



- [This week's edition of Extra Time can be viewed online by Clicking here](#)
- [This week's edition of Extra Time can be download in PDF Format by Clicking here](#)

Welcome to our latest edition of Extra Time. In two weeks' time we will be back on the playing fields as Round One of the O'Neills Down football leagues commence. The Draws have been made and now Clubs just want to get started, it will be good to have the Friday night games once again back in our Cities, Towns and Villages. At present we do not yet know the regulations in regard to spectators attending our games, SportNI have invited County Secretary's to a Webinar next week when it is hoped that some more details in regard to spectators attending games and outdoor events, we will keep our Clubs informed as soon as we have any information.

A lot of work is happening behind the scenes to ensure that our grounds and venues are safe places for the return to play and the efforts by our Clubs in the past two weeks to be compliant with the regulations has been magnificent, we need to continue to stay safe, we need to continue to exercise social distancing and in doing so we will be contributing to our Return to Play Roadmap being a viable and working document that happens.

BUY THE OFFICIAL 2020 CÚL GEAR

Even though the Kellogg's GAA Cúl Camps are not taking place in Down this year, the highly sought-after kits are available to purchase directly from the Cúl Camps website. The newly designed kit is priced at €35/£32 (excluding postage & packing) and contains a zip top, jersey and a backpack. Please note that there is a maximum of 5 kits per customer (delivery charge €10/£10 up to 5 kits).

To get your kit please visit:

www.kelloggsculcamps.gaa.ie/buy-gear/



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS - A GREAT ASSET FOR CLUBS

The frequently asked questions section on the Learning GAA website is a Great Asset for Clubs:

<https://learning.gaa.ie/covid19faqs>

Some of the questions include:

Are there guidelines on how far in advance or how close to training the Health Questionnaire and Health declaration should be submitted?

If a Club is using its facilities for commercial purposes, e.g. renting Astro turf, do participants have to abide by the same control measures? For example, completion of the eLearning, Health Questionnaire, etc.

OPENING OF GAA SOCIAL CLUBS

As we know Pubs and Restaurants in the Six Counties can reopen from Friday 3rd July and for many in the hospitality industry this is a much need boost. In the world of GAA Social Clubs there are factors that need to particularly be taken into account when a Club Management Committee is deciding when their premises can open again.

- Signage must be in place to comply with PHA and HSE guidelines around Covid-19 and **Hand Sanitiser stations should be visible.**
- Bars which serve food have been allowed to open in the "Six Counties" from 3 July, provided that they sell **food and alcohol on a table service basis.**
- Additionally, bars with outside spaces, such as beer gardens, **can use this space to serve alcohol on a table service basis.**
- Any club wishing to open their bar facilities must be compliant with both the **Government regulations and the conditions of their existing liquor licence.**
- **If a club wishes to use an 'outdoor facility' to serve alcohol, they must ensure that this is provided for under the terms of their existing licence.** If not, they should seek legal advice as there can be serious consequences for serving alcohol in unlicensed areas.
- **A club are also required to have updated their Health and Safety statement to include covid19 risk assessment and additional assessments required to cover seating areas (provided licence is in place for use of area).** Outside areas are areas where slips and spills happen more frequently and it is therefore essential that the Club Health and Safety Statement is updated to include any outdoor provision.



My name is Declan Strain.

Born and bred in Glenn, I was fortunate to play with some great players there such as Paddy Kennedy (All Star 1981), Mark Turley (Down Senior Captain late '70s) and John McCartan (Down Minor All Ireland winning Captain 1977) to name but a few. I was lucky to enter St Colman's College at a time when there was a supply of quality GAA players right through the various year groups under the expert eye of Ray Morgan... my greatest honour there playing midfield with the best of them all, Greg Blayney in winning my second MacRory Cup medal in 1979.

From a Down perspective, again very fortunate to have played with a rich vein of players under the maestro himself, Seán O'Neill, winning an All-Ireland Minor medal 1977 along with 2 Ulster Minor Championship medals in both '77 and '79.

Business:

Our business name is The Strain Practice. Opened our offices in Margaret Square Newry Jan 2001, having been in Financial Services since 1984.

We joined FTSE 100 Wealth Management Company, St. James' Place Wealth Management in August 2012 as a Senior Partner Practice. This alliance has been most fruitful in growing our business over all areas of Financial Planning specialising in both Personal and Corporate.

Our Office team is managed by a Monaghan man, Vincent Feeney, with Denise Crozier, my senior Chartered Adviser from Armagh and Shealan, my son, who plays goalkeeper for Mayobridge, a qualified Adviser as well presently pursuing Chartered status. Amongst our very able support staff is Ryan Brady from Mayobridge who has represented Down in the recent past.

Married to Paula, we moved to Armagh city in 1987 and lived there until 2000. That was a wonderful time as the craic was great being a Down man amongst all the Armagh folk especially in '91 and '94 when we won the All-Ireland. Not so good tho' in 2002!!!

It's a great pleasure to have supported Down GAA over the years and feel privileged to belong to such a great County. I look forward to many more successes for the Red and Blacks in the not too distant future.

