

Cruinniú Bliantúil Cumann An Chloighí CLG Cluain Dolcáin 2023



Clár

1. Minutes of Annual General Meeting December 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

Assistant Secretary

Assistant Treasurer

Oifigeach Gaeilge

Ordinary Member

8. Motions and Recommendations

9. Any Other Business

Executive Committee Meetings 2023

Number of meetings held: 9

1. Alan Milton 9
2. Andrew Cronin 9
3. Sharon Jordan 8
4. Damien Murray 9
5. Dean Alford 5
6. Eoghan Cooke 7
7. Aaron Douglas 2 *Aaron left the Executive Committee in March 2023
8. Michelle Walsh 3 *Michelle was co-opted onto the Executive Committee in March 2023
9. Barry Quinlan 6
10. Michael McAdam 8
11. Liam McLaughlin 9
12. Willie Kennedy 7
13. Pdraig MacCarthy 6
14. Niall Connaughton 6
15. Simon Breslin 6
16. John Hoolan 9

Nominations for the Executive Committee 2023-24
Aimniúcháin don Coiste Feidhmeannaigh 2023-24

<u>Position</u>	<u>Outgoing</u>	<u>Nominations</u>
<i>President:</i>	Frank Cosgrove	Mary Dardis
<i>Vice-President:</i>	Mary Dardis Bernie Cronin	Bernie Cronin John Ryan Prop: Alan Milton Sec: Sharon Jordan
	Shay Clifford	Shay Clifford
<i>Chairperson:</i>	Alan Milton	Alan Milton
<i>Vice-Chairperson:</i>	Andrew Cronin	Andrew Cronin
<i>Hon. Secretary:</i>	Sharon Jordan	Sharon Jordan
<i>Hon. Treasurer:</i>	Damien Murray	Damien Murray
<i>Asst. Secretary:</i>	Dean Alford	Dean Alford
<i>Asst. Treasurer:</i>	Eoghan Cooke	Eoghan Cooke
<i>Oifigeach Gaeilge:</i>	Simon Breslin	Liam Connolly Prop: Alan Milton Sec: Sharon Jordan
<i>Adult Games Officer:</i>	Barry Quinlan	Barry Quinlan
<i>Facilities Officer:</i>	Michael McAdam	Michael McAdam
<i>Registrar:</i>	Niall Connaughton	Niall Connaughton
<i>Juvenile Games Officer:</i>	Willie Kennedy	Anthony Davis Prop: Sharon Jordan Sec: Alan Milton
<i>Coaching and Development Officer:</i>	Liam MacLaughlin	Keith Bracken Prop: Liam MacLaughlin Sec: Padraig MacCarthy
<i>PR Officer:</i>	Padraig MacCarthy	Oisin Douglas Prop: Dean Alford Sec: Alan Milton
<i>Children's Officer:</i>	Michelle Walsh	Michelle Walsh

***Towers Abú/Planning
& Strategy Officer: -***

Ken Byrne
Prop: Alan Milton
Sec: Sharon Jordan

Members: John Hoolan
Aaron Douglas

John Hoolan
Willie Kennedy
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)
That the Club's Child Officer should be a sitting member of the Executive Committee.

Proposed: Alan Mac Maoldúin
Seconded: Dean Ó Alford

**Executive co-opted CPO to Executive committee in March this year with Aaron Douglas stepping down as an ordinary member to facilitate keeping Executive numbers at 15 members per club constitution. No vote required as was mandated by GAA Rules.

Motion 2: That a Towers Abú/Planning & Strategy Officer and a Second Ordinary Member be appointed as a sitting member of the Executive Committee.

Proposed: Alan Mac Maoldúin
Seconded: Dean Ó Alford

Chairman's Report 2023

Tuarascáil an Cathoirleach

A Chairde,

Is cúis mhór áthais dom na focail seo a leanas a scríobh mar Chathaoirleach ár gclub agus ba mhaith liom an deis a ghlacadh mo bhuíochas a chur in iúl ar an líon mór daoine a oibríonn go crua chun an chlub ar choimead ar an bhfód agus a chur chun cinn.

It gives me great pleasure to pen these words to mark the passing of another year in the life of our club as we prepare for what will be the 140th anniversary of both the GAA and our own club within that wider family.

I would like to sincerely thank my fellow officers and Executive Committee members, our sub-committee members, our volunteers of every hue – not least our coaches and mentors – our parents, supporters, staff, the wider Clondalkin community and of course our players across all codes and age groups.

The hard work and commitment that goes into a functioning club is not taken for granted but I'd like to think that we all derive satisfaction and indeed enjoyment from being involved in a club that plays such a central role in our community and indeed the lives of so many, both young and not so young.

A special 'Go raibh Maith Agaibh' to Pádraig MacCarthy, Liam MacLaughlin and Simon Breslin who step back from their roles as Communications Officer, Chair of Coaching and Games and Oifigeach na Gaeilge. All have given a life time's service to the club in numerous guises and I don't think they will be going too far!

The ongoing vibrancy of our juvenile section for both boys and girls, from Towers Óg and Towers Le Chéile is a huge source of encouragement and our efforts to operate proudly under the 'One Club Model' at a time when the GAA, LGFA and An Cumann Camógaíochta continues to discuss closer cooperation and a possible merger at national level, underline the logic in this.

Given the detail of our secretary's report and other submissions, I don't intend to dive into every aspect of the club operation but below are some observations from the past year, which merit consideration.

Highlights

- Ladies football section – another clean sweep and commencement of a second adult football team.
- Growth of Lotto sales

- Appointment of former county dual player Dotsy O'Callaghan as Club GPO. Best of luck to his predecessor Shane Treanor.
- Schools finals appearances with St Joseph's (boys football) playing at Croke Park and Coláiste Chilliaín (camogie) claiming titles with teams almost entirely made up of club players.
- Numerous successes at underage level across different codes.
- County representation with stand-out accolades for Aoife Whelan, Laura Casey (U14 football); Aoife Robertson and Rebecca Nolan (Minor) and Maia Ezan (U17) and numerous representatives on development squads.
- Role of Derek Murray and Frankie Roebuck with the All-Ireland winning Dublin LGFA team and the involvement of Hannah Tyrrell on the team.
- Website revamp.
- Facilities – pitch marking group and Monastery Road team headed by Ed O'Malley
- Monastery Road artwork and branding
- Establishment of the Green Club working Group chaired by Sinéad Curran.
- Annual Croke Park Lunch and Féile Fundraising Race Night.
- Successful grant application for installation of astroturf between our main pitch and existing astro.
- Summer and Easter Camps.
- The progress made by our referees including Ray McBride (LGFA Senior County Final), Fergal McDonagh and Dean Alford amongst others.
- Jenny Byrne joining an Cumann Camógaíochta at Croke Park level joining fellow club members Sinéad McNulty (Camogie CEO) and Aaron Douglas (GAA National Match Officials Administrator) working at central level.
- Dermot Earley leadership programme

Challenges

- Balancing the operational demands with the strategic delivery of Towers Abú
- Recruitment and retention of new volunteers – too many people doing more than one job.
- Ongoing wait for the Gaelscoil project (letters of offer have finally issued to contractors)

- Loss of pitch 49 in the Community Centre to remedial drainage work.
- Absence of a dedicated fundraising committee or working group.

There has never been a year in our club – or any other for that matter – when everything is plain sailing and I think it would be remiss of us to focus only on the positives in a given calendar year.

Needless to say, the positives far outweigh the challenges and there are green shoots galore, not least in the influx of new people into our club. How we harness that volunteer energy will determine our success in realising the ambitions of Towers Abú.

I would like to thank all of those who represent us at county board level and also acknowledge the departure of CEO John Costello who was always a friend to this club. His contribution to the GAA landscape in this county – and indeed further afield – was hugely significant and his ability to do this with the good humour he did, made him the popular and effective administrator he was.

Closer to home, I would remind all of our members that our officers are volunteers and deserve to be treated with dignity at all times. Sometimes they will make decisions that are difficult but they do so in the interests of the club, based on the facts in front of them. That needs to be acknowledged and respected.

I would like to acknowledge all of those club members who we lost during the year and their families who mourn them. It is a great source of pride that we can host members' funerals and I thank all of those who make that possible through the provision of catering and hospitality.

Our Annual Club Mass is another important occasion in our club calendar and thanks to Tommy Keogh and the wider team who make it happen.

Finally, a special word of thanks to my own family for their support and understanding for the days and nights away from the house.

