



ROSCOMMON GAELS

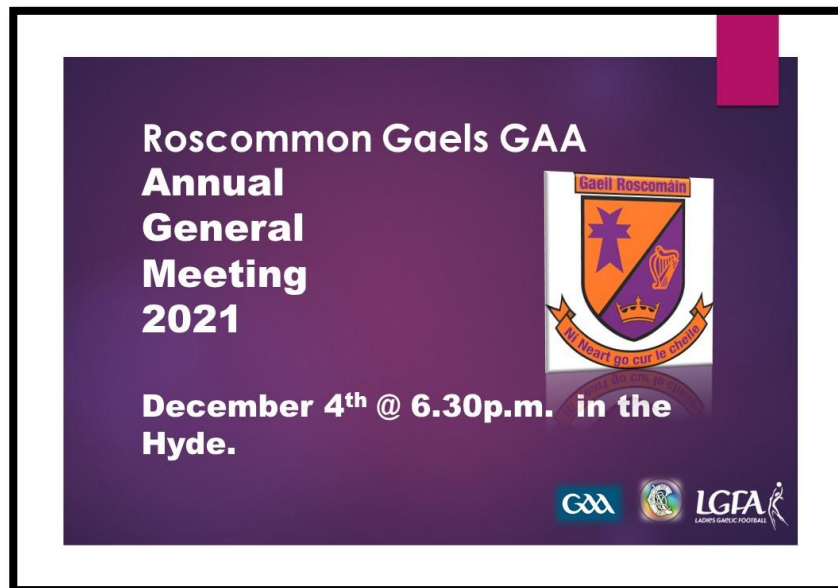
Gaelforce News

November 2021



Ni Neart go
chur
le Cheile





Jackpot of €10,000 Won

The Weekend of November 6th & 7th was a great few days of success for the Club. The Junior Camogie team retained their title for the second year running, the Minor Footballers were crowned County Division 1 Champions (by a hairs breath – we'll take it though, and to cap it all off on Sunday night, the Club's weekly Lotto Jackpot of €10,000 was won by one very lucky girl Karen Kelly from Knockcroghery. What a surprise for her. The winning ticket was purchased by her parents the weekend of the draw on the Street at Harrison court. Not sure who sold her the winning ticket, but well done to you too!! Volunteers who give up an hour on Saturday mornings to assist with this fundraising are always needed so thanks to everyone who helps out. We are always looking for new faces - the more the merrier. Pictured below are Karen's parents, Amy and David Kelly who accepted the cheque on behalf of Karen Sunday evening at the Hyde Centre with Teresa Hession and Harry Hoare.



Pictured Above: Some of our Volunteers who helpout at the Lotto Stand on Saturday. Big thanks to everyone who helps out.

Remember, if you don't get the opportunity to purchase a ticket on the street, you can buy Lotto online by clicking on the link below.

Annual General Meeting

This Annual General Meeting of the Club is scheduled to take place on December 4th, 2021 at 6.30 p.m. All club members should have received notification of this by email.

Please note guidelines will be adhered to in respect of meetings, whether it be indoor or online. Confirmation closer to the date will be communicated to all members if there is to be a change.



Camogie

Junior Camogie scoops Title second year in a row....

Our Junior Camogie team played Four Roads in the Junior 'B' Championship final on Saturday 6th November in Lisnamult. The day was perfect for camogie and the team was led onto the field by joint captains Emily Comiskey and Mia Fallon. We were missing one or two of our stalwarts on the day due to work commitments, but the rest of the panel turned up ready for battle. From the get-go, Four Roads did their best to pull our full back Emily Horan out to mid-field but good communication between our backs held off the challenges that came from Four Roads. Captain Emily Comiskey opened the scoring with a long-range point from play and that gave us the start we wanted.

Defending our Junior B title of 2020, we continued to put scores on the board regularly. At half time we were up 2-05 to Four Roads 1-01. However, we didn't let ourselves get too confident and we stuck to our plan. The Roscommon Gaels girls held Four Roads to one point in the second half, and the final score read Roscommon Gaels 4-10 Four Roads 1-02.