For further information please go to our website at: www.thestrainpractice.co.uk

Mise Le Meas
Declan

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ST. JAMES'S PLACE
WEALTH MANAGEMENT

As you are aware clubs will be permitted to play competitive games from 17th July and the position is consistent north and south on this issue. Contact training is now permitted but in the 'Six Counties' there remains in place a limit of 30 participants in any outdoor gathering.

On that basis challenge games are not permitted at present in the 'Six Counties.'

The Department for Communities are preparing guidance to enable an 'exemption' for sport as they are mindful that the maximum figure of 30 is incompatible with the agreed return to outdoor competitive sport on 17 July. I will keep you apprised of developments but the Department are aware of our view that this sporting 'exemption' should come into effect as soon as possible to allow clubs the opportunity to play challenge games in the 'Six Counties' ahead of 17 July.

Challenge Game Form must be completed and submitted for permission to be granted- this protects your players in the event of injury.

Club Challenge Match Form: www.downgaa.net/challenge-games



GAA RESPONSE TO COVID-19

GAA clubs have responded tremendously during the Covid-19 pandemic, with many still playing a pivotal but quite different role within their communities.

On 10th June 2020, the Sport NI Board approved the development of a National Lottery investment of up to £5m to run from June 2020 through to 31 March 2022 to strengthen the sports sector, improving resilience now and for the future and increasing capability within the sports sector.

This new project will be developed in response to the findings from their recent 'Covid-19 Survey: Understanding the Current Sporting Landscape in Northern Ireland' (June 2020). A copy of the report detailing the findings can be accessed on the Sport NI website at: [Sport-NI-Covid-Document](#)

This new project will support sport to 'Build Back Better' and seek to increase the number of innovative means of adjusting to new ways of working and environments and take full account of the key cornerstones set by Sport NI for investment of our people, time and money. These cornerstones form the foundations of a strong sporting culture in NI and are:

- Well-being in sport
- Duty of care
- Women in Sport
- Inclusion in Sport

Sport NI are now seeking views from all sports on their proposals for this investment and requests that you complete the questionnaire as part of their consultation process as they aim to Support 'Sport to Build Back Better'.

The consultation can be accessed through the following link: [Sport NI Consultation](#)

This consultation closes at 10pm on Thursday 9th July. The consultation will take approximately 15-20 minutes to complete.



Community Foundation NI have launched a £600,000 New Needs Fund helping communities and community organisations to address new needs appearing as a result of coronavirus.

With grant sizes of between £1,000 to £15,000 – Projects must be completed by the end of February 2021, with end of grant reports completed by Friday 12th March 2021.

The closing date for applications is August 28th 2020 at 1pm. Priority will be given to initiatives that empower and connect community based organisations; Initiatives that have a clear social impact; Initiatives that involve those with lived experience.



Fund Objectives

To help organisations and communities to respond better, addressing new needs appearing as a result of the Coronavirus and where restrictions mean finding new ways of meeting existing needs. To help organisations and communities to #build back better, helping to ensure organisations can thrive and continue to provide longer-term support to communities



It will focus on community led responses that will:

- Enhance existing community services and activities around health and wellbeing and help people cope with adversity.
- Provide ongoing emergency support initiatives that directly support those most at risk as a result of the threat of coronavirus, and that clearly evidence the need for support.
- Support innovation and creativity for those community organisations disrupted as a result of covid-19 but that are continuing to provide a valuable service at this time.
- Encourage collaboration and strengthen collaborative activity and responses to issues affecting those most marginalised, in particular the LGBTQ+ community, black, asian and ethnic minorities, and those most at risk, including those suffering from domestic violence, and those living in poverty.
- Invest in social cohesion and resilience, and empower and connect community-based organisations.
- Encourage adaptation, innovation and agility of the sector, and ensure preparedness for the future.
- For more details and to apply see the website:

<https://communityfoundationni.org/grants/the-new-need-fund/>

MOY PARK COMMUNITY FUND

Moy Park Community Support Fund opened for applications from 1st July 2020 for a period of 24 months.

Moy Park is mindful of the constant financial pressures on voluntary and community groups and charities, particularly on their voluntary and total income, their capacity to start or continue with important projects and on their sustainability generally. Moy Park is pledging £1 million to its Community Support Fund to support on-the-ground projects of voluntary and community groups and charities in those local communities where their sites are based across Europe.



They invite project-based funding applications from not for profit local voluntary and community groups and charities with community-based objectives. Projects and funding applications must be relevant to the particular location and community. This means that funding applications can only be accepted for funding in the country in which both the applicant organisation is based and also where the local community project funding support is required.



Applicants must also provide a brief breakdown of project costs, and an outline of how the funding support will be spent. Any funding awarded must be applied to the project within the timeframes stipulated in the application or as stated in the funding award letter. For more details and to apply see the website:

<https://moypark.com/community-support>

INTERESTED IN VIDEOING DOWN CLUB CHAMPIONSHIP GAMES?