The same applies to all who volunteer in one guise or another. This is what makes the eco-system work.

I would also like to acknowledge the support, goodwill and generosity of spirit from our members, young and old, extended to me which helps make the club what it is, ensuring it will be here, thriving for the next generation.

Na Cloigithe Abú.

Alan Mac Maoldúin
Cathaoirleach
Cumann An Chloighí CLG
25ú Samhain 2023

Secretary's Report 2022

Tuarascáil an Rúnaí

Firstly, I would like to extend a warm welcome to our members to the AGM of 2023.

On behalf of the Executive committee, I would like to thank all our members for their contributions to our club during the year. Our club community is an integral part of why we all do what we do, and club members are at the heart of that.

I wish to acknowledge the work of all the clubs' sub-committees for your efforts throughout the year. My eyes have been opened in the last few years as an executive member to the amount of unseen background work that goes on day to day, week to week and month to month in our club. There are many "thankless" jobs that deserve to be brought into the light and acknowledged as we are doing here in this report. This is a collation of the outstanding work that is being done in Round Towers Clondalkin.

The club secretary cannot carry out their duties without input from all of my executive colleagues – I cannot count the number of times that I have been supported so ably by each and every one of them. No question is too frivolous, no task too onerous and no request goes unanswered – a great team of people. Everyone is just a call, text or email away and I am very appreciative of that support in my role. An extra special word of thanks to Dean Alford in his role as leas-rúnaí. Dean has been a great mentor to me over the last year and a half, and I simply wouldn't have been able to carry out all of the duties required without his amazing support and assistance. Again, a lot of the administrative work takes time and coordination, and Dean has proven time and time again that he is a font of knowledge in this arena.

Every single volunteer who makes our club tick is also supported by family members / friends who support them to leave the house and make sure the jobs get done. Let's thank the ones at home / work / in our extended lives who make it possible for the work to get done!

A special word of thanks to Fiona Coy as juvenile secretary for all of her hard work. Dawn O'Neill and Mark Casey liaise with the club secretary on behalf of the Camogie Association and LGFA respectively. Their cooperation and support is appreciated.

A note of thanks to our Chairperson, Alan Milton. I am very grateful for the support I continue to receive from him in his role as Chairperson. It has been great to work alongside Alan, and I look forward to continuing that into 2024.

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

Another successful year at Juvenile level. 36 teams in all codes-Boys and Girls took to the field to represent the club. It's great to see so many boys and girls in the Towers colours every weekend and at training during the week. It's also great to see so many mentors who are all giving up their free time to help coach the kids and provide a safe and fun environment for them to learn and develop their skills and to be the best they can be. The number of kids coming through the gates is growing every year as is the number of mentors. Well done everyone and keep up the good work.

There has been many success stories on the playing fields and a quick glance at each team's individual reports-you will see multiple teams win some silverware throughout the year. A great achievement to all players and mentors involved. How we measure success is always a debatable question. While adding silverware is no doubt a huge achievement, but also getting 36 teams out over the year with mentors out in wind and rain and taking to the playing fields in league, cup and championship with high numbers is a success story in itself. We must be proud of all our efforts and keep on building on our work to date and try get as many Juveniles through to the adult section as possible and it's there that they can continue to enjoy GAA, "be the best they can be" and "add a bit of tin" to their collection.

Well done to all those that represented the club on Dublin Development Trials and to those who were picked on individual squads. A great achievement to be picked to represent the club at trials and obviously for those that were selected a huge well done. I hope everyone enjoys the experience.

Special thanks to our Facilities Committee who tirelessly try to accommodate our Juvenile teams with training locations and match day venues. Not an easy task. Special mention to Mick Fallon and Mick McAdam who worked tirelessly throughout the year.

A thank you to our Referee Co-ordinators Brian Douglas and Carol Condon who organise our refs for our Go Games. With so many teams and locations it's a tricky task trying to facilitate everyone but they somehow manage every year.

As always a big thank you to Betty, Catherine & Jessica in the club shop for helping in the purchasing of equipment for our teams. They are always helpful in tracking down gear for our teams even at the last minute.

Coaching and Development Committee works closely with the Juvenile Committee and there is a lot of work going on in the background especially with Conor Clifford from AP Performance. It's a great advantage to us as a club in the development of the boys and girls and great to see them in the gym under the expert guidance of Conor and his team.

A big welcome to our new GPO David "Dotsy" O'Callaghan. A fantastic addition to our Club. The work in the schools and Towers Óg is a vital part of getting numbers into the club and setting up teams to be ready for U8s and Go Games.

I must also say thank you to the crew up there every Saturday at Towers Óg and throughout the year at the Camps. A fantastic team who organises and facilitate our younger Juveniles coming through the gates. No easy task but they run it with such ease-they are a credit to our Club.

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.

I'd finally like to thank my fellow Juvenile Committee members for all their help and support throughout the year. A great group of volunteers who have worked tirelessly to develop our Juvenile Section. A special thank you to our Juvenile secretaries- Fiona, Dawn and Mark who all have a heavy workload but manage to get the job done.

The Committee is as follows.

Liam MacLaughlin
Fiona Coy
Mark Casey
Méabh Milton
Dawn O'Neill
Michelle Walsh
Sandra O'Connor
Niall Reilly
Anto Davis
Niall Connaughton

Yours in Sport
Willie Kennedy

Garda Vetting & 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. A special mention also to Fiona Coy for her tireless work to endeavour to collate and manage the endless spreadsheets. This ensures all mentors complied with the requirements of all three associations in this regard. Along with the role of Chairing any discipline issues, Michelle works tirelessly with keeping everything in order. Thanks to Michelle for all her hard work. 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, Alan Milton, David O' Callaghan (G.P.O. since Sept), Shane Treanor.

Towers Óg is aimed at children between the ages of 4 and 7 years old and introduces them to Gaelic Games. The children are divided into age-appropriate pods with their own designated pitch and equipment. Our numbers dipped earlier in the year but rose back to the weekly average of approx. 160 with the appointment of David O' Callaghan to the G.P.O. post. The above named organisers attend every Saturday and help with the yearly camps. We also have a dedicated group of coaches from our teenage Club members, without whom we couldn't function. During September and October, the G.P.O. 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 Mc Laughlin who helps with the setting up every Saturday.

Camps:

We again held successful Camps at Easter and July. The Easter Camp was the most popular yet with numbers reaching 250. Registration for the July Cúl camp again had to be done on line with all 250 places filled in 11 minutes. We had to re-open it for a limited date so that a further 35 Club members could register, thus making it the largest Cúl Camp in Dublin for that week. Our Towers Club Camp which followed the Cúl Camp was also very popular with numbers reaching 280. 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

This year is the 5th Anniversary of Le Chéile, an initiative started by the club in 2018 for children with Special Needs. The initiative goes from strength to strength, with new children coming every year, and key to the success of the programme are the volunteers. In order to create an environment where the

children are safe and can get the most benefit from the session, we need at least one coach for each child. Thanks to our dedicated group of volunteers, we have managed (in most weeks) to have one coach for each child.

The feedback we get from the parents of the children is very humbling. I don't think any of us can ever truly know the impact Le Chéile has on the lives of these children. However, if the feedback from the parents is any indication, then our Club can be very proud of the small difference Le Chéile is making in the lives of these very special children. None of this would be possible without the commitment, energy and enthusiasm of our volunteers, and behalf of these children we would like to send a Míle Buíochas to each and everyone one of you for volunteering.

In October we were invited by The Gladiators Club to deliver a coaching session to the children in their club. While a number of the children in The Gladiators attend Le Chéile, the majority of the children were new to the GAA. That session was a tremendous success. The children were fully engaged and had a ball. The organisers from the Gladiators said that it was probably the best event they had seen from any sporting organisations, which they said was a result of the large number of Towers members who volunteered their services that night. So, on behalf of Le Chéile and the club, we would like to thank everyone who helped make that such a special night for the children.

There is no doubt that Le Chéile is having a very positive impact on the children, and our ambition is to grow the number of children attending Le Chéile each week. However, in order to meet this goal, we need more volunteers. Its only one hour in a week. You don't need any previous coaching experience. Our drills and exercises are easy to deliver and are lots of fun. You'll be making a real difference in the lives of these children and all the volunteers will tell you how proud we all are to give these children with the opportunity to participate in our games. So please come and join us; Monastery Road, Saturday mornings 10:30- 11:30.

