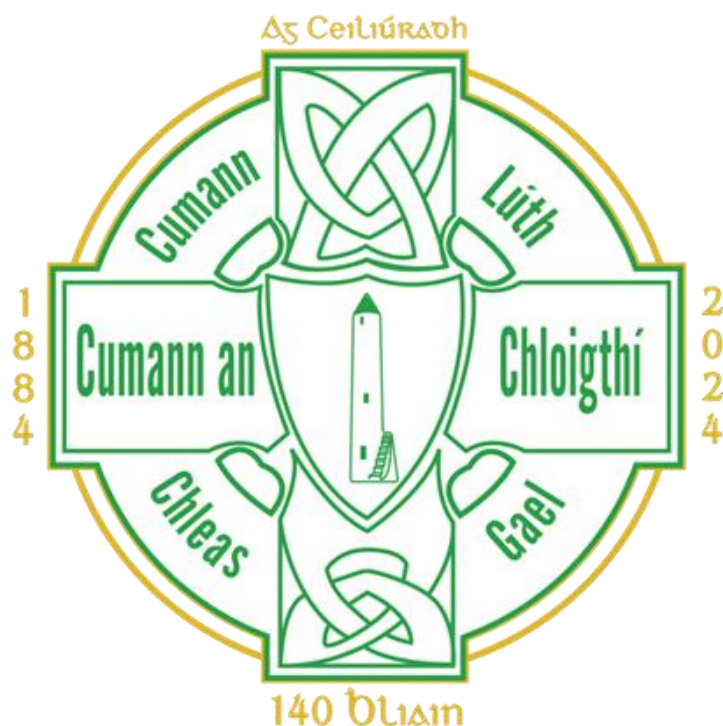


Cruinniú Bliantúil Cumann An Chloighí CLG Cluain Dolcáin 2024



Clár

1. Minutes of Annual General Meeting November 2023
2. Adoption of Standing Orders.
3. Chairman's Report.
4. Hon. Secretary's Report.
5. Hon. Treasurer's Report.
6. Election of Officers:

President
Vice Presidents
Chairman
Vice-Chairman
Hon Secretary
Hon Treasurer

7. Election of remainder of Executive Committee

Children's Officer
Adult Games Officer
Juvenile Games Officer
Registrar
Communications Officer
Facilities Officer
Coaching Development Officer
Towers Abú Planning/Strategy Officer
Assistant Secretary
Assistant Treasurer
Oifigeach Gaeilge
Ordinary Member x 2

8. Motions and Recommendations

9. Any Other Business

Executive Committee Meetings 2024

Number of meetings held: 10

1. Alan Milton 10
2. Andrew Cronin 7
3. Sharon Jordan 9
4. Damien Murray 9
5. Dean Alford 8
6. Barry Quinlan 6
7. Anto Davis 10
8. Willie Kennedy 8
9. John Hoolan 8
10. Mick McAdam 9
11. Michelle Walsh 7
12. Ken Byrne 9
13. Keith Bracken 9
14. Eoghan Cooke 5
15. Oisín Douglas 8
16. Niall Connaughton 5
17. Liam Connolly 10

Nominations for the Executive Committee 2024-25
Aimniúcháin don Coiste Feidhmeannaigh 2024-25

<u>Position</u>	<u>Outgoing</u>	<u>Nominations</u>
<i>President:</i>	Mary Dardis	Mary Dardis
<i>Vice-President:</i>	Bernie Cronin Shay Clifford John Ryan	Bernie Cronin Shay Clifford John Ryan
<i>Chairperson:</i>	Alan Milton	Alan Milton
<i>Vice-Chairperson:</i>	Andrew Cronin	Dean Alford Prop: Alan Milton Sec: Sharon Jordan
<i>Hon. Secretary:</i>	Sharon Jordan	Sharon Jordan
<i>Hon. Treasurer:</i>	Damien Murray	Andrew Cronin Prop: Alan Milton Sec: Sharon Jordan
<i>Asst. Secretary:</i>	Dean Alford	Aoife Doyle Prop: Dean Alford Sec: Alan Milton

<i>Asst. Treasurer:</i>	Eoghan Cooke	Damien Murray Prop: Dean Alford Sec: Alan Milton
<i>Oifigeach Gaeilge:</i>	Liam Connolly	Sharon Breathnach Prop: Alan Milton Sec: Sharon Jordan
<i>Adult Games Officer:</i>	Barry Quinlan	John Hoolan Prop: Sharon Jordan Sec: Alan Milton
<i>Facilities Officer:</i>	Michael McAdam	Michael McAdam
<i>Registrar:</i>	Niall Connaughton	Anita Broderick Prop: Dean Alford Sec: Sharon Jordan
<i>Juvenile Games Officer:</i>	Anthony Davis	Anthony Davis
<i>Coaching and Development Officer:</i>	Keith Bracken	Keith Bracken
<i>PR Officer:</i>	Oisin Douglas	Douglas Faughnan Prop: Dean Alford Sec: Alan Milton
<i>Children's Officer:</i>	Michelle Walsh	Michelle Walsh
<i>Towers Abú/Planning & Strategy Officer:</i>	Ken Byrne	Ken Byrne
<i>Members:</i>	Willie Kennedy John Hoolan	Willie Kennedy Sarita Johnston Prop: Dean Alford Sec: Alan Milton

Standing Orders for Annual General Meeting

1. The proposer of a motion/recommendation or amendment thereto, may speak for three (3) minutes but no longer.
2. A member speaking on a motion/recommendation or an amendment may not exceed two (2) minutes.
3. The proposer of a motion/recommendation, or amendment, may speak a second time for three (3) minutes before a vote is taken, but no other member may speak a second time on the same motion or amendment.

4. The Chairman shall, at any time he considers a matter to have been sufficiently discussed, call on the proposer to reply, after which a vote must be taken.
5. A member may with the consent of the Chairman move that 'the question be now put' after which, when the proposer has spoken, a vote must be taken.

Motions and Recommendations

Motion 1: (required in rule by the GAA via the Official Guide)

The club constitution to be amended per rule in accordance with the Official Guide. This is expected of the club by Croke Park, Leinster Council and Dublin County Board.

Proposed: Dean Ó Alford

Seconded: Alan Mac Maoldúin

Motion 2:

That a new position of Sustainability Officer should be a sitting member of the Executive Committee.

Proposed: Alan Mac Maoldúin

Seconded: Sharon Jordan

Motion 3:

That the membership gives approval to sanctioning a financial loan for the purpose of completing the extension of our all-weather training area.

Proposed: Mick McAdam

Seconded: Liam Connolly

Projections:

Without any fundraising and with the successful draw down of funding already allocated, the shortfall is estimated at €35.4k

Motion 4:

That the membership ratifies a 7.5% increase across the board for all categories of membership at the recommendation of the finance sub-committee.

Proposed: Alan Mac Maoldúin

Seconded: Damien Murray

Motion 5:

That the membership ratifies the revised playing up code, as required by the Towers Abu strategy, to review and update the playing up code in accordance with the official guide of all Gaelic games governing bodies, in the club's bye laws.

Proposed: Dean Alford

Seconded: Sharon Jordan

Chairman's Report 2024

Tuarascáil an Cathoirleach

A Chairde,

Is cúis mhór áthais dom an deis a bheith agam súil a chaitheamh siar an príomh imeactaí na bliana agus muid ag bogadh i dtreo bliain nua eile is saol ár gCumann. Bliain ráthúil, taitneamhach, gnóthach eile a bhí ann le neart déanta ach fós neart le déanamh - mar a bheidh i gcónaí is dócha.

It gives me great pleasure to pen these words after another eventful year in the history of our club – not least as along with the wider organisation we reached the milestone landmark of 140 years in existence, a noteworthy feat worthy of celebration in homage to those who served before us and established and nurtured the club and its foundations.

The club continues to grow and reached its largest membership figure ever at 1,373. Of no less interest was that for the first time the number of juvenile girls registered with the three governing bodies surpassed boys for the first time, further underlining the growth of camogie and ladies football within our ranks.

This brings with it what I would call welcome pressures and pinch points, not least for playing facilities but I am glad to say that under the guidance of Michael McAdam and his team we have plans in place that we hope will sustain this growth.

I would like to thank my fellow officers, Sharon, Andrew and Damien for their work and diligence over the course of the last calendar year and also the wider Executive Committee – some serving for the first time - for the work they oversee away from the spotlight.

I would also like to single out Michelle Walsh in particular for her stellar work in the important role of Child Safety Officer and all that entails. We are lucky to have her skill set and calm and fair demeanor in our ranks. There is a considerable amount of administration to oversee and compliance to meet as we strive to raise the standards in how we organise both ourselves and the games and interact with no fewer than three boards.

I would also like to acknowledge the subcommittee chairs and the numerous members who work with them to oversee the smooth running of affairs. Thank you also to those who represent us at board level.

In no particular order I have listed below some of the standout moments in what is non-exhaustive list.

Of course, there are many areas we still have to go after and improve on as outlined in our club strategy Towers Abú and this will require patience and resolve. However, I think it is imperative to highlight our achievements too.

Highlights of 2024

- U21 football final win away v Whitehall (2023 but post AGM)
- U21 hurling final defeat away v O'Tooles (as above)
- Boys and girls Féile performances (four teams) and fundraising initiatives
- Camogie U15 League and Cup success and Féile final defeat
- Fundraising for replacement generator – GoFund me campaign supported by members
- Long overdue commencement of Gaelscoil project
- Joint Sports Capital Funding application for Coláiste Bríde successful
- Commencement of training area astro upgrade and accompanying fundraising initiative
- Camps – Easter and Summer
- Increased weekly numbers at TowersOg
- Ladies football promotion
- 140 Gala Night and volunteer accolades
- Advances in Coaching and Games structures and vetting / child safety
- Establishment of Strategic Finance sub-committee
- Family Day and Drive-In Movie Night
- Acquisition of automated cutter for Monastery Road sponsored by Husqvarna
- Agreement in principal to supporting St Joseph's BNS with Sports Capital Grant Application
- Growth of Green Club Initiative and successful grant applications
- Coaching and Games programme
- Dermot Earley Programme – year ?
- Numerous underage league, cup and shield successes across the codes
- County representation by both players and mentors
- Continued progress of our club referees
- Commencement of new arrangement with Stewarts Hospital for use of the club as a community hub during daytime hours
- New coffee dock

Challenges for 2025

- Plan for infrastructural projects including completion of astro extension, possible main astro replacement, Gaelscoil Campus pitch and Coláiste Bríde works.
- Embed the work of the Finance Sub-Committees and work to elevate the club's finances.
- Continued roll out of our club Strategy including efforts to recruit a Director of Games.
- Bolster the Green Club Project and explore possibilities of joining Healthy Club initiatives if sufficient interest exists amongst membership.
- Work with SDCC, Dublin County Committee and neighbouring clubs and agree an approach to catering for new housing at Seven Mills.

In recent years I have stated the need for us to recruit more female members onto the Executive Committee to be more reflective of our membership and this evening further strides will be made in that direction.

One thing – of many – that I hope the incoming committee will be able to do is to bring the workings of the Executive and other committees closer to the members of the club.

‘The Club’ is all of us; it is not just those elected or those who volunteer for roles, normally when we finish playing.

We all have a role to fill, even if most of us wish it was still in a club jersey on the field of play.

I laud those adult players already helping in a coaching capacity with underage teams as the best example of the eco-system of ‘giving back’ that we are trying to create. Similarly, the large numbers of young coaches who assist at TowersOg and at our camps.

Sometimes I hear ‘The Club’ referenced as some abstract entity akin to ‘them and us’. Nothing could be further from the truth. If we all do something – even a little – the task is less onerous on those in roles of influence.

The weekly Lotto and our fundraising efforts are a case in point. We are well served by both but when the numbers are crunched it is obvious that the same people are supporting us in these endeavours when we need to entice more members and non-members, especially new parents and families, to assist us and broaden our active supporter base.

These are things I am confident we can do with the assistance of a new Strategic Working Group on finance.

I would like to thank Club President Mary Dardis for her unstinting support over the course of 2023. The high regard in which she is held never fails to amaze me and yet when you consider her long and positive involvement in the club, is it really any wonder?
Go raibh maith agat Máire.

Thanks also to my own family for their support and engagement in club activities. It’s easy to go missing at home when they are busy with the club too!

Finally, thank you to those in the wider membership whose sometimes silent but valued support of what it is we are all trying to do and achieve is so important.

We have a great community-rooted club with a proud history and tradition – but crucially we have plans to make it even bigger and better with your help. I look forward to serving you with a new committee in 2025.
Míle buíochas as bhur dtacaíocht agus táim ag tnúth go mór l’obair libh sa bhliain atá romhainn.
An Cloigtheach Abú.

Alan Mac Maoldúin
Cathaoirleach
Cumann An Chloighí CLG
30ú Samhain 2024

Secretary's Report 2024

Tuarascáil an Rúnaí

Firstly, I would like to extend a warm welcome to our club members to the AGM of Round Tower GAA Club 2024. Your presence here is a testament to the strong community spirit and dedication that drives our club forward.

On behalf of the executive, I would like to thank everyone for their contributions to our club this year. As we gather to reflect on the past year, I want to extend my thanks to each and every one of you for your support and commitment. Our club has achieved remarkable milestones, and it is all thanks to the collective efforts of our members, players, coaches, volunteers, and supporters. I look forward to what 2025 can bring.

I would like to thank to my colleagues on the executive committee. Your support, dedication, and hard work have been invaluable. It has been a pleasure working with such a committed team. Each person is only ever a call or text away and they are always willing to help. Thanks as always to Dean Alford, leas rúnaí, for his continued assistance. I couldn't do the work of club secretary without that support from Dean in terms of his knowledge and assistance.

A special word of thanks to Aaron Douglas as secretary for the juvenile section, as well Mark Casey and Sandra O'Connor who look after the secretary duties for the LGFA and Camogie sections respectively. Thanks to Dawn O'Neill who was in the role of secretary for Camogie earlier in the year.

I have to mention my own family at home – I have been so supported by them in staying active and involved in a club that I love dearly, and that has deep connections with both of our families. It has been an honour to be able to give back to our club, and I couldn't do that without them.

A note of thanks to our chairperson, Alan Milton. Thanks for the support throughout the year and I look forward to a great 2025.

