

**Dublin County Board Minute Books (Senior)  
1896-1980**

**GAA/DUB/01**



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**Title:** Dublin County Board Minute Book, 1896-1898

**Code:** GAA/DUB/01/01

**Covering Dates:** 20 October 1896-8 February 1898

**Extent:** 105pp

**Scope and Content:**

Minute book, in bound volume form, containing the minutes of the weekly meetings of the County Dublin G.A.A. Committee, 1896-1898, and the minutes of the 1897 County Dublin G.A.A. Annual Convention. (pp.41-42). Minutes are generally in the form of newspaper cuttings attached to the book, with additional handwriting and are signed by J.J. McCabe, Chairman. The minute book also contains the handwritten Secretary's Report for 1896. (pp.26-37).

The general running of the G.A.A. in Dublin is recorded in the minute book including the fixing of dates and venues for tournaments; the granting of permits for extra tournaments, including the 'Adams Tournament' (p.23); the hearing of match appeals and objections including the ordered replay of the 1897 football final between Geraldines and Kickhams (p.94); the management of committee personnel including the election of J.J. McCabe as Chairman (p.42), the re-election of M.T. O'Malley as secretary (p.42), the election of Maher as Treasurer (p.42) and the election of the twelve man committee and the seven representatives to the G.A.A. Annual Convention. (p.42).

The minute book contains a table showing the number of fouls committed, and the number of games played, by each team in the 1896 County Dublin Championship for both football (p.1) and hurling (p.2); a list of Official County Dublin clubs for 1896 (p.3) and a County Dublin Committee attendance roll for 1896 (pp.4-5) including a Clonturk attendance role starting on the 12<sup>th</sup> of July 1896 (p.5).

The role the County Board played in punishing indiscipline, on and off the field, is highlighted throughout the minutes. The Secretary, in his annual report, commented that the County Board 'had also regretfully to suspend the Robert Emmets for attacking their opponents the Geraldines at Clonturk Park...the Parnells were also suspended for taking possession of the field and preventing the [Young Irelands] v Geraldines match' (p.36). At the 13 October 1897 meeting it is recorded that 'Mr McBride attended and

made an unprovoked assault on Mr Keane thus bringing the committee into disrepute with the National Club authorities. The meeting had to be brot to an abrupt termination. The committee were highly incensed at Mr McBride's action and resolved on taking steps to assert their authority in the matter.' (p.77).

The minutes highlight the wellbeing of the Committee in Dublin during the period 1896-1897 including the financial position of the committee. The Secretary, in his 1896 annual report, recorded that '[we] are pleased to be able to place such a satisfactory statement before the clubs of Dublin. The strictest economy has been used in expending the funds and during this [committees] term of office the GAA in Dublin has progressed favourably' (p.33) and that 'the number of clubs affiliated during the past year was 35 as against 25 for 1895' (p.27). The report also contains that 'The [Committee] on quitting office bequeath a legacy of success to those who come after them and they trust that the GAA in Dublin will continue to flourish until it has once more attained the position it occupied some years ago in the city' (p.37). Of the 1897 championship the minutes record that the 'Chairman said they might congratulate themselves on the successful winding up of the 1897 championships in hurling and football. They had also a Tug-of-War contest, which was of exceptional interest, and was a novelty as far as county championships were concerned.' (p.89).

The County Boards search for a suitable ground to host the County Dublin championships is a recurring theme. Minutes show that the committee, at their 24<sup>th</sup> of February 1897 meeting, agree to advertise for a ground to hold the 1897 championships 'inside the county of Dublin, and if possible within the city' (p.45). The possibility of using Clonturk Park, and asking Clonturk publicans to contribute to the fees, was also raised at this meeting. Minutes for the 31<sup>st</sup> of March 1897 meeting record that 'The Chairman then on behalf of the sub-committee having charge of the obtaining of a ground for holding the championships on this year, announced that a suitable site had been procured at Harold's Cross' (p.51) but later minutes show that this ground, Mount Drummond, was unsatisfactory 'Mr Cullen agreed to send out men to clear away stones [and] broken bottles from the ground.' (p.55). Minutes for the 19 May 1897 meeting record that 'Letters were received...complaining that Mount Drummond Avenue grounds

were unsuitable for playing matches on, and suggesting the advisability of obtaining another and more suitable enclosure. The Committee, as the clubs are aware, were at great pains to select a suitable ground, and Mount Drummond was obtained after much difficulty. Jones Road could not be secured except at a prohibitive rate, and clubs should have some consideration before passing criticism on the Committee' (p.58). Minutes for the 24<sup>th</sup> of September 1897 meeting record that 'Mr Keane said he had seen Mr Butterly who agreed to let the Committee have Jone's Road, he to keep 1/3 gate receipts and the committee 2/3<sup>rd</sup> the advtg and gate men to be paid by Mr Butterly. The Committee were very pleased at this arrangement and authorised Mr Keane to draw up an agreement to be signed by Mr Butterly and the Committee.' (pp.73-74). Minutes for next meeting, held on the 30<sup>th</sup> of September 1897 show that 'The committee beg to announce that they have completed arrangements with the City and Suburban Company, Ltd, to take the Jone's Road Grounds for the completion of this years championships' (p.75).

The issue of people climbing over perimeter walls to watch matches is a recurring topic throughout the minutes. In his annual report for 1896 the Secretary reported that 'the unprotected condition of Clonturk Park however seriously embarrassed the Committee and they spent £8:10:6 during the year in endeavouring to keep out the wall climbers who when they entered the grounds crowded in on the field of play and obstructed the teams in their work.' (p.32). Upon obtaining Mount Drummond for the 1897 championship the 'Secy was directed to write to Superintendent "E" Division D.M.P. (Dublin Metropolitan Police) Rathmines to know if he could send some of his men to assist in preventing "wall climbing" in Mt Drummond & what remuneration would be required for their services.' (p.54). The minutes for the 12 May 1897 meeting contain that 'A letter was received from the Dublin Police regarding the placing of men on duty at Mt Drummond saying the police would be prepared to take up any definite charge the Committee might make against individuals. They could not however act as caretakers on private grounds.' (p.57). Minutes further show that 'It was agreed to put up additional canvas on the grounds and with regard to the wall men it was decided to employ no more from the locality.' (p.56).

Minutes record the management and provision of awards including the 1896 County Dublin championship medals 'the question of the Championship medals was gone into, and the following sub-committee was appointed to make final arrangements...They were directed to obtain a written guarantee...that the medals would be Dublin made and bear the Dublin hallmark' (p.11) and the 1897 Championship medals 'Rumours have been set afloat that these medals are not being executed in Dublin. The sub-committee having charge of the matter...desire publicly to give these rumours flat contradiction, as they have jointly and severally witnessed Mr Robert Valentine, of 62 South William street, the contractor entrusted with the order, manufacturing the medals on his premises in accordance with his written agreement. Any Gael can verify this fact by paying a visit to the address given above during this week.' (p.100). The minutes for the 10<sup>th</sup> of March 1897 committee meeting record that 'Mr J J Kenny attended with the object of offering a cup for the hurling championship of Dublin, the cup to be held from year to year by the winning team'. (p.48).

Minutes further record that an award was to be presented to the team committing the least amount of fouls during the 1896 football and hurling championships 'The Committee had under consideration the awarding of medals to the captain of the hurling and football team which committed the least number of fouls in proportion to the matches engaged in during the championships...the Committee unanimously awarded a silver medal with a suitable inscription to the captain of the Grocers' Hurling Club and the captain of the Dolphin's Football Club.' (p.9).

The relationship between the County Dublin Committee and the media can be seen throughout the minute book. In his annual report for 1896 the secretary stated that 'An attempt was made during the year to furnish the Gaels of Dublin with an official organ and Mr Triston...deserves thanks for the praiseworthy manner in which he kept the "Gaelic Athlete" going. Owing to want of support however the paper has to cease publication...It is to be hoped that during the coming year the paper will be revived or one started in its stead, especially when it is borne in mind that the Daily Press of Dublin does not give Gaelic sports the patronage which they should.' (pp.33-34). At the 1897 Annual Convention the motion 'That the Gaels of Dublin ignore the daily National

papers, as they have by their suppression of gaelic news slighted the Dublin gael in an ignominious manner. The I.D.I. as well as the other Dublin dailies furnish columns of their papers for Rugby, Association, and cricket, whereby they crush us out, who are the mainstay of their papers' was passed unanimously with specific reference made to the lack of media coverage afforded to the 'Adams Tournament'. (p.41).

The political leanings of the committee can be seen in the minutes with the committee deciding at their 17<sup>th</sup> of November 1896 meeting to 'to postpone their tournament to 13<sup>th</sup> December next owing to the anniversary of the Manchester Martyrs on the 22 Nov.' (p.14) and the passing 'amidst applause' of the motion 'That in view of the centenary of 1798, which will be suitably celebrated next year by all Irish Nationalists, irrespective of sectional differences, this convention of the county Dublin Gaels hereby declares its hearty approval of the movement, and calls upon the Dublin clubs to send delegates to the preliminary meeting in the City Hal on the 4<sup>th</sup> March.' (p.42)

**Title:** Dublin County Board Minute Book, 1908-1912

**Code:** GAA/DUB/01/02

**Covering Dates:** 3 November 1908-29 May 1912

**Extent:** 218pp

**Scope and Content:**

Minute book, in bound volume form, containing the signed handwritten meeting minutes of the Dublin County Board of the Gaelic Athletic Association. The minute book contains the minutes of the regular County Board meetings, 1908-1912, and the minutes of the Annual County Convention held in 1909 (pp.39-42).

The minute book contains a record of the motions passed and defeated at the County Conventions; the rulings and decisions made by the County Board; the hearing of appeals and objections; the fixing of dates and venues for games and competitions and the general running of the GAA throughout Dublin.

The resignation of Councilor McCarthy, who was elected chairman of the Leinster Council, as chairman of the County Board is recorded in the minutes of the 23 February 1909 meeting (p.17) with the election of J.J. Hogan as chairman recorded in the minutes of the 9 March 1909. (p.19). Hogan's re-election as chairman of the Board is recorded in the minutes of the 1909 Convention. (p.40).

The re-election of M.F. Crowe as secretary of the County Board is recorded in the minutes of the 1909 Convention (p.40) alongside the unanimous adoption of the motion 'That the office of hon. Treasurer be abolished, and that in future the work be carried out by the hon. Secretary.' (p.40).

Key motions included in the minute book include that the 'incoming committee be empowered if considered advisable to start an Intermediate championship confined to such teams as may be determined on.' (p.41) and that 'attendance at meetings of County Committees be not recognised after 9 o'clock.' (p.41).

Key decisions recorded throughout the minutes include a £2.2.0 donation to the fund established for Thomas Kenny Craughwell 'who had been arrested on a false charge of shooting a policeman' (p.18); the participation of the County Board in the demonstration



of welcome for Mathew Cummins, President of the Ancient Order of Hibernians in America (p.20); the declaration of 16 May 1909 as a closed date for GAA activities to facilitate the unveiling of the John O'Leary monument (p.26) and the cancellation of the proposed hurling match between Dublin and Kilkenny, in aid of the Croke Memorial, as Kilkenny refused to play in Jones Road. (p.70) and the statement issued by the Board alerting the public that the proposed *Gaelic Athlete* 'is purely a private one and that the GAA has no official connection whatsoever with it.' (p.190).

The relationship between the Dublin County Board and the various labour disputes of the period is recorded throughout the minutes. At the 8 December 1908 meeting a 'deputation attended from the Dockers Union and asked the Committee to assist their funds by the organising of a one day tournament. It was decided to do so and to invite the Dundalk Rangers to play' (p.6) with the minutes of the 5 January [1909] meeting recording that £50 was forwarded to the Dockers Union. (p.9). At the 8 March 1910 meeting a 'deputation attended from the Brushmakers Society and asked the Board to organise a tournament in aid of fund which is being organised for the families of the men on strike. The matter was left in the Hon. Secs hands for the present.' (p.74)

The reaction of the Dublin County Board to the establishment of the National University of Ireland is recorded throughout the minute books. At the 2 February 1909 meeting a 'deputation attended from Students Society and stated they were holding a demonstration...in favour of compulsory Irish in the new University, and asked that the members of the Board, as well as the members of the different clubs, should participate in a torchlight procession from the Mansion House...to the Rotunda, where a public meeting will be held. It was decided to render all possible assistance.' (p.14). At the 1909 Convention the motion was passed 'That we, the Co Dublin Gaels...desire to congratulate the very Rev Dr O'Hickey for the manly stand he has made for Irish nationality, especially in connection with the establishment of an Irish University, and to show our practical appreciation of his efforts we hereby pledge our support to the testimonial organised on his behalf by the Gaelic League.' (p.42). At the 30 November 1909 meeting a 'communication was received in reference to the status of Gaelic players in the Athletic Union of the National University, and it was agreed to treat the

new Union in exactly the same way as the St James Gate Athletic Union viz: Members of the GAA may become members of the Union but cannot participate in foreign games, nor can they compete at sports under the auspices of the Irish Amateur Athletic Association or Irish Cyclists Association'. (p.59).

The Dublin County Board, at their 15 November 1909 meeting, unanimously passed the resolution that 'In connection with the All-Ireland Football Final...Acting on the information before us, we, the Dublin County Board, condemn the Kerry Championship Football Club for refusing to travel to meet Louth; and we further assert that no grievance, imaginary or otherwise, against the G.S.W.R. would possibly justify such action.' (p.112).

At the 31 January 1911 meeting 'Mr Burke reported that as a result of his negotiations with the Superior General of the Christian Brothers regarding the reorganisation of the Schools League, he had been informed that the Superior General could not receive the proposed deputation from the County Board and that he could not allow the members of his order to organise school teams for the League or to accept any responsibility for such teams.' (p.125)

At the 13 April 1909 meeting 'Mr L O'Toole raised the question of an "Insurance Scheme" for players and submitted some details showing how the matter could be worked. He was for the present simply anxious to have the scheme printed and circulated amongst the clubs. This it was decided to do.' (p.23).

**Title:** Dublin County Board Minute Book, 1912-1917

**Code:** GAA/DUB/01/03

**Covering Dates:** 29 November 1912-2 January 1917

**Extent:** 249pp

**Scope and Content:**

Minute book, in bound volume form, containing the signed handwritten meeting minutes of the Dublin County Board of the Gaelic Athletic Association. The minute book contains the minutes of the regular County Board meetings, 1912-1917, and the minutes of the Annual County Conventions held in 1913 (pp.56-59); 1914 (pp.106-109) and 1915 (pp.152-155).

The minute book contains a record of the motions passed and defeated at the County Conventions; the rulings and decisions made by the County Board; the hearing of appeals and objections; the fixing of dates and venues for games and competitions and the general running of the GAA throughout Dublin.

The re-election of Harry Boland as Chairman of the Board is recorded in the minutes of the conventions held in 1913 (p.58), 1914 (p.108) and 1915 (p.154).

