

Tuairisc an Rúnaí

Is mór an phribléid dom Thuairisc an Rúnaí a chur ós comhair Chomhdháil Comhairle na Mumhan CLG don bhliain 2013. Ba mhaith liom buíochas a ghabháil do gach éinne a raibh páirteach le hobair an Chomhairle í rith 2013. Go raibh míle maith agaibh go léir.

I am pleased to present the Secretary's Report to Annual Convention on the activities of Munster Council during 2013. I returned as Príomh-Oifigeach Feidhmiúcháin/Rúnaí of Comhairle Na Mumhan in January 2013 after a four and a half year absence since July 2008. In this Secretary's Report I will concentrate on the Council activities during the year in broad terms. I will not go into detail where the aspect of the Council work is covered in some detail in other reports contained in this Annual Convention booklet.

Overall 2013 will be regarded as a successful year for the Council both on and off the field. On the field the senior hurling championship caught the imagination of the public throughout the country with the quality and excitement in all four games. The re-emergence of Limerick as worthy champions in the senior hurling generated great excitement. A Munster Senior Hurling title, Limerick's first since 1996, earned at the expense of both Tipperary and Cork is a worthy title. The achievement of bringing all four All-Ireland Hurling Championships back to the province in 2013 is a significant one and gives testament to the general overall standard of hurling in the province. Congratulations must go to the winners from the province: An Clár (Senior & Under 21), Tiobraid Árann (Intermediate) and Portláirge (Minor).

The province had three teams in the All-Ireland senior hurling semi-finals with two Munster teams contesting a remarkable All-Ireland Final, which went to a replay. This final, by virtue of the quality of hurling and the many twists and turns of fortune for both Clare and Cork in the two games, received universal acclaim.

The province competed in both *M. Donnelly Interprovincials* winning the hurling competition against Connacht and competing well in the football but losing to eventual winners Ulster in the semi-final by the narrowest of margins.

The Council, thanks to increased attendance in the senior hurling, had a successful year financially. The benefit of this financial strength was shared with the units in the province by significant disbursements to the counties and clubs in the province via the various grants schemes, details of which are contained in the financial statements for the period.

Provincial Council

For the record the Council membership since last Convention was as follows:

Oifigí:

Cathaoirleach:

Leas Cathaoirleach:

Cisteoir:

Ruibéard an tSeaca

Diarmuid Ó Suilleabháin

Micheál Mac Gearailt

Oifigeach Caidreamh Poiblí:
Iar-Cathaoirleach:

Eamon Ó Donnaille
Seán Breathnach

Príomh-Oifigeach Feidhmiúcháin/Rúnaí:
Bhainisteoir Oibríochtaí:

Siomón Ó Maolrunaí (Non-Voting)
Ciarán Ó Lidí (Non-Voting)

Uachtarán Oinigh:

Teidí Ó Suilleabháin (Non-Voting)

Teachtaí ar son na gCondaeth:

An Clár:

Seán Ó Suilleabháin agus Tomás Ó Dubháin

Ciarraí:

Cristóir Ó Cillín agus Seosamh Ó Crualaoich

Corcaigh:

Risteard Ó Murchú agus Roibeard Ó Riain

Luimneach:

Micheál Ó Suilleabháin agus Donncha Mac Thomáis

Portláirge:

Antóin Breathnach agus Pádraig Ó Floinn

Tiobraid Árann:

Dónal Ó Seancháin agus P S Ó Meachair

Comhairle Réigiúnach Liathróid Láimhe:

Antóin Ó hAodha (Non-Voting)

Comhairle Ard-Oideachas Na Mumhan:

Seán Ó Corcráin (Non-Voting)

Comhairle Iar-Bhunscoileanna Na Mumhan:

Éamon Ó Maolrunaí (Non-Voting)

Coiste Bhunscoileanna Na Mumhan:

Seosamh Ó Laighin (Non-Voting)

The Council received the list of all affiliated clubs from the six counties in Munster and the following Table gives the number of affiliated clubs in the Province for 2013:

<i>Contae:</i>	<i>gCumainn:</i>
An Clár	84
Ciarraí	73
Corcaigh	259
Luimneach	101
Portláirge	56
Tiobraid Árann	72
<i>Total:</i>	<i>645</i>

The Council met on eight occasions since the last Convention on 8th February 2013. Much of the work of the Council is delegated to sub-committees in accordance with Rule and Provincial Bye-Laws. Therefore many of the Council decisions arise from recommendations placed before it by its' Sub-Committees.