Club Administration

Sincere thanks to all members who serve on the various sub-committees within the club and represent the club as delegates to the County Boards and Leinster Council. A lot of unseen work behind the scenes, countless meetings and hours at evenings and weekends, a big thank you for your dedication throughout the year.

Juvenile Officer Report

Juvenile Committee: Anthony Davis (Juvenile Officer and CCC2 Rep), Aaron Douglas (Juvenile Secretary), Wes Brien (CCC1 Rep), Mark Casey (LGFA Secretary), Janette McKenna (LGFA Rep), Sandra O'Connor (Camogie Secretary), Méabh Milton (Camogie Rep), Michelle Walsh (Child Welfare Officer), Niall Connaughton (Registrar), Keith Bracken (Coaching & Games Officers)

2024 has been a successful and busy year at all levels of the Juvenile section. As per previous years, we maintained 36 teams on the field across all codes to represent the club from U8 to U16 Boys & Girls. The player numbers from U8's to U11's have also increased significantly which bodes for a fantastic future. We would like to thank all players, mentors, parents and guardians of the Boys & Girls who train and play week after week in all weathers for their dedication to the green & white jersey.

Notable success this year has been:

U13 LGFA Div12 Shield Winners, U13 Camogie Div3 & 8 Cup Winners, U15 Camogie Div2 Championship Winners, U15 Camogie Div2 League Winners, U16 Camogie Div3 Shield Winners, U15 LGFA Div11 Shield Winners, U15 Boys Football Div11 Feile Winners & U16 Boys Hurling Div2 Shield Winners

Special thanks to all mentors for your patience and embracing a lot of changes this year and going forward. This ranges from delayed opening of Pitch 49 in The Community Centre, the new astro area at Monastery Road and training under lights in Moyle Park. While it's hard to embrace changes, we need to realise that we are outgrowing our facilities so space needs to be planned to accommodate all teams, in all locations. Your continued support is very much appreciated.

In regards to pitches, special thanks to Pat Lawless, Ray Doonan and team for marking the pitches each and every week. This is a massive plus for teams, keep up the great work.

To the pitch allocation committee, endless texts, calls and changes are captured every week to accommodate teams, locations and time changes. We thank you again for this. Special thanks to Catriona McGrath and Oisín Douglas for posting information on our social channels.

A thank you to our Referee Co-ordinators Brian Douglas and Carol Cryan who organise our refs for our Go Games and other matches throughout the year. Also a special mention to all our Juvenile referee's for facilitating our games each and every week.

A massive thank you to Betty Ward and the shop personal who assist in the purchasing of equipment and clothing for our Juvenile teams. Your work is endless and we appreciate you making yourself available to teams at all times. Thank you all very much.

A thank you also to our GPO David "Dotsy" O'Callaghan. Besides the fantastic work in Towers Og, local schools and organising training courses for mentors, he has also helped with training sessions for some of our Juvenile teams this year. Massive thanks for everything.

A special mention of thanks to the people who run Towers Óg throughout the year and at the Camps. An increase in numbers year after year is a testament to the teams hard work. The club will benefit massively over the next few years due to your hard work.

Le Chéile under the leadership of Barry Gavin continues to thrive every Saturday as part of Towers Óg. It's great to see the boys and girls enjoying themselves out on the pitch and are an important part of our Club and Community. Keep up the good work.

Special mention and appreciation to our Facilities Committee who do massive work in the background to accommodate our Juvenile teams for a variety of tasks over the year. Thanks for the support and advice throughout the year. Special mention to Mick McAdam who worked tirelessly throughout the year.

Not forgetting the bar staff in the club, thanks for hosting meetings throughout the year. Some planned and unplanned, teams and committees where always looked after and accommodated. Thank you all.

To Michelle Walsh and Keith Bracken. The work committed this year to Garda Vetting and Safe Guarding was amazing. Endless hours getting it correct and right. We know have a system in place where mentors are fully engaged with committee's and what's needed in this area. Thanks to all mentors for helping clear up this process and patience while getting it set up. A team sheet is now set up for all teams which will make life easier for all regarding all elements of a coaches journey within our Juvenile section.

To Keith Bracken especially and The Coaching & Games Committee. Again endless hours spent putting systems in place, planning events, attending training sessions, matches, meetings, gym planning, courses, phone calls and so on. A lot of the work is unseen but very much appreciated. We have now laid new foundations to help grow players, mentors and teams for the future while working hand in hand with all committees. Thank you.

I'd like to thank my fellow Juvenile Committee members for all their help and support throughout the year. It was a difficult year to begin with, we made some new changes but a lot of work done. A great group of volunteers who have worked tirelessly to develop our Juvenile Section year after year. A special thank you to our Juvenile secretaries- Aaron, Sandra and Mark who all done great work while mentoring teams also. 2 Special mentions for Dawn O'Neill and Dean Alford. Dawn who stepped away after 5 years and to Dean who stepped away on the juvenile side of the house but remains a constant contact with endless helpful knowledge. We wish you both the best in the future.

Well done to all those that represented the club on Dublin Development Trials across all codes. Congratulations to those who were picked on individual squads and best of luck on your continued journey. We are proud of your achievements and will support you on the rest of your experience. Special mention to some of our mentors who have also coached at county level this past year. Well done to all.

In summary, our Juvenile section is achieving great success year on year. The continued growth of numbers and retention is what we need to grow as a club. I'd like to personally thank all players, mentors, parents, guardians, volunteers, committee members and general members for all help and support throughout the year. The juvenile section needs more Volunteers year on year so the door is always open to new people, don't be afraid to ask.

Towers Abú!

Anthony Davis

Juvenile Officer

Garda Vetting & Juvenile Discipline

Our Child Protection Officer, Michelle Walsh, organises our Safeguarding courses and Garda Vetting Procedures. It's always a busy time for Michelle, especially at the start of the year, where Michelle must ensure we are up to speed on all our legal requirements. Not an easy task and can be time consuming. A big effort was made at the start of this year to ensure all juvenile mentors were Garda Vetted and completed the Child Safeguarding courses. This ensures all mentors complied with the requirements of all three associations in this regard. The Garda Vetting process is now fully through Foireann, and has worked well for the most part, with quicker turnaround times than the previous paper system. The process is hopefully less onerous. Along with the role of Chairing any juvenile discipline issues, Michelle works tirelessly with keeping everything in order. Thanks to Michelle for all her hard work. A special mention also to Anthony Davis and Keith Bracken for their assistance throughout this year. A note of thanks also to our Designated Reporting Officers Willie Kennedy and Amy Clifford.

Towers Óg

Sponsor: Ciaran Carr Foundation

Organisers: Catherine Moran, Brian Douglas, Gemma Carr, Anita Barry, Mary Douglas, Dawn O'Neill, Betty Ward, Seán Mc Namara, David O' Callaghan.

Towers Óg is aimed at children between the ages of 4 and 7 years old and introduces them to the Gaelic Games of Football, Hurling and Camogie. The children are divided into age-appropriate pods with their own designated training area and equipment. Our numbers every Saturday average out at approx 130.

The above named organisers attend every Saturday and also help with the Club Camps. We also have a dedicated group of coaches from some of our Club's teenage members, without whom we couldn't function.

During Sept and Oct, David our GPO arranges a series of matches for our Under 7s in preparation for the following year when they graduate from Towers Óg to Go Games.

A special word of thanks to Liam Mac Laughlin who helps with the setting up every Saturday

Camps:

We again held successful Camps at Easter and in July despite poor weather on some of the days. The Easter Camp again proved very popular with numbers reaching 270. Registration for the July Cúl Camp had to be done on line with all the 200 places filled in 13 minutes. We re-opened it for a limited period so that a further 21 Club members could register, again making ours the largest Cúl Camp in Dublin that week. Our Towers Club Camp which followed the Cúl Camp was also well attended with numbers reaching 210. The success of our Camps was due to the hard work of our Towers Óg Organisers and Coaches who worked with the children.

Le Chéile:

Organisers: Dawn O' Neill, Gemma Carr & Barry Gavin

Started in 2018, Le CHEILE is now in its sixth year and continues to go from strength-to-strength. The highlight in 2024 was the opportunity for the children to play a mini-game in Croke park during the half time interval in the All-Ireland football Quarter Final. The excitement on the day was palpable and the nerves were visible for all to see, and that was just the parents!! A special word of thanks to Alan Milton for putting Le Cheile forward for participation.

The Le Cheile family continues to grow and develop, with new children and volunteers joining each year. Le Cheile is unique in terms of coaching as we need one coach for every child, and therefore would not be possible to run without the work of a band of very dedicated volunteers (Gerry Banks, Anita Broderick, Ken Byrne, Gemma Carr, Ben Coyne, Noreen Kelly, Dawn O'Neill, Yasmin O'Neill, Aine Stapleton, Caroline Tormey & Pamela

Tormey). We always have a need for new volunteers, so please feel free to join us any Saturday, 10:30-11:30. No prior coaching experience required, and it truly is a very rewarding experience.

Finally, a special word of thanks to Sean McNamara, who looks after us every Saturday making sure our equipment is ready and everything is in place.

Coaching and Games Committee

The Coaching and Games Committee in 2024 was made up of representatives from the various sections and codes across the club, with the following contributing to Coaching and Games during the past year -

- Keith Bracken (Chair)
- Angela Downes
- Eimear Lennon
- Emma O'Malley
- Derek Grant
- Greg Waters
- Niall Kelly
- Niall Byrne
- Conor English
- Craig Curtis
- Tom Curran

Aim of Coaching and Games

The overall aim of the Committee is to continue to provide mentors and coaches with the best education, resources, support from our own experienced coaches and by utilizing our Games Promotion Officer David Dotsy O'Callaghan, the GAA Coaching Pathway for technical proficiency and Armored Performance Team (AP) for athletic development to ensure we have the best trained coaches looking after our teams and our players ongoing development.

Separate updates from David O Callaghan (GPO) and Conor Clifford (AP) are included with this Coaching and Games Report.

The Committee continues to fully endorse the Towers Abu Initiative and the rollout of a "Towers Way". Following the launch of Strategic Plan if we are to reach the heights where Adult Teams are operating at the highest levels in all codes it is imperative that coaches and mentors buy into the vision, engage with Coaching and Games, put the time in to upskill and be the best coach you can be.

The players in our care deserve the very best environment to allow them to have an enjoyable experience and develop to be the best that they can be.

Coaching and Games hope to facilitate and enable coaches to **develop** themselves and the individuals on their team, as **people and players, creating a Safe Environment** where players can reach their full potential and **be the best that they can be**, in a way that is enjoyable, supportive, and challenging.

It is so important to focus on developing skills across all age groups, make the experience a fun one and if players develop skills in a fun environment, I do believe they will grow into talented players capable of playing at the highest level.

Coaching and Games initiatives 2024

- In 2024 all teams were asked to submit yearly plans, as per the Towers Abu strategy, to Coaching & Games outlining their plans for the year. Coaches were provided with templates of these plans. This was the first year that this was requested and the response was very good. The plans sent in were of a good standard and there is scope to build on that year on year. I would like to thank all the coaches who provided a plan and engaged with Coaching & Games in this process.
- Coach Ratification Process- This process has been introduced in 2024. This will allow Juvenile Games and Coaching & Games ensure Garda Vetting & Safeguarding processes are implemented across all teams. It will also allow us to assist coaches with planning their year to ensure the development of our players in accordance with the GAA player pathway
- To supplement the yearly plans, C&G attended training sessions of all Juvenile teams. Feedback was provided to teams via Community of Practise meetings and further feedback will be provided at the upcoming Coach Ratification meetings
- In 2024 all juvenile teams were asked to implement the coaching structure as set out by the Towers Abu strategy. This has been implemented by the teams with a further review of this at the upcoming coach ratification meetings.
- C&G, supplemented by members of the executive committee, attended over 28 matches throughout the year. Again, feedback will be provided to coaches at the coach ratification meetings.

Overall the processes implemented above were well received by our coaches. As with any new initiatives there were challenges that we faced but overall it has been a positive process. These initial steps will enable coaches to provide structure and organization to their respective teams, which I believe will alleviate the pressure on mentors by sharing the workload and this in turn will lead to a focus on the development of our players.

Coaching Workshops

- Keith Bracken attended Dublin GAA Coaching Symposium in January in Abbottstown where we got a good overview from Dublin GAA Coaching and Games and confirmed for us that the club approach to Coaching and Games is aligned to best practice.
- CCC1 Workshop with club GPO David O'Callaghan

- Football Goalkeeping workshop with Alan Mulhall, Leinster GAA. This has developed into our own coaches now running 6 weekly Goalkeeping sessions with all our Juvenile Goalkeepers.
- Hurling Goalkeeper Workshop with Alan Nolan (ex Dublin)
- Skills development workshop with Niall Cooper (Na Fianna technical director)
- Decision making workshop with Alan Mullen (Westmeath Development Officer and owner of Alan Mullen Coaching)
- Community of Practise meetings with CCC1 & CCC2
- Induction of all new coaches joining Teams. This induction outlined the importance of the Round Towers Coaches Charter
- Induction of U7 teams as they prepare for Go Games in 2025

As can be seen from the above, quite a few workshops were held this year. This shows the Club's commitment to getting the very best outside coaches to demonstrate best practice and many of our coaches are attending. We have also started to develop workshops held by our own club coaches which can be seen above. We are striving to utilize the expertise and experiences of our own coaches.

I would have a concern with the attendance of our coaches at the workshops provided. The numbers at the winter workshops were low which led C&G to opening the workshops to outside clubs. It is imperative for the development of our players that coaches are constantly upskilling and expanding their knowledge base of current practices.

It is hoped that coaches attending these workshops and community of practices are taking the lessons learned on board and integrating into their sessions.

Coaching and Games are always open to suggestions as to areas that would benefit coaches and we will attempt to ascertain the reasons behind the low attendances so that we can learn and ensure coaches are actively engaging with C&Gs coach education programme.

GPO Led Coaching Courses

Coaching training is provided through the GAA accredited Coaching Pathway with Foundation Course leading to Award 1 and 2 Children before progressing to Award 1 & 2 Adult and more advanced courses. The following were courses were held:

- Two Intro Coaching Courses was held March & October 2024
- We were delighted to host the Award 1 Youth and Adult course this year. This course commenced in Nov 2024. There are 14 Round Towers coaches partaking in this course.

GPO Report

Towers Og

There has been a Notable increase in Numbers across Towers Og since returning after Summer break which is great to see.

Our u/7 boys and girls have been preparing for their first fun start up games and Graduation over the next few weeks as they get ready to move on to Go Games in the new year.

