



Crinniú Bliantúil 2024

(Annual General Meeting 2024)

Tuarascáil An Rúnaí

(Secretary's Report)

23 ú Samhain 2024

(23rd November 2024)

As communicated previously, the Annual General Meeting will be held on Saturday 23rd of November at 8pm in the clubrooms at St. Tiarnach's Park.

All members are invited to discuss the following agenda:

An Clár – 2024 AGM

1. Adoption of Standing Orders
2. Re-affirm commitment to the GAA Constitution
3. Report of last year's AGM
4. Secretary's Report
5. Treasurer's Report and Presentation of Financial Statement's
6. Chairman's Address
7. Election of Officers
8. Appointment of County Board Delegate



9. Motions – **no motions proposed for consideration**
10. Any Other Business / open forum

Adoption of Standing Orders

- The proposer of a motion, or an amendment thereto, may speak for five minutes but no longer.
- A person speaking to a motion / issue must not exceed three minutes.
- The proposer of a motion or amendment may speak a second time for five minutes before a vote is taken, but no other member may speak a second time to the same motion, issue or amendment.
- The Chairman shall, at any time he considers that a matter has been sufficiently discussed, call on a proposer to reply, after which a vote must be taken.
- A member may, with the consent of the Chairman, move that the question now be put”, after which when the proposer has spoken, a vote be taken if applicable.

Any motion seeking additions or amendments to the Constitution or Rules must have a majority equal to two-thirds of those present, and able to vote - i.e., current paid members for 2024.

As above, no motions for consideration provided prior to the AGM in line with the GAA Club Constitution.

CLG Cluain Eois AGM Minutes – 2023

It was noted that the minimum quorum of 15 was met and that the meeting could proceed as intended.

Adoption of standing orders

Dean O'Connor outlined that no motions were submitted for discussions and standing orders did not require implementation.

2023 AGM Minutes

There were no queries relating to the minutes from the 2022 AGM which were circulated prior to the 2023 AGM. Proposed James Kierans, seconded Fintan Kelly.

Secretary' Report

With reports circulated prior to AGM night, including the Secretary and team reports, Dean O'Connor read the Secretary's report on behalf of the men's "side" of the club, with Marie O'Neill providing an overview from the ladies' side, on how the club performed both on and off the pitch in 2023. These reports are also still available on the club website if anyone would like to review same. Dean concluded by wishing Michelle Sweeney the best of luck in her new role as Secretary, and thanked everyone for their support over the past five years. The adoption of these report's was proposed by Ciaran Kelly and seconded by James Kierans.



Treasurer's Report and Presentation of Financial Statements

Ciaran Kelly presented an overview of the club's financial performance for the 12-month period to the 30th of September 2023. The period was particularly challenging from a financial point of view with the club turning a profit of c. €7,500. Discussion was had on mechanisms that could assist the club in generating more revenue to continue to develop. This will be progressed in the year ahead. Ciaran thanked Ciaran Mulhall and Frankie Dolan for all of their support throughout the year. The adoption of the report was proposed by Frankie Dolan and seconded by Joe Kirke.

Chairman's Address

Colin McCaughey presented the Chairman's address and thanked all in attendance. 2023 seen the club continue to grow both on and off the field and that there is still a lot of work required over the coming years to ensure this progression is maintained. The club are always open to new faces to assist with coaching or administration, and it is great that there will be some of these on the coaching and administrative side of the club going into 2024.

Election of Officer's

Secretary – Michelle Sweeney

PRO – Declan Flanagan

Coaching Officers – John and Darragh Holland

Other Executive Committee members – Paul Connolly, Ross Adamson and Lorcán Horgan.

The club wishes all of the above the best of luck in their new role.

Appointment of County Board Delegate

Liam Doherty was the sole nomination for the role of county board delegate having been proposed by Terry Lennon and seconded by Michael Fox prior to the AGM. The club wished Liam well as he continues to be our representative at the county board meetings.

Adoption of the revised GAA Club Constitution

The requirement for the adoption of the revised version of the GAA club constitution was discussed and the club executive reiterated its committed to adhering to this document in all activities of the club. The updated Club Constitution was signed by Dean and Colin in their role as Secretary and Chairperson respectively.

**** End of Meeting****



Secretary's Report to the 2024 AGM

Welcome

A Chara,

It is a great privilege to be presenting this Secretary's report on behalf of the club for 2024, and I would like to thank you for your continued membership to our club.

Overview of the year

Our respective team management / mentors have kindly provided a comprehensive overview of how their teams performed over the year which is documented in team reports below.

2024 has proved to be a year of improvements and hard work for many of our teams and management at all age levels. Our LGFA teams continue to go from strength to strength, especially the U14 girls, who enjoyed championship glory in September when they were narrowly victorious over a spirited Emyvale team in the Division 4 Championship. The success is the first major trophy won by the club since the LGFA was resurrected a few years back – huge congratulations to the girls as well as mentors and management. The amalgamated U18 team with Killeevan also deserves a special mention having participated in LGFA Monaghan Division 2 U18 League and Championship. The girls successfully negotiated their way to both the League and Championship Finals. Despite having to deal with injuries and poor luck they hard fought but lost both League & Championship Finals to a very strong Latton team. Our LGFA teams continue to make constant improvements within all age levels and go from strength to strength, and it is wonderful to think that we are hopeful that will have a Clones Ladies Team established for 2025 for the first time in almost 20 years!

Clones and Currin amalgamated at U16 level this year and competed in division two. The team successfully made it to two semi finals but unfortunately were defeated to Corduff in the league and Rockorry in the championship this year.

Our underage teams continue to expand and grow from U6's and below! I have witnessed firsthand the excitement of blitzes, trainings at the Peace Link and the social benefits that being involved in a GAA club bring to young children. The year was topped off with an exciting Connolly & O'Hart Cup tournament held in St. Tiernach's Park in October where many of the underage teams enjoyed playing on our home pitch and of course, the treats afterwards! A huge thank you to Joanne, Alexia and all involved for making the morning such a memorable, inclusive and huge success.



Our Senior Team retained Senior Intermediate Status this year which is a wonderful achievement given the youthful nature of our squad. As detailed in the senior team report, we were included in a tough group this year and had to dig deep and rise to the challenge throughout the season. All players, old and new, worked hard and devoted time and energy to training and games to retain our senior status and continue to play intermediate football in 2025. The past three years have been overseen by the management team of Adrian Alford, Sarto Quigley & Colm Connolly. The time, commitment and passion given by our management team has been outstanding and an unbelievable effort has been put in to ensure that the best has been brought out of all players within the squad. The club wishes to extend thanks and gratitude to Adi, Sarto and Colm for all their hard work, time given and knowledge over the past three years and we welcome new management for Clones GAA in 2025.

