



# Vinnie Walsh

## Aligning Club and School



# Presentation Overview



- **St Colman's Case Study.**
- **What does club/school link mean?**
- **How do you set up the link?**
- **What are the benefits of the system?**
- **The Player.**
- **Bringing it to the next level (Club/School/County Link).**



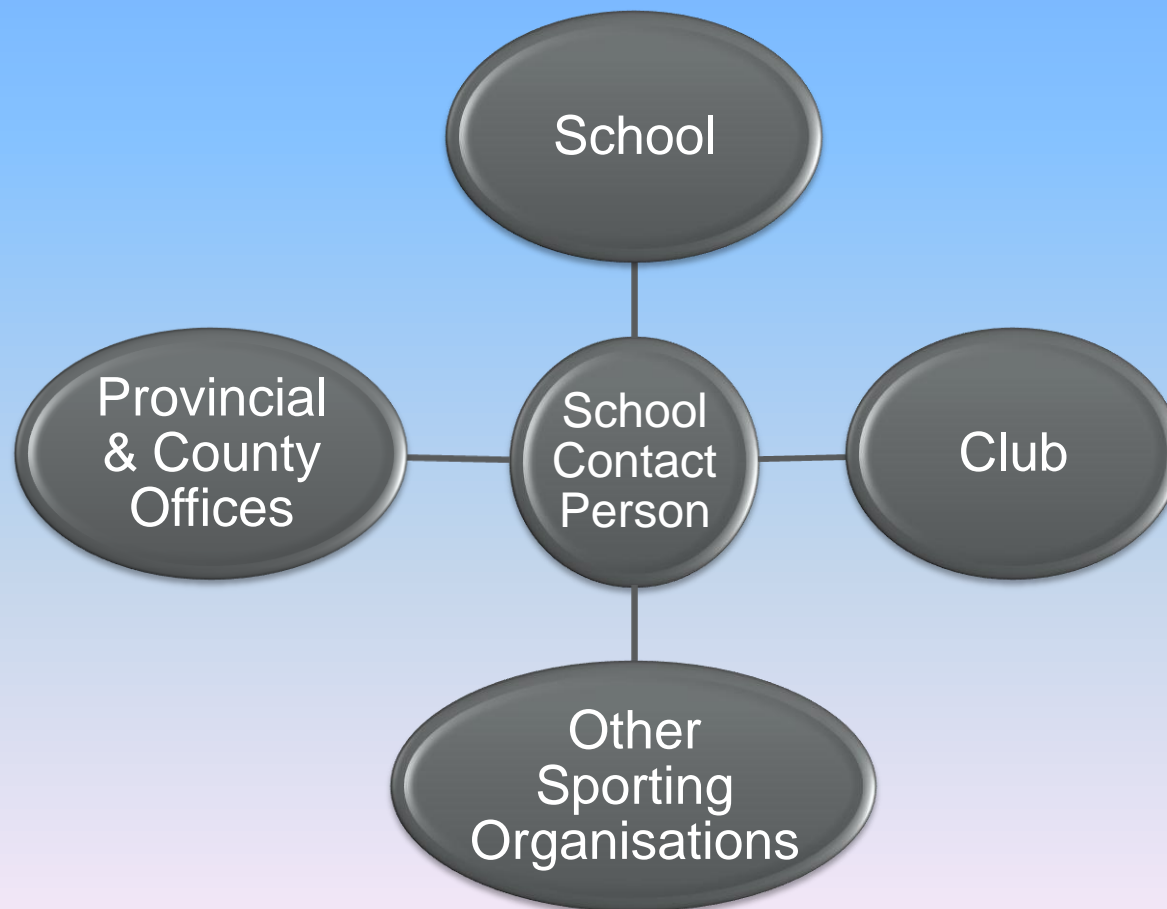
# Club/School Link



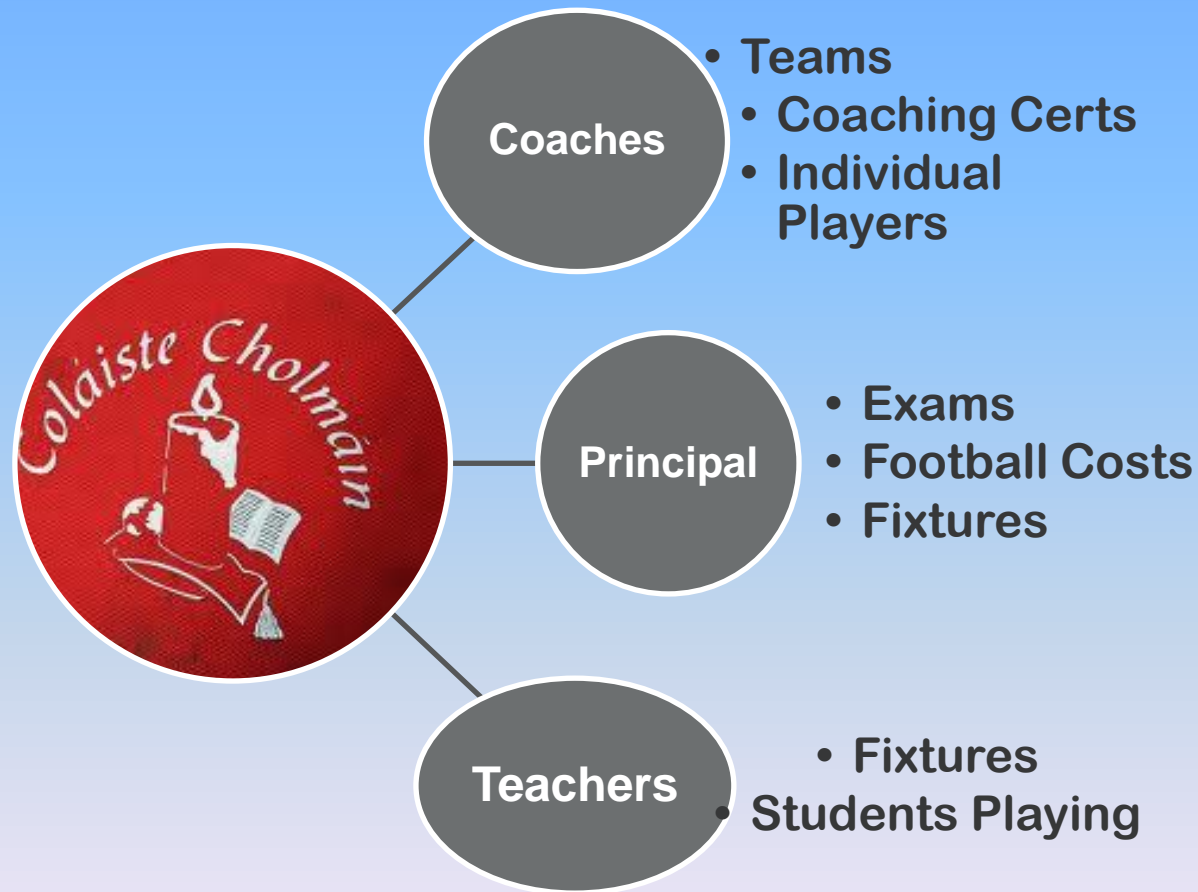
- In its simplest format it stands for the opening up of good links in communication between the school & clubs in the catchment area.