Significant decisions taken by Council during the past year include:

- The making of Competition Regulations for all Provincial Inter-County and Inter-Club Competitions (sixteen competitions in total)
- The appointment of the membership of the Council's various Sub-Committees for three year terms coinciding with the election of the new Chairperson on the basis of a recommendation by the Management Committee

- Approval of the Terms of Reference for the various Sub-Committees
- Approving arrangements for the appointment of an interim CEO/Rúnaí
- Approving arrangements for the recruitment and appointment of an Operations Manager
- Approval of a Council Budget on the recommendation of the Management & Finance Committee
- Receiving reports from the County Representatives on the status of the Club Championships in their respective counties
- The summoning of a Special Convention (and determining Representation at same) for the purpose of making Provincial Bye-Laws for sanction by An Coiste Bainistí on behalf of Ard Comhairle
- Approving recommendations from the Council Planning & Physical Development Sub-Committee for Physical Development Grants for Units within the Province funded by Central and Provincial Council
- The submission of a motion to Annual Congress 2014 seeking a Rule change to permit a joint Provincial Management & Finance Committee at the discretion of the Provincial Council
- Deciding that all Council minutes be circulated to the six County Secretaries in the province
- Deciding that the Council convene a meeting of all County Treasurers in the province

The most contentious decision by Council during the year was the decision to alter the Competition Regulation governing the Provincial Senior Football Championship. Council decided upon a seeded draw under which the stronger counties (Ciarraí and Corcaigh) got a bye into the semi-final stage and were seeded to play in different semi-finals. This decision engendered considerable controversy and criticism.

All I will say on the matter is that the decision was well flagged in advance when the matter was discussed at the meeting of the Council on 25th July 2013. It was announced at that July meeting that a decision on the issue would be made at the Council meeting scheduled for 12th September 2013. Counties were asked to consider the issue before the decision would be made seven weeks later. The meeting on 12th September decided, democratically, on a seeded draw format. The Provincial Council is the only body with authority to decide such a matter and while I respect the right of anyone to disagree with this, or indeed any other decision of Council, clearly when a majority decide the issue then all are bound to respect this. There is no alternative to democracy. The use of a seeded draw method is envisaged and specifically permitted in Rule insofar as “Provincial Councils may organise their respective Championships to take into account the relative strengths of the Counties within the Province”. Seeded draws are not unique to Munster nor indeed to football.

Council Sub-Committees

In reporting on the activities of the Council it is necessary to state that the work of the Council is delivered to a large extent by an extensive sub-committee structure. The

various sub-committees operate on the basis of specific terms of reference approved by Council. Last January new sub-committees were appointed by Council on the recommendation of the Management Committee. The appointed members serve three year terms coinciding with the tenure of the Chairman.

The management of the affairs within the Provincial Jurisdiction is the responsibility of the **Management Committee** between Provincial Council meetings. The **Finance Committee** is responsible for all Financial Matters referred to it by the Provincial Council. The Munster Council has traditionally operated a combined **Management & Finance Committee** up until 2013. This was logical in light of the fact that both committees had a common membership. This joint committee was comprised of the Council officers and two senior staff members (CEO and Operations Manager). However the Provincial Bye-Law, containing the provision for a joint Provincial Management and Finance Committee, submitted for sanction after it was made at a Special Provincial Convention on 24th October, 2013, was rejected. It was rejected on the basis that two separate sub-committees are required under Rule. The Council then remedied this anomalous situation by appointing separate sub-committees. Council also decided to submit a motion to Annual Congress seeking a change in rule to facilitate a joint sub-committee for these functions. The following is the common membership of the Management and the Finance Committees:

Cathaoirleach: Roibeard an tSeaca **Rúnaí:** Ciarán Ó Lidí (Bhainisteoir Oibríochtaí/Leas POF/Rúnaí).

OifigíFoirne: Diarmuid Ó Suilleabháin (Leas Cathaoirleach), Micheál Mac Gearailt (Cisteoir), Eamon Ó Donnaille (Oifigeach Caidreamh Poiblí) agus Siomón Ó Maolrunaí (Príomh-Oifigeach Feidhmiúcháin/Rúnaí).

During the year since Convention the joint Management & Finance Committee met on 17 occasions and since the splitting of the joint committee there has been one meeting of the Management Committee and one meeting of the Finance Committee.

