

Review Club

VOLUME 27 - Issue 6, 2014

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Minutes of the Executive meeting

Held in Andersonstown Social Club on Wednesday 3rd September 2014

An apology for non-attendance was presented by Davy Larmour on behalf of Jim McCaul due to him being on holiday.

The Secretary, Bob McGlone, read the minutes of the May 2014 meeting which were passed as a true record, proposed by Jim Hannah and seconded by Tommy McMinn.

The Chairman, John Davidson, proceeded to cover a number of issues submitted by member clubs, a number of which were related to the Performing Rights Society (PRS). The said matters were satisfactorily resolved.

Membership status was another important issue, with the focus on who can and who cannot hold membership of a club being discussed. This included the rights of a club to be all male, female or mixed gender.

The application for a late extension was covered in some detail. A function report is required where an event is held which returns a financial profit. Where a loss is incurred no report is required.

Correspondence was received from Lyle Dunn who specialises in electrical checks etc. This referred to the role of a trustee and their responsibilities and arose where, in respect of a fire risk assessment, the said trustee was concerned that he may be held responsible.

Jim Hannah interceded to explain that suppliers wish to involve trustees in negotiating terms etc., at which point the Chairman read specific details on the role of trustees which had been provided by Federation solicitor, Shean Dickson Merrick.

An important issue raised by a club was related to the forming of sub-committees. The query was addressed by the Chairman both by telephone and email. A detailed document on the role of sub-committees was read out explaining that this had been verified by the solicitor acting for CORCA.

An interesting point was raised by Gerry Gallagher which also relates to sub-committees. It was suggested that an editorial on this subject be featured in the next issue of club review (see *Club Review Issue 4 2014*).

Changes to club legislation was relayed to the committee confirming that it had passed the committee stage. Details of the proposed changes were covered in some detail, explaining that they are expected to pass through the Assembly early in 2015.

Of obvious interest was the removal of the restriction of advertising, the extended hours and particularly the increase in hours for young people in sports registered clubs during the



Federation Executive members pictured with Sean McCrudden, Manager, following their September meeting at Andersonstown Social Club.

months of May to September. The consultation on entertainments licensing was discussed with the executive committee being informed of our submission on behalf of private member clubs.

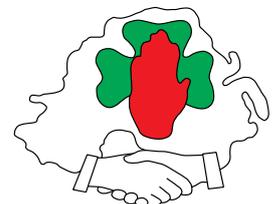
Details of the new association with B&Q was relayed to members by the PRO who explained how the association stands to benefit Federation member clubs. In brief, two trade cards will be provided to each Federation member club which will provide trade prices against normal retail. Moreover, when purchasing a single item, it will be charged at the multi-purchase price.

A financial report for June and July was provided by the Treasurer, Davy Larmour, with

a resume of the August bank statements also being provided. The report was proposed by Raymond Connor and seconded by Gerry Gallagher as a true record.

This concluded the meeting. The Chairman thanked the management of Andersonstown Social Club for hosting the meeting and for the generous hospitality provided.

Bob McGlone
Secretary,
N.I. Federation of Clubs



TradePoint team up with NIFC to offer trade discount to member clubs

TradePoint, the trade division of B&Q, has teamed up with the N.I. Federation of Clubs to offer member clubs highly advantageous discounts on all goods required for the ongoing maintenance of your club.

Included in your Club Review pack this month is a letter from the executive committee outlining the benefits of this service to you along with two TradePoint discount cards.

The following is a TradePoint benefits overview:-

TradePoint is the trade arm of B&Q, who are part of the Kingfisher Group. Kingfisher has an annual turnover of £11 billion, with 988 stores in

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tools, hand tools, building and hardware. This makes TradePoint a great choice for the specialist and generalist alike.

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Important notice!

Clubs should be aware that inspectors are currently carrying out investigations into illegal satellite broadcasts with a number of clubs and pubs in the province already having been detected. Signing up to a package is the only option if prosecution is to be avoided.

This is not a BSkyB initiative but is rather being actioned by the Premier League - as outlined in recent issues of Club Review.

A number of foreign satellite providers claim that the service they provide is legal, but do not be fooled, they are not.

There are two options open to private member clubs:-

A) The club General package which costs £498 + VAT.

B) The Pub & Club Package which is in line with a club's rateable value - not the rates you actually pay. This is the only option if a club requires more than one viewing box - but can result in a lower cost if your club falls into the correct rating band.

