

NOVEMBER 2001, NACB CONVENTION MINUTES, Part 1

From The 2001 N.A.C.B. Convention Held In Boston November 9th & 10th

- Chairman Sean Gannon held an informal meeting on Friday at 10:00 p.m. which was attended by all the Board Officers and some Delegates
- The Convention Agenda was distributed
- Buses would leave the Hotel at 8 a.m. Saturday November 10th
- Convention to start at 8:30 a.m. at the Irish Cultural Center
- Lunch would be served at noon
- Dinner served after Convention
- Followed by Mass
- Everyone was happy with hotel rooms at the Marriott
- Inter-City Championship Medals were handed out to Chicago, San Francisco and Philadelphia
- John McDevitt stated that names were missing from Nomination forms and also a lot of Motions
- Chairman, Sean Gannon said, "this will be taken care of tomorrow"
- Tea, coffee & light refreshments were served
- The board meeting started at 11:45 p.m.
- Chairman, Sean Gannon asked what do we do about the Tyrone Case
- After some discussion it was decided to appoint a 3 man committee to hear the case
- Appointed were: Joe Begley, John Flynn & John Keane
- The Board also looked over the motions that were submitted for Convention
- Chairman, Sean Gannon stated that he was abused and threatened by delegates from Philadelphia at the hotel
- He stated that the Board had made their decision based on the information available to them on the objection lodged by Donegal, Philadelphia and he was not going to be bullied for following the rules

Saturday November 10th, 2001 Convention Held at I.C.C.

- Convention got off to a late start at 9:40 a.m.
- John McDevitt welcomed all the delegates on behalf of the N.E.B.
- Mike O'Connor welcomed everyone to the I.C.C.
- Roll call was taken, there would be a total of 99 votes
- Adoption of standing orders was called for
- John McDevitt asked about the Nomination Forms
- He was informed by the N.A.C.B. Secretary that the deadline was October 31st
- Chairman, Sean Gannon responded by stating that the Nominations were not signed by a Club Secretary and there were 2 sets of Nomination Forms sent to the N.A.C.B. Secretary which had totally different names
- Tom Pervis stated they got their Nomination Papers with October 31st deadline
- N.A.C.B. Secretary agree and stated why this happened, "a typo was made by my daughter"
- John McDevitt asked who was the Secretary Connie Kelly or his daughter
- Sean Gannon said, "People have to be respected on this board and there may have been mistakes and the Nominations are mute in any case. They did not come from Clubs and if we accept this kind of stuff, we might as well close up shop"
- Chairman, Sean Gannon also stated that the N.E.B. went to the playoffs in San Francisco, Clubs refused to send in Team Lists, Clubs also refused to hand in Team Sheets, it was a total contempt of Rules and Regulations and he stated fines would be imposed
- John McDevitt stood up and asked Chairman, Sean Gannon why he can't be a man and not tell lies
- Sean Gannon made a statement on his record as a G.A.A. man and he would not be like other people going to New York kissing arse and trying to break up the N.A.C.B. New York was also back at Congress trying to take our vote but they were asked to withdraw their motion. Monty Maloney was running to the press every week running down the North American Board, with statements like, shove it when the N.A.C.B. extended the hand of friendship and if the N.A.C.B. was a race horse, it would be shot and Boston was trying to get Philadelphia to join with them
- John McDevitt said you are only a mouthpiece and you refused to play N.Y. End of discussion
- All were in favor of retaining standing orders

- The Delegate from San Diego explained why the Playoffs were not held in that city
- At this point the Secretary's Report was accepted and seconded
- Chairman, stated appeals have to pay for Part of Conference Calls