Special Mention to Nursery committee who ensure smooth running of Towers og and all our dedicated teenage coaches as well as parents who help oversee the different year groups.

Schools

12 schools are covered throughout the school year and they have been great in promoting Gaelic Games and Round Towers on top of running school teams etc. The annual Football and Hurling/Camogie blitzes held in Monastery have proven to be a great kickstart to schools Cumann na mBunscol competitions. Thanks to Sean Mc for helping keep this tradition going.

A senior infants blitz held in May was also another highlight. Over 400 Kids played their first sporting match of any kind on Monastery road over two days with many parents coming down to support. This was only made possible due to the massive support/response from Club Members and proved a massive hit with children and schools while also being introduced to the facilities in Monastery.

Coach Education

Well done to coaches who recently completed Introduction to Coaching course in the Scouts Den.

Round Towers will host Dublin GAA Award 1 Youth/Adult course in November and it's great to see such a huge representation of Round Towers Mentors upskilling their coaching Qualifications.

Also a number of successful Workshops have been run from within the club and these are a great way to gain some tips/ knowledge on certain areas/specifics of the game.

Thanks to Keith Bracken from Coaching and Games for all his assistance throughout the year and in helping put workshops and coach ed in place. And also a thank you to Anthony Davis from the Juvenile committee for his help and support this year. A final thank you to all those involved with Towers Og and the Camps this year – you put in an incredible amount of time and effort, it's really appreciated! I won't attempt to name everyone!

Report from Conor Clifford (Armored Performance)

Introduction

Introduction

After 6 months of negotiations and conversation we agreed on a new structure for the Round Tower Physical Development Pathway. Thanks to Brian MacLaughlin, Liam MacLaughlin, Anthony Davis and Keith Bracken for all the work they did helping us get there. Next year's report will have different considerations but the first half of this year can be judged much the same as previous years.

Adult Games:

Gym Attendance:

From Dec 23 to May 24 there were 76 collective S&C sessions. Many of these had poor numbers and as has been the norm, attendances fell off as the months went on and more and more cancellations and no-shows happened.

On an individual player basis, we saw the below gym attendance numbers:

January – 191
February – 381
March – 358
April – 304
May – 418
June – 308
July – 299
August – 292
September – 286
October - 367

Juvenile Section:

Athletic Development Session Attendance:

From Dec 23 to May 24 there were 99 collective sessions for juvenile players. During the Summer months when kids were off school, we held sessions in the middle of the day during the week. There were 51 of these sessions. On an individual player basis, we saw the below gym attendance numbers:

January – 114
February – 104
March – 119
April – 83
May – 86
June – 106

July – 80
August – 97
September – 104
October – 80

Concluding Remarks

We're looking forward to helping Towers implement the new PDP from November onwards. We feel this new structure will make the most of the resources we make available to Round Towers and will ensure that the players who actively engage with us in the gym are the ones that see the most benefit and get a higher level of training from us.

C&G Other initiatives

- The roll out of live team sheets throughout the Juvenile section. This allows C&G to have a live view of the up to date records of all our coaches qualifications, vetting & safeguarding. I would like to thank Derek Grant for his help with this.
- Keith Bracken and GPO are looking at possibility of a Foundation Course for Transition Year students in Coláiste Bríde and other Secondary Schools which could see students doing some supervised coaching in some Primary Schools
- Coordinating the work of the Games Promotion Officer and Long-Term Athlete Development personnel is an ongoing activity for Coaching and Games.
- Negotiations with AP with a view to restructuring the LTAD programme and new deal going forward. I would like to thank the S&C working group for all their help in this regard.
- Templates of Skill measurement assessments rolled out to CCC2 teams in Hurling, Camogie & Football

Conclusion/Next Steps

Whilst we were able to complete and commence a considerable number of initiatives it is recognized that much more needs to be done in several areas including the following:

- Continuing to increase Coaching Qualifications and expertise across teams – particularly more advanced Child and Youth/Adult Courses. Introduce the intro course at Towers Og level to start the coach education process earlier.
- Build on developing relationships with all Juvenile and Youth teams in the Club to agree annual Coaching Plans, identify what success looks like for individual groups and ascertain the level of support needed to attain .
- Recruit/Develop internal coaching resources to support existing coaches.

- Continue the rollout of full LTAD programmes to U13 to Adult with metrics. New agreement with AP taking account of this and will be monitored throughout 2025
- Implement skill-based metrics across codes. Implement a skill measurement system where coaches can assess the needs of their team in conjunction with the player pathway.
- Review Composition of Coaching Committee and develop further.
- Engage with others to develop Metrics on targeted Numbers of players/teams per age group per code, Standards to be achieved, % player retention to adulthood.
- Get to a stage where we have grown our own coaches to coach and manage our Adult Teams on a consistent basis.
- Overall, encourage coaches to hold themselves to high standards. The development & retention of our players is dependent on the coaches who work with them. Good planning and structure will ensure training sessions are enjoyable & challenging for players regardless of their ability.

I would like to express my personal thanks to

- All the coaches and mentors who give of their time in working with the respective teams – they, along with their players are so important to the future of the club and we are deeply indebted to them for their time and commitment.
- I would also like to mention the families of our coaches and committee members. Coaching requires a lot of time and dedication. Without the support and patience of our families coaching teams wouldn't be possible.
- Members of the Coaching and Games Committee for their cooperation and commitment in 2024.
- Our new GPO David (Dotsy) O Callaghan. I have enjoyed working with Dotsy this year and hope to continue that in 2025.
- Towers Og, personnel who do such great work on every Saturday morning.
- Armored Performance who continue to provide a service which if availed of will ensure a strong foundation for the Athletic Development of our youth and adult teams.
- Our Juvenile Games Committee collaborates closely with us in supporting mentors and coaches and in particular Chair Anthony Davis. Anthony does an enormous amount of work in communication with Teams on our behalf and the Juvenile Committee as well. In conjunction with Anto, C&G have rolled out a number of initiatives.
- My Executive colleagues for their support, encouragement, and assistance during the year.

Keith Bracken
Coaching and Games

Juvenile Team Reports

Most team reports are covered under the report by the Juvenile Officer, but some teams submitted individual reports and they are included below.

Under 8 Girls Football and Camogie

Mentors: Fran Hyland, Angela Quinlan, John Quinlan, Emily Burke, Eoin Burke, Niall Connaughton, Ciaran Dunne, Eoin McQuaid, Brendan Culhane, Liam Keighery, Jim McDonnell and Emma McQuaid (admin).

League: Go-games

Sponsor: N/A

The U8 girls' team has grown from a panel of approximately 30 players to 40 players as the year has progressed. We began training in early February. We had a few challenge games before the Go Games matches began. On March 24th we had our first official blitz which the girls thoroughly enjoyed. 20 of our players lead the Round Towers contingent in the parade on St. Patrick's Day. With megaphone in hand, they made the biggest noise for the smallest members!

In April we fielded camogie teams that took part in the Kay Bevan memorial day. Before we broke for the summer holidays at the end of June, we had an enormous water fight session on the astro with the U9 girls. Not even the mentors went home dry that evening! Training resumed in late August when we welcomed some new players. For Hallowe'en, we had a fancy dress session on the astro where the girls took part in a spooky activity trail around the main pitch along with other fun and games.

Our last official match was in early November. The progress the girls have made in both codes is admirable. It is a testament of their ability, dedication and practice both with Towers and in their own time. We finished up training at the end of November and had a pizza party in the club to wrap up a wonderful first year at Go Games.

Under 8 Boys Football and Hurling

Mentors: Ian Ward, Emmet Culbert, Ciara Ryan, Meabh Milton, Alan Milton, Sam Walsh, Willie Kennedy, Graham Daniels.

League: Go Games

Sponsor: N/A

The U8 boys squad have had a terrific first year playing both codes. Our panel is made up of nearly 40 players. We hope to increase this.

We train two nights a week and started in early January and we will continue until the end of November.

We played matches as per CCC1 fixtures every Saturday and the players have developed very well throughout the year thus far. Their skill level in both codes has come on really well over the course of the season.

The players have developed a good bond with one another and have developed great friendships with each other. They are a great bunch of kids to work with.

Overall the kids have had a very fun first year playing for Round Towers.

A special mention to our referees for home matches who have been excellent with the players all year.

Under 9 Girls Football and Camogie

Mentors: Podge Mc Geever (Head camogie) and Ray Mc Bride (Head football), Dermot O'Connor, Amanda Cassidy, Bertie O'Leary, Martin Cunniffe, Matthew Lysaght, Natasha Ketharinath, Patricia Nugent, Robert Murphy & Suzanne McNamara.

League: Go-games

Sponsor: CJK & Michael Heary Motors

The girls have had a phenomenal year developing their skills. We are extremely happy with how they have progressed. They are excelling in both codes with many kicking off both feet and mastering the art of air hurling. We have had 28 games between both codes. We have had a couple of internal blitzes with the 2016 team which proved quite successful. Our numbers have grown significantly throughout the year. We have close to 50 girls registered. We are currently in a 3-team league which no longer suits us. We will make a formal decision on which numbered league to move to in the coming weeks.

The lead mentors would like to formally thank all the coaches for their tremendous assistance and dedication throughout the year. Thanks to all in the club who helped us greatly with advice, gear etc. We had many great social occasions in 2024 such as our Communion Dress Walk, Halloween Party, Bowling and Xmas Party to come on Dec 1st. We are grateful to the U13 and Minor winning ladies who visited our training with silverware from their recent triumphs. We are looking forward to hitting the ground running in 2025.

Under 9 Boys Football and Hurling

Mentors: Tom Byrne, Brian Lupton, Anne-Marie Gavin, Podge McKeever, Paul Mulhall, Tanya Mulhall, Keith Weldon, Sinéad Curran, Donal O'Brien, Gerry Courtney, Brian Costello, Paul Clifford

League: Go Games

Sponsor: Liffey Valley Shopping Centre

We have a panel of 37 players across both codes. We have seen a drop in some players in hurling. Hopefully as they start playing in schools it will renew interest.

We started Under 9 training on the 8th January and participated in the Go Game fixtures of 12 football games and 11 hurling games. The boys had

their first official hurling blitz in June where they received medals which was a big hit. This month Commercials have organized a hurling blitz and St Marys a football blitz. Both blitzes include 4 clubs (Commercials/St Marys, Round Towers, Lucan Sarfields and Ardclough).

We executed two Skills Checkers this year which we have found useful in targeting skills that we needed further work on as a team.

We have ran a number of social events during the year (Hike, Easter egg challenge, Summer water fight, Ice-cream treat after training, Halloween trail and will be running a final event at Christmas). We formally communicate with parents twice a year (January and September). An information document is provided with details of the skills we are focusing on, training and match schedules, social events and what we ask of the parents and children promoting Towers Abu.

We would like to thank the club for their support this year and for organising excellent coaching and meetings throughout the year. We support the idea of proving a plan at the beginning of the year would provide consistency across CCC1 teams.

Under 10 Girls Football and Camogie

Mentors: Breda Fitzsimons, Stuart O'Connor, Rob Murphy, Garry Nolan, Amanda Slattery, Camon Ryan, Paul Gilson, Dan Ralston, Pam Clarke, Eimear Lennon, Sandra O'Connor, Myra McDermott & Phil Duffy

League: Go Games – 3 team

Sponsor: Summit Scaffolding

This year has been filled with happiness, fun and a huge improvement in skill along the way. We aimed to keep our numbers as high as the season before and we have achieved this despite the change to Saturday matches not suiting some. We returned to training in the 1st week of February with matches commencing at the beginning of March. Big change for this year, we had new training nights and moved out of Monastery Road Astro to the grass pitches in Moyle Park. We gained ourselves a new mentor along the way, who has been invaluable.

As the year progressed our girls grew in confidence as their skill set improved. Great numbers turning up at training and this left us a club to be reckoned with on a Saturday morning. As the girls came on leaps and bounds in mastering their camogie skills the numbers are a lot more balanced with football, with quite a few favouring the camogie once they had it mastered. With this in mind we entered a Camán to the Finals blitz for the day of the All-Ireland Camogie Final and remained unbeaten on the day. We travelled in to Croke Park afterwards that day to watch the ladies of Cork & Galway slog it out in the final, a great day was had by all. A number of comments from other spectators about how well behaved and mannerly our girls were had parents and coaches beaming. The progression the girls have made in their football playing has really shown throughout

the year also making team planning for matches very easy with so many players having developed significantly.

We have a very special group of girls here with a good few having played in Croke Park Cumann na mBunscoil Finals in either Camogie or Ladies Football this year to date. A huge thank you to our team sponsor, Summit Scaffolding, who once again this year gave us new jumpers and skorts for all the girls involved along with jackets to keep the coaches warm on the sideline.

We are looking forward to the year ahead but are planning a few more weeks ahead to keep us going until the end Nov with a Christmas party planned for the girls to finish up the year.

Under 10 Boys Football and Hurling

Mentors: Brian Chapman, Colin Creagh, Frankie Croly, Declan Duke, Daire Errity, Paul Gallagher, Derek Grant, Eddie Grogan, Tom Joyce, Jonathan O'Brien, Gillian O'Sullivan, Bernie Wall.

League: Go Games

Sponsors: South Dublin County Council Local Enterprise Office

As we look back on an action-packed and rewarding season for the Under-10 team, it's clear the boys have not only built on their core skills but have grown as a team, embracing every opportunity to represent Round Towers with pride. This year, our team was fortunate to receive sponsorship from the South Dublin County Council Local Enterprise Office. Thanks to this support, we were able to provide the boys with club half-zip tops, a gesture that was truly appreciated by our coaches, players, and parents alike. The backing of the LEO made a tangible difference in fostering team spirit and pride.

This year, our players once again enjoyed representing Round Towers in the St. Patrick's Day Parade, showcasing our club in a fantastic community event. A big thank you to everyone involved in organizing this event.

Towers were very well represented! Our tradition of hosting Belfast Sarsfields continued this season, and once again, it was a memorable afternoon for everyone involved. Playing against teams outside our usual circles is always a welcome challenge and a fantastic learning opportunity for the boys. Additionally, our team participated in four Blitz events: Ballyboden, Greystones, a home-hosted Blitz at Moyle Park, and finally, a memorable October Blitz in Wexford hosted by Castletown Liam Mellows GAA. Each event brought new experiences, and the boys embraced every moment with enthusiasm.