Theresa Rowe, County Board Secretary, presented the Junior Shield to captains Emily Comiskey and Mia Fallon, while Mia Fallon was also the recipient of the



'Player of the Match' award.



Coaching Teenage Girls Workshop

Coaching Teenage Girls Camogie Workshop, hosted by the Camogie Association on Saturday last (November 20th). The workshop, which took place in Hannon's Hotel, was attended by a number of our Camogie Coaches in the club.

It was also the first role out of a number of workshops scheduled around the country by the



Camogie Association. The purpose of this workshop, was for coaches to think about the coaching of girls in their context. Although there have never been as many opportunities for girls to participate in sport, the rate of dropout from sport for girls is far higher than for their male counterparts. In fact, by the age of 14 years, girls are dropping out of sports at approximately twice the rate of boys. This is why it is critical that coaches consider how, and develop strategies, to retain girls in sport through adolescence. Throughout the research, there are a number of main reasons why girls' dropout of sport. These include: time commitment, cost, peers, and not having fun. On the flipside, research also reveals that when girls like their coaches, they are more likely to keep playing, understand the importance of being active, and enjoy their sport. Therefore, it is vital that the coaching practices that support girls to start, and to stay in sport are well understood. Central to this are coaches that create a positive environment that encourages safety, fun, and healthy competition. In addition, it is essential to employ supportive coaching practices that reward effort for trying a new skill over winning, encourage learning from mistakes while staying positive, and promote integrity and honesty.

Pictured below are Nicola Crosbie Coach, Joan M. Noone Coach, Sean Mulry Coach, Fiona Quinn Secretary Roscommon Gaels Camogie.



Football

Senior Football

Our Casey's Roscommon sponsored senior footballers qualified for the O'Rourke cup final with a 5-star showing against St Brigids in Kiltoom recently with a 5-06 to 0-12 victory.

The game took place on a lovely evening and the Gaels started the brighter with an excellent point from P Gillooly. St. Brigids responded with two points of their own, the second a great goal chance that was blasted over. From the restart a great long ball in was delightfully palmed down by Mark Healy into the path of Peter Gillooly who finished brilliantly to the net.

It was to get even better for our lads when outstanding drive and passing from Tim Lambe and Mark Purcell split the Brigid's defence to allow Purcell finish a class move to the net. Half time seen the Gaels lead by 2-04 to 0-05 as Gillooly and Healy added Points.

In the driving seat now, the Gaels men pushed on further and the move of the game resulted in Kevin O'Gara sending a rocket to the top corner for a great goal. This was quickly followed by goals from Danny Mahon and replacement Richard Walshe and the Gaels finished worthy winners despite St. Brigid's tagging on some late points.

This was a great team performance and we now look forward to the Final of a competition we have not won since 1994. Best of luck on the 12th December lads and hopefully we will get a good turnout to support.



"Magical Minors Overcome Boyle(ing) Point"

Our Athlone Laboratories sponsored U-17 footballers won a magnificent County U-17 "A" final when they overcame a strong Boyle team by the smallest of margins in a classic of a final. This game will live long in the memory as it had everything from die hard tackling, quality scores, edge of seat twists and some superb individual performances from both teams. Our young lads started with a bang and raced into a commanding lead by the water break with some excellent scores from Ryan Conlon who was sublime. In addition, young John McGuinness was like a fox in the box when he pounced on a rebound after excellent drive from DJ Hession to Goal. By the water break we were 1-06 to 0-01 ahead and this was mainly through the excellent drive and skill of our young lads along with some super defending from the likes of Jack Donnelly and Ethan O'Reilly.

With Conlon continuing where he left off after the water break and Ciaran O'Reilly pointing, we led at half time by 1-12 to 0-07 with Niall O'Donnell keeping Boyle in the hunt. An injury to Rory Carthy after the water break deprived us of a key player going into the second half.