The key business of the Management & Finance Committee during the year included:

- Dealing with routine matters arising for decision between Council meetings
- Recommendations on staff recruitment and appointments including interim CEO/Rúnaí, Operations Manager and Provincial Post Primary Schools Development Officer/Events Logistics Officer
- Appointment of two Fixtures Planners
- Recommending a Council Budget for the year to the Full Council for approval
- Dealing with applications for financial assistance to Council
- Dealing with applications for Borrowing Approvals and meeting applicant Units or making recommendations to the National Finance & Management Committee on behalf of Council as appropriate
- Dealing with applications from Units within the Province for permission to purchase/lease/dispose of real property, meeting applicant Unit representatives

and making recommendations to the National Finance & Management Committee on behalf of Council as appropriate

- Selection of recipients for the Annual Awards 2013

The Management Committee appointed two **Provincial Fixtures Planners** as required by Rule. The two are Liam Ó Conchúir (Ciarraí) agus Ciarán Ó Lidí (Bhainisteoir Oibríochtaí/Leas POF/Rúnai). The work of the Fixtures Planners is liaising with the six County Fixture Planners and the National Fixtures Planners to promote and implement a strategic fixture planning culture in all fixture making units within the Province.

The two Provincial Fixtures Planners are also members of the statutory **Sub-Committee to Monitor County Fixtures Programmes**. The other members of this sub-committee are Roibeard an tSeaca (Cathaoirleach), Siomón Ó Maolrunaí (Príomh-Oifigeach Feidhmiúcháin/Rúnai) agus Risteard Ó Murchú (Corcaigh). I regret to say that this committee has been relatively inactive during the year but it is intended to be far more active in engaging with the six counties in 2014.

Two of the Council sub-committees, the **Provincial Competitions Control Committee (CCC)** and the **Provincial Hearings Committee**, operate on the basis of prescribed roles and procedures in General Rule and Provincial Bye-Law. I include a report on their activities hereunder.

The **Competitions Control Committee** is composed of Council officers and representatives from each county and deals with the arrangements for all provincial fixtures (within the terms of Competition Regulations made by the Full Council) and Objections lodged during the year. The membership during 2013 was as follows:

Cathaoirleach: Roibeard an tSeaca **Rúnai:** Siomón Ó Maolrunaí

Baill den Choiste:

Oifigí den Chomhairle: Diarmuid Ó Suilleabháin (Leas Cathaoirleach), Micheál Mac Gearailt (Cisteoir), Eamon Ó Donnaile (Oifigeach Caidreamh Poiblí).

Baill den Chomhairle ar son na gCondaethe: Seán Ó Suilleabháin (An Clár), Cristóir Ó Cillín (Ciarraí), Risteard Ó Murchú (Corcaigh), Micheál Ó Suilleabháin (Luimneach), Antóin Breathnach (Portláirge) agus Dónal Ó Seancháin (Tiobraid Árann).

Provincial Referees' Administrator: Liam de Baróid.

All referee appointments within the jurisdiction of Comhairle Na Mumhan CLG are delegated under Provincial Bye-Law to a Referee Appointment Workgroup comprised of the Council officers and the Provincial Referee Administrator.

The Competitions Control Committee met on six occasions during 2013 and thanks to the committee all competitions were completed within the calendar year. No Objections were submitted during the year.

The draws for the Provincial Senior Championships are made each year in conjunction with the draws for the other provincial senior championships. These draws were made in early October. The draws for the two senior championships also determine the pairings for the provincial intermediate hurling and junior football championships. Following the draws the Provincial Competition Control Committee determined the venues and the fixture schedule for 2014.

The Provincial Competitions Control Committee made the draws for the remaining 2014 inter-county championships (Under 21 and Minor), the subsidiary competitions (McGrath Cup and Waterford Crystal Cup) and for the senior, intermediate and junior club championships in both codes. **The schedule of all inter-county and inter-club games in 2014 as completed by Provincial Competitions Control Committee is published later in this report.**

I would like to pay a tribute to three members of the Competitions Control Committee who complete their term on this important sub-committee after Convention. They are Micheál Mac Gearailt (Cisteoir), Eamon Ó Donnaile (Oifigeach Caidreamh Poiblí) and Dónal Ó Seancháin (Tiobraid Árann). During their terms on the committee they gave the Council excellent service and will be a loss.