In April, the U10 team enjoyed a day at Croke Park, attending the Dublin Double Header. For many of our players, this was their first time at such a big game day, and it created memories they'll carry with them for years to come.

To support our activities and allow us to participate in these events, we held a successful car wash fundraiser over the summer at Monastery Road. The support from club members was fantastic, and thanks to their generosity, we

could fund travel to Blitz events and team-building activities this year. As we close another great season, we'd like to express our gratitude to the entire club community, from mentors to referees to parents, club GPO Dotsy and supporters. Special thanks to all the committees that work tirelessly behind the scenes to keep our teams running as they do and making it possible for all our juvenile teams to thrive. This season has been full of growth, camaraderie, and development, values we strive to instill as coaches. We look forward to the journey ahead with the boys, building on this strong foundation for another successful year.

Under 11 Girls Football & Camogie

Mentors: Eiméar McGrath, Ciarán Gallagher, John Quinlan, Damien Burke, Fran Hyland, Triona McGrath, Ruaidhrí Donnelly, Angela Quinlan

League: Go Games U11

Sponsor: API Assured Performance

2024 has been another excellent year for the U11 Girls across both codes. We maintained a core panel of c. 45 girls across the year with new additions joining throughout along with some natural attrition. We continued to train on both Tuesday and Thursday nights with games on Saturday mornings. The growth in panel numbers is excellent and is testament to the enjoyment the girls have for both codes and those that have recently joined are friends of current team members.

The same mentor group has remained in situ from last year bar one lead mentor stepping back due to work commitments and two volunteers also stepping away. This has left us with a core mentor/volunteer group of 10. The dynamic within the mentor team is excellent and the high number of mentors available has given the team a strong sense of continuity – the majority of the mentor group are with the girls since U7.

The skillset within the girls has continued to improve with more challenging drills being introduced whilst always incorporating the fun element in each. The girls all seem to enjoy each training session and arrive in a very positive mindset, showing that they continue to enjoy their times with the group and within Round Towers. Their competitiveness is coming to the fore on game days and this bodes very well for the team moving into the future – whilst having the competitive element they are also a very sporting group and same is clear each game day and their parents should be very proud of them.

The majority of our panel members represented their local schools in the Cumann na mBunscol competition during the year with all schools performing very strongly. Sacred Heart Sruleen NS, and six U11 panel members, were very successful in reaching their final in Croke Park in Oct'24 and were very unlucky to fall short on the day by a minimal margin.

We were very kindly provided sponsorship from API Assured Performance in June'24, via a parent of a panel member, and same allowed us to purchase new personalised training tops for all panel members and matchday tops for the mentor group.

In November'24 we had a very successful and enjoyable “Bingo Loco” afternoon in the club rooms for the girls and their families and it was acknowledged as being a roaring success by all that attended.

Overall, this has been another excellent year for the Under-11 girls across both codes and we look forward to more fun and successful times across 2025 and into the years thereafter with this excellent group of girls.

Under 11 Boys Football and Hurling

Mentors: Wes Brien, Aidan McEneff, Aidan Smylie, Ciaran Byrne, Colin Lawlor, Declan Hickey, Donal O'Brien, Eoin Burke, Eoin McQuaid, Keith Thompson, Martin Agar, Mick Kenny, Mick McHale, Paul McCabe, Rory Fitzgerald, Tom Ryan

League: Go – Games

Sponsor: Castle Vets, AID Electrical, Aqualine Heating & Plumbing, and ADC Barcode

Our 2024 season has been a year of steady progress in both football and hurling, with a strong focus on player retention and development. Thanks to the commitment of our mentors, we've been able to retain and even grow our player base, despite competition from other sports. This season, we participated in the Go Games structure, fielding teams across the 2-team and 3-team football leagues, as well as a 3-team hurling league. Our total number of players has reached 59, which reflects a high retention rate, particularly in hurling. Our team now includes 38 dual players, 20 football-only, and 1 hurling-only player.

A highlight of our season was the Sean Bowden Memorial Tournament in August, hosted by St. Mark's GAA. We were honoured to bring two teams to the tournament, where both teams delivered strong performances and reached the Cup and Shield finals. This accomplishment speaks to the collective spirit, talent, and commitment within this fantastic group of players.

We extend a special thanks to our Events Committee—Alison, Anne-Marie, Clodagh, Danielle G., and Danielle K.—for organising team-building events throughout the year, including a trip to the Croke Park Double Header in February, the Hell & Back Challenge in August, and our upcoming end-of-year celebration at the clubhouse.

A big thank you to all our parents and guardians—your support truly makes a difference and keeps everything running smoothly for the boys! And a special thanks to our young referees for their dedication and fair play, ensuring every home game is a positive experience!

Lastly, a heartfelt thank you to our sponsors for their generous investment in our team. Providing us with new club jerseys, training gear, and zip-tops has truly elevated our team spirit and pride. Your support goes beyond gear—it's

a commitment to our players' growth and success, and we're deeply grateful for it.

As we look forward, we're excited about the future and the positive impact we'll continue to create within our club and the wider community.

Under 12 Girls Football and Camogie

Mentors: Sandra O Connor, Philip Duffy, Paul Kavanagh, Thomas Cullen, Méabh Milton, Alan Milton, Bernie Wall, Jonathan O'Brien, Joanne Keane, James Sullivan, Willie Kennedy & David Mc Garry

League: Grading Leagues U12

Sponsor: Husqvarna

County Representation: N/A

Camogie: The panel for 2012 girls started the year with 36 girls. We are happy to have retained the number of players this year, with 1 or 2 new additions from football only to dual players. The first half of the year was streamed Go Games, and the second half of the year was reserved for grading games. The girls had chances to show their skills, allowing the coaches the opportunity to assess their skill level. We attended the Camán to Leinster games for the celebration of the Camogie Association being 120 years old on 17th July in Páirc Tailteann. We finished out the year with completion of Go Games for this amazing group of young ladies and look forward to Cup & League games in 2025.

Football: We started the year with a panel of 49 girls, and finish the year with 46 girls/ The first half of our year was spent with grading games under new LGFA u12 structure, with 3 teams. We found the streaming good for the girls useful for the girls to be able to showcase their skills at a level suited for their ability. The second half of the year was spent playing in grades 3,8 & 12. Next year, with the larger numbers we will be putting forward 2 teams and look forward to our first fully Competitive season as u13s in 2025.

Under 12 Football & Hurling

Mentors: Will O'Connor, Peter Caffrey, Caimin Keane, Ferg Byrne, Noel Carr, Kevin Voelkin, Bren Doyle, Damien Burke, Dermot Breslin, Enda O'Connor, Ollie Fogarty, Brian Costello

League: Go Games

Sponsor: N/A

The U12 boys panel kicked off their season in the second week of January and finished on November 30. It has been a busy year attending Dublin's National League double header matches in Croke Park in February along with three blitzes. We participated in the Phelan Stone Hurling blitz in Kilkenny in June and the Fingallians 140th hurling blitz in August. We finished off the season with a football blitz in Abbotstown which our mentors arranged. On the league front we competed in Division Two and Division Eight in hurling and Division Three and Division Nine in football. While results may not have gone our way in some games, the team more than held

their own. We met up over 100 times this year including 34 hurling and 36 football training sessions and have 12 coaches who have also completed coaching courses at the club. We are looking forward to next year particularly working with the new U12 and U14 teams. The team would like to thank our jersey sponsor Darius and Centra/ Greenpark Pharmacy along with Bespace and DSS who sponsored our half-zip tops that included the 140 specially commissioned club logo for our blitzes.

Under 13 Ladies Football

Mentors: Dermot Breslin, Emmett Rogers, Tricia O'Connor, Lisa O'Neill, Fergal McDonagh, Mick Fallon, Tom Ward, Kevin Scott, Deborah Rooney, Ronan Wells, James Toolen

League: Division 3 & 12

Sponsor: Damian Bowers & Associates

Finally putting go-games behind us, our first year of competition was a great learning experience for both players and coaches. We decided to enter just 2 teams which was a difficult decision as we still have over 50 players on the panel. Match attendance hadn't been great the year before so we thought 2 teams was the right decision.

Our first team entered league competition in division 2, which was tough as it was a very strong group. The girls got a taste of the skill and pace required at such a level so they learned a lot. The team dropped down to Div 3 for championship, which suited them more. They ended the season shield runners up so they will get another opportunity at division 3 next year.

Our second team entered in at division 12. This was an evenly matched division for them, with matches always down to a couple of scores either way.

The girls remained in division 12 for championship and grew in strength towards the end clinching the shield final and bringing home the team's first bit of silverware.

Under 13 Camogie

Mentors: Dermot Breslin, Emmett Rogers, Tricia O'Connor, Lisa O'Neill, Fergal McDonagh, Mick Fallon, Tom Ward, Kevin Scott, Deborah Rooney, Ronan Wells, James Toolen

League: Division 3 & 8

Sponsor: None

This year has been a fantastic year for the u13's camogie teams, the girls have really excelled in their abilities on the pitch and the extra effort put in by all reaped the rewards.

We managed to hold onto 35 players from go-games so entered 2 teams into competition.

Our first team started off the league in division 5, but after a very strong campaign, they were bumped up to division 3 for championship.

Division 3 definitely challenged the girls a lot more, facing much stronger opponents but this only made the girls more determined.

The team fought their way to the championship final, bringing home the cup beating Naomh Barrog who had defeated them 4 weeks prior which was a massive achievement. They will begin next year's league campaign in Division 2, which the girls are really looking forward to.

Our second team were just as successful, bringing home the division 8 championship cup after a nail biting final against Lucan Sarsfields who had also defeated them at the beginning of the campaign.

The girls have shown great resilience throughout the year and their skill level has improved greatly. They will move up to division 7 next year.

Can't go without saying a HUGE thank you to the u12 girls (and one u11), who helped out with our second team throughout the entire year. Home or away, they always made themselves available so their help was very much appreciated.

To summarise the u13's year, they managed to bring home 2 cups in camogie and a shield in football, not bad for their first year in competition.

We have also put forward 5 players for Dublin development in football and 4 players in Camogie, so we would like to wish these girls the very best of luck.

Under 13 Boys Football and Hurling

Mentors: Paul Goff, Rory FitzGerald, Eddie Tuite, Ger McCormack, Siobhan McElroy, Aidan McClelland, Sam Walsh, John Groarke, Stephen Rogers, Donal Ryan, Niall Cassidy, Mick Ryan

League: 2 team Football: Div 3&9, 2 team Hurling: Div 3&9 after grading

Sponsor: Specs Savers and Flower Factory from the Mill

The core objective for the management was to continue skills development and keep it FUN. We maintained a panel of ~45 players and dropped to 32 for Hurling. We worked hard with the panel to ensure they played to the best of their ability.

The improvement in boys skill level was encouraging to see as the year progressed in both codes. The grading at the start of the year was challenging as we were placed in 2 strong grading groups for both football and Hurling. We also had some of our stronger boys out with fractures during the grading and don't have the strength in numbers to counter these events unfortunately. The Hurling team performed to a high standard in Div 3/9, finished 3rd in Div 3 and 9, the 2nd team had a league title last game vs Maurs but were pipped at the post but overall had a great season with continued skills development shown as the year went. The hurling 2nd team had some new players join in 2024 which was great and thanks to parents for helping to promote our team in the schools whatsapp groups. The league was a great learning curve and some teams had massive physicality with a few players so big step up from U12, lads were well up for the challenge and some great games/performances in both codes. The football teams worked hard and put in some good performances during the year. We continued to focus on the basics in both codes during training sessions.

We had a team building trip to Croke park to see the Dubs in action and was a great day out for the boys, parents and Coaches.

Another end of season event is planned for late Nov before we take a well earned break for the Christmas.

The team received 4 weeks gym work in August which was limited and other teams in Dublin will be a year ahead from talking to other team mentors . Boys are looking forward to continuing their S&C next year once they reach U14. We tried to do some speed/strength work during sessions but with limited training slots we needed to focus more on the skills development in both codes. We held additional training slots during the year and big thanks to Dotsy and Jake Dillon for holding a hurling session with the lads. Big thanks to Eoghan FitzGerald from senior hurling team for his continued support with training most of the year. Footballers would also like to thank Ian Ward, James Kelly, Eric Finn, Derek Murray, Niall Byrne, Davey McCarthy and Jack Halpin, great to get new ideas and another voice for the boys to listen to.

Dublin Development Hurling trials were held in Abbottstown in Sept and we were allowed bring over 10 boys for a 7 a side blitz, great experience for boys selected and they played great on the day. Another blitz is schedule for November so hopefully encourages the boys to continue to get up to the hurling wall and practice. Great to see so many boys using the hurling wall in Monastery over the summer holidays and nights when not official training, building great friendship and skills is an added bonus for the team.

Thanks to the players and their parents who continuously support and attend the matches regularly. The passion and support from the side-line was brilliant and long may it continue.

Special Thanks to mentor Siobhan/Mick for all the admin support with events, team sheets, jerseys, and first aid. Also Stephen who sorted all the refs for both codes all year, U13 is admin heavy so great we can share the work between the mentors.

Finally a special thanks to the Juvenile committee/facilities/skills development team for their continued support and encouragement throughout 2024. Thanks to U12 boys for helping with matches when light on numbers. We look forward to continuing playing a role with the boys development as they move into U14 grading and hopefully encourage more boys to join our team. The coaching workshops also helped with some new ideas and was well supported by the team's mentors. We shared flyers to local schools to try and increase our numbers as unfortunately we lost some strong players to soccer for both football/hurling teams but have kept the door open for boys to return. Some football only boys returned back to Hurling as well which was an added bonus for the team.

Under 14 Ladies Football

Mentors: Gerry Courtney, Ossie Murphy, James Doherty, David Lumsden, Clare Nolan, Emma Jago, Hugh McGonagle, Cormac Dowling & Alan Fagan

League: Division 4 & 11

Sponsor: Josh's Restaurant & Barróg Healthcare

County Representation: Sinead Gleeson

We had a great year, all went well. Overall, it was a very positive year. Our numbers are still strong, nearly hitting 40 players, The team has matured a lot this year, still maturing in fairness, but they were more responsive this year, possibly down to maturity. We focused a lot on fitness in the second half of this year and the girls responded well. We have our A Team & B Team lineups finalized for next year, which was one of our goals from the outset. In relation to the league, our A's had a great year, we finished on top of the league and were narrowly beaten in the final in "extra - extra time". Our B Team had a good run too in the league and ended up in the Shield Final. There were lots of positives and lessons learned for both teams on the way to the finals, which we will all take into account for the year ahead, our all-important Feile Year.