The re-elections of D.J. Burke as Secretary of the Board is recorded in the minutes of the conventions held in 1913 (p.58), 1914 (p.108) and 1915 (p.154). At the 6 June 1916 meeting D.J. Burke 'tendered his resignation of the post of Hon Secretary and Treasurer as private circumstances rendered him unable to discharge the duties' with Lorcan O'Toole appointed to act as temporary Secretary. (p.184).

At the 15 April 1913 meeting 'it was decided to adopt as the county colours a light blue jersey with a white shield, bearing the city arms, and the assistant secretary was directed to register same with the Leinster and Central Councils, and to procure quotations for the supply of two sets of jerseys.' (p.29) The minutes of the 6 May 1913 meeting record the Board accepting 'the quotation of Mssrs Whelan and Son for the supply of the new county jerseys at the price...2/9 per jersey without the shield – 'jersey to have long sleeves and low neck.' (p.32).

The Dublin County Boards' involvement in the 1913 Croke Memorial Tournament is recorded throughout the minutes; arrangements were made at the 24 June 1913 meeting that all Dublin committee members were to act as stewards for the football final, between Kerry and Louth, in Jones Road (p.40) while the resolution was passed by the Board, at their 15 July 1913 meeting "That it is the unanimous opinion of the Gaels of Dublin that the Croke Memorial should chiefly take the form of the purchase of a central ground, to be known as the Croke Memorial Park, and that, should the Central Council be disposed to erect a supplementary memorial in Thurles, the sum to be expended thereon should not exceed £200.' (p.41).

The relationship between the Dublin County Board and the politics of the period is recorded throughout the minutes. A deputation from the 'Evicted Tenants' Association' attended the 17 June 1913 County Board meeting asking for a tournament to be held in aid of the fund (p.39) while the County Board decided, at their 30 September 1913 meeting, to bring off a monster tournament on [12 October 1913] for the benefit of the men on strike or locked out, many of whom are either members or supporters of the GAA' (p.51) with Jones Road subsequently booked, 'the proprietor, with characteristic generosity...kindly allowed a substantial reduction in the usual terms, having regard to the object of the tournament.' (p.53).

At the 19 May 1914 meeting 'A letter was read from Mr L.J. O'Toole...drawing attention to the provisions of the Weekly Rest-Day Bill at present before Parliament, under which Sunday competitions would be prohibited. A resolution of protest against the Bill was unanimously adopted, and it was directed that the Chairman of the Irish Party and the Parliamentary members for Dublin be requested to use their endeavours either towards the defeat of the Bill or its amendment in such a manner as not to interfere with the operations of the G.A.A.' (p.92).

At the 1914 County Convention the resolution (adopted by the Kerry County Board and distributed throughout Ireland) 'That the Central Council be requested to summon immediately a convention of the Association for the purpose of (a) amending the constitution of the Association so as to allow the affiliation of rifle clubs in the same manner as hurling and football clubs as now affiliated; and (b) of promoting inter-club,

inter-county, inter-provincial, and All-Ireland championships in rifle shooting' was discussed. (p109). Opposing the motion, Mr O'Loughlin stated that 'the programme of the GAA was already overcrowded, and there were several branches of its work untouched', to which Mr Crowe, replied that 'the G.A.A. had its hands pretty full at present, no doubt, but he would much prefer to see hurling and football dropped for one year, so as to enable every member to become proficient in the use of arms.' (p.109). The Convention decided that they 'thoroughly agree and endorse the principle contained in the resolution of the Kerry Co Board, but that further consideration of the matter be deferred pending details and constitution, and that a special Convention be summoned to deal with the matter when the details are to hand' (p.109).

At the 11 April 1916 meeting the 'proposals now before Parliament with a view to a levy of an entertainments duty on athletic sports were considered, and it was resolved to telegraph in the following sense to the Dublin members of Parliament and Messrs John Redmond, T.M. Healy, William O'Brien and L. Ginnell, members of Parliament – Dublin Council Gaelic Athletic Association emphatically protest against proposed entertainments duty as affecting hurling, Gaelic football, and athletic sports, and request your support to secure exemption of Gaelic Athletic Association, which is an honorary Association not conducted for profit of players or promoters.' (p.182).

The relationship between the Dublin County Board and political prisoners following the 1916 Rising is recorded throughout the minutes: Mr Burke informed the 6 June 1916 meeting that 'under the martial law regulations, police permits were necessary for all meetings and matches' with the Board deciding, by 8 votes to 7, 'that championship matches be played and the net proceeds devoted to the National Aid Association.' (p.184). At the 31 October 1916 meeting 'A letter was read from the Corporation inviting the Committee to appoint delegates to attend the All-Ireland Convention to be held at an early date to form a Political Prisoners Amnesty Association. It was decided to hold the letter over pending the matter being considered by Central Council' (p.216) with Mr Harty later nominated as the County Boards delegate (p.217).

At the 16 September 1913 meeting 'Resolutions from the Cork County Committee relating to the securing of recognition from the International Olympic Association of the

right of the Irish Nation to compete on its own in the Olympic Games were unanimously adopted on the understanding that such recognition be secured without any sacrifice of the National principles of the GAA' (p.50)

The proposed reorganisation of the Dublin County Board, and the resultant expulsion of the CJ Kickhams Club from the GAA, is recorded throughout the minutes. At the 15 July 1913 meeting a 'letter was read from the C.J. Kickhams, forwarding copies of circulars advocating the reform of the existing constitution, so as to provide a system of election by which the governing bodies will be directly responsible to the senior clubs.' (p.41). The County Board, at their 2 September 1913 meeting, decided to recommend to Convention that 'there be two Boards called 'Senior' and 'Junior' respectively. That the Senior Board consist of one representative of each senior club-that is of each club competing in senior championship or senior leagues (1<sup>st</sup> Division) together with a chairman and secretary who will be elected at an annual convention consisting of two delegates from each senior board...That the Junior Board consist of one delegate from each club other than senior clubs...That no member shall be eligible to sit on both the Senior and Junior Boards. That in addition there shall be a Joint Executive Committee consisting of twelve members...That the Joint Executive Committee have full executive control in the county, hear appeals from decisions of the Senior and Junior Boards.' (pp.46-47). The Kickham scheme was dismissed at the 9 September 1913 meeting. (p.48). At the 1913 Convention, another scheme, recommended by the Davis Hurling Club, was adopted which outlined that 'while it is recognised that some reorganisation is required in the county the necessity does not exist for the drastic changes outlined in the revised scheme drawn up by the outgoing county committee: that it be resolved, therefore, that the County Committee continue as at present constituted to carry out the championships and to be responsible for the general management in the county; that a new league be established for Senior Football and Hurling teams; and that the other grades of the League competitions be carried out by a Junior Hurling League and a Junior Football League respectively.' (pp.57-58)

At the 4 November 1913 meeting 'a letter was received from the Kickhams H. & F.C. forwarding cheque for 12/- affiliation fee. Before accepting same it was decided to ask

the Kickhams for an explanation regarding the following resolution reported in the press as having been passed by their club viz: “(1) That the Kickham Club will not take part in any competition promoted by the governing bodies of the G.A.A. until a satisfactory system of government is established. (2) That we call on all genuine Gaelic clubs to take the necessary steps to abolish the present unbusinesslike and intolerable state of affairs.” (p.61). At the 2 December 1913 meeting ‘As the CJ Kickham Club had refused to furnish satisfactory replies to communications from the County Committee, and had not entered for the forthcoming leagues and championships, it was unanimously decided to refuse to accept the fee tendered for the affiliation of the club for the current season. The club is therefore no longer an affiliated club of the G.A.A.’ (p.66).

**Title:** Dublin County Board Minute Book, 1917-1923

**Code:** GAA/DUB/01/04

**Covering Dates:** 14 January 1917-28 January 1923

**Extent:** 341pp

**Scope and Content:**

Minute book, in bound volume form, containing the signed handwritten meeting minutes of the Dublin County Board of the Gaelic Athletic Association. The minute book contains the minutes of the regular County Board meetings, 1917-1923, and the minutes of the Annual County Conventions held in 1917 (pp.1-2 & 6); 1918 (pp.63-66); December 1918 (pp.113-115); 1919 (pp.169-170); January 1921 (pp.220-221); December 1921 (pp.271-273) and 1923 (pp.328-334).

The minute book contains a record of the motions passed and defeated at the County Conventions; the rulings and decisions made by the County Board; the hearing of appeals and objections; the fixing of dates and venues for games and competitions and the general running of the GAA throughout Dublin.

The re-election of Harry Boland as Chairman of the Dublin County Board is recorded in the minutes of the annual convention held in 1917 when 'owing to Mr Boland's absence, a motion creating the new position of vice-chairman was unanimously passed, Mr A.C. Harty being elected to the office amid applause.' (p.16). Boland and Harty's re-elections are recorded in the minutes of the annual conventions held in 1918 (p.64) and December 1918 (p.114). At the first convention of the Dublin Senior Board, held in December 1919, Boland was elected Honorary President and Harty elected chairman (p.173) with Harty's re-elections recorded in the conventions held in January 1921 (p.220), December 1921 (p.272) and 1923 (p.329).

At the 2 August 1922 Board meeting, A. C Harty, Chairman, 'in concluding the meeting, said it was his melancholy duty to propose a vote of condolence with the mother and family of the late Mr. Harry Boland, on his tragic death. As they were all aware, the late Mr. Boland was Chairman of the Board for several years up to a few years ago, when he was elected Hon. President. His activities, both in the field and Council room, were well known to them and it was with very great regret it fell to his lot to propose this vote



of sympathy.’ (p.304) with all Dublin GAA members requested to assemble at Earlsfort Terrace on 3 August 1922 to accompany Boland’s remains from St Vincent’s Hospital to Carmelite Church, Whitefriar Street. (p.304)

The re-elections of Lorcan O’Toole as Secretary of the Board is recorded in the minutes of the conventions held in 1917 (p.6); 1918 (p.64) and December 1918 (p.114). O’Tooles elections as Secretary of the Senior Board are recorded in the conventions held in 1919 (p.173); January 1921 (p.220); December 1921 (p.272) and 1923 (p.329).

The re-affiliation of the Kickham Club to the Dublin County Board, and the consequent formation of separate Senior and Junior Boards, is recorded throughout the minutes. At the 22 April 1919 meeting ‘The sub-committee appointed to meet a [ ] of the Kickhams Club furnished a report giving details of the scheme agreed on at the conference, which was gone into fully, and unanimously approved of, a copy to be sent to the Kickham for their meeting’. (p.136). At the conference between representatives of the County Board and the Kickham Club, held in December 1919, the Kickham delegation “‘agreed to affiliate and take part in this year’s Championships and Leagues” on the understanding that each member of the Co. Committee guarantees to do all in his power at the next annual convention to have Junior and Senior Boards established in the County.’ (p.168). The minutes of this conference contain the proposed scheme for creating Junior and Senior boards which stipulates that the Junior Board would contain 12 members for the first 15 clubs affiliated and ‘one for every five or fraction of five above that number’ and be responsible for Intermediate and Junior hurling and football championships. (p.168). The Senior Board ‘to be formed of one representative of each affiliated senior club playing in the Championships of Leagues. Officers to be elected from the senior clubs, together with six representatives from the junior clubs-two hurlers and four footballers...Such to form the Executive Committee or the governing body for the county.’ (p.168). The adoption of this scheme, by 62 votes to 16, is recorded in the minutes of the 1919 Annual Convention. (p.169).

The minute book records the actions, and reactions, of the County Board during the ‘Irish Revolutionary Period’, 1913-1923.

At the 16 April 1918 meeting the resolution was passed that the County Board 'pledges to resist by any and every means in our power the attempted conscription of Irish manhood. And we call on all members of the GAA to give effect to the terms of the foregoing resolution.' (p.80).

The Dublin County Boards reaction to the proposed inclusion of Gaelic games in the 'Amusement Tax' is recorded throughout the minutes. At the 8 May 1917 meeting 'Arising out of a communication from Central Council Sec re a summons for Amusements Tax in connection with c'ship games at Croke Park in Jan, it was decided that the Chairman and Sec should wait on a solicitor re same, accompanied by Mr L O'Toole Sec Central Council.' (p.25) while at the 3 July 1917 meeting the 'Chairman made a report on the case by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise against the Co Committee re the Amusement Tax and stated he had received notice to produce receipts etc. The Committee granted permission to take the minute book etc to Court on Thursday July 5<sup>th</sup> when the case would be heard.' (p.33). At the 10 July 1917 meeting the resolution was passed that 'That this meeting of the Co. Dublin Committee of the G.A.A., representing the Gaels of Dublin, desires to enter its strongest protest against the action of the Excise authorities in their endeavour to force the G.A.A. to pay the Amusements Tax, as we hold this is a direct violation of the clause in the Act specially drafted by the late Chancellor of the Exchequer whereby the GAA was exempted from payment of the tax. We call on all Co Boards and clubs throughout Ireland to enter an emphatic protest against the action of the authorities, and to refuse to pay the tax, as we are of the opinion that the authorities have no legal right to enforce its payment, and that a copy of this resolution be sent to all County Boards in Ireland.' (p.34). At the 1918 Annual Convention the Secretary, in his report, stated that 'Early in the year a prosecution was instituted against the Vice-Chairman (M Harty) and hon sec by the Customs and Excise authorities on account of the amusement tax, arising out of a championship match played at Croke Park on January 7<sup>th</sup>, 1917. The prosecution was defended by the Co. Board, who decided to engage counsel. The authorities succeeded in their case against Mr Harty, but the case against the sec was dismissed. The costs of the case amounted to £24.' (p.63).

The organisation of Gaelic Sunday, 4 August 1918, throughout Dublin is recorded in the minute book. The County Board, at their 23 July 1918 meeting, received a circular from Central Council 'forwarding the decision arrived at the special meeting of that body...regarding the prohibition of Gaelic games' and decided to hold a special meeting to discuss the matter. (p.94). The minutes of the 30 July 1918 meeting contain the Dublin fixtures for 'Gaelic Sunday', including two intermediate football matches scheduled for Croke Park, with the directive 'all fixtures will be at 3 o'clock (old time) and any team not turning up at the appointed venue will be suspended.' (p.95). At the 6 August 1918 meeting 'The chairman congratulated the various clubs on the way they had turned out on Sunday last, and said it was satisfactory to state that all the matches arranged were played except three, which fell through owing to inability to secure grounds' (p.96). At the December 1918 Convention the secretary reported that 'The determination of the members of the G.A.A. in Dublin and throughout the country on this question soon made the Government realise their mistake, and their order was withdrawn after a couple of weeks.' (p.113).

