

## **Ireland's Top Footballers Coming to Ratoath Next Saturday**

### **Ratoath to Host All Ireland Intermediate Football 7 a-side competition**

**Friday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2010:** Next Saturday, September 18<sup>th</sup>, will see some of Ireland's top Senior and Intermediate Footballers come to Ratoath to compete in the annual All-Ireland Intermediate Football Sevens. Over 40 clubs from around the country are expected to compete in this action-packed day of football on the eve of the All-Ireland Football Final.

Teams from Ratoath, Old Castle and Dunshauglin will be among those competing.

According to Larry McGowan, Chairman of Ratoath GAA Club the tournament, which is taking place in Seán Eiffe Park in Ratoath, "has become a favourite with GAA fans and is the perfect opener to the most important weekend in the GAA calendar".

The tournament, which has been sponsored this year by EirGrid, will be attended by GAA President Christy Cooney.

Teams qualify for the Sevens by winning their Intermediate county championship or by invitation. Teams compete in group stages over one day at the single venue which has eight pitches. The top sixteen teams play in the qualifiers moving on to quarter-finals, semi-finals and final.

Mr McGowan said that "We are expecting to see some brilliant football next week and are hoping for a big crowd for a great atmosphere".

Mr McGowan said that "We would like to thank EirGrid for the generous sponsorship and the GAA for their support. We look forward to welcoming GAA fans from all over Ireland to our club to enjoy this special day of exciting football".

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