

Park Ratheniska GAA Club



DRUG AND ALCOHOL POLICY

www.parkratheniskagaa.com

Chairperson's Address



A chara,

Welcome to the Park/Ratheniska GAA Club's Alcohol & Substance Abuse Prevention Programme (ASAP) Booklet.

ASAP has been pioneered by the GAA through the Clubs to provide a guideline to help clubs navigate and best deal with the alcohol and drug related issues which may arise in modern Ireland. The ASAP Programme is a joint venture by the GAA and the Health Service Executive, the aim of which being to reduce, and if possible, eradicate the harm caused by alcohol and other drugs.

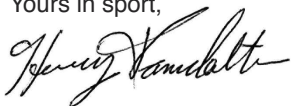
It is our belief that it is the GAA Clubs responsibility to provide leadership within the community it serves. We at Park/Ratheniska GAA Club are producing this document to outline our determination to help our young adults learn to deal with these issues and to educate them to the dangers of alcohol and substance abuse.

An enormous amount of research has gone into this topic at high levels in the GAA, with some of the most respected medical minds on this island being consulted during the process.

We would like to thank Croke Park, the Leinster Council and the Laois County Board for their assistance with this project.

I would finally like to thank our own ASAP Officer, Larry Cushen, for his hard work in heading up this project on our behalf. I would encourage anyone who has any queries on the matter to take the time to read this document and encourage your teenagers to read it also, and if you have any further queries I'm sure Larry will be only too happy to discuss them further with you.

Yours in sport,



Har Ramsbottom

Chairman, Park/Ratheniska GAA Club



*We're a friendly crowd -
Park Ratheniska Community celebrate together*

www.parkratheniskagaa.com

Our Club – A Brief History

The areas of Loughteague, Ratheniska and Park have a long and storied tradition of GAA. Gaelic games in the area stretches back to 1927 where the existence of a Loughteague Football team can be traced. In 1933, the Park Football Club was formed, affiliating minor and junior football teams. This Club claimed their first adult football title in 1942, the Laois Junior Football Championship. They followed this up with an Intermediate title in '47 in what was to be a golden era for the Club.

Under the coaching of Will McEvoy they would go on to dominate Laois Football in the early 50's contesting and winning Senior finals, most notably in 1952 and 1953 when Paddy Dunne lead the Club to back to back Laois Senior Football Championships.

The Ratheniska Hurling Club was formed in 1953 and only had to wait the short few years until 1958 to claim their first adult silverware, the Laois Junior Hurling Championship under the captancy of Billy Fitzgerald. They went on to contest the 1960



La na gClub - 2009

Intermediate Hurling Final and come back the following year to win it, rising to the ranks of Senior Hurling in just 8 years of existence. Titles followed in a number of differing ranks over the coming years, with Junior and Intermediate Football titles being allied to Junior Hurling and Intermediate Hurling titles throughout the 70's and 80's and 90's.

1981 would prove to be another milestone year for the Club when it was decided to amalgamate the Park Football Club with the Ratheniska Hurling Club to form the Park/Ratheniska GAA club you see here today. With both Clubs primarily using the same players this was a logical step and allied to the formation of the Juvenile branch of the Club in 1975 it meant the foundations of the Club would be secure for years to come.

More recently the Club has tasted provincial glory for the first time, when its Footballers captured the Leinster Junior Football Championship on a wet and wild December day in 2006. For such an occasion to take place in our newly purchased and developed grounds was a very proud moment for the Club and one we hope to build on and drive on from. This is our aim, to reach our goals, and to use those achievements to drive us onto further glories.

When the men of the Loughteague club first gathered for a kickaround back in the 1920's, or when the Park men of the 1940's chipped together to try buy their first football, or even when the Ratheniska men of the 50's sent a group to Dublin to buy their first set of jerseys they can never have imagined the mighty acorns those seeds would sow. We aim to continue this for decades to come.

We hope you join us in our journey.

Roll of Honour

The Park/Ratheniska Adult GAA Club in its various guises has the following Championship Roll of Honour:

FOOTBALL

SFC (2) 1952, 1953

IFC (2) 1947, 1988

Leinster JFC (1) 2006

JFC (2) 1942, 2006

JFC B (1) 1972

U21 FC - (1) - 1984 (The Heath/Park)

MFC - (3) - 1933 (Park), 1994 & 2005 (The Heath Gaels)

HURLING

IHC (3) 1960, 1977, 1994

JHC (3) 1958, 1971, 1987.