Fundraising

2024 has been a successful year from a fundraising perspective, in no small part due to the generosity of our main club sponsors, as well as the many local businesses and individuals who provided much appreciated support. The club held several events which were incredibly successful throughout the year, with the primary drivers being main sponsor donations and our annual golf classic. All donations, either time or financial, are very much appreciated and the club is eternally grateful for all the support received and we hope to develop and harness these relationships in the years to come.

2024 also seen the establishment of a fundraising committee. The fundraising committee was set up with the future of the club in mind and intentions of ensuring financial security going forward. A proposal was brought to the executive in April outlining a tiered system for sponsorship with the intention of increasing funds. A 4-tiered system has been proposed with various funds and benefits for each tier. This is a 3-year sponsorship plan that we are hoping to begin next year targeting local businesses and sponsors.

On 1st September, the club hosted a 'Breakfast Morning' in the club rooms which was a great success and an opportunity for club members and families to come together and catch up while enjoying their breakfast! A huge thank you to Mullinahinch House Nursing Home for their generous sponsorship of the event. Thank you also to David Gibson, Patrick McCarville in the Creighton Hotel Clones Ross Adamson in Adamsons Bar and Bernard McNally in SuperValu Clones for all their help in the lead up to the breakfast morning. To Donna Hughes and the staff of SuperValu Clones for looking after the cooking. To our Club PRO Declan, for all his work in promoting this and all other events within the club. To the setup crew that put in a serious effort to have the clubrooms looking amazing. To James Sheerin and Kathy Dowd for the cooking in



the clubrooms. To the crew that ran the event with military precision this morning led by the brilliant G4MO and to all our club members who helped out in any way in making this event happen. Coffee mornings hosted by our G4MO throughout the year were also hugely successful and promoted parental involvement at an underage level. The shops on match days continue to be a key driver of income and funding, a massive thank you to all volunteers who are available when called upon and ready to help out on match days.

The fourth edition of our annual golf classic continued the great work of the previous three years and once again we increased both our participation and contributions. The golf classic was held in the wonderful surroundings of Clones Golf Club on Saturday 3rd of August this year. A massive thank you to our classic co-ordinator Frankie Dolan for leading out on this, and to Ciaran Mulhall, Georgie Pugh, Joanne Reihill, Ciaran Kelly and all the other volunteers who assisted in both the run-up to the event, and on the day itself.

Club Development

It is wonderful to see our club membership continue to expand and grow every year. With this, the need for additional playing and training facilities is something that we are ever mindful and aware of as a club and executive. This year seen the completion of ICT, CCTV, Scoreboards & new PA system within the grounds of St. Tiernach's Park. In 2024 following the success of a grant application to the Department of Rural and Community Development under the CLÁR scheme, we were awarded €340,000 for the development of floodlights within the stadium. All funding to aid club development is greatly appreciated and welcomed, however, it must also be noted that additional funding will be required to ensure that the rest of the stadium is lit up as well as floodlights.

With plans in development for stadium upgrades it was decided that the clubrooms would be transformed into our new Club Gym. Planning permission has been granted for the new club gym on the grounds of St. Tiernach's Park, however, this will provide adequate training and gym facilities in the interim. The gym at the clubrooms was completed last weekend and overseen by members of the senior panel as well as committee members. A thank you must be extended to DDKsports for putting the gym together and providing equipment.

Challenges for the year ahead - The need for securing a new playing pitch as well as maintaining the pitches at the Peace Link remains a priority and necessity for our club going forward. There has been a lot of work put in by executive members over the past year in seeking and securing a new playing pitch and this is something we will continue to do next year. There is significant work



to be carried out at the Peace Link pitch which will require pitch closure for several months next year. While this is an inconvenience and challenge for club teams and members, we feel that this work must be carried out in order to repair the playing pitch and ensure that grounds are playable in the future. A plan will be developed early next year to ensure that teams and members will have access to training pitches and facilities for the 2025 season.

St Tiernach's Park

The club continues to be equally busy off the field and 2024 has been a particularly interesting and promising year for St. Tiernach's Park. There has been great excitement surrounding the 'St. Tiernach's Quarter Regeneration Project' which was announced in September. There have been many meetings behind the scenes with relevant and necessary stake holders to get to this point and it is clear that a large-scale development is needed to bring St. Tiernach's park up to relevant standards and complete much needed upgrades. There has been a lot of positive feedback following the meeting and announcement on Friday 27th September and it is hoped that relevant stake holders will now meet and form a project management team in order to get the ball rolling on this project next year. A special thanks to Craft Studio, Monaghan, who undertook the design stage and were commissioned to give a very comprehensive presentation to both Monaghan Co. Board as well as on 27th September; Patrick McCarville, Tom Kelly, Colin McCaughey who were involved in meetings and design team to get the presentation prepared and ready; members of the executive who worked hard to get the club rooms up to standard and looking brilliant ahead of the meeting and presentation. The future looks bright for St. Tiernach's Park and there is no club more deserving of further development and regeneration than ours.

Closing thoughts and thanks

Within my first year as club secretary, I have gained a true insight into what it takes to successfully run a unique club like Clones GAA. It is extremely important to continue to stress our sincere thanks to all those within the club who give up their time to carry out their important roles, including coaches, members of the Executive Committee, groundskeepers, Lotto sellers, those who help on match days, volunteers – the list is endless. The time and effort that goes into each of these roles is significant and aids to the continued success of our club.

To all our sponsors – a massive thank you for your continued support. Without this support the club would not be able to function as effectively as it does so our sincere gratitude for your ongoing and continued support throughout the year. We express gratitude to our main sponsor,



Super Valu, Clones for their unwavering support and sponsorship this year. To all of our sponsors of underage and LGFA teams as well as golf classic sponsors and supporters, we thank you all for your continued support and hope to express a special and noted 'Thank You' at Christmas this year.

To conclude, I would just like to note my thanks to all those who I have worked closely with over the past year in my role as secretary, both within and outside our club. The guidance and support given by many people has very much appreciated, especially when navigating new protocols and unfamiliar procedures. In particular, I wish to thank Dean O'Connor – the support, guidance and knowledge you have shared has been invaluable and much appreciated this year. It has been a pleasure to work so closely with Ciaran Kelly and Colin McCaughey, they have been on hand to answer (many) questions and reassure when needed, many thanks. Joanne Reihill also deserves much thanks and appreciation for always being available and for sharing key information and knowledge on all things 'club'!

