

= Enda Muldoon =

Enda Muldoon ( born 11 September 1977 ) is an Gaelic footballer from Ballinderry , County Londonderry , Northern Ireland . Muldoon played for the Derry GAA team and has won an Ulster Senior Football Championship and two National League titles with the county , as well as Ulster Minor , Ulster Under 21 and All @-@ Ireland Under @-@ 21 Football Championships . He also won an All Star Award for his performances in the 2004 All @-@ Ireland Senior Football Championship .

Muldoon plays his club football for Ballinderry Shamrocks . He was instrumental in helping Ballinderry win the 2002 All @-@ Ireland Senior Club Football Championship , and he has also won six Derry Championships and an Ulster Senior Club Football Championship with the club .

Muldoon is a versatile player who can play anywhere in the forward line or in midfield . Described by Joe Brolly as " the greatest ever natural talent to have played with Derry " , his repertoire of skills include his catching ability , scoring prowess , confidence on the ball , positional awareness and in particular his great passing capabilities . He currently plays at left half forward for Derry and midfield for Ballinderry .

Despite often playing in the half forward line or midfield , Muldoon has consistently been a high scorer for Derry . He finished the 2001 All @-@ Ireland Senior Football Championship with 2 @-@ 10 ( 16 ) and the 2004 Championship with 3 @-@ 24 ( 33 ) . He finished the 2006 campaign with 1 @-@ 07 ( 10 ) from two matches . His tally of 12 Championship goals is one of the highest ever in Ulster football history .

= = Football career = =

= = = Playing style = = =

Described as " one of the most talented footballers of his generation " , Enda Muldoon has played in virtually all positions in the forward line , as well as midfield for both his club and county . He is regarded as the complete footballer in that he has impressive high @-@ fielding skills , is hard to dispossess , is very accurate in front of the posts with both feet and covers a lot of ground often tracking back to help in defence . Muldoon has been praised for his vision and ability to pick out pin @-@ point passes , and he is also regarded as a great reader of the game . Ballinderry and Derry team @-@ mate Kevin McGuckin described him as " a magician on the ball and can do anything with it or put it anywhere with his passing " . GAA journalist and former Derry player Joe Brolly said of him : " I cannot say I have ever seen a more elegant footballer " and compared him to Kerry football legend Maurice Fitzgerald .

= = = Inter @-@ county = = =

In 1995 , his last year of eligibility , Muldoon was brought into the Derry Minor panel . He was part of the team that won the 1995 Ulster Minor Championship and finished runners @-@ up to Westmeath in that year 's All @-@ Ireland Minor final . He was instrumental in Derry 's run in that Minor Championship , including scoring 1 @-@ 07 ( 10 ) against Down in the Ulster final and scoring a dramatic last minute goal which helped Derry beat Galway by a point in the All @-@ Ireland semi @-@ final .

Muldoon reached the Ulster Under @-@ 21 Football Championship final with Derry Under @-@ 21s in 1996 , but were defeated by Cavan . In 1997 Muldoon and Derry won the Ulster Under @-@ 21 and All @-@ Ireland Under @-@ 21 Football Championships , defeating Fermanagh and Meath in the respective finals . Muldoon was also on the team the following year , but Derry were defeated at the Ulster final stage by Armagh .

He made his Derry Senior debut in the 1997 season and reached the Ulster final , where they were beat by Cavan . In 1998 , playing in midfield he won the Ulster Senior Championship with Derry . It was his sixth Ulster final in four years ? one Minor , three Under @-@ 21 and two Senior . Derry lost

out to Galway in that year 's All @-@ Ireland Championship semi @-@ final . In 2000 he won the National League with Derry , defeating Meath in the final . Derry also reached that year 's Ulster final , but lost out to Armagh . He was nominated in 2000 for an All Star , but narrowly missed out . He was however an All Star replacement for the All Star trip to Dubai in January 2001 .

Derry lost at the semi @-@ final stage of the 2001 Ulster Championship , but nonetheless reached the All @-@ Ireland semi @-@ final through the qualifiers , where they once again faced Galway . Derry again lost to Galway , despite a goal scored by Muldoon . Muldoon scored 2 @-@ 10 ( 16 ) in that year 's Championship . Muldoon was named Derry captain for the 2003 season .