# Setting Up The System



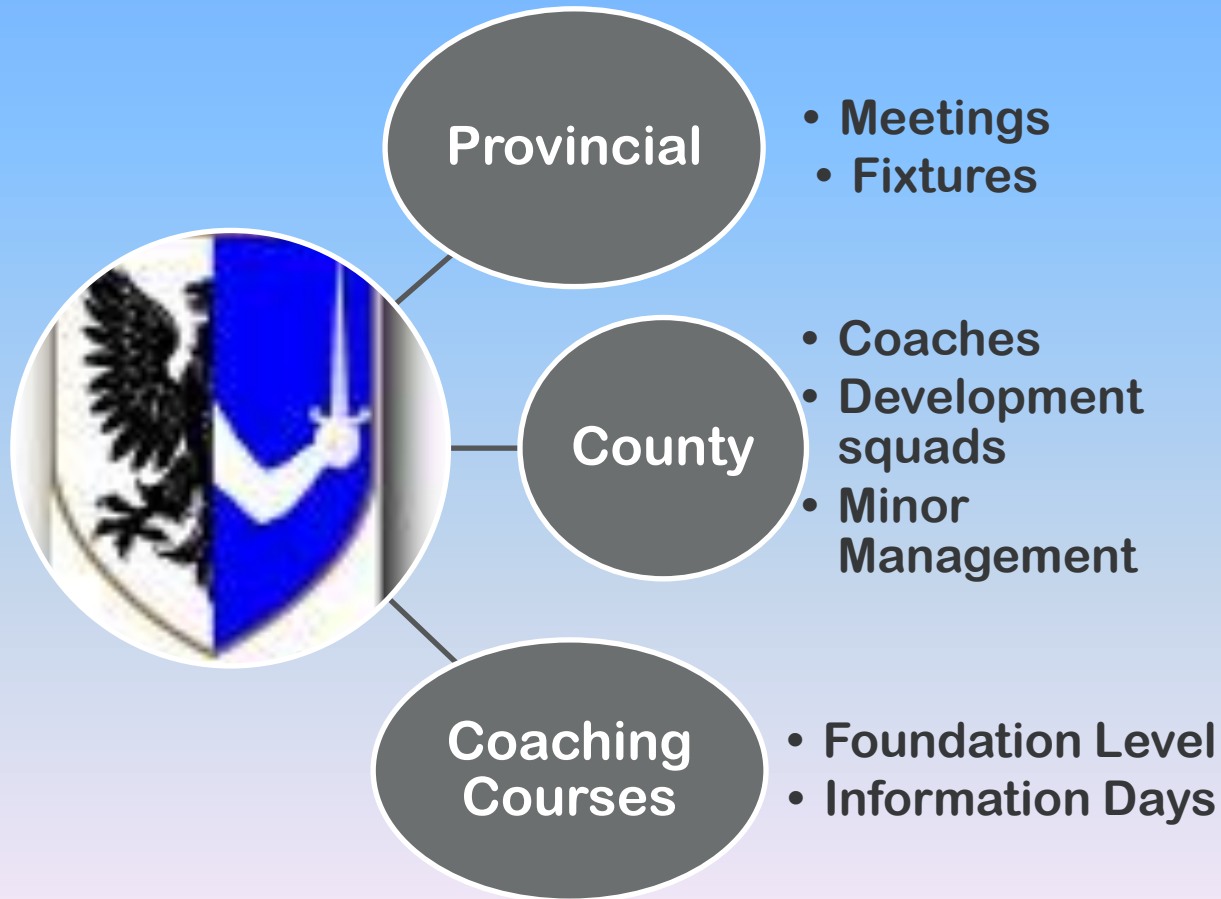
# School



# Club



# Provincial & County Offices



# Coaching Certs

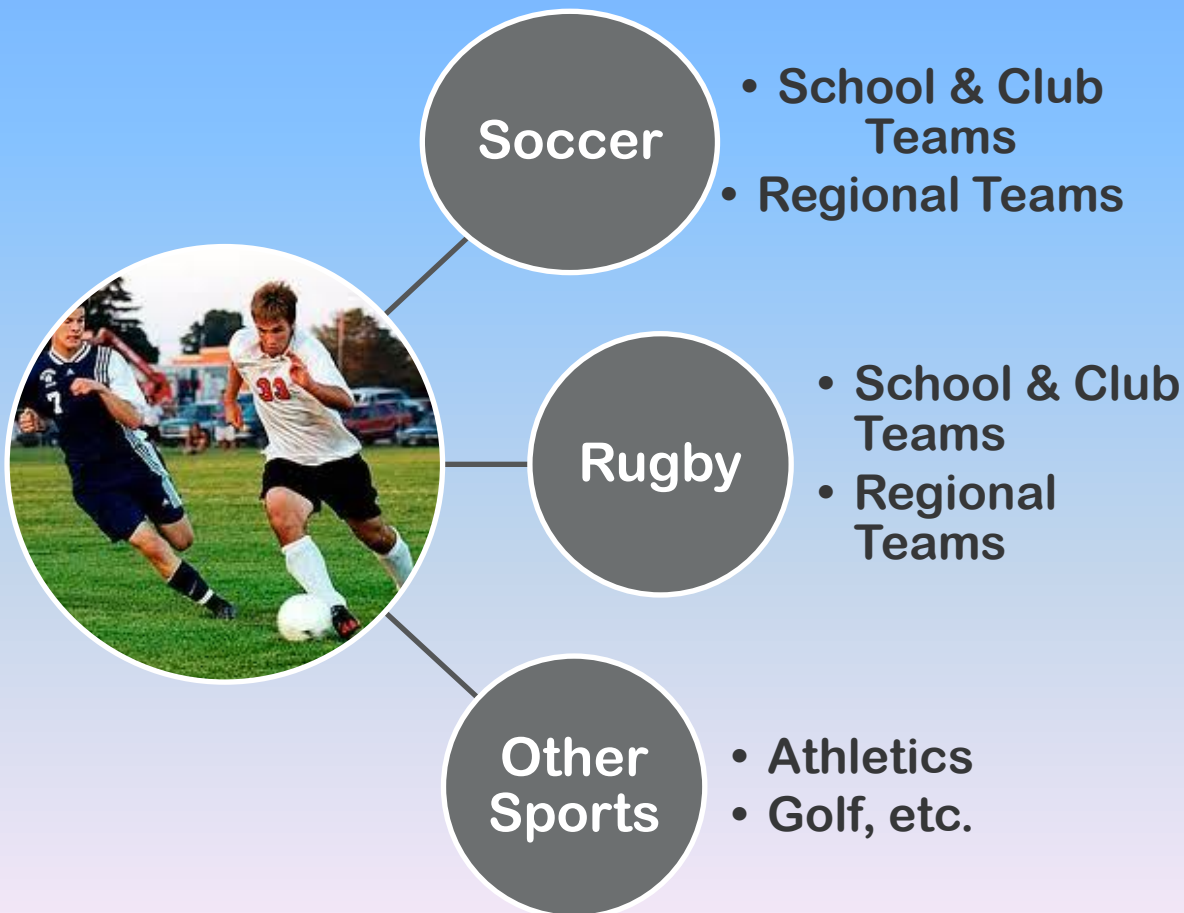


- ‘put in place a programme that makes sure every player is coached by a person qualified to the appropriate level’

(The GAA Strategic Vision and Action Plan 2009 – 2015)



# Other Sports



# Club/School Link

What are the major advantages to the system?

- **Opens up communication links between the school and feeder clubs.**
- **Chance to talk out concerns between club and school.**
- **Monitors the participation and progress of players.**
- **Stops the sending of messages through players.**
- **Promotes GAA in the area.**

# Benefits of a good club/school link

## ■ School

- Playing & Training Grounds Provided.
- Fixture Overload (September & April).
- Coaching Support.
- Equipment Shared.
- Fundraising.

## ■ Club

- Player Development.
- College Grounds available for Training & Matches during busy periods.

# St. Colman's (Case Study)





# St Colman's (Case Study)





# St Colman's (Case Study)



# The Player



# The Player

## Young Player Under Pressure

- Two Teams in School.
- Three Teams in Club.
- County Development/Minor Team.
- Other Sports.
- Exams.
- Work.

## Young Player Losing Interest

- Sub On Team in School.
- Sub On Team in Club.





# St. Colman's Case Study: Goal 2011/12



- Identify players playing in the club but not the college. **(Work together on getting them back involved).**
- 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Year Teams played two games on every match day. **(EVERY YOUNG PLAYER GOT GAME TIME & FELT PART OF THE PANEL).**
- In House Games.

# Club/School/County Link

- **Development Teams**

- U14, U15, U16, U17.
- [Kilkenny Development Squads.pdf](#)

- **County Minor Teams**

- Trials, Training, League, Championship.

- **County Coaches**

- Support and Advice in Clubs and Schools.
- Transition Year Life Skills Programme.



# Connacht GAA Centre of Excellence



# Our Goal



Go Raibh Maith Agaibh