Whatever was in the water in the Boyle dressing room at half time certainly worked as despite a Ciaran O'Reilly point at the start of the second half the Boyle lads tore into us and started to claw back the lead. Again, with O'Donnell driving them on ably assisted by Henry, Kelly & Flanagan, Boyle managed to get level by the water break at 1-13 each with Kelly blasting to the net and the roar from the Boyle crowd could be heard in Lough Key forest.

At the water break Kevin McStay & the management team needed to inspire and indeed whatever was said kicked in immediately and who else but Ryan Conlon got on the end of a superb Rodhan Dowd pass to blast us 3 points up with a superb finish.

The tidal wave had been paused but Boyle came again and indeed this is where the Gaels Subs helped, as Dowd and Jack Fleming made some telling plays to stifle the Boyle Momentum. Indeed, great defending from Senan Lambe, young Eoghan Carty, Jack Donnelly and the team as a whole helped us hang on despite Boyle pulling it back to a one-point game. Last ditch bravery, diving on shooters but most importantly discipline in the challenge saw us survive for possibly the most important win for the club in 20 years.

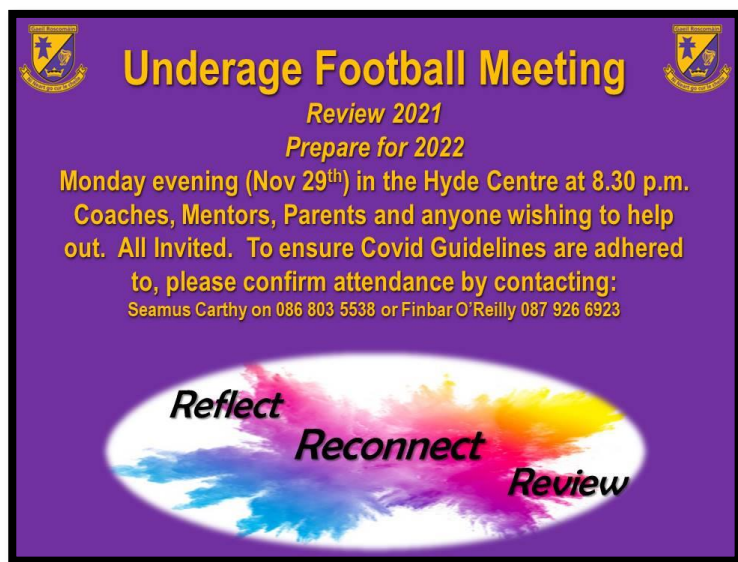
Well done Management, Team, Parents, Sponsors and Supporters and thanks for a memorable day and year. Hyde Park has seen many a titanic battle but for overall quality this one ranks right up at the Top.

Indeed Boiling point was reached!

The Minor Team and Management would like to thank all supporters that came to Hyde Park on Final Day on November 7th. It is a true testament to the Club that is Roscommon Gaels.

Ni Neart go chur le Chéile!





Hurling

U-18 Minor Hurling Championship 2020 Final - Four Roads 3-12 Roscommon Gaels 1-15

The Covid delayed 2020 Minor (U-18) Hurling Final was played in very mild and dry conditions on Saturday, 13th November in Ballyforan under lights. Great credit is due to the St. Aidan's club for their facilities on the night.

The game started off in very dry and good weather conditions, which was great considering the time of the year. A blistering start by Four Roads saw them take an early lead after eight minutes of play on a scoreline of 1-4 to 0-0. The danger man for the Tisrara lads, Adam Donnelly, scored the goal. After this initial burst by Four Roads, Roscommon Gaels settled themselves with two well-taken frees by Finn Killion. Indeed, the same player was to have a massive impact on the game with a personal tally of 11 points. These well-taken scores got the Gaels back into it and along with an inspirational score from play by our centre-back Ryan Conlon, we began to find our rhythm. Eoin Kieran, our senior full-forward, was moved out to the centre-forward position alongside Finn Killion and made an impact straight away winning a number of frees. Unfortunately we got hit by a second opportunist goal by Four Roads before the break and we went in at half-time on a scoreline of Four Roads 2-6 Roscommon Gaels 0-6.

