

Cumann na mBunscol, Gaillimh

Cumann na mBunscol, Gaillimh is an organization which strives to promote Gaelic Games in primary schools throughout Galway city and county and Connemara areas. We look to promote both boys and girls football, hurling, camogie, handball and athletics. Over two hundred schools participate across all disciplines.

The year started off with the preliminary rounds of the I.N.T.O/ G.A.A. Mini Seven Competitions in both girls and boys football, hurling and camogie. The mini seven competition still proves to be very popular, as it provides an even playing field for large and small schools alike. It also is a great opener to the year. The finals took place in March with Labane N.S. winning the camogie and Killeeneen N.S. being victorious in the hurling competition. The boys football was captured by Corrandulla N.S. and Craughwell came out on top in the girls football category.

This year's Cross Country competition was held in Renmore pitch. Over sixty schools entered the race, with a great display of the children's athleticism on show. In June the Cumann na mBunscol City Sports were held in Dangan, with a high level of participation among the schools.

Handball is a game that people often forget is a branch of Gaelic Games. In recent years a revival has begun in the promotion and playing of handball. Cumann na mBunscol holds a Handball competition annually with the number of schools growing. Singles and doubles competitions are organised during the year for girls and boys aged up to 12 years. The Challenger One Competition has been held for the last three years and it has been a tremendous success. The Challenger One competition is ideal for beginners, as it is played with the bigger, slower, softer ball - the Challenger 1 ball. Very little equipment is required for handball, literally a ball and a wall!

The competitions continued later in the year with the respective Allianz sponsored championships. Cumann na mBunscol are proud that the level of participation in the county is so high, with 161 schools taking part in boys football, 100 in girls football, 116 in hurling and 78 in camogie. Included in this is an extremely well run competition in Connemara.

Allianz Cumann na mBunscol Hurling Finals 2011

Eleven Allianz Cumann na mBunscol Co. Galway Hurling finals took place on Wednesday June 8th at Kilconieron GAA Club grounds.

The finals began at 10.30 am and the last game was scheduled for 3pm. Twenty two schools took part in this years finals ranging in team size from 5/6 a side to 13 a side.

In the smaller team size finals Castlefrench from the parish of Caltra beat Tiernascragh and Brackloon had the better of Ballyturn. In the Sevens final Gortanumera beat Kilbeacanty.

The nine a side final was hotly contested with Kiltormer NS beating Kiltiernan NS by a goal. The Eleven a side final was packed with tension but Eyrecourt NS proved too strong for Ballyglass N.S.

In 2011 the Coiste set out to maximise the number of players representing their schools and four thirteen a side finals took place, with the local school Carrabane NS defeating near neighbours Kilchreest NS. Aughrim NS had the better of Moycullen NS while Oranmore BNS also defeated near neighbours Cregmore NS. In the Roinn A plate final Kilnadeema proved too strong for a smaller Bullaun NS side. The Roinn A final between Champions Killeeneen NS and St Brendan's Loughrea proved a quiet affair with a superb Killeeneen side taking the honours.

Co Galway Allianz Cumann na mBunscol Camogie Finals

On Friday June 10th the Co. Galway Camogie Finals took place in Kilconieron GAA grounds. The first final began at 11 am with last year's defeated finalist in 11 a side New Inn NS defeating Ballindeereen NS.

At 6 a side Tiernascragh girls went one better than their boys had on the previous Wednesday and overcame a Brackloon NS/ Gurteen NS combination. Kiltartan NS / Tierneevin NS combination took the honours from a good Drim NS / Derrybrien NS combination in the 6 a side final. Eyrecourt took the honours in Roinn E, 9 a side.

In the first 13 a side final St Ita's Loughrea finally overcame a very plucky Oranmore GNS side. In the Premier 13 a side final reigning champions Craughwell NS had a win over Killeeneen N.S.

Sean Geraghty presented player of the final trophies on behalf of the Co. Galway Camogie Board while Eilish Fleming of local sponsors Supermacs presented the Liam Challoner Trophy to each school captain.

Allianz Cumann na mBunscol, Gaillimh Boys Football Finals

Ionad Peile na Gaillimhe was the venue for the Allianz Cumann na mBunscol, Gaillimh Boys Football finals on Wednesday June 1st 2011. The facilities proved to be as impressive as ever, and we are grateful to the Football County Board for letting us use their fantastic facilities.

It was a day of great fun and sportsmanship. Altogether twelve finals took place, ranging from fifteen a side to seven a side. The finals began at ten o'clock. Twenty four teams took part in the finals. The size of the teams ranged from the larger schools with 15 a side, to the smaller schools with 7 a side. The following are the results of the Allianz Cumann na mBunscol Boys Football Finals:

Roinn A: Corrandulla N.S.

Roinn B: Killeeneen N.S.

Roinn C: Bawnmore N.S.

Roinn D: Roscahill N.S.

Roinn E: Brierhill N.S.

Roinn F: Bullaun N.S.

Roinn G: Kilcoona N.S.

Roinn H: Aughrim N.S.

Roinn I: Windfield N.S.

Roinn J: Tullykyne N.S.

Roinn K: Ballyglass N.S.

Roinn L: Duniry N.S.

Allianz Cumann na mBunscol, Gaillimh Girls Football Finals

The Allianz Cumann na mBunscol, Gaillimh Girls Football Finals were played throughout the county on the 12th of May 2011. A great day of football was had by all, with the girls showing fine displays of their footballing skills. There were nine different Roinn's in the girls football competition, with the larger schools taking part in the 11 a side competition and the smaller schools competing in the 7 a side competition.

The following are the winners of the Allianz Cumann na mBunscol, Gaillimh finals:

Roinn A: Ballinderry N.S.

Roinn B: GS Mhic Amhlaigh

Roinn C: Baile na hAbhann

Roinn D: Cummer N.S.
Roinn E: Newtown N.S.
Roinn F: Killeeneen N.S.
Roinn G: Cappataggle N.S.
Roinn H: Moylough N.S.
Roinn I: Kilkerrin N.S.

The Connemara Football Finals were held in Oughterard on June 23rd. Four preliminary qualification blitzes took place before the finals, with twenty nine schools taking part in the competition. A great day was had by all with some fine football being played. We are very grateful to Oughterard G.A.A. Club for the use of their pitches and for the hospitality they showed on the day. Also thank you to Paul Gannon for organising the competitions and for his on-going work to promote football in the Connemara region.

Primary schools around the county are benefiting from coaching sessions in hurling, football and camogie. Qualified coaches are going into a large number of schools teaching the basic skills of Gaelic Games. This is hugely beneficial to the children of Galway, giving them the opportunity to learn the basic skills of Gaelic Games at a young age.

As it was féile year in Galway this year, the schools around the county got visits from GAA President Christy Cooney, the Camogie Association President Joan O'Flynn, as well as representatives from the handball association. This brought great excitement to the schools, and their visits will be fondly remembered.

We would like to thank all our supporters during the year, including our sponsors Allianz and Supermacs. Both the Hurling and Football County Boards have provided us with great support and we are grateful for the use of the pitches for our matches and for the Football County Board for use of Ionad Peil na Gaillimhe for our meetings, and for holding our Boys Football Finals Day. We would like to thank all the hurling and football clubs for letting us have access to their pitches. We are very grateful to all the referees, teachers, coaches, parents, children and everyone else who have helped us to have another successful year.

For further information please log onto www.scoilsporg.ie