

CUMANN LÚTHCHLEAS GAEL NA FIANNA

SECRETARY'S REPORT 2008.

FOR A.G.M.

30th October 2008.

Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Na Fianna

Cómdháil Bhliantúil 2008.

Áras Na Fianna.



Cumann Lúthchleas Gael Na Fianna
Comdháil Bliantúil 2008
Áras Na Fianna

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Standing Orders for Annual General Meeting.

The proposer of the motion or an amendment thereto, may speak for five minutes but no longer.

A person speaking to a motion or amendment shall 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 person may speak a second time to any motion 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 person may, with the consent of the Chairman, move 'that the question now be put' after which, when the proposer has spoken a vote must be taken.



Secretary's Report to the 2008 AGM

Is onóir mór dom mo Thuarascáil Bliantúil a chur os comhair na Cruinnithe cinn Bliana. Bliain iontach torthúil a bhí ann agus ba mhaith liom buíochas a ghabháil le gach aon duine a chabhraigh le riaracháin an chumainn i rith na bliana.

I am pleased to again report on an extremely busy year for Na Fianna both on and off the fields of play. We had ninety teams participating in League and Championship across all the age groups from Under 8s to senior level. Our senior teams gave us plenty of excitement during the year and that was reciprocated all the way down to the Under 8s. As the playing season is now at an advanced stage it is great to see the club's teams perform so well across the age groups. In many cases these teams are winning trophies and beating opposition for the first time in the club's fifty-three year history.

Details follow in the Juvenile Games and Adult Games reports.

On the county front your club was well represented at Minor, Colleges and Under 21 level even though our playing contribution to the Dublin Senior Football Team was not what it was previously. We did have one prominent member on the Dublin Senior set-up - the manager Pillar Caffrey – who produced Dublin's fourth-in-a-row Leinster title this year. We are glad to welcome Pillar and Yvonne back in our midst and the county's loss will hopefully be our gain. Well done Pillar, it cannot have been an easy four years in the limelight. For many the highlight of our inter-county contribution was Jonny Cooper winning an All Ireland Junior Football Championship medal. It was certainly an achievement for Jonny at a relatively young age and we hope senior success will follow. The club's Under 21 team went to a Championship Final against Ballymun Kickhams and I hope the disappointment of that loss will spur them to greater efforts in the coming year. It was great to see Tomás Brady and Joey Boland again make such a significant contribution at county level as did Mary Nevin, Sinéad O'Donnell, Arlene Cushen, Orlagh Egan and Máirtín Quilty

Supporters and mentors are a vital element in successful participation in all our competitions. It is therefore disappointing to see the growing number of disciplinary hearings which were attended by club officials on behalf of mentors and players. Not many people realize that the club is responsible for the behaviour of all its 'partisans' no matter how indefensible their actions. I would urge those who get over-excited at matches to try to understand that referees and players have tough tasks to accomplish. A simple apology and a hand-shake after a game to an opposing player or referee can often draw a line under unacceptable behaviour. Anybody can make a mistake but it takes a special type of individual to admit it and move on. As well as being counter-productive and a bad example to our players, lack of discipline by mentors and parents drags down the reputation of the club and negates all the good work done by so many volunteer mentors, parents and players.

One on the social front, the big event of the past year was the second Race Day at the PuncHESTOWN Festival in April. This was a serious fund-raiser for the club with over seventy tables of ten people attending. More importantly this was a great day out for hundreds of club members many of whom do not meet socially. The day ended with the usual sing-song in the club members' bar where a great night was had by all. The club premises are now in operation for thirty months and have gone from strength to strength as an extremely attractive facility for members and mentors and their guests particularly for the Sunday carvery which is extremely popular each week for members and visitors.

A significant number of members have availed of our function rooms, the Mobhi Suite and Halla Na Fianna, for family events like 21st, 40th and 50th birthday parties, retirement parties and even Christenings. We hosted a number of wedding parties and the facilities are also being used more and more for funerals of club members and their friends. I would urge members planning a family, social or even work event to consider the facilities that Na Fianna has to offer in the heart of Glasnevin with free unhindered parking under security cameras, modern facilities, live music on tap and a top class professional caterer in Aidan Irwin and his team at Cater 4 U. Bar and facilities manager Oliver Brennan can be contacted at 087 9478304 for those of you in party planning mode. He joins long-serving Pat Sullivan behind the bar and



they have both been ably assisted by temporary bar staff from within and outside the club membership including Gerry Bowe, Dessie Brosnan, Gráinne Ryan and Lee Bird.

It is the intention of the Executive to hold regular social events for members in the club so watch out for The weekly Club Notes in the Evening Herald on Tuesdays for details and our popular website www.clnafianna.ie. The recent Family Bar B Q was the biggest it has ever been and the "outdoor DJ" Ruairi was as popular as Aidan Irwin's burgers and Pat Sullivan's pints on the night. Ruairi is the resident DJ for our Juvenile Discos which are held regularly during the year for members and their friends aged thirteen to fifteen inclusive. Downey Keegan and I try to ensure that the Juvenile Discos take place around school holidays and we can host as many as 300 "boppers" in an evening. This disco is supervised by adults and is strictly a no-smoking, no-alcohol event. As well as being an important social outlet for our members and their friends, it is a good fund-raiser for the club.

The new all-weather pitch and our clubhouse reception areas have been besieged by young members of all ages ever since they became available over two years ago. I would like to stress the importance of remembering your safety and that of others around the club premises. Unsupervised youngsters can still be found pucking and kicking balls in the car park and the lobby even though a fine all-weather facility is only yards away. Our facilities committee spends far too much time replacing broken glass in windows, for which nobody takes responsibility for breaking. It is also important for parents to realize that the club cannot supervise their children outside of organized training and matches and the executive goes to great pains and expense to prevent the premises from becoming a location for loitering and mischief. We continue to look at improving our facilities and all fund-raisers can help. To this end our deal with Gaelic Telecom has raised €5,000 per year for the last two years. Many thanks to all those who signed up for Gaelic Telecom and if you know if members interested in switching to Gaelic Telecom and helping the club in that way, please contact Róisín at the Na Fianna office (01-8370210).

Club Committees

As before the club made great progress during the 2007/2008 year on the back of extremely committed work from a number of committees and their members. The committee is the well-proven GAA method of spreading the workload and, while it has its detractors, the success of the committee system is there to be seen. However with time now the most precious resource, it is no surprise that many committees are crying out for new members. If you wish to make a valuable contribution to your community and avail of a very enjoyable social outlet, then look no further than the members of the committee in which you have an interest.

Executive Committee

There were a number of new additions to the Executive - the main decision-making body in the club. At last year's AGM Gerry Donohoe was appointed Cathaoirleach and thankfully he will be going forward in that position again. Downey Keegan was appointed Assistant Treasurer at the AGM and is well-equipped to tackle the onerous workload of that role. Yvonne Duggan came on board for the first time and now heads up the Social Committee. Pat Montague also came on board as Club PRO and Tom Brady returned for another stint on the Executive. Former Cathaoirleach Bernie Caffrey has been doing Trojan work with the Race Day while former Cathaoirligh Charlie O'Reilly and Brian O'Sullivan are active on the facilities committee. The hugely experienced John Mangan has blossomed as Treasurer - one of the toughest jobs in the club. Colin O'Reilly stepped down from the Executive at the last AGM but continues to have an interest in our very popular Na Fianna website and has continued the crucial role of Referees' Co-ordinator.



Development Committee

This committee has drawn up plans and received planning permission for the proposed second all-weather pitch which unfortunately did not qualify for grant aid from the National Lottery. We had been successful in getting €830,000 in previous years. Unfortunately our growing membership could mean we are a victim of our own success. The committee decided that the development should not go ahead this year, a decision supported by the club Executive. A re-submission of our grant application is being considered for next year and the group is examining alternative options to raise the required funds. Many thanks and well done to Gerry Donohoe, Brian O'Sullivan, Charlie O'Reilly, Tom Gray, Kevin Nichol and Tom Dowd.

Social/Catering Committee

Many thanks to all who helped out with tea, sandwiches, finger food etc at a myriad of events during the year. Kay Brady, Angie Collins, Marie Mangan, Mary Behan and Terry Fitzgerald have all been active. It is club policy that parents of players help to supply the sandwiches after important matches and cup wins. These are the unsung heroines of our great club. Míle Buíochas. Recently appointed Social Cathaoirleach Yvonne Duggan has been involved in organizing the eve of All-Ireland Night. In recent times we have added new events to the social calendar including the New Year's Eve Ball and various team events such as Race Nights on top of the ever popular Mentors' Night and Christmas Concert.

I'm delighted to report that one of the most successful nights in the social calendar was the concert organized by the Na Fianna Four in aid of the Niall Mellon Township Trust. Well done to Fergal Brophy, Finbar Gaffney, Oliver Casserly and Jim Aughney who go out to build homes in Cape Town in November. Sincere thanks to all the members of Na Fianna for their generous support of this event.

It's hard to pick out a highlight of the evening but Nob Nation certainly hit the right chord. Many thanks to the legion of helpers from nine years old to seventy who helped make the evening a great success. Our Saturday morning teas/coffees service is growing and providing a very welcome service of tea and toast to Mums, Dads and other minders during the nursery sessions. The proceeds of the mornings have purchased the lovely plants and flowers you may have noticed around the Club House and grounds. The ladies now plan the installation of a trophy cabinet from the funds they have raised. Many thanks to Patricia O'Sullivan and her team of Mary Doolan, Essie O'Hara, Mary Donohoe, Marie Campbell, Patricia Lowry, Marie Kirwan and Mary Behan for all of the effort.

Céilí Committee

The Club Céilí takes place on the second Saturday of every month. A great night of music, dance and 'cupán tae' continues with Mary Murphy as Bean a' Tí. Sincere appreciation goes to Mary, Ann Ryan and their team for keeping this cultural event up and running.

Lottery Committee

The Lotto team continues to do Trojan work behind the scenes and has expanded its range of interest with on-line lottery this year. Friends of Na Fianna as far away as Limerick and New York can play the lotto on-line as well as picking up club news. My thanks go to Sean Behan, Bob Courtney, Ann Ryan, Jackie Dolan, Vinnie Caffrey, Ian O'Donnell and Paddy Kelly. It is great to see Frank Hennelly back in harness after his recent hospital treatment. The direct debit lotto which costs only €12 per month now has almost 200 members and is obviously an important feature of the Lotto's success as a fundraiser. Parents of juveniles are being asked to support the club's activities by signing up. 'If you're not in, you can't win!'



Pitch Committee

Another year of great work by our hard-working team led by Tom Brady ably assisted by Fintan Brennan, Pat O'Shea, Pat Clinton, Dermot Moran, John Campbell and Tom Ryan. The main pitch is a credit to the investment in time and money which has gone into it. In recent months, much needed remedial work to St Vincent's school pitch was carried out and it can now host adult matches on its main pitch. Two juvenile cross pitches with netting to protect local gardens are also in line. More work needs to be done on the Scoil Chaitríona pitch which has benefited from a full year of the nets at the Griffith Park end. Mentors should please consider the condition of all our pitches before proceeding with an authorized training session.

Fás Committee

Under the guidance of Committee Chairman Tom Brady, CLG Na Fianna was successful in retaining its sponsorship of a FAS Community Enterprise scheme for 2008. The development of the Clubhouse and the expansion in Club activities has led to the sanctioning by FAS of 18 participants for the scheme.

The FAS scheme centres mainly on the upkeep and maintenance of the clubhouse, dressing rooms and pitches and the provision of a reception and secretarial service. With the increase in the use of the Hall and Bar for parties etc the cleaning and maintenance work carried out on a daily basis by FAS is an invaluable asset to the Club. A sincere vote of thanks must go to Bernie and her team for their work throughout the year.

Fás Committee Sponsor Group: Chairman Tom Brady, Secretary Deirdre Lane, Treasurer Donal Ring, PDO Mary Byrnes.

Juvenile Games Committee

Colum Cronin chairs this committee which meets on the first Wednesday of the month. All juvenile teams and the Saturday morning nursery come under the aegis of this committee. Our former Games Promotion Officer Niall Cooper (like his predecessor Colm Burtchaell) was elevated to an important role in Parnell Park and we welcome James Mangan as club GPO with the task of promoting the club as a source of Gaelic games in the local schools as well as keeping mentors on their toes with the latest training techniques.

Conduct Committee

The Conduct Committee was instructed by the Club Executive to investigate five incidents of alleged misconduct by club members during the last year. In each case the committee made recommendations to the Club Executive who are tasked with implementing disciplinary sanctions or otherwise it deems appropriate.

