

# TOWN TATTTLER

Vol 6 - Issue 5





# The Loughmans A Family at the Heart of the club

From early mornings on the mower to evenings on the pitch, and from committee rooms to county finals, the Loughman family represents everything that is good about Portlaoise GAA. For Olga, Pat and their daughter Leah, the club is not just a place to play or volunteer, it is a constant thread running through family life.

For Olga and Pat Loughman, involvement with Portlaoise GAA has never been confined to a single role. Like so many families, it all began with bringing their children, Aaron, Cian and Leah, to training sessions and matches. What started as supporting their children soon developed into a lifelong commitment to the club and its people.

Today, Olga serves as the club's Designated Liaison Person (DLP), with Yvonne O'Reilly supporting her as Deputy DLP. In that role, she helps ensure safeguarding and child protection standards are upheld throughout the club, offering guidance and support to coaches, volunteers and members while acting as a key point of contact for welfare concerns.

Her involvement stretches far beyond that position. Over the years, Olga has held a variety of roles within both the GAA and LGFA structures. She has served as Treasurer, Vice-Chairperson and Chairperson of the Ladies Football section, spent five years as GAA Registrar, and has also worked as a Fixtures Committee member, CODA Officer and Vice-Chairperson of Laois LGFA. She currently serves on the Leinster Ladies Fixtures Committee, helping to organise and schedule games at provincial level.

Looking back, some of Olga's earliest memories are of

attending matches in Father Browne Avenue and O'Moore Park. Those experiences helped foster a connection to the club that has remained strong throughout her life.



Olga, Leah and Pat

One role she particularly enjoyed was serving as a Female Liaison Officer, supporting players and families from under-8 right through to senior level, both at club and county level. Being involved as a mentor and manager brought a different perspective altogether.

*"Some of the decisions can be so tough to make, especially on game day."* she laughs.

Among the many memorable moments she has experienced, a number stand out. The club's first Senior Ladies County Final victory remains a special memory, while seeing her daughter Leah captain Portlaoise to a Minor A Championship title was a particularly proud day.

One of her proudest moments came when she represented Portlaoise GAA in Croke Park as part of the One Good Club initiative, an experience she still treasures.

While Olga's work often happens behind the scenes, Pat's contribution is visible every time a player takes to a pitch in Rathleague.

As a member of the club's groundsmen committee, Pat's days often begin long before most people are awake. There are pitches to inspect, weather forecasts to study, grass to cut and surfaces to maintain. While supporters admire the pristine condition of the playing fields, much of the work happens quietly in the background.

*"It's about pride, community and being part of something that runs deep in the parish."* Pat says.

There is plenty more to maintaining a club than mowing grass. Repairing divots after matches, managing drainage during wet spells and ensuring playing surfaces remain safe all require constant attention. Yet it is work that brings immense satisfaction, particularly when players can enjoy the facilities at their very best.

One of Pat's favourite aspects of club life is the friendship and camaraderie built through the regular coffee mornings and work sessions alongside the Men's Shed in Rathleague. What begins as a few jobs around the grounds often



Olga at Croke Park



develops into a morning full of stories, laughter and good-natured slugging.

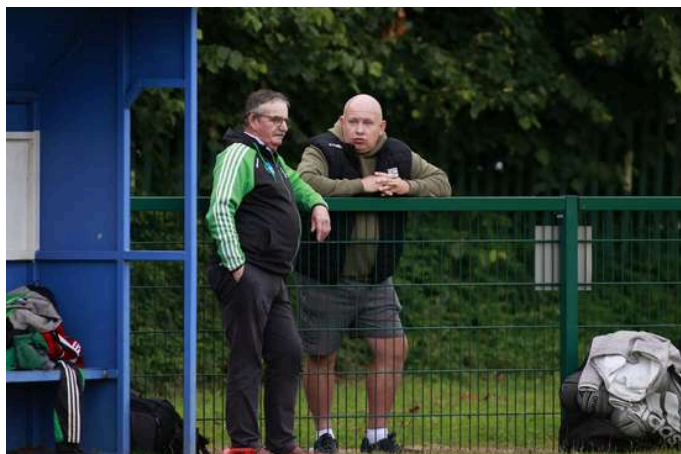
"Our rule is simple," Pat says. "Leave your feelings at the gate."

Whether they are repairing machinery, painting facilities or tackling maintenance jobs, the work gets done, but never without plenty of banter along the way.

Pat has also been heavily involved with the club's teams. Working alongside the intermediate footballers during their successful 2025 league-winning campaign was particularly rewarding, while supporting the adult ladies teams has brought equally enjoyable experiences and lasting friendships.

One game that remains firmly etched in his memory is Portlaoise's dramatic Leinster quarter-final victory over Longford Slashers in 2013, when the Town overturned a deficit to win by a point after extra time.

Yet perhaps his greatest joy comes from supporting his daughter Leah. Whether standing on the sideline or travelling to away games, watching her journey through the club has brought everything full circle.



Pat and Sonny Keogh putting the world to rights

From preparing the pitches to watching the next generation play on them, Pat has experienced almost every side of club life.

The next generation of the Loughman family is represented by Leah, now 24 and an important member of the Portlaoise Senior Ladies team.

Like many young players, her love of football began by following her family to matches. Her own playing journey started through the club's Cúl Camps in Father Browne Avenue, where coaches Craig Rogers and Laura Nerney encouraged her to come along to training.

She never left.

