

Speaker Biographies

Malachy O'Rourke: Although only one year in the job as Monaghan Senior Football Manager, O'Rourke has already achieved legendary status within the county by guiding the team to Ulster Championship honours earlier this year. The Derrylin man is also the former manager of his native Fermanagh where he guided the team to an Ulster Final appearance in 2008 only to be defeated by Armagh after a replay. He has a strong record at club level as well, where he guided The Loup to Derry and Ulster Club Championship titles. He has also won Club Championship titles in Tyrone and Cavan with Errigal Ciaran and Cavan Gaels respectively.

Ryan Porter: Porter has one of the fastest growing reputations in GAA circles after helping coach Monaghan Seniors to Ulster title success in 2013. He first started to develop a reputation in the upper echelons on the game with his native Dromore in county Tyrone, he developed important club coaching structures which help yielded Dromore Senior Club Championship honours in 2007. Dromore currently have a terrific record and tradition in Tyrone club football with Porter playing a key role in developing this. Ryan turned his attention to County set-ups soon after and was a coach for Donegal under Brian McIver. Monaghan came calling towards the tail end of 2012 and it's safe to say Monaghan physical and fitness presences in the Ulster final was no small part played by Porter.

Ciaran McBride: Dinky as he is more commonly known has a terrific record when it comes to developing a winning mentality in youths. Being a PE teacher in Omagh CBS, McBride has helped to guide the 'Brothers' to countless Ulster Colleges finals and titles at different age groups. The pinnacle of his success with his Secondary School came in 2007 after he guided them to Hogan and McRory Cup honours. McBride is a former player with the Tyrone Senior team. He played in the All Ireland Final of 1995 and has won numerous Ulster titles down through the years. Earlier in the year he joined the Monaghan Minor backroom team as the team coach under Galway and honouree Monaghan man Frank Brady. It is no coincidence that Monaghan won the Ulster Minor title for the 1st time in 68 years and reach the All Ireland semi-final only to lose to eventual winners Mayo.

Terrence 'Sambo' McNaughton: Sambo would be widely regarded as one of the best players in Ireland to never win a Celtic Cross. Having represented Antrim for 17 years McNaughton won 6 Ulster Senior Hurling Championship medals, 2 All Ireland 'B' titles and played in the 1989 All Ireland Hurling Final. In 1991, after having played a key role in nearly beating Kilkenny in the All Ireland semi-final, Sambo was presented with an All Star award for his performances. He also has won 8 Antrim Senior Hurling Club Championship medals with his club Ruari Og Cushendall. More recently Sambo along with one of his former playing colleague Dominic McKinley took charge of different Antrim Hurling set-ups starting the Minor's in 2004 before working their way up to the Senior job by the end of 2006. They both lead Antrim to McGrath Cup and 3 Ulster titles before setting aside in 2009.

Pat McEnaney: Pat is regarded as one of the best Gaelic Football referees from the past 20 years. Having developed his interest in Gaelic football with his club Corduff Gaels, he won both the Junior and Intermediate championship titles with his club in the late 90's, McEnaney turned his attention to refereeing and soon moved up the national ranks. He was appointed his first All Ireland final in 1996 and has gone on to referee in a further three more. He has also taken charge of numerous International Rules Series. Pat is currently Chairman of the National Referee's Committee where he has introduced a number of new initiatives to help referees and help develop a more free flowing style of football.

Paul Divilly: Paul is from Leixlip county Kildare and is currently a Regional Hurling Development Officer with Ulster GAA since 2011. Divilly is currently still playing intercounty hurling with his native county and he had the honour of captaining the team in there league and championship campaigns the past year. He also had the great honour of representing his country in the recent Hurling/ Shinty International in Croke Park.

Patrick McCarron: Patrick is from the Emyvale club in county Monaghan and was working as the Performance Analyst with the Monaghan Minor Gaelic Football team for the 2013 season. His key role with the team was to provide video analysis of both the Monaghan team and the opposition. He also provided real time analysis to the management team at half time and full time. Patrick joined the Monaghan Coaching and Games staff as an intern in February and has provided assistance in a number of different areas including working with Development squad players on a one on one basis looking at developing the major skills of the game through the use of video analysis.