The work of the Conduct Committee is often difficult and many of the cases investigated are complex. The objective of the Conduct Committee is to listen to the evidence given by all concerned in a case of alleged misconduct and based on this evidence to make fair, balanced and reasoned recommendations to the Club Executive. Given the nature of the role carried out by the committee it is not always possible to please everyone concerned. John Higgins as Chairman of the Committee would like to thank all those who participated in and co-operated with the committee during the year and in particular Jim Aughney (Executive representative), Anne Foley (member) and Mary Burns (member) for their input and support.

Based on the experience of a number of matters with which the Conduct Committee has dealt, the Complaints Procedure has been recently updated and a copy of the new procedure is on the club website.



Facilities Committee

Obviously the Club is under severe pressure in terms of access to pitches and training facilities and the numbers coming through from the Nursery are going to make the situation far more serious before too much longer. The probable loss of Albert College due to Metro North will make our situation acute. Representations have been made to the Rail Procurement Agency and Dublin City Council in relation to seeking an alternative to Albert College Park and we intend to make a formal submission now that the process has moved on.

More generally the Executive Committee has made approaches to a number of institutions with land or pitches, so far without success. It has formally engaged with the public representatives in the area initially in the context of the submissions we made in relation to the Phibsboro/Mountjoy Local Area Plan and subsequently in relation to the proposed re-development of Grangegorman. The Executive would like to acknowledge the assistance provided in these matters by Cormac Ó Donnchú.

In June a formal presentation was made to the local public representatives who engaged strongly with us. As a direct consequence of the councillors' keen interest in helping us, the head of the City Council Parks Department and the Area Manager have invited us to meet them. Albert College Park will obviously be on the agenda as will the possibility of granting us access to the corner of Griffith Park which backs on to Scoil Chaitrion's pitch (and which the councillors supported strongly). Since the presentation we also met with representatives of the Grangegorman Development Agency, a dialogue to be continued.

The public representatives are aware that we will be updating our membership of developments in this area on a regular basis between now and next year's local elections.

Bar Committee

The successful commercial operation of our Bar and Function Services underpins the financial stability of the club. The service continues to be managed by Oliver Brennan and a group of members work tirelessly week-in week-out to ensure that our facilities operate to the highest standards for our members and guests and generate the profitability needed to sustain our redevelopment borrowings. We have also awarded a catering franchise to 'Cater4U' operated by Aidan Irwin and we now provide a full catering service for functions. Aidan also provides a Sunday lunchtime carvery which has proven a big hit with members and visitors alike.

Chaired by John Mangan, the members of the Bar Committee are Tom Gilligan, Charlie O'Reilly, Dommo Weir, Joe Walsh, Pádraigín Breathnach, Ronan Nolan and John Sullivan.

Fund Raising Committee

This committee decided to concentrate on the Race Day in Punchestown in April.

A special word of thanks to Race Day organisers especially Bernie Caffrey, John Mangan, John and Brendan Quinn, Declan O'Sullivan, Paul McCarville, Gerry Donohoe, Róisín O'Sullivan and to the many volunteers who helped out on the day.



Juvenile Disco Committee

This bunch of people has managed to organize a Juvenile Disco almost once a month throughout the year. We now have up to 300 young people under 15 attending on a regular basis. The disco is an important social event for our young members and friends and provides a smoke free, alcohol free environment for the attendance.

I would like to thank the members of the Juvenile Disco Committee for maintaining high standards of comfort, safety and enjoyment throughout the year. Downey Keegan has the unenviable task of selling tickets and checking juveniles' ages and involvement with the club. Well done to Sandra Tarr, Anne McInerney, Paul McCarville, Donal Keegan, Ann Gray, Fionnuala Neville, John Leen, John Mangan, Liz O'Brien, Ciaran Gray, Finbar Gaffney, Tim Collins and Pat Clinton. Any interested adults are welcome to help out on Juvenile Disco nights. Thanks to the relevant mentors such as Colum Cronin for assisting with ticket sales.

Other Committees

A number of other committees met during the year including the Sale of Work committee under proud Munster man Martin Quilty and the Golf Classic committee under John Caffrey. Special thanks to John Caffrey, John Mangan, Jim Aughney, Donal Keegan, Finbar Gaffney and Ann O'Neill

Trustees

Our trustees are Paul Smith, Ciaran Gray and Finbar Gaffney. Many thanks to them for their support. Leo Fay, Sean Gallagher and Walker & Co make up our volunteer legal team.

Delegates

Special thanks to our delegates who represent the club at various county committees including Charlie O'Reilly, Kieran Redmond, Michael Griffin, Billy Fenlon, Seoirse Smith, Liz O'Brien and Billy McLaughlin.

World Wide Web

Colin O'Reilly continues to do Trojan work in assisting Na Fianna to bring its message to the wider GAA world.

Addresses: Website - www.clgnafianna.ie - E-mail - clgnafianna@eircom.net.

Club Shop

Special thanks to Sean Behan and Steffie Breathnach for their work in the shop on Saturday mornings. Sheila Hallahan, Patricia Close and Tiarnán Ó Dubhlainn provided much needed assistance. The club continues to try to meet the equipment needs of all teams and juveniles. Members who no longer have need of helmets and hurleys are asked to donate them to the club for re-use by juvenile members. Contact Sean. If buying a new helmet or hurley – trade-ins are accepted.



Administration

Róisín O'Sullivan was appointed as a permanent part-time Administrator in the club this year. Róisín undertakes a great deal of administrative work on behalf of the Executive and provides support particularly on the financial side of the house.

We were joined by Eimhear Daly for a period of four months on a placement from DCU. Eimhear is a marketing student and did great work in developing a brochure which will be used to promote our facilities to companies and other potential clients. Another DCU student Aoife Moloney will soon be starting work in the club and taking up where Eimhear left off.

Condolence

The Executive Committee wishes to offer condolences to the families of all members who passed away during the year. Mass for all deceased members will again be celebrated in the club in the New Year.

Séamus Mac Fhactna
Runaí 2/10/2008.



ACTIVITY REPORTS – Adult Field Games

ADULT FOOTBALL

Senior Football

The 2008 season marked the end of the road for Dessie Farrell, one of the greatest footballers ever to play for the club. Dessie announced his decision to retire at the end of the year after playing senior football for over twenty years. As well as representing his county with great distinction, Dessie was of course a central figure in Na Fianna's three-in-a-row county success of 1999 to 2001.

While 2008 may have been a disappointing season for Na Fianna senior footballers with championship defeat at the hands of Ballyboden, it is important to note that the senior team is now undergoing a period of transition, with a number of older players retiring and young players starting to make the step up to the top level.

Thanks to everyone involved with the team in 2008, particularly manager Seán Forde and his backroom team. Thanks also to trainer Paul Grimley, our sponsors BK Motors and Energise Sport. The senior footballers would also like to pass on their gratitude to the club and its executive for its support throughout the season.

Adult Football 3 (Intermediate Football)

We had an early start to the year having to conclude AFL 3 for 2007. Defeat to Cuala in our last game on 20th January meant that we had to travel to The Naul for a relegation play-off with Clann Mhuire. We managed to maintain AFL 3 status with a five-point victory on 13th February.

For 2008 we brought ten of the 2007 minor 'A' team in to train with us. This led to our having a panel of thirty-six players. In order to ensure that all of them would be getting game-time, this led to the formation of a new adult team in AFL 10. The introduction of those young legs was brought a much needed boost to our ageing squad and their enthusiasm and application was one on the bright spots of the year.

In 2008, to date, we have played five Loving Cup games (W3, L2); nine AFL 3 games (W2, D3, L4); and four intermediate championship games (W2, D1, L2). We eventually lost in the championship to Kilmacud in a game which we could have won. Our preparation was made very difficult due to the fact that two AFL 3 games in the preceding six weeks were cancelled by the CCC, one at 8.30pm on the day before the game. Some players going on holidays in the weeks before the game didn't help either. In our AFL 3 game versus St Judes, just six days before the championship, we only had fourteen of our panel available forcing us to bring in some of our Junior 'A' players in order to field a team. This was due to the fact that players were on holidays and more had to attend a wedding in Donegal on the next day – hardly ideal preparation for a championship game against Kilmacud.

Average training attendance during the year is at 60%. This broadly reflects our win: loss ratio. In our opinion this calls into question the desire and hunger of players to win competitions. We are of the opinion that your preparation is your performance. Until we get our players to realise and fully commit to this, we will undoubtedly go on getting the same results that our football teams are achieving at present.

Mentors: Jimmy Ward, Jackie Dolan, Austin Kilcommins, Tommy Burke



Adult Football 7 (Junior Football)

Sponsorship Deal

We were delighted this year to announce Ireland's most popular property website MyHome.ie as our new sponsor. We sincerely thank Jim Miley for his sponsorship which provided a new set of jerseys as well helping with the running costs of the team.

AFL 7 League

At the time of writing we are lying in the top half of the table which is a great improvement on last year. Up until the last round of matches we were still in with an outside possibility of promotion but after losing to Skerries Harps, our chance has gone so we aim now to finish as high as possible. With five games left to play we have won six and lost four, the pick of these were the wins against St Vincent's, Robert Emmett's and St. Colmcille's.

Championship

Due to an oversight by the County Board we found ourselves moved up to the Junior 'A' championship. We lodged an objection and asked to be moved back to Junior 'B', but this was denied. In a tightly contested game against Ballyboden Wanderers (an AFL 5 team) we lost by one point. It was a fantastic effort by the team and we led up until ten minutes to go when Wanderers sneaked a goal. We pulled the score back to one point but were unable to close the gap and earn what would have been a well deserved draw. The 'what if' question remains as we will never know how far this team would have gone in their correct grade, we would have been close this year.

Parson Cup

We did not make the knock out stages.

Summary

We are in a much stronger position this year as a team due to the addition of new players to the panel from the Inters, last year's minors and new players to the club. We would like to thank Jimmy Ward and the Inter team for allowing us to train with them in Starlights. This has been of great benefit to both teams in allowing the movement of players between teams when required and this will stand to both teams in the long run if this co-operation continues. Finally, the management team would like to thank all the players for their effort and dedication to training and matches so far this year and to the supporters who came out to watch us play. We do strive to entertain those who make the effort.

If this panel of players continues with the same level of progress next year, this team will finally get the just rewards that they deserve.

Mentors: Dermot Hennessy, Sean Behan

Adult Football 10 (Junior Football)

The club's development of young players led to the formation of a new adult team. A winning start got the team on a sound footing. However the lack of experience led to a narrow defeat in the championship by St Vincents. Pat Boylan's emphasis on skill and teamwork has led to four consecutive victories and the team has moved into third place in the League. Hopefully, promotion can be achieved this season.

Manager: Pat Boylan

Selectors: Tom Flaherty, Colin O'Reilly, John Ryan

Adult Football 11 (Junior Football)

At the moment this is a team growing old. Players getting married, having children and having to commit more time to work means that numbers were short all year. This was reflected in our league results but



hopefully we can retain our league status. We again had a decent run in the championship but were beaten by a cuter Parnells team at the quarter-final stage. Hopefully with the addition of some much needed youth next year this team can go on to challenge for honours again. Player of the year was Sean Reen (again!).

Manager: TJ Gleeson

Minor Football

2008 is a busy year for the Na Fianna minor footballers. Thanks to the work done at juvenile level the complement of players continues to rise. This year close to sixty players have been catered for in minor football. Na Fianna fielded three teams in the league, each competing well in its respective division. In the Summer, despite holidays and exams two teams were fielded and both are in the playoffs. At the time of writing, all three teams have won their first round matches in their respective championships. As minor is a two year cycle, it presents a new challenge to players used to playing with the same team and against opponents of similar age. It is rewarding to see our athletes apply themselves with dedication, discipline and flair and reap the satisfaction of a good performance.

The mentors' approach is one of inclusion and development, giving each player the chance to progress and achieve. Throughout the year, from December 2007 to today, coaching sessions and events such as self-funded trips are organised to support that approach. We wish our players every success in their future sporting career and in their adult lives. We are confident the character they are building and friendships formed will stand them in good stead in whatever path they take. Special thanks also to the parents whose enthusiastic support is seen in the hundreds of miles travelled to games and in the hospitality which they show to visiting teams which makes their experience of Na Fianna so enjoyable.

Mentors: Philip McElwee, Mick Downes, Ronan Clerkin, Alasdair Fitzgerald, Richie Neville, John Ryan, Des O Dúbhlaínn, Pat O'Connell, Pat Naughton

ADULT HURLING

Senior Hurling

The past twelve months have been a roller coaster of a ride for everyone involved with the senior hurling team. Since the last AGM we have contested the Senior 'B' county final on three occasions (eventually losing the second replay to St. Judes) and at the time of print we are looking forward to the quarter-final of the Senior 'A' championship against a very strong Kilmacud Crokes side. However the season may end, progress has been made this year and the lads have a huge amount to look forward to in 2009.