In closing, we want to say how great it was to see one of our first volunteers (Gerry Banks) back in the fold and getting stuck in again with the children. Gerry you were badly missed. Also, a special word of thanks to Sean McNamara for all you do for us each week, its greatly appreciated Sean, thanks.

Coaching and Games Committee

The Coaching and Games Committee in 2023 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 - Paddy Morris (under 17 Boys Football Mentor), John Quinlan (U11 and U13 – Boys and Girls Mentor – Hurling Camogie and Football), Angela Downes (Girls U15, Football), Willy Kennedy (mentor Under 13 Boys Football) Tom Curran (Adult Player), Greg Waters (Parent/Mentor U13), Anthony Davis and Niall Kelly (Boys U14 Football and Hurling) Keith Bracken,

Mark Healy (Club Coach) Niall Byrne (Development Squad Coach) Conor English (Dublin U17 hurling mentor), (Liam Mac Laughlin (Chairperson).

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 utilising our Games Promotion Officers (GPO's) Shane Treanor to July and David Dotsy O Callaghan from September, the GAA Coaching Pathway for technical proficiency and Armoured 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 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.

2023 Activities

The main activities undertaken by Coaching and Games are as follows.

Interaction with Teams

C&G met with most Teams from CCC1 and CCC2 in January February to review and encourage all coaching groups to produce yearly plans to cover all the skills during the year and to produce individual plans for each coaching session.

During the year members attended several CCC1 training sessions but we were unable to get to as many as we would have liked. This initiative highlighted the challenge faced by workloads on members as most are already mentors with their own training sessions to attend and are occupied at weekends with their teams playing. The challenge could possibly be overcome if plans to recruit a Games Development Officer come to pass and this person is able to work directly with teams and mentors to strengthen the overall standard of coaching.

A Player Pathway was launched on 8th February for U7 to U12 Teams by Keith Bracken with circa 30 coaches in attendance. The Pathway is on

Coaches Corner [Coaches Portal | Round Tower GAA Club](#) and lists the individual skill levels expected at various age groups.

In addition, a template skill checker and tracker are available on the portal for coaches to utilize and monitor skill levels. The GAA pathway for older age groups can also be accessed through the Coaches Corner.

Coaching Work Shops

- Following last year's AGM, a Ladies Football Coaching Night organised by Mark Healy was held on 5th December with Derek Murray and Paul Casey. The night was well attended, and the lads gave a fantastic two-hour session comprising of skill development and how to incorporate same into training sessions. The level of skill exhibited by our Juvenile Ladies teams was a credit to their coaches.
- Keith Bracken and I attended Dublin GAA Coaching Symposium on 17th 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.
- A Hurling Workshop in Monastery Road on 17th February organized by Conor English with Dublin Minor Hurling Coach Adrian O Sullivan was well attended by more than 20 coaches.
- Football Goalkeeping Workshop organized by Mark Healy held in Monastery Road with St Francis Goalkeeping Coach on 10th March.
- Nutrition Workshop was organized by Mark Healy with Nutrikate (Kate Mc Daid) for U16 and Minor boys.
- Ladies Football Goalkeeping Workshop was held with Dublin Goalkeeper Ciara Trant on 31st March.
- Hurling/Camogie Goalkeeping Workshop April 30th in Monastery with Emer Keenan was very well attended.
- The hurling Workshop with Martin Fogarty on 3rd May in the clubrooms was most engaging and enjoyed by a good number of hurling and camogie coaches.
- Nutrition Workshop for Girls CCC2 teams held in May with Kate Mc Daid was organized by Angela Downes with good attendance from younger age groups.
- Football Goalkeeping Course by Leinster GAA was organised by Keith Bracken before September games got into full swing and may be repeated before year end.

As can be seen from the above quite a few workshops were held and well attended. This shows the Club's commitment to getting the very best outside coaches to demonstrate best practice and many of our coaches are attending. It is hoped that coaches 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.

GPO Led Coaching Courses

Coaching training is provided through the GAA accredited Coaching Pathway with Foundation Course leading to Award 1 and 2 Children's before progressing to Award 1 & 2 Adult and more advanced courses. The following were run in-house in 2023 by Shane Treanor and David O Callaghan.

- Award 1 Child Course Collinstown and Moyle Park 20th, 21st, 28th Jan and 4th February (14 attending) – with outside tutors Willy Braine, Paraic Mc Donald and Shane Treanor
- The Foundation Coaching Course was held Wednesday 26th and Saturday 29th April.
- The 2nd Foundation Coaching Course was held on Friday 10th and Saturday 11th November.
- We were unable to get Award 1 Youth and Adult course – courses in Ballyboden and St Maurs – Dotsy has been promised Towers as a venue in 2024.

Long Term Athletic Development Programme (LTAD)

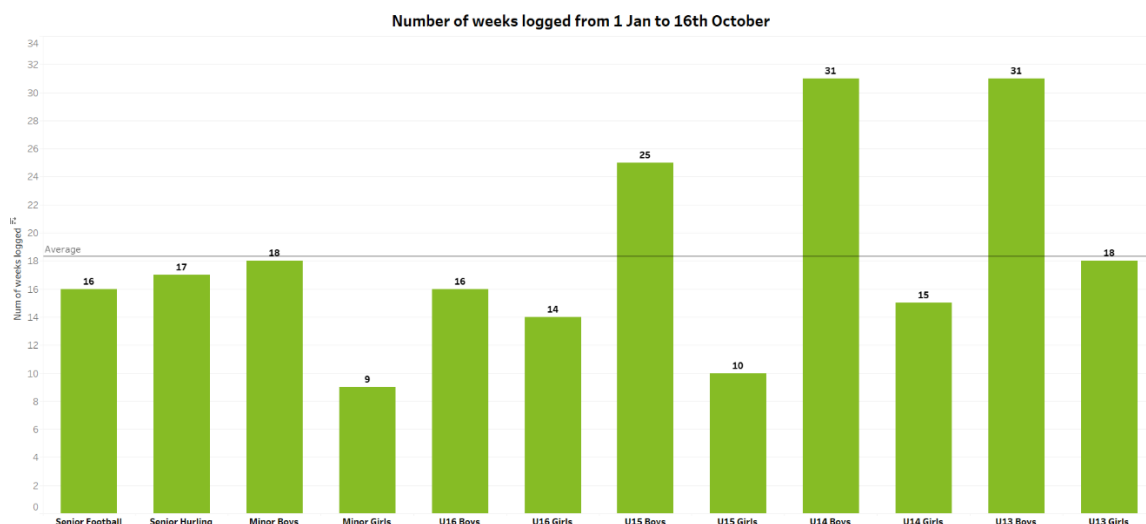
During 2023 Conor Clifford and his Team in Armoured Performance supported all Juvenile Coaches from Under 11 to Under 16 with age-appropriate testing and recording of results as well as programming for several minor and Adult Teams (a detailed report from Conor is included with this report).

AP commenced testing U12 to U16 over Easter 11th to 14th April and further Testing was undertaken in the October Mid Term Break.

Data is now available on the RPTC programme, collated by Lee Moran and analysis underway by Mick Hallows. It is hoped to have data available for presentation to coaches in December/January.

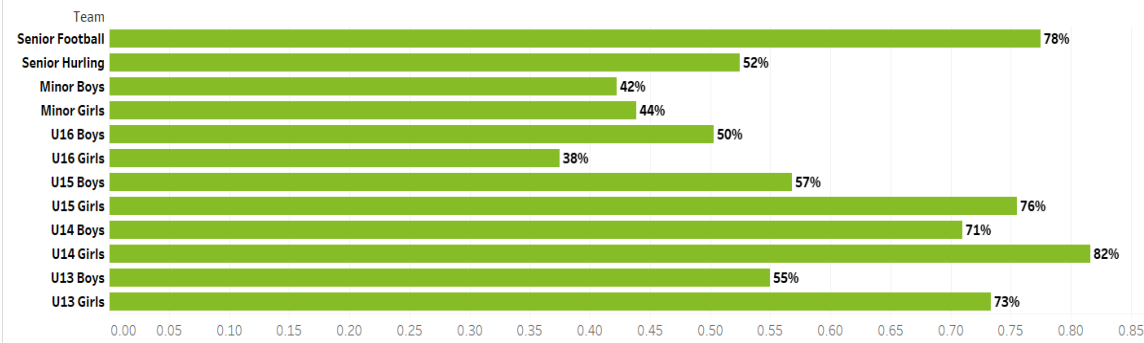
AP also gave increased access to the gym facility with individual booking available for the older teams and group sessions for U13 upwards across all codes. This proved relatively successful though challenging to manage during the playing season.