The Federation have been in negotiations with BSkyB to reach the best possible rates and although for a number of clubs they still present financial issues, they assure us that service will not be terminated; moreover, Wi-Fi forms part of the service.

Clubs wishing to obtain further information should contact the Federation PRO, Harry Beckinsale, who can assist with the best solution for your club.

National Minimum Wage

On the 1st October 2014, the National Minimum Wage increases for all workers. Please take note of the new hourly rates below and apply where required.

21+ - £6.50
18-20 - £5.13
16-17 - £3.79
Apprentices - £2.73

Statutory Sick Pay is payable up to £87.55pw and is valid for 28 weeks. It is advisable in the case of sickness absence to review the employment contract in question to ascertain if the club has committed to pay a limited amount of sickness time off at full pay.

Maternity, Adoption and Paternity Pay is paid at the lower figure of either £138.18 or 90%

of the employee's average weekly pay apart from the first six weeks of maternity or adoption leave which is paid at 90% of the employee's average weekly pay regardless. Maternity Pay and Adoption Pay are paid for up to 39 weeks whilst Paternity Pay is payable for up to 2 weeks.

Employer's National Insurance Contributions

Clubs are required to pay 13.8% contributions for employees who earn above £153 per week. Nothing is due for employees who earn below this threshold.

Currently clubs are automatically eligible for a £2,000 National Insurance allowance and this should be utilised automatically through the club's payroll system.

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Mediation can save you a fortune

We often receive calls from clubs who have long-term unresolved staff issues. In the majority of cases the use of workplace mediation would have dealt with these issues more quickly and effectively, saving the club a large amount of money.

Instead, the problems are allowed to fester, leading sometimes to costly consequences when they have to be heard through the formal employment tribunal system.

Workplace Mediation is a confidential and informal way to resolve disagreements or disputes between people who work together. The action is assisted by a trained mediator who acts as a facilitator. The

system works by encouraging the club management and staff to speak to each other and reach a mutually agreeable accord that will sort out their problems.

The friction could be between two or more people. It gives them or the club management and staff a chance to talk about the situation, express their concerns to each other and come up with some practical ideas about how things could change for the better. It can cost around £500 but the saving in terms of management time can be much more than that.

Mediation is:
Voluntary: Mediation will not function unless all parties agree to it. It is therefore crucial that the parties are not put under pressure

to attend mediation or feel that it will have an adverse effect on them if they decide not to agree to mediation.

A means for reaching agreement: The parties will be asked to identify their issues and concerns. As a consequence, an agenda will be made to help all concerned jointly work towards an acceptable agreement. The mediator will encourage open communication and will assist the parties to come up with ideas that will improve the situation. The aim of mediation is to achieve a win/win conclusion, with the parties being accountable for making changes and agreeing a

more positive way of working in the future.

Confidential: Mediation is operated on the basis of all parties acceding to confidentiality between the parties and the mediator. One of the exceptions to this would be if a party raised issues of serious misconduct. The content of mediation is not fed back to club management, staff or members,



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nor is it recorded in the employee's personal file.

Quick: The objective of mediation is to conclude matters at the earliest possible opportunity. Mediation can be arranged in a few days and can usually be completed in one or two days. Three quarters of cases are settled on the day, or shortly thereafter.

Mediation can be a very effective method of resolving all types of disputes in your club such as:

- Communication issues
- Personality clashes
- Unresolved or ongoing grievance/disciplinary issues
- Perceived discrimination, harassment or bullying
- Differences of working style
- Inappropriate use of power, status or position
- Ill health and long-term sick staff
- Problems with drugs or alcohol
- Capability issues

Stop smoking in Stoptober!

Stoptober is back and the Public Health Agency (PHA) is supporting the campaign by urging all smokers to take part in the 28 day stop smoking challenge during October, as smokers who give up their habit for four weeks are five times more likely to stop for good.

Gerry Bleakney, Strategic Lead for Tobacco Control with the PHA, said, "Stopping smoking is the single most important thing you can do for your health, so Stoptober is the perfect opportunity to give up your habit and enjoy both the health and financial benefits that stopping will bring. It is important to know that you are

not alone in your quest to quit. Giving up smoking is often tough and different approaches will work for different people. While some people might be able to do it with very little support, others find that planning ahead and making use of the Stop Smoking Support Services that are available can really help make their decision permanent."