In 2004 Muldoon and Paddy Bradley formed a clinical scoring partnership en route to the All @-@ Ireland semi @-@ final , where they eventually lost to Kerry . Muldoon contributed 3 @-@ 24 ( 33 ) of Derry 's total of 7 @-@ 92 ( 113 ) in the 2004 All @-@ Ireland Championship , including a goal in the semi @-@ final and 1 @-@ 06 ( 9 ) in the quarter @-@ final in a man of the match performance against Westmeath . He was named full forward on the 2004 All @-@ Star team for his performances the Championship .

Muldoon had an injury called patellar tendinitis in both his knees . In December 2004 , he underwent surgery on one of his knees . The operation was successful and he resumed training on April 2005 . Muldoon started the 2006 Ulster Championship campaign very brightly scoring 1 @-@ 03 ( 6 ) in the first round of the Ulster Championship against defending All @-@ Ireland Champions Tyrone and 0 @-@ 04 against Donegal . However Muldoon , with a previously exemplary disciplinary record at all levels , was red @-@ carded late in that game . Some commentators called for Muldoon 's red card to be rescinded after television replays showed he was reacting to " extreme provocation " from Donegal full back Paddy Campbell , who had punched Muldoon in the groin . Muldoon however received a four @-@ week suspension and missed Derry 's next two games against Kildare and Longford . Longford produced a shock victory to knock Derry out of the 2006 Championship . He finished the 2006 campaign with 1 @-@ 07 ( 10 ) from two matches .

Muldoon put in some impressive performances in Derry 's run to the 2007 All @-@ Ireland quarter @-@ final , where they lost out to Dublin . He was awarded the Ulster Tennent ? s Monthly Merit Award for July 2007 , for his performances against Mayo and Laois that month , including a lobbed goal against Mayo . This was the second time he had received the accolade . He was instrumental in the 2008 National League , which Derry won , defeating Kerry in the final . Joe Brolly described him as " the best player on the field " . The league success saw Derry become favourites to win the Ulster Championship and one of the top few for the All @-@ Ireland . However , despite a good opening victory against Donegal , Derry exited the Ulster Championship against Fermanagh at the semi @-@ final stage and were defeated by Monaghan in the first round of the Qualifiers .

Muldoon and Derry also reached the National League final in 2009 , but were defeated by Kerry . He missed the final due to injury . Muldoon won a second McKenna Cup medal with Derry in 2011 . They also reached that year 's Ulster final but lost to Donegal .

= = = Club = = =

Muldoon won his first Derry Senior Football Championship medal while still a minor in 1995 , when Ballinderry defeated Bellaghy in the final . In 1998 Muldoon was part of the Ballinderry team that won the All @-@ Ireland Kilmacud Crokes Sevens Championship .

After losing two finals in a row to Bellaghy in 1999 and 2000 , Ballinderry won the 2001 Derry Championship , once again defeating Bellaghy in the decider . The club went on to win the 2001 Ulster Club Championship with victories over St. Gall 's in the quarter @-@ final ( after a replay ) , Cavan Gaels in the semi @-@ final and Mayobridge in the final . Muldoon was awarded Ulster Football Award Winner at the AIB GAA Provincial Player Awards 2001 for his role in Ballinderry 's march to claim the Ulster Club Championship . He was presented his award by GAA President Seán McCague . Ballinderry went on to represent Ulster in the All @-@ Ireland Senior Club Football Championship , which they won defeating Tír Chonaill Gaels ( London ) in the quarter @-@ final , Rathnew ( Wicklow ) in the semi @-@ final and Nemo Rangers ( Cork ) in the final . Muldoon played through the pain barrier in the Championship , delaying an operation on a troublesome hip injury

until after the All @-@ Ireland final .

Ballinderry defended the Derry Championship in 2002 , but lost in the semi @-@ final stage of the Ulster Club Championship to Errigal Ciarán . Muldoon won the Ulster Tennent ? s Monthly Merit Award for October 2002 for his performance against Mayobridge in the Ulster Club quarter @-@ final . His performance in that game was described as a " masterful display " , scoring vital points and was the " defensive anchor in a tense final quarter " . Muldoon also helped New York club Westmeath reach the semi @-@ final of the New York Senior Football Championship in 2002 , but they were defeated by the Kerry club .