It goes without saying that Colin McCaughey has been an outstanding chairperson for our club and has worked tirelessly over the past number of years to bring new initiatives to life, promote a sense of collaboration and community as well as giving up many hours of his time for the benefit of Clones GAA. One of the stark realities that became apparent to me as the year progressed was the commitment, time and dedication not only of committee members and management but their patient families whom often have to rearrange events and holidays to accommodate the needs of the club. This is noteworthy and needs to be acknowledged. Colin has been devoted to the development and success of Clones GAA and his positive 'no problem too big or small' attitude has been imperative to the success of the club. It has been a pleasure to work with Colin this year and I have gained a true insight into what it takes to lead, develop and promote a club like Clones. I welcome James Kierans as our new chairperson and wish him every success and assure him of our support in 2025.

On a final note, we take a moment to think of all those in our local community who have sadly passed on in the last 12 months. There were a number of individuals with close ties to the club who will be sadly missed, and they and their family are very much in our thoughts. To all, Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-anamacha.

Is mise le meas,

Michelle Nic Suibhne, Rúnaí CLG Cluain Eois



Ladies Committee Secretary Report

As we close the chapter on 2024, we celebrate a year of dedication, hard work, and notable achievements for Clones LGFA. This year has been a testament to our teams' spirit, showcasing the resilience and passion of our players, coaches, volunteers and supporters.

Season Highlights

1. **U14 Championship Win:** One of the most significant achievements this year was our U14 team's victory in the county championship. Their hard work, determination and teamwork proving that "Success is no accident. It is hard work, perseverance, learning, studying, sacrifice, and most of all, love of what you are doing" – Pelé.
2. **U14 Festival of Football Tournament:** In August, we hosted a successful U14 Festival of Football Tournament, welcoming eight teams from across Monaghan and Cavan. The day was filled with great football and camaraderie highlighting the essence of ladies football.
3. **Community Initiative Day:** In April we held a second successful Community Initiative Day, to encourage everyone in our community to get involved with the club. It was also a great way to introduce Gaelic Football to the newer members of our community who might never have seen GAA before.
4. **Ulster Young Volunteer Award:** Just after AGM 2023, we received the fantastic news that Sadhbh Bonner had been awarded Young Volunteer of the Year at the Ulster Ladies Gaelic Awards. Sadhbh was nominated because of her involvement in coaching the U8 & U10 girls for the previous 2 years.

Team Reports

Each coach has included a report for their individual team activities. It is worth noting that every team made a final – league or championship – and while not all ended with silverware, it was still a significant achievement for those girls.

Acknowledging Our Volunteers and Coaches

Our success this year would not have been possible without the tireless efforts of our volunteers and coaches. Their dedication behind the scenes has been invaluable. "A good coach can change a game. A great coach can change a life." We are grateful for their commitment and passion.

I also acknowledge the next generation of volunteers from our U16s team who completed the Go Games referee course and assisted at a number of U8 and U10 blitzes around the County.

Community Support

The support from our local community has been incredible throughout the year. From cheering at matches to participating in fundraising events and providing sponsorship, the community's involvement has been a cornerstone of the club's success. Special mention to Gorcon Construction, Seamus McManus – The Tower Bar and Domenico's Take Away. Ní neart go cur le chéile.



Challenges and Looking Ahead

As we look forward to 2025, we recognise the challenges that lie ahead, particularly in finding new volunteers and coaches. Many of our existing coaches and volunteers have been involved for the past 5 years, some even longer and we would strongly encourage parents and others to step forward and join our other volunteers.

We are also working hard to re-establish a Senior Ladies Team after an almost 20 year hiatus and hope that our recent open meeting will ignite an interest.

Conclusion

Overall 2024 has been another great year for Clones LGFA, filled with some hard-fought victories. We look forward to the future with optimism and excitement. Here's to another fantastic year of Gaelic football!

Is mise le meas

Marie Uí Néill
Ladies Committee
#DoltForHer



U8/U10 Girls Report

U8/U10 girls have enjoyed another very successful year of football. Our club's community integration morning welcomed and introduced many new players to Ladies football. With 25 girls participating, Saturday morning sessions have concentrated on building football skills & confidence, with a strong emphasis on having fun together through sport. Great attendance, energy & effort from all the girls from March to October kept our coaches very busy.

We travelled and took part in a number of blitzes in Aghabog, Scotstown and Killeevan. We hosted 2 blitzes in Clones supported by our club 'go games' referees Bethan O'Neill, Emma Dunwoody, Kirsty McDonald, Ruth Monaghan and Sadhbh Bonner.

We also took part in a number of friendly matches with neighbouring Aghabog & Killeevan.

Our end of season involved participating in the U8 & U10 County Blitz in Cloghan. We finished off the season with a sunny morning of football in St Tiarnach's Park playing in the 'Connolly/O'Hart Cups' event.

A special word of thanks to our coaches Sadhbh Bonner, Denise Cunningham, Geraldine Graham, Siobhan McKenna and Briega Byrne. Their energy, enthusiasm and reliability was the backbone of our sessions all year. Without them, the year would not have been the success that it was. Heading into the 2025 season we will be seeking the help of parents to come on board to support the clubs continued growth. We thank all parents for their support during 2024. Looking forward to 2025.

Alexia Bonner.

U12 Girls Report

The St Tiarnachs Ladies are certainly reaping what they have sown over the last number of years as this year we had a phenomenal 26 girls registered for to play under 12's.

The year commenced with a round robin, with the girls coming out and winning against Scotstown B's. This followed by a loss to Emyvale & Aghabog and a draw with Truagh.

As U12's is viewed as non-competitive there is no big cup to play for yet it didn't stop the fire in these girls tummies to battle on and show their skills.

There was a mix of wins and losses against Castleblayney, Scotstown B's, Monaghan Harps, Latton and Truagh however, the fruits of their labour really flourished on a sunny evening in Truagh when 5 girls scored goals and 8 points were also popped over the bar, securing a big win for the team. This was a very memorable day for all involved.

Throughout the year there was plenty of parents, coaches and committee members, Joanne Rehill in particular the consistent queen who helped out to serve refreshments to the players and supporters after our home games. This created a really positive atmosphere after games, with everyone complementing each others performance and reflecting on the things that did and didn't work. It was also a fantastic opportunity for parents to get to know each other integrate with the club.