For the first time we entered the Leinster League and it proved a very valuable experience. We played three games and although we failed to qualify for the quarter-finals, the lads really enjoyed the matches. In the league we are competing in Division 2 and we have only lost one game; we have four home games remaining and if we win them all, and results go our way, we have a very good chance of being promoted to Division 1 for next year. But like any other year all our focus has been on the championship. Having gained promotion to Senior 'A' we were very determined to stay there and the players have put in a monumental effort to ensure results have gone our way.

In April we beat Naomh Mearnóg and then, following a long break, we defeated St. Vincents in the second game of the group. This was followed by a hard fought win over the South East Regional team. Three wins from three saw us top the group, in itself a wonderful achievement in our first year up Senior 'A', but these are ambitious players and have set their sights on bigger things. One of the highlights of the year was the wonderful support the team had in the game against St. Vincents in Parnell Park and everyone involved with the team would like to thank everyone for making the game; it really is appreciated.



The panel is very young so once they keep working hard, this really is a team who are only getting started. Only four members of the panel are over 27 and over half the panel are under 24. Twenty-one of the panel have come through the club's juvenile structure and this is fantastic testament to all the hard work being done at juvenile level; well done to all concerned and keep it going. Congrats to Tomás Brady and Joey Boland who had excellent years with Dublin and we wish Rob Thompson well following his emigration to Dubai. Everyone involved with the team wishes Ciarán Ó Fainín well as he continues his recovery from the serious injury he sustained at the beginning of the year. He has been a massive loss to the team but he is making progress and all going will be back flying fit in 2009.

The running of the team is a huge operation and everyone involved with the team would like to thank the following : Neil Loftus & Wynn's Hotel for their generous sponsorship, Tom Ryan, Sean Behan, Paul Smith & O'Neills, Niamh Hanley and DCU sports, James Foran & Innisfails, Emer O Callaghan & The Sandwich Ladies!, Sean Hynes & The Department of Defence, George O Connor, Joe Quinn & all the crew at ASPIRE, Niall Cooper, Sean Forde, Jimmy Ward, Pascal Conboy, Colin Keane, Bernie & all the FAS crew for their invaluable assistance during championship training camp, Mick Loftus, Eoin Ó Ceallacháin, Richie Grimes, Donal Shivan, Dick Conroy, Colm Burtchaell, Kevin Nolan, Colm Ó Ceallacháin Snr, Louis Davis and Dr. Donal Buggy. Special thanks to John Hughes, Kathryn Traynor, Dave Foley, Shane McManus & Fran Larkin who form the back room team and a huge thank you to Aisling O Connor who has put in huge work behind the scenes to ensure the players have all that they need. The set-up would be lost without her.

Hurling is getting stronger and stronger in the club every year but we must continue to push out the boundaries as we strive for improvement and further success at all levels. One of the most pleasing aspects of 2008 has been the performance of the Junior teams, one of which is waiting to play a county semi-final, and well done to all concerned for the huge amount of work that is going on there. It is paramount that everyone has the opportunity to play adult hurling for the club at whatever level they wish as this is the key to continued progression going forward.

2008 is far from over but for now it has been a year where serious progress has been made. Na Fianna is now looked upon as a serious Senior 'A' hurling club and long may this continue.

Bainisteoir: Colm Ó Ceallacháin

Junior Hurling

This band of brothers and sister showed great commitment in 2008. The Junior 'B' team are unbeaten in their League campaign and have reached the final stage of the Championship. The Junior 'E' team had a reasonable season but were on the wrong side of a number of close results that ended their Championship hopes. The international dimension saw Cian Ó Lionáin organise a triangular series of matches involving our friends from Brussels. Dee Kernan is currently taking bookings for the return trip next February.

The support and co-operation of the Senior Management (Colm Ó Ceallacháin et al) is much appreciated. Hurling is thriving in Na Fianna and it is wonderful to see the flagship team performing so well at the highest level. The structures are in place, the Club Executive is highly supportive and the future is bright for adult hurling in Na Fianna. New players are always welcome and the large numbers of Juveniles coming through the system can look forward to many years of good hurling.

Mentors: Paschal Conboy, Dee Kernan, Kieran Redmond, Bob Courtney, Diarmuid O'Connor, Pádraig Ó Fainín, Colin Keane



Minor Hurling

Once again this year, Na Fianna fielded two hurling teams at minor level. Both teams performed creditably in their respective leagues with the 'A' team again playing in Division 1. They competed against the very best team in the county, winning several matches and losing others by a mere point or two.

The team took the Summer League very seriously and managed to win all its games, beating a strong Kilmacud Crokes side in a pulsating and hard-fought final.

At the time of writing, the 'A' team has beaten Naomh Fionnbarra in the first Championship game and await Kilmacud Crokes and Ballyboden in the near future while the 'B' team await their first game.

In the course of the year Máirtín Quilty had an outstanding year with the Dublin Minor Team and also, along with Fergal Breathnach, Jack Caffrey and both Daire and Odhrán Ó Maoiléidigh with the Leinster winning Dublin Senior Colleges team which was managed by Declan Feeney.

Well done also to Scoil Chaitríona on winning the All-Ireland Colleges 'C' Football Championship. Their panel was made up in the main of Na Fianna players.

Mentors: 'A' Tom Ryan, Adrian Tierney, Mick McMorrow, Declan Feeney
'B' Martin Quilty, Jim Heffernan

ADULT CAMOGIE

Senior 'A' Camogie

After a very successful 2007, the senior camogie team was back up playing in the Senior 'A' ranks this year. We knew that it would be a tough year getting to grips with the significant rise in standard between Senior 'A' and 'B' but with some very talented Under 16s joining the panel and only one player missing from last year (the one and only Newcastle Rose Ms. Aoife Dowdall), we had reason to be optimistic. Training started with a vengeance back in November and the effort that was put in between then and the start of the season was clearly evident when in our first game of the league we lost by a single point to Ballyboden (the now county champions). In fact all the first league games were close run affairs with heartbreaking losses by 1 or 2 points. We were definitely up there and mixing it with the best in the early part of the season. The Leaving Cert kicked in, we had a few injuries, lost our goalies and suffered a few resounding defeats to St Vincents and Good Counsel which left us feeling disappointed mid-season but again we had close fought battles with Naomh.Mearnóg, Erin's Isle and Ballyboden in the latter part of the league. We didn't have any luck in the championship this year but we did have a good run in the Kilmacud Crokes 7s competition on All-Ireland weekend.

We would like to extend a huge thanks to our trainers Caroline Duggan and Richie Sweetman (even if he is the goalie for the Kilmacud senior hurling team) for their time, dedication, words of wisdom and encouragement throughout the year. There's no doubting that this has been a tough year but we have managed to stay up in the highest rank and know that we are capable of improving again to challenge for honours in Senior 'A' next year.

Carmel Ryan.



Senior 'B' Camogie

After a very successful season last year, the team were promoted to Senior 'B' where tough opposition meant a more difficult season. A number of players made various moves at the end of last season and this, combined with some unfortunate injuries, saw the team struggling initially to ensure a full panel. By the end of the season, with the addition of talented Under 16 and junior players, the team improved immensely and had some narrow defeats in the championship. The future looks promising and the foundations have now been laid for a more successful and competitive season next year.

The team would like to thank all those who played throughout the year including the Under 16 players and those from the Junior panel. Thanks also to Ann Ryan and Liz O'Brien for their ongoing hard work for all camogie teams in the club and finally thanks to our mentors Sean Ó Cinnéide and Fiachra Foran.

Yvonne Duggan

Junior 'B' Camogie

The Junior B team unfortunately went through this season without winning any matches, but we were very competitive in most of the matches when we were able to select from a full panel.

As usual we were hit with players doing exams and holidays, but we showed up for every match except one. Despite this we still had an average of ten players committed to showing up for training every week.

Many thanks to all who helped during the year to keep the team going.

Manager: Kieran Lowry

LADIES FOOTBALL (ADULT)

Na Fianna Ladies Senior team

Our season started back in early 2008 and an enthusiastic squad assembled

Some new players signed for Na Fianna with our inter county representation growing.

The season got off to a good start with a number of good results.

The girls trained very well over the season with the younger players Orlagh Egan, Arlene Cushen and Sinéad O'Donnell representing Dublin at U18 and Senior B levels

The Dublin U18 won the All Ireland Final. The Senior B were beaten finalists.

Other players representing thier counties were Mary Nevin - Dublin, Nadine Doherty, Lorraine O'Sullivan, and Nora Stapelton - Donegal, Fiona Maye - Sligo, Laura Walsh - Westmeath.

The League is not yet finished with one game remaining we will finish second or third, in Cup we finished second.

The Championship run was a good one for Na Fianna Ladies.

We made the Final in Parnell Park and expectations were high.

Unfortunately, we lost to nine time champions Ballyboden. One day!!!!

With the season drawing to a close we won the All Ireland 7's shield in Naomh Mearnog.

This is an outstanding achievement for the girls.

A gruelling day bordering on torture is the lot of 7's football, but most enjoyable.

The final was v St Bridgets Roscommon and it was a close contest.

Along the way we met Timahoe, Aughawillan, Aodh Ruadh, Park Ratheniska, and in our first game Ballymacarbery to whom we lost by the slightest of margins.

Thanks to the Club for the support, to our sponsors The Duke, and to all who worked with the team this year. Pablo, Robbie, Philip, Maura.

All of our results and a few pictures are available on www.dublinladiesgaelic.ie

Eamonn O'Donnell



Junior Ladies' football

The season commenced on Wednesday 2nd April after just three training sessions. The lack of preparation contributed to a poor early season and three defeats in the league. By season's end the team had improved considerably and reached the last four of the Junior Championship where we were unlucky to be beaten by Lucan Sarsfields. We also gained revenge on all of those teams that had beaten us in the earlier part of the season. Attendance at training remained high throughout the season with a minimum of twenty players rising to thirty on some occasions. All in all it was an encouraging season that can be built on in the 2009 season with proper pre-season preparation. We will continue to meet once per week with 'real' pre-season training commencing in mid-January. An additional mentor would be welcome.

Mentor: John Freir

ACTIVITY REPORT – Adult Handball

Adult Handball

Leinster Championship 60x30

Masters 'A' Singles Runner-Up Egin Jensen

Intermediate doubles winners Ian Griffin, Kerry Hennessy. lost All-Ireland final.

Emerald Masters 'A' singles winner V Farrelly awaiting All-Ireland semi-final.

Emerald Masters 'A' doubles winner V Farrelly, Eugene Kennedy (St Brigids) awaiting All-Ireland semi-final.

Emerald Masters 'B' singles winner Paddy Clerkin. lost All-Ireland semi-final.

Diamond Masters 'A' singles winner M O' Brien awaiting All-Ireland semi-final.

Diamond Masters 'A' doubles winner Ray Walsh, Sean Moore. scr gave w/over in semi-final.

Leinster Championships 40x 20

Masters 'A' singles runner-up Egin Jensen.

Masters 'A' doubles runner-up Egin Jensen, Frank Daly.

County Championships 60x30

Senior Singles runner-up Egin Jensen.

Senior Doubles winners Egin Jensen, Frank Daly.

Senior league winners .

Team. Frank Daly, Christy Donnelly, Andrew Muldowney, Gary McNulty.

Handball Junior Singles runner-up Gary McNulty.

County Championships 40x20.

Senior Singles Winner Adrian Benson.

Runner-up Christy Donnelly.

Senior Doubles winners Frank Daly., Egin Jensen.

Masters Singles winner Frank Daly.

Masters Doubles winner Frank Daly, Egin Jensen.

Senior League winners .

Team: Egin Jensen, Frank Daly, Ian Griffin, Adrian Benson, Christy Donnelly.



International achievements.

Congrats to Egin Jensen who won the American National over-35 singles championship and the over-40 doubles championship with Duxie Walsh from Kilkenny for the second year running - a great achievement.

These are just a few of the achievements in the last year. I had not a full list available but as you can see it's been another very fruitful year for the adult section as well.

There are a number of competitions still running, these results will follow.
Frank Daly, Pat Ryan, Kevin McKenna



ACTIVITY REPORTS – Juvenile Games

Twelve months ago, the rapid growth of the girls' side of the club's juvenile section was readily apparent and if anything 2008 has seen this growth accelerate further. It is fair to say that at certain age-groups the number of girls involved in the club now compares to the number of boys being catered for not too many years ago. The boys' section also continues to grow and the numbers attending the Saturday morning nursery are fitting testimony to the club's success in matching the GAA product to the local public demand. This is all good news for the club but inevitably means that our facilities are not always adequate and resources are necessarily stretched. Matching supply of resources with playing and training demand will be the key challenge for the club in the immediate future. In this regard, it was most disappointing that it was not possible to proceed with the proposed development of the all-weather pitch, training wall and handball alley as originally planned this year.

