



Sligo GAA

Development newsletter
Summer 2017



Sligo U-15s continue to work hard

The Sligo U-15 squad has had a busy year to date, with several blitzes coming up for this talented outfit. Under the tutelage of inter-county referee Michael Duffy, the panel has shown great work ethic since coming together earlier this year after their winter break.

A comprehensive win over Mayo at Quigabar was their most recent outing, and Michael says the squad are showing very well so far in 2017: "We are training once a week and then the lads work away themselves on Strength and Conditioning programmes as well," Michael said.

Michael continued: "They are a very good group with a fantastic interest and they are great to work with. We had a national blitz in Roscommon with two squads taking part – we beat 2 Roscommon teams and Tipperary. We beat Cavan in Cavan and Fermanagh in Scarden, so we are going fairly well so far."

Weekly training continues for the squad this month, with those sitting the Junior Certificate set to re-join the panel for the remainder of the year at the end of June.

The Sligo GAA Centre of Excellence at Scarden was officially opened by GAA President Aogán Ó Fearghail on May 14th last.

The fantastic facilities at Scarden have been a great boost to our development squads since they became fully functional two years ago.

The three pitches, a sand-based training area and the top-class gym are being utilised on a weekly basis by all development squads and county teams, and the new centre will hopefully lend itself to further success in the years ahead



GAA President Aogán Ó Fearghail and County Board chairman Joe Taaffe at the opening

The Sligo minor team are currently preparing for their Connacht Championship semi-final against Leitrim on June 28th.

Sligo finished third in the Connacht Minor League in the Spring, where they had three wins and two losses.

Should Sligo get over Leitrim, they will play in the Connacht final for the second time in three years, and also be guaranteed a place in the All-Ireland quarter finals.



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Celtic Challenge

The Sligo U-17 hurlers have concluded their group campaign in the Celtic Challenge competition.

Daithi Hand's charges collected one win from their five games, in the form of a 7-16 to 2-8 victory over Kildare Cadets.

Sligo showed well in their other outings despite losing their other four games.

They were due to play Armagh in the knockout stages on June 10th, with the winner advancing to the Division Five semi-final. Keep an eye on www.sligogaa.ie for updates.



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Though Sligo were beaten by Mayo in the Connacht Senior Football Championship, Niall Carew's side could take plenty of positives from the display at McHale Park. Most notable from an underage point of view was the performance of Patrick O'Connor in midfield, a recent graduate from the county development squads. There are also several other young players involved with the panel.

Sligo hurling star Keith Raymond is aiming to guide the next generation of Yeats County hurlers through his work with the Sligo U-14 squad.

Calry/St Joseph's clubman Raymond has been coaching the squad for several weeks, and says their progress so far is impressive.

Keith said: "It's very enjoyable to be involved – there is a nice panel coming together with about 25 lads involved. We have blitzes coming up every month during the summer against the other Connacht counties, with one of them in Scarden.

"There's great work going on in the clubs, so things are going in the right direction."