The support from the parents on the sideline and the in our fund raising for the team was exceptional, this along with the continued support of the Club & Juvenile Committee who always were there for us means we will be in a great position for next year.

The gym sessions in the first half of the year were excellent, we would have liked to have them for the full year. Our matches will be on Saturday's next year, we believe this will help on match attendance. We will continue to work on fitness and skill development, in the closing stages of this year.

In June the mentors organized a day out for the team in Flynn Park, where they had a great day out, which was a real team bounding exercise.

To finish, a big thank you to all the mentors who are involved in the team, who always put the girls first and are very generous with their time and efforts, without them none of this would be possible.

Under 14 Camogie

Mentors: Fergal McDonagh, Johnny Nolan, Liam Gleeson, Jessie Doherty, Michelle Ní Dhiomasaigh, Cormac Dowling, Claire Nolan

League & Cup: Division 4

Sponsor: Barróg Healthcare

County Representation: N/A

2024 proved to be a very mixed year for the very talented Under 14 girls. After a challenging start due to low numbers the girls got off to a rocky start in the league with two losses. They then regrouped with the return to strength and won all their remaining five league games finishing 3rd.

In the Cup competition, it was a clean sweep in the group to win all three of their games and bringing them to a home semifinal. Unfortunately, they were narrowly defeated by a point in this semifinal, in a game where they deserved more. They return this year to compete in the U15 League, Cup and Feile competitions with high hopes of performing well.

Six of the team this year represented Dublin in camogie with distinction, Sinead Glesson, Faye Doherty, Sarah Fagan, Laoise O Sullivan, Aoife Courtney and Rachel Thompson. They also assisted the U15 teams in their very successful League, Feile and Cup campaigns.

A huge thanks to all of those who helped with pitch allocations, some of our U13s who played with us this year, all those who assisted in the club at committee/executive level and our camogie secretary for all their hard work behind the scenes.

Under 14 Boys Football

Mentors: Willie Kennedy, James Rawl, Fiona Coy, Brendan Culhane, PJ Donahue, Ken Byrne, Greg Waters, Joe Ledwidge, Donal O'Brien.

League: Division 1 & 6

Sponsor: N/A

County Representation:

Another good year for the boys who competed well in both leagues. Numbers are good with 36 boys registered to play. We had some help throughout the year from a few lads from the U13s which we are thankful for.

Player retention will be a priority for next year and at the time of writing 2 new lads want to sign up which is great news.

Next year we'll compete in the Feile and League and if we can keep 2 teams going it will be great for the future.

At the time of writing 10 lads have been selected to represent the club at Dublin Development Trials. Hopefully they can give a good account of themselves and represent the club with pride.

Sadly, we lost John Quinlan as a mentor at the start of the year. John was with us from the start in our Towers Óg days and gave the boys over 6 years of coaching from U8 level to U14. I'd like to thank John for all his work over the years and is hugely missed.

Under 14 Boys Hurling

Mentors: Joe Ledwidge, Fiona Coy, PJ Donohoe, Donal O'Brien, Ken Byrne, Greg Waters, Brendan Culhane & James Rawl

League: Divisions 1 & 6

Sponsor: N/A

County Representation: Jack Ledwidge

It was a tough challenge to maintain two teams this year with a total of 29 players at the start of the year. The lads took on every challenge and came away with some good results. The Div 1 team progressed from Phase 1 and stayed in Div one for the second round of matches.

With some difficult contests at this level the Team came away with 1 win from six but with some very tight scorelines. In the Shield Quarter final and missing several players we were unlucky to lose by two points to a dogged O'Toole's team. The Div 6 Team supported by players from the under 13's finished the first half of the season in 4th place. In phase 2 the team finished in third position. Putting them into a Cup quarter final. In this they came up against a strong Na Fianna team who came out on top.

Keeping two teams has been a great opportunity for as many players as possible to get competitive matches which has stood to them as the year went on. The lads have shown incredible dedication throughout the season worked hard at training, in the gym and at matches.

We are grateful to the mentors who have given their time with the lad's week in week out, and to the players, parents, guardians, and especially to our fundraising team for their support throughout the year. The fundraising for Feile has been a testament to the work by all involved and we can't thank everyone who contributed enough for playing their part.

Under 15 Ladies Football

Mentors: Janette McKenna, Mark Casey, Alan Milton, Shane Comiskey, Ger Williams

League: Division 2 and Division 11

Sponsor: Mill Centre and Pandini's Restaurant

County Representation:

Our third year in competition with two teams. Both teams performed well in the league with the Division 2 team finishing mid table, and the Division 11 team finishing second.

The 2024 Féile campaign got under way in April in Castleknock GAA and Lucan Sarsfield's. The skill level displayed was extremely high at both venues with little separating the players, we had fantastic support from parents and spectators who enjoyed a superb display of football from the girls. Unfortunately, the Division 2 team narrowly lost to Sylvester's in a semifinal after extra time in Ballinteer.

In Championship, the Division 11 team claimed the shield title after defeating St. Bridget's. The Division 2 team did not progress past the cup semifinal stage after losing to Foxrock Cabinteely.

We continuously work on developing the skill level on both teams, and the girls showed remarkable abilities and willingness.

I would like to thank the coaches for their hard work and dedication throughout the year and to the players and their parents/guardians who continuously support and attend the matches regularly. Also, thanks to all the Round Towers members who travelled and supported us in our home and away matches throughout the year.

Under 15 Camogie

Mentors: John Hoolan, Val Kelly, Janice Lupton, Fergal McDonagh, Alan Milton and Sam Walsh.

League: Green Team: Division 2, White Team: Division 6

Sponsor: The Mill Centre; Pandinis

County Representation: Ella Grace McKenna, Isabelle Johns, Laura Casey, Éabha Milton, Aoife Whelan and Nora Jane Walsh

2024 proved to be a memorable year for the 35 U15 girls who represented the club in camogie, fielding two separate teams across League, Féile and Cup. After a challenging league campaign our White team (Div 7) found their form with battling performances in Féile and most notably for the cup in the latter half of the season.

They beat Beann Eadair and St Finian's of Swords - with their best display of the year - to qualify for a semi-final which unfortunately went against them.

Our Green team made a strong start to the campaign winning all of their league games bar one to claim league honours in their last game away against Erin's Isle. It was the perfect tonic after losing the Féile final narrowly after four consecutive earlier round successes on a great weekend.

However, the girls saved their best for last to claim cup honours with wins over Lucan, Naomh Mearnóg, Ballinteer, Cuala and Naomh Olaf in an away final, when the team enjoyed the backing of fantastic club support.

Laura Casey, Isabelle Johns, Ella Grace McKenna, Éabha Milton and Nora Jane Walsh all represented the club with distinction on Dublin development panels.

The most important metric of all was not only the retention of all of our girls but the addition of four new players over the course of the calendar year. A number of our girls also assisted the U16 and minor teams when required and we were also grateful for the assistance of some U14 players during our campaigns.

Away from the matches, we enjoyed a guest training session with former Waterford hurler Jake Dillon, a training morning at Abbotstown and a memorable team bonding visit to Carlingford organised by Sharon Walsh with the support of other parents.

This valued support was further underlined by the massive success that was the joint U15 Féile fundraiser organised with the boys' teams. A special thanks to the club subcommittees for their assistance over the course of the season not least in pitch allocations, general administration and liaison with the county board. We look forward to 2025 with optimism and the intention of encouraging all of these girls to play with the club at the minor grade.

Under 15 Football and Hurling

Mentors: Niall Kelly, David Costello, Stephen Homan, Chris Kavanagh, David Whyte, David McCarty, Darren Gilligan, Lorcan Downey.

League: Football Division 2 & 10, Hurling Division 1

Sponsor: Vantage Data Center

County Representation: Daniel Ward Larry Hickey, Fionn Downey, Harry Homan, Jack Slattery.

Thank you to all the parents and members who came out to support our games throughout the year. It was a long year with training starting in the second week of January preparing for our Feile campaign and finishing with our final league football game in the second week in November. We had great county representation from our team this year and gained great experience playing at such a high level. We have learned so much and look forward to representing the club at Division 2 Football and hurling at U16 level.

Football

Our first team competed in the Division 2 Feile this year losing out to Ballyboden in the semifinal. Our second team competed in Division 11 Feile, winning outright bringing silverware back to the club, a great achievement for all the lads involved.

The first team then went on to be very competitive in league Division 2 football finishing in mid table. Our second team struggled for numbers in the second half of the year, but we were able to fulfill our fixtures with the great support of the 2010 lads and mentors.

Our first team are excited at the opportunity of competing in Division 2 next year but unfortunately, we will be unlikely to field a second team next year.

Hurling

We had one team compete in the Division 2 Feile this year losing out to Ballinteer in the final. It was a wonderful achievement for the lads and an occasion that was supported greatly by everyone in the club.

As a result of making the Feile final we were proud to be promoted to Division 1 league hurling. The lads gave everything in the league but ended the campaign being relegated back to division 2 for next year.

Under 16 Ladies Football

Mentors: Gary Behan, Paul Malone, Alan Forde, David Wilkie, Paul Swayne, Ann Marie Sullivan, Paddy Morris

League: Division 3 and Division 8

Sponsor: N/A

County Representation:

Division 3:

The team trained well all year, working hard as a group this year. They took third place in a hotly contested league campaign with notable wins over St Peters and Raheny during the year.

There was a reset during the summer and good preparation for a very strong run to the final in the championship. The team had notable wins against division 2 opposition in St Olafs and Cuala, earning them a semi-final place away to Trinity Gaels. In a tough battle the team won out to earn their spot in the final against Fingal Ravens.

Away from home and in a gale force wind conditions, the team narrowly lost in extra time. Again, amazing support from the Round Towers travelling contingent. Despite the loss, the girls can be extremely proud of themselves for the season they had and the level of effort and skill they displayed.

Division 8:

The division 8 team had a really good year overall with a huge step forward by all players in terms of standard of skills and team spirit. In the league, the team narrowly missed out on promotion, winning 5 out of 7 games in a hard fought campaign.

The team had a super championship campaign, beating St Judes in the semi-final to earn a meeting with a strong Good Counsel team in the final. Under gale force wind conditions, away from home, the team were narrowly beaten in a high standard game. Despite this disappointment, the girls can be very proud of the effort they put in during the year. The mentor group is particularly proud of the way the team bonded during the year and the manner in which they represented the club.

Players from both division 3 and division 8 represented the club at adult level during the year and we would like to send our congratulations to Ruby Swayne who performed so well in the recent Dublin trials. Best wishes on your journey!

We would also like to thank the Under 15 girls and their mentors Janette, Mark and Shane who supported us during the year and to Angela Downes who helped us with jerseys and admin.

Overall, a big thank you to the mentors and parents of the team and to supporters from the club for your encouragement during the year. A huge effort this year has resulted in a very strong group going forward to minor level this year and the club will be well represented as the team makes the transition to adult football.

Under 16 Camogie

Mentors: Angela Quinlan, Paula Swayne, Paul Swayne, Shane Maher, James Sullivan, Val Kelly

League & Championship: Division 3

Sponsor: None

The team continued to develop players from last year, with those new players really beginning to shine. League matches were very sporadic due to the County Board rearranging matches due to some players undertaking exams. As a result, it was difficult for the team to build momentum. Nonetheless there were some good performances against strong teams. We continued to back up the minor team as we have done so over the years. With our players getting lots of experience playing up.

We returned to play division 3 Championship after the summer break. After being beaten in wild and windy conditions in Trinity Gaels, we went onto beat Westmanstown Gaels comprehensively under lights. And so, we reached the Shield Final which takes place away to Beann Eadair this coming weekend, at the same time as the annual report goes to print! During Championship we continued to support the minors, with some of our players involved in the minor Championship final win.

During the year our players helped with younger juvenile teams; got involved in coaching at Towers og and helped to run the Towers disco. They showed their commitment to 'give back to the club' over the year and have always represented the club with exemplary behaviour during matches. This group started at under 8s with seven players, the mentors not knowing what would lie ahead and whether we would have a full team by under 13s. And here they are at under 16s ready to move to minor level after winning two leagues and getting to a championship final whilst making lifelong friends along the way.

Under 16 Boys Football and Hurling

Mentors: Niall Reilly, Ken Coy, Shane Franks, Paul Wisely, James Kenny, Mark Ward

League/Championship: Division 2 for both Football and Hurling, B Championship for both Hurling and Football

Sponsor: CORE Builders Providers

County Representation: Jack Reilly

This group has been competing as a Juvenile team for 9 years now so this year the annual report will be focused on reflection.

Firstly in 2024 both Hurling and Football teams competed in Division 2 which is a very challenging level competing every week against the top clubs in Dublin. This enabled both teams to compete in the B Championship. The footballers went unbeaten in their group games but unfortunately were narrowly beaten in the Cup Quarter Final, the Hurlers have a Shield Final to look forward to on 16th November.

We were delighted to have one of our players representing the club on a county level, with Jack Reilly playing for the Dublin U16 team.

Thank you to all our players within this group who all generally compete at both codes which is a phenomenal achievement especially competing at such a high level in Dublin. We would like to thank Niall Byrne (Football) and Pat Lawless/John Hoolan (Hurling) who gave up their time to help this group prepare for Championship competition

Thank you to all our parents/guardians who have been the backbone of the group and have stuck with the lads over the years offering great support when needed. Thank you to the U15 players and Mentors who have given us great support when needed

Thank you to CORE builders' providers (Eugene) who have supported us over the years and ensured the team always had the best of gear representing our club on the pitches

Finally, I would like to thank all of the team mentors not only the 6 mentors listed above but also Mark Matanes, Stephen Homan, Duncan Banks and Paddy Richards, over the past 9 years they have all given up their time as club volunteers and have assisted in bringing this group of boys Born 2008 from U8 GoGames boys to U16 Championship Men. This group have always supported the team in both codes equally which has been a massive part of the group's success over the years

We the mentors would like to thank this special group and wish them continued success as Round Tower Players for many years to come.

Referee Coordinator Report
Juvenile Hurling, Camogie & Football

2024 has been a busy year on the refereeing front for our juvenile refs. A total of 347 games were covered across the codes. We currently have 26 refs on the panel with 4 new recruits just recently qualified at Level 2. We have added a total of 9 refs this season to the panel.