JHC C (1) 2003

U21 HC 'B' (1) 1989

MHC 'B' (1) 1987



Cathal Og Greene points for Laois v Tipperary NFL 2010

Paddy Dunne

Paddy Dunne is perhaps Park/Ratheniska's most famous son. Widely regarded as one of the outstanding players in Ireland of the 1950's Paddy made the number 6 jersey for Park, Laois and Leinster his own over the course of that decade.

A dedicated athlete who had the utmost respect for his body and getting the best out of himself, Paddy was first called up to the Laois senior football team in 1949 following outstanding performances for Park, Paddy was centre back on the Laois team who were narrowly beaten by Meath in the 1951 Leinster Football Final. He would still be there in his famous no 6 jersey when Laois suffered another agonising defeat in the 1959 Leinster Football Final.

During that time Paddy captained his beloved Park as they won two Laois Senior Football Championship titles in 1952 and 1953.

Paddy also had the honour of representing Leinster winning three consecutive Railway Cup medals in 1952, 1953 and 1954, all on the field of play.



Paddy and his wife Delia in 2009 celebrating the U12 Championship double win with their grandson Pauric Dunne

Paddy would gain further honour and recognition when he played for the Rest Of Ireland XV in 1953 and 1954. His battles with Tommy Murphy of Graiguecullen, Sean Purcell of Galway and Kevin Keffernan are still spoken of in awe by those who were lucky enough to see them.

Paddy retired from all football following the 59 Leinster final due to a recurring back problem.

A lasting tribute to Paddy Dunne's greatness was his selection at centre half back on the Laois team of the millennium and to top it all off in 2007 Paddy was inducted into the Laois GAA Hall of Fame.

Paddy Dunne, a Park legend.



Park Ratheniska GAA Club

DRUG AND ALCOHOL POLICY



Cumann Luthchleas Gael are committed as part of their overall philosophy to 'Discourage the use of drugs, alcohol and tobacco on the basis that they are incompatible with a healthy approach to sporting activity'.

Park Ratheniska GAA Club believe that we need to work towards creating a safe, healthy club environment where we can develop the skills and attitudes necessary to cope with drug and alcohol related issues. All club members, officials, coaches and volunteers as part of this club shall follow the law when it comes to illegal drugs, alcohol and tobacco and shall display leadership and good example, particularly when dealing with underage members.

Definition of Drugs:

For the purpose of this policy the term "drug" shall include all mood altering substances, both legal and illegal and involve substances such as:

- Alcohol
- Tobacco
- "Over the counter" medicines such as paracetamol, anti-histamines, cough medicines etc.
- Prescribed drugs such as antibiotics, inhalers, painkillers etc.
- Volatile substances such as aerosols, glues, petrol, cigarette lighter fuels etc,
- Controlled drugs such as cannabis, ecstasy. amphetamines, magic mushrooms, cocaine, etc.
- Performance enhancing sports related drugs as outlined by the World Anti-Doping Agency.

Aims and Objectives:

The aim of this policy is to ensure that all club members are kept safe from drug-related harm when involved in club activities.

Our objectives are...

- To develop a consistent approach to drug-related issues to be adopted by all club members.
- To develop procedures and protocols that address drug-related issues in the club.
- To establish clear procedures for managing specific incidents of suspected drug misuse.

List of Recommended Actions

The Chairperson and Executive of the club shall adopt and discharge actions from the following list as appropriate to the resources of the Club.

Park Ratheniska GAA Club shall take the following actions...

- The cup shall not be filled with alcohol during celebrations.
- Coaches and Club Officials shall not smoke or drink alcohol while representing their club at matches or training sessions.
- Under 18 teams shall not be brought to pubs on the way home from matches, outings or training sessions.

• _____

• _____

• _____

All persons associated with our club can help prevent drug-related harm from occurring during club activities. The following roles are recommended (insert other recommendations as required).

Club Members

- Be aware of and adhere to Club policy in relation to drugs.

