

Girls Football

Academy

The girl's academy continues to grow in popularity and we are attracting weekly attendance of approximately 27 young girls. The academy is organised by Seamus O Neill who is building this section of the club on the great work carried out by our school link programme, mentioned above.

Under 8 to Under 12

We currently provide juvenile teams at U8, U10 and U12 with over 78 girls enjoying football at these age groups. The key at this age has been to coach the core footballing skills in a fun and inclusive manner to give our girls a life-long attachment to the sport. Over the year the teams have competed against local clubs, challenge matches, mini blitzes and u 12 league and championship. Their achievements and adventures have been many during the year and bode well for the future. Our younger players are rapidly developing great footballing skills which will serve them well as they move into competitive stages. Each team is supported by a dedicated team of mentors and the Ladies executive would like to express their thanks.

U 8's Sponsor : Shared Dermot Hughes Jerseys.

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Under 10

U10 girls commenced training on Wednesday the 10th of April and we ran every Wednesday with either training or matches every week thereafter bar a couple of Wednesdays where the weather was too bad to train, total number of weeks was 25 altogether.

Total number of girls at U10 for 2019 was 34 with 16 of these 34 moving up to U12 for 2020 & 18 underage for U10 again in 2020.

The group had 10 games over the course of the summer which kicked off with an away game to Strokestown on June the 10th and was followed by games against St Brigids on June 19th, Clann na nGael on the 3rd of July, St Dominic's on the 10th of July, Four Roads & Clann na nGael on the 17th of July (fielded 3 teams) all of which were home games, we then travelled away to St Dominics on Saturday

the 3rd of August where we had 2 teams and played both Four Roads & St Dominics and also travelled away to Clann na nGael on Saturday August 24th and played both Clann & St Dominics.

We played our final 2 games for 2019 at home against Oran on Wednesday the 18th of September & St Faithleachs on Wednesday the 25th of September and we finished up a great year by traveling on the Club Rossie bus to the Connacht Centre of Excellence along with the camogie management team where the girls played 30 mins of both football & camogie and then travelled back to Supermacs for end of year party.

The girls also took part in the official club house opening back on the 2nd of June where we played a game amongst ourselves and they also participated in the half time entertainment during the Roscommon Gaels v Michael Glaveys senior football championship game in Lisnamult on Sunday the 8th of September. Thanks for the time and commitment our mentors have given to the girls throughout 2019.

I wish to thank those who helped me with training and match days over the course of the year, them being Finbar O'Reilly, Gareth Carroll, Alan McPhillips, Dave Fallon, Arlene McGuinness & Roisin McSharry & Ollie Moran.

With regards 2020, I myself will have a child at U8, U10 & U12 so will be willing to help out at either age groups if required but I do not wish to take the lead as manager for any age group.

Management / Mentors : Finbar O'Reilly, Gareth Carroll, Alan McPhillips, Dave Fallon, Arlene McGuinness & Roisin McSharry & Ollie Moran and Michael Burke.

U 10's Sponsor : Shared Dermot Hughes kit.

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Under 12

Under the watchful eye of Fergal O'Gara, Ray McSharry and Joanne Walsh, the u12 team started training indoor in the Hyde in early Spring. During this time the girls worked exceptionally hard on developing their skills and fitness which they would need as the year progressed. In a few short weeks the panel of 24 girls moved to the back pitches of Lisnamult where they trained hard for the rest of the year.

The girls' year got off to a flying start when they took part in the East League. During the league the girls saw off stiff competition from St. Faithleachs, Kilbride, Strokestown and St. Mary's.

After the East League the girls began to prepare for the summer league and set their sights on making a county final. The girls played six games in the summer league, in a home and

away series. The girls got off to a great start with wins against Castlerea and Éire Óg at home. The girls welcomed Clann na Gael to Lisnamult, however Clann na Gael were too strong on this occasion. The wins against Castlerea and Éire Óg set the girls up with a home county semi final against St. Brigid's. After a hotly fought game St. Brigid's emerged victorious, but all was not lost for the Gael's as they qualified for a county final against Oran. In the county final played in Kiltoom, the girl's faced tough competition from a very strong Oran side. The girls gave their all in the game but unfortunately Oran were too strong on the day. The u12 season did not end there. The girls continued to train in Lisnamult on a Wednesday evening during the summer in preparation for the 7 a side blitzes. The first blitz was hosted by Roscommon Gaels and the u12 girls gave some outstanding team performances and remained unbeaten on home soil. Next up the girls travelled to Elphin where they fought valiantly against Elphin and Shannon Gaels. The final blitz of the year saw the girls travel to Castlerea. That evening the younger girls on the panel really stood up to the plate and showed what they had to offer. There were some excellent displays on the night and the future of Roscommon GAA looks to be in very good hands.

Management / Mentors : Joanne Walsh, Ray Mc Sharry and Fergal O' Gara.

U 12 Sponsor Dermot Hughes Jerseys

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Under 14

U14 ladies commenced training on Wednesday the 12th of February under lights in the Hyde and remained there until we had enough daylight to move to Lisnamult where we trained every Wednesday and introduced Friday's from there onwards.

With 38 young ladies taking part at U-14 Level, it was decided after the league that Roscommon Gaels decided to enter two U-14 ladies teams for championship this season. Two teams would provide more playing time for the girls and maximise the development of our young ladies.

Our U14 teams had a very successful year. We managed to win the Clubs very first Feile all Ireland cup title and our second team went out and were deservedly crowned County Champions. Our teams have worked hard and played very well during the year, developing a full range of footballing skills and some great friendships were made. Feile was a really brilliant experience for everyone involved. Its was great to see the support that followed both teams throughout the Feile weekend. Our Feile final was played in Bekans centre of excellence and was a real thriller. Its was really overwhelming to see our second team accompanied by their parents shouting on our girls.

A massive thank you to everyone who helped make Feile such a success especially those of you that hosted, and not to forget our sponsors, Casey's supermacs, Alma Stephens, (Blenders), Liam Mc Neill and Dr.Elizabeth Sweeney Mc Sharry and her husband Ray mc Sharry who sponsored the both of our teams ¾ zip tops.

Management : Michelle Hughes Walsh, Serena O' Farrell, Gerry Donohue and Declan Walsh.

Sponsor : Mc Neill Foodstore
Jerseys.

U16 Football

The team performed very well this year losing out to a very competitive Shannon gaels side in a 2A championship final, a step up from last year and had a great run in the championship up to that point. This is a talented group of footballers, some of whom will now move into the Minor ranks next season.

Sponsor : Annette and David Kennedy Jerseys.

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Minor

This team continued to develop under the guidance of Yvonne Donohue, Leo McGuinness and Steven Lohan. The team competed in a very tough division 1 this season, boxing a little above their own weight. This was about two grades above their reach. This is a grading issue and something we need to look at for next year.

Sponsor : Annette and David Kennedy Jerseys.

Adult

With no expression's of interest for an adult manager/management, under 16 and Minor Mentors took on caretaking this group until such time we could find someone. This was to allow the few adult members to continue playing within the club. This management team continued to manage our adult team throughout the year.