Again, I want to thank the mentors of our Under U8-U11 teams, who have been very supportive of the refs during the year and look forward to continuing the positive environment that is in place. Remember, that as home mentors the responsibility for keeping a respective line is with you, including the opposition line.

Feedback is important and I encourage it throughout the year from mentors and the refs. On the away front our Level 2 refs have received many plaudits for their work in away venues with many clubs contacting me directly to compliment ref performances throughout the year.

To the refs, I want to thank you for your dedication and efforts throughout the year. The games would not be the same without your input and the players would not get as much out of the games without your encouragement and direction.

Is Mise

Brian Douglas

Adult Games

Adult Games Committee

AGC met regularly throughout the year and brought together all adult mentors across all codes for a summit in 2024. Sincere thanks to Val Kelly; Veronica Morris; John Hoolan; Barry Finn; Michael Broderick and Martin Corrigan. The AGC put in place an adult section work programme designed to build on the “Adult Games Charter” (Appendix 1). The biggest challenge for the adult section remains the recruitment and retention of management teams, facility allocation/sharing in the winter and retention of players from Juvenile.

Round Tower Clondalkin - Adult Games Action Plan 2024/25
<p>1. Players will respect each other, managers, opponents, referees, and others, at all times while representing our Club.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discipline has been an issue with some teams/players this year. It will be communicated to mgt. teams that RT will not accept this behaviour. • Club to consider its disciplinary process in cases of extreme or persistent examples of unacceptable behaviour. <p>2. Players will pay their membership, register and respect the Club facilities and those provided by our local Council and Schools.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No issues here. BAU going fwd. <p>3. Players will give something back by volunteering to help with Club activities beyond their own teams.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We need players to help-out with teams starting with U21 and Minor 2024/25. Nursery? Elsewhere? – excellent player led mgt. teams at U21 level in 2024. <p>4. Players will work hard to develop themselves to be the best that they can be for our Club, availing of our Gym and professional supervisors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new S&C programme will be implemented consistently. It will be monitored by C&G Committee and AGC.
<p>1. Mentors will treat players, other Club mentors, opponents, and match officials with respect at all times while representing our Club.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per players above – zero tolerance. <p>2. Mentors will communicate effectively with each other on matters concerning players for more than 1 team and particularly dual players.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working ok generally. Will re-enforce again with mgt. teams – One Club! <p>3. Mentors will work effectively with our professional athletic development partners to develop players.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As per players above, implementation of new S&C Program is non-negotiable. C&G and AGC to monitor this. <p>4. Mentors will work to improve their experience, expertise, and qualifications.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One for C&G with input from AGC here – audit and training program.
<p>1. The Club Executive/AGC will ensure each team has an appropriate management team in place.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Key action – mgt. teams will be internal (needs whole of Exec. Approach. Key appointments need to be made this season) – strong progress here with announcements to follow. <p>2. The Club Executive/AGC will ensure each team has an adequate place to train, access to facilities and equipment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Astro TT – AGC. • Increased role for AGC re: Gym schedule but primary contact is team mgt. to S&C provider. • Budget per team required and teams need to fundraise. <p>3. The Club Executive/AGC will ensure that each team's progress is monitored with a view to its potential being reached.</p>

The best way to retain players is to have strong mgt. teams leading our adult teams with a positive culture. It is great to see we are moving towards internal mgt. across our adult teams, and I want to sincerely thank all the mentors that take teams. As the President put it “to manage a team with your child in it is great, to manage a team without your child in it is brilliant”. As I’m stepping down after 5 really enjoyable years as AGO, I want to thank my AGC, mentor and Executive colleagues, it has been a privilege to serve this great Club and to work with fabulous volunteers. I wish my successor all the best.

Adult Team Reports Received:

Minor Ladies Football (2 teams)

Mentors: Aidan Robertson, Will McCabe, Amanda Gilsean.

League: Division 4 & Division 10

County Representation: Aoife Robertson

This is the 2nd year we have had 2 teams playing at Minor Ladies football level. The 2 teams began the year playing in Division 4 & Division 10 and the first team finished mid table while the second team finished runners-up in their league.

In the Autumn the girls competed in the Division 3 & Division 11 Championships. The Division 3 team were beaten semi-finalists in the shield. The Division 11 team played in a championship league but were unsuccessful.

We finished the year with 31 girls, which is a great achievement keeping this age group involved in sport. Our 2 teams improved their skills and their strength at well attended training sessions and gym sessions.

We want to thank all the players for their dedication and hard work all year and their parents & families for their support and travel to the matches throughout the year. We wish those girls who are moving up to senior football the best of luck for the future.

Team: Minor Hurling Team

Mentors: Lorcan Downey, Ray Donnan, Pat Byrne

League: Division 4

Championship: B Championship

Sponsor: Green Drainage Solutions & Hairlough Barbers

League: We started our season with a panel made up of 2nd year minors (2006) and the incoming 1st year minors (2007). Our focus for the first part of the year was a strong start to our league campaign in March continuing onto the Exam break in May. We achieved 3 out of 5 wins before the exam/summer break and were unlucky through a series of injuries and player falloff not to pick up another few wins after the break to close out our league campaign. On a side note, we would encourage our incoming minor management to plan well ahead for the exam/summer break as we have found this to be a critical juncture in player commitment due to the exams and subsequent return to play.

Championship: We were drawn in the 'B' Championship, losing our first-round match to the eventual championship winners, and subsequently losing our second-round match. However, we did finish our championship campaign with a well-earned away win.

As a group of mentors, we would like to express our gratitude to our sponsors for their continued support. We wish to extend our thanks to all the players for their commitment shown throughout the year at training and matches. We wish our 1st year minors every success in next year's minor campaign and to

our outgoing minors who will no doubt prove valuable squad members to our adult hurling teams in the years to come.

Team: Minor Camogie

Mentors: Bernard O Sullivan, Val Kelly

League: Division 5

Championship: Division 6

Sponsor: N/A

We had a great year with the girls this year. We only had a panel of 17 this year. Thanks to the under 16 Camogie team for their support when we needed extra players. Minor Camogie can be hard for some of the girls because of exams and part time jobs and also having busy lives. We played all our league matches which was great.

We won our championship final out in Abbottstown's pitch 1. The girls displayed great skill and teamwork. Our second-year minor girls will be moving up to senior. We will have 10 girls left and a panel of 20 under 16 coming up to minor so that will give a bigger panel going forward.

Bernard and I would like to thank all of the players and their families for all of the support this year and wish you all the best for your upcoming season

Team: Minor Football Team

Mentors: Paddy Morris, Gary Behan, Sean Flynn, Peter Caffery & Jason Murphy

League: Division 3 & 6

Championship: B

The year began with great hope, we had 35 boys on the list and the promise of u16 support. We had 2 teams registered for the league, div 3 and div 6. From the outset we had issues, we suffered some long-term injuries and struggled to get buy in from some of the players on the second team. The u16 support was patchy. The second team battled hard and were competitive in all but one league match. The first team had a middle table finish after some good wins and battling performances.

When it came to championship, it became clear that we could only support one team, so the difficult decision was made to cut the second team. We joined as one squad and despite missing a number of first team players we trained hard and prepared well. We lost our opener away to Naomh Mearnóg by 6 points and a draw against Craobh Parnells followed which meant that a victory against Crokes in the last game was needed. Despite a spirited display we lost a nail bitter by a single point.

From a results point of view the season was a disappointment but we had 9 second year minors play adult championship, including Jack Minahan for the senior team. Also, we feel some of the first year minors improved massively and we are delighted to see so many of them playing u21 at the moment. If the job of minor football is to prepare players for adult football, then I am confident that we have done a good job.

I would like to thank the mentor team of Gary Behan, Sean Flynn and Peter Caffery for their hard work throughout the year and to Jason Murphy who put on an amazing training and athletic programme.

Lastly, I'd just like to say it has been an honour and a privilege to coach these boys, some of them since age 4, and I look forward to watching them succeed in football and in life

Adult Ladies Football

Team: Ladies Football A Team

Management: Frankie Roebuck, Ken Barry, Pdraig McCarthy Martin Corrigan

League: Div 6 Winners

Cup: Div 6 Winners

Championship: Junior C Shield Runner Up

Sponsor: The Treetop Pub and Restaurant

The Ladies went from Division 8 in 2023 to compete in Division 6 in 2024. The team played nine games in the league and won all games. The league final took place in October against Castleknock with Round Towers coming out as League Champions. This is the fourth successive League trophy for this group.

The ladies played Junior E Championship with all other teams from Division 6. This provided a greater challenge for the team. The ladies played and won three round robin games to secure a home semifinal. The team beat St. Maurs at Monastery Road with great support from the club and community. The final took place at a neutral venue against Crumlin GAA. The ladies won and had fantastic support from the club and community once again.

The Ladies play in Division 6 Cup Competition this season. They played nine games and won all games. The Cup Final took place in October against Fingal Ravens with Round Towers winning and being Cup Champions. This is the fourth successive Cup trophy for this group.

A very successful season winning the treble. More importantly this season helped grow the foundation for the future. We welcomed younger players onto the panel, many of them finding their feet quickly. The ladies held an awards ceremony in September to mark the end of season, with the younger players winning the awards (Megan Hoyte, Rebecca Nolan, Julia O'Flannery). A special thank you to the management team for their time and efforts.

Team: Ladies Football B Team

Management: Will Mc Cabe & Veronica Morris

League – This was the first year of a full adult second ladies' team to represent the club, the team were entered in Division 12, the start of the season didn't go favorable, however, as the girls found their positions and the teamwork and bonding progressed the wins came in the latter parts of the season

Cup – As with the league, the cup was similar in that it was a learning curve for both management and players navigating best positions and best playing tactics which also as the season ended brought some wins

Championship – Probably the highlight of the season was winning the shield final against a strong Lucan Sarsfield's team up in Monastery Road on a lovely summers evening on 12th August.

This season was a learning curve for the Ladies second team, having been our first season together, we started the first day not knowing names etc which was quickly resolved owing to the enthusiasm from every player, the future is very bright with the talent coming up through the ranks from Minor, it is anticipated that the season ahead will bring more success.

The girls would like to wholeheartedly thank Will Mc Cabe and Veronica Morris for stepping up and managing the team, their knowledge of the game, their input and particularly their time is greatly appreciated – we would also thank our sponsor “Anytime Fitness” who are very supportive, to the members of the club for their support and finally to each and every player for their unwavering commitment and input into the team that made the season very enjoyable!

Adult Camogie

Management Team: Brian Douglas, Roisin Ní Dhonnagain

League: Junior 2

Championship: Junior 2

2024 was a year of rebuilding. A number of players were not available at the outset of the year and during the year we had to contend with conflicting player priorities. That said, the remaining panel pulled up their sleeves and we competed admirably throughout a league campaign that saw us up against stronger opposition throughout. Following our recent successes over the last couple of years the county board were reticent to allow us drop where we would have been more competitive.

Adversity fosters growth and players have developed throughout the campaign. It would have been nice to take the Shield Final in late October, but on a stormy weekend we were up against a strong Whitehall side who had a 40 mile an hour wind with them in the second half and a 10-minute spell put them in the driving seat.

We want to thank all the players for their efforts this year. It has been a tough slog at times and that has impacted commitment and more importantly turn out. We also want to thank the minor squad who in the latter part of the season made themselves available for training & matches and the wider snr panel look forward to welcoming some of these players into the panel proper for next year.

Adult Hurling

Team: Intermediate Hurling Team

Mentors: Jason Perry, Pat Lawless, Billy O'Connor & John Hoolan

League: AHL3

Championship: Intermediate Championship

Sponsor: Anytime Fitness

County Representation: N/A

League: A mixed league campaign which led to a mid-table finish. Overall, some results were very good. Unfortunately, injuries and unavailability of key players meant that the team did struggle. On the plus side some minor hurlers did make the step up to adult hurling and this will be a benefit to the team for 2025.

Championship: Championship proved to be a tough campaign and the team found themselves in a very competitive group. The Team did manage to get out of the group and qualified for quarter final (first quarter final in a number of years) which unfortunately the result went against us.

2025 is an important year for this group of players and decisions need to be made regarding direction of the team and commitment needed to take a step up to the next level. Opportunity to develop a talented group of minor hurlers into the adult set up.

Management would like to thank the Facilities team for all their help throughout the year. We were never without a training slot or area to train. Also, thanks to our supporters who turned out in big numbers at all our matches to support the lads.

Finally thank you to the Executive for their continuing support.

Adult Men's Football

Senior Football

Management: Kev Leahy, Ian Lowe, Niall Byrne, Jason Murphy, Jason Joyce, and Dennis Kelly

Sponsors: Ciarán Carr Foundation

League: AFL 2

Championship: Senior 2

Pre-season began out in Abbotstown with late starts to training but commitment was good by both junior and senior footballers.

The season began with some hope and promise with the aim of maintaining senior status within the League and Championship with a team going through what can be considered a transition period.

We had a number of players leave the fold to travelling and seeing the world. In addition, we had some unforeseen injuries. The team battled hard and were competitive throughout the league and championship campaigns.

However, a number of results didnt go our way in the league and so were relegated in the league unfortunately. In the championship we lost one and drew one along with a hard fought victory against Whitehall Colmcilles and in doing so maintained Senior Championship status.

We got to see a number of young players step up from minor football to adult and senior football. Hopefully, this is a good sign for the future in seasons to come with more younger players developing into adult footballers and maybe make their mark in the senior set up.

We would like to thank the mentor team of Kev Leahy, Ian Lowe, Niall Byrne, Jason Murphy, Jason Joyce, and Dennis Kelly for their hard work throughout the year.

Team: Junior 1 Football Team

Mentors: Stephen Halpin, Liam Connolly, Mick Broderick, Terry Murray, Martin Corrigan, Stephen Shields

League: Division 5

Championship: Junior 1 Championship

Sponsor: Wood Fire & Wings

County Representation: N/A

The Junior A team delivered a commendable campaign this season, showcasing their skill, determination, and sportsmanship throughout.

With a blend of seasoned players and promising youth, the junior panel started the season extremely well winning 8 of the first 10 league matches in Division 5.

Despite the dip in results at the latter end of the league it's important to acknowledge the impressive journey this panel undertook to reach this point with 49 players getting game time throughout the season.

