

Offaly History Archives

Finding Aid - Records of Offaly GAA (OHS46)

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Offaly History Archives

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Records of Offaly GAA

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Summary information

Repository: Offaly History Archives

Title: Records of Offaly GAA

ID: OHS46

Date: 1909-1980 (date of creation)

Physical description: 1 box

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Tullamore GAA Club was founded on 26 May 1888 and won its first title in 1890 when it defeated Banagher in the final of the Offaly Championships (football). Its club colours were initially red and green, but inspired by the 1916 Rising, the club changed its colours to green, white and gold in 1917. In the early 1920s, Tullamore gave the county team the right to wear the tricolour as the county colours and adopted the blue and white colours which are still used today.

Having played in rented fields at Church Road, and then Tinnycross, the club acquired land at Ballyduff Park in the 1910s. In 1932, it developed a site on the Arden Road and in 1934, O'Connor Park was opened. Following the decision in 2001 to let Offaly County Board lease O'Connor Park, O'Brien Park was developed for use by Tullamore GAA Club.

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Founded probably in the winter of 1887/1888, King's County (Offaly) GAA County Committee, met at Mathew's Hotel, Birr on 6 March 1888, to arrange for the holding of championships in hurling and football. The county committee became known as Offaly County Board over time, and is responsible for Gaelic games within the county and for selecting inter-county teams to play in the national championships.

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

Offaly GAA Southern Committee was a sub-committee of Offaly GAA consisting of delegates representing Banagher, Belmont, Birr, Clareen, Coolderry, Cloghan, Doon, Drumcullen, Eglisk, Erin's Own, Ferbane, Kilcormac, Killoughey, Kinnitty, Lusmagh, Seir Kieran and Shinrone clubs.

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

North Offaly GAA was a sub-committee of Offaly County Board consisting of delegates representing Ballinagar, Ballycommon, Ballycumber, Bracknagh, Clara, Cloghan, Clonmore, Cloneygowan, Edenderry, Durrow, Geashill, Gurteen, Killeigh, Knockballyboy, Philipstown (Daingean), Rahan, Raheen, Rhode, and Tullamore clubs.

Administrative history / Biographical sketch

Note

The history of Ballinamere GAA Club is linked with that of the Tullamore club. Gaelic games were introduced to the Ballinamere area in the late 1880s but a club separate to the main one in Tullamore did not materialise until the early years of the 20th century. In 1909, Ballinamere players amalgamated with Tullamore to field a team which won the first hurling championship for North Offaly. Following a decline in the participation of the sport in the area in the succeeding years, it underwent a revival in the 1930s and the club exists to the present day.

Custodial history

Donated by the family of the late John Clarke, a writer/reporter with The Leinster Express and a well-known GAA historian.

Scope and content

Offaly Southern Committee GAA Minute Books 1912-1922 and 1923-1927
County Offaly GAA Minutes, 1917-1918
County Offaly GAA Accounts 1909-1936
North Offaly Minute Book 1918-1926
Tullamore GAA Club Minutes 1914-1918, 1918-1920, 1926-1929

Tullamore GAA Club Accounts 1966-1968; 1980

Notes

Title notes

Physical condition

Good

Other notes

- **Publication status:** Draft
-

Access points

- Gaelic Games (subject)
 - Ballinamere (place)
 - Tullamore (place)
-

Collection holdings

Series: OHS46/A - County Offaly

Creator: Offaly County Board

Title: County Offaly

ID: OHS46/A

Date: 1909-1936 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Minute book and accounts book of Offaly GAA

Physical description: 2 volumes

Item: OHS46/A/1 - Receipts and Expenditure Ledger

Title: Receipts and Expenditure Ledger

ID: OHS46/A/1

Date: 1909-1936 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Accounts for receipts and expenditure, bulk 1909-1914, and resuming in 1936. Contains lists of names of delegates to Leinster Council and details of monies received in membership fees, gate receipts and expenditure incurred through general administration and the hosting of tournaments.

Physical description: 1 volume

Item: OHS46/A/2 - Minute book of Offaly GAA County Committee

Title: Minute book of Offaly GAA County Committee

ID: OHS46/A/2

Date: 1917-1920 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Minute book of Cumann na gCleas-luth Gaedhealach Coisde Ui Failighe from its meeting in Kilcormac on Sunday 19 August 1917, with Rev W. O'Kennedy CC, presiding. Lists the delegates from clubs in Birr, Cloghan, Rahan, Clara, Kilcormac, Kinnity, Drumcullen, Eglisk, Coolderry, Killoughey, Philipstown and Killeigh. Includes minute from meeting of 11 July 1919 investigating soccer being played in Clara.

Physical description: 1 notebook

Series: OHS46/B - South Offaly

Creator: Offaly GAA Southern Committee

Title: South Offaly

ID: OHS46/B

Date: 1912-1927 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Two minute books of the Southern Committee outlining fixtures and recording objections from various clubs regarding breaches of rules and other complaints concerning the fielding of teams.

Physical description: 2 volumes

Item: OHS46/B/1 - Minute Book of Ua Failighe Southern Committee GAA

Title: Minute Book of Ua Failghe Southern Committee GAA

ID: OHS46/B/1

Date: 1912-1922 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Minute book containing minutes of meetings held by Offaly Southern Committee, mainly held in various locations in Birr, detailing election of officers, arrangement of fixtures, decisions on tournament permits, objections raised by clubs in relation to outcomes of matches and other matters. Also contains a letter from the Leinster Council to the Secretary of Offaly GAA, English Hotel, Birr in relation, among other things, to the application of the Parish Rule in the reinstatement of players who were in the British Army. Also includes details of Gaelic Sunday, 5 August 1918, which was organised by the GAA nationwide 'to demonstrate their right to play their games without permit from the English Government authorities.'