Slides beneath gives a summary of attendance in weeks and percentage attendance based on standard squad sizes throughout the year. It is intended to share this information at a session with Coaches in early January for an in-depth discussion on where we are at on the LTAD and future actions.



**Number of weeks there was attendance input to show the frequency over course of the year to date.*

Average Attendance % based on Squad size



**Note standard squad size input was 20, except for Senior Football (30), Senior hurling (25), and u14 girls (25) – this will need to be sense checked and reviewed. As up to date squad sizes for varying groups was not available the above methodology was adopted for consistency.*

Whilst it is good to see that access to the gym has been increased it is evident for varying reasons that there are differing levels of engagement throughout the year, and this is something that needs to be explored in more detail in the coming year.

Other initiatives

- Coaching Corner Coaches Portal | Round Tower GAA Club was updated and refreshed by Tom Curran (and despite travelling abroad Tom has been a great source of support to the committee by continuing to update the portal whilst on his travels). The portal is a very useful resource available to coaches giving access to age-appropriate rules, skills, drills, and games as well as Session Training Templates. In addition, Coaches are directed to the various GAA Coaching Websites operated by the various codes with lots of useful coaching materials. It is hoped to develop a forum for sharing of information and discussion.
- Link to Secondary Schools in the Centre of village was established late last year and hopefully can be developed further to promote and develop the playing of games in Secondary Schools. We are thankfully seeing some progress in the playing of games within all schools and a renewed interest in Moyle Pak in hurling thanks to Mr John Quane whilst Páidí Swinburn continues to fly the flag in Coláiste Chilliaín.
- Wednesday after school Camogie training was organised by John Quinlan in Coláiste Chilliaín with other club members. Training went very well with the girls doing extremely well in competition.
- Blitzes were run in September in Moyle Park with circa 50 boys taking part in hurling blitz and approximately 80 in football blitz – thanks to Pat Lawless, Sam Walsh and Sean Mc Namara and David O Callaghan for making it possible as well as Executive for providing much appreciated refreshments.
- 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

- Co-ordinating the work of the Games Promotion Officer and Long-Term Athlete Development personnel is an ongoing activity for Coaching and Games.
- Keith produced a number of Coaching and Games Newsletters over the year containing lots of interesting articles on Coaching, games, skill and drills.

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 – it is hoped to develop further in 2024.
- 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 – great progress to date with CCC1 and to be undertaken with CCC2.
- Recruit/Develop internal coaching resources to support existing coaches.
- Continue the rollout of full LTAD programme to U11 to U16's with metrics.
- Implement skill-based metrics across codes.
- Review Composition of Coaching Committee and develop further.
- Introduce Sports Psychology Sessions for mentors.
- 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.

Having observed matters over the last few years I believe we also face challenges by

- not having enough players when we get to U15/16 to operate two teams at all codes which presents a problem in catering for and retaining late developers
- an over emphasis by some on winning or children being on an A team versus a B team.
- On occasion players playing up above their age group at the expense of players who are the correct age
- conflicts which can arise because of people operating in numerous roles e.g. mentor of a team, committee member or on numerous committees – it can be difficult but necessary to set aside any self-interest when issues arise.
- ability to recognise that we are all part of the one club – that we are challenged in not having enough facilities to allow everyone to play

where we would prefer and having a willingness to compromise and understand.

However, it is heartening to see so many committed people stepping up and taking on roles in the club as well as the growing number of coaches who are buying into the way forward and the raising of standards in the Juvenile Section over the last number of years with good numbers in many of the younger age groups and a number of teams across all codes operating at higher levels. This bodes well for the future.

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.
- Members of the Coaching and Games Committee for their cooperation and commitment and in particular the subgroups and individuals mentioned above who have done magnificent work during the year.
- GPO Shane Treanor for his dedication and work over the previous five years in Schools, Towers Og, Camps, Workshops and Coaching Courses.
- Our new GPO David (Dotsy) O Callaghan who joined us in September and has hit the ground running with an immediate presence in the schools, Towers Og, several teams and has already delivered a Foundation Coaching Course. We are fortunate to have obtained the services of David and I would ask that he be given time and space to grow into his role and not be overburdened with individual requests.
- Towers Og personnel who are a self-sufficient group who do such trojan work on every Saturday morning.
- A particular thanks to Sean Mc Namara who is always there for us, willing to support and give advice when requested and on occasions when needed.
- Conor, Andy (who is currently on sabbatical in some far off place ☺), Lee and Sean from Armoured 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.
- Barry Gavin, Caimin Keane, Greg Waters from Towers Abu for their advice, encouragement, support, and challenge.
- Our Juvenile Games Committee collaborates closely with us in supporting mentors and coaches and in particular Chair Willy Kennedy and Secretary Fiona Coy. Fiona does an enormous amount of work in communication with Teams on our behalf and the Juvenile Committee as well.
- My Executive colleagues for their support, encouragement, and assistance during the year, in particular Mick Mc Adam and Facilities Team who accommodate the workshops and Fred for communicating Coaching and Games activities.

Finally, after being involved on the Gym Development and Coaching and Games Committee over the past number of years I am taking a step back next year and handing over responsibility for Coaching and Games to Keith Bracken. Keith, his family, and I go back a long way. It was my privilege to see him go up the steps of Parnell Park on St Patrick's day in 1999 as an U15 A Championship winner and despite living outside the village Keith remains a very committed Round Towers man. He has a genuine enthusiasm and energy to drive on Coaching and Games and deserves every support in his new role and if he needs to give me a call at any stage I'll be there in the background.

Regrettably I am unable to attend the AGM as I am taking part in the Annual "Moonlight Challenge" for the Wicklow Mountain Rescue in the Wicklow mountains this evening but would like to wish the incoming committee's all the very best in their endeavors in 2024.

Liam Mac Lochlainn
Coaching and Games

Games Promotion Officer Functions 2023/24

The following areas of responsibility of previous GPO Shane Treanor and will for the moment be continued by current GPO David O Callaghan. Initial report from Dotsy follows this template.

GPO Areas of Work:

- Primary Schools Coaching
- Coaching Education
- Towers Og
- U-7 Development Teams
- Club Camps
- Running of Club & Primary School Blitzes
- Dublin County Board Inservice

Primary Schools:

Primary aim in schools:

- Maintain and develop existing links with schools.
- The Promotion of Round Towers Chluain Dolcain GAA club in primary schools
- Recruitment of players for Towers Og through GAA activities in primary schools
- Recruitment of CCC1 players through GAA activities in primary schools
- Implementation of GAA lessons promoting Round Towers Chluain Dolcain GAA club
- Leading and assisting after-school GAA programmes through GAA based activities.
- Leading, delivering and promotion of GAA primary school blitzes.
- Promotion of mindfulness, health & wellbeing through GAA activities

Schools that have engaged with the GPO programme in 2022/23 and will continue in 2024.

- Gaelscoil Chluain Dolcain
- Gaelscoil Na Camoige
- Our Lady Queen of Apostles Clonburr NS
- Scoil an Chroí Ró-Naofa Srúleen
- Scoil Ide
- Scoil Mhuire
- Scoil Naomh Aine
- St Joseph's BNS
- St Peter Apostle

Where possible the focus is to deliver a GAA programme for each class in every primary school. For example, The timetable for a class will be 4-6 weeks. In agreement with schools, the primary focus will be with Junior, Senior 1st & 2nd classes.

Primary School Initiatives Completed 2023

- Afterschool Gaelic Football Gaelscoil Chluain Dolcain – pre-February
- Hurling and Camogie blitzes on Feb 9th with 5 schools in the hurling and 2 in the Camogie. Circa 100 children for hurling and circa 50 for Camogie.
- Boys Football was held on Wed Sept 6th. 6 schools, 8 teams & 198 boys.
- Girls Football was held on Thurs Sept 7th. 8 schools, ten teams & 206 girls.

Future Planning

- Hurling/Camogie school programme confirmed for Jan 2023
- Maintain and develop an existing link with schools re delivery of lessons plans & recruitment.
- Maintain and develop the running of blitzes in schools.
- Continuous school reports which are submitted monthly.
- School/Player recruitment day to take place in early Jan 2023

Coaching Education: The primary objective of coaching education is for upskilling of coaches in the club whereby they gain more knowledge and experience through structured certified and uncertified practices.