This was a fairly difficult year with numbers being a big issue and while we had some close results, our Adult team needed to be supplemented by our under 16 's and minors to complete fixtures. The intention for next year is to focus on encouraging more of our senior girls back to playing now that we have a core group in place.

Management for u16,Minor & Adult : Yvonne Donohue, Leo McGuinness and Steven Lohan.

Sponsor : Annette and David Kennedy Jerseys.

Achievements for 2019

U 14 Feile final.

U 14 County Final

“Lidl one good club award”, Only four clubs in Ireland have received this award.

A very successful school link programme.

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Conclusion

The purpose of this review is to put a plan in place to further the development of Roscommon Gael's ladies Gaelic Football for the year ahead.

It is imperative that, all people who have an interest in our ladies playing and administration of Gaelic games are gathered.

We would hope that a full cross section of lgfa coaches and mentors would discuss their own views. The opinions and inputs from our younger generation will be gathered through their coaches and parents at our next meeting.

Topics to be discussed at this meeting are, the 2019 season, underage structures, adult structures, coaching and games development, and administration changes.

The aim for Roscommon Gaels LGFA in regards to development Planning and Reviewing is that the Ladies should be in a position where all units will be able to avail of training and support in regards to enabling coaches to provide a co-ordinated programme of meaningful, well scheduled sessions for players, appropriate to their needs and abilities.

Camogie Year in Review:

Juniors: Patricia gave a review of the Junior team. She said the girls win was as a result of a decade of hard work. The girls had never won anything except an U12 B final and they had reached an u16 county fina but lost.

Training began in May with the Final on October 5th. The girls went on to play Na Bridgeoga from Mayo in the Connacht Final.

Patricia said they were a great bunch of girls and the challenge would eb to keep them together and playing in the future. She feels it can be difficult to get them to training at that age with the challenges of school, jobs and college. She feels they could so with new faces and voices for training.

The girls played Four Roads twice in the competition as other teams had pulled out. The girls saw a different level of camogie against Na Bridgeoga.

Overall, she felt it was a great year, but it had its difficulties- the same group, with the same faces and coaches can get tiring. She felt that fixtures were an issue dragging the season on for longer than it was planned, and the girls can lose interest as a result.

Minors: Patricia felt that the minors were held back by the u16 team training with them. She felt the u16 team need their own management team and while some of them benefit from playing with the minors, the minors don't benefit from playing with them. It was also noted that the u16 competition was a very long one and that this did not help matters.

Ríona said that a huge part of the problem was the fact that both minor football and u16 camogie county teams had done well and had stopped all games at club level during August. She felt that this should not be allowed to happen. The girls should only need to be rested for 2/3 days before a county game. A long discussion followed regarding fixtures.

Teresa Hession asked if the county games could be played in a block with no club games scheduled in that time. She also asked why some games were so late being played when the county games were over in late August.

Ríona explained that with darker evenings we needed to play under lights but that many of the games scheduled for Lisnamult were affected by the lights going on fire. Úna suggested that if there is a proposal gone to the county board regarding that we should support this. The girls at the meeting all expressed that they would prefer to play more matches over the summer rather than have a long-protracted season.

Patricia said the long season has made it difficult to keep the girls going and interested. She said that many of the girls find it difficult to get time off work. Also she feels there is a lack of commitment not seen in the country clubs.

Leo suggested that if fixtures were set and unchangeable the girls would know in advance which days they want off and they would not have to chop and change with their bosses.

Paula feels that maybe being in a town they are not as dependent on the club for community. She feels that the difficulty of keeping them playing is a cultural one. We need to look at ways to create bonds that they want to keep going.

Una feels that they haven't seen this is the club.

Patricia feels that we just need more coaches.

U16: Riona outlined the games played by the u16. Athleague, Oran, Dominics, Four Roads and four Roads again in the semi-final. We were awarded the points for our fixture against Pdraig Pearses as they failed to agree to a fixture and when they did, they tried to rearrange it on the afternoon the match was to finally be played. An emergency fixtures meeting awarded the points to Roscommon Gaels.

They also played Mount Bellew, Four Roads and Na Bridgeoga in The North Galway Board. The girls had no interest in playing any more games in the NGB as they felt the season had gone on long enough and we didn't push it we did not want them to completely lose interest.

Sinéad Killeen asked that she be allowed comment. She wanted to thank the management team as she felt that Éabha had played more camogie this year than in all her years playing. She felt that we were very fair and wanted to thank us for this. Riona said that in fairness Eabha was always very committed and that we had rewarded that commitment. She also said that attendance etc had been considered in picking teams.

Patricia agreed with this but did say that in the Junior final , rather than giving all the girls who were actually of age a game that the best 15 had been on the first team and that this had paid off on the day.

U14: Úna started by saying they had a great evening the day they beat Four Roads. They also had ice-cream after the match.

Féile: She said that in the game against Pearse they had all the play but could not score. As a result, they ended up in a harder division for the Féile. They really outperformed themselves and just under achieved. They went on to win the Shield rather than the Championship.

She feels that next years have phenomenal belief in themselves and that they will probably go to Féile next year. She feels that 2 things helped this. They played Oran in the semi-final and although they were beaten by Oran they played well.

She also felt that attending County training gave the girls great experience and developed their skills. Most of the girls made the final 40 and of the final panel of 26 the Gaels had more players than any other club.

She also felt that the NGB gave them great confidence. They played Westport during the week of 5th November. They played Mount Bellew in the final but were beaten. She felt that experience outside the county drove them on.

They also participated in a mini Féile in June which they enjoyed.

U12: Paula began by saying that the girls' training started in Feb and they finished in early September. It had been decided to only have one team in competition this year due to numbers. She said at the time it was felt the u10s would not be strong enough. Deirdre clarified that it was because they had too many other competitions on.

Paula felt they had a super year but at times it was tricky only having one team and be competition driven. There was a small group for much of the summer but as the children returned to school the numbers increased and this is when it became tricky. Many parents were disappointed their children were not played more for the semi-final and final but they were not in attendance during the summer.

She feels that for u12 conscious participation is a huge part of it. They were well able to compete and were right up there with the best teams. This team beat both Dominic's and Four Roads for the first time at u12. Boyle had a team participating for the first time. They had the opportunity to play weaker players for these matches.

When they went to Croke Park on Easter Monday they had the bare 18. It was a great day for the girls. Also, they played a challenge game against Longford Slashers.

They lost the final to Dominic's after a tough game. She noted that they have lost coaches because of this final and that parents don't seem to understand that the children didn't show up all summer cannot expect to play in a final.

There were 6 coaches all year- Jimmy Brennan, Orla Connaughton, Damien McSharry, Paula Connaughton, Marie Cormican and Teresa Hession.

Teresa said it was a pity that parents did not understand all that is involved in managing a team and that silly excuses are not acceptable.

U10: Deirdre reported that they had a great year. Her fellow coaches Fiona, Nicola and Róisín had worked well together and developed their own friendships along with the 34 players in their care.

She felt there was very little between them and St Dominic's. They were very much an evenly balanced team with no real outstanding players. They had many blitzes which they thoroughly enjoyed. They had 3 or 4 teams at most blitzes. They emphasised to the children that it was all about participation and had entered mixed ability teams.