The ***Provincial Hearings Committee*** is comprised of members of the Council and others qualified personnel and deals with all Hearings arising from Provincial Competitions and Appeals lodged against decisions of County Committees in Munster. Members of the Provincial Management and Competitions Control Committee may not serve on the Provincial Hearings Committee.

The membership during 2013 was as follows:

Cathaoirleach: Donncha Mac Thomáis (Luimneach)

Rúnaí: Liam Ó Conchúir (Ciarraí)

Baill den Chomhairle ar son na gCondaethe: Tomás Ó Dubháin (An Clár), Seosamh Ó Crualaoich (Ciarraí), Roibeard Ó Riain (Corcaigh), Padraig Ó Floinn (Portláirge) agus P S Ó Meachair (Tiobraid Árann).

Baill eile ar son na gCondaethe: Gearóid Ó hÍcí (An Clár), Dónal de hÓr (Corcaigh), Liam Ó Leannacháin (Luimneach), Tomás Ó hAonghusa (Portláirge) agus Barra Ó Briain (Tiobraid Árann).

The following is the Report to Convention from the Provincial Hearings Committee Secretary, Liam Ó Conchúir (Ciarraí)

Functions:

As set out in Rial 3.33 (A) (iii) Treoraí Ofigiúil 2013 and Provincial Bye Laws

The members of the Hearings Committee have between them given many years of dedicated service to their County Boards, Munster Council and the GAA at National

Level. They have a clear knowledge of the rules and their powers under the rules. The members of this committee have volunteered to do this, at times, very difficult and challenging job on behalf of the Council.

The Committee held 10 meetings during the year. It processed 15 appeals against decisions of County Committees and 2 requests for a personal hearing relating to the Enforcement of Rules arising from matters under the Jurisdiction of the Provincial Council.

The committee arranged its meetings at very short notice in order to accommodate players and clubs who had lodged appeals or requested a personal hearing. The members of the committee get very short notice of meetings and are their cooperation is something that deserves to be acknowledged.

Liam Ó Conchúir
Hearings Committee Secretary

I wish to acknowledge the hard work of the Committee, and particularly the hard working Chairperson, Donncha Mac Thomáis, and Secretary, Liam Ó Conchúir. The Council is extremely fortunate to have committee officers of such experience and integrity available and committed to the work of the Council.

In addition to the eleven “statutory” sub-committees required under Rule the Provincial Council has five additional sub-committees to work in areas which the Council sees as also requiring a dedicated sub-committee comprised of personnel with particular expertise in the particular area. These additional five sub-committees are:

Club & County Support Sub-Committee
Club & County Grounds Health & Safety Sub-Committee
Urban Development Sub-Committee
Football Development Sub-Committee
Hurling Development Sub-Committee

All sub-committees are manned by a group of dedicated voluntary people who work tirelessly on behalf of the Council. I wish to acknowledge the immense efforts and personal sacrifice, in terms of time and energy, made by these people on the Councils work. In particular I wish to thank the officers of these sub-committees on whom a greater burden of responsibility falls. I recognise fully that without these unpaid volunteers the work of the Council would seriously suffer. **Reports on the membership and work of each general sub-committee are included later in the booklet** and give a sense of the range of work being carried out on the Councils behalf by the many personnel involved. Go raibh mile maith agaibh arís. The Council decided that in 2014 the Chairperson of each sub-committee will present a report to a Council meeting on a quarterly basis.

GAMES 2013

This was a successful year for the Council in terms of games activity. This is the core work and key focus of the Council. **A comprehensive record of all the provincial playing activities is appended to this report containing the results of all Council fixtures played throughout the province in 2013.**

In summary 122 games were fixed during the year and 116 were played under the Council jurisdiction. There were 6 Walkovers, all in the West Munster League in the inaugural year of this developmental competition. The Council ran four inter-county hurling championships and four inter-county football championships; three inter-club hurling championships and three inter-club football championships; a subsidiary competition in each code; and a Club league (West Munster League) run under the aegis of the Hurling Development Committee to assist Kerry Hurling Clubs by providing more games against Clubs outside Kerry.

The breakdown between inter-county and inter-club games played is 64 inter-county games (including 2 replays) and 52 inter-club games (including 2 replays). At inter-county level there were 30 hurling games and 34 football games. At inter-club level the code breakdown is 36 hurling games and 16 football games.

