



HENRY SHEFFLIN - 2012

After recovering from four operations in five years to claim the 'Hurler of the Year' award for the third time in 2012, Henry Shefflin duly cemented his status as one of the greatest stickmen in the history of our fabled sport. A supreme hurling brain, he has inspired thousands with his 'do as I do' leadership and his vast and astonishing range of skills.



TONY KELLY - 2013

Fleet of foot, blessed from the heavens with a silky strike, Tony Kelly's heroic feats roused the masses in 2013 when he made history by collecting both the Hurler of the Year and Young Hurler of the Year awards. Just 19, Tony was already a prince of the game, piercing his way past Corkas Clare won their first All-Ireland SHC title since 1997 and also driving the county to triumph in that year's All-Ireland Under-21 championship.



RICHIE HOGAN - 2014

All year long Richie Hogan was the key cog in Kilkenny's battleplan. Never one to lean on the luxury of a second touch, he hit four points in their opening championship game, hit 0-7 in two games against Galway, and grabbed a vital goal that slayed Limerick and battled with flu' to bring Tipperary down. His manic intensity, flawless paw, scorching pace, salivating hunger for ball, and ability to pop up unnoticed in enemy territory made Hogan the hottest property in hurling in 2014.



TJ REID - 2015

With every passing year of his career, TJ Reid's legend grew. Born with wholesome skills and a gritty work ethic, his desire to learn and improve even further helped him throw all those ingredients into the pot to arrive at the perfect mix in 2015. Greatness was assured in a season that saw him hit 3-25 in just three outings, averaging 11 points a game. Leaping to the skies, fetching the ball from the clouds, scorching the grass and raising flags – Reid did it all in a golden year.



TOP of the CLASS

Players of the year
2012 - 2019



AUSTIN GLEESON - 2016

The versatile 21-year-old maverick shifted effortlessly from defence into attack with spectacular results in 2016. Against Clare in Munster, he was sensational as he scored six special points, five of them from play. In both the drawn and replayed All-Ireland semi-finals against Kilkenny he was equally prolific, hitting a combined 1-7 from play. Austin turned the game technicolour with his flair, soaring fetches, turbo-charged runs, spectacular score-taking, and raw physicality to claim both the Hurler and Young Hurler awards.



JOE CANNING - 2017

The planets aligned and destiny was fulfilled when Joe Canning became the first Galway player to win the Hurler of the Year award since the late Tony Keady in 1988. All year long 'Smokin' Joe was seizing the day, constantly on fire. He scored 0-9 in the All-Ireland final win over Waterford. But to get there, his iconic last-gasp point to beat Tipperary in the All-Ireland semi-final will go down as one of the greatest scores of all-time. He ended the year with a total of 46 points in Galway's glorious campaign.



CIAN LYNCH - 2018

It was once said of Cian Lynch that such is his talent, he could find the room to hurl in a wardrobe. The ultimate team player, his driving runs, sheer power and force of nature helped propel Limerick over the line and end their All-Ireland famine. With hurling in his lineage, Lynch grew from boy to man in 2018.



SEAMUS CALLANAN - 2019

Records continue to shatter at the hands of Seamus Callanan. After setting up a goal in the 2019 All-Ireland final, he went on to score one himself, thereby maintaining his manic regularity of hitting a goal in every championship game, something only the great Eddie Keher had previously managed. Tipp's captain and Talfman finished the season with a tally of 8-18, and, having been previously denied hurling's top individual accolade in recent seasons, finally and deservedly ended 2020 as the game's top player.