

Na Gaeil Notes Monday March 30th 2020

Covid-19 Corona Virus Update Due to the increasing numbers of cases of people affected by the Covid-19 virus and subsequent deaths, the Government, last Friday night introduced tighter measures to hopefully reduce its spread. This came into effect from midnight on Friday and will last for a two-week period at least until Easter Sunday, 12 April. Everybody must stay at home in all circumstances, except for the following situations:

To travel to and from work, or for purposes of work, only where the work is an essential health, social care or other essential service and cannot be done from home.

To shop for food and household goods or collect a meal
To attend medical appointments and collect medicines and other health products for vital family reasons, such as providing care to children, elderly or vulnerable people.

To take brief individual physical exercise within 2 kilometres of your home, which may include children from your household, as long as you adhere to strict 2 metre physical distancing.

For farming purposes, ie food production or care of animals
All public and private gatherings of any number of people outside a single household or living unit are prohibited.

Volunteers Na Gaeil GAA Club has compiled a list of volunteers available to do drop offs, collections etc and have been in touch with shops in the Oakpark area: Spar, Terry's, Leahy's, Oaklands and McElligott's. In light of the new restrictions imposed by the government it is important to let people know that this service is availabl. Please contact any of the following: Mícheál Herlihy (0862438902); Cathy Carey (0863554499); Eddie Sheehy (0876791460), Colm O'Súilleabháin (0879080465); Tim Lynch (0874184239). You can also contact the shops directly. Please God we will all stay safe and come back stronger. Ní neart go cur le chéile.

Juveniles We hope that all our juvenile players are doing well and not finding the restrictions too taxing. It is important to stay positive and hopefully you will all be back playing in Na Gaeil in the not too distant future. In the meantime this is the ideal opportunity to get out into the back yard or garden and improve your array of skills. This is the time to practice one of the most important skills of the game: kicking with both feet. Do it off the garden wall for ten minutes every day. When you eventually get back to Na Gaeil you will be a much better player and enjoy your football even more. So get out there and start today.

Club Activities Suspended Due to the worsening situation of the Coronavirus in Ireland the decision has been taken both at national and local level to suspend all GAA activity, matches and training at club, school and county level across all grades and codes until March 29th inclusive in the interest of public safety. It was the only option and the correct decision to take. This means that all training, games and

team gatherings from under 6 to senior level in the club are suspended indefinitely. But we all feel when we get to March 29th that realistically this deadline will be extended considerably. We know that this will inconvenience all our members but drastic situations require drastic measures. Maintaining the health and safety of our members, volunteers, players, supporters and the wider public going forward shall continue to be of the utmost importance.

Clubhouse The clubhouse will be closed for the foreseeable future. This means that our Monday night bingo, Tuesday night lotto and Wednesday night card playing are suspended indefinitely as well as all other activities that normally took place there on a weekly basis.

Personal Responsibility As we are living in testing times we all have a personal responsibility to adhere to the government and HSE guidelines and ensure that we implement them fully. Hand washing and social distancing are essential if we are to keep Covid 19 at bay so we all have to play our part and we can fight this together.

Sympathy We offer our sincere sympathy to the family of Denis O'Dowd of Riverside, Oakpark and formerly of Fortwilliam, Abbeydorney on his recent passing. Denis was one of the founders of the Na Gaeil Club and was joint treasurer for the first six years. He also acted for a time as vice chairperson and then chairperson. He continued to have a great interest in the club over the years. His last visit to Na Gaeil was the night the senior team arrived home after their All Ireland victory in Croke Park on January 25th and he was so proud of their achievement. He also attended the victory social held in the Meadowlands Hotel in February and really enjoyed the night. His grandchildren currently play with the club. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a anam dílis.

Good Luck We wish everybody well in the days and weeks that lie ahead. It is important that we stay upbeat and support everybody around us. As the weather is set to improve there is no reason why we can't get out for walks. We are very fortunate that there are many fine walkways and beaches in the vicinity but we have to be very aware of social distancing when we are out. We have a duty of care both to ourselves and others. Stay safe and stay positive.

Clothes Collection There is now a Clothes Collection Bin situated in Na Gaeil car park for use by all members of the public.