Newport 2-5 St Patricks 0-9
Final in Morris Park 22 <sup>nd</sup> Aug:	Newport 0-10 Burgess 1-6 AET

The Under 15's focused on S&C development via Zoom during lockdown, before going on the field to work in pods on non-contact skill development. The competitive year began with football and following a close game with Nenagh, they had to give best to a good Ballina side in the final. Newport battled gamely in the rain in Ballina but were unable to make enough inroads in the scoring stakes, despite the best efforts of Shane Flanagan, Adam Power, David Whelton and Cillian Collins.

Team in Final: Adam Kiely, Shane Flanagan (1-0), Cathal Hannon, Luke Kennedy; Martin McCabe, Damien O'Brien, Adam Power; David Whelton (0-2 f), Callum Poole; Darragh Meaney, Ben Fogarty, Darragh Mackey; James Moloney, Darragh Gavin, Cillian Collins (0-2).

Subs: Eoghan Flynn for B Fogarty; Conor Sweeney for J Moloney; Brian McCabe for D Gavin; Dara McGrath for L Kennedy.

Highlight of the year for the Under 15's was winning Section 'D' of Féile na nGael which was run as a county wide competition (to commemorate Féile's Golden Jubilee) in 7 divisions at 13 different venues. Newport led Burgess most of the way in a highly competitive and entertaining final, yet they had to come from behind to force a draw. They showed great resolve in extra time to get the vital scores and a deserved victory.



### **Newport Under 15 hurling team, winners of Tipperary Féile na nGael 'D' 2021**

David Whelton, Cormac Galvin, Shane Flanagan, Jack McCarthy, Callum Poole, Eoghan Flynn, Conor Sweeney, Brian McCabe, Darragh Mackey, Cathal Hannan, Darragh Meaney, Adam Power, Martin McCabe, Damien O'Brien, Ben Fogarty, Darragh Gavin, Cillian Collins, Dara McGrath, Thomas Ryan, Luke Kennedy.

They gave some impressive performances in the championship, none more so than against Kiladangan when Cillian Collins (1-16, 13f) and Eoghan Flynn (1-7), Damien O'Brien and Callum Poole were to the fore. They fought out two close encounters with Lorrha and Moneygall, but when it came to the knock-out stages, Lorrha's strength in central positions proved key. An early injury to Damien O'Brien proved to be detrimental. The teams were level at the first water break, but 3 goals in a 2 minute spell soon afterwards put Lorrha in the driving seat. David Whelton and Shane Flanagan were best. Moneygall later defeated Lorrha in the North Final.

Team in semi-final v Lorrha: Sam Caplis, Conor Sweeney, Damien O'Brien, Luke Kennedy; Martin McCabe, Shane Flanagan, David Whelton; Callum Poole, Cathal Hannon; Darragh Meaney, Ben Fogarty (0-1), Eoghan Flynn; Jack McCarthy, Cillian Collins (0-6, 4f), Darragh Mackey.

Subs: Dara McGrath, for D O'Brien; Darragh Gavin for B Fogarty; Brian McCabe for D Meaney.

At the end of the year, 26 players participated in an Under 15 Wall Ball Tournament at Lacken Park.

## **Under 13**

### Football 'A'

8<sup>th</sup> June in Newport: Newport 6-2 Nenagh Éire Óg 2-1  
29<sup>th</sup> June in Ballina: Ballina 1-6 Newport 0-5 (North Final)

### Football 'D'

8<sup>th</sup> June in Templederry: Newport 2-2 Templederry 1-4  
15<sup>th</sup> June in Newport: Newport 3-8 Burgess 1-2  
22<sup>nd</sup> June in Toomevara: Toomevara 0-4 Newport 0-3 (Semi-Final)