Muldoon was runner @-@ up for the third time in the Derry Championship in 2003 , losing to local rivals An Lúb in the final . He gained his fourth Derry Championship medal in 2006 with the club , avenging the 2003 loss to An Lúb , with Muldoon having an " impressive game " . Ballinderry reached the 2006 Ulster Club final , but lost narrowly to Crossmaglen Rangers . In 2008 Muldoon and Ballinderry won the Ulster Senior Club Football League . Muldoon won his fifth Derry Championship medal in 2008 , this time as captain . An achilles injury forced him to miss the quarter @-@ final tie with Bellaghy and he was only fit enough to come on as a substitute in the semi @-@ final clash with Dungiven . However he recovered in time for the final , and his performance , particularly in the second half , proved vital in helping the club defeat Slaughtneil . Ballinderry got to the 2008 Ulster Club final and again faced Crossmaglen . Muldoon put in a brilliant performance in the game , which finished a draw . He broke a bone in his foot two days before the replay and could not play . His absence proved costly and Cross won the replay .

Coleraine defeated Ballinderry in the 2010 Derry Championship final , but Muldoon won his sixth county medal in 2011 with victory over Kilrea in the final . The Shamroks also won the 2010 and 2011 Ulster League titles . He has also won eight Derry Senior League medals with the club ( 1995 , 1996 , 1997 , 2005 , 2006 , 2007 , 2008 and 2010 ) .

= = = Province = = =

Muldoon has played for Ulster many times . He was part of the panel in 2000 , that won the Railway Cup , but could not play due to an injury picked up in training . He also won the competition with the province in 2003 , 2004 and 2007 .

= = Honours = =

= = = County = = =

= = = = Senior = = = =

National Football League :

Winner ( 2 ) : 2000 , 2008

Runner @-@ up : 1998 , 2009

Ulster Senior Football Championship :

Winner ( 1 ) : 1998

Runner up : 1997 , 2000 , 2011

Dr. McKenna Cup :

Winner ( 1 ) : 1999 , 2011

Runner up : 2008 , more ?

= = = = Under @-@ 21 = = = =

All @-@ Ireland Under @-@ 21 Football Championship :

Winner ( 1 ) : 1997

Ulster Under @-@ 21 Football Championship :  
Winner ( 1 ) : 1997  
Runner up : 1996 , 1998

== = Minor == =

All @-@ Ireland Minor Football Championship :  
Runner up : 1995  
Ulster Minor Football Championship :  
Winner ( 1 ) : 1995

== = Club == =

All @-@ Ireland Senior Club Football Championship :  
Winner ( 1 ) : 2002  
All @-@ Ireland Kilmacud Crokes Sevens Championship :  
Winner ( 1 ) : 1998  
Ulster Senior Club Football Championship :  
Winner ( 1 ) : 2001  
Runner up : 2006 , 2008  
Ulster Senior Club Football League :  
Winner ( 3 ) : 2008 , 2010 , 2011  
Derry Senior Football Championship :  
Winner ( 8 ) : 1995 , 2001 , 2002 , 2006 , 2008 , 2011 , 2012 , 2013  
Runner up : 1999 , 2000 , 2003 , 2010  
Derry Senior Football League :  
Winner ( 8 ) : 1995 , 1996 , 1997 , 2005 , 2006 , 2007 , 2008 , 2010  
Numerous underage awards including U @-@ 12 and U @-@ 14 Derry Championships

== = Province == =

Railway Cup :  
Winner ( at least 3 ) : 2000 ? , 2003 , 2004 , 2007

== = Individual == =

All Star :  
Winner ( 1 ) : 2004  
Nominated ( runner up ) : 2000  
Irish News Ulster GAA All Star - Winner ( 4 ) : 2000 , 2001 , 2004 , 2007  
Ulster Tennent 's Merit Award - Winner ( 2 ) : October 2002 , July 2007  
AIB GAA Provincial Player Awards - Ulster Football Award - Winner ( 1 ) : 2001  
Derry Senior football captain : 2003  
Derry Senior Football Championship winning captain : 2008