



Cumann Luthchleas Gael
Naomh Mhuire Buiochar
St. Mary's Rockcorry GAA



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ROCKCORRY JUVENILE & MINOR REPORT 2010

As I considered where to start with this report I referred back to last years report and looked at the challenges that faced us, as a club for 2010, and then reflected on what was achieved. Some of the issues unresolved in 2009 were

- The lack of a code of conduct as a mandate for club affairs
- Numbers of qualified coaches is not adequate to cater for the youths of the club
- Numbers of First Aiders to look after the youths of the club is not adequate
- Numbers of parents taking a keen interest in their childs GAA career is not adequate

“3 out of 4 ‘aint bad.”

At the start of the year, Paschal Smith put in place a code of conduct for the Juveniles of the club which was presented at a presentation night in St Mary's Hall for the U16 team. I would like to thank Paschal for his efforts in this regard.

Ross McDonald had got the support of parents of younger players, and started on weekly coaching with the U6' and U8's ably assisted by Karren Mc Keown, Pauric Dillon, John Elliot, Gerard O'Brien, and Colm Donnelly. Lurcan Smith, Samantha Greenan, Fergal Mc Geough, Keelan Clerkin and Aoran Clerkin were always on hand to help out at the sessions.

7 people attended the foundation level coaching run by Monaghan County Board, Willie Hillis, Anthony Lynch, Conor Brannigan, Gerard O'Brien, Karren Mc Keown, Paul Mc Cormick and Kieran Mc Philips. Karren Mc Keown coordinated coaching and training sessions for the U8, U10 and U12 ably assisted by the new coaching team – Conor Brannigan, Anthony Lynch, and Willie Hillis at U 12, Anthony Lynch, Willie Hillis and Karren at U 10 and Karren, Pauric Dillon, John Elliot, Gerard O'Brien, Colm Donnelly and Ross Mc Donald with U 6 and 8's

I would like welcome all the new coaches and parents on board and thank them for their time and effort. Passing by the field one sunny evening on my way from work, I thought there was a Juvenile game in progress that I had forgotten about, there were so many around Pairc Mhuire. It was an U8 and U10 training session, all coaches present and parents fixing laces on boots, providing drinks of water and returning a ball which had wandered from a stray pass. It was a pleasure and delight to see.

Guess The Score:

Early on in the year a few of the coaches and parents came to me to see if it would be ok to run a Guess The Score competition to raise funds for jersey's for the U6, 8's and 10's. This was a great success. Now all the younger teams have their own kits and what was left over bought some training equipment and funded the bus to the Australian rules game in Croke Park. A great day was had by the youngsters and their mentors. On behalf of the club I would like to thank all of you named above and the parents for helping Cumann Buiochar achieve an objective that for some time had seemed undoable. Your children are our future.

U14 Team

The U14 team played under the stewardship of John Mc Philips. Commitment and attitude of some players and their families left the club with no option but to withdraw from this competition, midway through the League. A few heavy defeats at the outset of the competition left some players in despair and the non- fielding of others at training and matches, contributed to the early exit from the League. On behalf of the club I would like to thank John for his efforts and the children who turned up throughout the competition. Being beaten

time and time again makes it harder to maintain interest, and towards the end of the competition, player attendance for training and games was very disappointing.

U18 and U16 teams

The U18 and U16 teams saw the continuation of last year's management duo, Jimmy Mc Geough and by Paschal Smith, aided by Colin Reilly and Mark Mc Cormick and their loyal band of players. Fortunes were mixed with the Minors reaching the League and Championship finals, losing out on both occasions. The U16 team lost out in the first round of the championship and narrowly missed making the qualifying stages of the League.

As youth Officer of this club I feel it would be remiss of me not to mention the defeat the Minor final lost in Aghabog against Emyvale.

A string of despicable decisions made by the referee, robbed these lads of a Minor medal. The lack of interest shown by Monaghan County Board in the whole debacle, speaks for itself.

For all of us, this is now in the past and to all of the minor panel and their management team, I suggest that for 2011, you put it behind you, raise your heads and be a force to be reckoned with in the future. The time, effort and commitment given by this squad over the years are recognized by all within the club. Lads you did us proud, thank you one and all.

Development Squads:

The club had players attending the development squad sessions at the various levels. I want to pay a special tribute to the parents of these players for bringing them to their sessions in Cloghan, and being there to support these players.

U16 - Fergal Mc Geough, Lorcan Smith

U17 / U 18 – Keelan Clerkin, Mark Mc Guirk

Attending such session's, is vital part in players improving their skills, at their own level, within their own age group.

First Aid

The provision of First Aid is a very important aspect of the game. I would like to thank Tina Rooney, Colin Reilly and Anthony Tate, for helping out in this department, at both juvenile and minor level in the club. This is an area, where people are being over taxed in terms of giving of their time. To the incoming committee, I ask that you take on board the organization of a First Aid Course within the area, to share the workload for the coming year.

PRO

Michael Carroll did a great job, in getting the information to the public, through the club notes. His dedication to this role throughout the year, was there for all to read..

It would be remiss of me not to mention the work of Patricia Smith, county PRO for juvenile football.

Patricia, serving along side Siobhan Mc Quillan, have given stalwart service, to promote the game at juvenile level. Congratulations to all on a job well done, and a special work of congratulations to Siobhan on her recent award.

I would like to thank Cathal Hand, juvenile fixtures secretary for all he did in his role, to help the Rockcorry club throughout the year.

Looking to the future

Building on the foundations laid is now down to all of us. We must continue to give support and encouragement to our new coaches and bring them to the next level. Encourage others to join ranks.

We are a small community, but there are people out there willing to do their bit. We must open our arms and welcome them in.

Our people and community are the Clubs future.

Referees

Provision of Juvenile referees is another requirement for clubs, wishing to partake in Juvenile football.

Anthony Tate and Nicky Calvert again ensured that the club covered their quota number of games, to ensure receipt of All Ireland Tickets. Fergal Mc Geough refereed at the Juvenile blitzes. Thank you lads.

Structures and Rules

Change in Juvenile competitions and structures for 2010.

A number of rule changes and structures took place in Juvenile football in 2010. Blitz style competitions for 8 – 12 year olds

2 touch rule for U16 grade now in place

9 aside competition at U 12

A meeting will take place in for team managers and youth officers in Hillgrove to discuss the success of the new rules.

Rule 132 of Treoir Oiffguil

This rule came into question again this year. The rule clearly states that U16 players who are U16 at the 1st of January preceding the foot balling year cannot play in adult or U21 football, with sanctions laid out for those who breach this rule.

Thank you

I would also like to thank all the supporters, who came out to cheer on the teams this year. The club needs supporters and also parental involvement.

To those who sponsored refreshments to the younger teams, throughout the year I say thank you:

I would also like to thank the committee of the Resource center and St Mary's hall for use of their premises.

Finally, I would like to thank all those who helped me out down the years. I am not going to name individuals, as there are too many to name. It gives me great pleasure in being able to say that all year long, the old reliable were there to help out, let it be delivering a message, attending a meeting, phoning in a result, doing a run, it was done with a heart and a half.

For 2011, I wish the club all the best, and encourage wider participation in juvenile and minor affairs.

For the incoming youth officer, enjoy your role. It has many rewards. I am available to help out whenever I can as you slot into your new role.

To all of you, I have enjoyed my role. There is a lot to be gained and learned when interacting with young people. I hope I have offended no one in the course of the role and that others may have gained as I have.

Is Mise

Martina Mhic Eoin