The Dublin County Board's reaction to the expulsion of Civil Servants, who had taken the Oath of Allegiance, from the Association is recorded throughout the minutes. At the 31 December 1918 meeting 'A deputation representing the Civil Servants waited on the Board regarding the resolution passed at the last meeting of the Central Council relieving from membership of the Association those who had taken the oath of allegiance...it was finally decided to summon a special convention' (p.117). At this special convention, held on 10 January 1919, a resolution was proposed 'That this Convention of Co Dublin Gaels protests against the recent decision of the Central Council regarding the proposed expulsion of members on whom the oath of allegiance was imposed, and instructs the sec. to have this protest brought to the notice of the C.C. with a view to the immediate withdrawal of their resolution, and that copies be sent to the Provincial Council and various Co Boards' but, on the suggestion of the chairman, the motion was 'not pressed' and the 'matter left an open question until the Annual Congress, when the whole matter would be discussed by the Gaels of Ireland.' (p.120).

The organisation, and aftermath, of “Bloody Sunday”, 21 November 1920, is recorded in the minutes: at the 3 November 1920 meeting ‘Notification was received that the Dublin football team were accepting the challenge issued on behalf of the Tipperary team in Monday’s papers, and that the match would probably be played at Croke Park on November 14<sup>th</sup>.’ (p.216) while at the 17 November 1920 meeting ‘All members of the Board [were] requested to be at Croke Park on Sunday next, not later than two o’clock to act as stewards in the Dublin versus Tipperary Football contest, which will start at 2.45.’ (p.218). At the 24 November 1920 meeting ‘A vote of condolence was passed with the relatives and friends of those who lost their lives at Croke Park on Sunday last, and as a mark of respect it was decided to have no fixtures of any kind in the city or county of Dublin on Sunday next, November 28<sup>th</sup>.’ (p.219). At the 17 November 1921 meeting ‘The Organising Committee in charge of the Dublin v Tipperary Football match at Croke Park next Sunday for set of gold medals reported that all arrangements had been made for the contest which would start at 2.45. All members of the Board and League etc are requested to be at Croke Park on Sunday next at 1.30.’ (p.266).

Votes of condolences are passed by the Dublin County Board on the deaths of Thomas Ashe (p.45), Terence MacSwiney (p.215), ‘the six young executed in Mountjoy Prison’ on 14 March 1921. (p.231) and Arthur Griffith (p.306). At the [23 August 1922] meeting ‘The Chairman, in opening the meeting, said they were all aware of the calamity that had taken place in the death of Genl. Michael Collins, which was so deeply deplored. The late Mr Collins was a well known worker in the GAA in days gone by and was a close personal friend of his. He regretted it fell to his lot to propose the following vote of condolence: - “That this meeting of the Dublin Senior Executive of the GAA learn with feelings of profound regret of the tragic death of Mr Michael Collins, a former member of the Association, who rendered great services to the organisation in days gone by, and as a mark of respect to his memory, this meeting do now stand adjourned...and further, that all fixtures arranged for Sunday next by the various G.A.A. boards in Dublin be cancelled.”’ (p.306).

The relationship between the Dublin County Board and Irish Republican Prisoners fundraising bodies is recorded throughout the minutes. At the 13 February 1917

meeting it was agreed to run a tournament in aid of the Irish National Aid and Volunteers Dependents' Fund (p.10) while at the 11 February 1919 meeting it was agreed to run a tournament in aid of the Irish Republican Prisoners Dependents' Fund. (p.126).

The relationship between the Dublin County Board and the female GAA sports is recorded throughout the minutes. At the 12 June 1917 meeting 'Messrs JM Ryan, L O'Toole and Caffrey were appointed to wait on Camog League on Monday night with reference to making that body a sub-committee of the Co Board.' (p.30); at the 26 June 1917 meeting this delegation 'made a report of their interview with the Camoguideacht League stating that the latter body were going to carry out the league on their own.' (p.32). At the 15 September 1920 meeting 'The Hon Sec was instructed to publish a notice in the press prohibiting a "Ladies Gaelic Football Match" advertised to be played at St James Park, and warning any member of the GAA that officiates or assists at same that they would be suspended.' (p.209).

**Title:** Dublin County Senior Board Minute Book, 1923-1928

**Code:** GAA/DUB/01/05

**Covering Dates:** 31 January 1923-3 November 1928

**Extent:** 369pp

**Scope and Content:**

Minute book, in bound volume form, containing the signed handwritten meeting minutes of the Dublin County Senior Board of the Gaelic Athletic Association. The minute book contains the minutes of the regular County Board meetings, 1923-1928, and the minutes of the Annual County Conventions held in 1924 (pp.51-59); February 1925 (pp.116-122); December 1925 (pp.166-177); 1926 (pp.224-235); Adjourned 1926 (p.238); 1927 (pp.289-300); October 1928 (pp.355-364) and Adjourned 1928 (pp.365-369).

The minute book contains a record of the motions passed and defeated at the County Conventions; the rulings and decisions made by the County Board; the hearing of appeals and objections; the fixing of dates and venues for games and competitions and the general running of the GAA throughout Dublin.

The re-elections of Lorcan O'Toole as Secretary of the Dublin Senior Board is recorded in the minutes of the conventions held in 1924 (p.57); February 1925 (p.120) and December 1925 (p.175); 1926 (p.238); 1927 (p. 289) and 1928 (p.355). At the 1927 Annual Convention the position of Honorary Registrar was abolished with the duties passed to the Secretary.

The elections of Chairmen of the Dublin Senior Board recorded in the minutes include the 1924 re-election of A.C. Harty (p.57); the 1925 election of Kennefick (p.119); the 1926 election of John Ryan (p.238) and the 1928 election of HO Kelly (p.355). At the 23 August 1926 meeting the death of A.C. Harty was announced with the remainder of the meeting adjourned and all senior club matches postponed as a mark of respect. (p.218)

Key motions passed by the Conventions include 'That the Dublin Co Championships be concluded by 1<sup>st</sup> May' (p.175); 'That the profits, if any, [acquired] from the National hurling league and football league matches be credited to a fund and set aside for the

procurement of a ground in Dublin.’ (p.176) and ‘That a Vigilance Committee, consisting of members of the Senior Executive, Junior Board, Junior Football League, Hurling League and Schools League be appointed to attend the various venues of foreign games during the foreign game season, and report to the Senior Executive the names of any members of any Gaelic Clubs attending at or participating therein’ which was referred to Executive. (p.233).

Key decisions taken by the Dublin Senior Board include their opposition to the proposed inclusion of Bray Emmets in Wicklow GAA (p.78) and preparations for the 1924 Tailteann Games (p.84).

The acquisition of trophies is recorded in the minutes; at the 14 February 1927 meeting it was reported that J.F. Maguire, Managing Director of Clery and Company, intimated to the Board that Clery and Company were willing to donate a ‘massive silver cup’, the ‘Clery Perpetual Cup’, to the Board for use in the Dublin Senior Football Championship. (p.256). At the same meeting it was announced that the Directors of the New Ireland Assurance Company ‘had very kindly consented to present a perpetual silver cup for presentation to the winners of the Dublin Senior Hurling Championship.’ (p.256). At the 14 May 1928 meeting it was announced that Mr M Murphy ‘an old member of the GAA’ had consented to ‘present a valuable silver cup for competition in the Senior [Football] League Championships.’ (p.332).

The relationship between the G.A.A. and the labour movement is recorded throughout the minutes; at the 10 September 1923 meeting ‘An application from the strike committee I.T. and G.W. Union for a match in aid of the strike fund was considered, and it was decided to grant the Senior Football League tie St Brendans v Kickhams...The St Brendans Football Club were granted permission to play a match for the same object at Croke Park...between St Brendans and a team selected by St Marys.’ (p.31). At the 15 October 1923 meeting ‘permission was granted for a challenge football contest between St Marys and St Brendans in aid of the shipyard workers, who have been out of employment for the last 12 months.’ (p.36). At the Adjourned 1926 Convention a ‘protest was made against the action of the Central Council in engaging 300 Civic Guards to do duty at the All-Ireland Football Final...while there were so many Gaels idle in Dublin.’



(p.238). The Dublin Senior Board were informed, at their 18 October 1926 meeting, that 'the Gardaí were not paid for their services on such occasions, but only attended to act as stewards at the request of the Central Council'; this explanation was accepted by the Board. (p.239).

The relationship between the Dublin GAA and released Irish political prisoners is recorded throughout the minutes; at the 31 December 1923 meeting 'Notification was received that the Football contest between the Kickhams and O'Toole selections in aid of the Released Prisoners Fund would take place at Croke Park on Feb 3<sup>rd</sup> in addition to several athletic events.' (p.46). At the 28 January 1924 meeting 'The Hon. Sec. Dublin Released Prisoners Fund notified that all arrangements had been made for next Sundays football contest at Croke Park between City Born and Country Born Footballers...The City team would be selected by O'Tooles and the Country team by Kickhams. In addition there would be a 4 mile flat race, open handicap and a 10 miles cycle race.' (p.50). At the 23 June 1924 meeting 'Permission was given for the playing of the "Internees Inter-Camp" Football Final at St James Park on Saturday next, 28<sup>th</sup> inst.' (p.82) while at the 28 July 1924 meeting Permission was also given for a match at Wexford Park on Sunday next between teams representing Dublin and Wexford Ex-Internees' (p.87).

The Dublin County Boards attempts to abolish Rules 9 and 10 of the GAA Official Guide are recorded throughout the minutes. At the 1924 Annual Convention the motion was passed, by 32 votes to 17, 'That this Convention recommends the Annual Congress on Easter Sunday 1924, the abolition of Rules 9 and 10.' (p.58). This decision was ratified at a special conference held on the matter. (p.68). At the February 1925 Convention the motion calling for Rule 9 be amended and Rule 10 deleted was passed (p.120) while at the December 1925 Convention a motion was again passed calling of the abolition of Rule 10. (pp.176-177).

The 'Kickham Scheme' is raised throughout the minutes; at the 1926 Convention the motion was lost, by 28 votes to 23, 'That it be a recommendation from the Senior Executive to this Convention to revert to the old Constitution of one Co. Board for the control of Senior, Intermediate and Junior H and F Championships, as existed prior to



the adoption of the Kickham Scheme, as in the opinion of the Executive, said scheme has not been the success that was anticipated, and has not tended to the progress that was expected.’ (p.231). At the 1927 County Convention the motion was lost, by an overwhelming majority, that ‘the old constitution of the one Co Board as existed prior to the adoption of the present scheme of government be reverted to for the control of Senior, Intermediate and Junior hurling and football championships.’ (p.289).

At the 1927 County Convention the motion was passed ‘That it be an instruction from this Convention to the incoming Co Dublin Board to establish the “Rise and Strike” (Hurling) and “Place Kick” (football) competitions...Both competitions to have championship status and winners of same to receive the special medal of the Co Dublin Board.’ (p.292). The minutes of the 5 December 1927 County board meeting contain the rules of both competitions. (p.309).

At the 14 May 1928 Dublin Senior Board meeting ‘Correspondence was read from the Central Council intimating that hurling contests between the Dublin and Cork hurling teams had been arranged for Liverpool and London on May 27 and 28 and it was decided that the team to represent Dublin should be composed of players taking part in the present Leinster Championship competition.’ (p.332).

**Title:** Dublin County Senior Board Minute Book, 1928-1933

**Code:** GAA/DUB/01/06

**Covering Dates:** 29 October 1928-30 September 1933

**Extent:** 350pp

**Scope and Content:**

Minute book, in bound volume form, containing the signed handwritten meeting minutes of the Dublin County Senior Board of the Gaelic Athletic Association. The minute book contains the minutes of the regular County Board meetings, 1928-1933, and the minutes of the Annual County Conventions held in 1929 (pp.55-68); 1930 (pp.121-137); 1931 (pp.188-205); 1932 (pp.257-273) and 1933 (pp.328-349).

The minute book contains a record of the motions passed and defeated at the County Conventions; the rulings and decisions made by the County Board; the hearing of appeals and objections; the fixing of dates and venues for games and competitions and the general running of the GAA throughout Dublin.

The re-elections of Lorcan O'Toole as Secretary of the Dublin Senior Board is recorded in the minutes of the conventions held in 1924 (p.57); February 1925 (p.120) and December 1929 (p.65); 1930 (p.121) and 1933 (p.329). At the 1932 Annual Convention a discussion took place 'relative to making the position of Sec permanent' but this was unanimously opposed to. (p.194).

The elections of Chairmen of the Dublin Senior Board recorded in the minutes include the 1929 re-election of James Walsh (p.65); the 1930 election of Sean O'Connor (p.121) and the 1933 re-election of McGrath (p.329).

Key motions passed by the Conventions include 'That a special report be furnished at each Annual Convention as to the steps taken to achieve the successful working of motions passed at the previous Convention.' (p.135) and 'That all gate receipts from League matches be pooled, and at the end of the League Competitions, the pool be equally divided amongst all teams.' (p.203).

Key decisions taken by the Dublin Senior Board include condolences being passed on the deaths of Dick Fitzgerald (p.119) and Margaret Pearse (p.235); weekly Irish classes

being run by the County Board (p.198); a closed day for the Eucharistic Congress (p.242) and support for the Peadar Clancy and Dick McKee Memorial Fund. (p.256).

At the 5 November 1928 meeting it was reported that 'The first meeting of the Sub-Committee appointed by the Co Convention to consider the advisability of altering the existing constitution of the governing body in Dublin will be held on Saturday...Nov 10' (p.4). At the 29 January 1929 meeting the first item on the agenda was to decide the status of the representatives of the Junior Co Board on the Executive and after discussion the Chairman ruled that as the Junior Board ceased to exist from Sat 19<sup>th</sup> inst, the representatives of that Board were not entitled to sit on the Executive.' (p.17). Lorcan O'Toole, in his Secretary's report to the 1929 Convention, stated that the special committee to consider the governance of GAA in Dublin 'recommended the abolition of the Junior Co. Board and the setting up of a Junior Hurling Board to take control of the Junior Hurling Championships and Leagues and a Junior Football Board to control the Junior Football Championships and Leagues. The two new Boards were brought into existence at the conclusion of last year's competitions and have been functioning since.' (p.58).

The Dublin County Board's procurement of Parnell Park is recorded throughout the minutes; at the 1929 Convention the Secretary reported that the Board had terminated their tenancy of the Windy Arbour Ground and that the 'Executive has taken over the Parnell Park ground, Malahide Road, from the Trustees for the unexpired term of the lease which has about 18 months yet to run. The rent of this venue is about £50 per annum, which is reduced by an amount we receive for grazing. We will be able to bring off a number of our Senior League Games at this venue, which has become a popular one, especially for Junior Matches'. (p.59). At the 1931 Convention the Secretary reported that a new six years lease had been taken out on Parnell Park and that it is proposed to 'properly equip the ground and make it a suitable County ground.' (p.193). At the 1932 Convention it was reported that the Leinster Council had invested £150 in Parnell Park and that 'Acting on the advice of our architect...plans were prepared and tenders invited for the equipment and improvement of the ground...The total cost of the work was close to £400.' (p.261).