When the league was over both Maureen McDonald and Gerry Brennans commitment to the team shone through when they continued to organise four challenge games against local teams to keep



the girls moving. The year ended with the annual Connolly Cup which was the icing on the cake to a fantastic year for the girls.

These girls certainly have a bright future ahead of them and are a team to watch out for in the future.

U14 Girls Report

We started off last March with a challenge match against Redhills/Belturbet on a very windy morning with a heavy defeat. We knew we had a lot of work to do. We entered the league with a lot of training done and had a good league campaign. We got to the semi-final stage having already beaten Monaghan Harps, Killanny, Aughnamullen, Truagh and a draw with Latton. The girls were definitely improving game on game. Unfortunately Emyvale proved too strong in the semi-final. They deserved their win but we learned a lot.

Our Championship started against the favourites Donaghmoynce away on their turf. We expected a tough battle but it was a game where all our trainings clicked. Our defense was solid and our forwards were clinical. Our new goalie Ellen O'Neill gave us a new confidence in defense. The win that evening gave us the belief we could give the Championship a good rattle. We had a short turnaround with our next game only 4 days later where we met Killeevan at home in St Tiarnach's Park. We went into this game as the underdog. We had a great first half but in the second Killeevan threw the kitchen sink at us. We just held on for the win by the narrowest of margins.

Next up in the Semi-Final, was our neighbours Eire Og. These 2 teams had met in the U12 league semifinal where Eire Og made light work of us. But now we were a different animal. The game was played in Eire Og and another great team performance gave us a comfortable win securing our spot in the final against our old friends, Emyvale.

We had definitely taken the hard road to the final but this would stand to us when the game started. The final was to be played in Eire Og, a pitch we knew well. The game started with us being very nervy and Emyvale capitalised building a good lead early on. After an early goal was disallowed, we managed to bring it back to 2 points at half time. In the second half, we got rid of the nerves and played to our potential and we ran out the clock to become worthy winners.

Player of the Year

Of all the decisions made during the season, this proved to be the hardest. There were 2 girls in very close contention for this. Both had played pivotal roles throughout the league and championship campaign. Due to a conflict of interest, two members of the Management Team had to step back from the decision. The player selected was picked for her performance both on and off the pitch. Her attitude and commitment towards the team was evident at every training and every match. She was the silent leader of the group and constantly pushed herself and the team to the last whistle. Player of the Year is Leanna Cunningham.

U16 Girls Report

The 2024 season started early, with induction, skills development and fitness training. The girls agreed to commence training in February for the six-week period up to the commencement of the league official, in April. Considerable effort was put in, with the hope of great things being achieved. And oh, we were so close this year. A few challenge games were arranged, one against Aghabog, who proved to be our achilles heel at the end of the season. The league campaign was a tight affair,



with Clones remaining in the race on points difference. That said, the game of the season was the Killeevan league semi-final decider, where every player raised their game to win out against the favourites. It was the ultimate upset and the ultimate high for this team, with a display of pure excellence and passion. A less exciting and very nervous final was held against Aghabog in Killeevan, but it wasn't to be. Aghabog claimed the honours with a few points to spare.

The championship was short lived with an early preliminary round exit to a Killeevan team determined to right the wrongs of the league. Killeevan were decisive winners and simply too strong on the day, despite considerable effort from the panel.

Coaching and management were made up of Shane Bonner, Katie O'Connor, Colin McCaughey, Bernie McDermott and Eileen Dunwoody. A truly amazing panel. Sincere thanks and appreciation must be given them for the time and effort put into U16s team. The players were bitterly disappointed that the results weren't different.

Player of the Year

Considerable improvement was noted on all players across the season, with continued brilliance in backs, superb goalkeeping, considerable improvement this year in the midfield and a new-found strength in forwards. To be remarked on was the input from the U14 players who agreed to play up, with amazing displays from all six players and a testament to their achievements at U14 level. One player stood out in the eyes of the management and coaches. Overheard from the sideline, she was described as "elegant in full stride" and "a joy to watch". Her work commitment to the club is to be commended. She never missed a game and rarely missed a training session, and despite the additional training and additional games playing up to minor level, she played with full commitment until the final whistle, showing leadership and example at every training session and every game. From her U14 days, this player continued to cover immeasurable ground during matches, supporting the defence, carrying ball from defence to forwards and converting with remarkable accuracy. This year she showed a newfound strength and resilience in fighting for and winning ball, setting up attacking and progressive play, reading the movement of the game, whilst still maintaining consistent and relentless running over 70 minutes. It remains truly baffling why this player has not been considered for county. It is an absolute guarantee that her time will come, and the county panel will be improved for it. Player of the year unanimously goes to Eva Freeman.

U18 Ladies Team Report 2024

We once again amalgamated with Killeevan Ladies GFC participating in LGFA Monaghan Division 2 U18 League and Championship. The girls successfully negotiated their way to both the League and Championship Finals. Despite having to deal with injuries and poor luck they hard fought but lost both League & Championship Finals to a very strong Latton team.

We had to battle with girls getting injured, girls on holidays, matches been called off etc. This gave several U16 girls the opportunity to stake a place in the team. They were not fond wanting. My sincere thanks and appreciation to all girls for their hard work and commitment in 2024. Despite losing both League & Championship Finals we can look back with great pride having won 13 out of 15 competitive fixtures.

I have a lot of people I need to thank including the following, Alexia Bonner, Colin McCaughey, Joanne Rehill, Joe Monaghan, Finian O'Hart and Liam Doherty from Clones GAA Club. A special to



the following sponsors, Hickeys Pharmacy, Dominico's Take Away, Best Choice Doors and Gorcon Ltd.

From the Killeevan GAA Club a great thanks and appreciation to Casement Lynch, Fergal Lamber, Benny Freeman, Hugo McGinn and a special mention for Philomena McGinn as there is a lot of hard work goes on behind scenes for these teams.

Sincere thanks to Orla Deery, Macayla Greenen, Orla Lynch, Eva Hannon, Juile Lynch for doing First Aid and to co-manager Ronan McDonald for all his dedication and meticulous preparation for training and games. Also congratulations to our team player Moya Sheerin who recently won the Killeevan Senior player of the year for 2024, well done Moya.

I am very much looking forward to seeing our Senior Ladies return to competitive Football in the near future. I believe we have great potential and expect us to be challenging for honours in the Junior League and Championship.

Our Minor Ladies in 2025 will include the nucleus of the U16 Clones Ladies team who were unlucky to not finish 2024 with a cup. So, I expect that these girls will be fully determined to continue their progression into the minor League and Championship in 2025.