Physical description: c.150pp

Item: OHS46/B/2 - Minute Book of South Offaly GAA Sub-committee

Title: Minute Book of South Offaly GAA Sub-committee

ID: OHS46/B/2

Date: 1923-1927 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Minute book of the South Offaly sub-committee detailing fixtures of junior and senior hurling championships, and schools' league draws. Also records objections from representatives of various clubs in the southern division.

Physical description: 100pp

Series: OHS46/C - North Offaly

Creator: North Offaly GAA Sub-committee

Title: North Offaly

ID: OHS46/C

Date: 1918-1926 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Minute book of North Offaly GAA Sub-committee

Physical description: 1 volume

Item: OHS46/C/1 - Minute Book North Offaly GAA

Creator: North Offaly GAA Sub-committee

Title: Minute Book North Offaly GAA

ID: OHS46/C/1

Date: 1918-1926 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Minute book containing reports of meetings of North Offaly GAA Sub-committee delegates. Records fixtures, transfers and objections brought to the meeting by the various represented clubs in the northern division. Also includes loose leaf team list, including substitutes, for Edenderry (The Harps), c. 1919, with Frank Gill as Captain.

Physical description: c. 60pp

Series: OHS46/D - Tullamore GAA Club

Creator: Tullamore GAA Club

Title: Tullamore GAA Club

ID: OHS46/D

Date: 1914-1985 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Minute books and dissociated records of Tullamore GAA Club

Physical description: 3 volumes; 1 file

Item: OHS46/D/1 - Minute Book of Tullamore Hurling & Football Club

Title: Minute Book of Tullamore Hurling & Football Club

ID: OHS46/D/1

Date: 1914-1918 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Minute book recording meetings held and decisions taken by the committee of Tullamore GAA Club. Notable for references to the Irish Volunteers and the nationalist movement. While not mentioning the Tullamore Incident of 20 March 1916 directly, there was a proposal, later dropped, to hold a tournament to raise funds for the prisoners involved in the Incident (4 April 2016). This

minute book also records the decision, passed unanimously, that the tri-colour jersey be worn by Tullamore club players in both hurling and football (31 May 1917).

Physical description: c.150pp

Access points:

- Irish Volunteers (subject)
 - Tullamore Incident (subject)
-

Item: OHS46/D/2 - Minute Book of Tullamore Hurling & Football Club

Title: Minute Book of Tullamore Hurling & Football Club

ID: OHS46/D/2

Date: 1918-1920 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Minute book recording the meetings held and decisions taken by the committee of the Tullamore Hurling and Football Club. Decisions included hosting of tournaments for causes such as the Portarlington Lock Out fund, and one for the benefit of member J. Barry who was imprisoned in Belfast Jail. Also details the organisation of concerts and ceílís.

Physical description: 46pp

Physical condition:

Fragile item - disbound notebook and has suffered damp conditions in the past. Paper is damaged and partly illegible, particularly at beginning of notebook.

Item: OHS46/D/3 - Minute Book of GAA Tulach Mhór

Title: Minute Book of GAA Tulach Mhór

ID: OHS46/D/3

Date: 1926-1929 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Minute book recording the meetings held and decisions taken by the committee of Tullamore GAA Club, such as the organisation of whist drives, the purchase of medals, team training schedules, travel arrangements, and notably discussions surrounding the purchase of a new field for the club in a proposed move from Ballyduff. Also includes file of loose and dissociated correspondence on routine matters (1924-1926)

Physical description: c. 300pp

Item: OHS46/D/4 - File of dissociated club material collected by John Clarke

Title: File of dissociated club material collected by John Clarke

ID: OHS46/D/4

Date: 1966-1980 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

File of dissociated club records. Includes note/letter from Richard ('Dick') Barry, USA, to [John Clarke] outlining the origins of Tullamore GAA Club. 'This group was the one that became affiliated with the GAA in 1904. I left that year in July so did not play in any of the county games. Seán Forrestal and Gerald O'Loughlin and Jack Craven MtPleasant were also members. Jack Craven was probably the last all round men on the team. Rough and tough it took a very exceptional man to get a ball away from him or rise when he was playing on them...etc.'
Also includes Secretary's reports for 1966, 1967 and 1968, as well as club financial accounts for those years and, separately, 1980.

Physical description: 15pp

Series: OHS46/E - Ballinamere GAA Club

Creator: Ballinamere GAA Club

Title: Ballinamere GAA Club

ID: OHS46/E

Date: 1930-1973 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Scrapbook relating to Ballinamere GAA Club

Physical description: 1 volume

Item: OHS46/E/1 - Scrapbook of the history of Ballinamere GAA Club

Title: Scrapbook of the history of Ballinamere GAA Club

ID: OHS46/E/1

Date: 1930-1973 (date of creation)

Scope and content:

Scrapbook containing typescript essay on history of Ballinamere GAA Club, newspaper cuttings with match reports, original photographs of Ballinamere teams, individual players, and hurling committees, and reports from AGMs.

Physical description: c.100pp