For information and useful tips to stop smoking visit the PHA's 'Want 2 Stop' website at www.want2stop.info and order a 'Quit Kit' free of charge.

Alternatively contact the Smokers' Helpline on 0808 812 8008.

Is your club covered?

One of our main concerns is that many social clubs do not have the necessary type of cover in place to ensure that in the event of any unforeseen circumstances their business is adequately protected.

Did you know:

1. Employers Liability Insurance, which covers you if an employee is injured or hurt during their day-to-day role, is a legal requirement and forms part of UK legislation
2. Committees always assume the responsibility for the safety of their members and guests which leads to a requirement for Public Liability Insurance
3. Secretaries and Committee members could ultimately be held personally accountable for a lack of adequate insurance cover

leading to personal financial and even criminal action.

The risks of having no cover

Not having any cover means you are breaking the law and could be subject to a fine. A lack of Public Liability Insurance could open your club up to expensive claims in the event of negligence within your premises. Additionally, any expenses incurred, that would have been covered by an insurance policy, will subsequently have to be settled from your own funds.

The risks of underinsurance

Underinsuring for a value less than the item or risk that you are wishing to cover means your insurer will only settle at the sum specified or could decide that the claim is repudiated and not make a settlement.

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Questions & Answers

Q. The committee cannot agree on how long the nomination sheet for officers and committee members should be posted for. Some committee members consider it can only be put up for ten days before being removed whilst others think we should leave it up until the Annual General Meeting in

order to encourage nominations and let members know the current nominations.

What is your advice on this situation?

A. The club's rule regarding this point reads as follows: At least three weeks prior to the day appointed for the commencement of the ballot a notice shall be posted on the club notice board by the secretary, inviting the nomination of candidates for the office of committee member or officer of the club. The notice shall remain so posted for ten days.

Therefore, according to the club's rules, the notice requesting nominations shall be posted for ten days and then removed. The names of all candidates for office

in the club, together with the names of their proposers and seconders, shall then be entered on a nomination sheet which shall be posted on the club's notice board seven clear days before the day appointed for the commencement of the ballot and shall remain so posted until the result of the ballot has been declared.

Therefore, there should ultimately be two notices placed on the club's notice board. The first notice invites nominations and stays posted for ten days and the second notice then lists the persons who have been nominated and this notice remains posted until the ballot has been declared. These notices first provide an opportunity to nominate members for election and then allow all members

to be aware of who has been nominated for election so they can consider how to cast their votes.

Q. We have a Member whose conduct outside of the Club has reflected badly on the Club's reputation and standing. Can we take disciplinary action against a Member if the conduct in question has not occurred within the Club?

A. Any action, whether inside or outside of the Club, which brings the Club into disrepute can be grounds for disciplinary action. This includes content posted using social media. The Club should use its usual disciplinary procedure to deal with this situation, making it clear to the Member why he has been summoned to



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the disciplinary meeting and providing details of his alleged conduct.

Q. We are currently in dispute with one of our employees regarding holiday pay. Whilst we both agree that the annual entitlement is 5.6 weeks, we have a policy of paying double time when an employee works on a bank holiday. We consider that this counts as one of their holiday days and the employee disagrees. Who is correct?

A. Your employee is correct on this point. Employees are entitled to 5.6 weeks holiday per year. For an employee working five days a week this becomes 28 days. For jobs which are standard Monday-Friday hours where the employees do not work bank holidays then this amount can become 20 days of the employee's choosing and the 8 annual bank holidays where they do not work but would normally be expected to work.

If we assume that an employee works on all 8 bank holidays then they would still have the 28 days of statutory holiday available to them to take. It is simply making sure that an employee is able to take 28 days of holiday per year. If they take off all 8 bank holidays then they only have 20 days to take. If they work all bank holidays without a replacement paid day off then they would still have 28 days of holiday to take. Paying an employee double time on a bank holiday does not mean that it can be counted as one of their holiday days.

In light of this information, you may wish to review the Club's pay policy for working bank holidays. You are not legally required to increase an employee's pay because they work on a bank holiday although you should also be mindful of whether they have a contractual right to increased pay on these days.

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'Make hay while the sun shines'

'Look on the Harp Side' campaign reaches new heights with creation of Northern Ireland's first barley art installation

Northern Ireland's skyline took on a different shape recently as iconic landmark, Scrabo Tower, was joined by another structure that soared high on the Ards Peninsula - a nine meter high pair of wings made from barley.