They had a great day out in Began at the end of the year with the football girls. They went on the Rossie bus and had Supermacs on the way home.

Tom informed them that there would be two more teams in the county next year- Boyle and a second team in St Dominic's. Patricia said we should try to have 2 teams next year.

Fiona said that she thought that fitness was a huge issue for this age group.

U8: Joan reported that they u8s had a good year. They trained together with the u10s initially, until Joan and Goretti came on board. They felt that numbers were an issue this year but that with children coming up from the Academy next year this should improve.

Tom noted that Philip Mullen did a great job on the pitches and all grounds were well looked after.

Úna asked should we be getting our younger girls involved with teams. It was noted they could only help as they must be over 18 to manage a team. The girls present said they would be interested in helping.

Roscommon Gaels Minor Report 2019

Management Team

Shane O'Donnell (manager) Hugh Murphy, Andy Hession, Declan Hynes

Panel 24 Twenty-two minors, two U16s

Matches Played

League Div.2 Played 6, Won 4 (includes match conceded by Boyle), Lost 2

Championship Div.2 Played 7, Won 5 (includes match conceded by Aidans), Drew 1, Lost 1

Challenges Played 7, Won 3, Lost 4

Training Schedule: 52 sessions (7 of these were indoor sessions in Full Body Workout)

The minor team got together in late January. During February and March we trained outdoors once a week and in Full Body Workout on other day. The emphasis here was on core work.

League

17/2/19 Roscommon Gaels 2-9 St.Aidans 2-4

This was our first game of the season and an impressive second half performance saw us secure the points.

29/3/19 Padraig Pearses 2-14 Roscommon Gaels 2-8

This was an excellent game of football and Pearses were somewhat flattered by the final score line as we were in the mix right up to the end, Pearses scoring a late goal to seal victory.

8/4/19 Kilglass Gaels/St. Barrys 2-8 Roscommon Gaels 5-19

This was a comfortable victory against the weakest team in the division.

18/4/19 Roscommon Gaels 1-9 Tulsk 4-13

This was a poor performance and we were comprehensively beaten.

26/4/19 Elphin/Ballinameen 1-7 Roscommon Gaels 1-8

Our backs performed heroically to keep us in the game and a late Michael Corcoran goal secured victory.

League play off Elphin/Ballinameen 1-7 Roscommon Gaels 0-5

This was a total reversal of our previous encounter. We dominated possession but just couldn't turn it into scores. We paid the price in the second half when Elphin/Ballinameen scored late to win.

We took a two-week break after the league and began our championship preparation in mid-May.

Championship

25/7/19 Roscommon Gaels 1-7 Strokestown 0-10

We were second best for long periods of this game and despite being under serious pressure we defended very well. A late goal secured a share of the spoils.

7/8/19 St. Faithleachs 1-8 Roscommon Gaels 2-16

This was a great performance by the lads and we dominated all through.

29/8/19 Roscommon Gaels 7-16 Boyle 1-10

While we won this game comprehensively in the end it wasn't a very impressive performance as we were playing against a very young Boyle team.

5/9/19 Tulsk 1-7 Roscommon Gaels 3-15

This was an excellent performance by the lads and we played some excellent football throughout to overturn our league defeat

19/9/19 Roscommon Gaels 1-10 Elphin 0-12

This was the classic game of two halves. Elphin started very well and were all over us in the first half. They deservedly led by 5 points at half time despite having kicked a number of easy wides. The lads were staring down a heavy defeat as they emerged for the second half. However, they raised their game considerably in the second half and scored a late goal to snatch an unlikely win.

12/10/18 Final Roscommon Gaels 2-6 Strokestown 2-14

While the final score line suggests a comfortable victory for Strokestown we were well in this game for long periods of time. A strong finish to the first half saw us lead by 1 at half time. We started the second half well and led by 5 points ten minutes into the second half. However, Strokestown gradually started to take control of the game and reeled in our lead. In contrast we faded out of the game totally scoring a solitary point in the final ten minutes.

It was a disappointing end to the season but on the day we would have to admit that Strokestown were the superior team. It's disappointing that the club is competing in Division 2 at minor level and unable to win a trophy. However, it's heartening to see that a number of last years minors made a significant contribution to this year's senior team. Hopefully this year's minors have been provided with a proper pathway to adult football.

I think the county board need to look at the 13 aside arrangement for Division 2. I think it should be 15 aside, 13 by agreement rather than the other way around.

I would like to thank the lads themselves for the huge effort they put in. They were a credit to themselves, their parents and their club. I would also like to thank their parents for their help and support. Special thanks to Philip Mullen pitch co ordinator who did his best to facilitate us at all times. Shane Hoare also merits mention for his help throughout the year. Thanks also to Finbar Reilly minor secretary for his help with fixtures. I must also thank our sponsors Pat Clancy, Liam Mc Neill and The Peppermill who provided a fantastic meal for us. Lastly, I would like to thank Hugh, Decie and Andy for the huge amount of time and effort they invested in the team.

Shane O'Donnell

U 8 Boys Football Review 2019

48 Players Registered

Started Season on 23rd March with an Indoor Session

Season Finished 4th October on Astro as pitches unplayable

We started the season off Indoors at the Hyde , we chose to go outside from the 2nd week ,Saturday March 30th , as training and getting the message across is much easier outdoors with big numbers.

We had a wide difference in abilities amongst the boys with there being 3 distinct groups within the 48 players.

9 players who were very much on the complete beginners level with low ability or coordination.

Those in the middle and then the top tier of boys.

We structured the sessions from early on to have 2 coaches with the complete beginners and focus on the very basic movements with out a ball and then introduced the ball more and more as the season went on.

For the other boys with better abilities we made sure that they were brought on throughout the season and improved with the correct drills at the correct time.

We participated in a number of Blitzs through the year and while we didn't always win , there was no faulting everyone for effort and willingness to try and play the game using the skills learnt through out the season.

At this level I feel that keeping the boys engaged and coming back every week and enjoying training is

absolutely vital and I feel we done a good job on that front .

The U 8 boys know all the basics and *most* of the rules for their sport ! They also have been shown correct technique over and over by the excellent coaching team I had with me over the season.

I think that our last session on Friday 4th of October showcased to all parents who attended that their boys have progressed and judging by the smiles on all players and parents faces that evening that enjoyment was had and I hope a love of the game and their Club has been instilled in them also.

Roscommon Gales Under 9's Team Report 2019

Coach: Declan Hussey / 0868177696 / declan.hussey@dnait.ie / October 29, 2019

Coaches	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We had 6 coaches involved:• Declan Hussey / Ciaran Heneghan / Enda Daly /Ollie McGuinness / Kieran Nugent / Philip Fleming.• Normal session would have 3 coaches available. <p>A big thank you to all the coaches who gave of their time this year, appreciate their efforts and continued dedication.</p>
Training Sessions	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Normal Training Sessions took place on Tuesday evening @ 18:45 – 20:00.• In attendance on most Tuesdays were 15-18 players born 2010.• We started training for U9 boys in March, with the first 3 sessions indoors in the convent gym.• First outdoor session took place on April 2nd .• We had targetted/ planned 38 sessions for 2019 to include training sessions and games. We finished the year on 36 even though we had to give up a number of sessions a miss for a number of logisitcal/weather issues.
Players for 2019:	<p>Following on from 2018 we decided to maintain the split in management of the U9/U10 age groups for 2019.</p> <p>2009 & 2010 boys trained on the same evening and same pitches throughout 2019.</p> <p>Where possible, we ensured integration of some sort to aid the boys in knowing one another.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 23 registered players born 2010.• Games/Blitz / Typical attendances – 15-18.