The year began with a mentors' workshop in the clubhouse in January. Guest speaker was the Governor of Mountjoy, John Lonergan whose engaging presentation on the role of the GAA club in community life was enthusiastically received by a bumper attendance of mentors. John could easily have gone on for another half-an-hour at least and probably should have been allowed to do so as none of the following speakers could match his turn of phrase and unique insight into the GAA psyche.

During the year, the club lost the services of Niall Cooper as Games Promotion Officer. No more than his immediate predecessor Colm Burtchaell, Niall will never be totally lost to the club as he is Na Fianna to the core but his primary professional focus now is in his new position with the Dublin County Board in Parnell Park. I wish to thank Niall for the enormous contribution which he made as club GPO in the short year since his appointment and to wish him all of the best in his new role. The manner of his interaction with his younger club-mates was exceptional, never better exemplified than in his cheer-leading singalong role on the rain-delayed Family Day. He will definitely prove to be a difficult act to follow. However, we are most fortunate to have as his successor another die-hard Na Fianna clubman in James Mangan. I know that 'Mango' will bring a fresh approach to the job and his considerable energy will be brought to bear on the club's juvenile section in the months ahead.

'Mango' got down to business quickly and did a great job managing the VHI Cúl Camp. Thanks to James and indeed to John Horan who again ran the Club Summer camp in July. The Mini-Leagues once more proved to be a great success. Over 700 children participated and Finals Day was due to revert this year to the traditional Sunday slot. Unfortunately on the day the weather did not play ball and the decision was taken to defer Family Day and to run it over two days on the following weekend. This had the effect of diluting the Day and it has been suggested to me that given the foul June weather for the past couple of years that we should consider bringing the Mini-Leagues forward to May! The decision to restrict the Mini-Leagues to an upper age limit of Under 10 proved to be justified by the large numbers of younger children who registered. It is no longer logistically feasible to include the Under 11s and 12s. Thanks to Darren Chambers and Lisneys for their continued generous sponsorship of the Mini-Leagues and although a lot of mentors put their shoulders to the wheel for the Mini-Leagues, the contributions of Anne O'Dea and Paul McCarville are absolutely fundamental to their success. Their work behind the scenes is immense and the club is indeed fortunate to have two people of their calibre at its service.

Since last year's AGM, the playing fields of Dublin have again been embellished with the sporting deeds and achievements of Na Fianna juvenile teams. The individual team reports which follow give a very real flavour of the commitment and energy which is invested in each juvenile team as well as the enjoyment which ensues. The growth in popularity of hurling continues apace to the degree that it now appears that the advent of a 'B' hurling team at each age-group will soon become the norm rather than the exception as heretofore.



The monthly Juvenile Games meetings have again been very well attended this year. It is particularly satisfying to see mentors to the nursery beginning to make it their business to attend. Anne Foley has continued as Secretary of Juvenile Games and thanks to both Anne and to Pat Brennan who has deputized for her on occasion. Board delegates Billy Fenlon, Michael Griffin, Seirse Smith, Liz O'Brien and Billy McLaughlin have ensured that mentors are kept up-to-date with the goings-on in Parnell Park and further afield. For any mentors who may not be aware of the timing of these monthly meetings, they are held on the first Wednesday of the month at 9pm in the club offices. All mentors to juvenile teams are most welcome. Thanks to Pat Clinton and to his promising new apprentice Dermot Moran for the grass-cutting regime in St Vincent's school. The length of the grass in the school grounds is crucial to getting the maximum benefit from this fine facility.

It was a tremendous achievement for three such recent 'graduates' from the juvenile section of the club to win All-Ireland medals with Dublin at adult level this year. Congratulations to Jonny Cooper(1989) who won an All-Ireland junior football medal and to both Arlene Cushen(1990) and Orlagh Egan(1991) who won All-Ireland minor football medals with the county this year. Hopefully their success will be a foretaste of things to come at senior inter-county level in the not too distant future.

Mar focal scoir, is mian liom mo chomhgairdeas a ghabháil do na páistí go léir as ucht a n-iarrachtaí ar feadh na bliain atá thart agus mo dea-bheannachtaí do 'chuile fhoireann sa bhliain atá romhainn. Mar a deirtear, 'Ní neart go cur le chéile'.

Colum Cronin
Cathaoirleach
Cluichí na nÓg
6ú Deireadh Fómhair 2008.



JUVENILE GAMES - Football

Under 7 Football

Having moved away from the bulk nursery group to our own 'patch' in September 2007 we have progressed quite well in terms of quantity and quality since. Our numbers have increased to approximately forty-five boys from thirty-six last year. We will commence Go-Games in 2009 and we are always on the look-out for aspiring coaches or mentors to help out. Whilst we concentrated mainly on skill development we played three challenge matches during the year and these were very enjoyable and gave us good feedback on our progress to date. We commence coaching at 9.30am every Saturday.

Mentors: Paul Smith, Brendan Brady, Aidan Farrington, Cian Ferriter, Martin Kelly, Seamus Mc Hugh, Noel O'Reilly, Joe Smyth

Under 8 Football

With a panel of sixty-five players and a regular attendance at midweek training of over fifty, Under 8 football is blessed with a strong and enthusiastic squad. This was our first year to enter the Go-Games league and there was great excitement in the build-up to the first match in February. The large panel afforded us the luxury of fielding six teams in the same three-team group, against the likes of St Maur's, Naomh Barróg, St Vincent's, Erin's Isle, Naomh Mearnóg, Fingallians and Castleknock.

By the end of September, each team – called Na Fianna 1 and Na Fianna 2 but unstreamed – had played a total of fifteen matches including a blitz competition at St Vincent's and Naomh Barróg. Both groups have performed extremely well so far, losing just a couple of close matches, confirming the tremendous potential of this crop of young players. At the same time, the games have also highlighted areas for improvement, such as high-catching, blocking and passing. The matches are seven-a-side, so twenty-one players are needed for three games. While our large panel means we can have thirty players on hand for each group but in practice the usual turn-out is around twenty-five, allowing for sickness and holidays.

From Friday 17th October the Under 8 football group will train at 6pm on Friday evenings on the all-weather pitch at the DCU sports ground on Ballymun Road (beside Glasnevin Tennis Club). This will continue until we break for Christmas. Finally, a big thank you to all the parents and mentors who continue to lend their time, support and enthusiasm so generously to this group. We look forward to an enjoyable and successful 2009.

Mentors: Brian Skelly, Richard Dunne, Mike Farrell, Martin Hardiman, Matthew Kelly, Eoin McCabe, Paul Nolan, Aldo Paolozzi, Jim Ratcliffe

Under 9 Football

In February 2008, Na Fianna Under 9 boys' football commenced playing in the Dublin Northside Go-Games football challenge matches. Facilitating our large playing numbers of sixty registered players, we entered five teams and they were sub-divided into a three-team section and a two-team section. The three-team group is managed by Pat Brennan and the two-team group by Luke Lacey. To date we have played well over twenty-two matches.

During the Summer the Under 9s won two competitions – the Ger Canavan tournament held in O'Tooles GAA and the Joey Mooney trophy held in Erin's Isle GAA. The 2008 Mini-Leagues proved to be a great success once again increasing our numbers to over seventy participating kids during June. We had eight teams with approximately nine players per team. A special word of thanks to all the parents and guardians –



because of their commitment, support and drive Na Fianna can boast of having one of the largest Under 9 football boys' group in Dublin and County. A word of thanks goes to the managers and trainers for their efforts and support throughout the year.

Mentors: Pat Brennan, Luke Lacey, Jack Byron, Noel McKenna, Padraic Bolger, James Sweeney, Eugene McHugh, Fergal O'Dwyer, Paul Whelan, Ger Mackey, John Collins

Under 10 Football

Steady improvement and development in the Under 10 football group. We now field six teams in the Go-Games leagues and have over sixty boys registered. Average attendance at training is fifty and no problems in fielding six teams on match days. Great success during the summer in the John Mitchel's tournament in Newry when one of our teams won the Shield, winning six out of seven matches. Great results also in our Go-Games matches but more important is the development and improvement which can be seen in our players. We could do with some extra help on training and match days so anyone out there who would like to get involved is more than welcome.

Mentors: Willie Rafter, Paul Fitzgerald, Kevin Breen, Robert Bruton, Jude Byrne, John Daly, Ray Henry, Sean Paul Mahon, John Owens, Tony O'Flaherty

Under 11 Football

Under 11 football continues to thrive with sixty-five registered players, sufficient numbers to field five 11-a-side teams on Saturday mornings and to give all players plenty of ball time. We are very fortunate to have a team of fifteen dedicated mentors, many of whom are attending regular coaching workshops. We also receive fantastic support from the parents of the boys.

The aims for Under 11 football this year, as in recent years, are:

- To ensure that the lads enjoy their experience in Na Fianna and stay involved over the longer term;
- To develop their skills as footballers and their maturity as team players;
- To play and compete at a level appropriate to their own ability.

Our five teams are divided into two 'A' teams and three 'B' teams, all of whom are playing very well in their respective league divisions. Under 11 Na Fianna teams played each other in the finals of the 'A' and 'B' Go-Games Cup competition in Rush. This was the first time that teams from the one club have met in a Cup final. It was a very proud day for our Under 11 group. Each member of our extended panel received a treasured Dublin Cup medal.

In April, a group of forty-three players and thirty parents made the long trip to Kerry to play three teams from the Killarney area (Spa, Glenflesk and Legion). We had a fantastic trip to the Kingdom and were treated to superb hospitality by our Kerry friends. It was a great learning experience for our lads to play against the young aristocrats of gaelic football from Kerry. We hope to return the courtesy by hosting these three clubs in Mobhi Road next year.

We regularly have in excess of fifty boys at training on Monday nights in St Vincent's school (April to September) or Mobhi Road (October to March). Thanks to the commitment of a large group of dedicated mentors, our training sessions are going from strength to strength with a focus on developing the skills of our boys so that they excel on match days.



We are in the latter stages of our league competition and our two 'A' teams are currently first and second in Division 1 of the league, whilst our third team are in joint second place of Division 1 for clubs with only one team. Our two 'B' teams are involved in the Top 4 Bottom 4 playoffs for the 'B' teams.

In addition to the playing exploits of our boys we have a fantastic group of parents who support the club in many ways. Our mentors launched a new Club Lotto Direct Debit initiative amongst our Under 11 group. This has brought in over thirty additional participants to the Club's Lotto Direct Debit facility. This is a very important contributor to the Club's ongoing fundraising efforts. This Direct Debit initiative has since been taken up by other under-age groups.

Three of our mentors (Finbar Gaffney, Feargal Brophy and Oliver Casserly) are heading to South Africa in November to support the Niall Mellon trust, by building houses for those who are in need. The three boys got fantastic support from our 1997 parents at a fund raising night in the Clubhouse during June. A great and long night was had by all.

If you would like to be involved in coaching or any other aspect of Under 11 football please approach John Caffrey, Paddy Connolly, Finbar Gaffney or any other mentor.

Mentors: Finbar Gaffney, John Caffrey, Paddy Connolly, Matt Bowden, Fergal Brophy, Richard Dunne, Michael Kenny, Michael McLoughlin, Aidan Murphy, Tom O'Connor, Peter O'Hanlon, Michael Flanagan, Peter Pringle, Philip Baxter, Alan Hughes

Under 12 Football

The Under 12 footballers continue to field three teams in North Dublin league and cup competitions. This group is reigning Division 1 North Dublin league champions and is currently battling to retain this crown in 2008. Next year will present new challenges in the shape of regular cross-city opposition and also full fifteen-a-side games. Players and mentors are looking forward to this graduation to 'big-time' football. A special word of thanks to all parents for their support and encouragement throughout the year.

Mentors: John O'Dea, Tom Gray, Paul Kenny, John Murchan, Paul McDonnell, Greg Victory

Under 13A Football

The team finished second in the Dublin North Under 12 league and therefore qualified for Division 1 in the Under 13 league. Clive O'Reilly came on board as part of the management team. The team won four of its initial five grading games. In the league after a narrow two point defeat to Kilmacud Crokes in their opening game they won their next five games. Unfortunately the summer break intervened and on the resumption we lost our final league game to lose out on winning the league. We won the first round of championship and are in the quarter-final against Cuala.

The lack of competitive games at Under 13 level is an issue that must be addressed by the County Board going forward as this team could be finished their programme by mid October with no further games until next February.

Mentors: Ciaran Gray, Clive O'Reilly

Under 13B Football

This year is proving to be a very successful year yet again for this very hard working, committed and talented squad of players. This year our squad entered the 'big boys' world with our entry into county-wide League and Championship competitions. We were placed in Division 4 which is a high rating division for a 'B' team. We are currently joint top of this division and will shortly compete in the quarter-finals of the



Championship which incorporates teams from both Divisions 3 and 4. The spirit and comradeship within the group is very strong and we have no doubt that this will keep the boys engaged well into the future.

