



An Chraobh na Cláirseacha G.A.C



AGM Tuesday 27th November 2018

Secretary's report

Introduction

A Chairde gael, I would like to welcome and to thank you for attending our annual convention tonight when we will review the past season both on and off the pitch. The past year has been very busy within mens, youth and ladies football with the club fielding numerous teams in multiple competitions.

Senior and Reserve teams 2018 season

The adult teams were given a great boost when former all Ireland medal winner Gary Coleman of Derry and Ballymaguigan was appointed as manager in mid January. Plans were put in place for training both outdoors and indoors and a deal was struck with the Tavern bar to hire out the gym previously privately run.

We entered the Ulster Intermediate league and it started very quickly at the end of January with an away game at Limavady. we played four games in the group and qualified for the semi finals where we played Derry team Foreglen and won by 4 points. The final was played in March in Emyvale, Monaghan against Laragh United of Cavan. In a very closely fought game we came from behind to earn a draw and put us into extra time where we played went down by the minimum margin of a point. Overall it was very valuable to team development with plenty of players tried out and a few reserve games played along the way.

There were great turnouts at training on Brackaville's 4G pitch as we prepared for Division Two. The league began on Holy Saturday, 31st March, with home games to Aghaloo where a strong reserve team had a landslide win while the seniors struggled to win by 2 9 to 1 9. Next we were away to Greencastle and while a weakened reserve team were well beaten the seniors played well to win by 2 11 to 1 12. We were away again to Dungannon at the new hurling ground and were caught by a late goal to go down by 2 11 to 2 10, the reserves won well later that week. Our next game was at home to neighbours Derrytresk and we won handily 1 16 to 1 8 with the reserves winning later in the week. The following Sunday saw us away to Tattyreagh where we came from behind to win on a fine scoreline of 4 11 to 2 14 with the reserves also winning by 1 13 to 1 11. We were quickly away again the following Friday night and the good form continued with a 2 12 to 1 13 victory, the reserves also winning later in the week. Cookstown were visitors to Mullaghmoyle the following Sunday and we found it very difficult to score against very defensive visitors and lost 0 8 to 0 5 with the reserves also losing out. After a two week break for the Ulster SFC we were away to Gortin. The reserves had a runaway win 5 19 to 1 12 but the seniors misfired badly and



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ended up well beaten 2 14 to 2 6. Loughmacrory were our next opposition at home and they snatched a late draw 0 11 each in a game where we dominated but were wasteful with our chances. Lough conceded the reserve game. We were away to Moortown the following Sunday and in a bad-tempered closely fought game we lost by the minimum 1 13 to 1 12 when we should at least have drawn. The reserves found the home team too strong but battled well to lose 3 15 to 3 9. We were away again to table – toppers Eglishe the following week and after a good first half at 0 6 each we collapsed thereafter and were beaten 2 11 to 0 8, the reserves found the home team too strong and were well beaten. By this stage some injuries had occurred and after a couple of weeks break we travelled to Strabane and put in a much improved performance to end our losing run with a 4 10 to 1 11 win, we conceded the reserve game as we hadn't the numbers. We were drawn away to Strabane in the IRFC and played very well with a bare panel of 17 players to go down by two points 3 15 to 3 13 in a good game of football.

The Strabane league game was played on Sunday 1st July just before the July two week break but due to Tyrone's success it was to be nine weeks before we played our next league game on 9th September at home to Owen Roes. In a low scoring disjointed performance we scraped a 1 7 to 0 8 win. We conceded the reserve game as numbers were too low as a result of injuries and the prolonged lack of games.

Our first round game in the IFC was on Friday 15th September and it went to extra time where we won on a score of 2 13 to 1 19.... After a much publicised melee just before the end of ordinary time we had several suspensions for the quarter final against Moortown. This game was played at Coalisland on 29th September and after leading by a point at the break we had to come from three behind to earn a draw and showed greater stamina in extra time to win by 2 18 to 0 21. The semi final was against Augher and played the following Saturday 6th October in Dungannon. Without playing very well we were drawing at half time but failed to improve in the second half and were well beaten 3 15 to 2 8 with a late penalty adding to our misery.

We still had two league games left to get something out of the season and were at home to Urney the following Sunday where the visitors showed much more appetite for the points and we lost 2 12 to 1 10 in a disjointed performance, Urney conceding the reserve game. We were at home to Kildress the following week in our last league game and with a depleted team won a high scoring game 4 14 to 4 8, the reserve game having already been played and lost on Gaelic Sunday in August. This win put us into the league semi final in fifth place to away to second placed Loughmacrory. This game was played on 4th November and with injuries mounting we put in a very spirited performance and finished very well to be denied a win by a great save from their goalkeeper to lose by 2 11 to 1 12.

Overall it was a progressive season with an Ulster IFL final and reaching the semi finals in both league and championship and with less injuries maybe we could have gone further. Hopefully we can build on this for next season and target a league or championship win or dare to dream of a double!! There is no doubt that we have a panel of players capable of promotion.



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Lastly we would like to thank Gary Coleman and his backroom team of Beano Quinn and Bartley Coyle and also Peter Armour as reserve manager for all their hard work and dedication over the season.

Minor Boys to U13's

Our minor boys competed in Grade 3A this year and finished the league with 4 points in last position in the group of 6. Nonetheless we can take great heart from the performances where we were competitive in all the matches but lacked the strength in depth to convert the necessary scores to get us over the winning line in many of the matches. In the Championship match, we played Beragh at home and after a bright start they got the upper hand and ran out worthy winners by 5 or 6 points. Credit must go to Blake Smyth, Tam Dillon and Sean Gallagher for the work they did in preparing the lads for all their games.