The Junior 1 championship campaign started in August and was filled with determination, hard work and high caliber football. Unfortunately, we suffered some narrow defeats in a strong group and ultimately were relegated to the Junior 2 championship for 2025. This outcome, though disappointing, does not overshadow the tremendous effort and skill the team showed. A foundation was built which promises a bright future, with lessons learned and a resolve that will undoubtedly drive this panel forward in the seasons ahead.

Thanks to all for the support provided to the Junior A Mens footballer this year.

Junior B Football

Mentors: Bernie Cronin, Richie Harney

League: AFL 10 South

Championship: Junior 4 All County

A tough year, league was up and down, with some wins and finished the year in mid- table. Championship lost the first match and won the second match and but failed to get out of the group. Thanks to the players that contributed during the year.

Gaelic 4 Mothers

Gaelic 4 Mothers & Others train on Monday nights. We've had an increase of new players joining the team and some retirees too. The team is made up of women, whom are mentors, others have children playing, while others just live locally. We've played a few games and blitzes throughout the year. It's a friendly, non-competitive atmosphere that we promote by encouraging women to engage in gaelic Football as a form of physical & mental wellbeing.

Gaelic 4 Fathers

Over 50 members involved with the vast majority also coaching at juvenile level. Participation in the Celbridge GFD's and Lads tournament in early September as well as the Leixlip invitational tournament in November in which the Round Tower team won the shield trophy on both occasions.

Also participated in the national GAA blitz in Abbottstown for Dads and lads in October. In October 20 members travelled to Rome as part of our annual trip, unfortunately a game against local opposition didn't materialise.

Always looking for new members, no previous experience needed so all welcome

Referees

The Executive and Members of Round Tower GAA Club would like to acknowledge and thank all the referees from Round Tower GAA Club who week in and week out referee games in all codes and in all grades throughout the county. Without this super group of volunteers, we wouldn't have any games. We must never forget some basic facts! Without referees we would have no games; if Round Towers do not provide referees to the different boards, we will not have referees fixed for our home games; and most important of all, we must all respect referees. All our members, coaches, mentors, players and supporters are reminded that Respect is one of the core values of our club. We expect every individual to show respect to referees, opponents, coaches, and officials.

There is no excuse for poor behaviour!

If any of our members are interested in taking up refereeing, please contact a representative of our juvenile or adult games committees who will put you in touch with our referee coordinators.

The Dermot Earley Youth Leadership Initiative

Volunteer tutors: Méabh Milton / Caimin Keane / Simon Breslin / Val Kelly / Fred MacCarthy / Sharon Jordan

Volunteer Mentors: Gary Behan / Greg Waters

We are delighted to report the successful completion of the Dermot Earley Youth Leadership Initiative by over 80 young people from our community since we started in 2021.

This initiative, named in honour of the esteemed GAA figure Dermot Earley, aims to develop the leadership skills and personal growth of young participants through a structured and supportive program. The participants are awarded a QQI Level 6 in Youth Leadership and Community Action from NUIG on successful completion of all 3 modules.

Programme Overview: The Dermot Earley Youth Leadership Initiative is a comprehensive program that spans several months, focusing on key areas such as:

- Personal development
- Leadership skills
- Community involvement
- Teamwork and collaboration

Achievements:

- Successful completion by over 80 participants since we started in 2021
- Development of individual leadership projects
- Positive feedback from participants and mentors
- Enhanced community engagement and volunteerism

Participant Feedback: Participants have expressed their gratitude for the opportunity to be part of this initiative. They have highlighted the following benefits:

- Improved confidence and self-esteem
- Enhanced leadership and communication skills
- Stronger sense of community and teamwork

Acknowledgments: We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who made this initiative possible:

- The participants for their dedication and enthusiasm
- The mentors and facilitators for their guidance and support
- The schools, clubs, and community organizations for their collaboration

Conclusion: The Dermot Earley Youth Leadership Initiative has been a resounding success, empowering our young people to become confident and capable leaders. We look forward to continuing this important work and supporting the next generation of leaders in our community.

Oifigeach Gaeilge – Round Tower GAA Club AGM

A Chairde, a comhaltaí, agus a gcairde GAA,

Mar Oifigeach Gaeilge do Chlub CLG an Chloighí, is cúis áthais dom an tuarascáil seo a chur i láthair ag ár gCruinniú Cinn Bhliana. Ba bhliain í seo ina raibh fás agus rannpháirtíocht i gcur chun cinn na Gaeilge laistigh dár gclubphobail. Seo thíos na príomhréimsí fócais, gníomhaíochtaí, agus éachtaí a bhaineann le cur chun cinn na Gaeilge le bliain anuas. Buaicphointe na bliana le déanaí ná fáilte a chur roimh Uachtarán CLG, Jarlath Burns, chuig ár gComóradh 140 bliain a labhair go líofa trí ghaeilge mar chuid dár óráid.

As the Oifigeach Gaeilge for Round Tower GAA Club, it is my pleasure to present this report at our Annual General Meeting. This year, like every other, has been a year of growth and engagement in promoting the Irish language within our club community. Below are the key areas of focus, activities, and achievements related to the promotion of Gaeilge over the past year. A highlight of the year was recently welcoming Uachtarán CLG, Jarlath Burns, to our 140 Anniversary who spoke fluently in Irish as part of his speech.

As an increasing number of our young members attend Gaelscoileanna across the village, and with our club Chairman, Alan Milton, being a passionate supporter and advocate for the Irish language, the promotion of Gaeilge within the club continues to flourish.

Irish Language Promotion

Our primary goal remains to strengthen the use and visibility of the Irish language within the club. We have continued to promote Irish through various means, fostering a greater sense of pride in our heritage and culture. Club Events and Activities: At key club events, including match days, fundraisers, and social gatherings, we ensured that Irish was present.

Language Signage: In addition to the usual club notices, we made an effort to add more signs around our grounds in both Irish and English to promote the language in a practical, visible way.

Use of Irish in Club Communications

The integration of Irish into club communications continues to be a major focus. We strive to keep all members informed about club activities, fixtures, and news through both Irish and English.

Social Media and Website: This year, our social media posts and website content have featured more Irish, with special emphasis on promoting match results, upcoming events, and celebrating club achievements bilingually.

Support and Encouragement for Irish Language in Sport

The integration of Irish into our sporting activities remains a key priority. We encouraged the use of Irish during training, in club meetings, and particularly among our coaches.

Bilingual Coaching: Coaches were encouraged to use simple Irish phrases during training sessions, such as giving instructions or motivating players. This not only enhanced the exposure to the language but also fostered a fun, engaging environment for all involved.

Challenges and Future Plans

While much progress has been made, there remain challenges in ensuring the sustainable growth of the Irish language within the club. The main challenges we face are:

Engagement with Younger Members: While interest in Irish is strong among some, we must find innovative ways to engage younger members and their parents, particularly those who may not be as familiar with the language.

Volunteers for Classes: We will continue to seek additional volunteers to assist with language events, mar shampla Ciorcal Comhrá sa chlub.

Míle Buíochas

Finally, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to all who have contributed to the promotion of the Irish language in the club. To the coaches, players, volunteers, and parents who have embraced Irish in various ways, your support has been invaluable. A special thanks to the club's committee for their ongoing support of Gaeilge initiatives and for encouraging the continued use of Irish within our club.

Conclusion

As we look ahead to the coming year, I am optimistic that we will continue to build on the progress we have made. Our collective efforts will ensure that Irish remains a vital part of Round Tower GAA Club for generations to come. Let's keep promoting, learning, and celebrating the Irish language, and may we continue to enjoy our shared heritage together.

Go raibh míle maith agat agus bain sult as an mbliain atá romhainn!

Is mise le meas,

Liam Ó Conghaile

Oifigeach Gaeilge, Round Tower GAA Club

Towers Abu/Planning & Strategy

An objective of Towers ABU is to deliver on our Clubs stated mission of 'Creating an environment where success is inevitable'. And that's our Clubs greatest challenge to "create an environment where our teams have the opportunity to perform at the highest level and in turn deliver long term sustainable success; to be as successful as many other Clubs in the County". Let's rise to this challenge together and with gusto and ensure that all our resources and assets within the club are prepared and focused on achieving our mission.

For sure, we've had pockets of success with individual teams/players across the four codes, but not sustainable success. Sustainable success at the highest levels will only be delivered on the playing fields when the Executive Committees and mentors across all codes put an emphasises on coaching and measuring the technical skills from U7s to U15s.

In doing so, we should leave no players marginalised or side-lined, every player should be treated with respect with coaches providing equal game for the player to practise the technical skills of the game at Juvenile level. How many times have we witnessed young 'Jonny or Joanne' being left on the line or pushed into 'corner forward' at underage levels; all for the sake of a win! These players deserved to be treated with respect and challenged to practise the skills during the game. That's why they joined our Club, that's why their

parents/guardians pay registration fees and come to support their child and club each week!

All too often we are experiencing players getting to minor level lacking the basic skills of our games. But sure, isn't great, "I'm a great coach, I'm mentoring winning teams at underage level"! This mentality is holding us back as a Club. We as Club members must be brave in calling this approach out, this approach goes against our Clubs ethos and values system. The "New Towers Way" strategy for playing goals calls for a Director of Coaching, who's remit includes prioritising 'coaching the technical' across all Juvenile teams. Have no doubt, that implementing this action will radically improve how we approach the development of our Juvenile players. When our players have the technical skills of the game in their toolbox, they will become resilient, brave and confident. Then they will be ready to perform at their "highest level and in turn deliver long term sustainable success".

Implementing the Towers ABU 10 Year Strategy

This year as an Executive Team, we focused on make ongoing performance improvement inevitable by incorporating it into a disciplined measurement process. We started the year by agreeing clearly defined roles & responsibilities for the Executive Team which are published on the Club website. A process was developed for reporting on Executive members dashboards and delivery of their 5-year tactical plans for:

Facilities, Coaching and Games, Juvenile Games, Registrar and Communications. These are aligned to the 10 strategic objectives and are reviewed and discussed at executive meetings; "what gets measured gets managed".

The founding of a strategic fundraising committee focussing on creating a sustainable fundraising model was a highlight of the year. Having this strategic resource in place will help with the delivery of the strategy. The committee's focus is on developing sustainable systems to support:

- Capital expenditure projects to support the Facilities Officer/ Treasurer in delivering on the major infrastructure expenses.
- Operational expenditure for the Club to meet its day-to-day costs.

The committee is chaired by Sarita Johnson and supported by Liam Connolly, Mick McAdam, Alan Kennedy, Gary Behan and Ken Byrne.

2024 seen a working group organised, to make recommendations on the formation of a policy for players playing above their Natural age group ("Playing Up"). The members of the working group were all members of the club and represent the clubs four codes: Camogie, Ladies Football, Men's Football and Hurling. Recommendations were adopted and a playing up policy briefed to all stakeholders. (GRMA to Barry Gavin and the working group for their input).

Towers ABU areas of focus for 2025:

- Prioritise recruitment of the Director of Coaching to address the technical development of our players.
- Coaching the technical skills across all four codes from U7s through to U15s and giving those players equal playing time to develop those skills. This must remain a key focus as we are still seeing evidence of some Juv mentors focusing on winning (using a cohort of stronger players to win games) rather than focussing on developing the whole team by coaching the technical skills and giving the whole team equal game time.
- Development and implementation of Adult Games dashboard and 5-year tactical plan aligned to the Clubs strategic objectives.
- Player numbers and player retention.
- Recruitment and retention of volunteers - we are an expanding Club and need experienced and new volunteers from all levels to help us deliver our objectives.

By way of reminder: Towers mission is ‘To create an Environment where success is inevitable’. We will achieve this success by implementing ‘New Towers Way’ in the form of living our Clubs values and delivering on our 10-year objectives.

For sure, across the Club, trojan work has been done during 2024, to help lift the Club to the new heights demanded to ensure everything we do is aligned to our value system of Excellence, Integrity, Respect and One Club One Identity. And certainly, this work involves changing how we do things. Let’s embrace the change and work together to deliver on our mission.

Finally, thank you to my fellow Executive Committee members for their support throughout the year and to the wider volunteer base.

Regrettably, I am unable to attend the AGM as I’m away for the weekend but would like to wish the incoming volunteers/ committee’s all the very best in their endeavours in 2025.

Ken Byrne

Towers ABU/Planning & Strategy Officer.

Facilities

Facilities Committee: Michael McAdam, Anita Broderick, Gary Behan, Brian Fitzpatrick, Paul Swayne, Oliver Fogarty

The Facilities Officer position was created as part of the expansion of the Club Executive in line with the commitments under Towers Abú. The Facilities sub-committee was established in 2022. The remit of the Facilities Team is to help ensure that the facilities and infrastructure available to the club are sufficient to meet the clubs drive for excellence.

A facilities team plan has been written identifying short-, medium- and long-term goals, which are being regularly reviewed and updated. The plan was further developed in 2024, by seeking estimates and quotations for the works identified to help financial planning and assist in preparing applications for grant funding.

Sports Capital Grant application with Coláiste Bríde: A long-term agreement was signed in 2023 with Coláiste Bríde for access to the school pitch as a future Centre of Excellence for the clubs' ladies and girls' players, this agreement includes access to carparking spaces and toilets. That agreement led to the submission of a joint Sports Capital Grant application for the upgrade and improvement of the playing facilities in Coláiste Bríde. In September the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media announced that funding of over €118,000 would be provided to help fund the project, which will see the playing facilities for our female members greatly enhanced. The club will work with the school to deliver the agreed programme of works in 2025.

Addition of the New Generator at Monastery Road: Following a significant issue with the original generator installed at Monastery Road, a new generator unit was sourced and installed. Thanks to the very generous support of the membership of the club, this is projected to be in place for the next 10 years.

Pitch Marking group: The work of the Pitch Marking group of volunteers was built on and continued in 2024. These volunteers carry out pitch markings on the SDCC pitches that the club uses in the Community Centre and Corkagh Park, as well as the main pitch at Monastery Road. The volunteer group carried out pitch markings on over 20 weekends across the season. Many thanks to all that assisted with this important task, which portrays a very positive impression of the club to our members and visiting teams. The Pitch Marking group welcome new volunteers or any occasional assistance that members could offer.