The formation of a Selection Committee for the inter-county teams is recorded throughout the minutes. O'Toole, in his Secretary's report to the 1931 Convention, stated that 'it has been the custom in Dublin for many years past for the clubs winning the County Championships to have the sole right of selection of the Inter-Co teams and although the Executive has power under Rule to appoint a Selection Committee – prior to the start of the Championships – that power has never been exercised. It is felt by several members of the Executive that there should be a departure from the existing custom.' (pp.192-193). At this Convention the motion was passed, by 38 votes to 28, that 'the selection of the Senior and Junior Hurling and Football teams to represent Dublin in Inter-County Championships and League Matches be placed in the hands of a Selection Committee made up of five members selected by the Senior and Junior Boards, one of which will be Chairman, and two representatives of the team winning the Co. Championship.' (p.202). At the 1932 Convention the motion was passed 'That the Junior Boards have the right to decide at Conventions whether they appoint a Committee to select the Junior teams to represent the County or give the selection of the Co team to team winning the Championship.' (p.272).

The formation of a Vigilance Committee is recorded in the minutes of the 1932 Convention when the motion 'That the Chairman or Hon Sec...on the recommendation of a Club representative be empowered to grant a permit to any two registered members to visit grounds where games other than those sanctioned by the G.A.A. are being played. Said members to report in writing to the Hon Sec Co Dublin Board at following meeting of his Board any breaches of the rule governing "Foreign Games" which they may have witnessed and also return permit granted with the report' was referred to incoming committee. (pp.203-204).

Efforts by the County Board to abolish the 'Declaration Rule' are recorded throughout the minutes; at the 1928 Convention the Secretary reported that 'what has come to be known as the "Declaration Rule"...has seriously affected Dublin each year – in so far as the selection of playing for the Inter-County Championship teams is concerned. Each year since the passing of this Rule a number of Dublin Hurlers and Footballers participating in the Dublin Championships and Leagues sign these forms declaring to

play for their native counties. This year 75 players resident in Dublin and taking part in the Dublin competitions signed the forms.' (p.60). At the 1931 Convention two motions were passed 'That all registered members of Clubs affiliated to the Co. Dublin Board, G.A.A., who on declaring to play for any County other than Dublin be debarred from participating in the Co. Dublin Championships or Leagues' (p.203) and 'That any registered member of a club affiliated to the Co. Dublin Board, G.A.A., who on declaring to play for any county, other than Dublin, be deemed ineligible to occupy any official position on behalf of his club or of Dublin on any Council Board, or committee whatsoever.' (p.203). At the 1932 Convention it was decided that a motion be sent to the 1933 Annual Congress seeking the abolition of the non-resident rule (p.272) but at the 1933 County Convention O'Toole reported that this 'did not meet with a favourable reception from the delegates at Congress and it was defeated by a big majority.' (p.334).

The formation of a Fixtures Committee is recorded in the minutes of the 1933 County Convention when the motion was passed that 'A Fixture Committee consisting of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Secretary be empowered to fix dates and venues for matches in all Senior Competitions, and any fixtures decided upon by the committee shall not be altered except for the convenience of the Dublin Inter-County or Inter-Provincial Team.' (p.348).

**Title:** Dublin County Senior Board Minute Book, 1933-1938

**Code:** GAA/DUB/01/07

**Covering Dates:** 2 October 1933-November 1938

**Extent:** 380pp

**Scope and Content:**

Minute book, in bound volume form, containing the signed meeting minutes of the Dublin County Senior Board of the Gaelic Athletic Association. The minute book contains the minutes of the regular County Board meetings, 1933-1938, and the minutes of the Annual County Conventions held in 1934 (pp.57-74); 1935 (pp.125-147); 1936 (pp.202-228); 1937 (pp.280-306) and 1938 (pp.365-380).

The minute book contains a record of the motions passed and defeated at the County Conventions; the rulings and decisions made by the County Board; the hearing of appeals and objections; the fixing of dates and venues for games and competitions and the general running of the G.A.A. throughout Dublin.

The re-elections of Lorcan O'Toole as Secretary of the Dublin Senior Board is recorded in the minutes of the conventions held in 1934 (p.73); 1935 (p.142) and 1936 (p.202).

The elections of Chairmen of the Dublin Senior Board recorded in the minutes include the 1934 election of Thomas Brown (pp.72-73) and the 1936 election of Paddy McDonnell (pp.202-203).

Key motions passed by the Conventions include 'That before any person who has offended against Rule 12...can be reinstated, notification of intention to apply for reinstatement must be in the Secretary's hands six months before the application can be considered.' (p.73) and 'That it be an instruction from this Co. Dublin Convention to the incoming Co Dublin Board that the Secretary of the Co. Dublin Board be empowered to issue permanent admittance passes to past members of the GAA who have "All-Ireland", "Croke Cup" and other honours on behalf of Dublin – to all matches held under the jurisdiction of the Co. Dublin Board.' (p.73).

Key decisions taken by the Dublin Senior Board include the promise of support, including a free G.A.A. day, for the Dublin v Kerry football match in aid of the 1916

Easter Week Mens Association (p.4); the relocation of the Dublin County Board offices to 9 Burgh Quay (p.93); the pledge of support to the National teachers 'in their fight for the betterment of their conditions' (p.245) and participation in matches organised for the Belfast Prisoners Dependents Fund (pp.358, 361 & 365).

The renewal of the lease on Parnell Park is recorded throughout the minutes. At the 1938 Convention it was reported that 'The question of enclosed grounds for the playing of games has become a serious problem for the Board. The gradual expansion of the city on both sides during the past forty years has resulted in the loss of numerous enclosed venues, notably Mt. Drummond Avenue, Harolds Cross, Terenure, The Thatch, Drumcondra and several others....We have to take into consideration the fact that the securing of Parnell Park on a long lease will more than counterbalance the loss on Killester and a considerable sum will require to be expended on Parnell Park to make it a proper Co. Ground.' (p.370) while the Auditors reported that 'The offer of £320 made by the Dublin Corporation for the Board's interest in these grounds [Killester Park] has been accepted on condition that a renewal of the Lease of the Parnell Park Ground will be granted for ninety-nine years.' (p.375).

The transfer of Bray from Dublin to Wicklow is recorded in the minutes: at the 26 February 1934 meeting 'A communication was received from the Sec Leinster Council intimating that...the motion of the Co. Wicklow Board "that Bray be included in Co. Wicklow for G.A.A. purposes" was sanctioned by the Council, and that the Wicklow Board would take over the Bray ground when the necessary adjustments had been made. The Secretary stated that he was notifying the two Bray clubs – Emmet F.C. and St [Cronans] F.C. of their transfer to the Co. Wicklow Board's jurisdiction...and that the Wicklow Board would take over the Bray ground when the necessary adjustments had been made.' (p.22). At the 1936 County Convention it was reported that the transfer of Bray grounds to the Wicklow County Board was complete 'at the sum agreed to at a conference...£175. We received £100 of this amount from the Leinster Council during the year, leaving a balance of £75 due by the Wicklow Co Board.' (p.207)

The resignation of the Junior Hurling Board is recorded throughout the minutes. At the 15 July 1935 Executive meeting a letter was read from the Honorary Secretary of the

Junior Hurling Board 'intimating that in consequence of the Executive in removing the three months suspension on the St Dymphna H.C. the Board had at their last meeting resigned in a body.' The Executive decided to postpone consideration of this correspondence. (p.116). At the 29 July 1935 Executive meeting the Chairman accepted the resignation of the Junior Hurling Board and that 'all competitions being carried out under the auspices of the J.H. Board be suspended until further notice.' (p.118).

The suspension of the Junior Hurling Board is recorded throughout the minutes. At the 7 October 1935 Executive meeting correspondence was received from the Civil Service Hurling Club asking for guidance as to the position of 'clubs with teams taking part in senior or junior competitions during the period of disagreement between the Executive and Junior Hurling Board.' Arising out of this correspondence 'a discussion took place relative to the action of the Junior Hurling Board in refusing to carry out the ruling of the Executive made at meeting on Sept. 20, and after a short debate it was proposed...that the Junior Hurling Board be suspended as from that night, and that any member of same desiring reinstatement can make application to the Executive.' (p.153). At the 28 October 1935 Executive meeting the report of the 'special committee appointed to deal with the question of the suspension of the Junior Hurling Board' was considered, and rejected. (This report recommended that (1) That the 1935 Junior hurling championship and junior hurling league be declared void. (2) That clubs that suspended themselves by playing matches arranged by the Junior Hurling Board...be hereby reinstated. (3) That the Junior Hurling Board be reinstated.) The Executive unanimously decided 'that the Junior Hurling Board be dissolved as from Monday [28 October 1935] and that no meetings of members of the Board be permitted to be held at the Executive Committee rooms. (p.156). At the 4 November 1935 meeting it was reported that 'in defiance of the decision of the Executive' the Junior Hurling Board had met and fixed friendly matches – the Executive passed the resolution 'That the Executive Secretary is hereby instructed to ask for all books, documents and cash in the custody of the Junior Hurling Board officials, and that the Executive take steps to administer Junior Hurling affairs in Dublin.' (p.157). The minute book contains a copy of the findings and recommendations of the Leinster Council 'special committee set up to deal with the dispute' which includes that



the Junior Hurling Board 'rightfully suspended St. Dymphnas and Commercial Clubs' and that 'the Senior Executive unwisely removed the suspension from St Dymphnas' but condemned the 'subsequent attitude of the Junior Hurling Board.' The Committee declared the 1935 Junior hurling championship and league 'null and void' but removed 'all suspensions incidental to or arising out of the matter.' (p.158). At the 18 November 1935 meeting the Chairman of the Executive thanked the Leinster Committee adding that 'it was a happy ending to an unfortunate dispute...He trusted that the findings would be observed in the spirit and the letter' with J. Fletcher, on behalf of the Junior Hurling Board replying that 'they would do their part in carrying out the findings.' (p.159).

The manner in which inter-county teams were selected is regularly discussed in the minutes: at the 1935 Annual Convention the motion was passed 'That the present system of selecting the Dublin Co Teams for Inter-County fixtures be abolished viz. the Selection Committees, and the old system reverted to, viz. the winners of the various Co. Dublin Championships have the selection or be empowered to select the respective Dublin teams.' (p.144). At the 1936 Annual Convention the following motions were passed 'That the Junior Hurling Board be entitled to decide method of selection of Junior Inter-County team in accordance with Rule 12...' (p.225); 'That it shall be optional for subsidiary Boards to decide at their Annual Convention the method of selecting their respective teams to represent Dublin in Inter-Co. Competitions, and that all Rules and Bye Laws governing this motion be rescinded or altered to give full effect to the terms of it.' (p.225) and 'That the Senior Board, Junior Hurling Board and Junior Football Board and Minor Board shall appoint Selection Committees (one for Hurling and one for Football) to select teams to represent Dublin in Inter-County Championships as Leagues.' (p.226).

At the 1937 Annual Convention the Civil Service motion 'which called for a revision as to the control of affairs in Dublin and suggesting a committee of 14 representatives of all the subsidiary bodies' was passed by 45 votes to 19. [The full text of the Civil Service motion is included in the minutes of the Convention, pp.302-306.] The Convention was adjourned until 9 October 1937, pending a report from committee established to consider the motion. (p.280). At the 1937 Adjourned Convention the new scheme was

ratified by 33 votes to 30. (p.307). Under the new scheme 'The Co. Board shall be the governing and sole controlling body of the G.A.A. in Dublin. There shall be a Senior Football League Committee, Senior Hurling League Committee, Junior Football League Committee, Junior Hurling League Committee, Fingal League Committee, Minor League Committee and Primary Schools League Committee, as subsidiary bodies. The Board shall consist of three representatives of the Senior Football League Committee; three representatives of the Senior Hurling League Committee, one of whom shall be the Chairman of that Committee; the Chairman and one other representative of the Junior Hurling and Football League Committees, the Chairman of the Minor and Primary Schools League Committees and the following officers: Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary-Treasurer and Registrar. The Junior, Minor and Fingal Leagues Committees will likewise conduct their own competitions.' (p.307).

**Title:** Dublin County Senior Board Minute Book, 1938-1942

**Code:** GAA/DUB/01/08

**Covering Dates:** c.21 November 1938 – 2 February 1942

**Extent:** 369pp

**Scope and Content:**

Minute book, in bound volume form, containing the signed meeting minutes of the Dublin County Senior Board of the Gaelic Athletic Association. The minute book contains the minutes of the regular County Board meetings, 1938-1942. The minute book does not contain the minutes of the Annual County Conventions held during this period.

The minute book contains a record of the rulings and decisions made by the Dublin Senior Board; the hearing of appeals and objections; the fixing of dates and venues for games and competitions and the general running of the G.A.A. throughout Dublin.

Key decisions taken by the Dublin Senior Board include agreeing to display a notice at all Gaelic grounds in the county that 'Gaelic games were played there' (p.21); the forwarding of the Faughs protest at the 100 yards race been run prior to the 1939 All-Ireland Senior Hurling Final (p.52); the possibility of Bray Emmets returning to Dublin as 'since the County changed its allegiance the local grounds had become a "commons" and some of their best players for want of competition in their own ranks had gone over to "foreign" games.' (p.57); the receipt of a circular from the Camogie Association 're new National Camogie Association' (p.55); the decision to close Parnell Grounds for three weeks (p.69); the formation of a Grounds Committee (p.74); the expulsion of Innisfail Football Club (p.124); the acceptance of an invite from the Gaelic League to attend a parade in honour of the men of 1916 (p.240) and the participation in the fiftieth anniversary commemorations of the death of Charles Stewart Parnell. (p.306).

The effect the outbreak of the Second World War had on the Dublin G.A.A. is recorded throughout the minutes. At the 22 July 1940 Executive meeting 'The request of the air raid wardens operating in the Donnellycarney district for permission to use the pavilion at Parnell Park for lectures and discussions was acceded to, and the chairman and secretary of the Board are to meet the wardens to arrange the matter.' (p.134). At the

27 October 1941 meeting the 'Secretary National Aid Auxiliary Society notified that Faugh and U.C.D. F. clubs had agreed to play a benefit match at Croke Park on the 16.11.41' (p.327) while at the 1 December 1941 meeting when 'Dealing with an application by Mr. French on behalf of "E" Division L.D.F. for an inter county game in aid of their funds, the chairman of the Dublin Co Board G.A.A. (Mr Sean O'Braonain)...said the Board would do everything possible to assist the L.D.F. and to help them foster the national games within the Force.' (p.345).

At the 17 April 1939 Dublin Senior Board meeting the chairman referred to the withdrawal of the Army metro clubs from all competitions stating that this was 'entirely due to matters outside the jurisdiction of the County Board, and that definite information of the cause was a mystery to the Gaels of the city and county.' (p.31). At the 17 July 1939 meeting it was 'decided to request the Minister for Defence to receive a deputation from the Co. Board in connection with the future participation of the Army in Dublin hurling and football competitions.' (p.48).