<p>County Blitz & Challenge Games:</p>	<p>With the now established 2 group structure for the County Blitz.</p> <p>The U9 squad were in "Group 2" which includes Oran, St. Aidans, St. Ciarans and Roscommon Gaels.</p> <p>As per previous years, the success of this structure needs remains to be considered carefully into 2020 as there seems to be a continued lack of focus, organisation and "mindset" as to what the objectives are.</p> <p>The county objective is along the GAA lines of standardisation and participation. However, this is not always evident at game times with many clubs favouring the "victory and consequentially the stronger players".</p> <p>Over and above the Blitz we reached out to a number of clubs to secure games appropriate to the U9 boys on their own, U9 & U10 boys combined etc. as the case might suit seeking games with clubs of a similar size to ourselves. This actually worked quite well and one could argue that it serves as a better development test, albeit that you must travel more to the clubs both inside and outside the county.</p> <p>As ever, the challenge we have is that we have significant numbers so organising games against smaller clubs is too difficult. However, at U10's there is an improved appetite for larger clubs to entertain requests for challenge games.</p> <p>Outside the Blitz days (total of 4 when there should be have been 5) we had a number of challenge games against Oran GAA, St. Dominics, Kilbride, Annaghdown, Claregalway, St.Mary Rochfortbridge. Total Games/Blitz days this year stood at 10 which is a reasonable amount for U9's.</p> <p>For our final session of the year we had a challenge secured with Balla GAA and a trip on the Rossie Bus, unfortunately, the weather and pitches availability scuppered our plans.</p> <p>Overall we were very happy with the progress made in 2019, the U9's were a very nice group of boys, they came on very well and are well able to move onto the U10's next year.</p> <p>Thank you to the boys, coaches and parents for all their efforts across the year.</p>
<p>Player Welfare Issues</p>	<p>None to report.</p>
<p>Other Considerations:</p>	<p>No issues with equipment or facilities. Booking of pitches was accomodated very well as always (Thank you Philip).</p>

U12 Boys Football 2019

Our year started indoors with Pella on Feb 2nd. This ran for 7 nights during the Spring and we had strong numbers (average was 30 each Thursday over the 7 weeks). We look upon it as a fun outlet once a week, gaining exercise, building on the continuity of teamwork, whilst all the time improving the skills of movement, passing, shooting, defending and ball handling. Given how late the season has ran this year (still playoff matches to play on first weekend in November) we decided not to run with Pella in the Autumn. I believe that using Pella as an option in the early and late part of season is a very worthwhile approach and we have seen improvements, achieved through Pella, transferring to the pitch for a lot of the players. I believe that Pella should be used yearly for U10 and U12 teams.

Training & Matches

The year commenced with a challenge match in Lisnamult vs St. Finians from Dublin on March 3rd. They were in town to watch the Dublin vs Roscommon league match. We then played in a Ballinasloe tournament on March 24th and 31st. This tournament had a mix of teams from Galway and Roscommon. It was a good way to start the year outside.

Once the time changed training commenced outside in Lisnamult on April 4th from 18.45 – 20.00 each Thursday. This was extended to 20.15 later in the year. All sessions started promptly with coaches arriving 15 - 30 mins early to set up each session. We worked off a list of 44 registered players with 20 of these turning 12 during the year and the other 24 being available for U12 again in 2020. Turnout each Thursday was very good but as is normal attendance did drop in July and August due to holidays.

Squads

At the start of the year we split the 44 players into 3 squads; the Div. 1 squad (19 players) was referred to as the Yellow Squad; the Div. 5 squad (17 players) known as the Purple Squad and the Div. 6 squad (16 players) known as the White Squad. Parents were made aware of this process at the outset which we believed was important. The aim was to place each player in a squad that best suited their stage of development. Players at this age need to be able to develop at their own pace without undue pressure and that's what we used the Div. 5 and 6 teams to achieve. There are however some players that need to be challenged a little more and there were 9 players that fell into this category and they played also on the Div. 1 squad.

The Div1 squad had 11 players 'named' that could only play in Div. 1 games, the other 8 players in this squad played matches with both the Div. 1 and Div. 6 teams. In the latter part of the year 1 of the Div. 5 squad joined up with the Div. 1 squad for certain games.

Matches

Division 1 Squad;

- Spring league matches x 5 (Lost to Castlerea St. Kevin's; Beat Padraig Pearses; Beat Clann Na nGael; Beat St. Brigid's; Beat St. Dominic's;)
- Spring League Semi Final (Beat Padraig Pearses by 1 point)
- Spring League Final (Lost to Castlerea St. Kevin's by 2 points)
- Summer League matches x 6 (Lost to Castlerea St. Kevin's, Elphin / Ballinameen, St. Croans; Beat Dominic's, Padraig Pearses & Clann Na nGael)
- Summer League Shield Semi Final (Due to be played vs St. Dominic's Nov 4th)
- Challenge matches and tournaments x 6

Note - We finished 4th in the Summer league and felt that the most appropriate playoff's to be placed in was the Cup section (given earlier group results vs all 6 teams in the Division). We were told by Coiste Na Nog that we were due to play Elphin/Ballinameen in the cup Semi Final on the weekend of Oct 19th. However, Elphin/Ballinameen objected to this and the County Minor Board agreed with them. We provided a precedent from 2017 but this wasn't accepted. We disagreed with the decision.

Division 5 Squad;

- Spring league matches x 6 (Boyle, Western Gaels, Elphin/Ballinameen, St. Ronan's, St. Barry's & St. Aidans)
- Spring League Shield Semi Final (Beat St. Ronan's)
- Spring League Shield Final (Lost to St. Aidans after ET)
- Summer League matches x 6 (Boyle, Western Gaels, Elphin/Ballinameen, St. Ronan's, St. Barry's & St. Michaels)
- Summer Shield League Semi Final (Due to be played vs St. Ronan's Nov 3rd)
- Challenge / tournament matches x 4

Division 6 Squad;

- Spring league matches x 5 (Padraig Pearses, St. Brigid's, Clann Na nGael, St. Dominic's and Castlerea St. Kevin's)
- Spring League Cup Semi Final (Beat Clann Na nGael)
- Spring League Cup Final (Beat St. Brigid's)
- Summer League matches x 4 (St. Brigid's, Clann Na nGael, St. Dominic's and Castlerea) Received w/o from Padraig Pearses & St. Aidans
- Summer League Cup Final (Due to be played vs Clann Na nGael Nov 3rd)
- Challenge / tournament matches x 4

In total coaches interacted with players on 82/83 occasions during the year (pella/training/matches). Details of each training sessions and matches were communicated to parents early each week by text.