The barley art was commissioned by local lager brand Harp as part of its 'Look on the Harp Side' campaign which champions Northern Ireland's optimistic way of seeing things.

Belfast based bespoke artist and designer, Gareth Martin, handcrafted the wing structure in five days using 250 bales of barley, 440 meters of twine

and 400 wooden stakes. He said, "The design was inspired by the high quality barley



ingredients and craftsmanship that goes into the brewing of Harp and the formation of the wings are, of course, a nod to the brand evangelist, the Harp Angel."

"Making hay while the sun shines - or in Northern Ireland while the rain pours down - sums up Harp's values and reflects the Northern Ireland viewpoint on life", said Harp Brand Manager, Lisa Ronayne. "So we see the barley art as a fitting tribute to the upbeat viewpoint that people in Northern Ireland are known for."

The art installation also helps launch a series of exciting competitions from the popular lager where consumers will get the chance to win a free pint or experience a heli ride with friends.

For more information on chances to win visit: [facebook.com/harp](https://www.facebook.com/harp)





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- Liverpool v Real Madrid
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- Real Madrid v Barcelona
Saturday 25
- Man Utd v Chelsea
Sunday 26

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The latest gossip from Magners when size matters

Celebrating the eagerly awaited launch of the Magners Light Pint Bottle onto the Northern Irish market, the iconic cider brand teamed up recently with NI Gossip Guy to mark the moment with a party in Belfast.

An evening filled with food, live music, entertainment and craic was enjoyed by all – the perfect setting for Magners Light which is always at the heart of laid-back sociability.

Laura Faulkner, Magners Brand Manager, said, “Everyone loves a party and, together with NI Gossip Guy, we had a great one to honour the arrival of the Magners Light Pint bottle! Magners Light has all the great

flavour associated with the Magners family and retains the same 4.5% ABV as Magners Original, yet Light has fewer calories. That’s a combination that has already proved extremely successful, but research tells us that size matters too – and our consumers were keen to have the option of Magners Light in a pint bottle.

“The response has been fantastic



Magners Brand Manager, Laura Faulkner (left), with colleagues Jeff Tosh and Julieann Evans from Tennent’s NI.

and we see a great future ahead for the pint bottle. From our research, men in particular are delighted to have Magners Light in the new format as they see the pint bottle as packing great value as well as taste.”

Magners Light joins Magners Original, Pear and Berry in Pint Bottle format and all are available in both the on and off trade across Northern Ireland.



Gary Henry, Alex Carson, Noleen Maguire, Sean Ferry and Seamus McDermott from North Tyrone All Stars, Strabane.

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Carling sales continue to rise in Northern Ireland

Carling delivers growth in NI on-trade with 11% sales increase.

CARLING is back on our television screens in October with an exciting series of TV commercials, supported by outdoor advertising and promotions in clubs across Northern Ireland.

Recent figures* have revealed that Carling has been one of the on-trade success stories of the past 12 months with draught sales for the brand increasing by 11 per cent (MAT) year on year which is way ahead of the overall draught lager market which experienced growth of just 3.8 per cent in the same period.

What this means for local clubs and pubs is more than a quarter of a million additional pints enjoyed by local consumers year on year, a performance that has seen Carling become the number four draught lager in Northern Ireland.

Since its arrival in Northern Ireland, Carling has continued to drive growth in the lager category and prove itself as a brand with big ambitions.

Parent company Molson Coors is pulling out all the stops to realise those ambitions with

continued high profile marketing activity. Over the last year, Carling has been driving growth in clubs throughout the province by investing heavily in bringing the brand to life through creative marketing campaigns which encourage people to engage both online and in outlets around the country.

The latest figures show that more clubbers in Northern Ireland are turning to Carling as their pint of choice on the back of trial-driving promotions which have driven demand from a whole new breed of consumers and turned a lot of first time drinkers into repeat customers.

During the summer, Carling brought its experiential Perfect Putt promotion on a country wide tour, generating high levels of engagement and talkability throughout Northern Ireland. The staffed promotion challenged customers to master the twists and turns of our unique putting game to win a free pint of Carling as well as other fantastic prizes.

