

Stadium News

Croke Park Community Newsletter

June 2021 Edition | Published by Croke Park Stadium



3 December 2020; Supporters, drawn and coloured by school children from Waterford, are placed in the Cusack stand before the GAA Hurling All-Ireland Senior Championship Final between Limerick and Waterford.



Dear neighbour,

In a manner we've all become so used to since March 2020, this is another socially distant greeting and introduction, which I would have preferred to do in person. My name is Larry McCarthy, and I succeeded your good neighbour John Horan as President of the GAA earlier this year.

Hailing from Cork, I moved to the US in the 1980's and became the first overseas official elected as Uachtarán of the GAA. It's been the strangest of times to move back to Dublin, but I've been delighted to meet some of you already when I'm out and about on my walks around the stadium. Thank you for making me feel so welcome. I've already got involved in local matters and it was great to be part of the judging panel for this year's Dublin North Central Garda Youth Awards in May. This year's exceptional award winners will be announced shortly.

It's still hard to believe that the mighty roar of the Croke Park crowd has been silent for nearly 15 months now. A brighter summer for everyone beckons, and we will be welcoming supporters back through the turnstiles for various test matches from the middle of June onwards.

But before we go forward, I would like to look back. I know many of you reading this note were a great support and help to your neighbours since the pandemic started. I'd also like to acknowledge those of you who were on the front line in the response to Covid-19; as essential workers in many different areas and professions. Thank you for your huge contribution throughout the crisis.

To all our neighbours for being so supportive of the stadium and the handball centre being used as community testing & vaccination centres – thank you. I know from speaking with Julianne and Peter that the number of emails and calls of support we received from you was unprecedented, and it was good to know you were so supportive of the HSE.

Finally, on behalf of the GAA, our deepest sympathies to any of our neighbours grieving at this time. I have learnt that not only did our community lose a number of wonderful neighbours, that we also have neighbours who have lost loved ones – both from Covid-19 & through other circumstances. Our thoughts are with you. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-anamacha uaisle.

I look forward to the times ahead when we can meet up at community events and matches here in the stadium. In the meantime, please stay safe, keep well, and thank you for your continued support.

Larry McCarthy

Uachtarán Cumann Lúthchleas Gael

2021 PROVISIONAL CALENDAR OF EVENTS

The following list of 2021 fixtures list is provisional, and subject to change. Fixtures may be postponed, or others added, and this may occur at short notice. Spectators will be allowed at upcoming fixtures & government guidelines will advise the number of spectators admitted. The most up-to-date list for 2021 can always be viewed online at crokepark.ie/matchday.

If you have a query about a specific fixture this summer, you can get in touch with Julianne in Croke Park: email jsavage@crokepark.ie or call **01 865 8607**.

JUNE

Sat	19	GAA National Football League Final
Sun	20	Camogie League Final
Sat	26	LGFA League Final

JULY

Sat	17	Leinster GAA Senior Hurling Final
Sat	31	Leinster GAA Senior Championship Football Final

AUGUST

Sun	1	Ring, Rackard & Meagher Finals
Sat	7	GAA Senior Hurling Championship Semi Final
Sun	8	GAA Senior Hurling Championship Semi Final
Sat	14	GAA Senior Football Championship Semi Final
Sun	15	GAA Senior Football Championship Semi Final
Sun	22	GAA Senior Hurling Championship Final
Sun	29	GAA Senior Football Championship Final

SEPTEMBER

Sun	5	LGFA Senior Championship Final
Sun	12	Camogie Senior Championship Final

IMPORTANT EVENT DAY INFORMATION

Garda Event Day Vehicular Pass for 2021

For the 2021 season, the Gardaí have advised that the 2019 and 2020 residents vehicular passes are still valid. Households inside the Garda event day cordon who do not have car passes can collect them from Mountjoy Garda Station. Please bring proof of identity and proof of residency with you to the station for passes to be issued.

Your Match Day Team

Members of the Croke Park community team, which is made up entirely of local residents will be on duty during matches this summer. If you need their help or need to bring any stadium matter to our attention during a game, email community@crokepark.ie or call the community hotline: **1800 303 593**

Use of Stadium & Handball Centre by the HSE

Croke Park continues to host HSE teams with the opening of a vaccination centre in the stadium in early May and the National Handball Centre continuing to serve as a testing centre for Covid-19. Thank you for your ongoing support as we continue to work together for the benefit of our community.

The Courts service in Croke Park

In April, the Courts Service began using Croke Park for criminal trials to avail of the extra space needed to conduct cases during the Covid-19 pandemic. Three of the stadium's conference rooms have been adapted to mirror the layout of a courtroom with additional space between jurors, lawyers, registrars, and judges. The courts are not open to the public.

Upcoming 'Test' Events

Croke Park will host its first 'test' event on Sunday, 20 June or possibly, on Saturday, 19 June depending on the results in the final round of football league fixtures. The Government approved plans will see fans attend a number of test events across various sports throughout June. These pilot events will allow sports organisations test necessary control and other safety measures in stadia. The events will then help evaluate and review progress to advance additional events and capacity from early July. The latest information on test events is available at www.gov.ie

Clonliffe College Update

The GAA has secured planning approval for the development of a new 200-bed hotel on the Clonliffe College site. Works will not commence until the finances for the Association have stabilised following the Covid-19 pandemic.

Don't miss out – make sure you sign up

If you want to be one of the first neighbours to hear about the latest happenings in Croke Park, make sure you register for the stadium's community database & opt-in to receive news on upcoming events, occasional ticket offers and community events by email.

Register online at crokepark.ie/CommunityRegister

New Handball Centre

An important upcoming event in relation to the new GAA handball centre on Sackville Avenue, will be the election of a new board of management for the centre in October. Three of the six members of the centre's management board will be appointed by the GAA, and local residents will also have an opportunity to be involved to elect three local community representatives to the board.