We had a group of 11 coaches involved, the group included Joe Biesty, Gary Dunne, Garreth Carroll, Trevor Finneran, Derek Dolan, David Fallon, Marty Rodgers, Declan Hussey, Gerry Donoghue, Liam Fallon and Paul Beisty. All coaches gave up a huge amount of time to commit to the development of these players and deserve thanks for doing so.

Observations

1. In an ideal world if time slots were available, we could have benefitted from access to another training hour each week. This is quite difficult with most players involved in at least 1 other sport.
2. It was difficult to ensure that the Div. 5 and Div. 6 squads were balanced evenly with an appropriate split of the 8/9 players playing both Div. 1 and Div. 5 / 6. This was caused by fixture time clashes between different divisions. In the Spring league, the Div.1 and Div. 6 matches were played back to back vs the same teams at the same venue and therefore none of these 8/9 players could play on our Div. 5 squad. We may have been able to do something about this in the Summer league when the teams in Div.1 and 6 changed but it was late when we found out about the changes to the teams in 1 & 6. It is something to be watched out for next year.
3. For the foreseeable future Roscommon Gaels should always have 3 teams playing U12 football that in turn feed into 2 teams playing U14/U16/Minor. This is for the betterment of the club but also to ensure that if a player wants to play football there should be an appropriate team available.
4. We have plenty of talented players coming through, but they will need continuous coaching and hence coaching numbers need to always be around 10/12 coaches where you have 45-50 players.
5. Physical fitness needs to be prioritised as it's becoming an issue with more and more players.
6. Overall this group of players were very well behaved and willing to be coached. We placed a big emphasis on the lads having respect for everyone involved. It's wonderful to hear players coming up to coaches at the end of training or matches to say, 'Thank You', or willing to collect equipment or sweep out a dressing room, all unprompted at times, it means a lot.

U 14 Football review 2019

- 24 Players Registered for U 14 2019
- Only 1 team – not enough for 2 teams
- Season Finished on the 20/10/19 with 24 players still involved
- Season Started mid February with 6 sessions with Liam Hannon (Core work) in the Hyde
- Season started early

League games listed below

We performed very well with 3 victories & 2 draws. We would eventually lose 1 of those game to an amalgamation of Michael Glaveys/Eire Og who were very strong. In fact Michael glaveys would have had a team on the won. 37 Players listed on their teamsheet & only 1 team.

I did bring it up at one of the county board meetings but fell on deaf ears.

We ended up playing St Dominics in the League Semi Final in Knockcroghery where we were well beaten. We just didn't get out of the traps that day. It turned out that they got the same beating the following week in the Div 1 final vs Eire og/glaveys

- 17/02/2019

-

- 18:00
- Roscommon Gaels
 - **4-8 2-6**
- Western-Gaels

- 24/03/2019

- 11:30
- Roscommon Gaels
 - **0-10 2-4**
- Clann na nGael

- 31/03/2019

- 11:00
- St. Dominics
 - **3-9 2-12**
- Roscommon Gaels

- 10/04/2019

- 19:00
- Eire Óg/Michael Glaveys
 - **7-13 1-7**
- Roscommon Gaels

- 02/05/2019

-
- 19:30
- Roscommon Gaels
 - **4-6 2-10**
- St Brigids

- 06/05/2019

- 19:00
- Boyle
 - **2-11 5-5**
- Roscommon Gaels

Lost League Semi final to st dominics in knockcroghery - hammered in fact

Feile 2019



We Hosted Arklow/St Geraldines. 22 players stayed with families which was fantastic

Friday evening 28th June started proceedings with a tough opener vs Clan na Gael on a beautiful Friday evening in Lisnamult

1st Game vs Clan Na Gael – armagh – great competitive game – won by a goal

2nd game lost to St Dominics

3rd Game sat morning beat Arklow our hosts

Sat afternoon we travelled to Mountbellow in the Q-final vs Liliput gael. Lost out to a stronger team and the lads played extremely well. We just ran out of steam. A Fantastic weekend which finished off with a disco in the Hyde centre Saturday night

Championship review

- 28/07/2019

- Roscommon Gaels
 - **3-9 3-5**
 - Boyle

- 01/09/2019

- Clann na nGael
 - **3-7 1-7**
- Roscommon Gaels

- 08/09/2019

- St Aidan's
 - **9-15 5-9**
- Roscommon Gaels

- 15/09/2019

- Roscommon Gaels
 - **4-8 3-7**
- St. Dominics

- 24/09/2019

- Roscommon Gaels
 - **2-10 5-10**
- Eire Óg/Michael Glaveys

- 29/09/2019

- Western-Gaels
 - **6-13 1-15**
- Roscommon Gaels

At the end of July we kicked off our championship campaign with a win vs boyle. Next up & a break of 4 weeks was clan. We were missing a few key players that day but the guys learn quite a bit about themselves. We moved on & I think the most pleasing victory of the whole year came vs St Dominics at home where we clipped them by 4 pts. Always in command we stuck to our task and the lads done brilliantly to win a fantastic game.

Other games didn't go our way and we ended up playing a Div 1 shield Semi Final vs St Aidan's where we came very close to winning

Played St aidens in Shield Semi Final 20/10/10

RBK Chartered Accountants U14 Div 1 Football Cship Knockout

- 11:00
- St Aidan's
- **4-15 6-4**
- Roscommon Gaels

Summary

We started with 24 Players and finished with 24 Players. Overall it was a journey. An awful lot of work put in with feile organisation/sponership/fittings etc and then both league & championship.

We tried to be fair with everyone & give lads lots of game time. We felt that some lads progressed very well & others just didn't perform. But having said that most of the weaker lads were playing Div 1 football – a lesser grade would have certainly benefited them but we didn't have that luxury of a large pool of players. We would hope through encouragement and planning these group of lads will keep the interest going in 2020.

Finbar O Reilly U 14 Manager

U16 Football 2019

Thanks

My sincerest thanks to Shane Kelly and John Donnellan for their effort and time in preparation of the team this year. They were a huge help in what turned out to be a very difficult year. My thanks to the club for their support, Finbarr for help with the fixtures, Philip and Francie for their help with the pitches, other team managers for their cooperation and finally, Shane for finding our missing footballs.

Finally, I would like to thank the players for the effort this year, particularly the core group whose effort and dedication to the team is to be noted and commended.

Overview

Buoyed by the success of last year (U14 Div. 1 and U16 Div. 2 Titles) we hoped that we could build on that we could make the step up and cement our place in Division 1. We started with the goal of maintaining our Division 1 status and ultimately, we achieved it but to say we struggled to do so is an understatement.

We knew this would be a challenge with a young group and we would need all the panel to pull together and train hard to achieve this. However, due to a number of factors this year it was difficult to get the attendances at training and this was reflected on the pitch. While as a whole it was disappointing year there were some bright spots.

Training

We started training at the start of February had our last training session in early October. We were out together on 70 occasions over the year between matches and training. We had an average attendance at training of just 48% which fell to 39% after the break for the exams.

We had only 2 lads with attendance over 80%, a further 11 lads between 50%-79% and 15 lads under 50%. These figures are based on attendance post league and exam break. As you can see from these figures it is well below what you would expect of a Division 1 team and unfortunately this was reflected in our performances.