Over the years, Leah has become one of the leading figures on the senior team, helping the club achieve some of the greatest successes in its history.

Winning Portlaoise's first Senior Ladies Championship in 2020 remains one of the standout moments of her career, particularly as it was followed by a memorable run to a Leinster Final. Captaining the club's Minor team to a Minor A Championship title also ranks among her proudest achievements.

Not every memory is a happy one. Losing the county final in 2024 remains one of the toughest disappointments she has experienced in football, a reminder of how much the game means to those involved.

Leah has always believed in giving back to the club and has spent many summers helping with underage teams and working as a supervisor at Cúl Camps. Along the way she has collected county medals at both underage and senior level while representing both club and county.

Outside football, her sporting interests are wide-ranging. Soccer, motorsport, motocross and kickboxing all feature



Leah Loughman

heavily. Indeed, she represented Ireland at underage level in kickboxing and won a silver medal at the World Championships.

Some of her fondest club memories come from Féile weekends away in Wexford, where friendships were formed and lifelong memories created.

Like her parents, she is quick to acknowledge the efforts of the countless volunteers who make the club what it is. "I'd like to thank all the coaches, mentors and FLOs who gave their time over the years, as well as our committees and groundsmen who do incredible work behind the scenes."

For the Loughmans, Portlaoise GAA has never simply been about matches, medals or results. It has been about friendships, community, volunteering and belonging.

All three speak enthusiastically about the future. The ongoing development of Rathleague represents another



exciting chapter in the club's history, creating opportunities for future generations to enjoy facilities that continue to improve year after year.

Olga is looking forward to making more memories and seeing the development come to life. Pat is excited to see the facilities grow and continue serving the community. Leah is eager to help drive the senior ladies team forward while inspiring younger players coming behind her. Together, their story reflects the very best of Portlaoise GAA.

A family whose contribution spans administration, safeguarding, coaching, mentoring, grounds maintenance and playing. A family whose connection to the club stretches from Father Browne Avenue to Rathleague.

Quite simply, the Loughmans are a family at the heart of the club.



Leah pictured after the 2023 Division 1 league final victory over Sarsfield's.



Olga, Aaron, Cian and Leah with Zac Tuohy after the 2011 Final



Leah in action in the 2024 Championship Final



Pat and Leah share a moment after the 2022 Final



# CLG PHORT LAOISE



**LAOIS LGFA MINOR 'A' CHAMPIONS - 2017**

Sunday, 12 November 2017 - Pairc Acragar



## **Portlaoise 2-15 v 4-5 Ballyroan**

*Panel: Aoife Hyland Conlon, Rebecca Reddin, Sarah Fleming, Emma Dunne, Ciara Byrne, Kirsten Keenan, Anna Healy, Amy Byrne, Rebecca Keane, Aoibhe O'Brien, Jennifer O'Neill, Julia Cahill, Leah Loughman, Shauna Dooley, Shaunagh Dunne;*





# CLG PHORT LAOISE



LAOIS LGFA SENIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS - 2020

Saturday, 26 September 2020 - O'Moore Park



## Portlaoise 1-12 v 0-12 Sarsfields

Back (l. to r.): Grainne Moran, Shauna Dooley, Ciara Murphy, Emma Dunne, Aoife Hyland Conlon, Sarah Anne Fitzgerald, Rebecca Keane, Kirsten Keenan, Fiona Dooley, Amy Byrne, Sarah Fleming, Maeve Phelan, Clare Dunne;

Front (l. to r.): Alison Taylor, Aisling Saunders (Capt.), Ciara Byrne, Julia Cahill, Anna Fitzgibbon, Rebecca Reddin, Leah Loughman, Aoibhe O'Brien, Aisling Keogh, Shaunagh Jackson, Ellen Healy;

Scorers: Aisling Kehoe 1-3, Sarah Anne Fitzgerald 0-1, Fiona Dooley 0-1, Alison Taylor 0-1, Ellen Healy 0-1, Leah Loughman 0-3, Shaunagh Jackson 0-2;



# CLG PHORT LAOISE



LAOIS LGFA SENIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS - 2022

Saturday, 24 September 2022 - O'Moore Park



## Portlaoise 2-5 v 0-10 St Conleth's

*Back (l. to r.): Aoife Conlon Hyland, Aoife Hanniffy, Deirdre Phelan, Fiona Dooley, Shauna Dooley, Kirsten Keenan, Sarah Fleming, Sarah Anne Fitzgerald, Grainne Moran, Aisling Kehoe, Grainne O'Reilly, Rebecca Keane, Eireann Brennan, Charlie Walsh, Chloe Norton, Aedin Dunne;*

*Front (l. to r.): Laura Nerney, Leah Loughman, Rebecca Reddin, Alison Taylor, Aoibhe O'Brien, Susie Delaney, Shaunagh Jackson, Ellen Healy, Ciara Byrne, Sinead Murphy, Amy Byrne, Jessie Saunders, Aishling Saunders (Capt.);*

*Scorers: Shaunagh Jackson 1-1 (0-1 f), Ellen Healy 1-0, Fiona Dooley 0-2, Susie Delaney 0-1, Sarah Anne Fitzgerald 0-1;*