• _____

Parents and Guardians

- Support the club in the development and implementation of this policy including procedures for handling incidents of suspected drug misuse.

• _____

Coaches

- Be aware of the possibility of drug misuse among players and pass on concerns with the aim of preventing harm.

• _____

Club A.S.A.P. Officer

- The ASAP Club Officer is responsible for overseeing the development, implementation and evaluation of this policy in conjunction with the Club Chairperson and Executive.

- The Club ASAP Officer is **Larry Cushen**

Phone No.: **087 9052307**

• _____

Club Chairman and Executive

All relevant information, paraphernalia or suspected substances found or received shall be forwarded to the Club Chairperson who shall consult with the necessary parties before taking relevant action based upon this policy. In the event of the Chairperson not being available to discharge these duties this responsibility will then automatically fall to the Vice Chairperson or Secretary.

Education programme about drugs and alcohol

Park Ratheniska GAA Club shall arrange a drug education programme for members, players, parents etc as appropriate. This drug education programme may include the promotion of club policy, provision of literature, workshops or information sessions.

- The Club A.S.A.P. Officer in conjunction with the Club Chairperson and Executive shall arrange to provide drug education **annually** for **adults** associated with the club.
- The Club A.S.A.P. Officer in conjunction with the Club Chairperson and Executive shall arrange to provide **age appropriate** drug education **annually** for **young people** associated with the club.

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Protocol for dealing with drug misuse

Park Ratheniska GAA Club shall endeavour to respond to all drug-related incidents in a firm but fair manner, with due respect for the safety and welfare of individuals involved, other members of the club and the wider community. We shall also fulfil any legal obligations that might apply.

Outline of Restrictions

The misuse or supply of drugs is viewed as unacceptable by Park Ratheniska GAA Club and is punishable by warnings, suspensions and expulsions as deemed appropriate. It is also unacceptable for members or officials to present for club duties while under the influence of a drug.

Reporting of Incidents

Alleged or confirmed incidents in breach of this policy shall be referred to the Club Chairperson or nominee.

Recording of Information

Information regarding alleged or confirmed incidents in breach of this policy shall be recorded in writing. The recording of factual information is preferable and all opinions shall be stated as such. Responses to cases shall also be recorded in this way. Only in confirmed cases shall names of individuals be recorded.

Confidentiality

While every effort shall be made to respect confidentiality, it may not always be possible to guarantee confidentiality in relation to drug-related incidents. It is vitally important that confidentiality is carefully observed as allegations about involvement with drugs can have a ruinous effect on people's lives.

Involving Parents/Guardians

Incidents involving any person under 18 years of age will require their parents/guardians to be informed. Parents/guardians shall be invited to discuss what has happened and shall be informed of any course of action to be taken by the club. The Club Chairperson and Executive shall nominate a person to inform parents/guardians on a case by case basis.

Garda/PSNI Involvement

Incidents that involve the illegal supply of drugs shall require Garda/PSNI involvement. In all other drug-related incidents, each case shall be considered on an individual basis and the decision shall rest with the Club Chairperson and Executive as to whether or not the police are involved.

Search

The Club Chairperson and Executive retain the right to direct a search of any part of club property if there is reasonable cause to believe a substance in breach of this policy is contained therein. Two officials of the club shall be present during any form of search. Club Officials are not allowed to search an individual or their personal property. Where there is reasonable cause to believe a person has in their possession a substance in breach of this policy, they shall be asked to volunteer the substance. If they refuse, the Garda/PSNI may be called in to conduct a search.

Disposing of suspected illegal substances

If a suspected illegal substance is found on club property it shall be brought to the attention of the Club Chairperson. The substance shall be stored securely and the Club Chairperson shall then decide whether the Garda/PSNI should be asked to collect it, or whether it should be disposed of. Any disposal of suspected illegal substances shall be recorded and witnessed by two officials. At no time shall a suspected illegal substance be removed from club property by anyone other than the Garda/PSNI.

Availability, use and storage of solvents and gases

A large number of solvent based products have the potential to be abused (e.g. deodorants, paints, thinners, cleaning fluids etc). All solvent based materials and gases shall be stored securely and safely away from public access.