Along with the usual illness, injury and holiday absences we had a large quantity of the absences from training for a variety of trivial reasons, the sheer quantity of these was higher than I have ever experienced. A number of our panel didn't train for large parts of the year, due to their commitments to other sports. While we wish them every success in their other ventures, I am saddened to report that they put in little or no effort into being part of our team and in many cases were not in the condition, physically or mentally, to be of benefit when they did turn out for us.

We did have a core of 8-10 lads who trained well all year with the dedication and commitment necessary to perform at this level. This was reflected in their effort and attitude to keep going in matches when the result was lost. These lads deserved far more from the year.

I mentioned last year that attendance at training was a concern at this age group but this year it was significantly worse and I feel the club need to address this issue as a matter of urgency, otherwise we risk undoing all the great work being done at younger grades.

The League

We started the league in early February and we were down a number of players who had decided to finish the Rugby season before joining up with the panel.

We started with an away game against Pearses in Woodmount, while we were competitive for most of the game we ran out of steam near the end and were well beaten.

Our next game against Clan in Lisnamult was our best performance in the league, we drew but very easily could have won.

We looked to improve on that in our next home game against Kilmore/Shannon Gaels/St Ronan's but put in a hugely disappointing performance and were beaten by eight points.

We next played Kilbride at home and produced our worst performance in the league. We lost by three and suffered a bad injury.

We then had to travel to St Brigid's. It was very disappointing that a number of players let us down at the last minute and we just about scrapped a team together. Playing one of the better teams in the county, we got routed.

In our final game away to Boyle we had a number of players back but were still missing a couple through injury. We put in a big performance and battled hard. In a tight game a little bit of rust and fatigue set in near the end and we lost narrowly by two points.

We then played Boyle away again in the Shield Semi Final. This time we didn't find the same level of performance and were beaten by 6 points.

It was a disappointing league for us and we only retained our Division 1 status by virtue of Kilbride wishing to drop to the lower level. After a bright start we failed to produce performances against the teams in around our level and it was plain to see that our fitness levels and desire were not at the levels required to compete in Division 1. On the positive side we had five or six lads who put their heart and soul into it. They showed the commitment, attitude and

skill that I would associate with playing for this club. We showed on a couple of occasions that if we had 15 lads giving there all on the pitch that we are a match for anyone.

Championship

After the league finished 2 lads on the panel told us that they were not going to play for the summer. We had another 5 lads who were busy doing other things but didn't indicate to us that they didn't want to play.

We played Clan away in our first game. After a disastrous start we rallied well and played some good football. We fought hard and showed some character but eventually ran out losing by 9 points.

Our next game was against Pearses at home. We were missing a number of lads and some of them we did have, had little or no training done. Up against a very well drilled and talented side, we were no match for them and we got a bad beating.

In the next game we had do or die affair with Boyle at home. This was far and away our best performance of the year in which, with essentially an U15 team, we played with a bite and tenacity that was missing for long parts of the year. They showed that when we are focused and determined we can match any team in this division. After a tight first half we took control in the second half and ran out convincing winners.

We then took on Kilmore/Shannon Gaels/St Ronan's in Kilmore. We had the same team who played against Boyle less one who was sick. We put in a very flat performance with some lads not trying as they had a rugby match later that weekend. Despite the best efforts of some of the team we were well beaten.

We then played St Ciaran's in our last home game. This was more of the same we have the same four or five fellas giving their all but a flat performance from those around them left us no match for a spirited Ciaran's side and we were well beaten.

We were to rearrange a fixture against St Brigid's in Kiltoom but due to rugby we would have had to travel missing a number of players. We decided to concede the fixture.

We then we had a Shield Semi Final. We asked who was available and unfortunately, we were unable to field a team and had to concede this fixture too.

Conclusions

It was hugely disappointing for me this year, we started with a lot of hope after the success of last year but that quickly dissipated. With a young team we had to train hard and work together but it was clear from early in the year that this was not going to be the case. We had hoped to field two teams but with the lack of numbers it was very difficult. After fulfilling 3 out of 5 fixtures, some at a stretch, we made the tough decision not to field a championship team.

The major issue this year was the very poor training attendance. This severely affected our preparation for the league and championship. The apathy from some of the lads and parents around our preparation and attendance left us ill prepared to face into division one football. This, unfortunately, was reflected in our results and our performances. This was an issue last year but it was far worse this year. I fully understand that other sports, other interests and a myriad of other things can lead to missed sessions. The thing that struck me this year was the sheer quantity of missed sessions.

As alluded to earlier it is a great shame that this was the case because on the few occasion this year when we performed we gave even the best teams in the division a game. There is clearly a talented bunch of lads there but without the application to training and preparation they will continue to struggle moving forward.

Roscommon Gaels U10 Football – 2019 Seasons – End of Year Report

Manager: Seamus Carthy

Coaches: Derek Dolan, Shane Killeen, Marcus Hone

Commenced – 7th February in Convent Gym

Concluded – 8th October

Outdoor Training Night – Every Tuesday Evening 7-8 pm – we averaged 24 at training sessions (July 23rs & July 30th – No training) - Holidays

1. Daniel	Nerney
2. Liam	Connolly
3. Andrej	Anic
4. Rian	Grogan
5. Cormac	Fleming
6. Eoin	Ryan
7. David	Fetherston
8. William	Godfrey
9. Sam	Walsh
10. Aj	Tully
11. Cahal	Mulry
12. Seamus	Carthy
13. Joseph	Mc Sharry
14. Dean	Hoare
15. Sean	Hoare
16. Thomas	Birmingham
17. Matthew	Donnelly
18. Michael	O Brien
19. Eoin	Naughten
20. Daithi	Kelly
21. Conor	Keaveney
22. Laurence	O Connor
23. Ben	Dolan
24. Darragh	Killeen
25. Ben	Hone
26. Ruairi	Kerr
27. Callum	Kerr
28. Dwain	
29. Lewis	Smith
30. Mathew	Smyth
31. Declan	Hoare

5 No. GO Games Football blitz 2019

**Comprised: Ros Gaels, Clan Na Gael,
St.Brigids, St.Dominics, Padraig Pearses.**

May 25th: U10 Football – St. Brigids Hosted
June 15th: U10 Football – Clan na Gael Hosted
July 6th: U10 Football – St. Dominics (Scheduled but not hosted)
July 27th: U10 Football - Padraig Pearses Hosted
August 17th: U10 Football - Roscommon Gaels Hosted

On average, we had 24/25 players at each blitz confirming good interest. We structured our teams evenly, entering 3 balanced teams ensuring loads of game time for all. Our Lads more than matched their competitors and in the majority of these blitzes our u 10 Lads were well capable, showing signs of strong potential.

3 No. Organised Football blitzes/Matches

We organised strong challenge games with clubs outside the County.

Ros Gaels V Balla GAA Co. Mayo - Hosted in Lisnamult 30th March

We had 27 Lads, divided into three even nine aside teams. Our Lads were extremely competitive across all 3 teams.

Contact: Derek Duffy – Balla GAA

Ros Gaels v Claregalway and Annaghdown – Hosted by Claregalway June 8th

We had 20 Lads, divided into two even nine aside teams. We were extremely competitive overall.