Treasurer's Report

- Q. By John O'Brien, who authorized the cost of Inter-City Games? A. The Board did
- Chairman, Sean Gannon said the Board agreed to help out with traveling expenses
- Q. What kind of income came out of the venture and will there be a report coming to explain the expenses? A. Sean Gannon: The Treasurer is better off now that when we started. The N.A.C.B. wanted to start something new and the games held in Boston proved to be successful in spite of all those people who tried their best to destroy the weekend
- Johnny Guirke, Aiden McAnespies Delegate said it would be good if the winners would go forward to the All-Ireland Club Championships
- Chairman Sean Gannon spoke about the success by the N.A.C.B. in the International Competition. We won 3 out of the 5 finals so far. What we are doing is trying to promote the Gaelic Games. The Winner's Trophy was worth \$60,000.00 and it was an honor for the N.A.C.B. to bring it back here
- Another question was asked from the floor, what was the income from the Inter City Games?
- Sean Gannon stated we had sponsorship from Guinness and Setanta Sports. We had no figures on gate receipts but if we got some local support, we could have broke even
- Q. On All Ireland Tickets. A. Danny O'Donnell said he had a few spare tickets on All Ireland Day and he gave them away, no one had a problem with that

Registrar's Report

- Q. Why has Florida two Junior Clubs? A. No answer
- Q. Can you form a new club with a junior team? A. You can, as long as you don't take players from another club
- Report accepted and seconded

Public Relations Officer's Report

- Q. By Owen Tracy: Do we attend every Central Council meeting? He suggested we should attend every meeting and keep making our case. Croke Park is paying for part of expenses, we have to push Croke Park for Sanctions
- A. Motion was moved and seconded

Minor Board's Report

- Q. By Joe Begley: Why did teams not participate in more games, more has to be done in American cities
- A. Mike Moxley said the Youth Officer did a good job
- Q. On expenses on Board trying to accommodate Minors. A. None given
- Q. On Playoffs: Kevin Barry's traveled to San Francisco and only played one game in Intermediate Football
- A. N.A.C.B. has a major problem at Playoffs, there are only 3 Intermediate Football teams. It was suggested to up grade the Playoffs, there are too many games of poor standard. There are not enough Senior teams competing at the Playoffs. It was suggested to have 2 Senior teams from Big divisions, Johnny Guirke said it would be very hard to go to the Playoffs as losers
- Q. Has the Club in San Francisco been fined for not fielding a team? A. No, not yet
- Q. Why was there two Junior teams in San Francisco? A. So one team did not get a bye
- Q. Is there going to be a mercy hearing on Philadelphia case? A. Yes, a committee will hear the case during lunch

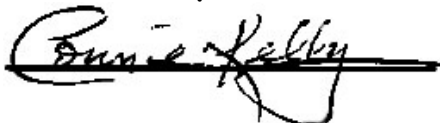
Chairman's Closing Remarks

- The Board had a lot of things to clean up with san Diego but we got through the difficult times
- The G.A.A. is all about the games. When a Board takes office, politics should have no place in the G.A.A.
- I'm looking for unity. We should not be in defiance of N.A.C.B.