Work Completed 2023:

- Towers Og continuous coaching development training current coaches
- Towers Og Parents coaching workshop (March 2023)
- Award 1 Child Course Collinstown and Moyle Park 20th, 21st, 28th Jan and 4th February (14 attending) – with outside tutors Willy Braine, Paraic Mc Donald and Shane Treanor
- Foundation Coaching Course was held Wednesday 26th and Saturday 29th April.
- 2nd Foundation Coaching Course was held on Friday 10th and Saturday 11th November.

Coaching Education Plan for 2024

- Coaching Calendar in preparation

Camps 2023

- Organising & running of Easter camp 2024
- Organising & running of Cul camp 2024
- Organising & running of club Summer camp 2024
- Camp coaching workshop for coaches x2 (April/June)
- Continuous training and development of coaches who work at all camps.

U-7 Team Development

- Assisting with launch of Boys Team in February 2024
- Assisting with launch of Girls Team in February 2024

Areas for improvement U-7 Team:

- Foundation accreditation, Safeguarding & Garda Vetted for new and existing coaches.

Towers Og:

- Recruiting players to attend at Monastery Rd on Saturday mornings.
- Organise and train teenage and adult coaches who consistently volunteer with Towers Og

Other

- Attending Inservice with Dublin County Board, National Level & Coaching Ireland Tutoring
- Monthly Club planners submitted.
- Weekly Dublin County Board planners submitted.

Report from Dotsy on Activities since September

Schools Programme

Focus is on Junior infants to second class with a view to recruitment for Towers Og.

Schools covered pre new year Scoil IDE, Scoil Aine, Clonburriss, Sruleen, St. Josephs and Gaelscoil na Camoige.

We will be alternating schools from January.

Towers Og

Station based sessions working well and pre walkthroughs with our coaches each Saturday helping give clear instruction for the upcoming session.

How to coach Workshop planned for early January for all Towers Og coaches as well as separate session for incoming u/7 parents who will be moving on from Astro to field.

Coach Education

Well done to everyone who recently completed Intro to Coaching course. Another course will be running early March for anyone interested. Award 1 child and Award 1 youth/adult courses to be held within Round Towers in 2024 (dates to be confirmed).

Player Pathway Workshops

Hoping to run Player Pathway workshops where we will look at specific skills/areas to work and focus on for relevant age groups e.g. u/8 u9s together. Dates for these to be released early December but likely Friday evenings and it is hoped to get a good turnout where coaches can align plans etc.

Finally, thank you to everyone I've worked with for all the assistance in helping settle into new role.

Dotsy

Report from Conor Clifford (Armoured Performance)

Introduction

In 2023 Armoured Performance entered the 3rd and final year of our current agreement with Round Tower GAA. As things stand the SLA agreed upon in March 2021 is due to expire in April 2024. This makes our reflection of this year and indeed the past 3 years broader, more pertinent, and more assured.

Adult Games:

Gym Attendance:

From Dec 22 to Oct 23 there were 93 collective S&C sessions. This represents an increase of approx. 30 sessions on the same period from the previous year. The highest in any month was 17 sessions during the month of March. For the remainder of the year the average sessions per month was 4.5, where 3 of those months had no collective sessions at all.

On an individual player basis, we saw gym attendance numbers tick slightly up when we look at year on year comparisons. There was a low of 241 attendances by adult players in September with a high of 403 in March. There were five months where we had over 300 individual gym sessions completed by adult players during the period. The average monthly attendance was 323 which is a significant increase on the 177 from the previous year.

The growth from these numbers can be attributed to the recategorisation of previous juvenile players into adult players as they transition into their minor team. It's important to note that the increase in numbers here isn't due to an increased commitment from more established adult players. If anything, we would posit that attendances from those players have stagnated or dropped off slightly over the last year.

Juvenile Section:

Athletic Development Session Attendance:

From Dec 22 to Oct 23 there was also an increase in collective AD sessions. The highest in any month was 25 which was achieved in both January and August. The average of the whole period was 21.6 sessions per month, an increase of 1.6 sessions per month on the previous period.

On an individual player basis, we saw gym attendance numbers decrease when we looked at year on year comparisons. There was a low of 55 attendances by juvenile players in September and a high of 230 in January. The average monthly attendance was 91 which is a decrease on the 112 attendances which were the average for the same period in 2022.

This drop in attendance can be explained by the players who were with juvenile teams in 2022 transitioning to minor teams in 2023. Their numbers are then recorded in adult attendances and unfortunately, we didn't see a significant take up in gym attendances from the U15 girls or U15 boys in 2023 to make up the difference.

RTPC:

We re-engaged with juvenile teams to continue the RTPC assessment battery. This year we changed our approach to these assessments and block booked all juvenile teams from U11-U15 across the one week while they were off school.

We had two testing weeks. One in the early summer and one over the Halloween mid-term. This approach worked much better resulting in more complete and cleaner data capture. Coaching and Games are currently producing a report based on the findings from all the RTPC data to date.

Workshop

In October of this year, we hosted a workshop on speed development. There were more than 30 mentors from a wide representation of codes and grades. Their participation, input and feedback on the workshop was very positive. In 2024 we'll look to identify other areas that mentors feel they'd like further upskilling and aim to provide workshops led by us or outside experts as necessary.

Concluding Remarks

The biggest challenge to AP fully helping Round Towers is still a lack of commitment by most mentors, teams and players of all ages, codes, and genders to a continuous, consistent, and diligent S&C programme. In the 2022 report we wrote, *"There are certainly some who train very diligently, who are very dedicated to improving their physical performance for GAA. Those same players are also conflating the gym attendance numbers, perhaps making it seem like there are more individuals completing their S&C programmes when in fact there is a small number of players who come to the gym 2-4 times per week every week"*. This same problem is still completely true another year further into our partnership.

It is our view that much of the growth that has occurred has been organic and based on our mere presence in the Monastery Road facility. If we had taken a "build it and they will come approach" and not actively chased teams, engaged with mentors, strategized with Coaching and Games etc., we would likely have close to the same attendance figures as we currently do. Any growth in team sessions at juvenile level has been down to the extra sessions we ran during the summer holidays.

Despite the persistent challenges, our perception on the ground is that there are plenty of enthusiastic mentors who work in the best interest of their players, plenty committee members with high ambitions for the club and plenty of driven players to continue the progress of Towers ABÚ.

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: Podge Mc Geever (Head camogie) and Ray Mc Bride (Head football) (13 mentors in total)

League: Go-games

Sponsor: None

The management team have worked very well together. Roles are divided evenly and it's a very cooperative working group which has been conducive to a positive environment for all. All coaches have a daughter on the team. Each coach has brought a wealth of experience from their personal and working life which has benefited the team on numerous fronts. We have approximately 32 players. We will generally have around 25/26 players for each game. This is not always matched by other clubs, especially the 'big' ones. They girls are extremely competitive, a testament to their skill and dedication.

Training sessions have been well planned out. Training has mostly been on astro throughout the year. The group's skill has increased at an astronomical level since the start of 2023 in both codes. Development can be seen in skills such as kicking ability in football. Many are able to strike from their hand in camogie. We would like to get more grass sessions going forward as we feel this will be important to their skill development in the long term.

We organised various activities throughout the year e.g., Halloween and Xmas events. We also have a couple of ongoing fundraising initiatives.

A special mention to Breda Fitzimons (U9) who provided advice and help at the start of the year, for example, how to book pitches, refs etc. The club has been very supportive in everything we have asked for. Perhaps a digital poster ('starter pack') with info on booking things, relevant websites etc could be distributed to new team coaches, especially people who have not been long term members of the club.

This is a fantastic group and we have immensely enjoyed our inaugural season with the girls.

Under 8 Boys Football and Hurling

Mentors: Tom Byrne, Brian Lupton, Anne-Marie Gavin, Paul Allen, Sinéad Curran, Paul Mulhall, Tanya Mulhall, Keith Weldon, Donal O'Brien, Majella Marks, Brian Costello, Paul Clifford

League: Go Games

Sponsor: Liffey Valley Shopping Centre

We started off in February 2023 and both the team and mentors have thoroughly enjoyed the year.

The boys have improved greatly in skill levels across both codes. The mentors have attended Foundation/Introduction to Coaching Course and workshops hosted by the club and have applied these learnings to the training

sessions throughout the year. We have 33 boys with good attendance at training and matches.

