

Fondúireacht  
**Sheosaimh**  
Mhic Dhonncha



*ag cur chun cinn na Gaeilge  
i gclubanna CLG  
promoting the Irish language  
in GAA clubs*



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***Seosamh Mac Donncha***

# Teachtaireacht an Uachtaráin

## Presidential Endorsement

Is í seo an tríú bliain ag Fondúireacht Sheosaimh Mhic Dhonncha ar an bhfód agus tá dul chun cinn mór déanta le linn an ama sin. Scéim iontach atá inti a thugann deis do chlubanna fud fad na tíre an Ghaeilge a úsáid ar bhonn taitneamhach agus ar bhonn praiticiúil.

Bhí sé d'aidhm ag Seosamh Mac Donncha go mbeadh an Ghaeilge fite fuaite in imeachtaí uile an Chumainn agus níl aon amhras faoi ach go mbeadh sé an-sásta leis an bhforbairt atá déanta ag na clubanna éagsúla atá tar éis leas a bhaint as an scéim seo.

Molaim go hard an fhondúireacht seo agus molaim an comhoibriú idir Cumann Lúthchleas Gael agus Glór na nGael. Is iontach an dul chun cinn atá déanta ó cuireadh tús léi agus táimid ag súil le tuilleadh céimeanna chun tosaigh a thabhairt sna blianta amach romhainn.

Ní neart go cur le chéile.

### Seán Ó hÓráin

Uachtarán Chumann Lúthchleas Gael

The Joe McDonagh Foundation was established three years ago, and since then significant progress has been made. This wonderful scheme gives clubs all over the country the opportunity to use Irish in an enjoyable and practical way. Joe McDonagh's aim was to weave the Irish language into all the GAA's activities. No doubt, he would be delighted with the progress made by the various clubs that have benefited from this scheme.

I highly commend the Foundation and the cooperation between the Gaelic Athletic Association and Glór na nGael. Huge strides have been taken since the scheme was set up, and we look forward to continuing developments in the years to come.

In unity there is strength.

### Seán Ó hÓráin

President, Gaelic Athletic Association



# Seosamh Mac Donncha 1953–2016

Anois go bhfuil dhá bhliain bhreátha curtha di ag Fondúireacht Sheosaimh Mhic Dhonncha, nach iontach go bhfuilimid in ann dul chun cinn suntasach, inbhraite a fhógairt maidir leis na hiarrachtaí atá á ndéanamh ag clubanna ar fud na tíre chun a mbaill a spreagadh leis an nGaeilge a úsáid. Tá modh ceannaireachta Sheosaimh le feiceáil san obair atá á déanamh ag clubanna ar son na Gaeilge, an modh sin a thagann as a bheith eiseamlárach i gcónaí in úsáid na Gaeilge, an modh sin a thagann as daoine a mhealladh i dtreo na Gaeilge agus an modh a mhúsclaíonn mórtas an phobail sa Ghaelachas, sa chultúr agus sa teanga.

Is obair mhór do chlubanna a bheith ag díriú ar chúrsaí Gaeilge nuair atá go leor rudaí tábhachtacha eile ar a n-aire, ach is obair í atá faoi láimh anois ag beagnach céad club ar fud na tíre. Sin beagnach céad club atá ag obair ar thograí chun úsáid na Gaeilge a chur chun cinn nach mbeadh á dhéanamh murach Fondúireacht Sheosaimh. Nuair a d'imigh Seosamh uainn gan súil, d'fhág sé saibhreas ina dhiaidh, saibhreas an cheoil agus na hamhránaíochta, saibhreas na hoiliúna agus an oideachais, saibhreas na crógachta agus saibhreas físe don todhchaí. Ach is é saibhreas na Gaeilge an ceann ba ghaire dá chroí, an saibhreas sin as ar fáisceadh é agus é i measc a chuid gaolta agus cairde i bparóiste Charna i gConamara. Nach é a bheadh bródúil as chuile cheann de na clubanna atá ag obair go díograiseach ag leanúint an dea-shampla sin a thug sé agus iad ag cur le neart agus le forbairt na Gaeilge. Níl aon dabht ann ach gur ag dul i neart a bheas an Fhondúireacht agus beidh lorg Sheosaimh le feiceáil i bhfad agus i ngearr ar fheachtais a chuireann an Ghaeilge chun cinn ar fud an Chumainn. Nach breá dá chlann agus dá chairde go bhfuil an oiread sin daoine sa Chumann ag tabhairt an chosáin chéanna orthu féin chun a mhian a fhíorú. Tá an méid sin dlite dó.

## Seosamh Mac Donncha

Cathaoirleach, Coiste Náisiúnta na Gaeilge, CLG, 2018

Having completed two successful years, the Joe McDonagh Foundation is delighted to report significant and tangible progress due to the efforts by clubs all over the country to encourage their members to use the Irish language. Joe's own method of leadership is the cornerstone of the work these clubs are carrying out. It is a method that involves setting a good example at all times in relation to the use of Irish, attracting people towards the language, and awakening a sense of pride in all aspects of the Gaelic culture and language.

Clubs have a long list of obligations to fulfil, and it is no small task to add the promotion of the Irish language to the important work they already do. Nevertheless, almost one hundred clubs, in various parts of the country, have stepped up to the challenge. Were it not for the Joe McDonagh Foundation, these projects would never have got off the ground.

Joe left us unexpectedly, but he gifted us with many treasures - an abundance of music and songs, a wealth of training and education, his bravery, and a bright vision for the future. Of all these gifts, the Irish language was the closest to his heart. It is the language that moulded him in his youth among relatives and friends in the parish of Carna in Connemara. He would be immensely proud of each and every club that is diligently following his good example in strengthening and promoting Irish today.

The Foundation will continue to flourish - of that we can be sure - and Joe's influence will be felt far and wide in campaigns to promote the Irish language throughout the GAA. We hope his family and friends will be uplifted and encouraged to see so many members of the Association following the same path Joe himself walked as they endeavour to realise his wishes. It is a fitting tribute to the great man.

## Seosamh Mac Donncha

Chairman, Coiste Náisiúnta na Gaeilge, GAA, 2018





An Chomhairle  
Seánamh Mac



# *An Buntáiste Breise*



*Teachtairacht Paul Conroy  
i dtaobh na Gaeilge*  
*Paul Conroy's advice regarding  
the language*



Tá an-phaisean ag Paul Conroy don pheil agus is léir go bhfuil an paisean céanna aige don Ghaeilge ó bhí sé ina leaid óg. Is duine de laochra móra peile na hÉireann é agus bíonn an Ghaeilge lárnach i ngach rud a dhéanann sé. Nuair a labhair muid leis le gairid, mhínigh sé dúinn an tábhacht a bhaineann leis an nGaeilge ina shaol.

‘In ainneoin gur rugadh agus gur tógadh i Rinn Mhór i gcathair na Gaillimhe mé, is as Connemara do mo thuismitheoirí. Gaeilge an phríomhtheanga a bhí acusan agus iad ag fás aníos. Dá bharr sin, tá grá láidir agam don Ghaeilge ó bhí mé óg agus tá an grá sin ag éirí níos láidre ó bhliain go bliain. Tugann an Ghaeilge neamhspleáchas dúinn mar thír bheag agus mar oileán beag.’

“ tá grá láidir agam don Ghaeilge ó bhí mé óg agus tá an grá sin ag éirí níos láidre ó bhliain go bliain

Maidir leis an nGaeilge agus an ceangal atá aici le Cumann Lúthchleas Gael, arsa Paul:

‘Tá an Ghaeilge le feiceáil gach áit i gCumann Lúthchleas Gael. Bíonn sí le feiceáil ar na geansaithe, ar na comharthaí timpeall na staide agus, ar ndóigh, bíonn sí le cloisteáil nuair a chastar Amhrán na bhFiann. Is rud ar leith é sin agus tá freagracht orainn ár dteanga a fhorbairt agus a chur chun cinn. Is minic a thagann daoine a fhad liom ag inseacht dom faoin ngrá atá acu don Ghaeilge agus deir siad liom go bhfuil siad ag iarraidh í a fhoghlaim arís.