- It calls for unity and loyalty. This Board did a good job and we started something new in the Inter-City games and hope they improve and continue
- The N.A.C.B. is growing all the time and Divisional Boards should do things for the right reason
- I'm very proud of all the Board Officers and I ask you for your full support of all elected Officers
- Meeting adjourned at noon for lunch
- Convention continued at 1:30 p.m. with roll call, voting cards were handed out. Danny Stuart from Gaelic Gear addressed the crowd as did Ger Logan from Belfast who makes hurleys
- Result of hearing: The committee lifted the suspension on Colm Cambridge
- John Hehir was elected Convention Chairman, Connie Kelly as Secretary and teller, Mike Connor, Ann Maria Joyce and Kieran Conway
- There was a request to remove standing orders. Convention Chairman said it must have a 2/3 majority
- John McDevitt said he got a letter from Connie Kelly stating October 31st was closing date for Nominations and Motions
- John McDevitt made a motion to suspend standing orders. 2nd by Tom Fergus
- John McDevitt made reference to Connie Kelly's e-mail
- Chris Knightly made a request for a secret ballot. It would need 2/3 majority to pass needing 79 votes
- Q. The Chairman had ruled this morning. A. If it passes there will be a discussion on it, if not, there will be no more about it
- The vote was taken and defeated the motion on a count of Yes, 67 and No, 50. Standing orders would not be changed
- Sean Gannon after listening to 10 minutes of heated debate asked the Chairman to move on with the Convention. He did not.
- Mike Sweeney, St. Columbkilles Delegate asked if he was been deprived of his vote here today
- Sean Gannon replied stating the N.E.B. Nominations were not signed by a Club Secretary
- Owen Tracy said they should allow the N.E.B. to cast their votes
- Kathleen, the San Diego Delegate said Rule 51 of the N.A.C.B. states: Nominations should be in on time
- Tommy Dolan said we have a problem here we have to stop this carryon right now and we all pull together for the good of the G.A.A.
- Sean Gannon said a vote was taken and the Convention should continue
- Convention Chairman, John Hehir would not continue as requested
- After 15 minutes of insults and innuendoes, Sean Gannon made a statement on the proceedings, he said in conclusion that for the sake of unity he would let it go to a vote and allow democracy to take it's place
- Chris Knightly made it clear that one letter had no signature and should not be allowed if a candidate winds up in a tie and with that voting began with results as follows:

Chairman	John McDevitt	68	Sean Gannon	49				
Vice-Chairman	Tommy Dolan	62	Johnny Guirke	55				
Secretary	John Keane	60	Ann O'Dea	35	Connie Kelly	22		
Treasurer 1st	Danny O'Donnell	39	Mickey Coyne	37	Jim Carmody	25	Bridie Joyce	16
Treasurer 2nd	Danny O'Donnell	50	Mickey Coyne	42	Jim Carmody	24		
Treasurer 3rd	Mickey Coyne	63	Danny O'Donnell	54				
Registrar	Chris Knightly	N/A						
P.R.O.	Eamonn Kelly	N/A						
Youth	Tim Flanagan	N/A						
Honorary President	John Hehir	N/A						

Submitted by



Connie Kelly
NACB Secretary, 2001

NOVEMBER 2001, NACB CONVENTION MINUTES, Part 2

At 4:35 PM, following the election of Officers, the Elections Chair, John Hehir, turned the meeting over to the new NACB Chair, John McDevitt. The Chair welcomed the new NACB officers, complimented the outgoing NACB officers and the Northeast Divisional officers and wished them the best. The other officers in turn, thanked the outgoing officers for their hard work, and thanked the delegates for their confidence in them.

The first item on the Agenda under New Business was dealing with convention motions.

