

Clara GAA Newsletter

Keeping you up to date with GAA, Camogie & LGFA News

MAROON in MOTION!

In association with Ireland Lights up, Clara GAA Club is getting active! As part of our Active Club Initiative, the goal is to walk or run 5km on **Lá na gClub** this Easter weekend. Whether you want to walk or run it is up to you. Club walks or runs every Tuesday and Thursday evening to build up to it together. Starting January 27th at 19.30 on the track. we are looking forward to seeing you all there. (times are subject to change - so keep an eye on the club text and social media)

Everyone is welcome.

Register your interest by clicking [HERE](#)

If you want to know more, contact our Healthy Club Officer
Peig Carrigan 083 462 2470



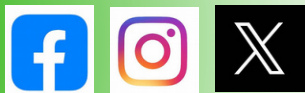
Spring Clean Saturday

All hands on deck on Saturday 17th from 09.00, to give the Club Grounds a much needed spring-clean. Come along, bring a shovel, garden brush or rake, have a chat and a bit of fun - all help is appreciated.



Visit our Website clara.kilkenny.gaa.ie

Email COMMUNICATIONS.CLARA.KILKENNY@GAA.IE
or call/text 0872330026



Clara GAA, Camogie & LGFA Membership 2026



Membership for 2026 is now due for all codes within the Clara GAA community. After the AMG 2025, the January GAA Executive meeting included a discussion about possible changes to membership rates.

Membership fees will stay the same in 2026, the current Finance group has suggestions that are still to be reviewed to address the club's future funding needs.

The message from GAA Club Registrar Catherine Nolan is GAA, Camogie & LGFA Membership 2026 is now open. Registration is via the Foireann platform at www.foireann.ie. All Players, Coaches & Committee members must have membership paid before taking part in Club or County training sessions/games or any club activity.

All members must enter their date of birth in their profile so the Club Registrar can generate accurate reports and add players to team sheets.

Membership fees help fund insurance and registration costs for all codes, and the maintenance of club facilities.

If you require assistance, please contact Club Registrar, Catherine Nolan 087 630 9382.

thank you

PLAY
Together

WORK
Together

GROW
Together



Clara GAA & Parish Lotto

The '**Lotto**' is the most consistent and longest running fundraiser for the Club, next to the Membership. When the Lotto started in Clara, in early 1990s dedicated "*Lotto Collectors*" travelled the length and breadth of the parish to call on the homes of members and parishioners to collect the lotto numbers and money.

The Lotto can now be play online from anywhere in the world on www.klubfunder.ie or download the KlubFunder App. You can also play in **Connolly's of Dunbell, Larkin's of Kanesbridge** and in **Freshco Shop**.

With a minimum Jackpot each week of €1000 or if not won 5 patrons get €30 each in the Lucky-Dip draw.

Play online or play at our local Lotto agents and be in with a chance to win, your support is valued and appreciated.

Clara Gaa Development.

All Weather Pitch Discussion, 09.01.2026

A well-attended meeting was held at the Club House on Friday, January 9th to discuss options for an All-Weather Pitch. Chairperson Joe Treacy opened the meeting, noting that the current Club Development Committee was formed under the Future Planning Group seven months ago. It is one of five pillars collaborating on a strategic club development plan for the coming years.

James Dowling, Vice-Chairperson and head of development, presented the committee's options for an all-weather playing facility for the club. The development committee includes Jame (Chairperson), Anne Marie Kelly (GAA Treasurer), Peter Coogan (Assistant Treasurer), and Martin Carrigan. The Committee reviewed the 2021 Astro plans from the previous executive and noted recent survey results showing 75% of respondents want an astroturf and 69% support building a gym on the grounds. Getting members' opinions and approval on the all-weather facility is priority due to upcoming Sports Capital Funding opportunities.

James presented five options to the gathered members ranging in sizes from 1584 sqm to 4032 sqm, the smaller option representing the previous agreed plan with the larger suggesting that the surface of the current 'training area' would be changed to an all weather surface with associated fencing and being able to incorporate the existing lighting. While developing options A to E, the committee considered preserving the walking track, floodlighting, parking spaces—including match day parking—the percolation area, and overall costs. Option E also included a small astro surface within the existing wall ball area. Following the presentation of the advantages and disadvantages of each of the five options, the discussion was made open for further consideration by all attendees.

Questions from the members ranged from how the project would be funded, timeline to completion and the suitability of the proposed surface to both hurling and football. It is hoped that the small wall-ball area may be completed in 2026 and depending on grants it is hoped that the larger surface would commence in 2027. Funding is expected from existing savings, low-interest GAA loan, Sports Capital Funding and future fundraising projects. A reserve may be kept in the development account to support future phases of the overall Club Development plan including the provision of a club gym. For now, the existing agreement to use the Gym in Clara Parish Hall remains active.

The possibility of using topsoil from the training area to create a bank between the two pitches was raised. Changing the training area to a sand-based pitch and installing a separate astro surface had not been considered due to potentially high costs. An astro surface lasts about 15 years before requiring replacement as well as ongoing maintenance. Another important point raised was the replacement of a large grass area with an all weather surface, which could potentially lead to additional pressure on grass pitches during the summer peak, if players/coaches do not favour playing on the all weather surface.

The discussion shifted to phase two: plans for a club gym. Further exploration and financing options will be reviewed later this year. Increasing gym access for adult teams is a priority, and ways to improve player access are under consideration.

The meeting concluded positively, with agreement to proceed with planning Option E. A futherr members meeting will be scheduled soon to discuss the club's 5–10-year development plan which will include finances, player development, The one club structure and community participation.

Introducing our Senior Hurling Management 2026

Manager: **Fintan Deegan**

Selectors: **Conor Phelan, Ger Prendergast**

Goalie Coach: **Brian Phelan**

S&C Coach: **Bill Cody**

Logistics/ Stats: **Ruairí Breen, Tom Armitage**

Sponsor: **LANGTONS**

and our Senior Camogie Management 2026

Manager: **Gerry Byrne**

Sponsor: **FRESHCO**

We will have further updates on the Senior Camogie Management team shortly!

Updates on the management teams for our other teams in next month's Newsletter!

Club Survey Results

Results of the Club Survey undertaken by the Future Planning Group are now available to view on the Club Website.

Time to Celebrate!

In the coming weeks we will celebrate the County Final victories of recent years and months. Firstly our U21 Hurlers who won the Roinn D County Final in 2024 and more recent winners, our U22 Camogie team who won the Roinn B Camogie Co. Final. Details of the celebrations will be sent to all members and you are all welcome to join the teams on the night.