Our Minor Ladies will help form a vital cog in the Senior Ladies return to competition. Very exciting times ahead for Clones LGFA.

Player of the Year

And finally, as for my players(s) of the year selection I have to pick two, it's only fitting that these two players who had a great attitude and commitment to training and games throughout the year. These girls give absolutely everything that they had on field of play giving everything they got for the team and any success we achieved.

Firstly, Katie Maguire who was outstanding throughout the year, saving the team at critical times during many important games. It shows how vitally important the role of the goalkeeper is in our modern game. And secondly Ella McCarville who consistently performed at the highest level in the full back line, often without permission! went wandering up the field but was always a team player.

Is mise le meas

Damien (Packie) Reilly

Ronan McDonald

Team Management

St Tiarnach's Sarsfields



Gaelic 4 Mothers & Others

Our Gaelic 4 Mothers & Others team had yet again a very successful and enjoyable year in 2024. We competed in numerous challenge games against the likes of Derrylin GAA and Sean McDermotts, were our players all got game time. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed these matches and the post-match refreshments provided by us.

We were absolutely delighted to be selected for the 2nd year, along with 138 other clubs, to take part in the Gaelic 4 Mothers & Others National Blitz in Dublin where nearly 3,000 women descended on Naomh Mearnóg GAA and St Sylvester's GAA in Dublin for the National Festival Day on Saturday 2nd September. The sun shone on what was a fantastic day with all players competing and enjoying the experience.

The G4M&O Ladies organised and helped out with the successful club breakfast morning on the Sunday of the Blessing of the Graves.

We then finished up the 2024 Season with a fundraising G4&MO Coffee Morning to coincide with the annual Connolly & O'Hart Cup Games. This was another huge success which included our ladies all helping out and Elaine Agnew Liyouunssi providing her ever popular face painting for all the children.

We look forward to a successful 2025 season!



Clones GAA Club PRO Report 2024

Main Purpose & Function: Working as part of the club executive in the role of Public Relations Officer, along with fellow officers, team mentors and the various sub committees of the club to ensure smooth running of our club communication.

Overview:

Promoting the Club to the local community and beyond using all available methods of communication

- One of the key strengths of promoting our games is modern technology and the use of email correspondence and various social media platforms, such as Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. As well as the Club Website, which has not received adequate attention throughout the year. The website requires a great deal of work and updating in the months ahead.

We have of course had access to The Northern Standard regarding weekly club notes / news.

My Role

- Consistently - Promoting the Club, Men's & LGFA at all levels.
- Websites and Social Media. – Fully functional website and well renowned and much-admired social media platforms
- Areas for Development - Always willing to seek out new ways to improve the Image of the club, promoting our club by using all available and new resources. The Club Website had been identified as area for improvement in 2025. It will be particularly important to add a feature reference to the upcoming St Tiarnach's Quarter Regeneration Project, adding regular updates and progress courtesy of the Clubs Field Development Committee.
- Communication – Club members are (usually) consistently reliable and aware of the importance of "Communication" the promotion of the club at all levels is vital.
- Supports and resources – an area for further development, it's often a challenge to obtain support and find volunteers to assist with a variety of roles within the club, particularly in relation to the PRO role. This is another area for development in 2025.
- Commitment to Role – Many hours weekly overseeing and ensuring PRO responsibilities are met and maintained. In peak season the time committed to the role can often be hugely demanding.

This would include, administration tasks, club newsletter, producing programmes (Championship Games), upkeep of website (Area for development), social networks, WhatsApp, fixtures, results, news stories, club features, photos, match reports, attending various meetings, match day support including attending games, public address, match officials / referee / umpire and or assisting with stewarding or helping in the shops.

Match Report Scores / Results Club News / Lotto etc: We make positive use of social networks especially in regards posting club news, live score updates and match results etc. Feedback has been positive and often from far and wide. Of course, further improvements are needed over the coming year.

Our ClubSpot GAA App is popular but some people depending on location struggle to gain access.



It would be great to see more frequent match reports from all teams submitted by team managers /mentors in 2025. Even a few brief words after each match would be great and even better if accompanied by a few photos.

Conclusion

To conclude I am honoured to have served the club in the capacity of Public Relations Officer. I have received lots of messages of support, encouragement and thanks from a variety of people. Which has been pleasing and makes all the hard work, commitment and consistent efforts feel well worthwhile. I have sincerely enjoyed the role of Clones GAA Club Public Relations Officer. It has given me great satisfaction and pride. And facing into my 3rd year settled back home it only serves to reinforce my passion for the club and Gaelic Games overall.

Thanks & Appreciation

Thanks to all club volunteers, members, team managers, coaches etc for all you help and support throughout the year. I will not single out any individual however I would also like to thank all the executive members for all your support and encouragement throughout the year.

Congratulations to all our teams who won trophies during the year and well-done and hard luck to all other teams and coaches for your efforts, participation and dedication to the promotion of our club and development of our games.

Good Luck to all Men's and Ladies teams next year, and a special warm welcome and the best of luck to our Senior Ladies are making their long overdue return in 2025!

Finally, I would like to wish you all in advance a very peaceful festive period and great joy, happiness and success in 2025

Is Mise le meas

Déaglán Ó Flannagáin

Oifigeach Caidreamh Poiblí 2024 Coiste Cluain Eois



Clones Seniors Report 2024

In 2024 our Senior team competed in the Intermediate ranks for the second year in a row. Before the season started Intermediate looked on paper as if it was going to be one of the toughest in recent years and so it proved to be. Intermediate was made up of Clones, Magheracloone, Truagh, Carrickmacross, Castleblayney, Doohamlet, Monaghan Harps, Tyholland, Emyvale and Blackhill.

We began training in early February playing 5 challenge matches across pre - season with great effort put in by a panel North of 30 players... 5 new players from the u-18 squad were brought into the panel and they added more freshness to an already youthful squad.