Grant Approval for Monastery training area: The club was successful in the application for grant funding for proposed improvements to the training facilities at Monastery Road. Over €107,000 was awarded to the club under the Community Recognition Grant. Following a tender process and value engineering negotiations, the contractor, Clonmel Enterprises, has recently commenced work. The works to convert the current grass warm up area to an Astro pitch, is planned to be completed in January 2025. Many thanks to Derek Grant for his assistance on this project to date and to Linda Halpin for securing a donation from Circol ELT to assist with the project. A key element to gaining the grant approval, was the work done by numerous club volunteers in the outreach activities held in Monastery Road. Further work of this kind will enable the club to apply for further funding in 2025.

Some of the other key achievements this year include:

- The club retained access to 5 Council pitches, 2 of which are in the Community Centre and 3 are in Corkagh Park.
- Significant drainage works on pitch 49 in the Community Centre was completed by the Council this year. The improved condition of the pitch has already become evident. We appreciate the cooperation shown by members during the period of the works.

- The club has liaised closely with Council on their proposals to provide changing facilities close to the GAA pitches in Corkagh in 2025. It will be imperative that the club significantly increases its use of those pitches to ensure that we retain all 3 pitches in Corkagh.
- The Facilities Committee assisted by the club Executive has lobbied the Council and the Councillors for increased parks opening times and for the installation of ball stop nets in Corkagh. The club will continue to pursue these requests in 2025.
- The Sportskey Booking System has been expanded enabling the use of the facilities to be better tracked and managed in line with the maintenance plans. This is of assistance to the Pitch Coordinator when allocating pitches each week. The usage statistics for Monastery Road indicates over 300 hours of use in 2024, which was split as follows; 51% Adult teams and 49% Juveniles.
- The Facilities Committee has worked closely with the Pitch Coordinator, Mick Fallon, and the Juvenile Chairman, Anthony Davis, to provide a comprehensive list of weekly fixtures for all teams which has been widely published in 2024 by the Communications Officer, Oisín Douglas.
- Facilities have worked closely with the Pitch Coordinator and the Communications Officer to ensure that decisions on pitch playability are communicated to mentors as early as possible. Thanks to all those who assisted with pitch inspections, frequently at short notice, to enable timely decisions to be made.
- The strong relationship between the club and Moyle Park was built on, resulting in the club gaining increased access to the pitches, the standard of which has improved over the last 3 years through better and more regular maintenance and grass cutting.
- Cleaning and maintenance work on the club containers in Corkagh Park and the Community Centre.
- Stocktake of equipment and prioritisation of requests for new or replacement equipment.
- Provision of keys to mentors and progress on the standardisation of the lock and keys.
- Submission of a number of grant applications.
- Throughout 2024, members of the Facilities Committee have made significant input into the work of the Strategic Fundraising sub-committee and the S&C working group.
- The Facilities Committee would also like to acknowledge the tireless work done by Ed O'Malley and the numerous volunteers at Monastery Road.

Is mise le meas,
Michael McAdam
Facilities Officer

Communications

Communications Committee: Oisín Douglas, Caitriona McGrath, Maebh Milton, Michael McGlynn, Ger Hickey

The Communications Committee's primary responsibility is to manage club communications and public relations on the club's behalf. Our goal is to promote a favourable image of Cumann Lúthchleas Gael and the Club both inside and outside of the club. Our goal for 2024 was to interact with as many members of the community as possible and deliver timely and educational information via the various channels at our disposal.

a. **Club Website:** The communications committee created and launched a brand-new club website in 2022 in collaboration with Club and County web developers, and we have maintained the website current and useful throughout 2023 & 2024. We keep improving the website so that it allows us to:

- 1) Provide an information platform for all our coaches
- 2) Promote our partnerships with businesses both locally and nationally
- 3) Host Galleries of all club events

b. **Social Media:** The club operates officially on 4 social media platforms: Facebook, X, Instagram and Tik Tok. To keep all our members and the public informed about all club activities, the communications committee increased the frequency of posts on various platforms in 2023 which was upped again in 2024 as the club grew.

With over 400 posts on Instagram alone in 2024, we seen all social channels grow, and we thank all our members who share, like and tag us highlighting all the good work day in and day out by coaches, players and volunteers.

The monthly reach of our Facebook page averages at 25'000 with an average of 17,000 post engagements per month. For Instagram we have an average of 6200 profile visits per month and growing weekly. In 2024, we hit a milestone of 3000 followers. We encourage any member who doesn't currently follow us on social media to do so. Our ongoing match tracker twitter account has continued to be a great asset to the club, and we again thank all players and members who attend games and keep the wider club updated with scored via this platform.

c. **Email and Club Notes:** In cooperation with the club secretariat, the committee generated a list of email address of all members from the Foireann system and use this list to periodically send information to club members.

The Communications Committee is indebted to our club photographers, Tommy Keogh, Matthew Lysaght and Paul Keegan and every other member that takes and submits photos and stories that chronicle our sporting achievements and social events. I need to say a special word of thanks to Caitriona and Maebh for their enormous contribution in this area creating posts, reels and stories highlighting what's going on across the club as well as Michael and Ger for their continues support and contributions to club comms. Many others have given their time and support over the year pushing club information across channels and platforms which is very much appreciated by all.

Financial Position

Difficult financial start to the New Year with a Generator going down followed by a Lotto win in quick succession.

Great response from the Clondalkin community to raise €14.9k via Gofund me to go towards the generator.

Similarly to previous years our income is sufficient to meet our day to day expenses, further sources of income required to meet strategic objectives.

- Once again membership subscriptions has increased now at €158k.
- Bar Sales increased by €31k to €266k, input costs continue to rise.
- Lotto Income increased 13% to €52k
- Fundraising and other income increased to €156k, I would like to acknowledge the generosity of JP McManus who donated €13,636

I would also like to acknowledge the following for their work bringing in much needed funds.

- Lotto Committee
 - Recycling Crew, final installment of €11k came within the period, with the scheme now redundant.
 - Croke Park annual fundraising team, most successful year to date.
 - Social Committee
 - Jimmy and the bar crew
 - Xmas draw committee
- Costs were broadly inline with previous year
- Affiliation fees increased to €88k for the year as our numbers continue to grow.
 - We continue to invest in our coaching and games through our LTAD program and GPO.

With a number of our income streams unlikely to repeat we will need to find new revenue streams and maximise existing sources for the coming year.

Lotto Committee

Members: Ray Verso, Bernie Cronin, John Ryan, Gerry McCabe and Gerry Banks.

The lotto continues to be one the major revenue sources for the club, over 200+ units are sold each week on line plus on average 60-70 paper tickets each week, we expect that when the jackpot increases sales will do likewise, many thanks to the people who sell tickets each, Mary Douglas at Towers Óg, Jimmy in the bar, Ray Verso in the village, thanks also to those who help with social media, Oisín Douglas, Caitriona McGrath, Ed O'Malley, John O'Malley, Eoghan Cooke and Michael McGlynn. Thanks also to those who give their time on Monday night, Ray Verso, Bernie Cronin, John Ryan, Gerry McCabe and Gerry Banks.

And special thanks to all those club members and people from the wider Clondalkin area who have supported the lotto and continue to do so.

Membership

Niall Connaughton

It has now been four full years since we launched Foireann as the one stop solution for all GAA membership activities. There is still some missing supplementary functionality but the core day to day functions are user friendly and fit for purpose. We have a dedicated registrar/Foireann co-ordinator in the majority of Juvenile teams and some adult teams – this is an area we do need to improve on.

Membership continues to grow across all categories. The gender split in our club continues to narrow towards parity, especially driven by our Juvenile section and the large growth in Ladies Football & Camogie

In summary, adult membership for 2023 stands at 542, up from 517 in 2023. Our family membership remains ever popular and the staggered payment option is one availed of frequently.

Juvenile membership for 2024 is at 781, up from 765 in 2023 (boys and girls). The continued success and growth of female games both within our club and nationally, has seen female participation overtake boys and I expect this is a trend

Membership across all categories is the highest it has ever been, growing across all categories and long may it continue.

<i>Category (year 2024)</i>	<i>No of members</i>
Adult Players	221
Adult non-players	321
<u>Total adult members</u>	<u>542</u>
Juvenile female	435
Juvenile male	346
<u>Total Juvenile members</u>	<u>781</u>
<u>Total members</u>	<u>1323</u>

Figure 1: Membership breakdown in numbers

I would like to thank Sharon Jordan, Dean Alford, Dawn O’Neill, Sandra O’Connor, Mark Casey, and all mentors & committee colleagues who have provided me with huge support all throughout 2023 and made my job very straightforward. We’re very lucky as a club to have such committed administrators & volunteers working & excelling on our behalf.

Remembrance / Na Mairbh

To all club members and families who lost loved ones during the year the club extends its deepest sympathies and prayers. A special thanks to Tommy Keogh and Kitty Egan for their continued diligence in acknowledging bereavements on behalf of the club.

Ar Dheis Dé go raibh anamacha ár mbaill go leir a déag i rith na mbliana.

Go Green with Towers!

The Green Club committee has been up and running since October 2023. Committee members are Sinéad Curran, Breeda Bonner, Eoin O'Broin, Gavin Doyle, Lorcan Downey, and most recent member Myles Conduit. The committee received the National Green Club recognition award in Croke Park on the 9th of November meeting the National GAA Green Club criteria of the programme criteria. The committee organised an energy audit of the club sites, kindly sponsored by Codex. The principal purpose of this study was to determine the most appropriate energy upgrades that could be carried out across the club sites to reduce carbon emissions. The audit report outlined recommended measures that could contribute towards achieving energy and carbon targets as set out in Government's Climate Action Plan. One recommendation was to consider replacing the existing floodlight bulbs serving the main pitch and astroturf pitch with LEDs. The committee applied for new South Dublin County Council Community Climate Action Fund released this year, the club was awarded €60,500 in Strand 1 and €48,000 in Strand 1A, the latter being a cross-border fund and we teamed up with Moonfield Community Centre in Omagh for this who received the same amount.

This funding will cover the cost of all the LED floodlight replacement for the Astro and main Pitch in Monastery Road, and will also allow us to install Solar PV on the roof of the Dressing room buildings - a further audit recommendation to supplement the electricity supply to the Gym building and reduce current usage cost. The benefit of replacing all our existing bulbs to LEDs will greatly reduce the Club's carbon emissions, benefit the air quality, and reduce our dependency on fossil fuel consumption. We are in the planning stage of this at present.

In November we recently also received an additional €11800 fund award from Pobal to cover the cost of installing solar panels at the Clubhouse - again an audit recommendation and further measure to action carbon emissions and reduce our electricity spend.

The Green Club managed off-pitch grass areas for rewilding, an initiative funded by the GAA Green Club Seed Funding we were award €1500 funding, For this we organised a meadow Workshop in conjunction with The HerbGarden, inviting club members Clondalkin, Tidy Towns, The Mens Shed and The Friends of the Camac to take part. The seed funding also covered the cost of the new planters erected by the pitch at Monastery Road, and the maintenance of the trees and meadow.

We worked for the second year in a row with the charity Trees on the Land, supporting the club with the trees for two successful planting days that took place on Monastery Road in March. We are very grateful to club members, teams who took part and Clondalkin Tidy towns for their support with the planting. We also received additional trees from Coillte.

The Irish Bee Conservation project provided the club with a bee post which was erected, thanks for CTT at the end of the pitch - this attracts up to 79 species of solitary bees (not swarms).

We worked closely with Bleeper Bike to set up an ebike library for club members to promote active travel locally - many have benefited from this initiative to date.

We continue to work on new initiatives for the coming year and continue to build on a successful first year. We are in the process of building a relationship with South Dublin County Council on the approval of native tree planting sites throughout the Clondalkin area, continue to link in with local community groups CTT, Men's Shed, Friends of the Camac, and work with local schools on future initiatives. Thanks to the Executive and club members for their support to date. We are always looking for new volunteers of all ages and welcome your suggestions. Feel free to get in touch with any of our committee members.

Social Committee 2024

Members:

Val Kelly, Joanne Moore, Catriona McGrath & E

Activities:

The Juvenile disco is back up and running and very popular at the moment. We would like to thank our volunteers that also help out Emily, Méabh, Sandra and Laura Delaney. Also a big thank you to our under 16 girls that volunteer at the disco with the shop, toilets and dressing room we couldn't run the disco without them.

Thanks to DJ Robbie for such a great set up.

Line Dancing continues every Thursday night thanks to Francene.

Bingo is back again every Tuesday night thanks to Carol.

We had a fantastic family day in September with over 300 people enjoying the day in Monastery Road. A big thank you to the sub committee for all the help on the day. A lot of our brilliant members gave a lot of help in different ways

It was really appreciated.

We had a fantastic fundraiser for the club with our

Drive-In Movie night

Thanks to Ryan from

Retro Movies

Everyone enjoyed Hocas Pocus thanks to all of our members that helped out on the night especially the under 15 and 16 girls.

Bar Staff

I would like to thank Jimmy Lee, Lara, Siobhán, Bronagh, Amy and all the staff for their efforts throughout the year. Thanks to Frank Sherwin for his assistance also. Thanks to Shay Clifford who looks after the smart card system and programmes our tills when needed.

Club Shop

The club shop in Monastery Road is open Tuesday from 6pm - 7pm and Saturdays from 10am - 11am.

Betty Ward, Catherine Moran, and Jessica O'Malley who continue to stock the shop and provide members with an outlet from which to buy club merchandise. We are very grateful to the Executive for their support throughout the year.

Club Gear Procurement

Currently, per the club bye laws, O'Neills are the approved club gear supplier for the club. The strategic finance sub-committee are taking upon a review/procurement process regarding a club gear supplier and will be reporting back to the Executive Committee as soon as they have a proposal, which in turn will be discussed and presented to the membership.

Conclusion

As we draw the AGM to a close, I would like to express my thanks again to the executive committee on this our 140th year in existence. It has been a great year, and I would like to acknowledge the contribution of every single person who volunteered in any way, big or small in 2024 – encourage others to put their hand up and find a role for themselves.

I would like to make a special appeal to all the women in our community and club. Your involvement is crucial to the growth and diversity of our club. We have seen the tremendous impact of female volunteers in various roles, from coaching to administration, and we need more of your valuable contributions. We are the role models for our young girls and young women of the club and need to forge the path for those coming behind us.

I would also like to extend our deepest sympathies to those who lost loved ones during the year. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-anamacha go léir.

Nollaig shona agus Athbhliain faoi mhaise daoibh – here's to a healthy and happy 2025!

Is mise le meas,
Sharon Nic Shiurtáin

Sharon Jordan
Rúnaí, Cumann an Chloighthí
30ú Mí Na Samhain 2024