Mentors: Dave Buckley, Bríd O'Dwyer, Donal Keegan, Padraic Bolger

Under 13C Football

Maintaining a credible and motivated 'C' team at this age level is an achievement. Two key factors in our success are the commitment shown by an extended mentor team and the growth of friendships in the team itself. The year has proved to be both challenging and satisfying for all involved with the team. We started the year anxious as we had lost eight players to the Under 13B team and we struggled when we were well beaten in our first two grading games. However with some players recommending us to friends we established a good panel and now have a great team spirit. Training is well attended with credit to mentors who often organise sessions twice a week. Our progress is illustrated by our success in Division 6 where we have beaten Castleknock, St Judes and Fingallians (All 'B' Teams). We are currently looking forward to our Championship Quarter Final against St Pats, Donabate. Our major disappointment was losing to the Under 12B team in two great and hard fought challenge games. The prospect of renewing rivalries remains a motivator for our team. We look forward to keeping players at whatever level they can reach participating in the sport for many years.

Mentors: David Williams, Declan Fitzgerald, Gerry O'Leary, Philip Webb, Charlie Ferguson, Bill Murphy

Under 14A Football

It has been a reasonably successful season so far, being beaten in the semi-final of the Dublin Féile competition in a very competitive game, by the eventual national winners Kilmacud Crokes. This in addition to fund raising and travelling to Cavan and Kildare for challenge games, prior to the Féile, created a good bond within the squad. We are well on the way to retaining our Division 1 status which has been our minimum goal for this season. The squad is comprised of a very good bunch of guys, committed mentors with great support from the parents who came to the fore in our fund-raising activities this year.

Mentors: Michael Griffin, Stephen Farrell, Seamus McHugh, Paraic O'Connor

Under 14B Football

It was a big year for this squad on the back of a successful 2007 that saw them promoted up a division and facing into a challenging Féile year, not least because most of these lads play both football and hurling codes. The early season League and Féile campaign saw them continue with the momentum that ended last season with good competitive performances (and some good wins) against all but two of their opposition, GP Moran's and Ballinteer St.John's being those notable exceptions. Exit from the Féile competition was disappointing, principally as it came down to depending on other clubs' performances and score difference.

The early summer and post-holiday season performances have been less convincing with the team struggling to deliver competitive performances. There are a number of stars on the squad that could fairly lay claim to roles on the 'A' football squad even though it would leave a significant gap and certainly reduce competitiveness. A couple of disadvantages we find ourselves with as a squad is having a large squad with too many substitutes for any given game and having a wide gap in ability between most of the starting fifteen and some of the substitutes.

Mentors: Seoirse Smith, Colum Cronin, Martin Greene



Under 15A Football

This has been a tough season in the league for us and at the moment we need one win from our three remaining games, none of which will be easy, to retain our Division 1 status. If we play as well as we can this is achievable. At the time of writing we are fixed to play Ballymun Kickhams in the quarter-final of the championship. During the summer we won the Ger Canavan Tournament with four fine performances from the lads ably assisted by players from the Under 15B and Under 14A teams.

We would like to thank the Under 14 football and hurling mentors for their assistance during the season when we had more than our fair share of injuries. Finally, thanks to the lads themselves for their continued commitment and effort in both training and matches.

Mentors: Jimmy Flannery, John Gray, Colum Meleady, Tommy McKane

Under 15B Football

This team had a great start this year up in Division 4. It has a core of players who are together since nursery days and who have a great commitment to the team. The level of skill and ability on this team is fantastic. It's a pleasure to be involved with this team! Well done to the lads, fair play to the mentors and thanks to the parents for all support.

Mentors: Marty Fennell, Alan Connolly, Jim Grew

Under 16A Football

Having enjoyed a relatively successful season at Under 15 level, hopes were high for a better season at Under 16 level. As I write I can say that we are marginally better placed but our nemesis from last year Thomas Davis continues to cast a great shadow over us. The fixtures committee were unkind to us and paired us with Thomas Davis in our first league match. Despite a brave effort at the foot of the Dublin mountains we were beaten by three points. As Thomas Davis rarely lose matches this meant we were immediately playing catch-up and hoping for some other team to do us a big favour. The fates were very kind to us on this score and Ballymun Kickhams obliged us. This set us up for a top of the table clash with Thomas Davis just after the the Junior Cert ended. What a game that was! 1-11 to 2 points down with fifteen minutes left, we staged a mighty comeback and managed to draw the game. The league then closed down for a few months. Unfortunately, on resumption we lost to Naomh Barróg. Having beaten them twice this year, this was a very disappointing result and means we are playing catch-up again. However, all is not lost and in our last game we played really well to beat St Judes in Tymon North. No easy feat at the best of times but made more memorable in that we were missing five of our players and down to the bare bones.

In our championship run we beat Nh Barróg and Kilmacud only to become undone again by Thomas Davis at the semi-final stage. Thomas Davis went on to beat St Vincents in the final. We have ventured forth on a few occasions outside the Pale and have scalped a few teams. Na Fianna (Enfield), Naas, Dunboyne were a few of our victims. Naas subsequently avenged that defeat and Dunshaughlin beat us recently.

All in all the season has been generally successful with the players continuing to commit themselves and continuing to be a great team to manage. Long may that continue. The make up of the season in that we have a three month break in the middle does not lend itself to maintaining any momentum. With holidays etc during that break, training can be meaningless. The momentum that we had before the break was lost after the break and has to be rediscovered. There must be a better way to ensure lads have regular games over a defined period of time. As it is we have four games left and are looking at finishing in November. Considering that we started early in the year and play fourteen league games and at most four, three in our case, championship games, it is a long time to keep teams interested and competitive.



As usual I must finish by thanking a few people. Firstly, the players for their enthusiasm, commitment and help that they gave us throughout the year. A special word for our Captain Niall McGovern who led by example throughout the year. Despite having a hard time with injuries, he gave his all at every opportunity. Thanks to Liam Burke and Dick Shanahan who continue to manage our logistics making our life easy, to John Higgins who organised numerous friendlies to keep us ticking over and refereed most of those friendlies. To Paddy Reilly for his match reports and to Paul McCarville and Tom McGovern for their umpiring. Our thanks also to those mothers and fathers who laid on such a spread for our visitors from Enfield. Our thanks to all our parents who continue to show such interest and support their children.

From those outside our circle, I would like to thank Gerry Donohoe and the players of the other Under 16 team who helped us out when we needed help. A special thanks to Dara McQuillan who was always ready to help out. Thanks also to the Under 15 and minor mentors and players who helped when asked. Finally thanks to Colum Cronin for his help throughout the season.

Mentors: Karl Higgins, Stephen McGlinchey, Pat McCarthy

Under 16B Football

This dedicated group of young men, most of whom have been together since nursery are in shooting distance of finishing their stay in the juvenile ranks as winners of the Division 5 League. At the time of writing, we have suffered only one loss in the league, and are determined to go out on a high. The Championship did not go so well, we were beaten in a replay by Naomh Mearnóg, having drawn the first match in Mobhi Road, after extra-time and then suffered the same fate in a nail-biter in the Shield against Skerries, losing narrowly in extra-time. Thanks to the most supportive group of parents in the club.

Mentors: Gerry Donohoe, Kevin Nicholl



JUVENILE GAMES - Hurling

Under 7 Hurling

The Under 7 hurlers are in full flight at the moment. Our average numbers have grown from twenty-five to forty hurlers at each training session. We have made the break from the joint football training, which will allow both mentors and players to find their feet. With the help of all parents the goal for this year is to have every boy playing both hurling and football, and attend both training sessions. Most of the boys now have their own hurl and helmet, but there are still a few to make the big commitment and purchase the gear. Each boy should practice during the week as hurling is not a game that kids can pick up with one training session a week. It is important to do their homework and hold the hurl every day. The mentors will show the drills but it is more important that parents watch and practice these skills with their child during the week. A small number of committed mentors will need more volunteers to come forward to help, now that the boys have two training sessions a week. If you are interested please contact any mentor at a training session. Here's looking forward to our Go-Games next year. Remember to keep practicing.

Mentors: Dermot Moran, Tom Flaherty, Paul Smith, John O'Grady

Under 8 Hurling

This year we have a panel of forty players with numbers in the high twenties/low thirties regularly turning up for training. Earlier in the year we entered three teams in the Gormanston indoor hurling tournament. All three teams came away with medals (two first places and one third). We also started Go-Games this year and entered four balanced teams. We found ourselves in a two two-team groups and have won all but one game to date. This is due to great attendance at training sessions and the extra practice that the boys are doing themselves. Next season at Under 9 we hope to move to a more competitive group. Unfortunately due to the bad weather in recent months several games were cancelled including this year's Under 8 blitz. In June we travelled down to play James Stephens for the second year running and James Stephens return to us in October. We ran a 'puckathon' fundraiser before the summer break and the boys collected a sizeable amount of money for training equipment and the club. Many thanks to all parents, guardians and helpers for all the support during the year.

Mentors: Joe Murphy, Daire Daly, Cormac O'Sullivan, Christy Donnelly, Martin Hardiman, Eoin McCabe, Mike Farrell, Brian Skelly

Under 9 Hurling

Another year has passed and as the saying goes 'Time flies when you're having fun' and for the Under 9 hurling team it's true. Since the last AGM we finished competing in the Under 8 Go-Games in the three-team group where we acquitted ourselves very well. Our numbers have held very well for this season with forty-six boys on the panel. We continued our coaching during the winter on the old all-weather and the lads' progress has been impressive. In March the Under 9 Go-Games started and we entered the three-team group and the one-team group. To date we have played ten rounds and have done well in the games. We also travelled to James Stephens in Kilkenny in May. Unfortunately we didn't win but we put on a great performance. Playing teams of the calibre of James Stephens is a great learning curve for the panel and this is what we have to aim for. Thanks to both Donal Buggy and Adrian Tierney for organising the outing. As we are heading into the winter months it is important to encourage the players with versatility in the coaching and training during this period. I would like to thank all the parents and guardians who have given their all in encouraging the children by being there at training and matches. It is great to see this and it builds up a great community spirit in the club. I would like to thank the mentors for all the work during the year. Finally a big thanks to all the children who made the year so enjoyable for all of us. Here's to the next twelve months.

Mentors: Eugene McHugh, Jimmy Deane, Adrian Tierney, Fran Gray, Donal Buggy, Cian Ó Lionáin, Hugh McFinn, Willie Bergin, Pat Brennan.



Under 10 Hurling

The Under 10 hurlers have enjoyed another good year for 2008. We have a panel of thirty-eight players and fielded four x nine-a-side teams in the Go-Games this year and look forward to next year when we will field three x eleven-a-side teams. In the Go-Games this year, we are competing against St. Vincents, Clontarf, Cuala, Kilmacud Crokes and Ballyboden who are all in our group and we have enjoyed various successes against them. We have played all these clubs away from home twice as there is no home pitch availability at Under 10.

We were successful in winning the Tommy Murphy Cup in St. Kevin's GAA Club on Good Friday and we won a Shield Trophy in another tournament in Naas on June 28th. We were runners-up in Na Piarasaigh GAA Club in Limerick in the 'Burtchaell Cup' tournament last April and were recently beaten by a point versus James Stephens in the semi-final of a tournament in Gorey two weeks ago.

We competed in the Camáint competition during the summer and qualified for the semi-final of the Cup against Naas on 4th October. We will be hosting 'The Fella' tournament for the Under 10's this year on 16th November and will field three teams for this tournament. Many thanks to the Fitzgerald and O'Flaherty clans who sponsor the tournament.

James Stephens from Kilkenny and Kilruane McDonagh's from Tipperary came up to visit us this year which was a great learning experience. Although we did not win our matches against them, they set a standard for us to work towards in 2009.

This group of young players have been a pleasure to work with and we would hope to build on the above successes next season. The attendance at training would be around 85% and for the matches it would be at around 95% which is a credit to all the children and their parents. Many thanks to all the parents who helped out during the year, in catering for our visiting teams and for the huge support and encouragement they give to their own children and their friends. The backing they give to these players makes a vast difference to the children enjoying their hurling and performing to their best abilities.

Mentors: Mary O'Connell, Páirc Clerkin, Regina Bermingham, Niall Loftus, Catherine Fitzgerald, Tony Kelly, Gerry Corcoran

Under 11 Hurling

Another dynamic year for this group of young hurlers, which has remained above forty strong, began with indoor coaching in St. Mary's school due to heavy demand for winter training facilities in St. Mobhi Road. The All-Dublin Cup began in March, where we entered three teams. Both two-team and single-team groups came through to the finals which were held in torrential June rain in St. Brigids. Amid memorable scenes we posted our first Dublin successes with victory over Kilmacud in the two-team and Round Towers in the single-team category. The June Bank Holiday saw us also take home the Ballyboden Tournament Trophy, after a fifteen-a-side competition in glorious sunshine, with wins over Faythe Harriers (Wexford), Naas and our gracious hosts.

