



Fermanagh Hurling



Strategic plan 2022-2025

Réamhrá An Chathaoirleach

As Chairperson of Fermanagh County Board CLG I welcome the publication of our Hurling Strategic Plan for the next three years. This plan seeks to integrate with and build upon hurling commitments made in our overall Strategic Plan 'Ar aghaidh agus os a Chionn Fhear Manach'.

The key themes of our hurling strategy are described in great detail in this document yet structured in a clear and simple fashion. The inclusive nature of this strategy is illustrated by the fact that it covers hurling development from schools, clubs, academies, right through to inter-county teams.

The impetus for formulating this plan came from the deliberations of our Hurling Workgroup set up a few years ago which has already seen the introduction of under-age hurling in a total of eight clubs throughout the county. Credit is due to the members of this workgroup taken from each of these clubs, led by Cathaoirleach Tom Boyle and Rúnaí Kieran Farmer, with significant input from Games Development Manager Teresa McNabb, former Rúnaí Brian Armitage and former Regional Hurling Development Manager Emmett Conlon.

I also congratulate Kieran Farmer on bringing this document together joining with National Hurling Development Officer Martin Fogarty who described it as 'excellent, straight -forward and realistic'.

As with any strategy this plan will only be successful if it is carefully monitored to ensure that targets are met. I am confident that the upsurge in hurling within the county presently being experienced will continue into the future greatly assisted by this Strategic Plan.

Rath Dé ar an obair.

Is mise

Gréagóir Ó Ceallaigh (Cathaoirleach Choiste Chontae Fhear Manach)

Fermanagh Hurling Strategic Plan: 2022 – 2025

Vision: To continue to support hurling in Fermanagh at all levels.

Three key themes will drive our strategy:

- 1. Coaching, Games and Games Promotion**
- 2. County Hurling Committee and Club Governance**
- 3. County Player and Management Pathways**

Outcomes: By the end of 2025 we will have:

- 1. Increased participation in hurling across the county.**
- 2. A strong hurling culture embedded in primary and post primary schools.**
- 3. Club and county hurling coaches upskilled.**
- 4. Intergraded hurling and football fixtures with the county fixtures calendar**



Plan Summary



Plan Summary

For this there are three key areas of work.

1. **Governance:** Hurling Committee governance

- To ensure that hurling development is kept on the radar of all the relevant committees including the Fermanagh CCC, Fermanagh county committee, Fermanagh youth Committee and the Fermanagh management committee and that there is an established procedure for dealing with any issues which may arise.
- Compliance at all levels in the county in relation to the Associations Code of Conduct in Youth Sport and Safeguarding
- To ensure going forward that individual clubs are compliant with GAA administration rules and procedures.
- To continue the relationship between Fermanagh hurling and the Shane Mulholland foundation.

2. **Participation:** Coaching and Games Promotion

- We currently have four dual and two hurling only referees, as we progress and have more teams entering competitions at all age groups there will be a need to recruit and train new hurling referees.
- To alleviate fixture congestion with the aim to have a longer playing season.
- To promote Indoor hurling to ensure that skills and interest are both maintained throughout the year.
- To increase the number of adult teams within the county while still making games competitive
- To ensure adult clubs have sufficient time to prepare before playing in a shield competition with the winners playing Lisbellaw in the Fermanagh senior hurling final.
- To allow the more social side of hurling to flourish in quieter parts of the year
- To promote and develop hurling within the existing clubs and schools and to assist in the setting up of any newly formed clubs.

3. **Development & High Performance:** Management/players at all levels in Fermanagh

- County Managers and Players to be invited to more events
- Establish a county U20/21 team

- Celtic Challenge to continue development of players
- Create and maintain an U15 development squads
- Have a quarterly U13 skills camp