Taispeánann sé seo dúinn gur mhaith le daoine Gaeilge a fhoghlaim agus a labhairt. Deirim i gcónaí le daoine den chineál sin go bhfuil sé ceart go leor botúin a dhéanamh agus cúpla focal Béarla a úsáid mura bhfuil an focal ceart acu. Tugann sé seo misneach do dhaoine agus ní bhíonn faitíos orthu botúin a dhéanamh.’

“ Tugann an Ghaeilge neamhspleáchas dúinn mar thír bheag agus mar oileán beag

Paul Conroy has a huge passion for football, and he had felt this same passion for the Irish language since he was a boy. Paul is one of Ireland’s biggest footballing stars and Irish is central to everything he does. We spoke to him recently, and he explained to us the importance the language holds for him.

‘Even though I was born and reared in Renmore in Galway city, my parents are from Connemara. Irish was their main language when they were growing up. Because of that, I have had a great love for the language since I was young, and this grows with every passing year. The Irish language gives us independence as a small country and a small island.’

I have had a great love for the language since I was young, and this grows with every passing year”

As for the connection between Irish and the Gaelic Athletic Association, Paul said:

‘Irish is visible everywhere in the GAA. It’s on the jerseys and on the signs all around the stadiums. We hear it when we sing Amhrán na bhFiann, of course. Our language is a unique thing, and we are responsible for developing and promoting it. People often come up to me and tell me about their love for Irish and how they want to learn it again.

This shows us that people would like to learn and speak Irish. I always tell them that it’s OK to make mistakes and use a few English words if they don’t know the correct word. This inspires them, and they are no longer afraid to make mistakes.’

The Irish language gives us independence as a small country and a small island”

Agus é ag tagairt don dream ar as an nGaeltacht iad atá ag imirt le foireann na Gaillimhe, ar sé:

‘Anseo i nGaillimh, tá an t-ádh orainn gur as an nGaeltacht go leor de na himreoirí ar fhoireann an chontae. Fágann sé sin gur féidir linn Gaeilge a labhairt lena chéile ar an bpáirc. Nuair a chloiseann na himreoirí eile muid ag labhairt Gaeilge, bíonn siad féin ag iarraidh í a labhairt freisin. Is rud breá, dearfach é seo don teanga. Níl a fhios agam an dtugann an Ghaeilge buntáiste breise dúinn ar an bpáirc, ach is maith liom a bheith den tuairim go dtugann.’

Maidir le forbairt na Gaeilge ar an idirlíon agus ar na meáin shóisialta, arsa Paul:

‘Tá tionchar mór ag na meáin shóisialta agus ag an idirlíon ar an nGaeilge agus tá sé sin le feiceáil faoi láthair. Tá cúpla amhrán Gaeilge déanta ag Ed Sheeran le déanaí agus ag go leor de na coláistí samhraidh. Is breá le muintir na hÉireann iad seo agus chonaiceamar an fhreagairt dhearfach a fuair siad ar líne.’

Is duine an-spreagúil é Paul agus is cinnte go gcoinneoidh sé air ag mealladh daoine i dtreo na Gaeilge ina phost mar mhúinteoir agus ar an bpáirc imeartha lena chlub CLG Naomh Séamus agus le Gaillimh. Is rud iontach é go bhfuil cinnirí dá leithéid againn atá paiseanta faoin nGaeilge.

Paul had this much to say about those on the Galway team who are from the Gaeltacht:

‘Here in Galway we’re lucky that a lot of the county players are from the Gaeltacht. This means we can speak Irish to each other on the field. When the other players hear us speaking Irish, they want to speak it too. It’s a good and positive thing for the language. I don’t know if the language gives us an extra advantage on the pitch, but I like to think it does.’

As for Irish on the internet and on social media, Paul said:

‘Social media and the internet have a big influence on Irish; this is clear nowadays. Ed Sheeran and a lot of the summer colleges did a few songs in Irish recently. Irish people love them, and we’ve all seen the positive response they got online.’

Paul is an inspiration, and he will most certainly continue to attract people towards Irish in his job as a teacher and on the playing field with both his club, St James’ GAA, and Galway. It is great that we have leaders like him who are passionate about the Irish language.







***“Níl a fhios agam an dtugann an Ghaeilge buntáiste breise dúinn ar an bpáirc, ach is maith liom a bheith den tuairim go dtugann”***

# *Cad í Fondúireacht Sheosaimh Mhic Dhonncha?*

## *What is the Joe McDonagh Foundation?*

Is scéim tacaíochta de chuid Glór na nGael agus de chuid an Chumainn Lúthchleas Gael í Fondúireacht Sheosaimh Mhic Dhonncha le haghaidh clubanna CLG ar mian leo an Ghaeilge a chur chun cinn.

Tá formhór na gclubanna ag cur na Gaeilge chun cinn bealach amháin nó bealach eile. Is é cuspóir na fondúireachta seo ná na hiarrachtaí sin a fhorbairt ar bhonn tomhaiste agus pleanáilte. Cuirfidh Glór na nGael cuidiú ar fáil don Oifigeach Gaeilge i bhfoirm chomhairle, tacaíochta agus idéanna le tógáil ar an obair mhaith atá á déanamh sa chlub cheana féin. Is féidir deontas a lorg ón Fhondúireacht chun cuidiú leis na pleananna sin a chur i gcrích agus bronnfar bonn ar na clubanna as méid áirithe a bhaint amach ar son na teanga.

Trí chláir leis an Fhondúireacht tá do chlub ag tabhairt tiomantais go gcuirfear an Ghaeilge chun cinn go gníomhach agus go dtabharfar spás lárnach di i saol laethúil an chlub.

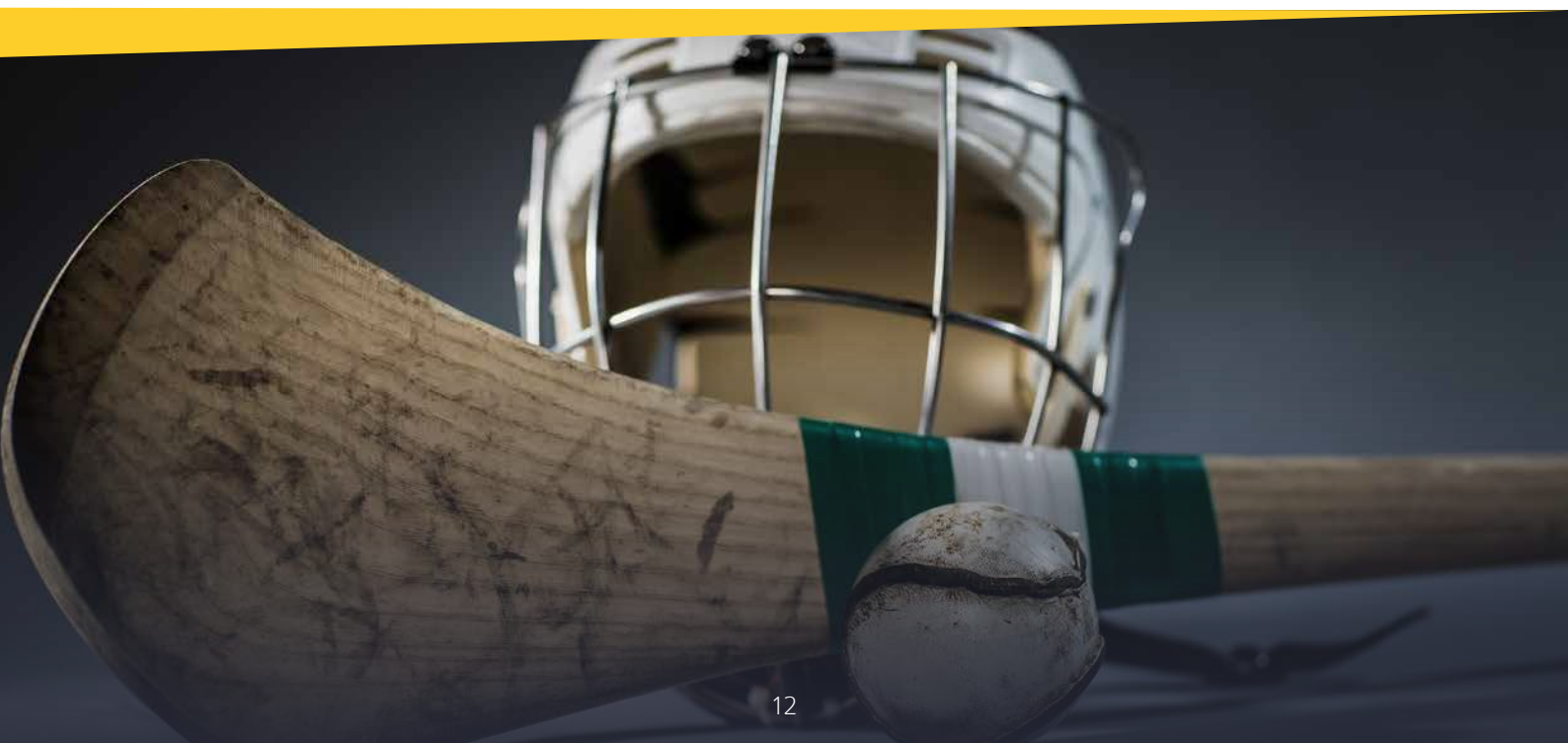
Tapaigh an deis. Cláraigh agus fógair tacaíocht i bhur gclub don Ghaeilge!