The second-half started well once again for Four Roads who got the first score of the half. However, Roscommon Gaels started a comeback that never seemed likely in the first half. Outstanding defensive play from James Connolly, Ethan O'Reilly and Ryan

Conlon gave us a launchpad for plenty of attacks and all of a sudden it was 'game on'.

Another fantastic score from play by Ryan Conlon and a magical score on the run from a tight angle by DJ Hession saw the Gaels lads grow in confidence as the game went on. The Gaels had whittled the lead down to three points with ten minutes to go. Another killer blow was to come however when the danger man Donnelly hit another great goal giving Mikey Corcoran no chance. Now there was six between the side again. A further blow with a hamstring injury to Eoin Kiernan straight after he rattled the side post when bearing down on goals, it meant he could no longer play on. There was another twist in this tale however. A long ball in by Ryan Conlon was fielded expertly by Jack Fleming. Jack duly took on two defenders, went straight for goal and hit the back of the net. It was a wonderful moment of play and, without doubt, the score of the game. It really lifted the Gaels supporters and the players themselves.

All of a sudden, the momentum had shifted again in favour of the Gaels and Finn Killion hit another free to only leave two points between the sides with a couple of minutes left to play in normal time. Four Roads hit for another score from play and there was a goal in it. The Gaels went on the attack on a couple of occasions to look for the goal they needed, but unfortunately time was not on their side and Francie Kelly blew the final whistle. It was pulsating finish to a game that met all expectations between two great teams. Hurling was the real winner here and this group of Roscommon Gaels hurler held their heads very high against a Four Roads team that won out in the Galway Minor Championship this year.

While Four Roads brought the Brian Donnelly Cup back to Four Roads once again, it was fitting that the Man of the Match award went to Ryan Conlon. It was well deserved for an outstanding performance by the same player who also won Man of the Match for the Minor Football Final only a week previously.

Team : Michael Corcoran, Ronan Lambe, James Connolly, Cormac Feeley, Eoin Bracken, Ryan Conlon, DJ Hession, Kevin Glynn, Ethan O'Reilly, Davy Hough, Finn Killion, Senan Lambe, Coman Hanily, Eoin Kiernan, Jack Fleming, Thomas Connolly, Darragh Kiernan, Liam Óg Corcoran, Nathan Halligan, Adam Connolly, Fionnan Wynne, Daragh Ward, Jack O'Gara, Mark Purcell.
Scores : Finn Killion 0-11, Jack Fleming 1-00, Ryan Conlon 0-03, DJ Hession 0-01.

U-11 Hurling

Our Winter 'fun hurling' sessions return from Wednesday, Nov 24th, (@ 6pm to 7pm) on the astro soccer pitch in Roscommon Community Sports Park Lisnamult.

The sessions are aimed at encouraging our young Gaels pick up the hurl, meet their friends and get some exercise in a fun based environment. Nothing too strenuous!

We look forward to seeing both our older U11's (who won a very exciting County U12 shield final this week) along with our younger U11's who have been having a well-earned break since mid-October.

Under 12 Hurlers scoop up Co. Shield

Our U-12 Hurlers season has come to an end, with their last game being played on the 21st of November! We are very lucky in Roscommon Gaels to have a very talented group at this age.

Having recorded good victories over Oran, P. Pearses and Four Roads, our boys qualified for the Co Semi Final. In what can only be described as a “cracking” game of hurling, played at a very high standard our boys were more than unlucky to narrowly lose by 2 pts. It is being generous to say there were some very “dubious” refereeing decisions but management are very confident that this group will “Win or learn”. It has been a pleasure for management to see the improvement in this group, and they will continue to get better as they continue on their “Development Pathway”.