I wish to thank all involved for this: including the Competition Control Committee, The Hurling Development Committee, the hard working and efficient Referees' Administration Sub-Committee, individual Referees, Linesmen, Sideline Officials, Umpires and Assessors; and all ground staff at large and small venues throughout the province. I wish to thank the six County Treasures and the many Stilesmen for all the help and assistance provided to the Council Treasurer and the Council Operations Manager, Kieran Leddy, in relation to Council fixtures throughout the year. I also want to acknowledge the hard and effective work of the Monitor, Kieran Mc Gann, and his team at the major inter-county games during the year.

I do not propose to go into any detail about the individual competitions and the individual winners and losers as everyone is well acquainted with this material already. However I do wish to record the congratulations of the Council to the winners of all seventeen provincial competitions and particularly to the winners of the fourteen Munster Championships as follows:

Inter-County Championships:

<u>GRADE:</u>	<u>IOMÁINT:</u>	<u>PEIL:</u>
Senior	Luimneach	Ciarraí
Intermediate/(Junior)	Tiobraid Árann	(Corcaigh)
Under 21	An Clár	Corcaigh
Minor	Luimneach	Ciarraí

Inter-County Subsidiary Competitions 2013:

<u>COMPETITION:</u>	<u>IOMÁINT:</u>	<u>PEIL:</u>
Waterford Crystal Cup - (McGrath Cup)	Tiobraid Árann	(Ciarraí)

Inter-Club Championships 2013:

<u>GRADE:</u>	<u>IOMÁINT:</u>	<u>PEIL:</u>
Senior	Na Piarasaigh (Luimneach)	Dr. Crócaigh (Ciarraí)
Intermediate	Eochail (Corcaigh)	Fanaithe na Claide (Corcaigh)
Junior	Baile na Sagairt (Portláirge)	Cill (Ciarraí)

Inter-Club West Munster League 2013:

<u>GRADE:</u>	<u>IOMÁINT:</u>
Senior	Muillte Uí Cheallacháin (An Clár)

Teams from the Province did particularly well during the year in the All-Ireland Hurling championships, bringing a total of six titles back to Munster. The sole All-Ireland winner in football was Corcaigh, winning the Junior Championship. Unfortunately the performance in the All-Ireland Club Championships 2012'13 was disappointing for Munster Representatives. I also wish to acknowledge the performance of all the Munster counties who won All-Irelands during 2013 as follows:

All-Ireland Championships 2013:

<u>GRADE:</u>	<u>IOMÁINT:</u>	<u>PEIL:</u>
Senior	An Clár	
Intermediate/(Junior)	Tiobraid Árann	(Corcaigh)
Under 21	An Clár	
Under 21 B	Ciarraí	
Minor	Portláirge	
Minor B	Ciarraí	

The Council, I believe, can look forward with optimism to the 2014 competitions. **I have appended to this report a fixtures schedule, approved by the Provincial Competitions Control Committee, for 2014.**

SCHOOLS

A key element of the strength of the national games over the years is the work carried out by many Teachers in our primary, secondary and third level schools in promoting the skills of the games with our youth. On behalf of the Council I wish to acknowledge the ongoing contribution to our games by the teaching profession. The Council seeks to make this task easier in the schools and directly contributed €358,290 as follows to the schools bodies in 2013:

<u>Level:</u>	<u>Annual Grants:</u>	<u>Staff Costs Subvention:</u>	<u>Development Grants:</u>	<u>Bursaries: (Primary Game)</u>	<u>Totals:</u>
Third Level	€25,667	€112,000		€49,500	€187,167
Post Primary	€27,000	<u>€46,662</u>	€15,000		€88,662
Primary	<u>€25,615</u>		<u>€35,000</u>	<u>(€21,846)</u>	<u>€82,461</u>
<i>Totals:</i>	<i>€78,282</i>	<i>€158,662</i>	<i>€50,000</i>	<i>€71,346</i>	<u>€358,290</u>

In addition to this the Council via the Coaching & Games Development Sub-Committee organises an annual Primary Teachers course in Mary Immaculate College during the Summer each year.

I also record with deep regret and sadness on behalf of the Council the sad loss late in the year of an outstanding employee of the Council as **Provincial Post Primary Schools' Council Officer** in the late *Tom Collum, R.I.P.* Tom gave excellent service to the Council and to the Post Primary Schools' sector for many years and his loss to both is incalculable. Ar dheis Dé go raigh a anam dílis.

