



An Chraobh na Cláirseacha G.A.C



Ladies AGM report 2018

2018 will go down as another mixed season for ladies' football within the club with each age level showing continued progress.

The minor girls began their campaign at the end of February with an unfortunate defeat to our neighbours Pomeroy. After this rusty opening performance the girls dusted themselves down and had a winning run of games against Tattyreagh, Urney, Galbally and Badoney. However Moortown and Rock put an end to winning ways with two very entertaining games the girls came out on the wrong side of the result. Up next was the final league game to which the girls had a convincing win over Dromore. The girls finished a very respectable fourth in the table.

In the championship the girls had a good preliminary round win over Badoney however in a high scoring quarter final the girls fell short with a defeat to Galbally.

In early February we were aware we wouldn't have enough numbers for u14's. A difficult decision was made to approach Derrytresk around the possibility of joining both clubs in order to give the girls football. Our proposal was accepted and so we began the journey of joining these two bunches of girls together. Both sets of girls gelled extremely well and this showed on the field with an opening win over Badoney. From this the girls never looked back and gained confidence and momentum with wins over Aghaloo, Beragh, Aghyaran and Urney. This left the girls on top of the table and in a league final Against Aghaloo. It took a replay to separate the two teams and unfortunately Aghaloo pipped us at the post to win the league.

In the championship, the girls found themselves in the final again also meeting Aghaloo. By now these two teams knew each other very well but unfortunately on this occasion our girls just couldn't get over the line.

After the success of merging the u14's it was decided to do the same with the u16 girls. They began their season in early August with an opening round win to Tattyreagh. However the girls hit a bad run of form with defeats to Moortown, Kildress, Loughmacrory and Moy. The girls dusted themselves down and finished the remaining rounds of the league strongly with wins over Trillick, Cappagh and Glenelly. This tough league campaign set the girls up for the championship were they have had great team performance wins over Loughmacrory, Strabane and Glenelly. This has now set the girls up with a long awaited final that will take place this Sun against the Moy.

I would sincerely like to thank:

- All the girls for their continued dedication and commitment to Ladies football and continuing to progress year by year.
- To Arlene and Beano Quinn and those from Derrytresk who helped coach the girls throughout the year.
- To all the parents and fellow committee members for their continued support, particularly with transport and pitch availability throughout the year.



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Last but not least, I want to thank Derrytresk, particularly Catherine O'Donnell and Nuala Canavan for kindly accepting our proposal at the start of the year. With their support and cooperation, we have been able to continue and hopefully improve ladies football for girls in the area and build new friendships on and off the field that I hope will continue to strive as time goes on, with one day forging a team back to senior football in a few years' time.

Looking forward to 2019 season and beyond, ladies football within the club will continue with the talented bunch of girls we have at the minute, however it's very concerning that despite several attempts we could not get enough numbers this year for u12, u10 and u8's.

As you all know these age groups are the key lifeline for survival of football and so I would appeal to anyone who has a daughter or relative in these age groups to encourage them to try football next year. Working with Derrytresk we hope to put emphasis into these age groups to try and ensure survival of ladies' football for both clubs.

Also like the men's side of the club we are struggling for coaches and I would like to appeal to anyone who would be interested in helping out or coaching a team to get in contact. It's simple, no coaches- there's no football for the talented youth within our club.

Go raibh maith agat,

Emma Park
(Ladies Officer)