1. MOTION: That for all future NACB Conventions, the NACB shall adhere to Rule 51 Official Guide (1997) which states: The County Secretary shall send an Agenda, which shall include his Report and the Audited Accounts for the year, with the nominations and motions, to each Club Secretary and to the outgoing County Committee at least one week before the Convention.
Submitted By: Northwest Division, Seattle Gaels Men & Women.
Following a brief discussion, the motion passed unanimously.
2. MOTION: That the NACB Playoff Regulations, Rule 17. General Rules (1) be changed to read: The NACB fee for all playoff finals shall be \$20,000.00 payable to the NACB Treasurer at the Annual Convention prior to the playoffs. Of that amount, \$10,000.00 will be refunded to the Host Division one month after the Playoffs, providing a majority of the NACB Officers agree that the Playoffs were organized and run in accordance with the promises made by the Host Division.
Submitted By: Northwest Division, Seattle Gaels Men & Women.
This motion was combined for discussion purposes with Motions 4, 7, 8, 15, & 23 and was ultimately referred to a Playoffs Restructuring Committee established under Motion 15.
3. MOTION: That the NACB By-Laws # 12, Annual Convention, (d) have the following added: A motion defeated at the most recent annual convention will not be eligible for consideration at the following Annual Convention unless there are substantial changes to the wording and intent of the motion.
Submitted By: Northwest Division, Seattle Gaels Men & Women
Following discussion, the motion was passed with the Yes votes of more than a two-thirds majority of those present and voting.
4. MOTION: That the NACB Playoffs be held in a city with proper facilities such as showers, dressing rooms, proper toilets, running water and outlets on the grounds.
Submitted By: Central Division, Cu Chulainn Hurling Club
This motion was combined for discussion purposes with Motions 2, 7, 8, 15, & 23 and was ultimately referred to a Playoffs Restructuring Committee established under Motion 14.
5. MOTION: That the deadline for home based registration be extended from April 30th to May 30th.
Submitted By: Central Division, Cu Chulainn Hurling Club
This motion was combined for discussion purposes with Motions 11, 12, 18, & 22 and was ultimately defeated under a vote taken on Motion 22.
6. MOTION: Add motion under R7, Summer Visitor Players: Definite number of out of town players allowed in Camogie. Submitted By: Central Division, St. Mary's Camogie
Following discussion, the motion was amended to read: "That 7 out-of-town players will be allowed in Camogie". The motion as amended was passed with the Yes votes of more than a two-thirds majority of those present and voting.
7. MOTION: Add motions under R9 NACB Playoff Games:
 - a. Fields marked/lined out properly.
 - b. A medic available during all matches.
 - c. Nets between fields to protect players and stop the ball from other fields interrupting play.
 - d. Fields must be sanitary - i.e. running water, showers and proper changing rooms.Submitted By: Central Division, St. Mary's Camogie
This motion was combined for discussion purposes with Motions 2, 4, 8, 15, & 23 and was ultimately referred to a Playoffs Restructuring Committee established under Motion 14.
8. MOTION: Change to Motion R9 (M): Linesmen should be dressed in distinguishing garb.
Submitted By: Central Division, St. Mary's Camogie
This motion was combined for discussion purposes with Motions 2, 4, 7, 15, & 23 and was ultimately referred to a Playoffs Restructuring Committee established under Motion 14.
9. MOTION: Regulation R7 - Summer Visitor Players 7(d) change: "No more than 3 Summer Visitor Players" to "No more than 5 Summer Visitor Players." Submitted By: Central Division, St. Brigids L.G.F.C.
This motion was combined for discussion purposes with Motion 10. Following discussion, the motion was passed with the Yes votes of more than a two-thirds majority of those present and voting.

(This means that 5 Summer Visitor players are now permitted on Senior and Junior Ladies Football teams)