Carling's forward momentum was also enhanced with a high visibility, fully integrated marketing campaign across Northern Ireland, which kicked off on TV in June with the latest in the "It's good... But it's not quite Carling" series of adverts. The ads are based around two key characters John and Dylan, an instantly likeable duo who come 'close' to perfection in what is a highly entertaining and engaging TV spot.





Enter our Facebook caption competition



The outdoor and TV ads that kick off in October will be supported in the on-trade with 'instant gratification' activity designed to create excitement and in-club theatre at participating outlets, offering Carling lovers the chance to win some great prizes including a North Face Jacket.

With a considerable media spend across outdoor, digital and TV, Carling is on track to achieve a massive boost in awareness amongst its target audience.

On the digital front, the conversation never stops on Carling's Facebook page and the new Carling Refreshment Society celebrates the perfect refreshment that Carling is known for, uniting and engaging with Carling fans with a shared love of beer, football, music and entertainment. Fans who join the Carling Refreshment Society are in with a chance to win a Samsung LED TV, PlayStation 4 with FIFA 14 and, of course, a case of Carling.



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There is no doubt that Carling is on an upward spiral and investment in the brand is set to continue throughout 2014 with the continuation of Carling's heavyweight TV and outdoor campaign that will continue to differentiate Carling from the rest of the pack, appealing to its ever growing consumer base in a fresh new way.



For more information about Carling or to become part of the Carling success story and take advantage of its meteoric rise in popularity, please contact:

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Kilbeggan

The best kept secret in whiskey

Kilbeggan Irish Whiskey is the flagship for the Kilbeggan Distilling Co, formerly Cooley's Distilling Company before being acquired by Beam Inc in 2002.

This premium blended whiskey follows over two generations of authentic Irish tradition and is produced in limited quantities with meticulous attention to detail. Only the finest local ingredients are sourced before it is twice distilled and aged four years to create a distinct, smooth and approachable taste.

Kilbeggan is a unique Irish Whiskey and like most Irish people, it's easy going and approachable, but with its own distinctive style. That's because it's been carefully crafted from the finest grain and malt whiskeys, double distilled and matured in 250-year old warehouses.

Compared with other Irish whiskeys, Kilbeggan has more of a consistent flavour, from the first sip all the way to its clean

finish. This is what makes Kilbeggan the perfect sipping whiskey, the ideal base for long drinks and cocktails or the key ingredient in an Irish coffee.

James E. McCabe Limited want to let everyone in on the best-kept secret in whiskey and will be encouraging customers this winter to offer a Kilbeggan Irish Coffee on their menus, as well as driving consumer trial with in-outlet support, glassware and POS.

Speak to your McCabe's representative for more information on Kilbeggan or visit www.jemccabe.com



This halloween WKD asks: Witch cocktail cauldron?

WKD will be generating themed theatre in on-trade outlets this October by providing WKD Cocktail Cauldrons to serve special WKD Halloween cocktails from. The moulded cauldrons are complete with authentic-looking feet to keep them stable and a pouring lip to aid sharing.

The biggest dilemma for consumers will be in choosing a cocktail. To help resolve this, SHS Drinks, owner of WKD, is suggesting a range of Halloween-themed cocktail recipes under the banner "Witch Cocktail Cauldron?"

The WKD Halloween cocktails include aptly named offerings such as: WKD Pumpkin Grin (WKD Iron Brew, whisky, lime, lemonade, ice) and WKD Zombie Zinger (WKD Red, vodka, lime cordial, cola, ice).

As well as the cocktail-related activity, WKD will also be providing outlets with a range of fun POS items created in a suitably WKD-style. Banners,



posters, mobiles and table-talkers will all help Halloween celebrations go well.

Debs Carter, Marketing Director, SHS Drinks, said, "Halloween is a big event in the social calendar. WKD Halloween cocktails are perfect for groups of friends to share, and served in eye-catching WKD Cocktail Cauldrons they'll make a real impact in outlets in Northern Ireland this October."

Féile 2014 bigger than ever

Umpteen international acts, tens of thousands of ecstatic audience members from Belfast, Ireland and beyond, the 26th Féile an Phobail, supported by Tennent's NI, truly was a festival for all the people.

Whether it was Boyzone in the Falls Park Big Top, a comedy master-class from Jason Manford, Martin Maguinness and Colin Parry discussing the Journey to Peace And

Reconciliation, or old favourites like West Belfast Talks Back and the Féile Carnival Parade, everyone was well catered for.

