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QUARTER-FINALS HOLD CENTRE STAGE

Kilkenny and Waterford are safely through to the GAA All-Ireland hurling semi-finals and will be joined by the winners of the quarter-final clashes featuring Galway v Tipperary and Antrim v Cork.

Waterford clinched their place in the semi-finals with a great victory over Cork in the Munster final replay last Saturday.

As Leinster and Munster champions, Kilkenny and Waterford cannot meet in the All-Ireland semi-finals. Nor will there be repeat pairings from the provincial finals and, if possible, repeat pairings from other provincial games will also be avoided.

Kilkenny will be into semi-final action on August 8 against the winners of one of next weekend's quarter-finals, followed by Waterford v the other quarter-final winners on August 15.

First though, the main focus will be on the All-Ireland quarter-finals which have produced two very interesting ties.

Next weekend's programme is as follows:

Sunday July 25

GAA Hurling All-Ireland Quarter-final

Antrim v Cork, Croke Park 2.0

Galway v Tipperary, Croke Park 4.0

GALWAY v TIPPERARY

They meet for the first time in the championship since 2005 when Galway won an exciting All-Ireland quarter-final tie by 2-20 to 2-18 in Croke Park. It has been a very interesting rivalry since Galway re-emerged as a major hurling force in the 1970s. The counties have clashed 10 times in the championship since 1971 with each winning five times.

Championship games between this pair are usually very close but that wasn't the case in this year's Allianz Hurling League clash in Thurles in March when Tipperary won by 2-17 to 0-14. However, Galway staged an impressive recovery to go on and win the Division 1 title. Tipperary are bidding to reach the semi-finals for a third successive year while Galway last reached the semi-finals in 2005.

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**2010 Championship****Galway****Galway 2-22 Wexford 1-14****Galway 2-19 Offaly 3-16****Galway 3-17 Offaly 2-18 (Replay)****Kilkenny 1-19 Galway 1-12 (Leinster final)****Tipperary****Cork 3-15 Tipperary 0-14****Tipperary 3-24 Wexford 0-19****Tipperary 0-21 Offaly 1-12****Last Ten Championship Clashes****2005: Galway 2-20 Tipperary 2-18 (All-Ireland quarter-final)****2003: Tipperary 1-18 Galway 1-17 (All-Ireland qualifiers)****2001: Tipperary 2-18 Galway 2-15 (All-Ireland final)****2000: Galway 1-14 Tipperary 0-15 (All-Ireland quarter-final)****1993: Galway 1-16 Tipperary 1-14 (Ireland semi-final)****1991: Tipperary 3-13 Galway 1-10 (All-Ireland semi-final)****1989: Tipperary 1-17 Galway 2-11 (All-Ireland semi-final)****1988: Galway 1-15 Tipperary 0-14 (All-Ireland final)****1987: Galway 3-20 Tipperary 2-17 (All-Ireland semi-final)****1971: Tipperary 3-26 Galway 6-8 (All-Ireland semi-final)****Tipperary 5, Galway 5.****ANTRIM v CORK**

Antrim are back in the GAA Hurling All-Ireland Senior championship quarter-final for the first time since 2004 after their great qualifier win over Dublin and, as six years ago, they face Cork who easily beat them on that occasion. Cork later went on to win the All-Ireland title.

It will be Cork's fifth match of the campaign, having played Waterford (twice), Limerick and Tipperary.

2010 Championship**Antrim****Antrim 2-18 Carlow 3-12****Antrim 1-17 Dublin 0-19**

(Antrim also won the Ulster title, beating Down by 4-22 to 1-12 but it's not part of the All-Ireland series)

Cork**Cork 3-15 Tipperary 0-14****Cork 2-19 Limerick 0-12****Cork 2-15 Waterford 2-15****Waterford 1-16 Cork 1-13 (Munster final) After extra-time.**

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ANTRIM v CORK – THE HISTORY

This will be the 8th championship meeting between the counties with Cork having won the previous seven.

2004 – Cork 2-26 Antrim 0-10 (All-Ireland quarter-final)

1990 – Cork 2-20 Antrim 1-13 (All-Ireland semi-final)

1986 – Cork 7-11 Antrim 1-24 (All-Ireland semi-final)

1984 – Cork 3-26 Antrim 2-5 (All-Ireland semi-final)

1947 – Cork 7-10 Antrim 0-5 (All-Ireland semi-final)

1943 – Cork 5-16 Antrim 0-4 (All-Ireland final)

1904 – Cork 4-18 Antrim 2-3 (All-Ireland semi-final)

GAA HURLING ALL-IRELAND SENIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS 2010

LEINSTER

May 22: First round: Laois 1-13 Carlow 0-10, Portlaoise.

May 29: Quarter-final: Galway 2-22 Wexford 1-14, Nowlan Park.

May 30: Quarter-final: Offaly 2-26 Antrim 3-16 (After extra-time), Parnell Park.

June 6: Quarter-final: Dublin 0-25 Laois 0-16, Nowlan Park.

June 20: Semi-finals: Kilkenny 4-19 Dublin 0-12; Galway 2-19 Offaly 3-16, Croke Park.

June 26: Semi-final replay: Galway 3-17 Offaly 2-18 Portlaoise.

July 4: Final: Kilkenny 1-19 Galway 1-12, Croke Park.

Munster

May 30: First round: Cork 3-15 Tipperary 0-14, Pairc Ui Chaoimh.

June 7: Semi-final: Waterford 0-22 Clare 1-15, Thurles.

June 20: Semi-final: Cork 2-19 Limerick 0-12, Pairc Ui Chaoimh.

July 11: Final: Cork 2-15 Waterford 2-15, Thurles.

July 17: Replay: Waterford 1-16 Cork 1-13, Thurles (After extra-time)

Ulster

May 8: Monaghan 1-15 Fermanagh 2-10, Enniskillen; Armagh 3-23 Donegal 1-12, Letterkenny; Tyrone 6-24 Cavan 1-14, Omagh.

May 15: London 3-16 Monaghan 1-15, Casement Park; Armagh 3-20 Tyrone 2-9, Casement Park.

May 29: Quarter-finals: Down 4-24 Armagh 0-9, Casement Park; London 2-12 Derry 0-15, Casement Park.

June 13: Semi-final. Down v London – Not played

June 27: Final: Antrim 4-22 Down 1-12, Casement Park.

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**Hurling All-Ireland Senior Championships**

June 26: All-Ireland qualifier – preliminary round: Carlow 1-19 Laois 3-12, Dr. Cullen Park.

July 3: Qualifiers – Phase 1: Antrim 2-18 Carlow 3-12, Casement Park;

Tipperary 3-24 Wexford 0-19, Thurles

July 10: Qualifiers – Phase 2: Offaly 1-19 Limerick 1-13, Tullamore; Dublin 2-22

Clare 0-15, Croke Park.

July 17: Qualifiers – Phase 3: Antrim 1-17 Dublin 0-19, Croke Park

July 18: Qualifiers – Phase 3: Tipperary 0-21 Offaly 1-12, Portlaoise.

July 25: All-Ireland quarter-finals: Galway v Tipperary; Antrim v Cork.

August 8: Semi-final: Kilkenny v quarter-final winners, Croke Park.

August 15: Semi-final: Waterford v quarter-final winners, Croke Park.

September 5: Final, Croke Park.

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