# CLG PHORT LAOISE



LAOIS LGFA SENIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS - 2023

Saturday, 7 October 2023 - Bill Delaney Park, Stradbally



## Portlaoise 1-6 v 0-7 St Conleth's

**Panel:** Sarah Fleming, Ciara Byrne, Deirdre Phelan, Rebecca Reddin, Alison Taylor, Aishling Saunders, Susie Delaney, Fiona Dooley, Ellen Healy (Capt.), Ciara Crowley, Sara Anne Fitzgerald, Grainne Moran, Leah Loughman, Aisling Kehoe, Molly McNulty, Aoife Hyland Conlon, Aoibhe O'Brien, Kristeen Keenan, Shauna Dooley, Rachel Byrne, Amy Byrne, Rebecca Keane, Clodagh Power, Laura Nerney, Jessie Saunders, Sinead Murphy, Grainne O'Reilly, Ella McNulty;

**Manager:** Stephen Duff; **Mentors:** Teddy McCormack, Alan Abbey, Ronan Molloy, Claire Dunne, Lorraine McCormack, Olive Murphy;  
**Scorers:** Sarah Anne Fitzgerald 1-0, Alison Taylor 0-2, Leah Loughman 0-1 (1 f), Grainne Moran 0-1, Susie Delaney 0-1, Fiona Dooley 0-1;



# CLG PHORT LAOISE



**LAOIS LGFA SENIOR FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS - 2025**

Saturday, 11 October 2025 - Bill Delaney Park, Stradbally



## Portlaoise 3-13 v 1-11 St Conleth's

*Back (l. to r.): Emma Dunne, Amy Byrne, Aishling Saunders, Tory Byrne, Leah Loughman, Gráinne Moran, Keeva O'Reilly, Sarah Fleming, Alison Taylor, Ellen Healy, Ella McNulty, Lara Culleton, Abbey Louise Byrne, Gráinne O'Reilly, Doireann Brennan;*

*Front (l. to r.): Suzie Delaney, Deirdre Phelan, Rebecca Reddin, Fiona Dooley, Aisling Kehoe (Capt.), Shauna Dooley, Aoibhe O'Brien, Ciara Crowley, Leah Brennan, Sarah McDonald, Faye Brown;*

*Scorers: Gráinne Moran 2-4 (0-2 f), Aisling Kehoe 1-3, Fiona Dooley 0-2, Ellen Healy 0-2, Ciara Crowley 0-1, Alison Taylor 0-1;*

*Management: Kevin O'Grady, Ryan O'Grady, Lorraine McCormack, Mark Brophy, Eimear Kehoe, Alyssa Velles, Olive Murphy;*



# Thank You to all of our Annual Golf Classic Sponsors

Portlaoise GAA Club would like to extend a sincere thank you to all of our sponsors, supporters and players who helped make our recent Annual Golf Classic such a tremendous success. Your generosity and continued support are hugely appreciated and play a vital role in helping our club continue to grow and develop both on and off the field.

A special thank you to our Main Sponsor Peigs Bar and to our Premium Sponsors Catherine Fitzgerald and Tommy Mulligan for their outstanding support of the event.

We would also like to acknowledge and thank all of our Golf Classic sponsors and contributors: 4 Aces Wholesales, AIB, Ballyhyland Construction (Damien Kavanagh), Ballylongford Golfing Society, Barry Fitzgerald Solicitor, BM Lynch Construction (Brendan Lynch), Booth Concrete, Bosco's Gala, Brackens Gala, Brownes Animal Feeds, Browns Off-Licence, Castle Orthodontics (Ian Fitzgerald), Cloud 9 Furniture, Colgan Sports, Connolly Aluminium, Coppers Nightclub, Dunkeen Oil, EBS, ESP Tiles (Shane Walshe), Fingleton White, Fort Financial, Gaelic Solutions (John Hannify), Gareth Keogh, Ger Egan, Heath GAA Club, Hughes Chemist, Hughes Pharmacy, Hume Auctioneers, Imelda Fitzpatrick, James Brown Painting Contractor, John Adams Car Sales, Kevin Fitzpatrick, Laois Heating and Plumbing Services (Tadhg Muldowney), Laois Sawmills, Leinster Council GAA, Maggie Mays, Martin Reddin Construction, Martleys Bus Hire (Mark Martley), Matthew Keegan Undertaker, Maureen O'Keefe, McKeon Stone, Mick Ryans Pub, Mulhalls Super Valu, Noosa Limited, O'Neill's Glass, Pat Harding Butchers, Paul Brown Window Cleaning, Paul Conroy Dentist, PJ Kavanagh, Portlaoise Credit Union, Portlaoise Parish Centre, Portlaoise Rugby Club, Portlaoise Stonework (Terry Swayne), ProCraft (Allan Daly), PTSB, Right Price Tiles (Shane Walshe), Roscrea Diesel Injections, Sean Smyth (Smyth Fuels), Stapos Kazbar, Stradbally GAA Club, The Square Bar (Mick Scully), The Welcome Inn, Tim Browne Animal Feeds, Tom & Antoinette Prendergast.

Thank you all once again for your continued backing of Portlaoise GAA Club. C'mon the Town.



# THANK YOU! PORTLAOISE GAA ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC SPONSORS

Portlaoise GAA Club would like to extend a huge **thank you** to everyone who helped make our recent Annual Golf Classic such a tremendous success.

To all of our **players, supporters and sponsors** – thank you sincerely for your generosity and continued support. Without your backing, this important fundraising event simply would not be possible.

### MAIN SPONSOR

## PEIGS BAR

Thanks to George and Liz Plunkett and family for their continued support.

