



# REINTRODUCE #RULE 21



# GAA: ORIGINAL AIMS AND OBJECTIVES BEING ERODED

On November 1st 1884 a group of men met as planned in Hayes Hotel in Thurles County Tipperary and founded the GAA; Gaelic Athletic Association, Cumann Luathcleas Gael. Its aims were the preservation and cultivation of our ancient national games, Irish language, music and dance.

All part of our culture as a proud nation which for centuries were being eroded to the point of extinction by British dominance to remove Irish cultural identity and replace it with Anglicisation thus removing resistance. But when those group of men left that hotel a new Irish offensive had begun, and from that the GAA became the lifeblood of the Irish people. It has marched side by side with revolutionary Republicanism and became one and the same, a new cultural nationalist revival had occurred.

GAA members were involved heavily in the 1916 Easter Rising and activities ceased when many were imprisoned.

The British tried to stop people going to games and then in 1918 they would not allow games to be played without a permit from Dublin castle. A GAA meeting unanimously agreed that no such permit would be obtained and in defiance over 50,000 members throughout the country held and played a series of games known as Gaelic Sunday.

On November 21st 1920, (Bloody Sunday) a Dublin v Tipperary football game in Croke Park was held with proceeds towards the Irish Republican prisoners fund; the British army entered Croke park and shot dead 14 people.

Move forward to recent years and we see a complete destabilizing effect occurring within the GAA with many thousands of members unhappy with the Associations leadership. The removal of Rule 21 allows the RUC/PSNI and British Army to set up teams. The opening of Croke Park to foreign games seen God Save the Queen played in Croke Park, and then we saw the British Queen herself, Commander and Chief of British forces being guided around Croke Park where her family's troops murdered 14 innocent Irishmen.

We have witnessed Aogán Ó Fearghail the 38th president of the GAA talking of possibly removing the national anthem Amhrán na bhFiann and the national flag to appease Brit loyalists. The removal of martyred Irish revolutionaries' names from club houses and clubs named after them is in process. The selling of broadcasting rights to British Sky Sports for Championship games is a further sell out.

The GAA is now being used to help normalise British rule in Ireland completely turning it against its founder's aims of preserving our culture. They are now attacking it from within at the top table in Croke Park, with its West Brit puppets on a string.

Republican Sinn Féin will be at the forefront to oppose the imperialist capitalist agenda. Many of our members are members of the GAA; deeply involved in playing, coaching and administrative roles within the Association as well as supporting our county teams we will continue to highlight the process of counter revolutionary ideals being set in place within our major sporting association.

We won't allow this agenda to prevail, as Republicans it is our duty to preserve the ideals of fellow Irishmen and Women who strove to rid mother Ireland of the yoke that is England. We must preserve our culture by immersing ourselves within its ancient pastimes and pass it onto our children as it was passed onto us, undiluted of outside influences and ensure a strong cultivation for future generations. We must ensure that men like Tipperary footballer Michael Hogan, shot dead in Croke Park on Bloody Sunday, or the killing of Aiden McAnespie, shot in the back by a British soldier at the border checkpoint in Aughnacloy, Co Tyrone as he made his way to play a Gaelic football match, are, never forgotten.