Down GAA are seeking expressions of interest from people interested in tendering for the right to Video Games in the Down Championships in 2020. It is the intention of Down GAA to stream fixtures in their 2020 Club Championships and we are seeking reliable people to take on the role of providing video content. Interested parties should reply by email to Paula Magee at itofficer.down@gaa.ie stating their proposed fees for undertaking video work for Down GAA on a match by match basis or as a fee for the Championship series.



You should outline the number of cameras you will be in a position to supply. Also please let Paula know if you're in a position to provide a production platform or streaming platform which would include coders, commentary, graphics, 4g/5g routers etc.



DOWN GAA TV - MATCH COMMENTATORS/INTERVIEWERS REQUIRED

Down GAA would like to hear from individual who would like to help with DownGAA TV as Match Day Commentators and/or Interviewers.

If this is something you would like to volunteer to be part of during the 2020 Down GAA Club Football and Hurling Championships, please get in contact with Paula Magee via her email itofficer.down@gaa.ie.

VOLUNTEERS REQUIRED FOR MATCH DAYS

Down GAA are seeking match day volunteers to help out during the upcoming club championship games.

Anyone willing to help out with stewarding and/or gate personal please get in contact with Sean Og McAteer secretary.down@gaa.ie or Diarmuid Cahill treasurer.down@gaa.ie.



Our world of old Newspapers throws up some great articles and gives you a great picture of the Club and County Scene in Down 60 years ago. We have archived the materials for 1958, 59, 60 and 61 and there is indeed a great wealth of coverage as Down captured the imagination of the GAA World.

We are lucky to have copies of the Kerryman in 60 and 61, The Offaly Independent and how they reported on Down and the All Ireland Final of 61. The Anglo Celt as Cavan acknowledged Down's great triumphs of the 60s and the Fermanagh Herald who covered all of Down's games in 60 and 61 as we won two All Irelands.

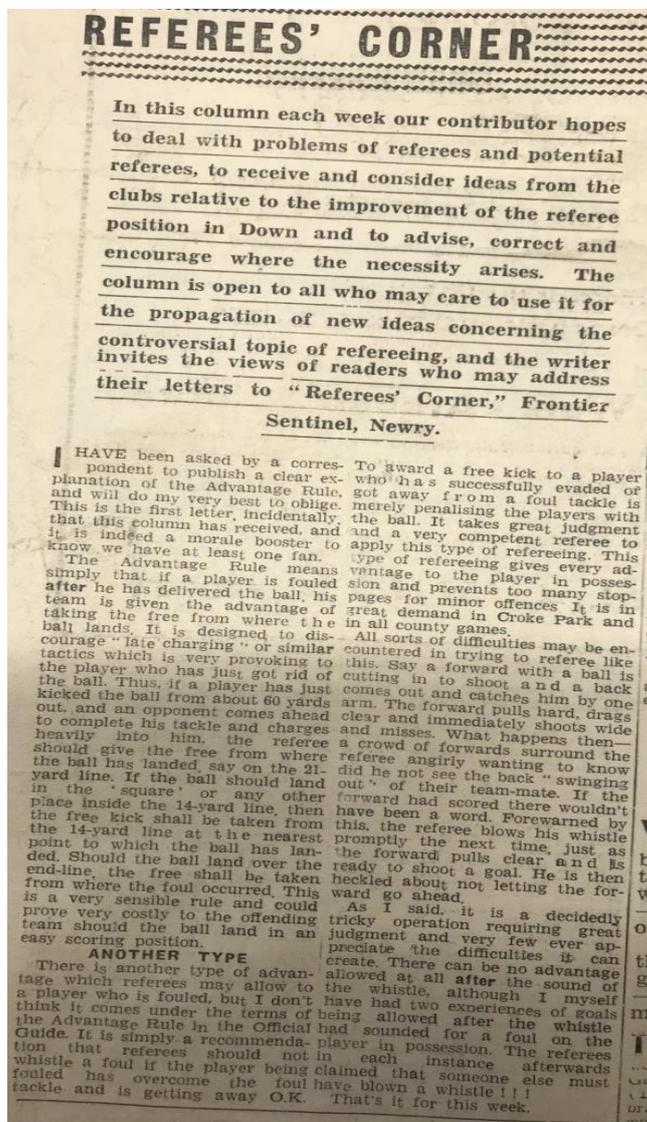
Our neighbours in Louth who were winner in 1957 gave great coverage in the Democrat to the achievements of Down.

Yes it must have been a great times to be a Down supporter and when you look at the photographs, you see people in their Sunday best, dressed for the big trip to Dublin as up on 6 trains left Newry on All Ireland Final day.

We desperately need old Newspapers now for the years 1962 and 63, if they could be even loaned to us we could copy them and return the originals, this is all going to help us build material for our Museum and Interpretive Centre at what we hope will be our new Home in Ballykinlar.

Any material that you have we would be delighted to be able to include it in our plans for Ballykinlar.

In 1961 as our cutting from the Frontier Sentinel shows Referees were still a cause for discussion and debate.



The Armagh Observer like the Frontier Sentinel no longer with us as Newspapers certainly gave the call to arms to all Down Followers in their edition of Saturday 23rd September 1961-- Glory Days indeed.



Seán Óg Mac an tSaoir

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Seán Óg McAteer

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