Contact: John Noone – Claregalway GAA

Ros Gaels V Annaghdown GAA Co. Galway - Hosted in Lisnamult 10th August

We had 20 Lads, divided into two even nine aside teams. We were extremely competitive and showed loads of potential.

Contact Mike Mc Mahon /Seamus Durkan - Annaghdown GAA – Hosted in Lisnamult

On average, we had 22 players at each of these challenges, again confirming strong interest from our lads. We structured our teams evenly, playing 2 balanced teams against very strong GAA clubs ensuring a higher level of challenge whilst also ensuring loads of game time for all. The bigger the challenge the more focussed our lads became and as the year progressed, the stronger lads needed to be continually challenged or else focus was lost.

3 No. Organised Competitions

Celbridge, Co. Kildare – 31st August

21 teams from 14 counties

We entered two balanced teams for the group stages meeting teams including Celbridge, St Fechins, Carrickcruppen, Moyle Rovers, Mullingar Shamrocks and Tuam Stars. For the Quarter Finals, we altered our teams to have a stronger team to take account of the opposition. Should be discussed in greater detail.

Contact Ian Power

Rochfordbridge, Co. Westmeath – 7th September

8 Teams from 3 counties.

We entered two balanced teams for the group stages meeting teams including St. Brigid's Kiltoom, Garrycastle, Moate All Whites, St. Loman's Mullingar and Coralstown/Kinnegad.

We entered two balanced teams and even though we played clubs entering just one team, we participated well. Discuss the balance/Stronger team scenario.

Tormey Tournament 28th September

Clann na nGael hosted the annual U10 Tormey's League football tournament on the 28th September 2019 in Johnstown. Clubs from Westmeath, Galway, Roscommon, Sligo and Dublin took part in this year's tournament. It gave our lads a chance to play against teams that they wouldn't normally meet. In the tournament, we entered two teams at U10 level and the scores of both teams are aggregated to determine the position of the club in the tournament. We won the shield competition.

Contact John Dunning

Lisnamult

A huge thank you to Phillip Mullen and Co for having the training pitches marked out and in great condition throughout the year. Also, a big thank you to Phillip and Co for making the main pitch available when we were hosting.

In conclusion. 31 Lads registered, averaged 24 per training session. Trained continuously throughout year missing only 2 weeks for Holidays.

We succeeded in actually increasing numbers throughout the year indicating the lads themselves enjoyed the year.

Ros Gaels U18 Hurling 2019 Review

Prepared by: Tom Killion

Roscommon Gaels management was
Tom Killion
John Casey
Fergal Timmins
David Waldron

Training started in Convent Gym for 4 Weeks and continued outside in Lisnamult.
Attendance was good at most sessions

This was a good panel of hurlers. We had some great players within our squad.
Oran Hurling club were unable to field at minor so some of their players came into
Roscommon Gaels and were excellent

We started the championship on 7th of July and we had good turnout numbers for all games.
We qualified for the final after an epic game against Pádraig Pearse's. Four Roads beat us in
the County.

Again

Going forward we need to come up with some new idea to keep our players numbers up at
this grade.

Thanks

To Fergal Timmins, John Casey and David Waldron for helping out at training and matches.

Ros Gaels U16 Hurling 2019 Review

Prepared by: Tom Killion

Roscommon Gaels management was

- Tom Killion
- John Casey
- Fergal Timmins
- Fergal O’Gara

Training started in Convent Gym for 4 Weeks and continued outside in Lisnamult. Attendance was good while in door and this deteriorated as time moved forward.

All our players from U14 2 years ago were not available to us. So, the panel was particularly tight, and we had to rely on getting 2 U14 players to come up to the panel just to make up the required numbers of players to play our games.

We started our league on the 26th June and we were competitive. We did not qualify for the final.

We started the championship on 7th of August and our best turnout numbers for all games was 12 players. We did not qualify for semi-final.

Going forward we need to come up with some new idea to keep our players numbers up at this grade.

To Fergal Timmins Fergal O’Gara John Casey and Fergal Hayes for helping out at training and matches.

Ros Gaels U14 Hurling 2019 Review

Prepared by: Noel Fallon

Our first match of the year was in late February. We played Athleague/Tremane/Oran. Our last play was on the last weekend in August against Longford Slashers in the league shield semi-final.

This year went as everyone, especially ourselves, expected it to go. We knew we had a very weak team. We didn't win any matches and, to be honest, we weren't competitive in most of those matches.

Liam Corcoran and I took on the U-14s last January for two reasons: we wanted to make sure Roscommon Gaels fielded a team at U-14 level when we were defending county champions and, secondly, there is a core group of eight or ten lads, especially those in their last year U-14, who want to play hurling and we wanted to make sure they had an outlet.

Now that I'm able to put the year in perspective, I know my own energy and enthusiasm weren't at full throttle. The 2018 season wound up in mid-October – this week 12 months ago – after an incredibly busy year. It was almost a case of straight back into preparing for this year. We spent January trying to persuade players and mentors to get involved, with limited success. That was demoralising. Eventually, Noel Egan helped us out during Feile/county championship which takes place in spring.

We started the year with 17 players, including three U-12s. One thing we are proud of is that 16 of the 17 stayed with us for the season. I think the player who dropped out could be persuaded to return next year. However, for many, it was a case of turning out just for matches. The turn-out for training was low during the year. We had about 10/12 at training during the spring. We trained on Mondays as it didn't clash with rugby.

We would have beaten Oran this year if they had a team on their own and would have given a good game to Athleague/Tremane. Even when those teams amalgamated, I think we would have beaten if we had our full team. I said at a hurling meeting in February/March, it was our best chance of winning a match all year and so it proved.

One thing I learned this year: the thing players least like is not to get a game. However, the next thing that most upsets players is to get beaten heavily on a recurring basis. Much of the year was spent pleading with people to become or stay involved.

In that respect, great credit to due to the hurlers who stuck with the team. It wasn't easy to return in June/July for the county league but they did. In this

regard, I would like to thank David Waldron for joining us. David's training was good and it was refreshing for the lads to have a new presence and a new voice.

We trained with the U-12s – we are very grateful to them – in order to have sufficient numbers for training during the summer when many players were on holidays. Perhaps, we could have opted to train with the U-16s instead but my honest appraisal is that a lot of our lads would have been out of their depth. Perhaps we should have trained on Wednesdays but if we gained one or two, we would have lost one of two others. If hurling clashed with soccer training – never mind a match – the lads almost always opted for soccer.

Liam and I said at a meeting during the year that we wouldn't be able to field a team in the league during July and August due to holidays. I was glad to be proved wrong about this. That was down to David and to a few extra U-12s lining out for us.

On our experience this year I would like to make a few recommendations:

1. Sadly, it will be a huge challenge for Roscommon Gaels to field an U-16 team in two years' time.
2. The U-14 management needs to be in place before Christmas. The competition starts in February. Training, either indoor or outdoor, probably needs to start in January. The semi-finals take place in mid-April with the county final on the May Bank Holiday weekend. Depending on what Oran do, the Gaels have to win one or two matches in the group stages to reach the semi-finals.
3. If a U-14 management is appointed before Christmas, and if they want to meet me, I would be very glad to do so and give them the benefit of my experiences over the last two years.