At the 14 October 1940 meeting the Chairman, Sean O Braonain, reported that Col. Hoolan, O/C Dublin Command 'has no objection to teams drawn from troops of his command engaging in our competitions, provided that military duties of the soldiers concerned are not thereby interfered with.' (p.153). At the 11 November 1940 meeting 'a letter was received advising that it had been decided to re-establish the Army hurling and football club and to affiliate two teams one senior football and one senior hurling for the coming season.' (p.165). It was further decided at this meeting to transfer players en masse to the Army hurling and football teams, with the chairman explaining 'that the transferred players were free to play with their old club if they so desired' and that he had received assurances that there 'was not the slightest possibility of victimisation' should any player not elect to play for the Army. (pp.166-167).

The affiliation, and subsequent withdrawal, of the Garda team is recorded throughout the minutes. At the 14 October 1940 meeting the Chairman, Sean O Braonain, reported that 'the Chief Commissioner has no objection to teams representative of the Garda participating in our competitions provided that the duties of the men concerned are not thereby interfered with.' (p.153). At the 28 October 1940 meeting 'An application was

received from the hon. Secretary of the new club asking that all Gardaí at present playing football in Co. Dublin competitions be transferred from the various clubs to the newly organised Garda Football Club, and this was acceded to.' (p.158). At the 27 October 1941 meeting 'A notification from Garda F.C. of their withdrawal from all Dublin Football competitions was noted with regret' (p.327) while at the 8 December 1941 meeting 'A letter was received from the Garda H.C. conveying the decision of the committee to withdraw from all competitions as it was found impossible to field a team on any one occasion. The communication was noted with regret and it was agreed that affiliation and entrance fees be refunded to Garda H.C. as requested.' (p.348).

The debarring of some clubs from representation on the Dublin County Board is recorded throughout the minutes. At the 8 April 1940 meeting the failure of Parnells, whose players were annoyed about the suspension of two team members under the 'foreign games' rule, to turn out for the first round of the Dublin senior football championship was discussed (p.102); at the following meeting, held on 15 April 1940, the 'secretary reported that, under the new bye-laws amended by the Central Council, clubs that did not participate in the first round of the Senior F. Championship were not entitled to be represented on the Senior Board...consequently the following clubs were debarred from representation: - Commercial H.C., Parnell F.C., Western F.C., St Agnes F.C. and Fingallian F.C.' (p.105). The Chairman, at this meeting, 'stated that there was nothing in the rules to prevent Parnells from retaining the Co. Selection, but, in view of the criticisms that arose in connection with the selection of the team against Louth, he suggested that Parnells should consider the advisability of co-opting some members of the Co. Board on the Selection Committee.' (p.105). At the 22 April 1940 meeting it was clarified that these clubs are entitled to representation at Board meetings and may express views on any subject under discussion, but are not entitled to vote.' (p.107).

The forfeiture of the 1940 Leinster Minor Hurling title is recorded in the minutes; at the 29 July 1940 meeting it was reported that Laois, the defeated finalists, proved that a Dublin player, P. O'Grady, was over-age, in that he was born on 4 July 1921 but 'owing to the troubled times then existing his birth was not registered until July 24, 1922.' (p.136). Mr Kirwan, Dublin representative to the Leinster Council 'added that on the

evidence tendered, Dublin had to admit guilt, although it was a technical error to include him on the team.' (p.136). At the following meeting 'By 7 votes to 4 O'Grady, who stated that he believed the date of registration was the date of eligibility, was found not guilty of supplying false evidence to the Minor Board, and the Eoghan Ruadh Club, who were responsible for the county selection, were exonerated.' (p.138).

**Title:** Dublin County Senior Board Minute Book, 1942-1944

**Code:** GAA/DUB/01/09

**Covering Dates:** 2 February 1942 – 4 September 1944

**Extent:** 552pp

**Scope and Content:**

Minute book, in bound volume form, containing the signed handwritten meeting minutes of the Dublin County Senior Board of the Gaelic Athletic Association. The minute book contains the minutes of the regular County Board meetings, 1942-1944. The minute book does not contain the minutes of the Annual County Conventions held during this period.

The minute book contains a record of the rulings and decisions made by the Dublin Senior County Board; the hearing of appeals and objections; the fixing of dates and venues for games and competitions and the general running of the G.A.A. throughout Dublin.

Key decisions taken by the Dublin Senior Board include that the County champions in hurling and football have two representatives on the selection committees (p.2); the formation of a sub-committee to 'consider all reports by referees or others of breaches of rules and decide what action if any is to be taken against the individuals or clubs' (p.34); the questioning of photographic evidence in a disputed 'foreign games' case (pp. 43 & 51); the request that members consult the older generation about Gaelic games before the foundation of the GAA (p.87); the staging of a Dublin v Kerry match in aid of the Catholic Boy Scouts (p.149) and the ordering of two copies of the pamphlet 'National Action' (p.211).

The timing of matches involving 'grocers' teams is recorded throughout the minutes. At the 19 October 1942 County Board Mr [McGorman] 'referred to the revised opening hours as proposed for Dublin City in the new Licencing Bill as present before the Dáil and stated that if these hours become law it would mean that grocers could no longer participate in hurling and football.' (p.141). At this meeting it was decided to that the 'case of the grocer clubs be represented to the Central Council.' (p.141). A newspaper cutting attached to these minutes lists the grocers clubs as 'Faughs, Young Irelands,

Commercials, Banba, Westerns, Sean MacDermotts, Fontenoys, St Agnes, Con Colberts, Patrick Morans, Droigeadoiri (p.141). At the 26 October 1942 meeting the Board decided that it would help in every way. It was in its own interests...to secure an alteration in the proposed hours. He would endeavour...to secure the consent of the Minister to receive a deputation.’ (p.143). The deputation appointed to meet Mr. Boland, the Minister for Justice, reported to the 2 November 1942 meeting that ‘this aspect of the Bill only occurred to [the Minister] after the Bill had been drafted, his entire sympathy was with the Association and he had no desire to hinder its activities. He agreed and expressed his willingness to meet the wishes of the deputation by accepting an amendment to alter the proposed laws. The Chairman stated that the interview was satisfactory.’ (p.150). At the 8 May 1944 meeting a representative of the grocers clubs stated that ‘even starting matches at 11.30am it was impossible in many instances to get for work at 1.30pm. An assistant must be available at 1.20. He outlined the difficulties experienced, costs of taxis’ (p.488) and requested that ‘all matches outside Croke Park be timed for 11.30am – Croke Park 11.45am’ (p.488).

The effect World War II had on the Dublin County Board is recorded throughout the minutes: at the 9 February 1942 meeting the Board agreed to play a benefit match for the Local Defence Forces (L.D.F.) (p.5); at the 4 May 1942 meeting it was agreed to try and time G.A.A. games so as not to clash with L.D.F. matches (p.62) while at the 17 August 1942 meeting the Board was informed that the Army v Saint Mary’s Senior Football League games was called off as ‘Army were unable to field a team, their players being on manoeuvres.’ (p.107) At the 2 November 1942 meeting correspondence was received from Wolfe Tone G.F.C., Drogheda, ‘advising that owing to the emergency it was decided by his club to abandon the Cairnes Cup Competition. In these circumstances they requested that the cup be returned.’ It was agreed to return the cup. (p.149)

At the 19 October 1942 meeting, the Board decided that all soldiers, in uniform, would be admitted at half-price to all games under the auspices of the Dublin County Board. (pp.137-138). At the 22 November 1942 meeting it was decided that ‘soldiers of the



regular army in uniform be admitted free to matches on Dublin Co Board grounds as guests.' (p.390).

At the 8 March 1943 Board meeting the resolution was passed that 'The Secretary of the Central Council be requested to approach the Minister of Defence with a view to arranging that as many soldiers as possible be paraded on St. Patrick's Day to march with bands and officers to Croke Park, the Central Council to grant them free admission, also that the General Secretary be requested to take steps to safeguard the position of G.A.A. members in the Army, in view of the practice of parading Battalions for the purpose of marching to soccer matches; according to Regulation all soldiers must parade irrespective of whether it is their desire or not to attend such matches.' (p.239). At the next meeting, held on 15 March 1943, Sean O'Braonain, Dublin Chairman, 'informed the meeting that the Central Council was taking up with the Army Authorities regarding the parading of units and marching to soccer matches, the Central Council had not sufficient time to do anything regarding the attendance of the Army on St. Patrick's Day.' (p.241).

The County Boards contributions to the Green Cross Fund are recorded throughout the minutes. At the 26 October 1942 meeting, in response to correspondence from the Leinster Council, 'It was unanimously agreed that a contribution of £5 be made to the Green Cross Fund.' (p.144). At the 16 November 1942 meeting 'A letter was received from F Campbell Tyrone Co Board requesting that Dublin play Tyrone at Croke Park on the 29-11-42 in aid of the Green Cross Fund. Mr Sean O'Callaghan also appeared before the Board in connection with the application. After discussion it was agreed...to play Tyrone on the date named in aid of the Green Cross Fund.' (pp. 160-161). A newspaper clipping attached to the minutes comments that this benefit game 'will be the first visit of Tyrone to Dublin.' (p.164). At the 5 April 1943 meeting an appeal from the Leinster Council that 'all counties make a special effort to arrange a series of important games on or before June 20<sup>th</sup> Green Cross Fund' was received (p.258) while at the 3 April 1944 meeting the 'Leinster Sec advised that the Council had voted an amount to the Green Cross Fund and had expressed the wish that each county in the Province should subscribe immediately an amount not less than £10. Counties desirous of

running a series of games could do so subsequently. The object of the fund was explained and it was agreed...to subscribe (£25) twenty five pounds.' (p.466).

**Title:** Dublin County Senior Board Minute Book, 1944 - 1946

**Code:** GAA/DUB/01/10

**Covering Dates:** 11 September 1944 – 4 November 1946

**Extent:** 521pp

**Scope and Content:**

Minute book, in bound volume form, containing the signed handwritten meeting minutes of the Dublin County Senior Board of the Gaelic Athletic Association. The minute book contains the minutes of the regular County Board meetings, 1944 - 1946. The minute book does not contain the minutes of the Annual County Conventions held during this period.

The minute book contains a record of the rulings and decisions made by the Dublin Senior County Board; the hearing of appeals and objections; the fixing of dates and venues for games and competitions and the general running of the G.A.A. throughout Dublin.

Key decisions taken by the Dublin Board include the appointment of the Finance Committee as a sub-committee, with plenary powers, to deal with senior transfers (p.10); that no further participation be allowed in challenge hurling games owing to the 'backward state of our local hurling competitions' (p.27); that each subsidiary body appoint its own transfer sub-committee with plenary powers and report its decision to the County Board (p.27); the Chairman's opinion that Co Board members were entitled to free admission to fixtures under the control of the Co Board on the production of membership cards. The sec was instructed to inform sponsors of tournaments etc accordingly.' (p.130) and the promise of support to Coiste na Ainm whose aims were to 'substitute names of Irish Patriots for those of Englishmen on the Dublin Streets.' (p.285). At the 2 October 1944 meeting the ruling was made that 'In future where crossbar is broken or detached as a result of a player or players swinging from it, the club to whom the player or players belong shall be billed with be liable for the sum of one pound (£1) to cover cost of repairs or replacement.' (p.16). At the 26 November 1945 meeting the motion was passed that 'That the Dublin Co Board is grossly

dissatisfied at the way in which Dublin players were treated in the selection of the Leinster Railway Cup football team.’ (p.297).

The appointment of a full-time secretary to the Dublin County Board is recorded throughout the minutes: at the 20 November 1944 meeting a sub-committee was established to ‘draw up terms and conditions of appointment of full time secretary for submission to the Co Board.’ (p.60). The report containing the proposed terms and conditions of the secretary is included in the minutes of the 8 January 1945 meeting – the report recommends that applicants must be between 25 and 40 years of age, have at least five years membership of the Dublin GAA and a competent knowledge of Irish. (p.85). The report further recommends that the title of the officer should be ‘Secretary of the Dublin GAA’ and that ‘He shall perform the duties of Secretary to the Dublin Board G.A.A. and subsidiary bodies thereof and shall also act as Treasurer, Registrar and Organiser of the Association in Dublin City and County and shall carry out all other work considered by the Dublin County Board G.A.A. to be necessary and essential for the promotion of the Association in Dublin.’ (p.85). It is further recommended that the starting salary be £260 per annum with annual increments of £30 until £300 is reached (p.85).

At the 12 February 1945 meeting a number of amendments and additions to the sub-committee’s recommendations were made including that the starting salary be £300 per annum with annual increments of £10 until a maximum of £400 is obtained. (p.110). It was also decided that a ‘Permanent sub-committee...be appointed to decide efficiency of Secretary and whether or not increments should be granted.’ (p.110) At the 9 February 1945 meeting ‘an application to the Central Council for permission to proceed with the appointment was read...also the Central Council reply approving of the proposal... ‘The Chairman stated we could now proceed with advertisement inviting applications.’ (p.114).

At the 9 April 1945 meeting ‘The Chairman...read report of the sub-committee giving full details of applications, qualifications of applicants, examination of candidates....results and recommendations of selection committee....Mr Quinn stated that the recommendation was good to a point but he was disappointed that the present sec was

not included in the recommendations with the qualification that a certain time be given to acquire the required knowledge of Irish. He proposed that the present secs application be reconsidered with this...The Chairman stated he was not prepared to accept a motion not in accordance with conditions...Instructions to the examiner (Mr McNamee) were to examine and report on candidates that were and were not capable of conducting the complete business of the Board through the medium of Irish.' (pp.145-146). At the 16 April 1945 meeting the Chairman stated that he considered proficiency in Irish as 'vital – the sec must be able to work through Irish, there was not much work done through Irish at present and unless their official was competent no-one would write or speak in Irish' (p.151) and, after a lengthy discussion (pp.151-157) ruled that the names of the candidates recommended by the selection sub-committee be put to the Board and that the candidate receiving the majority of the votes must be offered the post of full-time secretary.' (p.157). This resulted in a vote of no-confidence being taken in the Chairman which was a split-vote (p.158) and the subsequent open election for the secretaryship with Harry Conlan receiving the most votes (14). (p.158).

At the 22 May 1945 meeting the ruling of the Leinster Council was read, which stated that the Dublin Board 'is instructed to hold a new election within one month of 18-5-45 complying with rule 34 Page 61 O.G. 1943 i.e. an election by ballot: this election to be between the three selected candidates viz those as put before the previous vote was recorded by calling out the name of club and then recording the vote as delegate replied.' (pp.179a-179b). At the 28 May 1945 meeting Harry Conlon was again elected, by ballot vote, Secretary of Dublin GAA, winning 19 votes with 11 clubs not voting and 1 spoiled vote. (p.189). A transcript of the correspondence offering the position to Conlon is inserted in the minutes of the 23 July 1945 meeting (pp.215-217). At the 17 December 1945 meeting it was ruled that the 'General Secretary would act as Secretary to all boards. The Chairman pointed out that the subsidiary boards could arrange to meet on different nights to avoid clashing, and if not on different nights, they could meet on different hours on the same night.' (p.311).