We received great support from the club in various forms. At the beginning of the year, we met with the CCC1 leads who provided the structure and templates for how we plan and implement our training sessions and matches. Other teams added to this providing lessons learnt, key contacts and recommendations for fundraising which was greatly appreciated. Mid-year, when we reached out for spare hurls and helmets there was a great response which really helped for supplying equipment to those who are wanting to try out the game before committing to buying equipment.

This ethos in the club gives a great sense of support and community. When U8 are starting we had equipment/bibs passed down as well as new items provided.

The boys enjoyed matches in both codes and we would like to thank the high standard of referees provided by Round Towers. Regularly they would assist in explaining the skills correctly. When playing bigger clubs, we consistently found that their numbers were insufficient. This was very frustrating as we gave some of our players to the other team to ensure all players got match time.

We also organised lots of fun activities at Easter, Summer, Halloween etc. Going into 2024 we would like to see an increase in numbers. We have tried ourselves targeting the parent's WhatsApp groups in schools where we have players involved but it would be good to invest time into schools where we have low numbers.

Under 9 Girls Football and Camogie

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

League: Go Games – 3 team

Sponsor: Summit Scaffolding

This year has been a fantastic year for our u9 girls. Training began in early February with most girls playing both camogie & LGFA. Our training sessions on a Tues night were indoors for the first couple of months which had the bonus of never being affected by the weather. The girls were all eager to get back and it didn't take long to get into the swing of things.

Matches commenced with Camogie in early March & LGFA matches starting at the beginning of April. Before the summer break we gained 2 new mentors and 2 new girls playing.

Some of our mentors completed the Foundation Course and/or Award 1 Child course and the benefits of this were obvious with the input from these mentors.

We organized a sponsored "special gúna" walk which the girls thoroughly enjoyed and succeeded in raising enough money to purchase a mobile defibrillator from The Ciaran Carr Foundation which we now have at every training session/match regardless of location. We ended our Spring/Summer season with a great night of bowling.

The girls returned to training and matches at the end of Aug after a well-deserved break. September brought 10 new players & 1 extra mentor which was amazing for our team. We now have 44 girls & 13 mentors. These mentor numbers mean that we are able to have plenty of variety within our training sessions. And the extra numbers with the girls meant that we never struggle to field our 3 full teams. The girls got straight back in and improvements in skill and team play could be seen every week. We have some very strong players with our group which has been commented on from most teams that we go up against. Firm friendships can also be seen forming which we hope will last for many years with GAA being the common denominator for each girl. We have our final match coming up this weekend and we will round up the year with a Christmas party in December.

As mentors we are very proud of how far our girls have come over the past year and would like to thank the parents for supporting us and making sure the kids get to matches and training each week.

Under 9 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: Brookfield Driving School

This was our second year as a team and we found it more comfortable after we learnt the ropes last year. It's been a season filled with fun, excitement, and a real sense of camaraderie. Our goal at the start of the year was to keep the numbers we started with and try to recruit more if possible. We are happy to report we were successful in that goal. We started back as early as we could in the new year to build a head of steam in the fundamental skills required to have a successful season, aiming to build the core skills in both codes.

U9s was more competitive this year with the introduction of air hurling and streaming. It took some time to adjust, but as a group we found it to be beneficial for our lads to help them all improve at their own pace. Several of our coaches completed the Foundation and Level 1 courses early in the season. As expected, they are worth doing and run professionally. They provide a perspective away from your group that gives insights that help improve how we want to develop as coaches, with the goal to ensure our lads have the right skills at our age - which in a few years' time will lead to us having the elite teams we all strive for. We had the great opportunity during the year to welcome Belfast Sarsfields to Monastery Road - it was a pleasure to have them down with us. It's always great to test our skills against teams we don't usually play. We learned a lot that day, not only about the skills within games, but how to build that team spirit we all want - we will continue to test our skills against other teams outside our usual organised games and learn from them all. As we reflect on the season, we'd like to give a special mention to Mick Fallon and Fiona Coy, the work they do in the background is immense to keep things going for the Juvenile teams, it's something that's really

appreciated. One of the challenges all teams faced this year and most years is facilities to train on. It would be great to see other teams being more accommodating in some instances where facilities are tight, thinking of the wider club picture rather than just their own teams. The coaching and games committee continue to do trojan work with the teams and we look forward to working with them more over the next few years to help us reach our full potential.

As a mentor group we also wanted to mention in the review of the season some things Towers as a club should be really very proud of - we played a lot of matches this year in football and hurling. It's noticeable the quality of our referees compared to all other clubs. It's an absolute credit to the work of everyone involved and especially to the young boys and girls who take the time out to facilitate the games. They are always honest, fair, and most importantly take the time to explain to all the players why they make decisions.

In closing, this season has been a fun-filled journey of teamwork with coaches, players, and parents. We look forward to continuing the journey next year.

Under 10 Girls Football & Camogie

Mentors: Eimear Lennon, Ciarán Gallagher, James Mullins, Caitríona Mc Grath, John Quinlan, Fran Hyland, Joanne Reilly, Maritta Mullins, Damien Burke, Angela Quinlan, Niall Reilly

League: Go Games U10

Sponsor: Loxam

The season started well with enthusiasm from both the players and the coaches. We train twice a week and play our matches on a Saturday, alternating each week between camogie and football, which the girls continue to enjoy, although we do notice the preference is football drawing bigger numbers weekly for matches. The big change this year was moving training to Moyle Park during the summer months which was embraced and enjoyed by both players and coaches.

Each week the girls took to the pitch with enthusiasm and pride as they represented themselves and the club. The improvement each week was a delight to watch, they displayed great teamwork always encouraging and supporting each other. At times when required by the opposition if they were short of players, our girls facilitated without any hesitation which was great to see, their sense of sportsmanship at such a young age is admirable.

Our girls also very proudly represented Round Towers in the Clondalkin St Patrick's Day parade; they took great pride in performing their team chant for all to hear along the way!!

The girls attended many of our successful Ladies team matches and took great pride in cheering on their coaches Triona and Fran, which is fantastic for the girls to have role models to aspire to.

The highlight for many this year was attending Croke Park on 13th August to see the Dublin Ladies lift the Brendan Martin cup, a solid crew of 105 Round Towers players and parents attended Croke Park to see Carla Rowe lifting

the cup and our very own Hannah Tyrrell being presented Player of the Match. Some of girls even made it onto the pitch during the celebrations!!

The team also took part representing the club in the Ciarán Carr fun run on a wet and miserable day in Corkagh Park, however the weather didn't dampen their spirits, the girls all displayed great teamwork, if any player stalled back, they grouped together to keep going as a team and get everyone over the finish line.

We were also very lucky to have Hannah Tyrrell to come up to Monastery Road with the Brendan Martin cup and give her time to afford the girls the opportunity to take photos with Hannah, get their jerseys signed and get plenty of photo opportunities, a very enjoyable evening was had by everyone!

We had a "Sponsored Spooky Walk" in October which was great fun walking through the village in our fancy dress costumes!

This group of girls are a very special group with some very promising superstars in the making. Their skillset continues to progress significantly and with more challenging drills being introduced in training the girls progress is a joy to watch, not only in training but in matches also.

We are looking forward to next year and all the fun and challenges that it will bring as we compete at U11 level, there's great camaraderie within the team, we're all still smiling at the end of the season which is always a good sign!! All in all, a very successful season full of improved playing, skill, teamwork and most importantly fun, we look forward to next year and the many years to come with this team - the future is bright!

Under 10 Boys Football and Hurling

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

League: Go – Games

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

County Representation: N/A

In the past year, we've made significant progress in both football and hurling, with a primary focus on player retention and growth. Our dedicated mentors have played a crucial role in retaining and recruiting players, despite the appeal of other sports. Our team participated in the Go Games structure, involving 2-team and 3-team football leagues and a 3-team hurling league. Our total number of players has increased to 57, signifying a significant retention rate, particularly in hurling. We've also replaced a small number of players who decided to discontinue their participation in GAA sports. Our team now comprises 39 dual players and 18 football-only players.

We've cultivated strong relationships with both players and parents, nurturing a supportive and passionate atmosphere during matches. In September, we created and communicated our Team Charter as part of the Towers Abú strategy. This document sets expectations for all involved parties (players, parents/guardians, coaches/mentors) with the goal of nurturing individuals within the squad as both people and players. Its aim is

to provide a safe, positive, inclusive, and challenging environment, enabling everyone to reach their potential.