The Joe McDonagh Foundation is a support service provided by Glór na nGael and the Gaelic Athletic Association to GAA clubs wishing to further the Irish Language in their community.

Most clubs have been promoting the Irish language in some form or another. The Foundation is here to help develop that promotion in a more measured and planned fashion. Glór na nGael will offer help to the Oifigeach Gaeilge to give them direction, support and ideas to build on the good work that has already been done within the club. Grants are available from the Foundation to help realise your plans and medals will be awarded to clubs for various levels of achievement in promotion of the language.

By registering with the Foundation your club is giving a commitment to actively promote the Irish Language and to make it an important aspect of the daily life of your club.

Seize the opportunity. Register and declare your club's support for the Irish Language!







## ***Bonn Sheosaimh Mhic Dhonncha*** ***The Joe McDonagh Medal***

Bronnfar bonn snasta, Bonn Sheosaimh Mhic Dhonncha ar na clubanna atá cláraithe as méid áirithe gníomhaíochtaí ar son na teanga a chur i gcrích sa chlub.

Is comhartha aitheantais atá sa bhonn ar an dea-obair atá déanta sna gclubanna thar tréimhse ama. De réir mar a chuireann club gníomhaíochtaí ón liosta molta i gcrích, bronnfar bonn cré-umha, bonn airgid nó bonn óir de réir mar is cuí. Bronnfar bonn cré-umha as 25% den liosta a chur i gcrích, bonn airgid as 50% agus bonn óir as 80% de na gníomhaíochtaí a chomhlíonadh. Ar an ábhar seo tá spreagadh agus spriocanna cinnte ag clubanna chun bheith ag éascú ról don teanga i measc a gcuid ball. Agus, dár ndóigh, beidh ardstádas agus ardghradam ag dul d'aon chlub a bhaineann an bonn óir amach dó féin.

The Joe McDonagh medal will be presented to registered clubs for implementing a certain number of actions with regards the promotion of the language within the club.

The medal is a noted sign of achievement and recognition for continued work on behalf of the language. As a club completes the recommended activities listed, bronze, silver and gold medals will be awarded as appropriate. The bronze medal will be awarded on completion of 25% of the list of recommended activities, the silver for 50% and the gold on completion of 80%. The medal serves as both motivation and recognition, providing a clear attainable goal for clubs wishing to facilitate a role for the language within their membership. And of course, any club earning a gold medal will well deserve and enjoy the prestige and esteem that comes their way.



## ***Liosta gníomhaíochtaí molta le haghaidh Bhonn Sheosaimh Mhic Dhonncha***

Is iad na 70 gníomh atá luaite anseo a haontaíodh le bheith mar chritéir chun clubanna a mheas le haghaidh Bhonn Sheosaimh Mhic Dhonncha. Tugann an liosta seo de ghníomhaíochtaí fiúntacha spriocanna réadúla, insroichte a mbeidh tionchar nach beag acu ar stádas, ar úsáid agus ar fhoghlaim na Gaeilge sa chlubphobal. Ábhar spreagtha agus comhartha aitheantais atá i mBonn Sheosaimh Mhic Dhonncha ar an dea-obair atá ar siúl i gclubanna.

Aithnítear nach mbeidh gach aon chlub incurtha le gach aon ghníomh de bharr cúiseanna éagsúla áitiúla, mar sin bronnfar an bonn óir ar chlub as 80% de na gníomhaíochtaí a chomhlíonadh, bonn airgid as 50% agus bonn cré-umha as 25% den liosta a chur i gcrích.

### ***Tosaíonn gach aistear mór leis an chéad chéim...***

- 1** Ainm oifigiúil an chlub a bheith i nGaeilge agus Gaeilge a bheith ar an lógó
- 2** Ainm an chlub agus an litriú ceart a chinntiú leis an Choiste Náisiúnta Gaeilge
- 3** Ainm an chlub ar mhálaí, ar gheansaithe agus ar chultacha a bheith i nGaeilge
- 4** Gaeilge a chur ar stáiseanóireacht an chlub agus teidil na n-oifigeach a bheith i nGaeilge
- 5** Ainm na páirce a bheith i nGaeilge
- 6** Oifigeach Gaeilge a cheapadh ar choiste an chlub
- 7** Mír faoin Ghaeilge ar chlár gach cruinnithe
- 8** Comharthaíocht Ghaeilge sna seomraí feistis, sna leithris agus i seomra an réiteora, srl
- 9** Gaeilge a úsáid ar an scórchlár
- 10** Clár na gcruinnithe coiste a bheith dátheangach
- 11** Comharthaíocht Ghaeilge ag fáiltiú roimh chuairoteoirí agus ag fágáil slán leo
- 12** Fógraí ar na meáin shóisialta a bheith i nGaeilge nó go dátheangach
- 13** Liosta ainmneacha Gaeilge na gclubanna eile sa chontae a chur ar fáil don choiste
- 14** Duine óg (18-35) a cheapadh mar Oifigeach Óige Gaeilge le riar ar chur chun cinn na Gaeilge i measc na n-óg
- 15** Inscríbhinní ar bhoinn, ar thrófaíthe agus ar theastais a bheith i nGaeilge
- 16** Seicleabhar Gaeilge a lorg ón bhanc don chlub
- 17** Gaeilge a bheith ar fhoilseacháin an chlub (m.sh. bliainiris, stair an chlub, nuachtlitir, féilire, ticéid lotto, srl.)