The highlight of our season was once again our hosting on 28th June of the Dermot McNulty Tournament, named after one of the club's greatest stalwarts. First staged in October 2007, we invite elite hurling clubs to compete in a twelve-team blitz, at 'A' and 'B' levels running in parallel, six teams in each. Na Fianna entered an 'A' and two 'B' teams, enabling all of our own panel members to play, and no fewer than forty-one did so. Although our 'A' team beat eventual winners, our great friends and rivals from across the city in Kilmacud, narrow defeats to Kilkenny clubs James Stephens and Dicksboro meant we were outside the



top two who qualified for the Final. However, one of our 'B' teams surpassed all expectations to reach the 'B' Final, losing out to a very good James Stephens team. Mrs. Teresa McNulty and her family made the presentations afterwards, with each of the 160 young participants receiving a specially engraved medal.

The Camáint summer tournament was a useful vehicle for maintaining our skills and gave the boys an opportunity to play in Parnell Park in September. An invitation from James Stephens, Kilkenny to take part in their tournament on a sunny September 20 resulted in our boys winning the Shield after an unbeaten day which saw us record wins over Graigue-Ballycallan and Danesfort and a lose a lead to the host club in time added on for a thrilling draw. Not many clubs could enter an otherwise all-Kilkenny juvenile tournament and compete well - to come away unbeaten with Shield honours represented a significant achievement for these young hurlers. Our 'A' team of the two-team group and our single team continue to do well in Division 1 of the Dublin leagues. The aspiration is once again to field three teams next year, when it will be thirteen-a-side, giving maximal pitch time to all players, with two of those hopefully competing in Division 1. Thanks to Colum Cronin for his endless encouragement and support and to our parents for their ongoing support also.

Mentors: Donal Buggy, Oliver Casserley, Dave Doran, Billy Fenlon, Dave Fenton, Michael Flanagan, Finbar Gaffney, Chris Garvey, Andrew Green, Michael Kenny, Paddy Oliver, Tom O'Connor, Seosamh Ó Maolalái, Peter Pringle, Frank Twomey.

Under 12 Hurling

The Under 12 hurlers began the year with an Under 12/Under 13 mixed tournament on the all-weather pitch. In May we hosted and won the Under 12 Leinster Tournament in the Club. In June the entire 1996 group travelled to Wicklow Town GAA for a mix of hurling and football and then onto Glendalough for a hike and overnight stay. We were narrowly beaten by one point in extra time by Naas in the semi-final of the Alan Cregan Tournament hosted by Erin's Isle in July. A busy summer of Camaint followed and saw us again narrowly beaten by one point in extra time by Ballyboden in the Div 1 semi finals in Parnell Park. Our league campaign has been more successful with good wins for the boys. The highlight of September was a training session with former Tipperary captain and manager Nicky English which was enjoyed by all the boys and parents.

Mentors: Michael Ryan, Kieran Lowry, Tommy Curley, Brendan Craven, Pat Barron, James Jesson, Anne Foley

Under 13 Hurling

This season we sailed out from the quiet bay of Go-Games into the open sea of full hurling rules and it has been an exciting journey. With a squad of thirty-six players, including three new players who joined us during the season, we entered teams in League Division 1 and Division 4 North. The end of the first round of League matches saw both teams finish in the top half of their tables and enter the Top-4 playoffs after the summer break. The Division 1 team has a realistic chance of finishing as League runners-up. In the PJ Troy tournament, we just failed at the final hurdle, defeated by Ballyboden in the final of Division 1. In the 'A' Championship we recently lost to Ballyboden in a tight match and this team needs to complete the year by winning the 'A' Shield and securing the second spot in Division 1. Our second team have reached the semi-final of the 'D' Championship and will now play Kevins Hurling Club.

The atrocious summer weather has restricted our training somewhat but the commitment of the players to training has been quite good and this is evident by a noticeable improvement in their skill level. We had one opportunity to test our skills against a team from outside Dublin when we were kindly hosted by Rathnure for a tremendous game played in a hurricane force wind. Several of our players had the opportunity to play in Féile na nGael this year and they acquitted themselves well. Although we have



nearly always been able to field two teams from our own resources, we gratefully acknowledge the support of our Under 12s who have helped us out on occasions when we have been stretched. We have six players on the Dublin West Under 13 Development squad and several others pushing hard for inclusion. Damian Murphy is a mentor for this development squad. As always, the support of the parents throughout the season has been fantastic. With this squad of talented and steadfast players, we look forward to the future with confidence.

Finally a big thanks to both Jack Caffrey and Eoin Bridgeman for helping us out throughout the year when not studying for exams or playing/training for the club themselves. It is great to see these young Na Fianna minor players wanting to give something back to the Club so quickly and it's very much appreciated by the mentors and the players themselves.

Mentors: Damian Murphy, Oliver Power, Joe Murphy, Dave Williams

Under 14 Hurling

In this, their Féile year, the Under 14 boys had a good year to reflect on. But if they are to really achieve their full potential, they will need to keep up the hard work at training. They will also need to be self-disciplined enough, in their spare time, to resist the Playstation in favour of the camán in order to hone their skills.

At the start of this season, the 'A' team avoided relegation when one of the Division 2 teams did not want to be promoted. In accepting this lifeline, the boys faced into this year's league campaign with renewed vigour and determination. This has reaped dividends for them as they are now comfortably perched in the top half of the Division 1 league table and have a good chance of finishing in the top three. As things stand, the only Division 1 teams that they have not beaten this year are St Judes whom they haven't met since the opening league match in March and their nemesis Kilmacud Crokes.

The 'B' team, competing in Division 4, had a tough start to their league campaign – facing Fingallians by far the strongest team in the Division in their first match and going down to a heavy defeat. The second match of the campaign was better but still no victory. However the break for the Féile competition proved to the lads how competitive they could be if they stuck to their training and believed in themselves. This increased level of confidence bore fruit and from the end of May the team went on a run of six games undefeated. With four matches remaining the target is a Top 2 finish, which will be no mean achievement, as they are the only 'B' team in the division and are competing against all other single team clubs.

April and May were Féile competition time. It was notable that Na Fianna was the only Dublin club to enter two hurling teams in the 2008 Féile na nGael. And the campaigns were most rewarding for both teams. The 'A' team had masterly wins against Cuala and Whitehall Colmcilles before they bowed out, in extra time, in an epic Division 1 semi-final encounter with Ballyboden St. Endas. But fortune favours the bold and the boys exacted their revenge by defeating Ballyboden in their subsequent league encounter.

A narrow defeat in the first match for the 'B' team meant the lads faced a real do-or-die Féile semi-final versus St Finians of Swords where a superb performance saw them through by 3-6 to 2-6 to proudly take their place in the Dublin Féile na nGael finals in Parnell Park. The final, against Good Counsel, was incredibly tense and hard fought with Na Fianna coming back from a slow start to eventually lead by 4-1 to 3-2 with 5 minutes remaining. But then a scrambled goal by Good Counsel meant we had to score again to at least force extra time. Unfortunately two goal line clearances in the closing seconds of the match were as close as we came. And so we went down by the narrowest of margins. But it had been a truly magnificent performance in which every one of the squad played their part and could be extremely proud.

All of the Under 14 hurlers went on tour to Wexford in February to play Under 13 county champions Raparee Starlights, and to Galway in June, where they played both Castlegar and Turloughmore. Their



performance on those tours showed that they can hold their own in any county. Apart from the hurling, the boys will remember standing on the promenade in Salthill watching a spectacular thunderstorm as it crossed Galway Bay from Clare. Little did they know that this was to be a harbinger of summer in 2008. That evening, they must also have been bemused as they watched their mentors and some parents lay on a barbeque in the unremitting torrential downpour. If the mentors can be accused of lacking common sense nobody can question their optimism. Roll on 2009.

Particular thanks to Oliver Power, Martin Quilty and Declan Feeney for their help with the 'B' team during the Féile campaign.

Mentors: Dermot Moran, Greg Whooley, Peter Caulfield, Greg Ronayne, Fran Gray, Fintan Brennan

Under 15 Hurling

This group of hurlers continues to make steady progress. Having finished next to bottom of the league at Under 14 and narrowly avoided relegation it looked like the Under 15 season was going to be a struggle. A string of impressive results, including five good wins in a row, saw our lads in a very respectable third place when the league itself finished at the end of May. Serious progress indeed and hopes were high for a good championship run. However, a full three months without competitive activity saw a complete loss of momentum and we went down by a point to Kilmacud Crokes in the Championship first round.

All-in-all the season has seen this team progress and mature and although it's not the finished article quite yet it is going in the right direction and can look to the future with a certain amount of confidence.

Mentors: Pádraig Ó Fainín, Colum Meleady

Under 16 Hurling

Saturday 20th September 2008 [Championship](#) St Brigids 2-10, Na Fianna 3-6

Sad but true, this was the end of the line as far as this year's championship hopes were concerned, and moreover, as one of the parents reminded us, it was also the end of an era in terms of the hurling action of this young team of players. From next year they'll be going their separate ways – hopefully, as the mentors encouraged – into different teams at minor level.

We were denied a repeat of last year's Under 15 'B' final success against a Brigids team who were clearly determined to exact revenge against Na Fianna. Unusually for a hurling match day, the sun shone brightly. The first half of the match was evenly contested with neither team showing dominance over the other, but if anything with Na Fianna finishing the stronger and at the half time whistle were down just one point at 0-5 to 1-3. [Scorers Niall McGovern, Sean Burke and 3 frees from Eoin Nichol].

We hoped that the second half would see the boys from Mobhi Road tear into the opposition but instead a soft goal and a few points stitched on by the home side saw them stretch ahead to more than six points. We would never accuse this Na Fianna team of dropping their heads and giving up the fight and they didn't on this occasion. They threatened a great comeback with three goals and point in quick succession – coming from Paul Graves, (goal and a point) who was again an extremely welcome addition from the Under 15s, and two more goals from Sean Burke and Eoin Nichol (admittedly as much due to goalkeeping errors) but which put us into the lead for the first time in the game. However this superiority was shortlived and Brigids came back to level the match with well taken points. A late attempt from Kevin Reilly for a point went wide and agonizingly a few minutes later Brigids struck over what was to prove the winning point, with the final whistle coming shortly after this. An objective observer might say that the better team on the day won the game, but this witness is not claiming to be objective. We were left with a sour taste again from our visit to Russell Park and we'll not dwell on the reasons why.



As stated this was a sad and more sudden end to a great few years of this particular squad of players. I would like to finish by saluting the great efforts of this bunch of lads – you can be proud of how you wore the colours of Na Fianna. I would also offer appreciation to all of the mentors who have guided, encouraged, trained and always supported this team since they were small boys of eight or nine years of age up to the fine strapping young men they are now – and on behalf of all the team and parents say a sincere thanks to – Kevin Nichol, Áine Uí Laoire, Peadar Ó Laoire, Michael Quinn, Dick Shanahan, Fran Cullen, and for the past year, Frank Foley and Liam Burke. We're sure you have communicated your love of hurling to these lads and that many of them will be turning out for the minors, and beyond that, for other teams for Na Fianna for years to come.

Mentors: Frank Foley, Liam Burke



JUVENILE GAMES – Ladies' Football

Under 11 Ladies' football

The girl's football league was reorganised this year with the league starting and finishing on time by the end of May. We had difficulties adjusting to Division 1 but as the league programme progressed so also did our performances improve. The championship begins for us in October. Over the course of the year we have struck up great friendships with clubs around the country and visited Bredagh in Belfast and St. Martins in Louth. In September we hosted a mini blitz with both of these clubs as well as Upperchurch from Tipperary. Thanks to the Senior ladies' team for their help over the year especially Sinéad O'Donnell, Mary Nevin, Sara Quinn, Orlagh Egan, Arlene Cushen and Hannah McInerney. Big thanks also to Stack's Pharmacy of Hart's Corner for their generous sponsorship.

Mentors: Billy McLaughlin, Áine Clerkin, Paul Nolan, Brian Murphy, Máirtín Mac an Iomaire, Sinéad O'Donnell

Under 12A Ladies' football

Congratulations to all of the girls on a very successful season so far. The team is now top of Division 1 (equal on points with Ballyboden St Endas). We are also looking forward to the Championship which starts off on 5th October with an away game against Castleknock. There has been a great turnout to training sessions, normally thirteen to fifteen, which out of a squad of seventeen is excellent. Keep it up girls! We had one trip away with a game in Navan with Simmons Court Gaels. We had five girls representing Dublin on the Football Academy this year, namely Fiona Tuite, Aoife McKenna, Shannon Fox, Naira Caffrey-Esnau and Laura Mulvey.