Féile Director Kevin Gamble said, "We thought nothing could match our 25th anniversary celebrations, but Féile 2014 exceeded all our expectations. People came in droves to see some of the biggest names in music. The streets thronged with visitors flocking



Headline act Boyzone who featured at the 2014 Féile.

to take part and enjoy the biggest community festival in Ireland. I'd like to raise a glass to

everybody who came and helped to make it the biggest party in the city in 2014!"

Caledonia Smooth Gold Cup off to a smooth start

Anticipation is already building for the high profile final of this year's Caledonia Smooth Gold Cup, one of the biggest greyhound races of the year, on Saturday 8th November at Drumbo Park Greyhound Stadium.

Six top dogs will be going for gold in the grand final of this autumn's festival of racing where a fantastic £5,000 prize fund is on offer to the top dogs on November 8, out of the festival's total £10,000 prize pot.

Saturday 25th October will see the first rounds of heats of racing get underway at Drumbo Park. The final six dogs will be determined during these hotly contested heats and the semi finals on Saturday 1 November.

Delighted to once again welcome Caledonia Smooth back on board as the title sponsor of this year's Gold Cup, Drumbo Park Racing Manager John Connor said the event was one of the most eagerly awaited competitions of the year at the County Antrim stadium.

"The Caledonia Smooth Gold Cup is a thrilling competition.

You can expect to see the ultimate winner cross the grand final's finish line in less than 29 seconds, so we're looking forward to some very exciting races in the weeks ahead. Most of the top trainers throughout Ireland will be involved.

"Everyone who has attended previous Gold Cups has thoroughly enjoyed themselves and this year's event will be no exception."

Sarah Shimmons, Beer Marketing Manager, Tennent's NI said, "We are delighted to be associated with Drumbo Park and to put on such a high calibre competition as the Gold Cup.

"Great nights out go hand in hand with both Caledonia Smooth and Drumbo Park but this year everything is shaping up to make The 2014 Caledonia Smooth Gold Cup even more exciting."

To find out more about the Caledonia Smooth Gold Cup or to book online, visit www.drumbopark.com



Rod McCrory from Tennent's NI (left) joins John Connor, Drumbo Park Racing Manager, on the track to launch the 2014 Caledonia Smooth Gold Cup at Drumbo Park Greyhound Stadium.

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UGAAWA Monthly Merit Award

With the variety of top class action right across the various genres of the GAA, selecting a winner of the Ulster GAA Writers' Merit Award for August was something like picking the winner of the Grand National but, after much debate, it was Neil Gallagher who got the nod.

Donegal's overall display in beating the team that most pundits said couldn't be beaten - Dublin, of course - in the All-Ireland SFC semi-final was one of the highlights of the year and many of the Tir Connail players could well have been chosen for the award.

Gallagher's mighty display against Dublin, when he seemed to have a telepathic understanding with his

goalkeeper Paul Durkin, outshone the deeds of all the other contenders.

"I'm really surprised at winning this award," said the modest Glenswilly man.

"Naturally, I'm very pleased about being honoured with the August award and I appreciate the gesture but there were many others who deserved this award."

It was a pleasing result for Neil and his Donegal colleagues but a new challenge lies ahead.

Gallagher, now in his tenth season with the Donegal senior football panel, is something of a "fans' favourite", having played 121 senior games with his county.



UGAAWA Committee Member Chris McNulty (left) presents Neil Gallagher with the Monthly Merit Award. Picture by Declan Doherty.

Neil, of course, already has an All-Ireland SFC medal among his treasured possessions after scoring a late point in the final against Mayo, two years ago. He also has two Donegal SFC

medals won with Glenswilly and another important trophy is the winner's medal from the 2007 National Football League, as Neill captained Donegal in that successful campaign.

An advertisement for Hooper's Alcoholic Strawberry & Elderflower. The background is a light beige with vertical stripes. At the top, there's a logo with "ESTD 1817" and "HOOPER'S" in large, bold letters. Below that, it says "LONDON W Hooper BRIGHTON". The main headline is "True Refreshment". A paragraph of text describes the brand's history: "William Hooper spent the early 19th Century travelling the globe to find innovative ideas that he could bring back to British drinkers. He was inspired to create a new range of refreshing alcoholic beverages and Hooper's was born. Today's bottle design is inspired by the hoops used in barrel making which gave rise to his now famous surname." Below this, it says "Nearly 200 years later, Hooper's continues to deliver true British refreshment." There's a row of five bottles: a tall one with a light drink, a standard one with a dark drink, a standard one with a dark drink, a standard one with a light drink, and a standard one with a light drink. The largest bottle on the right is the focus, with a label that reads "HOOPER'S LONDON W Hooper BRIGHTON ALCOHOLIC STRAWBERRY & ELDERFLOWER ALC 4.0% VOL 500MLE SERVE CHILLED OVER ICE". At the bottom left, it says "drinkaware.co.uk for the facts".