League

The League began away to Blackhill in what proved to be a game that could somewhat be used to sum up our season. Leading and in control for 40 - 50mins only to let a 5 point lead slip in the closing stages. Very disappointing as we knew the importance of starting the season with a win. In fairness to the lads they bounced back brilliantly from this to win our next game in convincing fashion at home to Castleblayney. Playing some very good football we ran out deserved 6 point winners. Unfortunately after this game wins and results proved hard to come by, coming up short in our next 4 games versus Emyvale, Monaghan Harps, Carrickmacross and Doohamlet respectively. Bar the Emyvale game where we played very poorly the following 3 games were games in which we led for long periods only to let slip via a lack of ruthlessness to put teams away. Game 7 saw us return to winning ways with a good performance at home to Tyholland running out winners by 7points. The final two games of the League saw us playing the top two teams in the League in Truagh and Magheracloone, both of which were away games. Due to lads travelling for the summer and on holidays along with a few lads with niggly injuries we went in to these two games with a depleted squad. The boys put in two very determined and hard working performances all things considered but Truagh and Magheracloone proved too strong. This saw the end of a frustrating League campaign and with only 2 wins from 9 games we were now in a relegation semi final away to Castleblayney. This was a game where again we had plenty of chances to win but just couldn't take them and Castleblayney beat us by a goal. This meant we played Blackhill in the relegation play off Final in Smithborough. This game was the opposite to almost all the previous games, a game where nearly everything we did came off on the day and every shot we took hit the target with some excellent score taking backed up by a solid defensive display. It was extremely pleasing to see the lads turn up and show what they can do when it mattered most in a high pressure game and gain some much needed confidence heading towards the Championship.

Championship

The Championship saw us in a 5 team group consisting of Clones, Blackhill, Tyholland and Magheracloone. The lads trained extremely well between the relegation play off Final v Blackhill and the first game in the Championship which was also v Blackhill away. We knew this game would be much different to the previous game and so it proved. In what was almost a carbon copy of the first League game we led by 4 points coming in to the closing stages only to get sucker punched due to a host of missed opportunities to close the game out but in fairness to Blackhill when they got their chances they took them and that proved the difference on the day. We played Doohamlet at home in the next round and again we led and controlled this game very well for 45mins only to take the foot off the pedal and let Doohamlet back in with a couple of late goals conceded proving costly. We



had a penalty with the last kick of the game to get a draw but the Doohamlet keeper pulled off a fantastic save to deny us a valuable point. On to round 3 and we played the eventual Championship winners Magheraclone on their home patch. Again this was a game where we dominated possession for large periods and should have been 1-4 to 0-0 up after 7mins but we did not take these chances and got punished heavily by a very fast and clinical Magheraclone side. At half time the result was probably inevitable but the boys showed some pride in winning the second half but unfortunately the damage was done. Round 4 saw us in the unusual position of having to win our last group game at home to Tyholland by 6 points or more in order to avoid the relegation group. This really was the cliché of a game of two halves. The first half saw us put in one of our worst performances of the season trailing by 5 points at the interval followed by one of our best performances of the year in the 2nd half. We won the second half by 9 points playing some super stuff but ultimately even though we won the game by 4 points we were 2 points short of the required 6 and so it meant we now had to navigate a Championship relegation group. Very disappointing as this was really a Championship group we should have been getting out of.

Relegation Play Off Group

The relegation group consisted of 4 teams, Clones, Blackhill, Emyvale and Monaghan Harps. Up first we were yet again away to Blackhill. In 2024 the Blackhill venue proved to be a real bogey place for us and yet again we failed to produce the goods. In what was a mirror of the previous two games up there we again threw away a 4 point lead coming down the finishing straight. We had a host of chances to win convincingly but we kept Blackhill in the game and they did what they did twice previously and seized the initiative winning by 2 points. Morale was quite low after this game as we knew we had two very tough games coming up next needing two wins to keep our Intermediate status for 2025. The lads picked themselves up and what was to come proved to be our best two performances of the year. We played Emyvale at home and against a very strong team we never gave them a chance. Our defending, score taking and decision making were all on point. A game in which we never looked in trouble at any stage we showed a ruthlessness that had been lacking for the majority of the season and the 9 point victory we earned did not flatter us. Beating Emyvale meant we headed in to our last game off 2024 v Monaghan Harps with our 2025 fate firmly in our own hands. Beating Monaghan Harps in Threemilehouse meant we would be playing Intermediate football for a third season in a row and beat them we did. In horrendous conditions and after a nervy opening, conceding a goal from the throw in the boys quickly took control of the game. Once we got ahead we never looked back, a mature performance with some brilliant score taking and some brilliant defending meant we ran out 5 point winners in a game with so much on the line. An extremely pleasing end to a tough season.

Season Reflection

2024 proved to be a very tough and frustrating season in terms of results. Intermediate this year was probably the toughest Intermediate for many years with all the teams being very evenly matched. With it being like this the margins were very very small and a kick of a ball here or there could be the difference between a win or a loss. The League and Championship both proved very frustrating as in many games we were in great positions to win or at least to get something out of them. Management will ultimately have to take responsibility for not being able to fix this in terms of learning from our mistakes especially in a Championship group in which we should have been getting out of. The effort of the players and the leadership shown in the most pressurised games of the year in both the League and Championship relegation play off games was amazing to see. When



the clubs status was on the line the boys all stood up and were counted and our three best performances were against Blackhill, Emyvale and Monaghan Harps in the games that mattered most. The most important thing is that Clones will be playing Intermediate Football in 2025 with a real opportunity to push on.

Stepping Down

As a management team we have decided to step down after three incredible years of being in charge of our own Club. It has been an honour and a privilege to manage and coach a team that we had so many enjoyable years playing for. In 2022 when we came in we just wanted to go back to basics take it one game at a time, try to improve and see where it would take us. We wanted to try integrate the young players coming through in to a Senior squad and the squad we see now from the one we took over is very different. 2022 proved to be a memorable year winning a Championship for the first time since 1995. Seeing the lads play in the Clubs first ever Ulster Club Championship game on home soil in St. Tiarnach's Park was a proud day. Most importantly of all returning to the Intermediate ranks after 7 long years in Junior. The following two seasons have proved more difficult in terms of results and a lot of learning will have been done over those two years. In a very competitive Intermediate Clones are proving to be very competitive, holding our own against most teams and able to beat anyone on our day. What is missing at the minute is just that bit of experience and consistency that will turn those narrow defeats in to wins. To see the boys show the resilience to win those games when it is all on the line in the relegation play offs makes me extremely proud and consolidating themselves as an Intermediate team over the two years has been very important for the Club as a whole as many teams that go up go straight back down. A squad now full of exciting young players with an experienced core group, and also with a couple of key players coming back from long term injury, the hope is that the last two seasons in particular will stand to them and they can push on now to where they ultimately want to go. I want to wish the new management team that comes in nothing but the best and I hope that the freshness and ideas they will bring can push the lads on to the next level over the next few seasons. It has been an incredibly enjoyable experience for myself one in which i have learned so much. There will never be a better coaching job than the one with my own Club. The memories made and friendships strengthened are something i am extremely thankful for. Cluain Eois Abú.