### PREMIUM SPONSOR

## CATHERINE FITZGERALD

Laois County Councillor

## TOMMY MULLIGAN

Laois County Councillor

*Thank You*

**Tommy and Catherine for your generous contributions.**

### THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR SPONSORS

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- Tom & Antoinette Prendergast

All support is hugely appreciated and plays a vital role in helping our club continue to grow and develop both on and off the field.





# Portlaoise GAA Golf Classic

Our annual Portlaoise GAA Golf Classic, held on Friday, 1st May 2026, proved to be another hugely successful occasion, bringing together club members, sponsors, supporters and friends for a fantastic day of golf and socialising.

We were fortunate to enjoy excellent weather throughout the day and were delighted to welcome 38 teams to the course. The atmosphere was superb from start to finish, with plenty of friendly competition, great camaraderie and a strong sense of community on display throughout.

Events such as our Golf Classic play a vital role in supporting the day-to-day running and development of the club, and we are extremely grateful to everyone who contributed to its success.

A sincere thank you goes to all of our sponsors for their continued support, to every player who entered a team, and to the many volunteers who gave their time and energy to ensure the day ran smoothly. Your support is greatly appreciated and makes a real difference to the club. Special thanks must go to the driving force behind the event, Jas O'Reilly, whose commitment, organisation and enthusiasm once again helped make the Classic such a success. Jas was supported by a tremendous committee including John O'Reilly, JP Cahillane, Barry Larkin, John Fennell, Pat Loughman, James Brown and Eamon Fennelly, all of whom put in a huge amount of work behind the scenes.

Congratulations to all of our prize winners on the day:

**1st Place (94 points, back nine countback)**

Martin Conroy, Noel Roe, Louis Byrne and Kevin Donoghue

**2nd Place (94 points)**

Eddie McCormack, John Burke, P. Murphy and Ivan Byrne

**3rd Place (93 points, back nine countback)**

Brian Colgan, Pat Tynan, John Beere and PJ Delaney

**4th Place (93 points)**

Pat Keegan, Maura Keegan, Cormac Keegan and Matthew Keegan

**Non-GUI Winners (95 points)**

Paddy Reddin, Liam Conroy, Patrick O'Callaghan and Conor Raggett

Congratulations to all the winners and thank you once again to everyone who played a part in making the 2026 Golf Classic such an enjoyable and successful event. We are already looking forward to doing it all again next year.





# Portlaoise GAA Golf Classic





# Portlaoise GAA Golf Classic





# Portlaoise GAA Golf Classic





# Portlaoise GAA Golf Classic





Club

Football

Hurling

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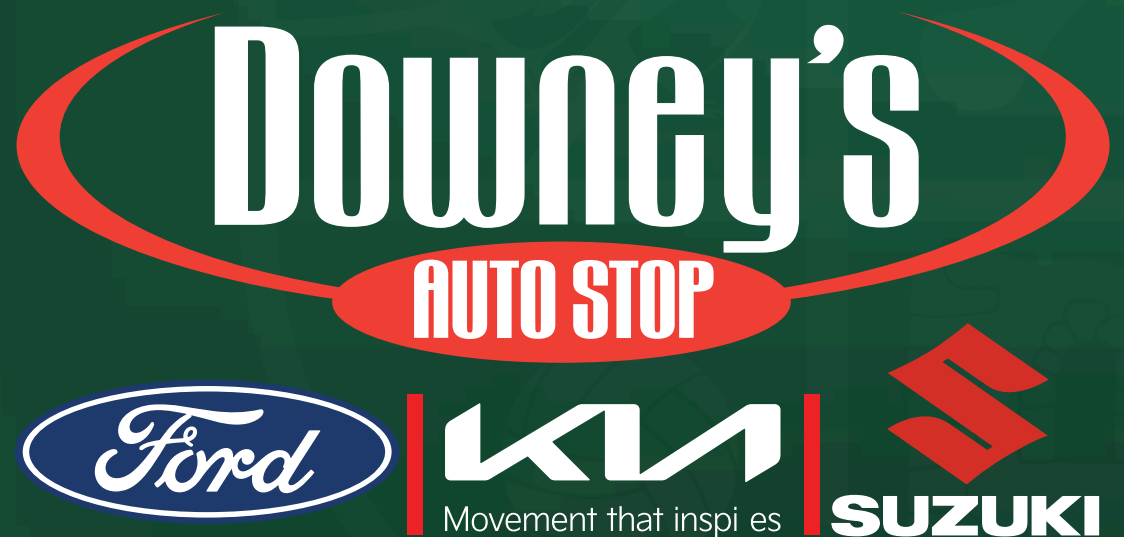
# Portlaoise GAA Golf Classic





# Portlaoise GAA Golf Classic





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Your support makes a real difference.  
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# Leinster Camogie Success

Congratulations to Sarah Fleming, who was part of the Laois panel that captured the Leinster Camogie title on 10th May with a superb 1-15 to 1-13 victory over Westmeath.

Congratulations also to former Portlaoise player Susie Delaney and to Kirsten Keenan of Camross, who also lines out with our senior ladies footballers, on their contribution to a memorable day for Laois Camogie.

Success at county level provides great inspiration for young players throughout the club, and it was fantastic to see strong Portlaoise connections represented on the provincial stage.

Comhghairdeas to Sarah, Susie, Kirsten and to all the players and management involved in this excellent achievement for Laois Camogie.



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**THE CAMOGIE ASSOCIATION**  
An Cumann Camógaíochta



## All-Ireland Champions

Congratulations to Emma Glennon, who captained the Laois U16 Development team to All-Ireland Development Shield success at the end of April.