- 18** Suíomh idirlín an chlub a chur ar fáil trí Ghaeilge
- 19** Póstaeir do chluichí agus d'ócáidí sóisialta a bheith i nGaeilge nó dátheangach
- 20** Ticéid le haghaidh feachtais airgid agus imeachtaí sóisialta a bheith i nGaeilge nó dátheangach
- 21** Comhfhreagras ón chlub a bheith dátheangach - agus i nGaeilge amháin sa Ghaeltacht agus i measc clubanna arb í an Ghaeilge a gcéad teanga
- 22** Fógraí chuig baill a bheith i nGaeilge nó dátheangach
- 23** An Ghaeilge a úsáid i nótaí an chlub sna nuachtáin áitiúla
- 24** Bean/Fear an Tí le Gaeilge a bheith ag aon ócáid bronnta duaiseanna/bonn agus ag ócáidí sóisialta eile
- 25** Duaiseanna teanga ag Bronnadh na nÓg
- 26** An Fáinne a bhronnadh ar bhaill an chlub
- 27** Alt ar leith maidir le stádas na teanga agus gnéithe eile den chultúr a bheith i mbunreacht an chlub (tá teimpléad bunreacht ar fáil ó CLG)
- 28** Imeacht Gaeilge a eagrú mar chuid d'fhéile áitiúil
- 29** Grúpa oibre a bhunú ar mhaithe le forbairt na Gaeilge sa chlub
- 30** Ar a laghad alt Gaeilge amháin a bheith sa tuarascáil bhliantúil (CCB)
- 31** Páirt a ghlacadh i gComórtas Peile na Gaeltachta
- 32** Suim sa Ghaeilge ag baill an chlub a mheas
- 33** An t-éileamh ar ranganna i measc na mball a mheas
- 34** Ranganna a chur ar fáil – bunrang
- 35** Ócáidí foghlama neamhfhoirmiúla a réachtáil go rialta – m.sh. ciorcal comhrá
- 36** Dianchúrsa aon lae a eagrú
- 37** Scéim Scoláireachtaí Gaeltachta a réachtáil urraithe ag an chlub - do pháistí
- 38** Scéim Scoláireachtaí Gaeltachta a réachtáil urraithe ag an chlub - do dhaoine fásta
- 39** Páirt a ghlacadh sa bhailiúchán náisiúnta do scoláireachtaí atá ag Conradh na Gaeilge
- 40** Ranganna a chur ar fáil – meánrang/ardrang
- 41** Ciorcal comhrá do lucht na scrúduithe meánscoile a chur ar fáil
- 42** Áislann Ghaeilge a fhorbairt (leabhair, cluichí, foclóirí, srl.)
- 43** Oilíúint/deiseanna a chur ar fáil do thraenáil le go mbeidh siad ábalta traenáil a chur ar fáil trí Ghaeilge
- 44** Gréasán de theaghlaigh Ghaeilge a chruthú
- 45** Grúpa tuistí agus leanaí Gaeilge de chuid an chlub a eagrú
- 46** Naíonra/Naíscóil lán-Gaeilge a bhunú
- 47** Déan suirbhé agus cruthaigh bunachar de bhaill an chlub a bhfuil Gaeilge ar a dtoil acu
- 48** Teideal Gaeilge na n-oifigeach a úsáid ag cruinnithe
- 49** Cuir isteach ar dheontas ó Fhondúireacht Sheosaimh Mhic Dhonncha
- 50** Na hiomaitheoirí i Scór Sinsear agus i Scór na nÓg a spreagadh le Gaeilge a úsáid sna comórtais, m.sh. ceardlann a eagrú leis seo a éascú
- 51** Páirt a ghlacadh i Seachtain na Gaeilge
- 52** Oíche shóisialta Ghaelach a chur ar bun (taobh amuigh de Sheachtain na Gaeilge)
- 53** Cuidiú le hOifigeach Gaeilge an Chontae na himeachtaí atá á n-eagrú aige/aici a fhógairt
- 54** Comhoibriú a dhéanamh le heagrais chultúir/teanga agus le Gaeilgeoirí eile an cheantair
- 55** Comhoibriú leis na heagrais chultúir/teanga lena gcuid imeachtaí a fhógairt
- 56** Imeacht Gaeilge a eagrú i gcomhar le scoil áitiúil
- 57** Céilí Gaeilge a eagrú
- 58** Múinteoirí le Gaeilge a earcú chun ranganna a mhúineadh trí Ghaeilge, m.sh. ranganna ceoil, ealaíne, ióga, srl.
- 59** Ócáid teaghlaigh Ghaeilge a eagrú, m.sh. picnic theaghlaigh
- 60** Turas club chun na Gaeltachta a eagrú
- 61** Seisiún scéalaíochta/ amhránaíochta/ filíochta a eagrú
- 62** Seisiún traenála trí Ghaeilge a chur ar fáil
- 63** An Ghaeilge a thairiscint mar chuid den chlár Scileanna Bunghluaiseachta
- 64** Gréasán Gaeilge a chruthú i measc bhaill na gclubanna áitiúla
- 65** Ócáid shóisialta bhliantúil a bheith ag an ghréasán Gaeilge
- 66** Nasc a bhunú le club Gaeltachta nó lán-Ghaeilge
- 67** Seó a léiriú le baill an chlub – m.sh. dráma, ceolchoirm, nó díospóireacht i nGaeilge
- 68** Campa Gaeilge a eagrú
- 69** Cumann óige dátheangach a bhunú
- 70** Cumann óige Gaeilge a bhunú

 Gníomh a bhaineann le STÁDAS teanga

 Gníomh a bhaineann le teanga a FHOGHLAIM

 Gníomh a bhaineann le hÚSÁID teanga



## ***Joe McDonagh Medal: List of recommended actions***

The 70 actions listed here are agreed as the scoring criteria towards the awarding of the Joe McDonagh medal. This list of practical actions sets out a selection of realistic, attainable targets which will have a positive impact on the status, learning and use of the Irish language in any club. The medal provides both the inspiration and the recognition to make a big difference for your club.

It is recognised that not all clubs will be in a position to carry out all of the actions listed due to varying local circumstances and therefore gold medals will be awarded to clubs on completion of 80% of the list, silver for 50% and bronze medals on completion of 25%.

### ***Every great adventure begins with the first step...***

- 1** Use the Irish language for the official club name and logo
- 2** Confirm correct spelling of club name with the Coiste Náisiúnta Gaeilge
- 3** Club name on kitbags, jerseys and clubwear in Irish
- 4** Use the Irish language on club stationery and have officer titles in Irish
- 5** Use the Irish language for the official name of the pitch
- 6** Appoint an Irish Language Officer to the committee
- 7** Include the Irish language as an item on the agenda at each meeting
- 8** Irish language signage in dressing rooms, toilets, referee's room, etc.
- 9** Use the Irish language on the scoreboard
- 10** Provide a bilingual agenda at committee meetings
- 11** Install signage in Irish welcoming visitors and wishing them safe travels when leaving
- 12** Postings on social media in Irish/bilingual
- 13** Provide the committee with a list of Irish names of clubs within the county
- 14** Appoint a young member (18-35) to the position of Irish Language Youth Officer to assist in language provision for the younger members
- 15** Use Irish inscriptions on medals, trophies and certificates
- 16** Apply to the bank for a club cheque book in Irish
- 17** Irish language to be used in club publications (year-book, club history, newsletter, calendar, lotto tickets, etc.)
- 18** Provide your club website in Irish