### Hurling 'A'

6<sup>th</sup> July in Newport: Newport 3-7 Roscrea 1-5  
13<sup>th</sup> July in Nenagh: Newport 8-12 Nenagh Éire Óg 0-6  
20<sup>th</sup> July in Newport: Newport 0-8 Ballina 0-7  
27<sup>th</sup> July in Borrisoleigh: Borrisoleigh 3-10 Newport 1-7  
3<sup>rd</sup> August in Newport: Newport 8-11 Kilruane MacDonaghs 2-6  
12<sup>th</sup> August in Dolla: Newport 6-10 Silvermines 2-4  
17<sup>th</sup> August in Toomevara: Newport 2-6 Toomevara 0-7  
7<sup>th</sup> Sept in Toomevara: Roscrea 3-9 Newport 3-6 (Qr Final)

### Plate

14<sup>th</sup> Sept in Ballina: Newport 7-7 Nenagh Éire Óg 0-6  
21<sup>st</sup> Sept in Ballina: Newport 5-7 Ballina 1-5 (Plate Final)

### Hurling 'D'

11<sup>th</sup> July in Roscrea: Newport 5-3 Roscrea 4-0  
20<sup>th</sup> July in Newport: Newport 8-8 Kiladangan 2-9  
3<sup>rd</sup> August in Newport: Newport 8-8 Kilruane MacDonaghs 3-6  
5<sup>th</sup> August in Newport: Newport 1-9 Templederry 1-4  
10<sup>th</sup> August in Kilcoleman: Newport 7-4 Burgess 2-8  
17<sup>th</sup> August in Newport: Newport 3-4 Toomevara 0-3  
13<sup>th</sup> August in Newport: Newport 3-9 Nenagh Éire Óg 3-7  
27<sup>th</sup> August in Borrisoleigh: Borrisoleigh 3-6 Newport 1-6  
8<sup>th</sup> Sept in Nenagh: Newport 1-9 Kilruane MacDonaghs 2-2 (Qr Final)  
15<sup>th</sup> Sept in Shallee: Newport 4-5 Templederry 1-2 (Semi-Final)  
22<sup>nd</sup> Sept in Nenagh: Nenagh Éire Óg 2-4 Newport 0-8 AET (Final)

Newport's two Under 13 teams reached the concluding stages in their respective hurling and football championships. Both lost out narrowly in football. They also participated in The Michael Hogan Festival of Football, which saw teams graded into 6 divisions and playing a series of games at 12 venues throughout the county. Newport's first team played in Templetuohy against Moyne, Silvermines, Moycarkey-Borris and Nenagh, qualifying from the group stages and losing at the semi-final stage to Toomevara by a point after extra time. The second team travelled to Bansha and played their group games v Galtee Rovers, Carrick Davins and Loughmore-Castleliney. They lost their semi-final to Cahir by a point.

Both teams topped their groups after the league stages of the hurling. The 'A' side looked particularly impressive against Nenagh and Kilruane, making great use of possession and picking off many fine scores. They also showed that they could dig out a result in tight games, such as against Ballina and Toomevara. However, they got off to a poor start in the quarter final against Roscrea and found themselves 12 points down at the interval (3-4 to 0-1). They rallied strongly in the second half but time ran out as they continued to press for scores. Kevin Fitzpatrick, Cormac Shanahan, Harry Noone and Charlie Tobin were most to the fore.

Team in the quarter final v Roscrea: Ryan O'Donnell, Harry McKeogh, Cathal McNamara; Aaron Lane, Kevin Fitzpatrick, Colm Ryan; Harry Noone, Charlie Tobin; Ollie Roche, Benji Morgan, Micheál Shanahan; Cormac Shanahan (2-2), Conor McLoughlin (0-2).

Subs: Oisín Kennedy (1-1) for H McKeogh; Luke McIntyre (0-1) for M Shanahan.

A restructured line-out went on to produce strong performances in the Plate competition, with Cormac Shanahan in great scoring form, netting 4-0 and 3-2 in respective games. Colm Ryan contributed 2-3 against Nenagh. The scoreline flattered Newport in the final, as Ballina pressed hard in the second half, but Kevin Fitzpatrick and Conor McLoughlin stood out in defence.