Mentors: Tony Lynch, Brendan Gearon, Seamus Boland, Mary Breen, Mahmoud Esnau

Under 12B Ladies' football

The Under 12B girls' football team has had a fantastic season so far. Our improvement from last season when we were a real raggle-taggle bunch has been dramatic. There is no comparison between the team we had then and that which we have now. There's a great atmosphere in the camp with everyone really coming together and learning how to play together and work together as a team. There have been some fantastic individual performances but the overall work rate and togetherness that has built up has been the most satisfying thing of all.

It has been said that we can learn more about ourselves from defeat than from victory and this point was really brought home to us after a defeat by Erin Go Breagh in our final league game of the season. In one sense the game itself didn't matter as we had secured third spot in the league above them. We were defeated in a controversial and somewhat bad-tempered game that left a sour taste. It was encouraging, however, to see how annoyed everyone was after the game - players that normally wouldn't say boo to a cow were downright angry! It really demonstrated to us how much the team has come to matter to all involved. It was really heartening when you consider that we started the league so slowly but progressed rapidly to the point where we rightly expect now to beat other teams when we go out on the field.

It is a great source of pride to us to be the only girls' 'B' football team on the northside of the city. We were faced with a situation where we had enough players for one and a half teams - which is probably the worst case for a coach. If we had continued with one team it would have meant that lots of girls would not have got to play football and would probably have fallen away from the club by now. We recruited some players



from local schools and were lucky in that the league introduced an eleven-a-side division (with the flexibility to play more if both teams had the numbers). On top of that we had great co-operation from the Under 12A team which operates in a fifteen-a-side league as they agreed to keep their squad to the minimum, sometimes travelling without any subs at all. Of course that is not ideal but it is certainly preferable to travelling to games with twelve subs, most of whom would languish on the sidelines. Our priority right now has to be to keep as many playing and enjoying the games as possible. In years to come we can really begin to concentrate on winning things but at Under 12 level that isn't the top priority. We are actively looking for new players for the remainder of this season (and beyond) as we are not sure if the league will continue to operate as eleven-a-side (so girls if you have any school pals who might be interested please bring them along).

I would strongly advise any squad with a large number of players to do your best to field a second team. It can be difficult to get going but is hugely rewarding. A big thanks to all of the parents who have supported the team washing jerseys, erecting goals, lining pitches, slicing oranges and encouraging all involved! Finally, to all our players: remember you can be as good as you want to be - put in a little practice every day and you will be stars!!

Mentors: Richard Quinn, Regina Bermingham, Regina Gallagher

Under 13 Ladies' football

This team has worked very hard this year up in Division 1. The level of commitment given to our training sessions and at matches is excellent. The sheer guts and determination these girls have to play fair, win fair and have a laugh along the way is fantastic! It is a pleasure to be involved as a mentor and parent with this team. Well done to the girls, well done also to the mentors and thanks to the parents for your support.

Mentors: John McDonagh, Karen Connolly, Nora Lee

Under 14 Ladies' football

It was a big step up from Under 13 Division 3 to Under 14 Division 1 but the girls coped very well with the transition. The team was competitive in all of its matches in the League and was most unlucky to win only the one match against Skerries with a number of narrow defeats which could have gone either way. In the Féile, the girls had a great win against Clontarf but lost out on qualification for the Division 1 semi-final by the concession of a late goal against eventual runners-up St Brigids. The team now looks forward to the Championship where Thomas Davis will provide the quarter-final opposition. Leah Caffrey and Aoife Nolan were both on the Dublin Under 14 team which won the Leinster final. Congrats to Aoife who came second in the Ger Canavan football skills competition in July.

Mentors: Colum Cronin, Downey Keegan

Under 16 Ladies' football

This year has been one of limited activity, due to a restricted league campaign and to the competing demands placed on the girls from Junior Cert studies and the involvement of most of them in at least one camogie team. This was the first year where girls born in 1992 and 1993 were combined in one squad and the participation of the 1992s was very disappointing, with only two or three being involved on a regular basis. Despite these setbacks, the team performed quite well, finishing mid-table in the league campaign, having beaten the League leaders on the way in a thrilling match in May. The championship is due to start in early October, and preparations are underway for our involvement. Many thanks to the parents of the girls who have supported us not just this year but since 2003 when this team was established.

Mentors: Bernie Caffrey, John Freir, John Caffrey, Fionnuala Neville



JUVENILE GAMES - Camogie

Under 6 Camogie and Ladies' football

The attendance on Saturday mornings for the Under 6 girls and younger has been around the fifty mark since the summer break. The interest and enthusiasm shown by both mentors and girls have been excellent. The session starts at 9.30am and finishes at 11am with camogie from 9.30am to 10.15am and football after that. The session is organised around a series of stations in order to focus on skills in both codes. Up to recently we used to finish with a match but due to the large numbers we have now incorporated the match as one of the stations and it appears to be working very well. The Mini-Leagues were a great success with over seventy girls participating. Recently we have recruited (with a little encouragement) additional parents to help as mentors and this has helped immensely in making the sessions more productive and of course more enjoyable for all. Big thank you to all involved.

Mentor: Tommy Burke, Fergal Scanlon

Under 7 Camogie and Ladies' football

Very steady numbers. A fun group to work with. Thoroughly enjoyed their Mini-Leagues.

Mentors: Niall Healy, Mark Opperman, Paul McCarville

Under 8 Camogie and Ladies' football

In January we parted company from the Under 9 group and we've had an enjoyable year so far. Our emphasis has been to teach the skills of camogie and football in a fun environment. The Saturday morning sessions last for ninety minutes so we try to accommodate forty-five minutes for both codes. As a variation, we organised a number of mini-blitz sessions amongst the girls and these proved to be successful. In May we played our first football match away to Clontarf. That was a memorable day, attended by almost every parent! Several weeks later we hosted Scoil Ui Chonaill and this Autumn commenced with a camogie blitz in Ratoath, Co.Meath. We plan to organise several more matches before Christmas. A number of the Senior 'B' camogie players are currently helping out at training (thanks again girls) and we have arranged with some of the senior ladies' footballers to help out in the weeks ahead. We are grateful for the excellent support from parents but more importantly we are lucky to have a very enthusiastic group of girls (forty on our list at the last count).

Mentors: Manus McAleer, Billy McLoughlin, Brian Murphy, Downey Keegan, Fran Claxton, Fran Cullen

Under 9 Camogie and Ladies' football

At the beginning of the year the nursery panels comprising the Under 8 and Under 9 girls were split. This was a very successful strategy as it has created two large strong panels catering for both age groups. As a result the Under 9s are essentially a new group of players who play both camogie and football. The numbers are very encouraging - currently there are over forty girls showing or training every Saturday. This is an increase from the high twenties over the course of the year. Additional mentors have been recruited as the numbers have grown. Training emphasis is on skills and the basics in both codes, in an encouraging enjoyable friendly atmosphere.

The girls have been entered into the inaugural camogie Under 9, two-team nine-a-side League - they are in the Group 2 league. This league is spread over a six game program, playing three teams home and away. The girls currently remain unbeaten and have turned in some impressively high scoring victories. There are a large number of very talented girls in this age group.



There is no football league at this age, and plans are afoot to instigate a program of friendly matches to prepare the girls for next year's more demanding Under 10 leagues which will involve both codes. As with camogie the emphasis is on the basics, it is encouraging to see the near total involvement in both codes by all girls. Training sessions and matches are very well attended by parents. There is great commitment and support of the players by parents and mentors. We are anxious to maintain the numbers and to raise the standards for this age group. We would like to thank Finbar Gaffney and Carmel Ryan for offering some important coaching tips, but also to older siblings, both boys and especially girls who have helped make our training sessions so enjoyable. Also the parents for their terrific support and to the Under 8s who have given us great support especially at match time.

Mentors: Joseph Devins, Dave Fenton, Conn Flynn, Austin Rock.

Under 10 Camogie and Ladies' football

The Under 10 girls have had a busy year with their introduction to the League. We have an enthusiastic bunch of girls who play both camogie and football. Our numbers have increased considerably since last year with forty-two currently on our panel. We fielded two camogie teams and look forward to fielding two football teams next year. We introduced the U-Can awards this year and the group thoroughly enjoyed this. It motivated them to practice their skills prior to each U-Can session. We had a visiting camogie team from Bredagh GAA club (Belfast) early in the year. The group was invited to Arklow to play a football challenge against Arklow Geraldines in June and they had a brilliant day. The Under 10s always have a great set of supporters on the sideline as the parents cheer them on. We consider ourselves very lucky to have such vital support from the parents.

Mentors: Brian O'Gorman, Liam Connolly, Ricky & Róisín O'Sullivan, John McDaid, Jim Aughney, Seamus Gill, Pat Montague

Under 11 Camogie

The team had mixed results over the course of the season but did manage a double over our near rivals in St. Vincents. The standard of play increased with each game and while we were beaten in the quarter-final of the Championship, our performance in that game was the best of the season with a particular high level of skill. The focus at training is now in developing skills and confidence to apply during games. A friendly game with our good friends in Tommevara is being planned for later in the year or for the start of next season.

Mentors: Billy McLaughlin, Áine Clerkin, Brian Murphy, Máirtín Mac an Iomaire, Cormac Ó Donnchú

Under 12 Camogie

Last year at Under 11 we had an 'A' and 'B' team entered in the league with the 'A' team finishing runners-up in Division 1 and the 'B' team finishing as winners of Division 2. The girls moved up to Under 12 this year which involved transitioning to playing on a full pitch with fifteen players aside and limited to only five substitutions. We had twenty-six players registered to play. Unfortunately, this number was too many for one team but too few for a second team. We were left with no option except to register only one team. This meant that some girls would have to be left off the team sheet for some matches and this has proven to be a very difficult situation for both girls and mentors. We had two teams at Under 11 and amalgamated them to one team. Tony Lynch moved to manage the Under 11's and Fergal O'Dwyer and Seamus Boland joined the mentoring team for Under 12. The competition in Division 1 was very tough and each game was a test until the final whistle blew. At the time of going to print we finished third in the League with a question over whether there would be play-offs or not. We received a bye into the semi-final of the Championship which we won in a close match against St. Judes 1 goal and 2 points to nil. The final will be



held on the weekend of 20th October, our opposition will be either St. Vincents or Lucan Sarsfields. We hosted two visiting clubs this year Ratoath and Bredagh from Belfast and comfortably won both games. We also had a trip on the 21st June to the Carlingford Adventure centre where the girls were able to demonstrate their team work skills and had an enjoyable day despite the awful weather. Thanks to the parents for their continued co-operation and support at matches.

Mentors: Fiona Greene, Mary Breen, Fergal O'Dwyer, Seamus Boland, John Leen, Brendan Gearon

Under 13 Camogie

The girls went from strength to strength during 2008. Training took place every Tuesday and Thursday since February, with matches held on Saturdays. The girls remain second in the league (Sept 08) with two matches left to play. We took part in the Féile at Division 3 level reaching the semi-final in St. Finians GAA club, Swords. Well done to all and it is hoped that entering the Féile has prepared them for their own Féile in 2009! Four of the girls, Claire Murray, Roisin Baker, Clíodhna McCullough and Lisa Kelly also took part in Friday night training in the Phoenix Park during the summer as part of a development program which finished in early September. Special thanks to Anne Kelly for taking the task of notifying the girls for training and matches and to Niamh Garrahan for her help at training. Finally, the best of luck in the championship after a good win in the first round.

Mentors: Pat Clinton, Nora Lee, Philip Kelly, Sorcha Dowling

Under 14 Camogie

Bliain mhaith eile ag cailíní 1994 camógaíochta. D'éirigh aon chailín amháin as an spórt ag tús na bliana ach tháinig imreoir nua chugainn chomh maith. Bhí duine agus fiche sa phainéal againn agus, i gcluichí éagsúla i rith na bliana, d'imir an ceathrar cailín linn a rugadh i 1994 atá ina mbaill de phainéal na gcailíní Faoi 15. Bhí an-lá spóirt ar fad againn ag Féile Camógaíochta na nGael. Bhaineamar an cluiche leath-ceannais amach tar éis dúinn gach cluiche (cúig cinn in iomlán) a bhuachaint sa ghrúpa. Faraor, bhí an bua ag foireann an Dea Chomhairle orainn sa chluiche leath-ceannais.

Chríochnaíomar sa cheathrú áit sa sraith agus muid sásta go maith leis sin. Rinneamar gach aon iarracht seans a thabhairt do gach ball den phainéal a scil a thaispeáint agus a fheabhsú i rith na bliana. Muid lán dóchais don Chraobh, dár ndóigh. Ár mbuíochas do na cailíní uilig a dhein a ndícheall agus a bhain sult as an sport i rith na bliana. Ár mbuíochas do na tuismitheoirí a thug cabhair dúinn. Agus dár gcomhpháirtithe camógaíochta Faoi 13, 15 agus 16, dár gcomhpháirtithe peil na mban Faoi 14, d'oifigigh camógaíochta agus d'oifigeach chluichí na bpáistí an Chlub. Scéal gach cluiche agus eile ar fáil ar www.clgnafianna.ie, Camógaíocht Faoi 14.