Governance



1.Governance

Objectives	Specific Action	Progress Indicators (Outcomes)	Timeline	Responsibility
1.1 Hurling committee representatives on county committees	1.1.1 Hurling officer to sit on	A motion to be made at the next Fermanagh county convention.	January 2022	Hurling Committee
	i. Fermanagh CCC			
	ii. Fermanagh GAA management Committee	Officer to be chair or secretary of Hurling Committee	January 2022	Chair or Secretary of the hurling Committee
	iii. Ulster Hurling Committee	Rep will hold an official Fermanagh GAA email address.	February 2022	Fermanagh GAA secretary/IT officer
1.2 All adult personnel dealing with young people are suitably vetted and qualified	1.2.1 Club officers and Coaches are suitably qualified	All club officers and coaches Access NI vetted.	March 2022	Fermanagh Child protection officer and hurling committee.
		Survey of all hurling club coaches completed.	January 2022	Hurling committee
	1.2.2 Club officers to complete relevant training and coaching	Foundation Hurling course	April 2022	Regional Hurling Development Officer (RHDO)

	courses	Level 1 Hurling course Level 2 Hurling course	May 2022 March 2023	RHDO Ulster GAA
1.3 All Hurling clubs to be club Máith accredited	1.3.1 Clubs attain Club Máith status as this allows for small equipment grants (Helmets) 1.3.2 Club is fully compliant with GAA protocol.	Survey to all clubs to ascertain current Club Máith status. Clubs to have started the process. All 8 hurling clubs Club Máith status attained.	January 2022 December 2022 December 2023	Hurling Committee All Clubs All Clubs
1.4 Greater promotion of hurling activity within Fermanagh	1.4.1 Appoint a hurling PRO	Priority to feed information to county PRO to promote games	January 2022	Hurling committee and Fermanagh GAA PRO.
1.5 Continue the relationship with the Shane Mullholland Foundation.	1.5.1 A seat on the hurling committee be offered to the Shane Mulholland Foundation.	Rep from Shane Mulholland Foundation sitting on Hurling Committee	March 2022	Hurling Committee



Participation



2. Participation

Objectives	Specific Actions	Progress indicators (Outcomes)	Timeline	Responsibility
2.1 Increase the number of hurling referees within the county	2.1.1 Each of the hurling clubs in Fermanagh to provide 2 active referees’.	GO games/Young Whistlers course Adult Referees’ course	March 2022 March 2022	Referee Committee Referee Committee
	2.1.2 Minor players (U-17) to become young whistlers and referee u9 and u11.5 age groups	Clubs need to nominate minor player(s) to the hurling committee who will liaise with the referees’ administrator to offer training and support required		
2.2 Standardise the hurling calendar to reflect youth football fixtures	2.2.1 Administrator for hurling fixtures be appointed to the CCC and Youth committee	A member of the hurling committee should sit on the youth committee and CCC for the sole purpose of ensuring games are fixed in conjunction with ongoing games activities in the county	January 2022	Hurling Committee CCC Youth Committee
2.3 increase the number of hurling fixtures	2.3.1 Organise GO games fixture plan for U7, U9 and U11.5	Each club will be given a date between April and October to organise a blitz.	2022	Hurling committee All Clubs
		Introduction of super games once a month to balance games and	2022	Hurling Committee

	2.3.2 indoor Hurling for U11.5 and U13's	<p>participation</p> <p>Return of U9/U11.5 half time exhibition matches at national league and championship matches</p> <p>Each club to organise indoor hurling training</p> <p>Each club to organise an annual indoor blitz for U11.5 and U13 age groups.</p>	<p>2022</p> <p>2022</p> <p>Jan – Mar Each year</p>	<p>Hurling Committee and GDM</p> <p>All Clubs</p> <p>All Clubs</p>
2.4 Development of adult Hurling	<p>2.4.1 Using football clubs as clear feeder zones as to where each player should play adult hurling</p> <p>2.4.2 Working towards having senior championship finals again.</p> <p>2.4.3 Development of social hurling</p>	<p>County Bye Law for disputed area's to be implemented</p> <p>Hurling clubs play in a shield competition with the winner playing Lisbellaw in the senior hurling final</p> <p>Introduction of Fermanagh social hurling centre, organised in super games style</p>	<p>2023 Season</p> <p>2024 Season</p> <p>End of 2023 season</p>	<p>County management committee</p> <p>CCC</p> <p>Hurling Committee</p>