For our 2023 highlight, we were invited by St. Mark's GAA (second year running) to showcase our football skills at the Sean Bowden Memorial Tournament in August. After a strong team performance and the display of exemplary behaviour, we successfully secured the Shield. Our success wasn't just about those who attended the memorial; it's a reflection of our collective effort and the spirit within this fantastic group of children.

A big thank you to the Coaching and Development Committee for offering various coaching workshops. Our ability to prepare annual plans and training sessions in advance allowed the coaching group to develop and grow the player squad. We remain committed to using this approach every year.

A special thanks to our Juvenile and Facilities Committee team for their ongoing support. As we transition to U11, our goal is to both retain our current players and encourage more boys to join our team.

Looking ahead, we're excited about the future and the positive impact we can continue to have in our club and community.

Under 11 Girls Football and Camogie

Mentors: Sandra O Connor, Philip Duffy, Paul Kavanagh, Thomas Cullen, Méabh Milton, Alan Milton, Bernie Wall, Jonathan O'Brien, Rachel Johnston & Willie Kennedy

League: GO Games U11

Sponsor: Husqvarna

County Representation: N/A

The panel for 2012 girls started the year with 49 girls. We had some girls leave, but after the recent school blitzes we had some new girls join and our football panel is now at 52 girls. Unfortunately, we did see a slight drop off in Camogie and are looking into ways to combat this going forward. Despite this we have seen our girls come along regarding their skill level. We have begun to focus more on positions and in the last few weeks have introduced Goalkeeping drills in training. Our girls had their first assessment with the AP team over the Halloween break and thoroughly enjoyed it. This was our last full year in Go Games, and despite weather affecting some fixtures we had a lot of game time for the girls.

As a team we cannot wait to see what next year has in store for our girls as u12s, particularly as we move into grading games in the second half of the year. Despite needing more girls on each team at u12 level, we are confident we will be continuing with 3 teams for Football. With this in mind, we will be looking to recruit more coaches from our group of parents to ensure we have enough coaches to cover all 3 teams, particularly as they may be in different locations for the matches. With larger numbers needed to field Camogie teams at u12 level, we believe we may move to a 2-team option, allowing the coaches to devote more time to developing the skills of all levels.

Under 11 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: Tower Credit Union, Darius Takeaway, Greenpark Pharmacy and Centre Greenpark

The U11 boys' squad has gone from strength to strength in 2023 with a panel made up of approximately 40 players.

We started back training towards the end of January and participated in 37 games in total including 12 Challenge Games.

The Challenge Games were very useful in helping to develop our squad and gathering feedback from all coaches.

We were also lucky enough to play in Croke Park at half time during Dublin's National League double header against Tipperary and Clare in February - a day the team certainly enjoyed.

The team took part in two hurling blitzes during the year including one in the GAA Development Centre at Abbotstown in November.

We were delighted former senior club player Eoghan Óg O Riain came out on a few occasions to pass on his hurling knowledge to the lads and mentors before the summer break along with former Dubs legend Vinny Murphy who also took charge of one training session which was very knowledgeable.

Under 12 Ladies Football

Mentors: Dermot Breslin (lead), Emmett Rogers, Tricia O'Connor, Lisa O'Neill, Fergal McDonagh, Mick Fallon, Tom Ward, Fergus Byrne

League: 2y, 5y, 10y

Sponsor: Jardines, Cedar Craft Carpentry

2023 has been a great year for the u12 girls football team. The players have excelled in skill level and have shown great dedication at training and matches throughout the year. This is also a testament to the parents also as numbers at training and matches remain high.

It's important to remind parents about sideline behavior and expectations. We ask parents to leave the sideline coaching to the mentors as this can confuse players when both are giving instructions. There's no limit on the amount of communication between a parent and daughter, once its words of encouragement and positivity.

We lost a few players this year but have gained just as many new recruits., with 52 players currently on the panel.

We entered 3 teams this our final year of Go Games, playing 13 aside on a bigger pitch which they really enjoyed.

During the summer break, the county board requested that we enter our 3 teams into 3 separate groups, ranging from 1 to 11, depending on their ability. This was the first time that streaming kicked in for us.

Selecting players for each team was challenging but we made sure that all girls wanting to try out at a different level got the opportunity, so players moved from team to team on a weekly basis.

Due to such short notice, the official streaming came with a problem as we found ourselves playing matches in 3 different locations which we weren't prepared for at all.

We only have 2 female coaches, we didn't have enough first aid kits, kit bags, cones etc. as we were always playing in the one location prior to this.

A lack of warning and preparation caught us out so we would advise all u11 teams to prepare for this well in advance.

We understand that from u13's onwards, the competition gets more serious, but we will try our best to keep the girls interested and most of all, enjoy their time on the pitch.

Under 12 Camogie

Mentors: Dermot Breslin (lead), Emmett Rogers, Tricia O'Connor, Lisa O'Neill, Fergal McDonagh, Mick Fallon, Fergus Byrne.

League: Camogie- 2 team

Sponsor: None

2023 has been a great year for the u12's camogie team. The players have excelled in skill level and have shown great dedication at training and matches throughout the year. This is not only testament to the players, but to the parents also as numbers at training and matches remain high.

We lost a few players this year and thankfully gained just as many new recruits, with 34 players currently on the panel.

We entered 2 teams for our final year of go games. This year the girls were playing 13 aside on a bigger pitch which they really enjoyed.

After the summer break, streaming began which made things a bit more competitive as up to that point we were playing with teams of mixed ability. Unlike football, we played the same club in the one location which was a much easier to manage.

Selecting players for both teams can be challenging but we made sure that all girls wanting to try out at a different level got the opportunity, so we moved players from team to team on a regular basis.

We make sure to treat both teams equally, ensuring the players that both teams are of equal importance.

Go-Games, for this group is coming to an end with most of the girls have been with the club since nursery. It has been a pleasure to support them in growth in strength and ability.

Next year we plan on entering 2 teams into the u13 County Board leagues and will look forward to the challenge.

Under 12 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: 3 team Football: Div 4, 9 and 17, 2 team Hurling: Div 3 & 7 after grading

Sponsor: Specs Savers and Flower Factory from the Mill

The core objective for the management was to continue skills development and keep up the FUN element. A panel of 42 players was maintained for Football with a drop to 30 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. The grading at the start of the year was challenging as we were placed in 2 strong grading groups for both Football and Hurling. The Hurling team performed well in Div 3 and battled well in Div 7. The hurling 2nd team lost some strong boys to soccer - Div 7 was a tough group to play in with new players learning the basics. The football 3 teams worked hard and put in some good quality performances during the year. Focus continued on the basics in both codes during training sessions. After the summer we decided to reduce the football B/C team and merge into one team as we had trouble fielding teams every Saturday with a team playing in Div 9 till end of year. We had a team building trip to Croke park to see the Dubs in action and it was a nice day out for the boys, parents and Coaches.

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

Finally, a special thanks to the Juvenile committee/Facilities team for their continued support and encouragement throughout 2023. Thanks to U11 boys for helping with matches when light on numbers. Our team also supported the U13's when they were short on players which was a great experience for our players. A bonus was helping the U13H B team win their Hurling league. Big 'Thank You' to the senior team players/coaches for supporting a skill session with the teams throughout the year, great to get new ideas and another voice for the boys to listen to. The coaching workshops also helped with some new ideas and was well supported by the team's mentors.

We shared flyers with local schools to try to increase our numbers as from those lost to soccer. The door has been kept open to players return. We look forward to continuing playing a role with the boy's development as they move into U13 grading and hopefully encourage more boys to join our team.

Under 13 Ladies Football

Mentors: Gerry Courtney, Ossie Murphy, Jessie Doherty , Alan Fagan , Hughie McGonagle and Liam Gleeson

League: Division 2& Division 10

Sponsor:

County Representation: N/A

2023 was a very good and enjoyable year for our girls. The first team went up a div 3-2 and our 2nd team won their shield competition. Although we struggled at time getting equipment, we purchased our own, and later received moneys back from the club. The winter program sees a real downturn with the lack of time and pitches to train the girls.

Us mentors are looking forward to the girls progressing next year. It's very evident that the girls are really enjoying their football.

With regards to Dublin development, we were given the opportunity to put 10 girls forward, which we have done. Hopefully the girls will enjoy it and show what they are made of.

Thanks to everyone involved in the juvenile committee for their communication and hard work throughout the year.