- 19** Create Irish language/bilingual posters for games and social events
- 20** Issue Irish language/bilingual tickets for fundraisers and social events
- 21** Send bilingual club correspondence - or use Irish only in the Gaeltacht and between clubs that use Irish as their first language
- 22** Send Irish language or bilingual club notices to members
- 23** Use the Irish language in club notes in local papers
- 24** Appoint an Irish speaker as MC at trophy/ medal presentations and other social events
- 25** Irish language awards as part of youth presentations
- 26** Present the Fáinne to members
- 27** Include an Irish language article within the club constitution addressing the status of the language and associated culture (constitution template is available from GAA)
- 28** Organise an Irish language event as part of a local festival
- 29** Establish a working group to further the development of the Irish language within the club
- 30** Provide at least one Irish language article in the annual report (AGM)
- 31** Take part in Comórtas Peile na Gaeltachta
- 32** Assess the level of interest in the Irish language among all members
- 33** Assess the level of interest in Irish language classes among all members
- 34** Provide beginners' Irish classes
- 35** Organise regular informal learning opportunities, e.g. conversation circle
- 36** Organise a one day crash course in Irish
- 37** Establish a Gaeltacht scholarship scheme for children with sponsorship from the club
- 38** Establish a Gaeltacht scholarship scheme for adults with sponsorship from the club
- 39** Take part in the Conradh na Gaeilge national scholarship collection
- 40** Provide an improvers'/advanced level Irish class
- 41** Provide a conversation circle for secondary pupils preparing for exams
- 42** Develop an Irish language resource collection (books, games, dictionaries, etc.)
- 43** Provide training/opportunities to coaches enabling them to provide coaching through Irish
- 44** Establish an network for Irish speaking families
- 45** Organise a club parent and toddler group through Irish
- 46** Establish an Irish-medium pre-school/playgroup
- 47** Survey and create a database of Irish speaking club members
- 48** Use Irish language officer titles at meetings
- 49** Apply for a grant from the Joe McDonagh Foundation
- 50** Encourage participants in Scór Sinsear and Scór na nÓg to use Irish in competitions, e.g. organise a workshop to facilitate this
- 51** Take part in Seachtain na Gaeilge
- 52** Organise an Irish language social night (apart from during Seachtain na Gaeilge)
- 53** Help to promote the events organised by the County Irish Language Officer
- 54** Seek a working partnership with other cultural/ language organisations in your area
- 55** Help to promote the events of other cultural/language organisations in your area
- 56** Organise an Irish language event in cooperation with a local school
- 57** Organise an Irish language céilí
- 58** Recruit teachers to provide classes through Irish, e.g. music classes, art, yoga, etc.
- 59** Organise a family event through Irish, e.g. family picnic
- 60** Organise a club trip to the Gaeltacht
- 61** Organise an Irish language story telling/ song/ poetry session
- 62** Provide training sessions through Irish
- 63** Offer the Irish language as part of the Fundamental Movement Skills programme
- 64** Establish an Irish language network among members of local clubs
- 65** Organise an annual social night for the Irish language network
- 66** Establish a link with a Gaeltacht or Irish language club
- 67** Organise a performance with club members, e.g. a drama, concert or debate in Irish
- 68** Organise an Irish language camp
- 69** Establish an bilingual youth club
- 70** Establish an Irish language youth club

 Actions relating to language STATUS

 Actions relating to language LEARNING

 Actions relating to language USE



# *Liosta gníomhaíochtaí molta le haghaidh Bhonn Sheosaimh Mhic Dhonncha*

## *Clubanna Gaeltachta*

Is iad na 70 gníomh atá luaite anseo a haontaíodh le bheith mar chritéir chun clubanna Gaeltachta a mheas le haghaidh Bhonn Sheosaimh Mhic Dhonncha. An struchtúr céanna marcála a bheas in úsáid, mar sin bronnfar an bonn óir ar chlub as 80% de na gníomhaíochtaí a chomhlíonadh, bonn airgid as 50% agus bonn cré-umha as 25% den liosta a chur i gcrích.

*Níor chaill fear an mhisnigh riamh é...*

- 1** Ainm oifigiúil an chlub a bheith i nGaeilge agus Gaeilge amháin a bheith ar an lógó
- 2** Ainm an chlub agus an litriú ceart a chinntiú leis an Choiste Náisiúnta Gaeilge
- 3** Ainm an chlub ar mhálaí, ar gheansaithe agus ar chultacha a bheith i nGaeilge amháin
- 4** Gaeilge a chur ar stáiseanóireacht an chlub agus teidil na n-oifigeach a bheith i nGaeilge
- 5** Ainm na páirce a bheith i nGaeilge amháin
- 6** Oifigeach Gaeilge a cheapadh ar choiste an chlub
- 7** Mír faoin Ghaeilge ar chlár gach cruinnithe
- 8** Comharthaíocht Ghaeilge sna seomraí feistis, sna leithris agus i seomra an réiteora, srl
- 9** Gaeilge a úsáid ar an scórchlár
- 10** Clár na gcruinnithe coiste a bheith i nGaeilge amháin
- 11** Comharthaíocht Ghaeilge ag fáiltiú roimh chuairoteoirí agus ag fágáil slán leo
- 12** An Ghaeilge a chur chun tosaigh ar an Bhéarla ar fhógraí ar na meáin shóisialta
- 13** Fógraí ar na meáin shóisialta a bheith i nGaeilge amháin
- 14** Liosta ainmneacha Gaeilge na gclubanna eile sa chontae a chur ar fáil don choiste
- 15** Duine óg (18-35) a bhfuil Gaeilge aige/aici a cheapadh mar Oifigeach Óige
- 16** Inscríbhinní ar bhoinn, ar thrófaithe agus ar theastais a bheith i nGaeilge amháin
- 17** Seicleabhar Gaeilge a lorg ón bhanc don chlub
- 18** Mórfhoilseacháin an chlub (m.sh. bliainiris, stair an chlub, srl.) a bheith go hiomlán dátheangach