Another good year for the Under 14 camogie girls. One girl gave up sport at the start of the year but we also welcomed one new player to the group. We had twenty-one players on the panel and in various games during the year, the four girls born in 1994 who are members of the Under 15 panel, played for us. We had a great day of sport at the Féile. We reached the semi final after winning all our group games (five in all). Unfortunately we lost in the semi-final to Good Counsel. We finished in fourth place in the League and we were happy with that. We made every effort during the year to give every member of the panel every chance to show and improve their skills. We are very hopeful for the upcoming Championship. Our thanks to all the girls who did their best and enjoyed their sport during the year. Our thanks also to the parents who helped us. And to our colleagues in Under 13, 15 and 16 camogie and Under 14 ladies' football. Also to the Club's camogie officers and the Juvenile Games co-ordinator. All match reports and much more can be seen on www.clgnafianna.ie, U14 Camogie.

Meantóiri: Seosamh Ó Maolalaí, Declan Murtagh, Gearóid Ó Donnchadha, Karen Mooney



Under 15 Camogie

2008 has been a good season so far for our Under 15 camogie team. The squad is made up of nineteen players and each and everyone one of those players give total commitment and dedication to the team. We started the league season extremely strong even coming to within a goal of St Oliver Plunketts, who have been League and county champions the past two years. We had a little slip against Lucan Sarsfields but were short of some of our best players that day, losing by a point after Leah Caffrey's goal was disallowed for square ball. We finished the first half of the League in second place, closely followed by St Judes and Lucan. In the second half of the league we just have to play the other Top 4 teams. We started poorly with a loss by a goal to St Judes, but with a good win over Lucan and a loss to Plunketts we can still finish at least joint second with Judes if we beat Ballyboden on September 28th. Our Championship started well with a great game versus Lucan which we won by six points and an excellent quarter-final against Ballyboden where we came out 6-1 to 1-4 victors. We will meet Plunketts in the semi-final on October 5th - that will be a tough one. Through the year our girls also supported well both our Under 16 teams. Four of our girls are 1994-born and also support our Under 14 team whenever they are needed and six of our girls were on the Under 15 Dublin development squad – Lucy Collins, Laura Tarr, Áine Gaughan, Khloe Dillon-Coote, Susan Clinton and Lauren Coulihan. Eleanor Buggy won the Skills competition at the Dublin Féile and was subsequently requested to join the Dublin Under 14 panel.

Mentors: Sandra Tarr, John Leen, Peter Pringle

Under 16B Camogie

Due to the fact that there was only one Under 15 division this year, we took the decision to enter last year's Under 14B team up to Under 16 Division 3 for 2008. The team had varied success in the leagues this season. Due to exam and other commitments our team makeup varied for every match. The only constants were the girls from the Under 15 team who helped us out and who helped give respectability to the final result. Once again this year we had some new members joining our team and these girls are making good progress. Training with the Under 15 team has been a great help to our girls. They have learned new skills and improved their fitness levels endeavouring to keep up with the Under 15 girls.

We are training hard for the Championship semi-finals which take place on the 4th October, and we are quietly confident that this team with the help of some of the Under 15 girls can bring the Under 16 Division 3 championship to Na Fianna. I want to express my gratitude and thanks in particular to Sandra Tarr, Under 15 mentor for all her help and support over the season. Thanks also to Peter Pringle for allowing the girls to join him for his brilliant training sessions and thanks to the Under 15 girls for helping me out and sharing their training and mentors with the Under 16B girls.

Mentor: Anne McInerney

Under 16A Camogie

This team operated with a panel of fifteen Under 16s supplemented by players from the Under 15 panel. We lost a few players over the season who left the panel due to other commitments. We started the league well with three straight victories against Skerries, Ballyboden and Lucan and a walkover from Erin's Isle. We were leading the league going into two tough games against St Judes and St Vincents. Unfortunately we were well beaten in both these matches and subsequently lost at home to Ballyboden. Just before the exam break we got back to winning ways with a good victory away to Skerries Harps.

The girls resumed training shortly after the Junior Cert. However due to holidays and Gaeltacht trips it was difficult to get a good turn-out for summer training. We also entered a combined team with the Under 15s into the Under 16 Summer League. We used these fixtures to try players in different positions and achieved a few respectable victories.



In March the squad was dealt a serious blow when captain Eve O'Brien suffered a ruptured cruciate ligament injury while training with the Dublin Under 16 panel. Eve has recently undergone reconstruction surgery and has embarked on the long journey of rehabilitation. We hope to see her back in a Na Fianna jersey in 2009. We were also without another key player in Naoise Webb who underwent an appendix operation in the spring. She recovered well and resumed playing during the summer months.

The league resumed in September but as with other clubs we found it difficult to finish our back matches before the deadline. We were defeated by the league winners St Vincents and received walkovers from St Judes and Erin's Isle. We look to have finished in third place in the league.

Our Championship journey started and ended with a trip to Skerries Harps in September. We fielded the strongest team possible from the Under 16 and Under 15 panels. However on a full sized pitch in unseasonably warm weather we just couldn't shackle the Skerries centre forward who got the majority of their scores. Na Fianna lost by a handful of points. We hope to compete in an invitational tournament in October run by Naas GAA and which we are the current champions. Four of our panel were good enough to be selected on the Dublin Under 16 squad. Eve O'Brien and Naoise Webb started matches with Ellen Langan as reserve goalkeeper and Sadhbh Ni Nuallain also in the squad.

The girls are also looking forward to a training session with Nicky English which we hope to schedule in October. We would like to thank the parents who have supported the team throughout the season. Also we sincerely thank the Under 15 mentors who generously made players available for all our matches. Also to Bernie Caffrey from the Under 16 ladies' football panel and Anne McInerney from Under 16B camogie for their support. Thanks to Liz O'Brien who looked after team administration. Last but not least, thanks to you girls for your effort and commitment over the years. It's been a pleasure coaching this group of players and it is our sincere hope that all of you will continue to play camogie for Na Fianna as you enter the adult section of the club.

Mentors: Joe Langan, Maryanne Quigley, Tony O'Brien



JUVENILE Games - Handball

Another good year was had by our young players and we are slowly but surely creeping up the pecking order in Leinster. After reaching by far the most Leinster 'A' and 'B' finals in a long time, our young players are also making their mark on the Dublin championships. This is the first year that we entered lads and girls as young as thirteen into the adult county arena in order to give them extra experience against stronger opposition. They did a lot better than expected in winning the Junior doubles and look like they will win the Junior League as they are one win away from having an unassailable lead. Their next game is in Croke Park against Brian Boru on Thursday 2nd October. They have already beaten this team 7-0 earlier in the campaign so hopefully we will have our hands on the winners' trophy.

We also for the first time had both a girls' team and boys' team in the Féile carrying on from last year's success in reaching the All-Ireland final. Both teams excelled. The girls were very unlucky not to qualify from the group stage. With some underage players, they will be back next year with that experience hopefully taking them a step further. The lads won their group winning all of their games. They then beat a very strong team from Cashel in the semi-final but were beaten in the final for a second year by Carrick-on-Suir whom they had beaten in the group stage. It was just one game too many and much as they tried they fell short but looking at the standard of all of the teams, we did really well to reach the final.

The Leinster colleges 60x30 are on at the moment and again we are well represented by the girls and the boys of Na Fianna. They play for a number of colleges – Scoil Chaitriona, St Aidans, Loreto on the Green and Dominican College to name but a few.

The Gael Linn competition this year was a mixed doubles Under 13 and we again reached to All-Ireland quarter-final representing Leinster with Kilkenny. Friday night is training night for many of the younger juveniles. Kevin is in charge of the gang who train in Croke Park.

Cliona takes care of a large amount of enthusiastic players on a Friday night in Na Fianna. These and many of their young brothers and sisters are eager to get into the alley. This has been made difficult because of the dependency on too few coaches. It is intended to get this session back up and running within the next few weeks, but if there are any handballers out there who would have an hour a week to help with coaching please get in contact with any of the coaches listed below.

It is vital to the continued success in handball that we maintain a level of new players coming through from the nursery.

The following is a list of the competitions we won or competed in.

LEINSTER 60X30

Boys

Under 14A Doubles runners-up Cian Ó Dálaigh, Corey Fay

Under 15A Doubles runners-up John Walsh, Brian Treanor

Under 13B Doubles winners Niall McKenna, Kieran Cahill (St Brigids)

Under 15B Singles runners-up Brian Treanor

Girls

Under 14A Doubles runners-up Eleanor Buggy and Siobnán Cahill (St Brigids)

Under 15A Singles runners-up Dianamh Green

Under 15A Doubles runners-up Lisa McKenna, Susan Clinton

Under 16A Singles runners-up Jane Griffin



COLLEGES.

Boys first years. Cian Ó Dálaigh, Corey Fay Leinster runner up.(november 2007)

Boys second /third year.doubles. Cian Ó Dálaigh, Corey Fay awaiting Leinster semi final.

Boys second /third year singles. Niall McKenna scr broken finger.was in Leinster semi final.

Under 14/15 Leinster team competition.

Runner-up to Kilkenny.

Team: John Walsh, Brian Treanor, Naoise Green, Cian Ó Dálaigh, Corey Fay, Niall McKenna, Joseph Varley (Brian Boru)

Leinster 40x20

Boys Under 13A

Doubles runner up Niall McKenna, Joseph Varley(Brian Boru)

Under 14A

Doubles runner up Cian Ó Dálaigh, Corey Fay.

Girls

Under 15 singles runner up Dianamh Green.

Under 15 doubles Lisa McKenna, Susan Clinton.

Colleges

First Year Boys Cian Ó Dálaigh, Pierce Caulfield runners-up.

First Year Boys singles: Corey Fay runner-up.

Leinster Under 14/15 team competition

Runner-up to Kilkenny

Team: John Walsh, Brian Treanor, Naoise Greene, Cian Ó Dálaigh, Corey Fay, Pierce Caulfield.



Gael Linn All-Ireland competition.

Beaten in quarter-final

Niall Mc Kenna, Cliona McCullough.

Féile All-Ireland

Boys' runners-up. Team: Cian Ó Dálaigh, Corey Fay, Sean Griffin, Eoin McCullough, Pierce Caulfield.

Runner-up in skills competition: Cian Ó Dálaigh.

Girls' team: Meadhbh Ní Dhálaigh, Cliona McCullough, Sibéal Keogh, Eleanor Buggy, Ailbhe Clerkin

Runner-up in skills competition Eleanor Buggy.

County championships and leagues.

Dublin 'B' championships.

40x20

Under 12 doubles runner up: Sean Calverly, Thomas Tully (Portobello)

Under 14 doubles runner up: Sean Griffin, Eoin McCullough.

Junior Adult championships

Junior doubles winners Cian Ó Dálaigh, Corey Fay

R/up Niall McKenna, Pierce Caulfield.

Junior Adult leagues 60x30.

Na Fianna team at the moment winning league with two games left will win league if they win next game

On Thursday 2nd Oct against Brian Boru whom they beat 7-0 in earlier encounter so it's looking good.

Team: John Walsh, Naoise Greene, Brian Treanor, Corey Fay, Cian Ó Dálaigh, Niall McKenna.

These six players have excelled this year and will be the ones we will be expecting to get the better of the Kilkenny lads at some stage down the road.

Dublin 40x20 juvenile league winners.

Team. Cian Ó Dálaigh, Corey Fay, Pierce Caulfield, Niall McKenna, Sean Griffin



I would like to wish Niall McKenna a speedy recovery from a rather nasty accident which left him with a fractured and dislocated finger. The handballers, footballers and hurlers will miss him badly so get well soon Niall.

Last but not least I would like to thank all the coaches and parents who helped out over the last year and look forward to the year ahead. If we have half the success we will be happy.

Coaches: Frank Daly, Kevin McKenna, Pat Ryan, Christy Donnelly, Gary McNulty, Peter Caulfield, Cliona Ní Dhálaigh, Páirc Clerkin.

Motions and Recommendations

Motions:

Recommendations:



NOMINATIONS

	Position	Nominees
Uachtarán	President	
Leas Uachtarán	Vice President	
Cathaoirleach	Chairman	
Leas Cathaoirleach	Vice-Chairman	
Runaí	Secretary	
Leas Runaí	Assistant Secretary	
Cisteoir	Treasurer	
Leas Cisteoir	Assistant Treasurer	
Cathaoirleach Cluichí na nÓg	Chairman – Juvenile Games	
Cathaoirleach Cluichí Shinsir	Chairman – Adult Games	
Oifigeach Caidreamh Poiblí	Public Relations Officer	
Ball den Comhar (x 2)	Member of Executive (x 2)	