10. MOTION: Regulation R7 - Summer Visitor Players 7(d) changes: "In both Ladies Senior and Junior Football, each team shall be limited to no more than 3 Summer Visitor Players on the field at one time" to "In Ladies Senior, each team shall be limited to no more than 5 Summer Visitor Players and Ladies Junior Football shall be limited to no more than 3 Summer Visitor Players on the field at any one time." Submitted By: Central Division, St. Brigids L.G.F.C.
This motion was combined with Motion 9, which was ultimately passed.
11. MOTION: Registration deadline for Base Players be extended to May 31st of the current year.
Submitted By: Philadelphia Divisional Board
This motion was combined for discussion purposes with Motions 5, 12, 18, & 22 and was ultimately defeated under a vote taken on Motion 22.
12. MOTION: Registration deadline for Base Players be extended to June 15th of the current year.
Submitted By: Philadelphia Divisional Board
This motion was combined for discussion purposes with Motions 5, 11, 18, & 22 and was ultimately defeated under a vote taken on Motion 22.
13. MOTION: That By-Law # 11(b) of the NACB 2000 By-Laws and Regulations be changed to read as follows: "A sanction shall not be granted later than June 20th in any given year."
**Tyrone GFC requests that this motion be give a trial period of 2 years.
Submitted By: Philadelphia Division, Tyrone G.F.C.
Following discussion, the motion was defeated when it obtained substantially less than the required Yes votes of two-thirds of those present and voting.
14. MOTION: The Regulation # 7(b) of the NACB 2000 By-Laws and Regulations be changed to read as follows: "In Senior and Intermediate Football each team shall have no more than 5 Summer Visitor Players on the field at any one time."
**Tyrone GFC requests that this motion be give a trial period of 2 years.
Submitted By: Philadelphia Division, Tyrone G.F.C.
This motion was combined for discussion purposes with Motions 17 & 26. Following discussion, the motion was defeated when it obtained less than the required Yes votes of two-thirds of those present and voting.
15. MOTION: That a Special Committee be formed to look into the possibility of restructuring the playoff format. That Senior Football, Intermediate Football, Senior Hurling and Minor Football would take place at one venue and all other competitions take place at another venue.
**Tyrone GFC requests that this motion be give a trial period of 2 years.
Submitted By: Philadelphia Division, Tyrone G.F.C.
This motion was combined for discussion purposes with Motions 2, 4, 7, 8, & 23. Following discussion the latter half of the motion was withdrawn by Tyrone G.F.C. and the amended motion ("That a Special Committee be formed to look into the possibility of restructuring the playoff format") was passed unanimously.
16. MOTION: That By-Law # 11(d) of the NACB By-Laws and Regulations be changed to read as follows: "A player on a sanction, once he returns to Ireland (except in the case of the death of an immediate family member or a legitimate student who must return to University to re-sit an exam) cannot afterwards in the year return to the NACB area to play in NACB competition."
**Tyrone GFC requests that this motion be give a trial period of 2 years.
Submitted By: Philadelphia Division, Tyrone G.F.C.
This motion was combined for discussion purposes with Motions 21. Following discussion, the motion was defeated when it obtained substantially less than the required Yes votes of two-thirds of those present and voting.
17. MOTION: All Senior Grades are allowed 5 out-of-town players. Change Regulation R7 (A), (B), (C) & (D).
Submitted By: Central Division, Wolfe Tones
This motion was combined with Motions 14 & 26. Motion 14 was defeated when it obtained substantially less than the required Yes votes of two-thirds of those present and voting.
18. MOTION: Change By-Law 9 to read: Deadline for home-base players to be extended to May 31st.
Submitted By: Central Division, Wolfe Tones
This motion was combined for discussion purposes with Motions 5, 11, 12, & 22 and was ultimately defeated under a vote taken on Motion 22.
19. MOTION: All Minor Board Officers should vote only on Minor Board affairs.
Submitted By: Central Division, Wolfe Tones
Following discussion, the motion was declared Out of Order by the Chairman.
20. MOTION: That the name "Central Divisional Board" be changed to "Chicago Divisional Board."
Submitted By: Central Division
Following discussion, the motion was referred back to the Divisional Board for decision.