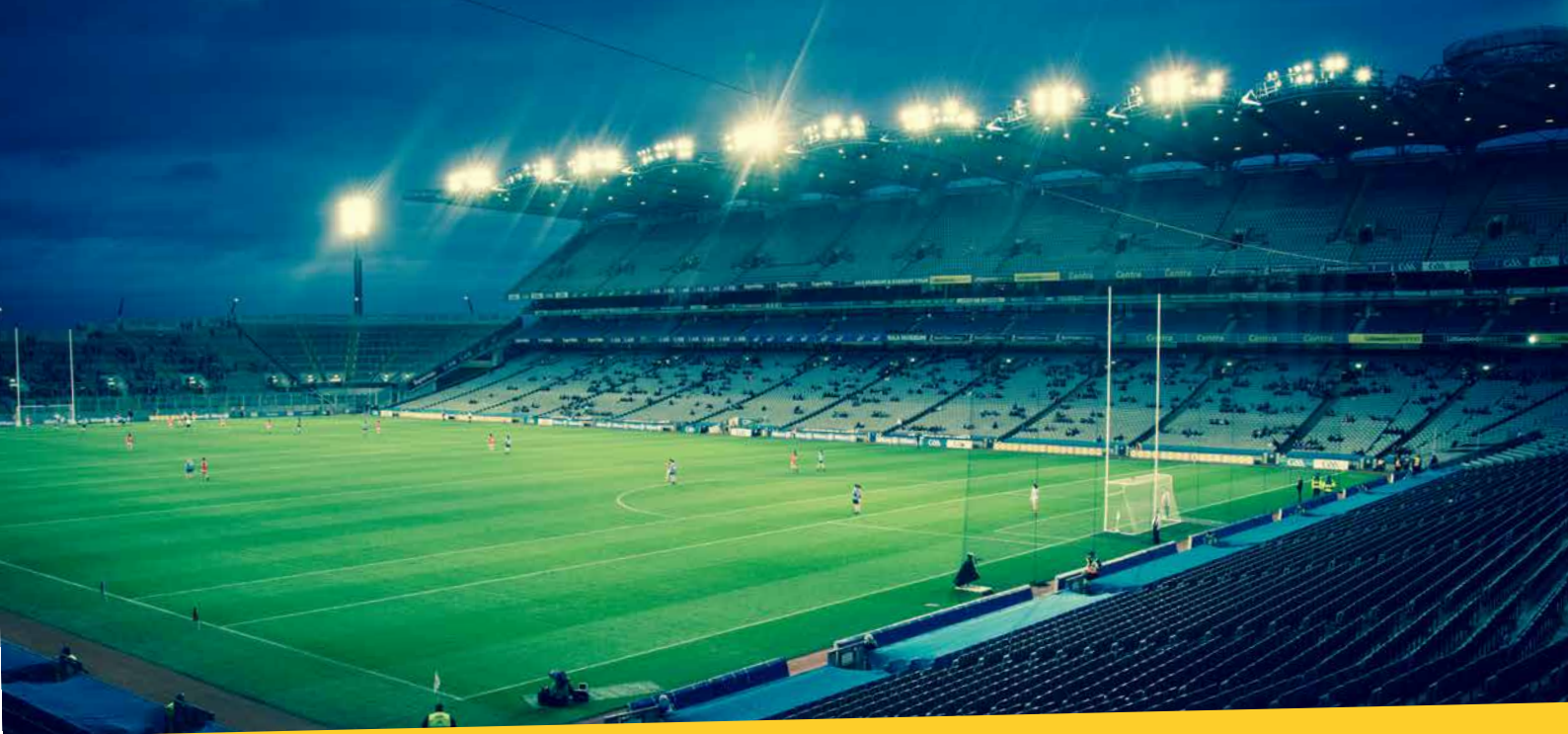


- 19** Mionfhoilseacháin an chlub (m.sh. nuachtlitir, féilire, ticéid lotto, srl.) a chur ar fáil i nGaeilge amháin
- 20** Leagan Gaeilge den suíomh idirlín a chur ar fáil
- 21** Póstaeir agus ticéid le haghaidh cluichí, ócáidí sóisialta, feachtais airgid, srl a bheith i nGaeilge amháin
- 22** An Ghaeilge a chur chun tosaigh ar an Bhéarla ar phóstaeir agus ar thicéid le haghaidh cluichí, ócáidí sóisialta, feachtais airgid, srl
- 23** Comhfhreagrú ón chlub a bheith i nGaeilge amháin sa Ghaeltacht agus i measc clubanna arb í an Ghaeilge a gcéad teanga
- 24** An Ghaeilge a chur chun tosaigh ar an Bhéarla ar fhógraí chuig baill
- 25** Fógraí chuig baill a bheith i nGaeilge amháin
- 26** Úsáid a bhaint as an Ghaeilge i nótaí an chlub sna nuachtáin áitiúla
- 27** Bean/Fear an Tí le Gaeilge ag aon ócáid bronnta duaiseanna/bonn agus ag ócáidí sóisialta eile
- 28** Duaiseanna teanga ag Bronnadh na nÓg
- 29** Óráidí bronnta a dhéanamh i nGaeilge amháin
- 30** Alt ar leith maidir le stádas na teanga agus gnéithe eile den chultúr a bheith i mbunreacht an chlub (tá teimpléad bunreacht ar fáil ó CLG)
- 31** Grúpa oibre a bhunú ar mhaithe le forbairt na Gaeilge sa chlub
- 32** Tuarascáil bhliantúil lán-dátheangach a chur ar fáil (CCB)
- 33** Polasaí teanga a aontú agus a chur i bhfeidhm
- 34** Polasaí a chur i bhfeidhm le go mbeidh fógraíocht sa chlubtheach agus ar an pháirc i nGaeilge amháin
- 35** Ionadaí a chur ar fáil chun bheith páirteach sa mheitheal phleanála teanga áitiúil
- 36** Ionadaí a chur ar fáil chun bheith páirteach i bhforbairt baile seirbhíse Gaeltachta
- 37** Suirbhé a dhéanamh ar chumas agus ar riachtanais teanga na mball
- 38** Plean teanga 3 bliana don chlub a scríobh
- 39** Páirt a ghlacadh i gComórtas Peile na Gaeltachta
- 40** An Fáinne a bhronnadh mar spreagadh d'fhoghlaimeoirí
- 41** An t-éileamh ar ranganna i measc na mball a mheas
- 42** Ranganna Gaeilge a chur ar fáil
- 43** Ranganna Gaeilge agus cultúr na nGael a chur ar fáil d'Éireannaigh Nua
- 44** Ócáidí foghlama neamhfhoirmiúla a réachtáil go rialta – m.sh. ciorcal comhrá
- 45** Dianchúrsa Gaeilge aon lae a eagrú
- 46** Páirt a ghlacadh sa bhailiúchán náisiúnta do scoláireachtaí atá ag Conradh na Gaeilge
- 47** Cúrsaí Gaeilge a chur ar fáil do mhúinteoirí/teagascóirí ceoil, ealaíne, ióga, srl.
- 48** Ciorcal comhrá do lucht na scrúduithe meánscoile a chur ar fáil
- 49** Áislann Ghaeilge a fhorbairt (leabhair, cluichí, foclóirí, srl.)
- 50** Aimsigh cúrsaí do bhaill chun go mbeidh siad in ann ceol, ealaín, ióga, srl. a theagasc trí Ghaeilge
- 51** Oilíúint/deiseanna a chur ar fáil do thraenáilithe le go mbeidh siad ábalta traenáil a chur ar fáil trí Ghaeilge
- 52** Gréasán de theaghlaigh Ghaeilge a chruthú
- 53** Grúpa tuistí agus leanaí Gaeilge de chuid an chlub a eagrú
- 54** Cruinnithe an choiste a réachtáil trí Ghaeilge
- 55** Cuir isteach ar dheontas ó Fhondúireacht Sheosaimh Mhic Dhonncha
- 56** Na hiomaitheoirí i Scór Sinsear agus i Scór na nÓg a spreagadh le Gaeilge a úsáid sna comórtais, m.sh. ceardlann a eagrú leis seo a éascú
- 57** Cuidiú le hOifigeach Gaeilge an Chontae na himeachtaí atá á n-eagrú aige/aici a fhógairt
- 58** Comhoibriú a dhéanamh le heagrais chultúir/teanga agus le Gaeilgeoirí eile an cheantair
- 59** Comhoibriú leis na heagrais chultúir/teanga lena gcuid imeachtaí a fhógairt
- 60** Imeacht Gaeilge a eagrú i gcomhar le scoil áitiúil
- 61** Blitzchomórtas spóirt a eagrú i gcomhar le scoileanna áitiúla
- 62** Ranganna ceoil, ealaíne, ióga, srl. a chur ar fáil trí Ghaeilge
- 63** Ócáid teaghlaigh Ghaeilge a eagrú, m.sh. picnic theaghlaigh
- 64** Turas club a eagrú agus úsáid a bhaint as seirbhís Ghaeilge, m.sh. Páirc an Chrócaigh, W5, srl.
- 65** Seisiún scéalaíochta/ amhránaíochta/ filíochta a eagrú
- 66** An traenáil spóirt uile a chur ar fáil trí Ghaeilge
- 67** Clár Scileanna Bunghluaiseachta a chur ar fáil trí Ghaeilge
- 68** Nasc a bhunú le club lán-Ghaeilge
- 69** Campa Gaeilge a eagrú
- 70** Cumann óige lán-Ghaeilge a bhunú

 Gníomh a bhaineann le STÁDAS teanga

 Gníomh a bhaineann le teanga a FHOGHLAIM

 Gníomh a bhaineann le hÚSÁID teanga



# ***Joe McDonagh Medal: List of recommended actions Clubs in the Gaeltacht***

The 70 actions listed here are agreed as the scoring criteria towards the awarding of the Joe McDonagh medal to clubs in the Gaeltacht. The same marking system will be in place and therefore gold medals will be awarded to clubs on completion of 80% of the list, silver for 50% and bronze medals on completion of 25%.

***Níor chaill fear an mhisnigh riamh é...***

- 1** Use the Irish language only for the official club name and logo
- 2** Confirm correct spelling of club name with the Coiste Náisiúnta Gaeilge
- 3** Club name on kitbags, jerseys and clubwear in Irish only
- 4** Use the Irish language on club stationery and have officer titles in Irish
- 5** Use the Irish language for the official name of the pitch
- 6** Appoint an Irish Language Officer to the committee
- 7** Include the Irish language as an item on the agenda at each meeting
- 8** Irish language signage on dressing rooms, toilets, referee's room, etc.
- 9** Use the Irish language on the scoreboard
- 10** Provide committee meeting agenda in Irish only
- 11** Install signage in Irish welcoming visitors and wishing them safe travels when leaving
- 12** Give prominence to Irish over English on all club social media postings
- 13** Postings on social media in Irish only
- 14** Provide the committee with a list of Irish names of clubs within the county
- 15** Appoint a young Irish speaker (18-35) to the position of Youth Officer
- 16** Use Irish-only inscriptions on medals, trophies and certificates
- 17** Apply to the bank for a club cheque book in Irish
- 18** Major publications (yearbook, club history, etc.) to be entirely bilingual



