



Sligo GAA

*Development newsletter
Summer 2016*



Development plan to be rolled out

The Sligo GAA Development plan plotting the future for the county's underage squads is set to be rolled out in the coming months.

Having taken about 18 months to finalise, the plan sets out a series of measures to be implemented in order ensure higher standards of coaching across the board and an increased emphasis on underage development to minor level.

The development committee within Sligo GAA were behind the plan, with a number of external sources also contributing to the document which has been adopted by the Sligo GAA County Board Executive, and is set to be presented to clubs in the coming weeks and months.

The plan is open-ended, but it is hoped that with the implementation of it the underage structure within Sligo GAA will become more professionalised and beneficial to players, with the end result being greater competitiveness at underage level, and a steady stream of players emerging from the underage ranks to playing senior for Sligo in the years ahead.

The annual national Feile competitions took place in late June in both football and hurling at U-14 level.

Sligo was well represented at both competitions, with three teams at the Feile Peil na nOg (Football) and two teams at Feile nan Gael (Hurling).

Tubbercurry/Cloonacool, St Molaise Gaels and St Michael's were the football participants, while Easkey/St Farnan's and Benbulbin Gaels were in the hurling competition.

Everyone represented the county with great distinction over both weekends.



Eoin Smith, Sligo Feile Skills winner receives his award from coach Ross Donovan.

Commiserations to the Sligo Minor team on their Connacht Championship quarter-final loss to Roscommon at the end of June.

Ending up on the wrong end of the 0-14 to 2-7 scoreline, it was a bitter defeat for Sligo after they led for most of the game.

It was a difficult end to a productive year, and no doubt many will progress to the U-21 and Senior set-ups in the near future.



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Coaching

Sligo GAA is delighted to have added significantly to the coaching staff in recent months. Three students – Shauna Brady, Neil Mahon and Keith Tighe – have been brought on board to lend their expertise. Shauna works in the Athletic Therapy and Training area, Neil is a Strength and Conditioning coach and Keith works on Diet and Nutrition. All three work on a weekly basis with the development squads and they have brought an added dimension to the coaching set up. Pictured across are some of the coaches.



Scarden continues to be a hive of activity each and every Saturday morning with work continuing from U-13 right up to U-17. All squads have competed in various blitzes and performed well against a wide range of teams from across the country. The U-16 team are continuing their preparations for the annual Ted Webb and Fr Manning Cup competitions.

Hurling in the county continues to flourish at underage level, and this was particularly evident during the inaugural U-17 Celtic Challenge campaign.

Sligo finished top of Group F, with wins over Louth, Cavan, Leitrim and Monaghan in an excellent start.

Such a strong group campaign meant Sligo were placed into Division One in the knockout rounds alongside the likes of Cork and Dublin.

Unfortunately, Down proved too strong for the Yeats County in the knockout stage, but all in all the competition was a useful one for the U-17 squad.

All other age groups continue to be busy.