Northern Ireland Festival of Racing

Friday 31st October & Saturday 1st November

The Northern Ireland Festival of Racing is one of the highlights of the local sporting calendar as Down Royal once again hosts an unprecedented weekend of racing, socialising and networking. The world of National Hunt Horse Racing descends on Northern Ireland for an unmissable event with over 1.5million people tuning in to watch one of N.I.'s leading sporting spectacles.

The Northern Ireland Festival of Racing 2014 will see the unveiling of a brand new redesigned public bar and social space. The innovative new redesign will offer additional seating areas in a bright and modern space with stunning

views of the track, as well as an exciting new menu by Moira-based internationally-acclaimed butcher Peter Hannan.

Friday 31st October

Feature races: EBF Lough Construction Ltd Mares Hurdle (Grade 3)

WKD Hurdle (Grade 2) - The WKD Hurdle is the richest hurdle race staged in Northern Ireland.

Last year record breaking champion jockey AP McCoy won the race on Jezki who improved throughout the season and crowned his campaign by winning The Stan James Champion Hurdle at Cheltenham Festival.

Saturday 1st November

Feature races: The Powers Irish Whiskey (Grade 2) Steeplechase - English Champion Trainer Paul Nicholls has an enviable record in this race, training the last six consecutive winners.

The JNwine.com (Grade 1) Champion Chase - Since its inception in 1999, the JNwine.com Champion Chase is the first Grade one race in the British Isles of the National Hunt Season and often sets the bar for trainers for the rest of the National Hunt Season. Previous winners read like a "who's who" of the National Hunt world; Kauto Star, Beef or Salmon, The Listener, Looks Like Trouble and Florida Pearl head the list.

On Friday 31st October, there will be a Punters' Pack offer which includes entrance to the racecourse, racecard, £5 win bet with Sean Graham or Pat O'Hare, bottle of WKD, roast beef roll, access to the Paddock Marquee private bar (*seating not guaranteed*). There will only be 500 Punters Packs available over the Festival, at a cost of £25 and they must be booked in advance.

Admission on Saturday 1st November is £15. Discounts on admission are available for groups of over 20 persons.

Visit www.downroyal.com for details on all ticket packages and to book.



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All ticket packages for Friday 31st and Saturday 1st can be purchased at www.downroyal.com

N.I. Football Writers' Awards



Glenn Ferguson receives his NIFWA Manager of the Month award from Chairman, Paul Ferguson, and Life President, Jackie Fullerton.

Manager of the Month

The N.I. Football Writers' Manager of the Month for August is Glenn Ferguson, after taking Ballymena Utd to the top of the Danske Bank Premiership.

Ferguson, who previously won the award in April 2012, almost guided United through an unbeaten month with victories over Warrenpoint Town, Portadown and Dungannon

Swifts and a draw against Crusaders at Seaview. Despite having the greater scoring chances against Glenavon, United narrowly lost their final game of the month.

Ferguson said, "If we continue to play the way we did at Mourneview Park, I'll be delighted and we'll win more than we lose. It's always an honour to win this award and thanks to all the Football Writers who selected me."

Player of the Month

The Northern Ireland Football Writers' Player of the Month for August is Cliftonville's new signing David McDaid.

The striker signed for the Belfast club, after playing in Coleraine's

opening day draw with Ballinamallard, but then helped the champions continue their unbeaten start to the season.

He scored just two minutes into his debut as the Reds won at Institute, was on target again in the 3-3 draw against Glenavon and unfortunate Ballinamallard were on the receiving end again as he scored for the third successive game.

McDaid said, "I am delighted to have made such a good start with Cliftonville. It's a huge task trying to replace Liam Boyce but I am enjoying my football at Solitude and with a great bunch of lads. Thanks to the Football Writers for my first award, hopefully there will be another this season."