- 19** Minor club publications (e.g. newsletter, calendar, lotto tickets, etc.) to be provided in Irish only
- 20** Provide an Irish language version of the club website
- 21** Issue posters and tickets in Irish only for games, social events, fundraisers
- 22** Give prominence to Irish over English on all posters and tickets issued for games, social events, fundraisers, etc
- 23** Send club correspondence in Irish only within the Gaeltacht and to clubs which use Irish as their first language
- 24** Give prominence to Irish over English on all club notices sent to members
- 25** Send club notices to members in Irish only
- 26** Use the Irish language in club notes in local papers
- 27** Appoint an Irish speaker as MC at trophy/medal presentations and other social events
- 28** Irish language awards as part of youth presentations
- 29** Deliver presentation speeches in Irish only
- 30** Include an Irish language article within the club constitution addressing the status of the language and associated culture (constitution template is available from GAA)
- 31** Establish a working group to further the development of the Irish language within the club
- 32** Provide a fully bilingual annual report (AGM)
- 33** Draft and implement a language policy
- 34** Implement an Irish only advertising policy within the clubhouse and around the grounds
- 35** Put forward a representative to participate in the work of the local language planning group
- 36** Put forward a representative to participate in the planning for the local Gaeltacht service town
- 37** Conduct a survey to establish the language ability and needs of members
- 38** Prepare a 3 year language plan for the club
- 39** Take part in Comórtas Peile na Gaeltachta
- 40** Present the Fáinne as encouragement for learners
- 41** Assess the level of interest in Irish language classes among all members
- 42** Provide Irish classes
- 43** Organise classes on Gaelic language and culture for New Irish
- 44** Organise regular informal learning opportunities, eg. conversation circle
- 45** Organise a one day Irish language crash course
- 46** Take part in the Conradh na Gaeilge national scholarship collection
- 47** Provide Irish language courses for teachers of music, arts, yoga, etc.
- 48** Provide a conversation circle for secondary pupils preparing for exams
- 49** Develop an Irish language resource collection (books, games, dictionaries, etc.)
- 50** Source courses for Irish speaking members to train in providing music, arts, yoga, etc. through Irish
- 51** Provide training/opportunities to coaches enabling them to provide coaching through Irish
- 52** Establish an network for Irish speaking families
- 53** Organise a club parent and toddler group through Irish
- 54** Conduct committee meetings through Irish
- 55** Apply for a grant from the Joe McDonagh Foundation
- 56** Inspire the participants of Scór Sinsear and Scór na nÓg to use Irish in competitions, e.g. organise a workshop to facilitate this
- 57** Help to promote the events organised by the County Irish Language Officer
- 58** Seek a working partnership with other cultural/ language organisations in your area
- 59** Help to promote the events of other cultural/language organisations in your area
- 60** Organise an Irish language event in cooperation with a local school
- 61** Organise a blitz in cooperation with local schools
- 62** Provide music classes, art, yoga, etc. through Irish
- 63** Organise a family event through Irish, e.g. family picnic
- 64** Organise a club trip to an attraction that provides an Irish language service, e.g. Croke Park, W5, etc.
- 65** Organise an Irish language story telling/ song/ poetry session
- 66** Provide all sports coaching through Irish
- 67** Offer the Fundamental Movement Skills programme through Irish
- 68** Establish a link with an Irish language club
- 69** Organise an Irish language camp
- 70** Establish an Irish language youth club

 Actions relating to language STATUS

 Actions relating to language LEARNING

 Actions relating to language USE

# Fondúireacht Sheosaimh Mhic Dhonncha

## Deontais

Is féidir le clubanna cláraithe deontas a lorg ó Fhondúireacht Sheosaimh Mhic Dhonncha chun cuidiú lena ngníomhaíochtaí ar son na teanga a chur i gcrích.

Incháilithe faoin scéim deontais seo tá tionscadail agus imeachtaí a chuireann úsáid agus foghlaim na Gaeilge chun tosaigh i measc an chlubphobail. Tá cuid mhaith de na gníomhaíochtaí molta le haghaidh Bhonn Sheosaimh Mhic Dhonncha incháilithe. D'fhéadfaí ranganna Gaeilge a eagrú, sraith ranganna nó ócáidí sóisialta a eagrú, aistriúchán a dhéanamh ar shuíomh gréasáin, oiliúint do thraenáilaithe a chur ar fáil, ceardlanna trí Ghaeilge a eagrú nó grúpa tuistí agus leanaí Gaeilge a eagrú, comharthaíocht Ghaeilge a chur in airde, fhad is go bhfuil sé soiléir go gcuirfidh sé le foghlaim agus le húsáid na Gaeilge.

Cuirfidh an Fhondúireacht maoiniú meaitseála ón chiste ar fáil d'imeachtaí incháilithe ar bhonn €2 do gach €1 a chuireann an club féin ar fáil. Tá uasmhéid de €500 ar dheontas a thabharfar d'aon club in aon bhabhta amháin, sin €750 san iomlán le caitheamh ar thionscadal, síntiús an chlub san áireamh. Tá sé mar aidhm ag an Fhondúireacht go mbeidh dhá bhabhta in aghaidh na bliana agus fógrófar dátaí druidim d'iarratais ar shuíomh idirlín Ghlór na nGael [www.glornangael.ie](http://www.glornangael.ie). Cuirtear iarratas chuig an Fhondúireacht trí fhoirm ar líne ar fáil ag [www.glornangael.ie](http://www.glornangael.ie)

Ós rud é go bhfuil foinsí maoinithe eile ann dóibh, ní híocfar deontais a bhfuil na costais seo a leanas mar chuid díobh; costais fógraíochta, costais scoláireachtaí Gaeltachta nó campáí samhraidh. Ní híocfar as costais taistil agus chothbhála. Ní híocfar deontas do thionscadail atá á maoiniú i bpáirt nó go hiomlán mar chuid de chlár maoinithe ó rannóg rialtais. Ní mór do na gníomhachtaí agus, dá réir, na hiarratais, a bheith réamhcheadaithe ag Coiste an Chlub agus is gá sin a dhearbhu ar an fhoirm iarratais.

Trí iarratas a chur chuig an Fhondúireacht, dearbhaíonn do chlub go gcaithfear aon deontas airgid faoi mar atá léirithe san iarratas. Aontaíonn do chlub glacadh le cinneadh riarthóirí na Fondúireachta maidir le bhur n-iarratas. I gcásanna áirithe, d'fhéadfaí cruthúnas a lorg ar chaiteachas an deontais.





# The Joe McDonagh Foundation

## Grants

Registered clubs can apply to the Joe McDonagh Foundation for a grant to assist in implementing the recommended activities.

Projects and events which encourage the use and learning of the Irish Language among the club community will be eligible for support, including many of the activities towards the Joe McDonagh medal. A class or series of classes, a social event, the translation of a club website, training for coaching through Irish, workshops through Irish, organising a parent and toddler group, production of Irish language signage are all projects that are eligible for support as long as it is clear that they will contribute to the learning and use of Irish.

The fund will provide €2 match funding for every €1 put towards eligible projects by the club. The maximum award made in any funding round will be €500, allowing for a total project spend of €750 including the club's contribution. The Foundation aims to hold two funding rounds each year and closing dates for applications will be announced on the Glór na nGael website [www.glornangael.ie](http://www.glornangael.ie). Applications are made to the Foundation via an online application form at [www.glornangael.ie](http://www.glornangael.ie).

Recognising existing funding provision, grants will not be made for following costs: advertising, Gaeltacht scholarships or summer camps. Travel and subsistence costs will not be provided. Support will not be provided for projects receiving full or part funding from Government funding programmes. Projects and applications must have the support of the Club Committee and it will be necessary to acknowledge such on the application form.

By making an application the Foundation, your club agrees to spend any award as detailed in the application. You club agrees to abide by the decision of the Foundation administrators. Proof of expenditure may be requested in certain cases.





# *Clárú leis an Fhondúireacht*

## *Registering with the Foundation*

Tapaigh an deis! Cláraigh linn agus fógair tacaíocht do chlub don Ghaeilge.