Thank You's

There are many thank yous to be made to many people over the past 3 years but firstly to the most important people in any club.... The players.

What can I say about all the players over the last 3 years other than what fantastic people they are. A large number of players have represented Clones over this period from the very young making their debuts to lads who are in their 40's still going strong and I want to thank them all for their time, respect and dedication. An amazing bunch of lads with bags of potential who still have many levels to reach. They care so much about playing for Clones and doing well and i know they will push on and try to give people in the club many many happy days following them. A special thanks to Cameron Dowd who was our captain for the 3 years and what a brilliant job he did over this period. Thank you for everything lads and I look forward to watching and supporting you all over the next few years.

Sarto and Colm who have coached with me and have been an amazing support. Two extremely clever and intelligent men who this club are so lucky to have and I certainly couldn't have done it



without them. Two men who could easily be manager on their own and in fairness we split that role between us very well. It has been very enjoyable working with you. Thanks lads.

I would like to thank Colin McCaughey our Chairman, I know he is stepping down from the role but you have been an amazing Chairman for myself coming in to this role and thank you for everything. To all the people in the Club Executive for giving all the help and support that we needed throughout these 3 years as players and management. We would not be in Intermediate without all of you. It's very much appreciated.

To Super Valu our main sponsors and to the many other people who have helped us over the 3 seasons. Creighton Hotel, Coffee Box, Avenue Pharmacy, The Roost Bar, Ross Adamson and many more. Thank you everyone, your support has been amazing.

To Ciaran Mulhall for all his help videoing games so we could analyse ourselves and the opposition in preparation for training and games.

To Dean O'Connor who helped with stats post-game. A brilliant help, cheers lad.

To my mother Eileen for washing the jerseys and bibs after training and games.

To Liam and Joe who take care of our pitches and dressing rooms and always has them in top shape.

To Leigha McDermott our brilliant physio. Your expertise and professionalism has been the key to us having an overall good injury record over the 3 seasons. To all the others who have helped out on the medical team, Hannah Mealiff, Michéal Treanor and Marissa Quigley, thank you.

To the lads who have done ball boys and water boys for us over this period some of whom are now doing very well as players in the Senior squad / team.

Thanks to David Masterson and the Peace link who took care of the S & C. It has been a massive help to players and management to have this facility and expertise on board.

Well Done

Well done to all our County team representatives in all the age groups. You are a credit to the Club and its great to see your talent / hard work deservedly recognised.



Reserve Team Report 2024

Firstly, it was a joy to take the lads for the year. A great bunch of lads and very easy to work with. It was another good year but unfortunately no silverware to show which is always disappointing.

We went to Cremartin for our championship game only for a minor game to be on the same day which left us with only 17 players and were beat well.

The league semifinal at home to Killanny was a great game but unfortunately after extra time we were pipped by a single point. Hopefully next year we can bring some silverware home as there is a trophy to be won with this group of players. Thanks to Finty for the help all year and to Adi for training the lads all year.

David Freeman.

Minor Team Report 2024

Minor football in Monaghan returned to U18 from U17 meaning this was the second year at minor level for this team, something we all wish we had. We won the Division 2 league at U17 and targeted doing the same for this season. The prize Division 1 minor championship football. St Tiarnach Patrick's had a slow start to the year picking up very few points. A highlight of the first few games was a brilliant contest with Clontibret in the peace link finishing 2-12 to 3-9, draw game. After that we accrued a number of injuries and defeats. We struggled to get going until the return fixture with Clontibret where we were back to our best in spells. Another draw 2-17 to 3-14. This game sparked us into life and we won two in a row. We lost our last league game to Donaghmoynne by the bare minimum, resulting in us finishing on 13 points alongside two other teams. To our disbelief the county board decided to pick two teams out of a hat to go forward to a league semi-final and the team left in the hat to a shield final. We were left in the hat and won the shield. A disappointing end to the league campaign for our lads.

In the championship we were grouped with Magheracloone, Tyholland, Inniskeen and Corduff. We won our first and last game v Tyholland and Inniskeen but, lost to Magheracloone and Corduff. The desire to play traditional football in an era of 15 behind the ball perhaps the down fall of our championship. But, on a positive note we had 10 minors training with the seniors in 2024. 4 made their senior debuts and 7 made their reserve debuts. A great bunch of lads who were always willing to train hard no matter the numbers at training. We have no doubt these lads have a bright future ahead with the club. Thanks to Joanne for keeping us right with timeslots to train and play our games and to the club for everything over the year.

Our player of the year is Caolain Clerkin. A tenacious, versatile and skilful player with speed to burn. Caolain was seen high in the sky catching kickouts, kicking points off both feet, burning defenders scoring goals and diving on forwards boots to block scoring chance's all year. An excellent season for both minors and seniors in 2024. Well done, Caolain.

Fintan Kelly.

U16 Boys Team Report

_Clones U16s 2024



Clones and Currin amalgamated at u16 level in 2024 and competed under the name St. Tiarnachs Patricks. Even so our full squad was limited with a maximum panel of 17 players available at this age. The team competed in Division 2 with Eire Og, Corduff, Cremartin, Rockcorry, Aghabpg Emmets, St. Kevins, Killeeven and Emerald Sarsfields. The team finished second in the league winning 5, drawing 1 and losing 2. Unfortunately, the semi-final ended in defeat to Corduff. The refixed semi final date due to a playoff didn't help our cause as two of our key players were away on holidays.

We competed in group 1 of the Division 3 championship winning 2 and losing 1, finishing second and making the semi-final. Again, we tasted defeat to Rockcorry, but we had no excuses on the day as the better team won.

The season ran from the middle of March to the end of August, with a four week break for the junior cert. The start of the season went well with the team being undefeated in the first 4 games, but it all started to unravel after the break. Working with a limited panel is challenging as is, but long-term injuries to 3 players for most of the second half of the season along with the holiday season left us very stretched with numbers for training and games. Regardless we fielded in every game and ensured every player got as much football as possible with all the players making a valuable contribution to the team. The squad is young with the majority still under 16 for 2025. Three of the players, Donnacha Quigley, Paddy McDonald and Matthew McCaughey being part of the county U15 development squads.