Laois emerged victorious following a hard-fought and highly competitive final against neighbours Carlow in Mountrath, capping off a memorable campaign for the squad.

Everyone in Portlaoise GAA extends their congratulations to Emma and all of her teammates, coaches and management on this fantastic accomplishment.

Well done to all involved.



# Leinster Minor Champions



# Leinster Minor Champions

Congratulations to the Laois Minor Ladies footballers who claimed the Leinster Ladies Minor 'B' Championship title on 26th April with an impressive 3-9 to 0-11 victory over Westmeath in Athy.

For the second year in succession, Laois were crowned provincial champions, producing a superb team performance built on hard work, determination and excellent football throughout the field.

A strong first-half display laid the foundations for victory. After an evenly contested opening, Laois took control following a goal from Mia Branagan, who converted a penalty after Cara English was fouled. That major score settled the side and they finished the opening half strongly, adding a string of points through Niamh Dundon, Lucie O'Reilly and Mary O'Hara to open up a seven-point lead at the interval.

Westmeath responded positively after the restart and reduced the deficit with a series of scores, but Laois remained composed. Any hopes of a comeback were halted when Niamh Dundon found the net with a superb goal, restoring Laois' control of the contest.

Westmeath continued to battle and remained competitive throughout, but Laois always looked the more dangerous side. Lucie O'Reilly kept the scoreboard moving with some excellent points, while the defence worked tirelessly to protect their advantage. The decisive moment arrived late in the game when Mia Branagan struck her second goal of the afternoon, finishing brilliantly to put the result beyond doubt and spark celebrations among the travelling support.

Portlaoise GAA was proudly represented on the panel by Lara Culleton, Leah Brophy and Sarah McDonald.

Winning a Leinster title is a tremendous accomplishment and a fitting reward for the commitment shown by this talented group throughout the season.



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**LGFA**  
LADIES GAELIC FOOTBALL

# Leinster Under 16 Champions



Enda Coleman, Molly Jane Dempsey, Kara Phelan, Samantha Stalbe, Kara Powders, Grainne Coleman, Paraic Phelan

# Leinster Under 16 Champions

Congratulations to the Laois U16 Ladies footballers who were crowned Leinster 'B' champions following an impressive 1-15 to 2-2 victory over Dublin in Cusack Park, Mullingar on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of May.

The win capped a memorable week for underage ladies football in the county and showcased the talent and determination within this young Laois side.

Laois made an excellent start to the final, controlling possession and building an early lead through a series of well-taken points. They held a 0-6 to 1-1 advantage at half-time after Dublin struck for a goal late in the opening period to reduce the deficit.

Dublin drew level midway through the second half, but Laois responded brilliantly. Rather than allowing the setback to affect them, they raised the intensity and took complete control of the contest. A superb closing spell saw Laois finish with 1-7 unanswered, securing a deserved provincial title.

Park-Ratheniska's Mia Delaney was outstanding throughout and was named Player of the Match after finishing with an impressive tally of 0-10. Kate Dowling's crucial second-half goal helped create daylight between the sides, while Laura Malone and Hanna Luttrell also made valuable contributions on the scoreboard.

Portlaoise GAA was proudly represented on the panel by Molly Jane Dempsey, Kara Phelan, Samantha Stalbe, Kara Powders and Grainne Coleman, all of whom played their part in this excellent achievement for Laois football.

Congratulations to the players, management team and all involved with the squad on a fantastic success. Winning a Leinster title is a tremendous achievement and one that reflects the hard work and dedication shown throughout the year.





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Juvenile Title Sponsors of CLG Phort Laoise for 2026



# U15 Football Division 1A League Champions

Portlaoise emerged victorious in a brilliant U15 Division 1A League Final last week in Páirc Acragar, overcoming a gallant Mountmellick Parish Gaels side to claim the title. Playing into a stiff breeze in the opening half, Portlaoise were pleased to hold a 1-6 to 0-4 lead at the break. Every ball was fiercely contested throughout the first half and scores were certainly hard to come by, with 12 minutes on the clock before the game's opening score arrived.

Scores became a little easier to find after the restart as the game opened up, but the intensity and determination from both teams never dropped. Portlaoise looked to be edging clear at stages, but Mountmellick Parish Gaels refused to go away and kept the contest alive right to the final whistle. In the end, The Town held on for a superb 5-9 to 4-8 victory.

It was an excellent team performance from the lads, featuring outstanding defending, brave blocks, tremendous work rate and some terrific scores at key moments. Well done to the players and management on a fantastic achievement, and huge credit to both teams for producing such an entertaining final.