Chomh maith le deontais, boinn agus an iris shnasta seo a chur ar fáil, déanfaidh muid cinnte de go mbeidh comhairle ghairmiúil agus chuidiúil ar fáil do do chlub ag gach céim a thógfaidh sibh ar bhur dturas teanga féin. Lonnaithe i bhur gceantar féin beidh comhairleoir ainmnithe agaibh le smaointí maithe agus leis an taithí cheart chun sibh a threorú.

Déan teagmháil le Glór na nGael ag [clg@glornangael.ie](mailto:clg@glornangael.ie) nó ag oifigí s'againn chun labhairt le ball foirne i do cheantar féin faoi chlárú. Tá táille €30 chun clárú leis an Fhondúireacht ar feadh tréimhse bliana féilire.

Glór na nGael  
Ráth Chairn  
Baile Átha Buí  
Contae na Mí  
Fón: 046 943 0974

Seize the opportunity! Sign up and declare your club's support for the Irish Language.

As well as awarding grants, presenting medals and publishing this snazzy magazine, we will ensure that your club is provided professional and helpful advice every step of the way on your language journey. A named advisor based in your own area with relevant experience and sound ideas will be at hand to discuss your progress.

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# **Próifíl Imreora** **Player Profile**

**Ainm/Name:** *Ciara Nic Giolla Bhríde*

**Club:** *Na Gaeil Óga (Foireann Lán-Ghaeilge)*

**Gairm/Profession:** *Múinteoir Gaelscoile/ Gaelscoil Teacher*



***“Is í an Ghaeilge an ceangal nádúrtha sin idir  
ár gcultúr agus ár gcluichí.”***

***“The Irish language is the natural connection  
between our culture and our games.”***



Toosaigh Ciara Nic Giolla Bhríde ag imirt peile le múinteoirí agus le foireann Scoil Uí Chonaill i dtuaisceart chathair Bhaile Átha Cliath nuair a bhí sí 24 bliain d'aois. Cara léi a spreag í chun tabhairt faoin pheil agus 'theacht ina cuideachta chun bheith ag traenáil le muintir na scoile; Gaeilgeoir eile a chuir Ciara ar aistear nua spóirt ina mbeadh an Ghaeilge féin lárnach ann.

Cuireann Ciara síos ar na laethanta luath peile di. "Bhí Gaeilge ag mo chara agus ag an mBainisteoir chomh maith, labhair muid Gaeilge lena chéile, ansin tosaigh na cailíní eile ag labhairt Gaeilge. Ansin thóg mé beirt chara liom ó mo scoil féin, Scoil Lorcáin, agus faoin am sin bhí leathfhoireann le Gaeilge againn. Thug muid faoi chluiche in aghaidh Na Gaeil Óga, foireann a spreag go mór mé, bhí clú agus cáil orthu as an bpeil agus as an nGaeilge. Mar sin, cúpla bliain níos moille, nuair a d'fhág cara nó beirt liom an fhoireann, d'aistrigh mé féin chuig Na Gaeil Óga."

Is leis an chlub áitiúil, Club Naomh Uinseann, Droim Conrach a bhíonn deartháireacha agus deirfiúracha Chiara ag cleachtadh a gcuid spóirt ach tá cinneadh déanta ag Ciara a bheith ina ball de chumann nua lán-Ghaeilge i mBaile Átha Claith. Seo club nach bhfuil oidhreacht ar bith ag muintir Chiara leis, is club é, i ndáiríre, nach bhfuil mórán d'oidhreacht aige go fóill. Níl fiú páirc imeartha nó clubtheach ag Na Gaeil Óga go fóill. Bunaíodh an club sa bhliain 2010 ag grúpa daoine a bhí ag iarraidh go mbeadh club lán-Ghaeilge i mBaile Átha Claith. Bhíodh na seisiúin traenála i bPáirc an Fhionnuisce sna laethanta luath sin agus tháinig cainteoirí Gaeilge as gach cuid den ardchathair agus fiú Gaeilgeoirí as baile isteach le chéile chun bheith páirteach. Bhí sé soiléir do Chiara gurb iad Na Gaeil Óga an fhoireann cheart di.

Ciara Nic Giolla Bhríde began playing football at the age of 24 with teachers and staff of Scoil Uí Chonaill in North Dublin. It was a friend who got her involved, inviting her to come and train with the school; an Irish speaker who inspired Ciara on a journey which brought the games and the language together.

Ciara describes her early involvement in football, "My friend spoke Irish, as did the team manager. The three of us spoke Irish together and then some of the other girls started using Irish also. I invited a few girls from my own school, Scoil Lorcáin to come along and at that stage half the team spoke Irish. We played a game against Na Gaeil Óga, a new team that really impressed me and were already renowned as good footballers and Gaeilgeoirs. Therefore, a couple of years later when a few of my friends left the team I transferred to play for Na Gaeil Óga myself."

Although Ciara's brothers and sisters play for the local team St. Vincent's in Drumcondra, Ciara has taken the decision to play for the newly formed Irish speaking squad, Na Gaeil Óga. This is a club with which Ciara's family has no history, in fact it is a club with a very short history. The club was founded in 2010 by a group with a desired to train, play and socialise entirely through Irish. They trained in the Phoenix Park in their early days and drew membership from across Dublin and from many Irish speakers resident in Dublin from other parts of the country. Ciara had found a club that suited her own sporting and cultural need.







“Níl aon am níos fearr ná an t-am i láthair chun tabhairt faoin nGaeilge. Tá go leor daoine amuigh ansin a thabharfadh cuidiú, mar sin lean ort!”

“Chuir mise i gcónaí an spórt agus an Ghaeilge le chéile. Cothaíonn sé an-bhród ionam a bheith ag labhairt Gaeilge le daoine eile agus mé ag imirt ar an bpáirc. Is í an Ghaeilge an ceangal nádúrtha sin idir ár gcultúr agus ár gcluichí.”

Is cuid de phictiúr níos iomláine í an Ghaeilge i saol Chiara. Tá an-dúil ag Ciara agus ag a teaghlach sa cheol agus is cuid den dúchas céanna dóibh uilig an spórt, an ceol agus an Ghaeilge. Tá bród ar athair Chiara as a rogha chun dul ag imirt leis Na Gaeil Óga in ionad a club áitiúil agus tá sí sásta go bhfuil an dearcadh céanna ag a deartháireacha agus ag a deirfiúracha agus nach mbíonn aon choimhlint idirfhoirne le mothú.

“Tá mé níos socra ionam féin i measc Na Gaeil Óga, tuigimid a chéile agus baineann sin an brú, uair a bhíonn tú compordach imríonn tú níos fearr. Tá mé cinnte gurb í an Ghaeilge a thug an dáimh sin dúinn.”

Molann Ciara do chlubanna fud fad na hÉireann agus níos faide i gcéin tabhairt faoi úsáid agus faoi fhoghlaim na Gaeilge chun dáimh foirne a thógáil agus chun féiniúlacht Ghaelach a chothú. “Níl aon am níos fearr ná an t-am i láthair chun tabhairt faoin nGaeilge. Tá go leor daoine amuigh ansin a thabharfadh cuidiú, mar sin lean ort!”

“There is no better time to learn the language than right now. There is plenty of help available so get on with it!”

“I have always considered Gaelic sports and the Irish language as one. It gives me a great sense of pride to be able to speak in Irish as I play on the field. The Irish language is the natural connection between our culture and our games.”

The Irish language brings many aspects of our culture together for Ciara. She is from a musical family and for her, the language, sport and music are expressions of one Gaelic identity. Ciara’s father is extremely supportive of her choice to play for Na Gaeil Óga instead of her local team and she is happy that her choice has not fostered any rivalry with her siblings.

“I am much more comfortable among Na Gaeil Óga, we understand each other and that can help alleviate the pressure when playing games. You can play better when you gel with your team on that level. I know it is the Irish language which has fostered this kinship.”

Ciara recommends that clubs throughout Ireland seriously consider promoting learning and use of the Irish language to strengthen spirit and foster a sense of identity. “There is no better time to learn the language than right now. There is plenty of help available so get on with it!”

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