Team in Plate Final: Luke McIntyre, Kevin Fitzpatrick, Cathal McNamara; Harry McKeogh, Conor McLoughlin, Micheál Shanahan; Charlie Tobin, Harry Noone; Ryan O'Donnell, Ollie Roche, Aaron Lane; Cormac Shanahan, Colm Ryan.

Sub: Oisín Kennedy.



**Newport Under 13 team, winners of North Tipp Plate 2021:**

Included are: Conor McLoughlin, Cathal McNamara, Ollie Roche, Luke McIntyre, Colm Ryan, Harry Noone, Cormac Shanahan, Harry McKeogh, Ryan O'Donnell, Kevin Fitzpatrick, Micheál Shanahan, Oisín Kennedy, Charlie Tobin, Aaron Lane.

The second team, playing in the 'D' section, won all their group games and qualified to play Nenagh Éire Óg in the final. The story of the final can be told in 2 late goals. Newport led 0-3 to 0-2 at the interval but got caught by a last minute goal (0-7 to 1-4) to force extra time. Newport led again but a late goal put Nenagh in front for the first and vital time. Best for Newport were Eric Bates, Sean Carrig, Stephen O'Brien and Cian O'Donoghue.

Team in Final: Gavin Gaffney, Darragh Nolan, Eric Bates; Jack Powell, Sean Carrig, Cathal Ryan; Oisín O'Gorman, Ronan Caffrey; Stephen O'Brien, Eamon Berkery (0-2), Caleb Byrne; Cian O'Donoghue (0-6, 3f), Cillian Healy.

Also on panel: Thomas Fogarty, Conor Bailey, Jack Browne, Sam Jones, Eamonn Tierney.



### **Under 13 'D' Finalists 2021**

Included are: Daire Nolan, Jack Browne, Eoin Tierney, Ronan Gaffney, Stephen O'Brien, Eamon Berkery, Conor Bailey, Sam Jones, Gavin Gaffney, Cathal Ryan, Sean Carrig, Oisín O'Gorman, Eric Bates, Cian Donohoe, Cillian Healy, Jack Powell, Tommy Fogarty, Ryan Byrne.

### **Plate Competitions**

North Tipp Bord na nÓg organised 'Plate' competitions in hurling in October/November to cater for age groups not included in the championships:

#### Under 14 'A'

23<sup>rd</sup> October in Borrisoleigh: Borrisoleigh 1-9 Newport 1-7  
 31<sup>st</sup> October in Ballina: Newport 1-13 Ballina 2-10

#### Under 12 'A'

17<sup>th</sup> October in Newport: Newport 4-9 Ballina 2-4  
 23<sup>rd</sup> October in Newport: Newport 6-10 Borrisoleigh 1-5  
 21<sup>st</sup> November in Toomevara: Newport 3-7 Roscrea 0-4 (Final)

Newport fielded 3 Under 12 teams. The 'B' side had games with Portroe, Moneygall and Ballinahinch, while the 'C' team played Ballina, Roscrea and Kilruane.



**North Tipp Under 12 'A' Plate winners October 2021:**

Included are: Eamon Berkery, Andrew Coffey, Stephen O'Brien, Colm Ryan, Jack Landers, Ryan Byrne, Ronan Gaffrey, Oisín Kennedy, Aaron Lane, Cian Donohoe, Gavin Gaffney, Sean Carrig, Darragh Healy.