Significant in the Post Primary sector in 2013 was that the Provincial Post Primary Schools' Council is now recognised as a Sub-Committee of the Provincial Council. Similarly the Post Primary Schools' County Committees are Sub-Committees of the six County Committees. For the first time the Provincial Council appointed the officers of the Provincial Post Primary Schools' Council and the County Committees appointed the officers of the County Post Primary Schools' Committee. Terms of Reference for the Provincial Post Primary Schools' Council were approved by Council and the officers were ratified by Council in July 2013. The membership of this sub-committee is included in the report for this body later in the booklet.

Of equal significance during the year was the appointment of a full time staff member in Council HQ, part of whose duties include the servicing of the Provincial Post Primary Schools' Council. The new employee, John Brennan, has settled in very well and is doing sterling work for the Post Primary Schools' Council both in this and in his other Council duties.

I am also pleased to record that truly integrated Post Primary Schools' Competitions are in place throughout the province in the 2013'14 school year.

Finally I wish to play a particular compliment to the former officers and county representatives who served the Post Primary Schools' sector over the years and particularly the outgoing officers who completed their terms at the end of the 2012'13 school year.

ANNUAL AWARDS 2013

The Munster Council Annual GAA Awards Night, kindly sponsored by Bord Gais, has become a well established and important function in the social calendar each year. Once again I wish to acknowledge the generous sponsorship towards the costs of staging the Awards Scheme by Bord Gais. The presentation function was held in the "Malton Hotel" in Killarney on Saturday, 7th December 2013 and it was an extremely enjoyable night. The deserving recipients of the various awards in 2013 are as follows:

Player of the Year Award:

Senior Hurling:	Risteard Mac Carthaigh (Luimneach)
Senior Football:	Séamus Ó Donnchú (Ciarraí)

Handball:	Coilm Ó Croidheáin (An Clár)
Camogie:	Michelle Ní Cathasaigh (Luimneach)
Ladies Gaelic Football:	Loiuse Ní Mhuirheartaigh (Ciarraí)
Intermediate Hurling:	Darragh Mac Aogáin (Tiobraid Árann)
Junior Football:	Ruairí Ó Déin (Corcaigh)
Under 21 Hurling:	Coilm Ó Gealbháin (An Clár)
Under 21 Football:	Briain Ó hUrthuile (Corcaigh)
Minor Hurling:	Ronán Ó Loingsigh (Luimneach)
Minor Football:	Seán Sabhaois (Ciarraí)

Distinguished Service Awards:

Manager of the Year:	Daithí Mac Gearailt (An Clár)
Club of the Year:	Luachmagh-Caisleán Laignigh (Tiobraid Árann)
Refereeing:	Micheál Ó Catháin (Corcaigh)
Administration:	Liam Mac Searraigh (Corcaigh)
Distinguished Service to GAA:	Padraig Mac Mathúna (An Clár)
Media Award:	Pádraig Mac Fionmhacáin (Tiobraid Árann)
Special Merit Award:	Sean de Paor (Portlárige)
Hall of Fame (Football):	Micheál Mac Síthigh (Ciarraí)
Hall of Fame (Hurling):	Seán Ó Gealbháin (Portlárige)

REFEREES:

The Council also honoured the Referees who officiated at the Council championship finals in 2013 at the Annual Awards function. This is small recognition for the training which these Referees undertake throughout the year in order to be right for the many games they officiate at during the season. I wish to pay tribute to all the Referees in the province for the essential job they carry out week in week out for the Association. The Referees are honoured in this way as representatives of all Referees and are as follows:

Inter-County Competitions 2013:

Séamus Mac Craith (Iarmhí)	Iomáint Shinsir
Mairtín Ó Dufaigh (Sligeach)	Peil Shinsir
Damien Mac An Sionnaigh (An Clár)	Iomáint Idirmheanach.
Seán Seoighe (Ciarraí)	Peil Shoisir
Seán Ó hAnragáin (Luimneach)	Iomáint Fé 21
Risteard Ó Maoldomhnaigh (Luimneach)	Peil Fé 21
Seán Ó Briain (Tiobraid Árann)	Iomáint na Mionúr
Séamus Mac Fheorais (Corcaigh)	Peil na Mionúr
Séamus Mac Fheorais (Corcaigh)	Corn Mhic Craith
Diarmuid Ó Conaill (Corcaigh)	Corn Waterford Crystal

Club Championships 2013:

