

IFA Elections 2025

Ulster/North Leinster Regional Chair

County Executive members to choose new Ulster/North Leinster Chair

John Carroll
IFA National Returning Officer



The democratic structure of IFA ensures that members of our county executives have a say in electing our regional chairs.

With a number of critical issues on the horizon for Irish farming, it's very important to have strong IFA leadership to represent the interests of farm families.

Two candidates are running for the position of IFA Ulster/North Leinster Regional Chair – Maurice Brady and Kevin Sweeney.

Inside this IFA Election Special, you'll find a profile of each candidate.

Both candidates have received equal space to outline their priorities and how they will represent farmers if elected.

You will also find information on how the election will be conducted and how the vote works.

Ulster/Nth Leinster Chair Role

The new Regional Chair will be directly elected by the county executives within the region, recognising the vital importance of County Executive members within the IFA structure.

The new Regional Chair will have a critical role in:

- Communicating with and supporting County Executives between Council meetings;
- Co-ordinating IFA campaigns at a regional level; and,
- As a national officer and member of Council, dealing with urgent issues arising between Council meetings and liaising directly with County Executives within the region County Executive members to choose new Ulster/Nth Leinster Regional Chair

John Carroll
IFA National Returning Officer

Your Candidates

**Maurice
Brady**



**Kevin
Sweeney**



Have your say and VOTE at your County Executive meeting

VOTE

Maurice

BRADY

For Ulster/North
Leinster Chair



My key priorities are;

- Protection of CAP Payments with a continued ring fence of Pillar 1 & Pillar 2 which is vital for this region.
- Succession - A properly funded succession scheme for both the younger and older farmer.
- Clarity and certainty on regulations regarding Derogation, Nitrates and Cross Compliance.
- Simplification and targeting of schemes - SCEP, ACRES, TAMS etc.
- Delivery of the tillage expansion and sustainability scheme.

In addition, I will continue to lobby on the key issues of;

- An effective TB eradication scheme, with fair compensation for the affected farmers.
- Delivery of the promised planning exemption for slurry storage and animal housing.
- Continued effective support for the Pig, Poultry, Sheep & Forestry sectors.



087 625 4822

I am married to Claire with 3 adult stepsons. I am a suckler farmer in Laragh, Co.Cavan, farming 100 Acres with a contract rearing enterprise.

I have been a lifelong member of the IFA. My first role was County Secretary. I have served on the Farm Business, Livestock and Animal Health National Committees. I represent IFA on the Teagasc Signpost Steering Committee. I am currently in my final year as Cavan County Chairman.

I was one of the leaders involved in the successful poultry protest in Cavan in 2022 and the national pig farmers rescue scheme. I instigated the Young Farmer IFA Membership scheme in the agricultural colleges, which has attracted a large cohort of young members.

As a full-time farmer, with a real understanding of farmers' concerns, I have the necessary experience to represent all farmers in the region.

**For a strong representative voice
Vote No.1 Maurice Brady.**



@MauriceBradyIFA



IFA

Empower
the Youth

Food
security over
defence
spending

All sectors
working
together for a
better future

YOUR NO.1 VOTE

**KEVIN
SWEENEY**

IFA must strengthen our voice in
European and World Markets



PRIORITIES



**Push to protect farm family
incomes & supports**



**Urgent lobbying for planning
exemption**



**Further develop ideas to
maintain Nitrates Derogation**



Oppose unfair taxes



**Tradition & Innovation hand in
hand**



Unite



**ACTIVE
REPRESENTATION
TO PROTECT FARM FAMILIES**



**A consistent voice
for fairness,
transparency and unity**



Kevin Sweeney, 44, Ardee, County Louth. Married to Sarah with five daughters. Raised on a mixed farm with spuds, barley, sheep, and dairy. Attended Warrenstown Agricultural College. Spent 2002 on a New Zealand dairy farm to expand skills. In 2010, we shifted to beef and sheep only. This became unsustainable and I began working in the live export industry, forming strong relationships with farmers. We now rear turkeys along with milking 100 cows, rearing dairy-beef calves and zwartble sheep.

**Committed to being a strong voice for you as we
tackle the challenges of keeping family farms thriving.**



How the vote works



All members of the seven County Executives in the Ulster/Nth Leinster region are entitled to vote by secret ballot. This includes county officers, national committees/sections and Council representatives, two Macra representatives and up to four delegates per Branch.

Branch delegates will have a strong influence on the result. This is because at each County Executive meeting, the delegates' votes from each Branch will be placed in a branch envelope. These branch votes are weighted to reflect the membership of the branch.

A branch membership of:		
8-25 members	26 -50 members	Every extra 25 members or part thereof
= 1 vote	= 2 votes	= one additional vote

This means a branch with a membership of 60, and with four delegates at the County Executive meeting, would have 12 (4x3) weighted votes in the Regional Chair election. The election count will be held in the Irish Farm Centre, Tues, 2nd Dec, 2025.

County Executive meetings to elect the Ulster/ North Leinster Regional Chair

County Executive	Venue	Date
Westmeath	Bloomfield Hotel, Mullingar	Tues, 11th Nov
Longford	Longford Arms Hotel	Thu, 13th Nov
Louth	O'Connells Clubrooms, Castlebellingham	Tue, 18th Nov
Meath	Ardboyne Hotel, Navan	Wed, 19th Nov
Cavan	Kilmore Hotel, Cavan	Thu, 20th Nov
Donegal	Clanree Hotel, Letterkenny	Tue, 25th Nov
Monaghan	The Four Seasons Hotel, Monaghan Town	Thu, 27th Nov

All meetings 8pm. For updates, check www.ifa.ie/UNL25.

Have your say and VOTE at your County Executive meeting