

JIMMY FOGARTY RIP – AN APPRECIATION



Jimmy Fogarty, of Skehana, was the first secretary of the revived Coolcroo Athletic Club in 1958, a position he held until 1962. His secretarial skills did not go unnoticed by Tipperary County Board N.A.C.A.I. and Jimmy was elected County Secretary in 1964. It was a post he carried out with distinction for a three-year term. Following this he served for a year as secretary of the Munster Council of N.A.C.A.I. In 1969 Bord Lúthchleas Ógánach na hÉireann (B.L.O.E) was established and Jimmy was honoured to be elected as their first National Secretary. He held this position for a two-year term. His role as a B.L.O.E representative entitled him to sit on the executive committee of B.L.E. In addition to these commitments, Jimmy was also actively involved in the promotion of juvenile athletics in County Tipperary.

In 1965 Jimmy was elected to the General Council of the N.A.C.A.I. In fact, he was in attendance at their final meeting in Brú na nGael, North George's Street, Dublin on Saturday, 4th of March 1967. On Sunday, 16th of April in the same year he was a delegate at the special Congress of the N.A.C.A.I. Here, the congress agreed, by a vote of 85 to 33, to merger with the A.A.U. and form Bord Lúthchleas na hÉireann (Irish Athletic Board), B.L.E. Jimmy became involved in the meetings to draw up the constitution of this new board.

Jimmy Fogarty wrote extensively on athletics, with his articles being published in The Tipperary Star, The Clonmel Nationalist and The Gaelic Weekly. So informative were his reports that they were read by athletes and supporters throughout the nation. As an athlete himself, he won team gold with Coolcroo in the novice and junior Tipperary County Championships along with a silver County Senior Championship medal. Jimmy proudly wore the blue and gold singlet, representing Tipperary at cross-country in the 1960's. He also knew success as a middle-distance runner at sports meetings.

As an athletic administrator he was highly respected at club, county, provincial and national level. His work in keeping the athletic flame burning in the parish of Moycarkey-Borris is deeply appreciated by both young and old in the community.

Go dheis Dé go raibh a anam.

(Compiled by Timmy Bowe)