Coilm Ó Liatháin (Corcaigh)	Iomáint Shinsir na gClub
Conchúir Ó Laignin (Corcaigh)	Peil Shinsir na gClub
Seán Ó hAnragáin (Luimneach)	Iomáint Idirmheanach na gClub

Padraig Ó Suilleabháin (Ciarraí)
Seán Ó Briain (Tiobraid Árann)
Caoimhín Ó Murchú (Corcaigh)
Fearghal Ó hOrgáin (Tiobraid Árann)

Peil Idirmheanach na gClub
Iomaint Shóisir na gClub
Peil Shóisir na gClub
West Munster Club League

I also wish to mention the Referees Sub-Committee who worked extremely hard throughout 2013 and performed most efficiently. I wish to pay particular thanks to Kevin Walsh and Willie Barrett for their excellent work and commitment throughout the past year. The Council is extremely fortunate to have officers of this calibre managing the refereeing affairs in the province.

FINANCIAL REPORTS

I will not dwell on the financial aspects of the Council activities during 2013 as this is dealt with comprehensively by the Council's Treasurer, Michael Fitzgerald, and Operations Manager, Kieran Leddy, who took up duty in the position in April 2013. Michael and Kieran, who is the Council's Financial Controller, have a detailed report on the Council finances later in the booklet. In addition the Financial Reports for the Year Ended 31st October 2013 audited by BDO are included in the booklet. It is therefore sufficient to acknowledge that the Council finances are in good shape and in steady hands going forward.

The Provincial Council is a significant operation, equivalent to a substantial business, with annual turnover of approximately €7 million and assets of €10.5 million. It can be clearly seen from the financial statements and from the Financial Overview that all surpluses generated on the Council's activities are recycled onto the Counties, Clubs, Associated Bodies and Schools in Munster. Prudent management of this large scale operation is therefore essential for all Association Units in the Province.

I also wish the assistance and guidance received from the Council Auditors, BDO, throughout the year and particularly in the context of completing the audit in recent weeks.

GENERAL ISSUES

New Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson

Last Convention in February saw the changing of the guard at Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson level. Roibeard An tSeaca assumed the highest office in the Council taking the Chair from Seán Breathnach. Robert has worked tirelessly for the Council since assuming office and I want to record my gratitude to him for his co-operation and assistance during the year. Robert is committed to furthering the interests of the Council and has had a busy but a successful first year in office.

Diarmuid Ó Suilleabháin replace Robert as Vice-Chairperson last February and has worked hard for the Council, particularly in the demanding role as Chairperson of the Provincial Coaching & Games Development Committee.

The Chairperson who departed the Council after a very successful tenure at the helm is Seán Breathnach. Seán gave outstanding service to the Council as indeed he had done for his native Ciarraí when he served there as Chairperson for ten years. The Council wish Seán every success in his election for the Uachtarán position at Annual Congress.

End of Term for Treasurer & PRO

This is the last Convention for the Treasurer, Michael Fitzgerald, and PRO, Ed Donnelly, who have served the Council well in their respective roles for the past three years. Both have contributed enormously to the work of the Council during their three year terms and neither will be easily replaced. I have enjoyed working with both during the past year.

Staffing at Council HQ

During the year some significant staff changes occurred for the Council. At the end of 2012 both the former CEO/Secretary, Pat Fitzgerald, and the Assistant Secretary, Enda McGuane, left the Council's employment. On behalf of the Council I wish to thank Pat for his hard work and commitment to the Council during his tenure. I also want to acknowledge the contribution of his Assistant Secretary, Enda, particularly on the Council finances and managing the construction project for the new Council HQ. Both contributed to leaving the Council affairs in good standing.

I returned to the Council as CEO/Secretary on an interim basis for nine months last January and, with Council approval, I have agreed to continue as CEO/Secretary until next Convention scheduled for 30th January 2015 with an option to continue for a further four years in yearly increments.

The Council recruited an Operations Manager (Deputy CEO/Secretary) in April 2013 and after a recruitment and selection process appointed Kieran Leddy to the position. Kieran has extensive experience in the Association have worked in Croke Park for a number of years. I wish to thank Kieran for all his help and assistance during the year.

The Council approved a recommendation that some part-time positions be merged and that a full time temporary (1 year) Provincial Post Primary Schools' Servicing Officer. The role involves: responsibility for the provision of administrative, clerical and games planning/management services to the Provincial Post-Primary Schools Council. It also involves responsibility for the provision of administrative and logistical back up for Council games and events. After a recruitment and selection process the Council appointed John Brennan to the position. Since taking up duty last September John has given long and efficient service to the Council and I thank him for dedication and commitment to the tasks he has been assigned.