2.5 Appointment of Fermanagh Hurling Games Promotion officer	2.5.1 appoint a hurling only GPO	To support volunteer coaches and improve the uptake in hurling especially at primary and post primary school level.	April 2023	National GAA, Ulster GAA Fermanagh GAA Hurling Committee
2.6 Each club will identify 'Feeder' school(s) and using the support of their clubs, will offer taster session and information evenings.	2.6.1 To enthuse new players for your club but to also start creating schools competitions within Fermanagh.	New schools competitions with the help and support of the local club(s) will increase hurling numbers.	September 2023	Cumann na mBunscol Ulster schools GAA All Clubs Hurling committee
	2.6.2 Work with Cumann na mBunscol to create cross county competitions and encourage schools to enter where possible.	Schools return to entering provincial and national Cumann na mBunscol competitions.	September 2023	RHDO
	2.6.3 Encourage secondary schools to establish teams at all levels to participate in Ulster Schools competitions	Schools should be encouraged and supported when attempting to field in ulster schools competitions	September 2023	RHDO

<p>2.7 Appoint a Schools liaison officer who sits on the hurling committee</p>	<p>2.7.1 To appoint a committee member to offer schools administrative support when entering competitions</p>	<p>Liaison officer to link the schools with Cumann na mBunscol and Ulster schools GAA for the purpose of entering competitions.</p> <p>To assist in the organisation of internal Fermanagh schools competitions</p>	<p>September 2023</p> <p>September 2023</p>	<p>Ulster schools GAA Cumann na mBunscol RHDO Hurling Committee All clubs</p>
<p>2.9 Work with the Ulster hurling committee to organise regional club leagues at all levels</p>	<p>2.9.1 Offer adult hurlers a good standard of games internally or with clubs in close surrounding counties.</p> <p>2.9.2 Encourage clubs to participate in the national Cú Chulainn leagues, the nationally organised competition for Junior, Intermediate and Senior clubs</p>	<p>Offer clubs a chance to play games at the correct level and ability meaning players are enthused about playing every match.</p>	<p>2023 onwards</p>	<p>Ulster GAA Fermanagh GAA Hurling Committee CCC</p>

2.10 Continue to play Tain Óg leagues	2.10.1 Ensure Fermanagh teams are encouraged and supported to play in Tain Óg, the nationally organised regional competition for U13, U15 and U17 hurlers	Fermanagh domestic competitions at U13, U15 and U17 to compliment the running of Tain Óg and where possible to avoid conflict of fixtures.	2022	National GAA Tain Óg committee Hurling committee CCC Youth Committee
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Development & High Performance

3. Development & High Performance

Objectives	Specific Actions	Progress Indicators (outcomes)	Timeline	Responsibility
3.1 County Managers and Players to be invited to more events	3.1.1 all youth trophies should be presented by members of the senior management or players	Young players become more aware of who is representing the county at senior level and therefore naturally offer more support to teams.	2022	Hurling committee
3.2 Establish a county U20/21 team	3.2.1 Appoint an U20/21 management team.	Have a management team in place using the continuity of the minor team management and senior team management where possible	2022	Fermanagh management committee
	3.2.2 Enter the All Ireland hurling 'B' Championship	To offer players competitive games when they are between u17 and senior and also to strengthen the county senior team.	2022	National GAA Ulster GAA Fermanagh GAA
3.3 Celtic Challenge to continue development of players	3.4.1 Celtic Challenge team to continue to compete in their allocated division.	Continued support for the Celtic challenge competition in preparation for playing games.	2022	Senior Management U20 Management Celtic Challenge management Fermanagh GAA RHDO

	3.4.2 Allow players to follow the correct player pathway through development squads and onto U20 and Senior hurling	Guide players from development squads into the U20 team setup and eventually as senior intercounty hurlers		
3.4 Create and maintain an U15 development squads	3.5.1 Have the U15 Squad compete in the Hibernia Cup	Preparing U-15 for Celtic challenge by training and playing as a development squad	2022	National GAA Ulster GAA Fermanagh GAA RHDO
3.5 Have a quarterly U13 skills camp	3.5.1 Host a central U13 skills camp and small sided games	3.5.2 Increased skill levels for players joining the U15 Development squad and improve skill levels throughout the clubs within Fermanagh.	2022	Hurling committee, RHDO



Thank You