It was very fitting so that our U-12 season ended on a high, with our boys recording a well-deserved win in the County Shield Final v Padraig Pearses played in perfect conditions in Tremane on Sunday morning. We have always reinforced the importance of “Team” to our young boys and that is about the whole panel and not just those who “Start” games and that with big numbers not everyone will get to play in every game. It must be said that management put serious effort into adopting a “rotational” system to insure plenty of game time for all while still bearing in mind U-12 is competitive. Thankfully our boys understood and this became very important for the Final as due to serious

injuries, illness and other factors we were down a number of players.

Under 12 Hurlers

In the game itself, our team, captained on the day by Eoin Naughton, were a joy to watch. From Cathal Mulry in goals to Man of the Match Daniel Nerney at full forward, our boys were excellent. Some boys played in positions that were new to them, non-more so than Ryan Halligan at mid-field and adopted really well. It was a great help to Ryan that his partner, Sam Walsh who scored 2 beautiful long-range points was outstanding.

Padraig Pearses could not get past our full backs of Joseph McSharry and Liam Connolly. A dominant display from our half back line of Eoin Naughton, David Featherston and Sean Nugent laid the foundation of victory. With our midfield on top, it meant our forward line of Michael O'Brien, Cathal Nerney (1-0), Will O'Gara, Senan Grogan (2-0) and Daniel Nerney (2-2) could get the scores to win. The introduction of Ronan O'Donnell, Aleksanders Bajukes and AJ Tully gave a fresh impetus to our team that helped us see out the victory.

It was lovely to see Eoin accept the Shield on behalf of the team and indeed all eight captains we used this year! His speech was a credit to him, his family and his club.

Unfortunately, due to the rising numbers of COVID cases, management made the decision not to do the end of year “Supermacs” visit. We will schedule this at a later date. However, the boys did get to enjoy a “Celebratory Lap” of the town which they really enjoyed.

To the Management team of Shane, Noel, Steph, Fergal, Tommy, Fergus and our secret weapon Ethan, this victory, the games played and the training sessions we had, would not have been possible but for your hard work, dedication, attention to detail and, above all, your giving up of your time on a voluntary basis to facilitate these boys to be better hurlers, be better people. THANK You from all in Roscommon Gaels.

Also, a special mention and Thank You to Mairead Walsh, our COVID Officer. You were exceptional, and contributed greatly to keeping all safe and well

Finally to the parents..... Regardless of structures in place, managements dedication etc. it simply would not be possible to field a hurling team if it were not for your commitment, effort and time given to the cause. Management and the Club fully appreciate and understand the pressure it can put you under “to be there”. Sincerely, THANK YOU. Enjoy your well deserved rest.





Daniel Nerney receiving his Man of the Match Trophy following Under 12 Hurling Final.

Fleming's **SuperValu**

Ladies Football

U16/U19 Ladies Football McGowan Accountancy Under 19 Division 4 League final

Sunday 21-11-2021 was a big day in Ladies football for Roscommon Gaels Under 16 Girls as they headed into their Division 4 County Final at U19 level. Roscommon Gaels again entering the history books by having 2 teams play in Minor/U19 Competition in 2021. The Division 1 U16 girls who had been beaten by a mere point in their U16 semi-final wanted to continue playing football so the initiative to enter the bunch in U19 competition came to be. The girls competed well in competition and won each of their round games, bar having only been beaten in the first round by competition favourites Michael Glaveys. On this first meeting the team were missing a lot of players but the Gaels girls put the challenge up to Michael Glaveys and were just beaten by a goal in the end. The Gaels ladies got at a second shot at Michael Glaveys, this time in a County Final! A crisp sunny morning in Ballinlough was venue to this decider.