David McDaid receives his NIFWA Player of the Month award from Chairman, Paul Ferguson, and Life President, Jackie Fullerton.

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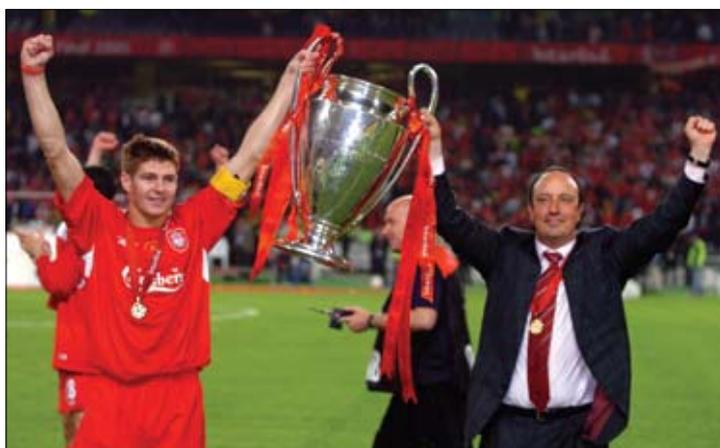
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★ GREAT SPORTING EVENTS NO. 71

2005

Liverpool defeat AC Milan



Stephen Gerrard and Rafa Benitez celebrate an improbable victory.

Around 40,000 fanatical Liverpool supporters had come a long way and were determined to make themselves heard, even though their team had been humiliated in a nightmare first half.

It was the Champions League final in Istanbul, and AC Milan were already three goals ahead, through Paolo Maldini and a double from Hernan Crespo. As they walked back to the dressing room at half-time, some Italian players even reached out to feel the cup, which was sitting on a podium by the touchline.

'You'll Never Walk Alone' rang around the Ataturk Stadium, and some of the Milan backroom staff shook their heads in disbelief. They were impressed by the defiance, but did these crazy English supporters not realise the game was already over? The rest, as they say, is history. Liverpool's captain, Steven Gerrard, began the fight back with a well aimed header, and gestured to the fans to turn up the volume further still. Seven minutes later they had good reason, because Vladimir Smicer and Xabi Alonso had maintained the charge to bring it level at 3-3.

Jerzy Dudek saved impossibly from Andriy Shevchenko, and soon it was all down to a penalty shoot-out. Jamie Carragher urged Dudek to play a rubber-legged clown, the persona first created by Bruce Grobbelaar to defeat the Romans under similar circumstances in 1984. Dudek revived the role to perfection, Andrea Pirlo and Shevchenko fluffed their penalties and Liverpool's amazing fight back had won them their fifth European Cup. They even got to keep it, so the Italians would never touch it again.

England finally win the Ashes

England's last Ashes triumph had been in 1986-87, and despite an improving side there was only limited optimism from the public going into the 2005 series. English cricket fans are nothing if not loyal however, and a full house at Lord's on the opening day created an electric atmosphere that remained for the entire series.

England lost at Lord's as Glenn McGrath took nine wickets in the match, but they had shown they had the stomach for the fight. With McGrath ruled out of the second Test at Edgbaston, England flew out of the blocks and, inspired by Andrew Flintoff, claimed one of the most remarkable victories in Test history, by just two runs. The image of Flintoff consoling Brett Lee in the aftermath has already gone down in Ashes folklore.

The momentum was with England and, despite the best efforts of Shane Warne, they claimed their second victory in the fourth Test at Trent Bridge after another nerve-jangling affair.

The scene was set for a momentous final Test, and no one was disappointed. Kevin Pietersen produced one of the finest innings in Ashes history to help England claim a draw - and to win the series. The irrepressible



England captain, Michael Vaughan, holds the famous Ashes urn aloft at the Oval.

Flintoff, who scored 402 runs and took 24 wickets in the series, led the celebrations along with captain Michael Vaughan, and the whole of England basked in the glory of this long-awaited triumph.

Also this year...

Athletics - Asafa Powell of Jamaica sets a new 100m world record of 9.77 seconds at the Athens Olympic Stadium.

Cycling - Lance Armstrong won his record-setting seventh consecutive Tour de France title only to be stripped of them as a result of the drugs scandal that unfolded following his comeback in 2009.

Football - Brazilian, Ronaldinho, was voted FIFA World Player of the Year for the second successive season.

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