## Portlaoise Scorers

Ryan Fennell 3-1, Fionn Delaney 2-2, Max Whelan 0-1, Mikus Simsons 0-1, Noah Finn 0-1, Tadas Sirvaitis 0-1, Tadgh Graham 0-1, Tyler Whelan 0-1;

**Squad:** Tadgh Bohan, Zach Bowe, Noah Clear, Fionn Delaney, Luke Devaney, Eoin Dunne, Ryan Fennell, Noah Finn, Dylan Fitzpatrick, Ned Fox, Tadgh Graham, Danny Guider, Conall Lalor, Oisin Larkin, Ben McCormack, Brooklyn McCarthy, Mikey McGrath, Lee McStay, Tiernan O'Dwyer, Conor O'Reilly, Max Place, Jack Reilly, Mikus Simmons, Tadas Sirvaitis (Capt.), David Tiwo, Max Whelan, Tyler Whelan.;





# CLG PHORT LAOISE



LAOIS U15 DIVISION 1A FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS - 2026

Thursday, 28 May 2026 - Pairc Acragar



## Portlaoise 5-9 v 4-8 Mountmellick Parish Gaels

*Back (l. to r.): Fearghal Fennell (Coach), Kevin Fitzpatrick (Manager), Tiernan O'Dwyer, Eoin Dunne, David Tiwo, Fionn Delaney, Jack Reilly, Dylan Fitzpatrick, Noah Finn, Lee McStay, Brooklyn McCarthy, Max Whelan, Conall Lalor, Mikey McGrath, Tadgh Graham, Mikus Simmons, Tadgh Bohan, Brian McCormack (Coach), Owen Delaney (Coach);*

*Front (l. to r.): Conor O'Reilly, Luke Devaney, Danny Guider, Ben McCormack, Oisín Larkin, Ryan Fennell, Tadas Sirvaitis (Capt.), Zach Bowe, Ned Fox, Tyler Whelan, Max Place, Noah Clear;*



# U15 Hurling League Div 3 Shield Champions

**Portlaoise 3-9**

**Mountmellick Parish Gaels 4-5**

A brilliant battling performance from our U15 hurlers last week in Páirc Acragar saw them edge out Mountmellick Parish Gaels by the narrowest of margins to claim the Under 15 Division 3 Shield title.

Captained from goals by Adam Keogh, Portlaoise led 2-6 to 1-2 at half time after an excellent opening period. Mountmellick fought their way back into the game in the second half and managed to edge ahead entering the closing stages.

However, the lads showed great character and composure, with Zac Bowe firing over the winning point with just two minutes remaining in a very sporting and competitive contest.

Goals came from Eoin McNamara and Logan Peters Fitzpatrick, with Logan finding the net twice, one in each half.

Well done to all players and management on a great win.





# CLG PHORT LAOISE



LAOIS U15 HURLING LEAGUE DIV 3 SHIELD CHAMPIONS - 2026

Wednesday, 27 May 2026 - Pairc Acragar



## Portlaoise 3-9 v 4-5 Mountmellick Parish Gaels

Back (l. to r.): Mick Bowe (Coach), Adam Sythes, Sam Breen, Oisín Delaney Doheny, Rhys Cuddy, Logan Peters Fitzpatrick, Michael McGrath, Kyle Bergin, Sam York, Odhrán Thornton, Brian Bohan (Coach);  
Front (l. to r.): Harry O'Dwyer, Paudie Fox, Eoin McNamara, Zac Bowe, Harry Marum, Noah Clear, Adam Keogh (Capt.), Finn Byrne, Tadgh Bohan;



# U9 Hurling Boys Enjoy O’Moore Park Experience Night

Our U9 Hurling O’Moore Park experience saw our boys take on Camross, St Fintan’s Mountrath, Colt Shanahoe and Abbeyleix in brilliant conditions.

It was a total contrast to last week’s football with temperatures hitting 26 degrees, but the warm weather didn’t slow the lads down. We had 27 boys involved on the night, with every player getting two games each.

There was some great hurling on display, plenty of energy and effort right across the group, and to top it all off the boys enjoyed an ice pop afterwards to help cool down after a busy evening.

Well done to all players and coaches involved.



# U9 Football Boys Enjoy O'Moore Park Experience Night

Our U9 boys enjoyed a great evening in O'Moore Park last month as part of their football experience night.

We had 36 players togged out, forming four teams of nine, with each team playing two games. Despite the wet and miserable conditions, it certainly didn't dampen the spirits, with plenty of energy and enthusiasm on show throughout.

The boys took on Timahoe, Colt/Shanahoe and St Fintan's Mountrath, with some excellent football played across all games.

A brilliant experience for the group and well done to all involved.



# GAA INJURY

## Logging Through Foireann

As of **1 June 2025**, all players who sustain an injury while playing or training must self-report the injury through **Foireann**. This is a change from the previous system, which was managed by the **Club Injuries Officer**.

**Important:** It is the **responsibility** of the **injured player** to start the process on **Foireann**. For **underage players**, the **parent** or **guardian** must start the process. The **club cannot log injuries** anymore unless the player or the parent/guardian has begun the report in Foireann.

The **GAA** has published an in-depth **guide** showing how to complete this. The guide can be found **[here](#)**.

If you are struggling to find your Foireann login details, email the Club Secretary at **[secretary.portlaoise.laois@gaa.ie](mailto:secretary.portlaoise.laois@gaa.ie)**

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# Club GPO Corner

Reminder again that our aim in all schools is to try and progress each child's skills in football and hurling while making the sessions as enjoyable as possible for all the children involved.

## The Past Month

**Scoil Bhríde:** 1st class and 3/4th class have completed their football blocks.

**Gaelscoil:** The Juniors and senior infants have finished out their blocks.

**Educate Together:** 2nd class, 4th class, 5th class and some of the remaining 3rd classes have finished out their hurling block.

**Holy Family Senior School:** 4th class have completed their football block.

**Holy Family Junior School:** Senior infants and 1st class are still finishing out their last few weeks of GAA. As mentioned last update, with the extra support from the TY students, all students in Holy Family Junior school will do a dual session every week.