21. MOTION: ByLaw 11D to also include students having to retake exams. (See # 16 above). Submitted by: Northeast Division, Tir na nOg LGFC.
This motion was combined with Motion 16, which was defeated when it obtained substantially less than the required Yes votes of two-thirds of those present and voting.
22. MOTION: To change the date for home base players from April 30th to May 20th. Submitted by: Northeast Division, St. Pat's
This motion was combined for discussion purposes with Motions 5, 11, 12, & 18 and was amended to read "To change the date for home base players from April 30th to May 30th," but the amended motion was defeated when it obtained a less than two-thirds majority of the votes of those present and voting (58 Yes, 35 No).
23. MOTION: To eliminate penalty to clubs in regards to being present at the banquet after the NACB finals. Submitted by: Northeast Division, Connemara Gaels
This motion was combined for discussion purposes with Motions 2, 4, 7, 8, & 15 and was ultimately referred to a Playoffs Restructuring Committee established under Motion 14.
24. MOTION: That the Boston Northeast Division host the 2003 NACB Playoffs. Submitted by: Northeast Division, Tir na nOg LGFC.
Following discussion, in the light of San Francisco hosting the 2001 Playoffs on the withdrawal of San Diego, a motion was accepted, and the delegates unanimously voted to suspend Standing Orders to permit the Convention to deal with the awarding of the Playoffs for the next several years.
A motion was made and passed unanimously "That we revoke last year's decision to award the Playoffs in 2002 to Philadelphia, in 2003 to San Francisco, and in 2004 to Boston".
A motion was made and passed unanimously "That we award the Playoffs in 2002 to Philadelphia".
A motion was made "That the convention vote to award the 2003 Playoffs to the city receiving the most votes". That motion was passed when it received substantially more than the required Yes votes of two-thirds of those present and voting.
A vote was taken between the three cities proposed: Boston, Chicago and Washington, DC. Boston was declared the winner on a vote taken by a show of hands.
A motion was made: "That the Playoffs should not be awarded to any city more than two years in advance of the date of the Playoffs." That motion was passed when it received substantially more than the required Yes votes of two-thirds of those present and voting.
Standing Orders were now restored and the convention resumed discussing motions that had been submitted in advance.
25. MOTION: If Philly cannot accommodate the 2002 NACB Playoffs that the Boston Northeast Division be considered to host them. Submitted by: Northeast Division, Tir na nOg LGFC.
Following discussion and an assurance from Philadelphia delegates that they were able to accommodate the 2002 Playoffs, this motion was withdrawn.
26. MOTION: To decrease the amount of homebase players to eight. Submitted by: Northeast Division, St. Pat's.
This motion was combined with Motions 14 & 17. Motion 14 was defeated when it obtained substantially less than the required Yes votes of two-thirds of those present and voting.
27. MOTION: Notre Dame GFC moves that the North American Board alter its By-Laws to state that it shall not overturn any decision made by any Divisional Board, unless the Divisional Board's decision in question has violated the North American Board's By-Laws. Submitted by: Northeast Division, Notre Dame.
Following discussion, the motion was declared Out of Order.
28. MOTION: That the winners of the Inter-City Competition be eligible to play in Quarter-Final or Semi-Final of the All-Ireland Club. That North American Board push this with Croke Park. Submitted By: Boston Northeast, Aidan McAnespies.
Following discussion, the motion was withdrawn with the understanding that the NACB will discuss with Croke Park the possibility of NACB Men's and Women's teams and Hurling teams competing in All-Ireland competitions.
29. In the absence of a motion in advance, the Chair invited a MOTION from the floor to determine the site of the 2002 Convention: That the location of the 2002 NACB convention be decided on a show of hands between San Diego and Chicago.
Following discussion, Chicago was declared the winner on a vote taken by a show of hands.
30. The Chair accepted a MOTION from the floor: That this convention recommend that the NACB delegates at Congress support the candidacy of Sean Kelly for President of the GAA.
Without discussion, the motion was declared passed.

Under other business, the Chairman invited delegates to submit the names of Gaels who had passed away in the past year. Among the names submitted were Imelda Tracey, Owen Roe O'Neill, Anne Cole, Peggy McCartan,

Patricia Coyle, Gerry McGettigan, Alex Griffin, Martin O'Connell, Sean Canavan (killed in the WTC attacks), Chris Flaherty, Tom Bohan, Gene Mahon, Colm Fagen, Liam Foley and Kerry Cooper. Delegates were also asked to remember Gaels Geoff Butler, Mike Hines and Sean Gannon who were suffering serious illness. All of those were remembered by name during a Mass celebrated by Fr. Parker in the convention room after the convention ended at 5:35 PM.

Le fíor-mheas,

Seán Ó Catháin

Seán Ó Catháin, Rúnaí, 2002