The 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemoration of Bloody Sunday is recorded in the minutes: at the 12 November 1945 meeting the Chairman appealed to the Board members to

attend Croke Park on 18 November 1945 'to identify the GAA with that period of Irish history that no other organisation has the honour of being associated with.' (pp.287-288). A newspaper cutting inserted into the minutes of this meeting reports that 'At the spot in Croke Park where Michael Hogan was shot dead...veterans of the period formed a square with the younger players of yesterday's match to celebrate the anniversary of Bloody Sunday. A decade of the Rosary was recited, and the Last Post sounded, and then the flag went up to full mast, and the National Football League match between Dublin and Kildare commenced. Officials and members of the GAA and players of the Dublin and Tipperary teams who had taken part in the 1920 match...were present at the ceremonies.' (p.289).

**Title:** Dublin County Senior Board Minute Book, 1946 - 1950

**Code:** GAA/DUB/01/11

**Covering Dates:** 11 November 1946 – 27 February 1950

**Extent:** 493pp

**Scope and Content:**

Minute book, in bound volume form, containing the signed handwritten meeting minutes of the Dublin County Senior Board of the Gaelic Athletic Association. The minute book contains the minutes of the regular County Board meetings, 1946 - 1950. The minute book does not contain the minutes of the Annual County Conventions held during this period.

The minute book contains a record of the rulings and decisions made by the Dublin County Senior Board; the hearing of appeals and objections; the fixing of dates and venues for games and competitions and the general running of the G.A.A. throughout Dublin.

Key decisions taken by the Dublin Senior Board include that the 1947 delegates to the Central Council vote in favour of the abandonment of the National Football League but that Dublin would remain in the competition if it continues (p.64); the re-establishment of the Garda club (p.156); that the County Board would officially participate in the 1798 celebrations (pp.281 & 295); that 'in future admission to all games at Parnell Park would be through the turn stile' (p.323) and the distribution of the leaflet as compiled by the Gaelic League outlining a scheme for co-operation between the League and G.A.A. clubs were circulated to the meeting.' (p.456)

The resignation of Harry Conlon as Secretary of the County Board is recorded in the minutes of the 11 April 1949 meeting (p.347). At the 2 May 1949 meeting 'Dr J.J. Stuart proposed...that Messrs R. Freeman and E. Murphy be appointed joint Hon Secs and Hon Treasurers until Annual Convention and this was unanimously approved.' (p.353) while it was also decided that the insurance policy of the 'late Harry Conlon' be forwarded to the legal adviser for comment. (p.353). At the 11 July 1949 meeting it was decided that 'this Special Meeting is of the opinion that the position of Permanent Secretaryship is not practical on the lines laid down in the 1944/45 and suggests that

the Co. Board pass a motion to this effect. If such a motion is accepted then a further decision should be taken that the Co. Board request the Central Council to re-instate the Bye Laws at present in abeyance. The position then will be that Ballot papers can be issued on the old lines providing for the positions of Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, Registrar etc.’ (p.387).

The opposition of the Dublin County Board to the decision, passed at the 1947 Annual Congress, to stage the 1947 All-Ireland football final in New York is recorded throughout the minutes. At the 8 April 1947 Dublin County Board meeting Mr Lawless asked how the Dublin delegates voted on this matter with Mr Freeman replying that they voted against the final. At the 14 April 1947 County Board meeting the motion ‘That the Dublin County Board strongly disapproves of the proposal to play the All-Ireland Football Final (1947) in America and calls on other County Boards to express their views’ was discussed with the proposer of the motion, E. Faoling, stating that ‘The greatest threat to our national games exists here at home in the continued de-population of our countryside. Emigration is draining the lifeblood of the nation and in particular the G.A.A. clubs throughout the country.’ (p.80) and that ‘Many people from the four corners of Ireland take their holidays in Dublin year after year during the week of All-Ireland F. Final. In addition it will lessen interest in the qualifying rounds if the final is played outside this country.’ (p.80). After a discussion the motion was passed by 21 votes to 8 and the Secretary was instructed to circulate the motion to all county boards in Ireland. (p.83). The Armagh County Board informed the 5 May 1947 Dublin meeting that the Dublin motion was defeated by a large majority (p.100) while the Kilkenny Board informed the 12 May 1947 Dublin meeting that they (Kilkenny) had approved, by 6 votes to 5, the Congress decision to stage the final in New York. (p.103).

At the 28 April 1947 the motion was passed, by 18 votes to 6, that ‘A. That no inter-county hurlers transferred to Dublin should ever be considered for the Dublin hurling team and B. That any inter-county hurler eligible for Dublin who has ever declared for another county should never again be considered for the Dublin team.’ (pp.94-95). At the 28 July 1947 meeting the secretary informed the meeting that, at the 1947 County Convention, the motion was passed that ‘That any hurler, Minor, Junior or Senior, who



is eligible for Dublin and who declares for another County, shall not again be considered for Dublin Hurling Teams.' (p.145).

The manner in which the inter-county football team was chosen is recorded throughout the minutes: at the 2 December 1946 meeting a vote of no confidence in the Dublin football selection committee was defeated withdrawn (pp.19-21). At the 9 December 1946 meeting a motion to hand back selection to the county champions received a simple majority of 15 votes to 12 but was lost on the 'two-thirds rule' (p.24) while at the 6 January 1947 meeting the chairman of the Dublin Senior Football Selection Committee outlined a new scheme for selecting the football team whereby it was proposed 'to divide the 24 senior teams into four sections of six each and to play two trial games on March 16. Representatives of the clubs will select the preliminary teams.' (p.35). At the 24 February 1947 meeting the motion to withdraw from the National Football League and concentrate on the trial games was withdrawn. (p.58).

**Title:** Dublin County Senior Board Minute Book, 1950 - 1952

**Code:** GAA/DUB/01/12

**Covering Dates:** 3 April 1950 – 18 February 1952

**Extent:** 261pp

**Scope and Content:**

Minute book, in bound volume form, containing the signed handwritten meeting minutes of the Dublin County Senior Board of the Gaelic Athletic Association. The minute book contains the minutes of the regular County Board meetings, 1950 - 1952. The minute book does not contain the minutes of the Annual County Conventions held during this period.

The minute book contains a record of the rulings and decisions made by the County Board; the hearing of appeals and objections; the fixing of dates and venues for games and competitions and the general running of the G.A.A. throughout Dublin.

Key decisions taken by the Dublin Senior Board include support for the retention of the 'foreign games rule' (p.7); a delegation of three Board members attending the NACA protest 'against the holding of a so-called international sports by partitionist organisations in Dublin' (p.25); the decision that 'admission to the side line be confined to [2] officials and stripped subs from each team unless a sideline gate is taken.' (p.41) and the staging of the annual Bloody Sunday commemoration (p.87).

At the 3 July 1950 board meeting 'An invitation from the Anti-Partition League to join in a protest parade on the 14/7/50 against the visit of the Queen of England to North was deferred to next meeting for consideration.' (p.41). At the next meeting, held on 10 July 1950, 'The Sec informed Board that precedent indicated that the G.A.A. as a body did not take part in the association's activities but strongly urged every member in his individual capacity to take an active interest in the proposed demonstration.' (pp.43-44). At the 29 January 1951 meeting 'A letter was read from the [Anti-Partition League] requesting cooperation from the GAA in connection with a demonstration to be held on the occasion of the England v Ireland Rugby International...It was agreed to pass the communication to the Junior Boards.' (p.114).

At the 30 October 1950 meeting it was reported that 'Garda H.C. advised that the club had been [revived] and it was their intention to take part in the Intermediate Cships and League. They requested the assistance of the Co Board in securing the transfer of players attached to other clubs.' (p.80).

The minutes contain a newspaper report on the first final of the Harry Conlon tournament which states 'The first final of the Harry Conlon Memorial Cup rests between Kickhams and Saggart; and, unfortunately due to the rush of fixtures in the closing weeks of the season, must play second fiddle to many less important games. The fine trophy, presented by the Cuchullain Club to commemorate one of Ireland's greatest and best beloved Gaels, is the reward of the victorious team.' (p.230).

**Title:** Dublin County Senior Board Minute Book, 1952 - 1955

**Code:** GAA/DUB/01/13

**Covering Dates:** 25 February 1952 – 14 February 1955

**Extent:** 385pp

**Scope and Content:**

Minute book, in bound volume form, containing the signed handwritten meeting minutes of the Dublin County Senior Board of the Gaelic Athletic Association. The minute book contains the minutes of the regular County Board meetings, 1952 - 1955. The minute book does not contain the minutes of the Annual County Conventions held during this period.

The minute book contains a record of the rulings and decisions made by the Dublin Senior County Board; the hearing of appeals and objections; the fixing of dates and venues for games and competitions and the general running of the G.A.A. throughout Dublin.

Key decisions taken by the Dublin Senior Board include the near-completed purchase of new grounds at Captains Road, Crumlin (p.24) and Kimmage Road (p.100); the decision that the Dublin Senior Football League be run in one division (p.100) which was later changed to two divisions (p.378) and the decision not to retrospectively award a 1942 Leinster Senior Football medal to Con Martin, a soccer player with Ireland and Aston Villa (p.375).

The minutes record the establishment of a Dublin accident fund: at the 14 December 1953 meeting it was decided 'to inaugurate a local fund for the purpose of assisting players seriously injured in the county. It is hoped to stage at least one inter-county game...which will form the basis of this fund. In addition, the Board intends contributing five per cent of the gate money from all its National League and Senior Championship games.' (p.257).

At the 11 May 1953 meeting 'A letter was read from the Workers Union of Ireland intimating that the Union was about to initiate a house competition between the various branches attached to the Union. A representative of the Union, Mr. Flanagan, also

attended in connection and stated that the Union was anxious that the competition be run strictly in accordance with the rules of the G.A.A. and that the status of players taking part be safeguarded. In the course of the discussion, it transpired that teams would play in the name of the Union Branch to which they belonged; players were insured against injury; all matches played on week evenings. Although some delegates expressed concern, it was eventually agreed that the application be agreed to and that the Union be furnished with copy of the rules.' (p.171).

At the 23 February 1953 meeting the Irish anti-partition Association asked the Dublin G.A.A. to participate in their upcoming Easter Monday parade (pp.141-142) with the County Board later estimating that Dublin clubs would supply an estimated 250 members (p.156). At the 7 April 1953 meeting 'The Chairman said he would like to compliment the Clubs who took part in the Parade. Mr. Cooling stated that the response of the clubs was a disgrace, in fact were it not for St. Vincents' representation our showing would have been very poor. He also asked why the official Dublin banner was not available.' (p.158). At the 31 January 1955 the Dublin County Board agreed to play Wexford in a senior hurling match for the benefit of the Republican Prisoners Aid Committee. (p.379).

At the 10 January 1955 meeting, the Dublin secretary reported on the 'Kickham Dispute' stating that 'so far as the negotiations had gone there was no prospect of an agreement between the two sides and he suggested that the services of the President of the Association be secured, if possible, to preside over further meetings of the parties.' (pp.371-372). At the 24 January 1955 meeting the secretary 'stated that he had hoped that final arrangements would be made for consideration of this matter during the coming week...in the meantime the Chairman ruled that no further matches be arranged for the club' (p.378) with the further ruling that the Kickham minor teams could not participate in any competitions 'friendly or otherwise, until a final decision had been reached.' (p.384).

A newspaper clipping attached to the minutes of the 12 May 1952 meeting reports that 'A situation which may lead to the withdrawal of St. Vincents from the Dublin Senior Hurling and Football Championship semi-finals will be considered at a special general

meeting of the Committee of the club to-morrow night. Last night St. Vincents delegates walked out of the Dublin Co. Board meeting as a protest against the fixing of the St. Vincents v Crokes S.H.C. for Sunday at Croke Park. Main grounds of their objection to the date were: that a number of their hurling team were injured in last Sunday's S.F.C. tie against St. Josephs; that they had not received adequate notice of the fixture; that two members of the hurling team will be playing against Kilkenny in the Leinster J.H.C. semi-final...and that the Dublin v Meath Leinster S.F.C. tie has been fixed for Sunday week.' (p.28). At the 23 May 1952 special meeting the St. Vincents v Crokes match was refixed for another date. (p.32).

**Title:** Dublin County Senior Board Minute Book, 1955 - 1957

**Code:** GAA/DUB/01/14

**Covering Dates:** 21 February 1955 – 20 May 1957

**Extent:** 373pp

**Scope and Content:**

Minute book, in bound volume form, containing the signed handwritten meeting minutes of the Dublin County Senior Board of the Gaelic Athletic Association. The minute book contains the minutes of the regular County Board meetings, 1955 - 1957. The minute book does not contain the minutes of the Annual County Conventions held during this period.

The minute book contains a record of the rulings and decisions made by the Dublin County Senior Board; the hearing of appeals and objections; the fixing of dates and venues for games and competitions and the general running of the G.A.A. throughout Dublin.

Key decisions taken by the Dublin Senior Board include the establishment of a special committee to investigate the participation of Dublin players in foreign games (p.26); the decision that the future selection of the county's football and hurling teams be by a five-man committee (p.109); the affiliation of the British Railways' Hurling Club (p.112); the disbandment of the Garda Hurling Club (p.130); the acceptance of the offer for the Dublin football team to play Kerry in the Polo Grounds, New York (pp.134 & 136) and the acceptance of the offer for the Dublin football team to play Kerry in London (p.138).

At the 19 November 1956 'Bob Freeman resumed office as Secretary of the Dublin County G.A.A....and the delegates expressed delight at seeing him back after his long illness.' (p.247).

At the 10 September 1956 it was reported that, at the Dublin v Offaly O'Byrne Cup match at Parnell Park 'there was a record attendance for the grounds' (p.210) while at the 28 January 1957 meeting it was reported that, as Croke Park would be closed 'for a long period' Dublin 'must have a ground ready to house our own league and NFL

matches. The expenditure of a few thousand would give Parnell [Park] facilities for players and spectators.' (p.266).

The dispute amongst the two sections of the C.J. Kickham club, and the subsequent formation of Na Fianna, is fully documented throughout the minutes.