**St. Mary's CBS Portlaoise:** Both our first-year footballers and second year footballers won their Leinster B finals.

Our first-year hurlers made a great start to their campaign beating St Fergal's Rathdowney and Roscrea CC to progress into the semi-finals. Unfortunately, the lads lost out in the semi-final, concluding their campaign.

Our 2nd year hurlers had Leinster C success, securing themselves a South Leinster title after narrowly beating Bagenalstown by a single point.

Huge thanks to all the teachers and mentors along with the players, who put in a huge amount of effort and time into a very successful campaign across both teams and codes this year.

## The Next Month

**Scoil Bhríde:** 1st class and 3/4th class will start into their hurling blocks next week.

**Gaelscoil:** 1st and 2nd class will start into their block and 3rd class are now into their 2nd block.

**Educate Together:** Senior infants and the remaining 2nd & 6th class will finish their hurling blocks over the next few weeks.

**Holy Family Senior School:** 4th class will start and finish their hurling block and hopefully we will get 5th class in for the remainder of the year. The hurling sessions on Friday mornings for Cumman na mBunscoil students will continue.

**Holy Family Junior School:** Senior infants and 1st class will finish out their block and then junior infants and 2nd will finish out the school year. As mentioned earlier, with the extra support from the TY students, all students in Holy Family Junior school will do a dual session every week.

**St. Mary's CBS Portlaoise:** The Post primary school season has now concluded, students are now preparing for their end of year exams.

**Other school updates:** We are planning to run some 2nd, 3rd and 4th class blitz days in football and hurling to finish out the primary school year. This will give some of the younger classes who don't get to play Cumann na mBunscoil a great chance to represent their primary school and get to play the games they have been practising all year.

## Other Updates

**Nursery:** Our u5 and u6 Town Tigers have finished their indoor season and are now heading out to the pitch as the weather improves. U6s are out at the St Mary's CBS and Scoil Chríost Rí campus on Sunday mornings at 10am, while the u5s are there on Fridays at 6pm.

**Juvenile Teams:** All of our underage boys and girls teams are well into their league campaigns.

**Laois GAA Programs:** The Ó Módrha Óg (football) and Setanta (hurling) programs are starting now the 26th and 27th of May. The programs are for u10, u11, u12 and u13 boys. There will be one session a week and the programs will run for 6 weeks. It's a great opportunity for players to enhance their abilities and make new friends in a safe environment. It's also a great chance for volunteer coaches to receive valuable insight and experience to help them on their coaching journey.

As always, I can be reached by phone at **083 194 0412** or by email at [Josh.Hogan.po.laois@gaa.ie](mailto:Josh.Hogan.po.laois@gaa.ie). If any coach or parent needs a hand with anything, no matter how big or small, please don't hesitate to let me know. I'd be happy to help.





# Fir & Mná Aclaí Rally Behind The FTD Brothers Marathon Challenge

A fantastic show of community spirit was seen as the Fir/Mná Aclaí of Portlaoise GAA Club came together to support the FTD Brothers, Jordan and Cian, on their incredible marathon journey to raise awareness for Frontotemporal Dementia (FTD).

Their dedication, determination and message inspired huge local support, highlighting the strength of community, compassion and the importance of standing together for such a meaningful cause, even amidst soaring 29 degree temperatures.

People can support the fundraiser and donate here: [GoFundMe - The FTD Brothers](#)  
Well done to everyone involved and best of luck to Jordan and Cian as they continue their remarkable journey.





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# FRÁSAÍ DON CHOSAINT

## DEFENDING PHRASES

***Marcáil é/í!***  
Mark him/her!

***Fan leis/leí!***  
Stay with him/her!

***Ná lig dó/di éalú!***  
Don't let him/her go/escape!

***Comhairle***  
Advice

***Socraigh anois!***  
Settle/Calm down now!

***Tóg do chuid ama!***  
Take your time

***Féach suas!***  
Look up

***Coinnigh do cheann suas!***  
Keep your head up!

***Úsáid do chos eile!***  
Use your other foot!

***Spreagadh***  
Encouragement

***Maith sibh!***  
Good on ye!

***Lean oraibh!***  
Continue on/Stay going!

***Comhoibriú iontach!***  
Great teamwork!

***Maith an fear/bhean!***  
Good man/woman!

***Sár iarracht!***  
Super effort!

***Beidh lá eile ag an bpaorach!***  
We'll live to fight another day/Power will have another day!



## Comhgairdeas ollmhór lenár mbuaiteoirí sparánachta Gaeltachta

Bhuaigh Zoe Carton agus Eve O Gorman sparánachtaí Gaeltachta an chlub.

Imríonn na cailíní ar fhoireann Peile na mBan Fé 16 Phort Laoise.

Beidh Zoe ag freastal Coláiste Acla ar Oileán Acla I mí Iúil agus beidh Eve ag freastal Coláiste Lurgan I gConamara I mí Meitheamh.

Tá an bheirt acu ag súil le bualadh le cairde nua, Gaeilge a fhoghlaim agus spraoi a bhaint trí mheán Gaeilge. Go n-éirí libh! Bain sult as!





# Laois GAA Scór & Cultúr Scór na bPáistí

**Date:** Sunday, June 14th, 2026

**Time:** 3:00pm

**Venue:** St Fintan's Hall, Mountrath.

**Who:** All Primary School Children / Páistí Bunscoile

**Entry:** Free for all competitions – le do chlub féin (run through your own club)

Laois GAA is hosting Scór na bPáistí, a brilliant cultural event giving primary school children a chance to showcase their talents across a range of categories:

- Table Quiz
- Set Dancing
- Ballad Group
- Instrumental Music
- Céilí Dancing
- Solo Singing
- Recitation / Storytelling
- Novelty Act

There'll also be a raffle on the day!