11am and toss of a coin saw Captain Megan Donohue opt for the Gaels to play with the sun behind them. Ball broken down and won, the Gaels got the show on the road with a marvellous point from Zara Fallon after

throw-in and a good run by midfielder Jennifer Morris, setting up the wing forward. Michael Glaveys were having none of it with Amy Fleming equalising shortly afterwards by a good ball from Ava Coleman. The Gaels had the majority of possession early on but were wasteful and missed several good scoring opportunities. Glaveys were more economical in possession and Megan Ronane pointed after a strong run from midfielder Shannon Hibbitt. Amy Fleming pointed again before some lovely play down field and good approach by centre forward Martha Mc Sharry to Molly Rose Finneran putting the ball in the back of the Glavey's net. The Gaels now 1-01 to Michael Glaveys 0-03 were piling on the pressure and the situation could have been a lot worse for the Glavey's side except for a good save from goalkeeper Sarah Morris. Glaveys came back up the field and took their shot with our keeper Jane King ensuring Glaveys were kept at bay. Wides continued from both teams before Zara Fallon finding form and converting two over the crossbar with a point for Glaveys in-between; this score compliment of Sarah Boylan after a strong run from defender Maedbh Hanley. Allanah Sutton at midfield for us increased our lead before half time. Half time score: Roscommon Gaels led by 1-4 to 0-4.

Michael Glaveys started the second half brightly with a good run by half back, Maedbh Hanley who combined with Shannon Hibbitt before setting up Isobel Coggins for the equalising goal. The Gaels girls with ball back up the other end and now facing into a strong sun narrowly missed out on a score. A free soon after saw Gaels Shauna Walsh find her mo-jö and put it over the bar. Not being accounted for on the score board, the matter was brought to the attention of the Referee by a diligent umpire at the far end! Consultation with umpires on concerning line and confirmation of free scored, the scoreboard was amended to reflect same. Ball back in play and having missed a couple of scoring chances, Molly Rose Finneran after some good work by Zara Fallon and Grace Dwyer in the forwards line found the back of the net once more. Gallant and tight defending from the Gaels backs Megan Donohue (Captain), Eve Mc Neill and Kate Harlowe saw the ball back up with our forwards in jig time but a couple of wasted shots saw the ball back down the field with a free to Glaveys from Bronagh Boylan which found its way to the back of our net. Redemption was on the way as Shauna Walsh put another point over. Good defending from Gaels half backs Emma O'Farrell, Sarah Purcell and Emma Hough caused a wide ball for the home side. As the home side increased the pressure they were increasingly thwarted by some great defending by Roscommon Gaels Captain Megan Donohue and Eve McNeill. Covering a lot of ground and working hard, wing forward Anna Kiernan helped bring the ball back up the field on many occasions. Good

History was made once again! The brand new cup for the Mc Gowan Accountancy Under 19 Division 4 League final was presented to a delighted and joyous captain Megan Donohue by Roscommon's LGFA Chairman Brendan Cregg. Brendan in his speech, one of his last as outgoing LGFA chairperson, paid tribute to the hard work and development being done in both clubs with Ladies Football. Megan thanked Brendan, Michael Glaveys Club for their pitch and facilities, Referee Ger Carmody and Officials, the Gaels parents, families and Club, her team

Roscommon Gaels Team. Jane King, Eve Mc Neill, Megan Donohue (Captain), Kate Harlow, Emma O'Farrell, Sarah Purcell, Emma Hough, Alannah Sutton, Jennifer Morris, Zara Fallon, Martha Mc Sharry, Anna Kiernan, Grace Dwyer, Molly Rose Finneran, Shauna Walsh, Alison Mc Namara, Orla Dwyer, Lile Mc Cafferty, Naoise Wynne, injured Eimear O'Connor and Ciara Killeen. Subs: Alison Mc Namara for Grace Dwyer. Manager Yvonne Donohue, Coach Declan Walsh, FLO Michelle Hughes Walsh.

A special tribute is paid to the girls who put their County Champions celebrations on hold on the day by going to support and play with their club mates in the U19 Division 2 Quarter Final against St. Ciarans straight after their own



final and victory in Ballinlough.

Sincere thanks to Creta Construction Ltd. sponsors and to Ray and Elizabeth Mc Sharry, Jacksons Restaurant, parents and supporters, to Roscommon Gaels LGFA & Club and Roscommon LGFA for support & assistance along the way.