### Lower Age Groups

67 players were involved in the Under 11 age group. They participated in games, blitzes and tournaments, naming the teams Purple 1 & Purple 2 (for players born in 2010) and Gold 1 & Gold 2 (players born in 2011). They had over 40 training sessions and played more than 30 games against over 70 different teams. North Bórd na nÓg ran a series of non-competitive Go-Games for Under 11's. Newport had 4 teams in the Football League, each group getting 2 games, while 3 teams participated in the North Hurling League, each playing 6 games

In September they entered Tournaments in St Marys Clonmel, Craughwell, Ballina, Cappawhite and Bruff. They competed well in all tournaments winning a shield final in Clonmel and winning the JJ Nevin Cup in Ballina while the Under U10s won the B final in the Des Nevin Cup on the same day. Three Newport teams, involving 48 players, participated in the Michael Hogan Festival of Football for Under 11's. The Group 1 team played in Templemore, Group 5 in Kilcommon, while Lacken Park hosted Group 9.

In August an Under 10½ team was selected to participate in Community Games Hurling – they were narrowly defeated by Toomevara.

In Community Games Football for players under 9½, Newport had a victory over Moycarkey-Borris in the North Final and followed up with a County Final win over Fethard 5-5 to 2-7 in Littleton. They went on to defeat Mungret Regional (6-6 to 1-0) in the Munster Quarter-Final at UL, before losing the semi-final in a great battle with Lissycasey-Ballynacally 8-9 to 6-7.



### County winners in Community Games Football 2021

Included are: Hughie Duggan, Bobby O'Connor, Shay Coleman, Tadgh Malone, Sean Coffey, Josh O'Mahoney, Luke Healy, Matthew Power, JJ Roche, David Gaffrey, Matthew Mellerick, Ronan Tuohy, Finn Harrington, Cathal Grimes, Robert Long, Harry Kennedy

The Under 9's had 33 players in training throughout the year. They hosted a number of hurling and football blitzes in Lacken Park and travelled to places like Newtownshandrum, Thurles, Cappamore, Na Piarasigh and St Patricks for games. A highlight for the group was a walk to the top of Tountinna in October followed by a BBQ.

Mentors worked with 40 children in the Under 8 age group, including 12 girls. They got together on 53 occasions which included 12 blitzes/matches. They hosted games with Monaleen, Mungret and Na Piarasigh and travelled for blitzes in Thurles, St Marys and Newtownshandrum.

Under 7's had 76 players (boys and girls born in 2014 & 2015) involved in coaching and internal games and blitzes. They also organised games against Monaleen, Na Piarasigh, Parteen and Murroe.

Arrangements were made to commence with Under 5's in May. They worked mainly at the Hurling Wall with a group of 21 boys and girls, focusing on fundamental movement and basic hurling and football drills. They progressed to playing mini-games and then travelled to Puckane where the players wore the club jersey for the first time in a series of games with Kiladangan. They finished the year with a home blitz with Silvermines.

### Obituaries in 2021

**John Seymour**, Killaloe and formerly of Birdhill, who died in January, lined out with Newport juvenile hurling and football teams during the 1970's.

**Gerry Coffey**, Knockaunbawn, who died in January, wore the Mulcaire Rovers colours in the 1950's.

**Declan Ryan**, who died suddenly in July, played at juvenile level with Newport hurling and football teams, before going on to play under-age rugby and fill many administrative roles with Newport RFC.

## End of Year

- A planned function to mark the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Newport's North Tipp senior hurling title of 1996 was postponed due to Covid concerns.
- Gavin Mellerick was named North Tipp Under 19 'B' Footballer of the Year for 2021. He received his award at the North Board function in February 2022.

*Gavin Mellerick receives his Footballer of the Year award from former Tipperary hurling star, Seamus Hogan.*



- Mike McKeogh, who transferred away from Newport after the 2020 championship won a Laois county Junior Hurling Championship with Ballypickas. He was the team's free-taker and top scorer, was named man-of-the-match in the county final and received the Laois Junior Hurler of the Year award at the end of the season.
- The club embarked on a recruitment campaign seeking to involve new personnel in a variety of roles.
- At the AGM which was held virtually, Secretary, Mary Bourke, said that the club was blessed with the number of people actively helping with under-age teams and that it was really encouraging to see so many senior players lending a hand. She made special mention of Cora Moroney for her work in completing the club Audit & Safeguarding Statement and expressed thanks to Newport/Ballinahinch Camogie Club and Rockvale LGF for their support in finalising same.