Pre-registration is required.

To take part, please Tommy Mulligan at [087 293 9077](tel:0872939077)

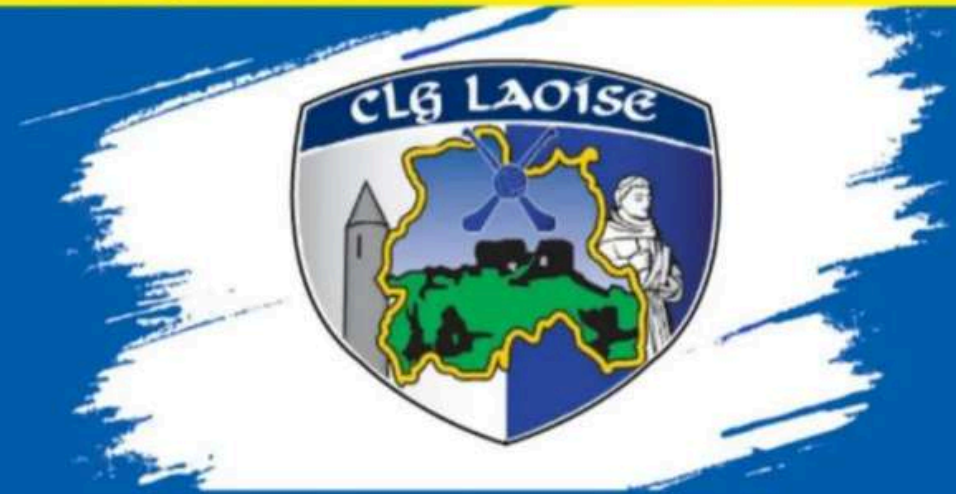
Save the date and get involved, a great celebration of culture and community through the GAA!

Free entry to all competitions - le do chlub féin

# Laois GAA Scór & Cultúr Scór na bPáistí

All primary school children / Páistí bunscoile

**Clárú/Pre-registration: [irishculturalofficer.laois@gaa.ie](mailto:irishculturalofficer.laois@gaa.ie)**



- Table Quiz
- Set Dancing
- Ballad Group
- Instrumental Music
- Céilí Dancing
- Solo Singing
- Recitation/Storytelling
- Novelty Act
- Raffle on the day

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# Poc Fada

## Laois GAA & Camogie Poc Fada Sunday, June 15

The annual Laois Poc Fada will take place over a course in Mountrath Golf Club on Monday evening, June 15 at 7pm.

There are two competition categories:

- Senior
- U16

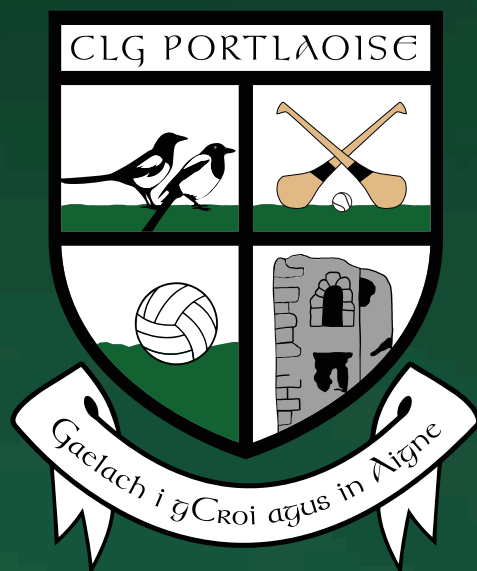
Winners will go on to represent Laois in the Leinster Final on Mount Leinster, Carlow, Saturday June 27.

To register for either the Adult or U16 competition, contact Tommy Mulligan at [087 293 9077](tel:0872939077)



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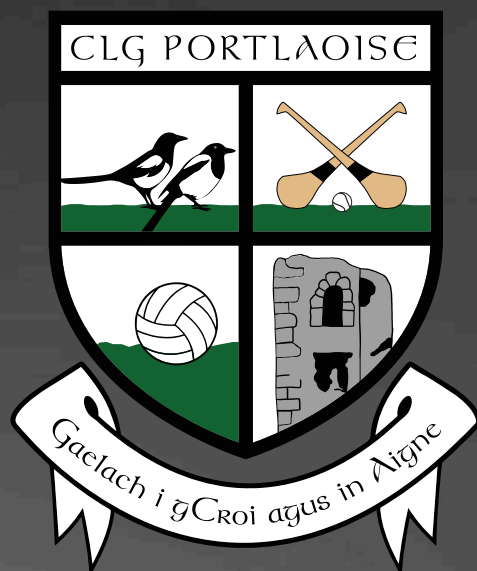


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TOWN LOTTO GO  
TOWARDS DAY TO  
DAY RUNNING OF  
THE CLUB**

**Jackpot €20,000!!**

**Go to fundraising section  
on our club app to play.**

**Search  
'Portlaoise GAA'**



Thanks to everyone who supports our fundraising efforts through the Town Lotto (day to day running costs), and Club Bingo (development). It is greatly appreciated.

If you have any feedback in relation to the newsletter, or if you would like to contribute to it, please contact [info@portlaoisegaa.ie](mailto:info@portlaoisegaa.ie)