At the 7 March 1955 meeting the Chairman, Thomas Russell, 'explained that during the past week he had again interviewed both sides to the dispute...Several members expressed the opinion that the Club must resolve their own difficulties and if it did not the only alternative was to refuse admission to both sides. All the suggestions made previously for a settlement were re-iterated and Mr. McNamee's report was read which suggested in the event of no reconciliation that Section A be given the name of the Club and the jerseys and that Section B. form a new Club. After further discussion B. Quinn said we were not bound to accept Mr. McNamee's report and proposed a Joint Committee of 8 members, each side to nominate 4 members acceptable to the other side to run the Club for the coming year. If this proposal was not accepted by both sides no entries be accepted from Kickhams'. (pp.8-9). At the next meeting, held on 14 March 1955, 'Replies from both sections to the decision of the Co. Board at the last meeting were read. Section A...implied its rejection and terminated by requesting that the application already made for affiliation be granted...Section B advised that they were prepared to meet the other Section with their four members but were informed by Section A that they would not meet them. The Chairman stated that this means the proposal of the Co. Board was rejected and that 8 men cannot be got to run the Club for the next twelve months...The Chairman pointed out a definite decision had been made by the Board and there was only one way of removing it.' (p.10). At the 21 March 1955 meeting 'An application was received from Section B [for] permission to affiliate as Clan Ciceann and for permission to change the name of teams that had already taken part in 1955 Minor and Juvenile competitions from CJ Kickhams to Clan Ciceann. In reply to a query the chairman stated that CJ Kickhams was not disbanded and was an affiliated club for 1955. After discussion it was agreed...that permission to affiliate be granted 8 voting for and 5 against. Representatives of Section B emphasised that they were not



relinquishing their claim to the name 'C.J. Kickham'...It was explained that an appeal had been lodged with the Leinster Council.' (p.14).

The minute book contains a newspaper report from the Evening Press which contains a statement from Joseph Lydon, Honorary Secretary of the C.J. Kickham club, who explains that 'The present dispute started when a group attempted to oust the drapery workers from their position in the club by misusing the votes of the minor section. This was resisted and a dispute followed. When the dispute was in progress for some months the executive committee of Dublin County Board requested Padraic Mac Conmidhe, a former president of the G.A.A., to enquire into its cause and submit a report. After examining the contentions of both sides, Mr Mac Conmidhe's findings were that the drapery trade section was in direct line with the traditional C.J. Kickham Club, and that as such they should be recognised and accepted by the Association. Mr Mac Conmidhe's findings were rejected by the Dublin County Board G.A.A. who have not yet made them public.' (p.22).

At the 12 April 1955 meeting it was announced that the Leinster Council had established a 'sub-committee with plenary powers' to investigate the Kickham dispute (p.26) while the findings of this sub-committee are included in the minutes of the 18 April 1955 meeting. (pp.29-30). The sub-committee decided that 'the name C.J. Kickham belongs to that portion of the club as represented...by Mr. Strumble and his colleagues...with the name, go the club colours as registered and, or recognised down the years...all books and documents the property of, or relating to, the C.J. Kickham club, are to be handed to the Chairman of the Dublin County Board...for transmission to the C.J. Kickham club Chairman, Mr. Strumble...any and all monies held, in bank or on hands...by each section of the C.J. Kickham club concerned in the dispute, is to be placed in the custody of the Dublin County Board Treasurer...the residue of such monies is to be divided in the ratio of 2/5 (two fifths) to the C.J. Kickhams...and 3/5 (three fifths) to section represented by Sean O'Neill (jun) and his colleagues...the section represented by Sean O'Neill (jun) and his colleagues can now, if they so desire form a new club and the and the Dublin County Board accept their affiliation and entry

for all competitions, other than the current championships already underway.' (pp.29-30).

At the 25 April 1955 meeting 'an application was received from Section B. for permission to affiliate Hurling and Football Clubs under the name of Na Fianna'. (p.33). The minutes list the club colours as 'white' and include a list of 201 members (192 players and none officials) who were granted permission to transfer from C.J. Kickhams to Na Fianna (pp.33-37).

**Title:** Dublin County Senior Board Minute Book, 1960 - 1961

**Code:** GAA/DUB/01/15

**Covering Dates:** 25 January 1960 – 19 June 1961

**Extent:** 282pp

**Scope and Content:**

Minute book, in bound volume form, containing the signed handwritten meeting minutes of the Dublin County Senior Board of the Gaelic Athletic Association. The minute book contains the minutes of the regular County Board meetings, 1960 - 1961. The minute book does not contain the minutes of the Annual County Conventions held during this period. Both covers are missing from this minute book.

The minute book contains a record of the rulings and decisions made by the Dublin County Senior Board; the hearing of appeals and objections; the fixing of dates and venues for games and competitions and the general running of the G.A.A. throughout Dublin.

Key decisions taken by the Dublin Senior Board include that any motions submitted to the County Convention that affect the general laws only require a simple majority to be passed (p.47); that Dublin participation in the Wembley tournament takes precedence over other local tournaments (p.51); the introduction of substitute cards (p.112); the postponement of the 1960 Dublin Senior Football final, between St. Vincents and Air Corps as 'preparations at Baldonnell for the airlift of Irish troops to the Congo had disrupted the training schedule of the Air Corps team.' (pp.118-119) and the establishment of a special organisation committee (p.179).

The management of Parnell Park is recorded throughout the minutes: at the 25 April 1960 meeting 'Mr S. McCabe, on behalf of the Senior Hurling Committee, protested against the decision to close Parnell Park to hurling. The Chairman explained that the decision was taken to protect the young grass. The ground was barely fit for football. It would be unwise to play hurling for some weeks.' (p.74). At the 23 May 1960 meeting 'Mr C McLaughlin backed up the hurling committees request and asked that the inter county hurlers be allowed train there. The Chairman said no training, hurling or football would be allowed.' (p.92). At the 24 October 1960 meeting 'In view of its present

condition it was agreed to close Parnell Park to matches until after Christmas, but the Hon Sec was given the power to grant its use under exceptional circumstances.' (pp.161-162). At the 21 November 1960 meeting, 'the Honorary Treasurer reported that the Finance Committee proposed the installing of training lights in Parnell Park, at a cost of about £80' but that 'there was no comment by any delegate.' (p.175)

At the 21 November 1960 meeting 'The chairman said that with all the resources of the Board, he was going to stop unauthorised persons going on the side-line. He made an order that no one was to be allowed on the side-line at Parnell Park, or O'Toole Park, except 20 players, including stripped subs and 5 officials per team.' (pp.174-175).

At the 13 March 1961 meeting the Chairman 'warned clubs that a Vigilance Committee was in operation at the moment. He was informed that two members of the county board were at the last two big rugby games.' (pp.215-216).

At the 13 March 1961 meeting the 'Chairman expressed pleasure at Dublin's hurling victory over Kilkenny but condemned the turn-out for training on the previous Wednesday. Only two players, one of them a sub, had turned up.' (p.214)

At the 20 March 1961 meeting 'The breaking in of the gates at Croke Park, with the consequent serious injuries to many, were discussed, and there was criticism of the Croke Park authorities, who did not have all stiles manned. Mr E. Murphy (O'Tooles) defended the Croke Park authorities, his view being that sufficient stiles were open. The Hon Sec expressed the opinion that the football match, which invariably attracted a greater following, should be second. He said the Croke Park authorities were guilty of gross negligence in view of the breaking in of the gates on St. Patrick's Day two years ago, which should have taught a lesson.' (pp.219-220).

At the 17 April 1961 meeting, Captain Carroll appeared before the County Board and the Chairman said it was his opinion that officers of the County Board or subsidiary bodies should not represent other counties at Congress or any other function...Capt Carroll expressed his objection to being brought in before the full County Board. He had broken no rule or bye-law by representing Tipperary at Congress, He was a Tipperary

man by birth and was proud to be one. He had stood in at Congress before, without any opposition. He had never on any occasion let Dublin down.' (pp.236-237).

**Title:** Dublin County Senior Board Minute Book, 1961 - 1962

**Code:** GAA/DUB/01/16

**Covering Dates:** 26 June 1961 – 3 December 1962

**Extent:** 350pp

**Scope and Content:**

Minute book, in bound volume form, containing the signed handwritten meeting minutes of the Dublin County Senior Board of the Gaelic Athletic Association. The minute book contains the minutes of the regular County Board meetings, 1961 - 1962. The minute book does not contain the minutes of the Annual County Conventions held during this period.

The minute book contains a record of the rulings and decisions made by the Dublin County Board; the hearing of appeals and objections; the fixing of dates and venues for games and competitions and the general running of the G.A.A. throughout Dublin.

Key decisions taken include the acceptance of an invitation from the New York Board for Dublin to play Tipperary, in hurling, in the Polo Grounds, New York, on 22 October 1961 (p.27); permission, subject to Central Council sanction, for Saint Vincent's to play the New York (Kerry) football team in Parnell Park on 23 September 1961 (p.41); the Dublin chairman's condemnation of the programme produced by Erin's Isle for their tournament and the ruling that 'in future the names of players must appear in Irish.' (p.61); the ruling that the 'gateman has power to appoint referee' (p.103); the Wild Geese club being allowed accept a trophy from John Player and Sons on the condition that it is for one match only and won outright (p.123); the decision, by the Finance Committee, to provide financial assistance to a 'county player in legal difficulties.' (p.126); the registering of a protest against the new licensing laws (p.183) and the decision to award tracksuits, to a maximum value of £100, to the Dublin football team for their successful run in the National Football League (p.199).

The Dublin County Board, at their 23 October 1961, adopted six of the seven recommendations arising from the meeting of the representatives of the hurling and football fixture committees. The recommendations adopted included that teams in the Senior Hurling League must average at least two league matches per month; that no

matches, hurling or football, are to be cancelled once confirmed by the County Board unless on the death of a player or prominent club member of one of the teams concerned; any club wishing to 'left free' on a certain date must apply, in writing, to the Honorary Secretary and that 'Under no circumstances is a match to be re-fixed, if either, or both, teams failed to field.' The recommendation that a team must have at least two players on the Dublin Senior team, in order to be left free of fixtures on an 'inter-county Sunday' was deferred for redrafting. (pp.73-74). The County Board, at their 13 November 1961 meeting, re-fixed the Garda v UCD football league match as the Garda team 'had been unable to muster a full team...owing to the present difficulties in the force.' (p.87).

At the 9 April 1962 County Board meeting, 'The Chairman said he insisted that all delegates [to Congress] must support the Dublin motions whether they agreed with them or not. Each delegate must vote for the motion and must speak for it if he speaks at all.' (p.170).

The Dublin County Board, at their 3 September 1962 meeting, adopted the report of the special committee established to study the future of the senior championships. The report recommended that a shorter period be laid down for the running the championships; that football and hurling championships be run on alternate Sundays; that full rounds of each championship be played on the same Sunday up to the quarter-final stages; that both championships, once started, be continued in fortnightly periods; that no inter-county challenge or tournament game, even those involving Dublin, is 'to interfere in any way with the expeditious running of the championship' and that 'no club with a player on the Dublin County Team shall be granted a postponement, unless the inter-county commitment is within six days after the championship fixture i.e. a club must field on the Sunday prior to an inter-county fixture.' (pp.259-260).

**Title:** Dublin County Senior Board Minute Book, 1962 - 1964

**Code:** GAA/DUB/01/17

**Covering Dates:** 10 December 1962 – 15 June 1964

**Extent:** 261pp

**Scope and Content:**

Minute book, in bound volume form, containing the signed handwritten meeting minutes of the Dublin County Senior Board of the Gaelic Athletic Association. The minute book contains the minutes of the regular County Board meetings, 1962 - 1964. The minute book does not contain the minutes of the Annual County Conventions held during this period. The front cover of this minute book is missing.

The minute book contains a record of the rulings and decisions made by the Dublin County Board; the hearing of appeals and objections; the fixing of dates and venues for games and competitions and the general running of the G.A.A. throughout Dublin.

The 19 May 1964 meeting was adjourned as a mark of respect to the late Padraig Ó Caoimh. (p.247).

Key decisions taken by the Dublin County Board include the seeding of teams for the 1963 Dublin Senior Championship draws (pp.2-3); the warning from the Chairman that 'members of the G.A.A. were not to appear on radio or television, without the permission of the Central Council' (p.6) and that 'anyone who wished to speak for Dublin on TV or Radio should first seek permission' (p.18); the order from the Chairman that 'all clubs who had not yet paid affiliation fees be removed from all competitions' (p.15); the decision that the Dublin County Board would enter the national pools competition (pp.29-30); Dublin Corporation notifying the County Board 'that no matches were to be fixed on pitches leased by them, except matches for the clubs to whom the grounds were leased' (p.221) and the decision to hold fortnightly meetings instead of weekly. (p. 252).

At the 28 June 1963 meeting, it was reported that, with regards the inter-county teams, 'the hurling position is very satisfactory but the footballers were giving great concern. The attendance at training was deplorable, there being only 5 or 6 regulars out of a



panel of 25...The Chairman deplored this position, and promised the Board that he would strike off the panel any player who refuses to turn out for training.' (p.22). At the 4 March 1963 meeting it was reported that there was a difference of opinion between the trainer, Brendan Quinn, and the Selection Committee with regards the training regime of the inter-county senior football team (the selection committee favoured weight training while Quinn did not) – this resulted in the motion being passed that 'The trainer is trainer-cum-coach and he is in sole charge of training. The selection committee have no function in directing the policy of training.' (p.42). At the 13 January 1964 meeting the motion was passed 'That members of the outgoing Senior Football Selection Committee be eligible for re-election for the coming year, notwithstanding the decision already taken by County Board confining membership Selection Committee to the Board.' (p.181). At the 13 April 1964 meeting the issue of the Dublin by-law restricting the selection of the inter-county senior hurling team to native born Dublin players was raised with several delegates speaking in favour of the practice. (p. 226).

At the 6 April 1964 meeting the Chairman announced his intention of 'appointing three men to attend matches and report on the qualities of the refereeing.' (p.222). At the 13 April 1964 the 'Chairman intimated his intention of nominating a Grounds Committee of four to inspect and report on club grounds.' (p.226)

**Title:** Dublin County Senior Board Minute Book, 1964 - 1966

**Code:** GAA/DUB/01/18

**Covering Dates:** 29 June 1964 – 5 September 1966

**Extent:** 521pp

**Scope and Content:**

Minute book, in bound volume form, containing the signed handwritten meeting minutes of the Dublin County Senior Board of the Gaelic Athletic Association. The minute book contains the minutes of the regular County Board meetings, 1964 - 1966. The minute book does not contain the minutes of the Annual County Conventions held during this period.

The minute book contains a record of the rulings and decisions made by the Dublin County Board; the hearing of appeals and objections; the fixing of dates and venues for games and competitions and the general running of the G.A.A. throughout Dublin.

Key decisions taken by the County Board include the possibility of introducing different seasons for the football and hurling championships (p.53); the possibility of introducing two inter-county hurling teams (p.69); the failing of a Dublin motion to Annual Congress by five votes as the ten Dublin delegates were absent (p.201); the decision to withdraw from the Leinster Under-21 Hurling final rather than play 'Wexford in Wexford, as Dublin played Wexford last year in Enniscorthy' (p.243); an invitation from 'John Player and Sons [to] Dublin to [visit] their factory if Dublin defeated Kerry in the All Ireland Senior Football semi-final.' (p.268) and the decision to hold two carnivals, one in O'Toole Park and the other in Parnell Park, in 1966 to raise money to purchase grounds. (p.371).