McGowan Accountancy Under 19 Division 2 League Quarter Final

Our Division 2 team played St. Ciarans in Mulhern Park on Sunday 21-11-2021 3pm. Referee for this game was Mark Connell. On a cold sharp afternoon the game wasn't long on before the St. Ciaran's full back sustained a bad injury which saw the game held up for considerable time and the injured player carried off the pitch. Warm ups continued on the playing field until resumption of play. With an abundance of goals from both sides and some fabulous taken points, the Gaels put up a good battle through-out and rallied at times but it wasn't to be, as St. Ciarans bypassed the efforts of the Gaels girls and at home were the stronger team on the day.

The Club wishes St. Ciarans Caoimhe Murray a speedy recovery from an injury that she sustained early in the game.

Result: St. Ciarans 5-16 Roscommon Gaels 5-04



Just to remind anybody that wants to be involved in Ladies teams next Season to please ensure that you have submitted proof of the following requirements...

1. Garda Vetted

2. Safeguarding
3. Coaching Qualification
4. Your LGFA membership.

All of the above are mandatory.

Roscommon Ladies U14 Football

U14 Roscommon County ladies football programme kicks off on Saturday 27th of November at the Community School Pitch in Roscommon. Girls (born 2008, 2009) are invited to attend at 3pm sharp on Saturday. Training will finish at 4:15pm. Covid questionnaire to be completed before attending. Bring your own labelled water, gumshields and any meds. If possible wear a club top. Please contact Under 14 Regional Coordinator Yvonne Donohue from our Club if you have any queries.

Failure to submit required documentation will make you ineligible to participate in being involved in any underage (U18) team. Should you have any difficulties/questions please feel free to contact the Ladies Committee.

A Little Bit of History

Roscommon Town GAA The Beginning

The GAA was established nationally in Ireland in **1884**.

Roscommon football club was formed in Roscommon Town in **1888** by a few gentlemen from the town. It was essentially a rugby club, governed by English rugby rules. It was evident that the club did not have universal support, so in order to gain a broader acceptance, the club offered its members a **half hour** under Gaelic rules and a **half hour** under rugby rules!! Imagine that today!!



Feb 11th 2007 Ireland vs France in Croke Park – history made – but we had been playing half Gaelic and half rugby 119 years earlier in St. Coman's Park Roscommon!

By the end of 1889, Gaelic games were becoming popular and the first EVER Gaelic club in Roscommon town was formed. It was known as **Roscommon St. Coman's** and at the meeting to establish the club, thanks were conveyed to a Mr. J. J. Kelly for permitting the use of **the Lough** for occasional practice.

Therefore, the Lough was used for Gaelic games in 1889, a mere 5 years after the formation of the GAA nationally. A truly historic ground indeed.

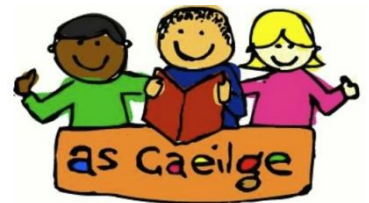


Images of (1) "The Lough" pictured in its current state. (2) Picture of a match underway at "St. Coman's Park". Exact Date not known (ATP)

Very little is known about the fortunes of Roscommon St. Coman's apart from the fact they were defeated by Kiltewan Sarsfields by one point in March 1890!

Photos; 1) the Lough, 2) something to do with rugby/ Gaelic games, maybe the

Cúinne
Gaelach
Gaelic Corner



Seanfhocail na Míosa:

Cleachtadh a dhéanann máistreacht.

Practice makes perfect!

Níl aon tinteán mar do thinteán féin.

There's nowhere like home.

Is fearr Gaeilge briste ná Béarla cliste.

Broken Irish is better than clever English.

Ar chuala tú faoin bhfear a bhris a lámh chlé?

Tá sé "all-right" anois.

Cad a théann suas ach ní thagann sé anuas riamh?

D'aois

