



# Sligo GAA

Development newsletter  
Spring 2017



## EJ's continue to back development squads

As one of the top retail outlets in the country, EJ Menswear continues to strongly support the local sporting community with their sponsorship of the Sligo GAA Development squads continuing once again into 2017.

The popular menswear store has been a staunch supporter of underage squads within the county since 2013, and Mark Cunningham from EJ Menswear says they are delighted to continue their association with Sligo GAA.

"We have always had a strong association with sport in Sligo, particularly with the GAA," Mark said. "We've been supporting the development squads now for a few years, and we see it as a massive part of our business sponsoring local teams – we've a genuine interest in GAA."

"It's great to see the Centre of Excellence in Scarden up and running and that should take things from strength to strength. The developments squads are an important part of it and we're delighted to be involved." You can check out EJ Menswear at [www.ejmenswear.ie](http://www.ejmenswear.ie).

The Sligo Senior team are currently chasing promotion from Division Three, and young players fresh from development squads are playing their part.

Both Kyle Cawley and Patrick O'Connor have made a real impression for Niall Carew's side so far in 2017, and continue to remain key components of the starting 15.

St Farnan's clubman O'Connor has been particularly impressive in his first year at Senior level, lining out in the forward division or in midfield, while Cawley has been a prominent starter since 2015. It is great to see both playing so well.



**The Drumcliffe/Rosses Point team; winners of a recent Pella blitz in Sligo**

The Sligo minor team are currently in the middle of their Connacht Minor League campaign.

Following an opening round win over Longford in February, David Cummins' side will play Roscommon, Leitrim, Galway and Mayo over the coming weeks.

The league is good preparation ahead of a Connacht Championship semi-final with Leitrim in June.



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## National success

Sligo was well represented in the recent Freshers 'A' All-Ireland football final, with DCU coming out on top against NUI Galway.

DCU's starting line-up included both Eddie McGuinness and Mikey Gordon, while Nathan Rooney and Cathal Herron were substitutes. The side was managed by Sligo native Brendan Gillen.

NUI Galway were captained by Nathan Mullen from Coolaney/Mullinabreena, but it was the Dublin college who won out, 1-13 to 1-10.



The IT Sligo/Sligo GAA coaching programme is up and running again for 2017. The popular initiative sees coaches from IT Sligo go out to schools around the county to provide coaching to young boys and girls in both football and hurling over the next number of weeks. It is a terrific project which enables kids further time to work on their skills. Pictured above are the 2017 coaches.

**Sligo will once again participate in the Celtic Challenge in 2017 following a successful debut campaign in 2016.**

**Monaghan native Daithi Hand has been appointed as manager of the team ahead of the competition, which will see Sligo take on Westmeath, Kildare, Donegal, Roscommon and a Galway selection.**

**Daithi said: "We're going in to win. Sligo hurling is definitely on the way up and the work from last year is there to be built on. The talent in Sligo is very good and the structure of this year's competition should help us, so we are looking forward to it."**

**Follow Sligo's progress on [www.sligogaa.ie](http://www.sligogaa.ie)**