The team management of myself, Pdraig Smyth, Cameron Dowds Cormac McElvaney & Katie O Connor would like to thank all the players for their commitment throughout the year. It's a grade and age which presents numerous challenges for them. They have numerous things going on in their lives with exams, the Gaeltacht, summer jobs and other team commitments. It was an eye opener at times as to the number of pressures these lads are under to please everyone, and we tried to ensure that when with us, their workload week on week was a priority. I would like to thank the club executive for all their assistance and a special thank you to Joanne. We would also like to thank Hannah Corley the team physio who was a vital part of the team support and gave the players some great guidance and advise.

Player of the Year: Sean Clerkin

U14 Boys Team Report 2024

We have been working with these boys for 8 years now and knew that we had a strong team for the season gone by. We trained hard from early spring, with the target of winning the Division 2 League. This would prove to be no easy task and we were defeated in our very first game by Oram, in St Tiarnach's Park. This proved to be the wake-up that we needed and we won the remainder of our games to qualify for the final against Oram, again. This match was played in difficult conditions in Pearse Park, Ballybay. We were 5 points in arrears at half time. After a reset at half-time, the boys showed their true character, producing a brilliant display of football to clinch the title. Captain Conor Butler was presented with the trophy, much to the delight of the large Clones support.

Our reward was promotion to the Division 1 Championship. We were placed in a group with Inniskeen, Castleblayney and Magheraclone. We were short a few regulars for some of these matches but when we had a full squad we were a match for any team. Overall, it was a great year and, as always, the boys were a pleasure to work with. There is great potential within the group and we look forward to working with them again at the U-16 grade.

Player of the Year 2024: Brendan Sheerin



Brendan was a rock at the heart of the defence all year. Often tasked with nullifying the opposition's best forward, he took on every challenge that was thrown at him. Brendan's application to training, his respect for mentors and team-mates and of course his performances on the pitch make him a worthy recipient of POY for 2024.

U12 Boys Team Report 2024

We commenced our Under 12 season on the 14th February 2024 with our first training session and throughout the year we have had large numbers at training.

Our season was a split season with the first half of the year competing in a non-competitive Spring League followed by the U12 competitive league.

The Spring league showed us competing very strongly in these games culminating in the final game in Cloghan. Strong development of the players at U11 last year allowed us to progress very well in this league as well as strong performances in various challenge games.

We then competed in the Division 2 Under 12 competitive league which contained some very strong teams. However, with the combination of summer holiday periods where we missed some key players at times as well as an unfortunate injury to one of our stronger players, Matthew, we did not get the results which we felt this team were capable of.

This was the first season of competitive football for this age group and despite the results not going our way, they demonstrated an excellent and commendable attitude throughout the summer. Winning at this age group is a nice feeling but the performances and spirit showed by these bunch of lads is more important, and they will have learned much more from this season despite the tough results. They are a credit to their families and represented the club to the highest level – well done lads.

This is a young Under 12 group with only 7 from the panel of approx. 25 over age next year. Despite some setbacks, the performances got stronger as the league progressed.

Other highlights from this year was our attendance at a very enjoyable Navan O'Mahoney's tournament where we went unbeaten and topped the group which contained teams such as Cavan Gaels, Fingallians and Skryne. We unfortunately lost out in the final against a strong Portmarnock team. This was the first tournament for these guys and something that they will have good memories of.

We also had representatives in Sean Adamson and Kyle Lynch who were lucky to be picked to play at an Under 12 event with other Monaghan clubs in Croke Park this year. Well done to the lads.

It was a year of progression for this group with emphasis put on the core skills of football at the weekly training sessions, which were demonstrated during the games. This progression is ongoing as we have continued our winter training with next years U12 and U14 panels, with large number in attendance every week.

The coaches would like to thank this group of guys for the years' work as well as the parents of the lads for arranging to have them at the training sessions and the many games across the county. We would also like to thank Joanne for her assistance with this group.

Team Management: Lorcán Horgan, Mark McCaughey, Ross Adamson, Brendan Gilleece, David Freeman.



Player of the Year

All of the lads have showed a positive improvement from last year and as already stated they all stood up and put in their best efforts throughout the year. In picking a player of the year, a number of strong contenders have emerged.

Cathal O'Harte has become a very solid player despite being relatively new to the game. He has been dependable and strong in defence and will continue to do so as he is still under 12 next year. Conall McElvaney is an ever-present candidate for player of the year (having won in 2023) as his skill and determination are exemplary, so much so that huge congratulations to him on being an integral part of a winning U14 team this year. Joseph Horgan has performed solidly all year and has stepped up to various positions including midfield despite his young age and will get stronger again being U12 next year.

However, Sean Adamson has proven himself to be the most improved player this year. Sean has moved from the defence into being a key midfield player at this age group. Sean has really put in a great effort this year and his hard work in developing his skills at training and outside of training sessions has really paid off. Sean was asked to perform a midfield role this year and was very strong in winning ball and setting up scores. As such, congratulations to Sean as Under 12 Player of the Year.

U10 Boys Team Report 2024

Training commenced in March 2023 with good attendance that remained consistent throughout the season. There was a wide range of both ability and age difference within the group, with a number of stronger under 8 players attending both trainings and blitz. Team management tried to make training fun and inclusive for all players while trying to build on the core skills for all players within the group.

10 blitzes were attended between April to September with numbers remaining high and 2 teams were consistently fielded with all players given an equal chance to play. The players competed brilliantly against all opposition, battling hard, and displaying excellent sportsmanship. Many thanks to all the parents that brought players for trainings and travelled for blitzes.

A challenge that was faced within this group was stretching training sessions to cater for the wide range of skills/abilities within the player group.

Team Management: James McManus, Paul Connolly, John Holland & Derek Greenan.

Under 8's Team Report 2024

The change back to even numbered age limits for juvenile football filtered down to the youngest level, which saw the blitzes change from Under 7s to Under 8s. We took part in 11 blitzes in total, hosting 3 and visiting Killeevan, Aghabog, Currin, Eire Og, Scotstown, Monaghan Harps and Emyvale. There was also a 'Monster Blitz' in Cloghan with other clubs. Around 25 boys and girls took part over the year. With the variety of the clubs involved, some of these were a much tougher challenge than others but the kids put in a great effort and really enjoyed themselves.

To accommodate the larger number with the change in age limit, we also started an Under 6 group this year that ran alongside the Under 8s. Our last joint session on the Astro had 50 children at it, which is a good sign of the interest in football at this age. The last few weeks saw the Under 6s move into the Peace Link Hall, which seems to be more suitable for this age group.



Both teams had their last sessions this week and I want to thank all the coaches that helped throughout the year. There are too many to name here, which is great as we always had enough help to cover holiday etc.

Overall, I think this year was another step in the right direction and we look forward to continuing this in 2025.

