

REFERENCE NO. (OFFICE USE ONLY):

GAA Oral History Project

Questionnaire

The GAA Oral History Project aims to record the fullest possible picture of what the GAA has meant to the Irish people, in their own words. This questionnaire will be preserved as a permanent resource on the history of the GAA and Irish society. This document will be accessible to the public, with the exception of your contact details. For more information on the project and how your contribution will be used, please see below, www.gaahistory.com or contact us by phone on +353 (0)1 662 5055, email, or post (details below).

The staff of the GAA Oral History Project would like to thank you in advance for taking the time to fill out this questionnaire.

Please return completed questionnaires electronically, if possible, to info@gaahistory.com or post handwritten questionnaires to **GAA Oral History Project, Boston College – Ireland, 42 St. Stephen’s Green, Dublin 2, Dublin, Ireland.**

Please Note:

- There is no minimum or maximum length for answers, but we would appreciate as much detail as you can possibly give us.
- If possible, please save this questionnaire as a word document on your computer and type your responses in the boxes provided. Then email the finished document to the address above. Handwritten questionnaires are also very welcome.
- Feel free to expand the boxes or attach additional sheets of paper if your answer is larger than the space provided.



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Name (Include Maiden Name and Nicknames if related to GAA)	
Contact Details (This information will be kept strictly confidential and will not be passed on to any third parties. It is for use solely by members of the GAA Oral History Project Team.)	Address: Telephone: Email:
Gender	
Born	Year born: Home County:
Education (Optional)	Primary: Secondary: Third Level:
Family	Siblings: Current Family if Different:
Club(s)	
Occupation (Optional)	
Parents' Occupation When You Were Young (Optional)	
Religion (Optional)	
Political Affiliation (Optional)	

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Q1: Describe your earliest GAA memory and how you became involved in the GAA?

Q2: Did your family have a tradition or history of GAA involvement?

Q3: Did your relatives discuss their GAA experiences with you? What were they?

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Q4: Tell me how GAA affected your family life?

Q5: Tell me what it was like to support your club/county when you were young and down through the years (travelling to games, prices of tickets, food, grounds visited, clothes worn, match-day traditions, local celebrations and traditions).

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Q6: If you had to choose just one game from all you've experienced, which would you choose? Why?

Q7: What impact has the GAA had on your life?

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Q8: What place and role does your club have in your community?

Q9: What role did the GAA play as part of your school and/or college life?

Q10: Who do you admire most in the GAA and why?

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Q11: In your experience what have been the biggest changes in the GAA?

Q12: Have changes in your community affected your club and how?

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Q13: Do you think the role of women in the GAA has changed over the years and how?

Q14: Describe the role of the churches and clergy in your club and how it has changed over the years?

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Q15: Was there a connection between politics and the GAA for you, if so what?

Q16: What have been the main disappointments you have had with the GAA?

Q17: Did the GAA shape your own identity in any way?

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Q18: What role has Irish language and culture had in your club and on your personal involvement with the GAA?

Q19: How important are rivalries within the GAA and what are yours?

Q20: Comment on the role of volunteers within the GAA?

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Q21: Describe your experience with teams as a player, manager, committee member or supporter.

Q22: Describe your experiences, if any, with the GAA outside Ireland.

Q23: Describe how media coverage of GAA in your lifetime has changed.

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Q24: What in your opinion are the biggest challenges facing the GAA in the future?

Q25: What does the GAA mean to you?

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Q26: Do you have any pictures, documents, video etc. that you could share with us? Please provide a brief description.

Do you know any songs or poems about the GAA in your local area that you can send us or write in here?

Can you think of anyone else in your locality or in your family circle who we should contact for this project? Who are they and why?

Q27: Is there anything else you would like to say about the GAA?

Q28: How did you hear about this project?

I hereby assign the copyright of the answers above to the GAA Oral History Project on the understanding that the content will not be used in a derogatory manner. I understand that I am giving the GAA Oral History Project the right to use and make available to the public the content of this questionnaire.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Please Note: If you are aged 18 years or younger this must be signed by your parent / guardian. Failure to do so will mean that we are unable to include your responses in the Archive

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Data Protection Information

The GAA Oral History Project aims to record the fullest possible picture of what the GAA has meant to the Irish people, in their own words. The project will record face-to-face interviews with thousands of people in Ireland and internationally, including GAA members and supporters, current and former players, managers, officials and administrators; anyone who has ever had any contact or involvement with the GAA. In addition, in order to reach the largest number of people possible, the GAA Oral History Project is also requesting that people fill out one of the questionnaires or send the project a letter or email about the place of the GAA in their life.

At the start of each questionnaire are a number of biographical questions, which we hope will be completed by each respondent. By including this section we aim to build up a profile of the socio-economic, religious and political composition of the people involved in the GAA. As this project aspires to be the largest public history project carried out in the state to date, the material collected will provide possibly the richest source of material to the sociologists of the present and the historians of the future. By including biographical information such as religion, political affiliation, education and occupation this project will allow academics, family or local historians and interested individuals to build up a picture of the composition of the GAA in a locality, a county and in the country. The interviews that are conducted and the questionnaires that are collected will allow current and future family members of participants to hear and see their ancestors, to view their handwriting, to learn about how they lived and the place of the GAA in their lives.

The interviews, questionnaires, letters, documents, recordings and photographs gathered will be preserved as the GAA Oral History Project Archive – a permanent resource on the history of the GAA in particular and Irish society in general. Samples of the collected material will be made available to the public on our website www.gaahistory.com and may be used in: public performances, lectures or talks; publications, including print, audio or video cassettes or CD ROM; public reference purposes in libraries, museums and archives; on radio or television; in educational establishments, including use in a thesis, dissertation or similar research; publication worldwide on the internet.

The entire GAA Oral History Project Collection, i.e. the full length interviews, questionnaires, letters, photographs, documents and recordings, will be made available to the public through the GAA Museum and Archive.

It should be noted that all contact details provided will be kept entirely confidential and will be accessible only by the staff of the GAA Oral History Project Team. Your contact details will only be retained so that we can contact you to clarify factual information, to send out a thank you note for your contribution, or to request clarification on items that you may have donated. Under no circumstances will your details be passed on to a third party, without your prior consent.