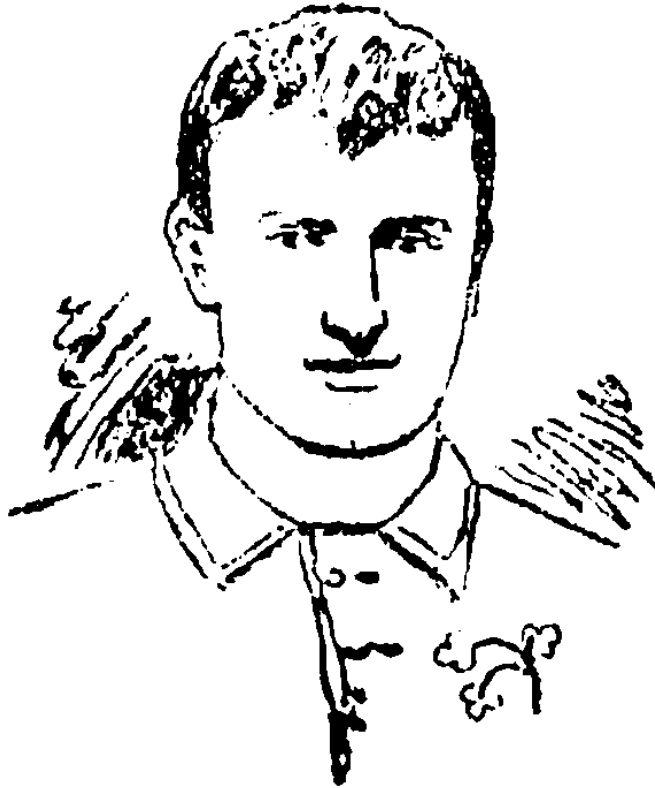


TIPPERARY ATHLETES



Jack Ryan

by **Michael O'Dwyer**

Jack Ryan was born on 16 September 1874 at Racecourse, Cashel, County Tipperary. He was the youngest son of John Ryan, a farmer, and Anne Ryan (née Moloney). He won two medals at the GAA national athletics championships. He came second to Tom Kiely in the 120 yd hurdles on 2 August 1897 at Clonmel, and came third to Tom Woods, from Enniskeane, County Cork, and second-placed Mike Ryan, his brother, in the all-around championship on 9 September 1896 at Tipperary town. With his aforementioned brother Mike Ryan he played for the Racecourse hurling club as well as playing Gaelic football for the Cashel King Cormacs. They also assisted Arravale Rovers in winning the Tipperary senior football championship title in 1899, and played on the Tipperary team in the Munster final the same year. Jack Ryan played rugby and turned out for Rockwell College who back then had a team in the Munster Senior Cup competition. He played interprovincial rugby for Munster and made his debut for Ireland on 6 February 1897. He was capped a total of fourteen times and with his brother he played all three matches when Ireland won the Triple Crown in 1899. Jack Ryan was also a horse breeder. The most famous horse he bred was Tipperary Tim, named after Tim Crowe, the long-distance runner from Bishopswood, Dundrum. The horse famously won the 1928 Aintree Grand National at outside odds of 100/1 when the ten-year-old was one of just two to complete the course, and the other horse had fallen but the jockey remounted. Jack Ryan died on 24 October 1937, aged sixty-three, and is interred in Rosegreen cemetery.