Chairman, James Collins, described 2021 as a "mixed bag" of highs and lows. He highlighted the hard work of the Juvenile Committee, Cora Moroney's organising of coaching in the schools and Martin Guilfoyle's guiding of the Healthy Club initiative. He expressed pride in the achievements of our Scór representatives and looked forward to the setting up of sub-committees in 2022 to involve more people and spread the work load.

Treasurer, Martin Kennedy, showed a balance of €18,837 in the club's current account, €40,215 on deposit, €33,949 with the Credit Union (€17,00 of which was on standby for Lotto Jackpot payout), €5,000 invested in the Croke Park Development Fund and €19,155 in the Juvenile Club account.

Notable items of income included €7,107 from the Online Bingo and €8,000 for sale of mower, while €15,720 was expended on field maintenance (mostly painting).

The Juvenile Club accounts, despite Covid having put paid to fundraisers such as Table Quiz, Church Gate Collection and Bag Packing, showed an excess of income over expenditure to the tune of €2,052. Membership receipts amounted to €21,263.

Juvenile Club chairman, Ollie Kennedy, who was stepping down after a four-year term, said that a huge debt of gratitude was due to the managers, coaches, covid supervisors and parents who invested so much time, energy and determination throughout the year for the benefit of all the young players and the club as a whole. He had particular praise for the trojan work of Mike Coffey as Coaching Officer, the dedication of Cora Moroney to the role of Club School & Children's Officer, the



professionalism of Ray Meaney as Juvenile Secretary and the detailed attention of Maria Collins to the juvenile club's finances.

Ray Meaney noted the difficulty in getting games for the Under 11's due to the large numbers involved and he highlighted the volume of work done over the years by Ollie Kennedy and Maria Collins.

Coaching Officer, Mike Coffey reported that in 2021 there were 344 players registered up to age 17, with 97 coaches/mentors involved. He expressed great satisfaction at the progress of the S&C programme under Shane Walsh, with the assistance of Sean O'Brien, Ger Bradley and Conor Floyd.

- When presenting his 15<sup>th</sup> annual report to County Convention, Tim Floyd announced that 2022 would be his final year in the role of County Secretary.
- Two club members, Conor and Kealan Floyd opened the Workshop Health & Fitness Studio at the Arrabawn Retail Centre in Newport.
- As a new variant of the Covid virus (Omicron) arrived, restrictions were reimposed in December, limiting gatherings of people and social interaction.

## Scór

Newport representatives in Amhránaíocht Aonair and in Léiriú took the honours in the 2020 County Final of Senior Scór which was held in Newport on 7<sup>th</sup> March. The Covid shutdown, which followed soon after, saw to it that the Munster Final did not take place until 31<sup>st</sup> October of 2021. Both Newport reps also took provincial titles and went on to represent Tipperary in the All Ireland Final held in the Connacht Air Dome. Siobhán Egan's beautiful rendition of Percy French's 'Gortnamona' failed to get the nod from the adjudicators but the Leiriú team of Pdraig Kennedy, Paraic Kennedy, Tom McCabe, Cathriona O'Brien, Lily O'Grady, Carol O'Hora, John Tuohey and director Mary Browne-Ryan retained their national crown with their act entitled 'Lisdoonvarna Here We Come.'



All Ireland Final winners November 2021 (Scór 2020) in the Nuachleas competition:

Back: Pat Teehan (Leinster Council), John Tuohey, Pdraig Kennedy, Tomás Ó'Muirí (Coiste Scór), Cathriona O'Brien, Paraic Kennedy, John Murphy (Connacht Council).

Front: Carol O'Hora, Tom McCabe, Lil O'Grady, Mary Browne