Availability, use and storage of solvents and gases

This policy is in force at all times and during all activities conducted under the aegis of Cumann Luthchleas Gael. This policy shall be evaluated annually and after every drug-related incident, This policy shall come into effect on ___/___/___ and shall be reviewed annually thereafter by the A,S.A.P. Club Officer in conjunction with the Club Chairperson and Executive.

Signed *Henry Samblat* (Club Chairperson)

Signed *Tommy O'Connell* (Club Secretary)

Signed *LARRY Cusker* (ASAP Club Officer)



Drug and Alcohol Co-ordination Teams - Northern Ireland

The role of the Alcohol & Drug Co-ordination Teams is to co-ordinate the development of strategy and services delivered by drug and alcohol agencies in Northern Ireland. They provide very useful information on the drug and alcohol related issues in their areas.

Eastern Alcohol and Drugs Coordination Team Tel.: 028 9043 4248 info@edact.org www.edact.org 1 Cromac Quay, Belfast, BT7 7JD.	Southern Alcohol and Drugs Coordination Team Tel.: 028 4066 0926 30a Ardery's Lane, Newry Road, Banbridge, BT32 3RE
Northern Alcohol and Drugs Coordination Team Tel.: 028 2531 1111 ndact@nhssb.n-l.nhs.uk County Hall, 182 Galgorm Road, Ballymena, BT42 1QB	Western Alcohol and Drugs Coordination Team Tel.: 028 8225 3950 Anderson House, 2nd Floor, Market Street, Omagh, BT78 1EE

Health Promotion Offices in Republic of Ireland

Health Promotion Departments are valuable sources of leaflets and other printed information about drugs and alcohol. The staff have expertise in developing drug and alcohol policies and will be able to advise on drug and alcohol education and prevention issues.

HSE Dublin Mid Leinster Tel.: 0506 57800 Health Promotion Department, Unit 4, Central Business Park, Clonminch, Portlaoise Road, Tullamore, Co. Offaly.	HSE Southern Area Tel.: 056 7761400 Health Promotion Department, Dean Street, Kilkenny.
HSE Dublin North Eastern Area Tel.: 046 76400 Health Promotion Department, Railway Street, Navan, Co. Meath.	HSE Southern Area Tel: 021 4921641 Health Promotion Department, Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital, Western Road, Cork.
HSE Dublin Mid Leinster Tel.: 01 2744295 Health Promotion Department, Block Civic Centre, Main Street, Bray, Co. Wicklow.	HSE Mid Western Area Tel: 061 483257 Health Promotion Department, Parkview House, Pery Street, Limerick.
HSE Dublin Mid Leinster Tel.: 01 4632800 Health Promotion Department, 3rd Floor, 52 Broomhill Road, Tallaght, Dublin 24.	HSE Western Area Tel.: 071 9820461 Health Promotion Department, Manorhamilton, Co. Leitrim.
HSE Dublin North Eastern Area Tel.: 01 8823415 Health Promotion Department, 3rd Floor, Park House, North Circular Road, Dublin 7.	HSE Western Area Tel: 091 548320 Health Promotion Department, The Annex, 1st Floor West City Centre, Seamus Quirke Road, Galway.

Health Promotion Offices in Northern Ireland

Eastern Health and Social Services Board area Tel.: 028 9032 1313. Eastern Area Health Promotion, Communication, Resource and Information Service (CRIS), Champion House, 12-22 Linenhall St., Belfast, BT2 8BS	Northern Health and Social Services Board area Tel.: 028 2563 5575 health.promotion@homefirst.n-l.nhs.uk Health Promotion Service, Homefirst Community Trust, Spruce House, Cushendall Road, Ballymena, BT43 6HL.
Western Health and Social Services Board area Tel.: 028 7186 5221 Health Promotion Department, Westcare Business Services Resources and Graphic Centre, The Hub, 12c Gransha Park, Derry, BT47 6WJ .	Southern Health and Social Services Board area Tel: 028 3741 2424 Southern Area Health Promotion Department, Healthcare Directorate Department, Admin Building, St. Luke's Hospital, Loughgall Road, Armagh, BT61 7NQ .



*Park Ratheniska Hurler Darragh Nolan
with his U14 Tony Forristal Trophy*



*Park Ratheniska U8s and mentors on their visit to Croke Park in 2009
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