

Teams Competing for The 2011 Shamrock Lawns Cup

Dallas Gaelic Athletic Association	Year Founded: 2009 Colors: Red, White & Blue Mascot: Fionn Mac Cumhail (Warriors)
Kansas City Gaelic Athletic Club	Year Founded: 2008 Colors: Green & Navy Mascot: Wolfhounds
Little Rock Gaelic Athletic Association	Year Founded: 2007 Colors: Maroon & Old Gold Mascot: Na Fianna (Warriors)
Northwest Arkansas	Year Founded: 2008 Colors: Blue & Black Mascot: Rovers
St. Louis Gaelic Athletic Club	Year Founded: 2002 Colors: Red & White



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Go! Running
Sissy's Log Cabin
Irish Cultural Society of Arkansas

Burns Park
O'Donovan School of Irish Dance
Ashlee Foshee
The Price Street Pipe Band
Irish Cultural Society of Arkansas
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Did you snap some really great photos of today's events?
Please share them with us. E-mail them to LittleRockGAA@gmail.com

Welcome from the Club Chairman

Hello Everyone,

I would like to welcome you to the 2011 Rumble in the Rock III Gaelic Football Tournament. Each year we strive to improve the tournament and increase the number of clubs participating. With that, I would like to welcome all the participating clubs mentioned in the program. This year Dallas will be participating for the first time which I'm sure will help increase the level football being played.

I would like to sincerely thank all of our sponsors for the generous donations and support for Little Rock Na Fianna. The growth of the club and the tournament each year would not be possible without them. Gaibh raith mile maith agat (Thank you very much).

Since last year we have held a 'coaching and refereeing' course here in Little Rock and have become a member of the North America County Board' (NACB) who is the governing body of the GAA in the USA.

This year will be the first year that Little Rock will be travelling to compete in the GAA National Tournament in San Francisco.

Each season our goal is to recruit new members and grow as an organization. I would like to take the opportunity to encourage you, your family and your friends to become to part of the continued success of the club.

I hope you all enjoy the day and everything that the tournament has to offer. Good luck to all the clubs vying for the cup and safe travels to everyone.

Thank you,
Slan,

Rory O'Brien
Chairman Little Rock Na Fianna

Introduction to Gaelic Football

Gaelic Football is best described as a cross between soccer and rugby, although it is older than both. The first record of Gaelic football is in the Statutes of Galway (1527) which allowed the playing of football but banned hurling. The earliest reported match took place at Slane, County Meath, in 1712 when Meath played their neighbors, Louth. Each team has 13 players on a side, one of which is the goal tender. Players line up much the same as soccer (full backs, half backs, midfielders, forwards, etc.) and typically play in a "man to man" format. Players are allowed to move around the entire pitch without regard for the location of the ball (i.e. - no offsides).

One of the main differences from soccer is that players in Gaelic Football can use their hands to carry and pass the ball. A player can only obtain possession of the ball in their hands only when it is not in contact with the ground. Once in possession of a ball a player can only take four steps before they must pass it to another player, bounce it to themselves or "solo" it. (A maneuver where the player drops the ball from their hands to their feet while running, and then kicks it back into their hands, all without the ball contacting the ground) It is a skill which is difficult to master, but impressive to watch when done properly. Advancing the ball is passed to another player by kicking or striking the ball with open hand or closed fist. Throws are not allowed and result in a change of possession. The ball can be passed in any direction on the pitch.

Physical contact is allowed. It is legal for a player to "check" another player in possession of the ball with a shoulder to shoulder hit. Defenders may also try to knock the ball from an opponent's hands in an attempt to steal it.

There is also a great deal of physical contact when attempting to win a "jump" ball. Full out tackles or wrapping up of a player, with or without the ball is not allowed and results in a free kick from the spot of the foul.

There is one goal placed at each end of the pitch defended by the goal tender. The goal itself is a net approximately the same size as in soccer; however, the vertical posts continue upward to create a plane above. Scoring is accomplished in one of two ways. A shot into the net past the goal tender is worth 3 points. Players may also kick or hand-pass the ball over the goal crossbar and between the uprights. This is worth one point.

Gaelic Football is considered an amateur sport, even in Ireland. Players on each team play for the honor of representing their town, or County, and typically hold down regular jobs when not competing. Unlike many sports here in America, no contracts are made between the players and the teams. The sport is all about the local men, women and children bringing the recognition and trophy back home.

The culmination of every football season is the National Championships of the North American Gaelic Athletic Association, the ruling body for Gaelic sports in North America (except New York City). The event is held annually at various cities around the nation. Each Labor Day weekend teams of men, women and children from all over the United States come to compete for the title in their respective division and sport.

Rumble in The Rock Tournament Schedule of Events

Time	Event	Game Officials
8:00	Team Registration Begins	
8:15	Coaches & Officials Meeting	
8:30	O'Donovan School of Irish Dance	
8:45	National Anthems Team Introductions	
9:00	Little Rock vs. Combined	TBD + STL
9:55	Little Rock vs. Saint Louis	TBD + Combined
10:50	Saint Louis vs. Dallas	LR + Combined
11:45	Dallas vs. Combined	LR + STL
12:20	Lunch Break Poc Fada Competition	
1:00	Little Rock vs. Dallas	STL + Combo
1:55	Saint Louis vs. Combined	LR + Dallas
2:35	Determination of standings	
3:00	Championship Game	TBD
4:00	Trophy Presentation & Closing Ceremonies	