At the 7 September 1964 meeting, the 'Chairman welcomed the delegates to the new premises. Speaking on general administration he said the front room was to be an office for the use of the Hon Sec, Treasurer and Asst Hon Sec and would be furnished accordingly. He recommended the appointment of a shorthand typist, at about £10 per week. Mr T. Woulfe expressed preference for a male clerk. No decision was taken.' (p.35). At the 8 February 1965 meeting it was decided to appoint a female office assistant who must have Irish and shorthand and be a typist (p.144) while at the 6 September 1965 meeting, 'The Chairman announced that an Office Assistant had been

employed. Future queries should be addressed to the office...and not to the private homes of the Chairman and Hon. Sec.' (p.277).

The process behind the selection of the new General Secretary of the GAA is raised at the 27 July 1964 with Robert Freeman explaining that the post was not being advertised but instead 'it had been decided...each member of the Central Council might nominate up to three candidates and the County Boards had no function in the matter. Both the Chairman and T. Woulfe (Civil Service) adversely criticised this decision of the Central Council, saying such a system was completely wrong.' (pp.26-27). At the 7 September 1964 meeting, the Chairman 'congratulated Mr Sean Ó Siochain on his appointment as General Secretary of the Association and pledged full co-operation from Coiste Atha Cliath.' (pp.36-37).

At the 8 February 1965 meeting, 'after a long discussion it was decided (26 votes for) to transact the business of the county committee in Irish on the first Monday of each month.' (p.144). The minutes of the 5 April 1965 meeting are recorded partially in Irish. (pp.189-194).

At the 7 September 1964 meeting, it was reported that the 'Central Council approved the Dublin Co Board receiving Bank Accommodation to the extent of £20,000 for Grounds Development.' (p.33). At the 9 November 1964 meeting Mr A Kelly reported on a meeting held with the Leinster Grounds Committee at which 'The Grounds Committee were shocked to find that, according to the Leinster Council, the £20,000 being borrowed by Coiste Ath Cliath would not be at their beck and call...Mr A. Nolan said the Leinster Council maintained that, though they were only guarantors for the money, they still had the power to see how the money was spent. The Chairman said "If they give us grants they can stipulate what we do with it but we are free to spend our own money as we like. We must keep faith with the clubs to whom we have made promises. We are 50 years behind the times.' (pp.87-88).

At the 13 July 1964 meeting, a long discussion took place regarding the forthcoming tour of America by the Dublin Senior Football team with the Chairman informing the meeting that that 'a meeting had been held with officials of the Central Council with a

view to having a chartered plane commissioned. The Council had agreed he said to charter a plane provisionally. There would be 109 seats available on this plane for supporters etc. Seats would be available at £65 each.' (p.14). At the 14 September 1964 meeting the Chairman reported that the chartered plane 'had not been filled and it would be impossible to fill it.' (p.42). At the 9 November 1964 meeting the Chairman reported on the American trip, stating that 'it had been a wonderful success socially...While in America we visited Washington and laid a wreath on the late President Kennedy's grave...The Chairman concluded by saying he would like to see a trip for the hurlers and he was not without hope that one could be arranged.' (pp.88-89).

The re-appointment of Brendan Quinn as trainer of the Dublin Senior Football Team for 1965 is recorded in the minutes of the 8 February 1965 meeting. At this meeting Mr. A. Nolan 'said the selectors wanted the right of nominating one person to speak on tactics in Pavilion on the final night of training.' (p.143). At the 17 May 1965 meeting the motion was passed that 'Prior to the final night of training there be a combined meeting of selectors and trainer, presided over by the chairman, to decide tactics, the selection committee to be regarded as a unit, the chairman to preside over the meeting and to make a decision when necessary.' (pp.220-222). The resignation of Brendan Quinn is recorded in the minutes of the 27 September 1965 meeting. (p.302). At the 8 March 1965 meeting the motion that the county champions select the inter-county hurling team was declared defeated, having received 22 votes. (p.162).

At the 22 March 1965 meeting 'a discussion took place regarding recent newspaper correspondence between Mr Woulfe and the officers of the Association. Several delegates criticised Mr. Woulfe's attitude.' The proposal to convene a special county convention 'to discuss the whole matter and to re-consider Dublin's attitude to the motions concerning Rule 27' was defeated by 21 votes to 20. (p.176). At the same meeting, however, the motion was passed unanimously that the Board dis-associate itself from Mr Woulfe's attitude and his attack on the President of the Association' with Mr. Woulfe called before the Disciplinary Committee 'to answer the charge that he is guilty of bringing the Association into disrepute.' (p.177). At the following meeting, held on 29 March 1965, the Chairman reported that the Disciplinary Committee 'had

recommended that, in the best interests of the Dublin motion, Mr. Woulfe be not a member of the Dublin delegation to Congress.' (p.182). At the 5 April 1965 meeting 'The Chairman stated that it was the feeling of the Disciplinary Committee that his action didn't call for any suspension. They were of the opinion, however, that he should not go forward as a delegate from the county to Congress. They thought that his presence there would not be in the best interests of the motions which the county were putting forward...Mr Freeman proposed that Mr Woulfe be allowed go to Congress. This would ensure that those wishing the ban to be abolished would not have it to say that the Board was guilty of hindering their case...Mr Freeman proposed that no action be taken against Mr Woulfe and that he be included amongst the delegates to Congress...This was carried by 32 votes to 3.' (pp.191-192).

At the 31 January 1966 meeting 'correspondence was received from Central Council requesting the Dublin County Committee to provide 150 men to take part in the crowd scenes of the 1916 Commemoration Pageant to be held in Croke Park on the evenings of March 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>.' (p.388). Sean Ó Siochain, General Secretary, attended the 4 April 1966 meeting and, when referring to the Easter 1916 commemoration parade, 'stated that the prestige of the Association is at stake, it is up to the clubs in Dublin to come out in force on Sunday next because where Dublin leads, Ireland follows.' (p.431).

**Title:** Dublin County Senior Board Minute Book, 1966 - 1980

**Code:** GAA/DUB/01/19

**Covering Dates:** 12 September 1966 – 3 March 1980

**Extent:** 522pp

**Scope and Content:**

Minute book, in bound volume form, containing the signed meeting minutes of the Dublin County Senior Board of the Gaelic Athletic Association. The minute book contains the minutes of the regular County Board meetings, 1966 - 1980. The minute book does not contain the minutes of the Annual County Conventions held during this period.

The minute book contains a record of the rulings and decisions made by the Dublin County Board; the hearing of appeals and objections; the fixing of dates and venues for games and competitions and the general running of the G.A.A. throughout Dublin.

Key decisions taken by the County Board include congratulations being offered to Jack Lynch upon his election as Taoiseach (p.54); the inauguration of a Poc Fada competition for Dublin clubs (p.56); the decision to take part in the Fenian Rising commemorations (p.178); the recommendation that an official supporters club be established (p.355); the decision to appoint a Policy Committee and a Youth Committee (p.379); the decision to sell a portion of O'Toole Park (pp.375, 379 & 470).

The management of Gaelic grounds throughout Dublin is recorded in the minutes. At the 31 October 1966 meeting 'The question of the grass in O'Toole Park and Parnell Park was discussed and it was stated both grounds were a disgrace. It was impossible to play hurling and it was also very dangerous. A long discussion took place and the Vice-Chairman Mr. Kelly said that he would look into the matter' (p.44). At the next meeting it was reported that two hurling matches scheduled for O'Toole Park were cancelled 'as the grass had not been cut.' (p.48). At the 14 November 1966 meeting 'The Chairman stated that at last Friday nights' meeting of the Finance Committee it was decided that groundsman be appointed on a whole time basis for to look after Parnell Park and O'Toole Park and he was to help the two existing groundsmen in whatever way the Finance Committee thought that they could help them best.' (p.53). At

the 13 November 1967 meeting 'The Chairman stated that they had now appointed a permanent groundsman in charge of the grounds at Parnell Park and O'Toole Park. He would be responsible to the County Secretary only.' (p.202).

At the 5 December 1966 meeting 'Mr Boggan was asked to raise the matter of dressing accommodation at Ringsend Park. There are only two rooms available to players of both codes. Often G.A.A. players have to share a room with their soccer brothers. On one occasion a G.A.A. team in preference to doing this undressed in the open even though the elements on the same day were atrocious.' (p.62).

At the 8 May 1967 meeting 'Sympathy was extended to Na Fianna Club on the burning down of their Pavilion in Mobhi Road on Sunday last the 7<sup>th</sup> May. Many delegates expressed sympathy with the club and chairman stated the County Committee would have to help them as far as possible. Mr Donal Hickey thanked the Chairman for his remarks and said that one of the first on the scene on Sunday morning was the General Secretary.' (p.141).

At the 8 March 1972 Executive Committee meeting 'An application for permission to erect a Club Premises in Parnell Park from Craobh Chiarain was received. Two alternatives were given (a) Club Premises in conjunction with County Committee or (b) Club Premises independent of Coiste Atha Cliath. The Executive decided to agree in principle with the proposals subject to the sanction of the County Committee.' (p.391).

The appointment of two full-time officers to the Dublin County Board is recorded throughout the minutes. At the 11 September 1967 meeting 'the Chairman said [organisation] had been discussed at the Finance Committee and it was the unanimous opinion of the members that the present set up as regards administration was not sufficient to cope with the enormous expansion in the city over the past number of years. He proposed approaching the Central Council to seek their assistance in arriving at a solution...To do the job of administration properly we would need a whole time Secretary, someone who would be free during the day to go around the schools, attend the solicitors office or the banks when necessary.' (p.175). At the 10 June 1970 meeting, correspondence was read from the Central Council 'approving the

appointment of two full-time officials to Coiste Atha Cliath with contribution of £2,000 from Ard Comhairle, £1,500 from Comhairle Laighean and the balance from Coiste Atha Cliath.’ The Chairman informed the meeting that ‘there would be two full time officials, one a full time Secretary who would look after the finances and the other a Development Officer.’ (p.328). It was announced, at the 2 June 1971 Executive Committee meeting, that Donal Hickey had been appointed as Development Officer. (p.369).

At the 28 August 1967 meeting, ‘an invitation from the Central Council for Dublin to play Melbourne in Gaelic Football and Australian Rules Football in Croke Park on October 29<sup>th</sup> was accepted’ (p.167) while at the 30 October 1967 meeting ‘The Chairman Mr. T. Loftus congratulated the Australian Footballers on their displays in Croke Park and stated that “the Australians proved that they can play a brand of Gaelic football we have never seen before. I suggest we pick what’s best from the offerings of the Australians.”’ (p.198).

At the 6 October 1969 meeting, Na Fianna were congratulated for winning the Dublin Senior Football Championship, their ‘first ever championship title’ (p.299) but at the next meeting, held on 3 November 1969, ‘The Secretary read a letter from Na Fianna regarding the captaincy of the Dublin Senior Football Team in which they stated they were very annoyed at the fact that a player other than one nominated by the Na Fianna club had been elected Captain of the Senior Football team by the Dublin Senior Selectors. The Chairman outlined what had happened and stated that as this was a new group of players and very young team the selectors had decided it would be a good thing if the Captain of the team was one who was an experienced player and who could lead these young players during the coming year. He stated that at the time this was decided the County Champions were not known...Mr P. Cullotty (St. Brigids) then proposed that the County Champions have the right to nominate the Captain of the County team...It was then decided that Na Fianna have the right to nominate the Captain of the Senior Football Team for the coming season.’ (pp.309-310). Seamus Donnelly was nominated by Na Fianna as the captain at the next meeting, held on 1 December 1969. (p.311).



At the 17 April 1972 meeting 'The Chairman announced that he called this special County Committee in order to clarify who was eligible to play for either the Inter County Football or Hurling teams. Many delegates took part in the discussion which was a lengthy one and it was finally decided that in future that a player in contention for a place on a Dublin adult side (including Under 21) would now be eligible under three headings: (1) a non native having competed in Dublin competition at under 18 and juvenile level; (2) a player born in Dublin; (3) that any player, about whom clarification is required, have his name and details submitted through the Executive of the Sub-Committee to the Executive of the County Committee.' (p.393)

At the 8 January 1968 meeting 'The Chairman at length reviewed what was implied by reason of the new motions which were passed at convention and the rules dealing with the administration of G.A.A. affairs in Dublin. Arising from the change in rules it would be necessary to set up a separate Hurling and Football Board. It was agreed that the Hurling clubs meet next Monday to elect a Chairman and Secretary. The Football clubs to meet the following Monday for the same purpose.' (p.209). At the 18 July 1972 meeting the motion was passed 'That a controlling body be set up consisting of the County Chairman, County Secretary, Chairman of the Senior Football Board, Chairman of the Senior Hurling Board, Chairman of the Junior Football Board, Chairman of the Junior Hurling Board, Chairman of the Minor Board and Chairman of the Fingal League, who would be fully responsible for all inter-county teams from Senior to under 14. This committee to dictate policy in regard to training, sanction challenge games and appoint trainers etc.' (p.399).

The Dublin County Board's reaction to the outbreak of the Troubles is recorded throughout the minutes. At the 30 August 1971 meeting 'Correspondence was received from Parnells and Fingallians protesting against internment in the 6 Counties. The Chairman stated that as this was a very delicate matter and the fact that efforts were being made by the Chairmen of County Boards in the 6 Counties he thought it better not to pursue the matter.' (p.372). At the 6 December 1971 meeting 'It was announced that a National Collection for the Northern Dependent's Fund would be held at all the churches on 21/1/'72. Details were also announced and the Chairman stated that he

hoped all clubs would co-operate to make the collection a success.' (p.380) with a 'Northern Dependent's Fund Committee' established at the 7 February 1972 meeting. (p.385).

At the 4 September 1972 meeting 'It was proposed...and seconded...that the County Committee pass a vote of censure on the British Army's occupation of Casement Park.' (p.401) while at the 8 January 1973 meeting, the motion was unanimously passed 'That the Parnell G.A.A. Club Ltd demands the immediate withdrawal of the British armed forces at present occupying Casement Park, Belfast; and calls upon Coiste Atha Cliath to declare openly its strong objections to this act of naked aggression towards the Irish people and the G.A.A., and urges that An Coiste employ all means available to it, to effect the withdrawal of the said Crown forces from G.A.A. property.' (p.408).

At the 4 February 1974 meeting, the motion 'The Good Counsel Club, Drimnagh, resolve that the Dublin County Board declare its support for the transfer of the Price Sisters, Gerard Kelly, Hugh Feeney and their companions to Ireland. The Club believes that on humanitarian and compassionate grounds alone this transfer from one jail to another should take place. Already the precedent for such a transfer has been set, with various prisoners having been transferred from the Six Counties to England, including Brown convicted of murder. Accordingly the Good Counsel Club proposes that its resolution supporting the demand for the hunger strikers and their companions be passed by the County Board' was proposed and forwarded to the Central Council. (p.427).