Nuala Nealon and Mary O Mahoney continue to give dedicated service to the Council in the new HQ in Castletroy and I want to acknowledge their significant contribution to the Council during 2013.

The two Provincial Games Managers, Joe Carton and Pat O Shea, continue to manage the considerable and successful Coaching and Games Development operation for the Council from their respective bases in Waterford and Killarney. I wish to convey the appreciation of the Council to both for their contribution.

I believe that the current staffing structure is the optimum for the Council at this point in time taking into account the range of activities engaged in by the Council. I also believe that the arrangements with our two sister organisations', Munster Camogie Council and Munster Ladies Gaelic Football Association, having an office in the Provincial HQ is an excellent arrangement and of mutual benefit to the three organisations'.

Provincial Bye-Laws

The making of Provincial Bye-Laws is a matter for Provincial Convention. The previous occasion on which Provincial Bye-Laws were made by Provincial Convention was on 5th March 2010. Elements of the Bye-Laws submitted after that Convention were not sanctioned. The Council held a Special Convention last October at which Provincial Bye-Laws were made for sanction by An Coiste Bainistí on behalf of Ard Comhairle. Some amendments were suggested prior to sanction. I have included these suggested amendments in the draft Provincial Bye-Laws included later in this report for Convention approval. I am also anxious to include all Provincial Sub-Committees, together with their respective memberships and roles, in the Provincial Bye-Laws and these changes are also reflected in the draft. All, I believe, are in accordance with Rule and I therefore submit the draft to Convention.

SYMPATHY

As with every year the Association in Munster has lost many of its members over the past twelve months in the six Munster counties. I will not recall individually all of those we have sadly lost in 2013 in case I would omit someone and cause offence. On behalf of the Council I wish to convey the sympathy and condolences to all the bereaved relatives and friends of those who passed on during 2013. Go dtuga Dia snaimhneas siorai da n-anamnacha do léir.

BUÍOCHAS

In concluding my report I wish to thank the following:

- My fellow Officers on the Council Management Committee and particularly the outgoing officers, Michael Fitzgerald and Ed Donnelly, who have completing their three year terms.
- The members of the Council and the members of all the Council sub-committees for the assistance and co-operation which I received from them throughout 2013.
- To the County Officers in the six County Boards in Munster and particularly the County Secretaries and Treasurers with whom I have most contact and dealings in the course of our work.
- To the officers and members of the schools bodies for the ongoing work they do in support of our games in the various levels of schools.

- To the Referees, Linesmen, Sideline officials, Umpires and Assessors for the manner in which they officiated at our games in 2013.
- To the several Stilesmen, Stewards, Groundsmen, Catering personnel who have helped me during the year in ensuring that access to our games, at whatever level, is safe and efficient. Also to the Event Controllers in the major venues and to the Gardai, Health Board personnel, and many others who make our games safe for patrons.
- To all the Players at every grade who provided the central product of the Association in Munster in 2013 as in every other year. The popularity of the games for the patrons attending the games and for those watching or listening to media coverage is testament to the level of excellence you have achieved in your chosen sport.
- To the media personnel, national and local, for the excellent coverage which our games receive at every level throughout the year. A particular word of thanks to RTE , TV3 and TG4 for the TV fees received during 2013 and to all TV personnel with whom I have had contact in relation to the televising of our games.
- To the Sponsors who provide generous sponsorship to the Council and some of its sub-committees including:
 - Etihad
 - Centra
 - Liberty Insurance
 - Eircom
 - Ulster Bank
 - Supervalu
 - Bord Gais
 - Cadbury
 - Electric Ireland
 - Irish Examiner
- To the Uachtarán, Ard Stiurthóir and all the staff in Páirc an Chrócaigh for the co-operation and assistance received during 2013
- Finally I want to acknowledge the contribution made to the work of the Council by all of my colleagues on the staff of Comhairle na Mumhan: Kieran, Nuala, Mary, John, Joe and Pat

Go raibh míle maith agaibh.

Mise le meas,

Siomón Ó Maolrunaí,
 Príomh-Oifigeach Feidhmiúcháin/Rúnaí,
 Comhairle na Mumhan CLG.