Under 12 Hurling Review 2019.

Management: Sean Mulry, Fergal Cormican, Liam Fallon, Roisin Satchwell, Jer OConner and Michael King.

Panel: We started with low numbers and ended up with a panel of 30 strong players. We gained additional players half way through the year from the U10 panel.

Training schedule: Thirty four training sessions were held between February and September.

Matches: Challenges: (3) Competitive: Galway league Started on 4th May playing a total of (8) matches including shield final that was played in Mountbellew. Taking on Castlebar Mitchells on Sat 14th September coming out on the losing side. A total of (8 groups 64 teams played u12 hurling in Galway. Roscommon hurling league (9) Games in total. Ended up in the cup semi-final V Athleague Tremane coming out on the losing side.

U14 Hurling: (8) U12 players played in the U14 Roscommon league. Without these player the under 14 hurlers would not have been able to field a team.

Comments: Losing a final & Semi-final was not easy. This was not a memorable year for players, parents and coaches. A lot of hard work completed by all coaches and thanks to Roisin & Liam who came on board this year putting in the hard work week on week.

Ten players moving up : Tom besity, Brian Gearthty, Conner Mulry, Luca Cormican, Bertie Satchwell, Hugh Oconner, Ciaran Mulry, Leo Anic, Odin Fallon & Aaron Bracken.

Aaron Bracken worked hard all year and controlled the entire back line. Never missing a game. Always giving 100%. Played U12 /14 hurling in town while also playing football with his home club Kilbride at U12/14.

Two teams played in the Under 11 Tain league over two weekends in April. This competition gave players the opportunity to play teams outside Roscommon and also allowed for greater game time.

Improvements for 2020: Players and parents would like to see second division put in place to allow all players greater playing time. We had 12 strong players & about 13 players that did not get enough playing time. Also players not interested in subs game. The 2019 Galway league No. (1) You need a strong team. No. (2) All games are in Galway which means extra travel. No. (3) All games are on Saturday morning.

A huge thanks to Shane Nerney and the Under 10 coaching team for allowing the old players join us for the Roscommon League. Also for organizing the Tain league.

Thanks to Derek Dolan for supporting us all year. Also in changing football games and training during when asked. Sincere thanks to all the parents for their invaluable support throughout the year.

Goals for 2019: (1) Improve skills (2) Build a stronger panel and bring more enjoyment into the game of hurling. (3) To win an under 12 A Final. (4) Play hurling in the Galway league. (5) Second division needed.

Ros Gaels U10 Hurling 2019 Review

Prepared by: Shane Nerney

Date: 10/10/2019

Management Team:

- Manager: Shane Nerney
- Coaches: Tommy Mulry / Fergus Halligan / Adrian Tully / Stephanie Walsh / Jer O'Connor / Jason Connaughton / Fergal O'Gara.

The 2019 U10 Hurling season commenced Feb 18th for 6 weeks in the convent Gym, ran for 33 weeks and concluded Friday October 4th in Lisnamult. We commenced the season with an all time high of 39 hurlers and finished with 32.

- 19 hurlers will move up to U12 in 2020
- 13 hurlers will remain at U10 in 2020

The focus this year was on participation / skills development / the team. We continued to enter blitzes that suited us, arranged challenges and entered tournaments as much as possible. This approach better suited our numbers and goal of maximising participation of all our players.

We participated in 12 blitzes / challenges / tournaments, fielding 2 teams on the majority of occasions.

Fun drills at the start of the season in-doors were arranged by Fergus Halligan which the kids enjoyed very much and also functioned as a warm-up.

Coaching – we split the group, primarily by age-group during the year for coaching. However we found a benefit in changing this at certain points during the year for technical drills by grouping by ability. All challenge games were a combination of ability and age-group which worked well.

Focus

- Team spirit & bond
- Positional awareness

Medical attention was managed by Stephanie Walsh.

Coaching was undertaken by all coaches. On arrival at training, all kids grouped off to strike the ball in pairs as the coaches set-up and we awaited all to arrive.

Communication

- We managed communications with Hurling U10 coaches via whatsapp.
- Had an U10 Hurling / Football whatsapp group to communicate schedules between hurling & football to reduce overlap.
- Social media updates were undertaken by Adrian Tully weekly while Gael Force was being issues in addition to promoting our Hurling group on Facebook.
- During the year we had review & planning sessions with U10 hurling coaches in April and August. A good opportunity to review progress and agree focus for following months.

Challenges

- Continue to be blitzes within the county which are not catered to handle multiple teams from our club. We continue to be well prepared to arrange challenges and attend blitzes within the county which suit the development of our full panel only.
- Technical development – Fergus took aside groups of players as required to concentrate on technical skills where required.
- Picking of a goal-keeper. Continues to be a challenge with a number of contenders tried-out during the year. Adrian took goal-keeping sessions during training which were warmly received as specialist training.

Winter season

- We move into the Convent gym in November for 6 weeks of ‘Fun Hurling’ to ensure kids continue to pick up the hurl and play during Winter. We believe this approach was key to our large numbers and low fall-off last Winter.

Pitches and equipment

- Thanks to Philip Mullen who has continued to facilitate all requests we have made for pitches during the year for training / blitzes / challenges.
- Thanks also to Harry Hoare as treasurer for funding all requests for equipment, sliotars, treats for kids at blitzes etc.

Highlights of the year included

- The trip on the Club Rossie bus to the Club All-Ireland finals, arranged by David Waldron.
- The U11 Tain League in April hosted in the Connaught Centre of Excellence.
- David Burke taking an U10 & U12 training session in Lisnamult, arranged by Seamie O’Neill.
- The Frank Young tournament in Southern Gaels in September where this group of boys won our first piece of Silverware beating St Dominic’s in the final. The most impressive game of hurling I have witnessed with this group of boys.
- The new Set of Jerseys for our U10 hurlers generously sponsored by Fergal O’Gara.
- The end of year t-shirts, sponsored by our coaches, and beautifully designed by Adrian Tully.

Overall, this has been a tremendous year for this group of boys who continue to develop very well in hurling, enjoy hurling and are dedicated to hurling!

Ros Gaels U8 Hurling 2019 Review

Prepared by: Nicola Crosbie

Management Team:

- Nicola Crosbie / Dion Hegarty / Ronan Clogher / Peter Dalton / Niamh Hughes / Pdraig O'Rourke

- Hurling Update
 - 31 registered, 25 remain at end of year
 - Commenced in the gym 18/02/19 – 6 weeks
 - Blitz – 9 organised, attended 7, DNA PP & 1 cancelled (Boyle, Four Roads , Leitrim, Southern Gaels, Ros Gaels, Oran & Tremane)
 - Challenge matches – 4 matches home and away (Athleague Tremane, PP, B'Sloe, Southern Gaels)
 - 22 training sessions

- Positives
 - Great support from parents in attending blitz & matches
 - Boys likes the matches and developed from this
 - No. of coaches
 - Team love the hurling
 - Worked well with football U8's

- Challenges
 - More re-spot & fix technique
 - More organisation re drills for sessions.