The U16 season followed a similar pattern where once again we competed in Grade 3A and finished in 5th position out of the 6 teams. This proved a very strong section for our lads, but we did manage a win against our parish rivals, Brackaville. In the Championship, we enjoyed a morale boosting win against Owen Roes at home but narrowly lost to a strong Cookstown side in the quarter final. Ryan O'Neill, Cathal Coyle and Sean Gallagher worked tirelessly in developing this group over their campaign and made noticeable progress.

Our U14 lads also competed in Grade 3A and finished on top spot after 10 games. In the league semi-final we played Drumragh Sarsfields at Mullaghmoyle and won with a few points to spare. In the league final, we met a very strong Beragh side who had been unbeaten at this grade over the last couple of years. The match was played in O'Neill Park, Dungannon and after a tentative first half we trailed by 6 points. In the 2nd half, the young Harps raised the game and closed the gap to the minimum but Beragh were able to turn the tide despite our gallant efforts and run out narrow winners. In the Championship, we had a good win over Rock, before losing very narrowly to Edendork at the semi-final stage. This was a positive campaign for these young lads and their football skills developed massively as a result. Aidan McIlhatton, Declan Laverty and Paul Lowe formed the management team for this group and they worked hard to bring about this success.

Our U13 boys have just finished their league campaign in late November – last Saturday! We competed in Grade 2A and faced some much larger clubs; Eglis, Galbally, Moy and Coalisland. This competition is primarily aimed at preparing next season's U14 teams and in this regard, it has served its purpose for us. Whilst we did not qualify for the playoff stages, our lads have made good progress over the 5 games and helped our readiness for next season's U14 competition. Thanks are owed to Rory O'Neill, Aidan McIlhatton and Paul Lowe for their work with this group.

Our U12.5 group enjoyed a successful season playing Derrylaughan, Moy, Naomh Pdraig and Brackaville in our Go-Games group. As well as the 8 group games, our lads competed in 2 tournaments in September - one of which was our own U12.5 tournament in late September which proved a very successful day for our club. Whilst we didn't collect any silverware at these events, they provided great experience for the team. Rory O'Neill and Paul Lowe formed the management team for this group.



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U12 Boys to U8's

We competed extremely well in the U12.5 league this year winning all our games. We also hosted a very successful Stewartstown Harps U12.5 Tournament this year for the first time, bringing a number of local clubs and clubs outside of the county to play in a great mornings football. Our U10.5 team received a new set of jerseys this year and wore them with pride at 10 blitz's during the year, including 2 at home. Our U8.5 boys attended 5 blitz's during the year, including 2 at home. Our numbers at this age group are very low and resulted in us not being able to attend 5 other blitz's. For the first time we attended an U6 Blitz this year which gave the youngest members of our club their first taste of organised football. All players gained valuable experience and enjoyment from training and organised games.

All these activities would not be possible without the dedication and hard work of our committed youth managers, the support of parents in providing transport and assistance at games and our sponsors. In order to continue the good work being done within our youth set up it is essential that we encourage more parents to take an active role in club and not to take the easy option and stand back leaving it up to others to coach and develop our children. It is a rewarding role and participation is encouraged. We would like to take this opportunity to thank St Marys Primary school for the use of their hall for u6 till u10 training.

Many thanks to our referees and match officials throughout the year.

Culture

Scor

Unfortunately we didn't have any participants in the Scor na nOg which doesn't help for future entries at Scor Sinsear level and I wish we could address this problem for 2019. We entered the senior scor in early February in solo singing (Michelle Mooney), recitation (D McConville) and quiz team (Kevin Coyle, Declan Laverty and PJ Campbell). The quiz team were narrowly beaten in the first round while solo singing and recitation progressed to the semi finals held in Eskra. Unfortunately Michelle was eliminated after a great performance but will come back to try to win it next year. The reciter got to the final but was beaten into second place by the eventual Ulster winner. Hopefully we will get to work on a strong entry of 4/5 events in Scor Sinsear to be held early in 2019.

Gaelic Sunday article

Cathal provided a feature article on the background to Gaelic Sunday for club social media in August to mark the centenary of this important event in Irish history.

Rose of Tralee

The club was extremely proud of club member of Ellen Campbell who represented Tyrone with great distinction at the prestigious Rose of Tralee competition, also during August. Maith thú Ellen!



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Féilire (calendar) 2019

We applied for and were successful in obtaining a £300 grant from Mid-Ulster District Council to promote the Irish Language (An Ghaeilge).

As a committee we decided to design and publish a calendar that would meet this objective, incorporating days, months and proverbs in Irish to provide some understanding of certain words and phrases. This calendar is due to be launched on Friday evening 30th November.

We thank all those involved in this successful project.

Objectives for 2019

- Irish Language Classes
- Irish signage for club
- Greater Scór representation, particularly promotion of Scór na nÓg

Health and Wellbeing

In 2018 our club officers attended the Tyrone Healthy club and critical incident plan training. This training was found to be essential and should equip our officers if god forbid incidents should arise. Looking forward to 2019 we hope to run various health and wellbeing events starting with “Light up the Gaa” in early 2019 to encourage people in the local area to get active.

Grounds

We have seen another yet year of continued upkeep our pitches thanks to the hard work of our grounds committee. We have continued to develop around the grounds by tarmac the lower carpark and laying stones around the path of the main pitch to ensure safety of our participants using the path for walking.

Development

Over the last year we have been preparing to renew our application for club maith award which is essential for the not only the running of our club but also for any future grants that may arise. We will continue to work on this application and hope to submit next year. The development committee obtained a grant courtesy of Mid Ulster Council for the tarmac of the lower carpark and thank them for this.

Go raibh maith agat,

Majella Quinn

An Runai