Under 13 Camogie

Mentors: Liam Gleeson, Johnny Nolan, Michelle Dempsey, Jessie Doherty, Fergal McDonagh

League: Division 3

Sponsor: Barróg Healthcare

County Representation: N/A

2023 was a great first year for the girls who finished up in Go Games last year. They have emerged as a strong team within excess of 20 girls consistently training and planning the games. The girls had a very successful league campaign finishing fourth out of ten teams.

In the Cup we had an excellent win over St Anne's, narrowly defeated by Naomh Mearnóg and a draw with Thomas Davis, which left the girls in a Shield Final against Erin's Isles. The girls travelled to Erin's Isle with great support and won the Shield Final in a comprehensive showing on the day.

The future is bright for this team in the hope of progression next year in both league and cup.

Huge thanks to Dawn O'Neill and all the club administrators who do such difficult work to allow for the success on the field.

Under 13 Boys Football and Hurling

Mentors: Willie Kennedy, John Quinlan, Fiona Coy, Declan Fennelly, PJ Donohoe, Declan Hurell, Joe Ledwidge, Donal O'Brien, Ken Byrne, Greg Waters, Brendan Culhane & James Rawl

League: Football Divisions 1 & 8 for both Codes

Sponsor: Tradehire Recruitment Ltd.

County Representation (Hurling):

This was our first year playing a full 15 a side game on a full pitch so it was a big step forward for the boys and mentors. We resumed training in January. Our playing numbers are in the region of 40 boys with around low 30s playing both codes. While we lost a few players in the year we also managed to recruit some new players so overall our numbers remained steady. With injuries becoming more of an issue and lads starting secondary school our numbers came under pressure at times. We did however play all our matches except for 1 football match in Skerries. This contributed greatly to ensuring that our players got maximum game time. Having the 2 teams is vital to this and we got great support from the u12 boys when required.

Both codes played grading games at the start of the year and these were very successful. Our Div 1 hurling team remained in their division while we went from Div 2 to 1 in football following some good victories. Both of our second

teams were put in division 8. This suited us as it enabled lads to play at a level that they were competitive at.

Leagues started in early Summer and we competed very well in both codes. Both our Division 1 teams won matches and probably should have won a few more. Overall, at this stage we're probably mid table Div 1 standard. The larger clubs have more strength in depth but our players are making great progress. Our second hurling team had a great season and won their league. This was a great achievement and reflected very well on a super bunch of lads (and their parents) who consistently train and turn up for matches. Our Division 8 football team were mid table.

At the start of November, 10 of our players represented the club at a Dublin Development blitz. They did very well and were more than a match for the other Div 1 teams. Having strength in depth going forward is a key issue for this team as with a 15 a side game you really need in the region of 20 players of Div 1 level to play at that grade.

Getting pitches was a big issue this year due to the weather so a big thank you to Mick Fallon for facilitating us as much as possible. We'd also like to thank our sponsor Tradehire Recruitment Ltd. for all their support to date.

Under 14 Ladies Football

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

League: Division 2 and Division 10

Sponsor: Mill Centre and Pandini's Restaurant

County Representation: Laura Casey & Aoife Whelan

Our second year in competition with two teams. Our Division 2 team finished the league second on the table. Our championship campaign came to an end when we were defeated by St. Bridget's in a semifinal.

We were delighted to have two of our players representing the club on a county level, with Laura Casey appointed as captain for the Dublin U14 team. The girls attended the Gloria Corrigan Tournament in Co. Monaghan, a high standard of ulster football that included teams from Monaghan, Tyrone, and Armagh. Not to be outclassed, our girls topped their group and reached a cup semifinal which they narrowly lost.

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 14 Camogie

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

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

2023 was another year of progress for our U14 camogie teams and it was hugely encouraging that we continue to field two teams meaning ample game time for in excess of 30 girls and a group that trains together.

Our Green team recorded league wins over Naomh Jude and Castleknock to finish mid table in a competitive league. Two other games were lost by two points.

In the cup, another win over Castleknock and a draw with Lucan saw our girls advance to a semi-final where Ballinteer pulled away near the end to advance.

Our white team made big strides and battled gamely over the course of a difficult league campaign. Their best performances came against Naomh Mearnog - twice in the cup competition - going down as they did in the Shield final after a spirited showing.

Further exposure to the game in the schools was another welcome development over the course of the year and a number of our girls played a prominent role in Colaiste Chillian's school championship success.

Our girls also embraced the club's Long Term Athletic Development programme and thanks to Armoured Performance for their role in this.

Well done to Ella Grace McKenna, Isabelle Johns, Laura Casey, Éabha Milton, Aoife Whelan and Nora Jane Walsh who were all involved with the county development panel.

Successful fundraising heretofore with our male counterparts bodes well for Féile next year, an experience the girls are looking forward to.

Thanks to all of our parents for their support, from washing gear to setting up pitches and fundraising but most notably for their continued encouragement of the girls.

Thanks also to Dawn O'Neill, Brian Douglas, Willie Kennedy and the other club administrators for their crucial roles in the background that help keep the show on the road in a variety of different ways.

The progress made by the girls and their ongoing acquisition of the skills of the game is a great source of pride to the team mentors.

Under 14 Football and Hurling

Mentors: Anthony Davis (Lead), Niall Kelly, Stephen Homan, Dave Costello, Adam Carberry, Chris Kavanagh, Lorcan Downey, Connie Ryan, Davey McCarthy and Darren Gilligan.

League: Football Division 1, Hurling, Div 1 & Div 2

Sponsor: None

County Representation: Larry Hickey & Daniel Ward

The boys had a challenging year in 2023, starting the season in the A Hurling grading level, A and G Levels for the 2 football teams. Our Hurling grading could have done without the injuries to some players. With a small panel we ended up getting relegated on last day of grading games. Our A football team

started of very well and we maintained our goal of remaining in Div1 for second half of the season. Our Second football team fulfilled all games in first half of the season and finished mid table. In March we had 5 players called back for Dublin Hurling Development trials with two of the five being part of the final 48 on the Dublin panel.

The second half of the season was a did not have the ideal start back. With other sports resuming after summer break and with new times clashing, we lost some players which put pressure on our numbers. The Hurlers finished second in their Div 2 group and have since qualified for the Div2 Cup Final. Our A footballers got beaten in the Quarter Finals of the Div 1 gradings. Unfortunately, our B team didn't fulfil any fixtures in the second half of the season.

The boys have showed immense commitment all season and put in the effort at training sessions and at matches. There is a genuine team spirit and indeed leadership within the squad. They have been encouraged to give constructive feedback on training and matches and to support each other. Some availed of gym sessions over season and benefits can be clearly seen.

We are very grateful to all the mentors in giving of their time over the season, and to all the players, parents, guardians and our fundraising team for their invaluable support and encouragement, including on cold and rainy side-lines. The Support for the Feile night was phenomenal and we thank everybody involved in the process from start to finish.

Under 15 Ladies Football

Mentors: Robbie Downes, Gary Behan, Dave Wilkie, Alan Forde, Angela Downes

League: Division 3 and Division 8

Sponsor: N/A

County Representation:

The core objective for U15's LGFA management was player development both on & off the pitch while building friendships & culture of respect.

Feedback from the girls is that they enjoy training and matches and as coaches we are proud to see how they are developing their proficiencies as players, but more importantly us mentors are delighted to see what good friends the girls have become and how they support each other. Since U9 we have always promoted a culture of respect within the team for the girls themselves, their teammates, mentors, referees and opponents. We have also an "encourage only" sideline and we are lucky to have mentors and parents who are on board with this. The starting selection for matches has always and remains based on attendance and attitude at training and not on ability, but we strive to ensure that every girl including subs play at least a half.

We are proud that both teams made it through to Shields Finals in their respective divisions. Unfortunately, the Division 8 team were beaten by 3 points but put in a valiant effort. The Division 3 team were deserved winners in what the referee described as a highly skilled game.

Under 15 Camogie

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

League & championship: Division 3

Sponsor: None

The team started the year with 16 players and gained five new players early in the year to bring that to 21 players. We started the year playing in division 2, which was a big step up. We decided early on that we were going to prioritise building the squad for next year and giving game time to those five new players. We suffered some heavy defeats but in contrast gained invaluable experience from playing at a higher level.

We played our Feile matches in April over a wet and windy weekend, drawn in a tough group, we battled hard, earned a place in a play-off place to be beaten by a point.

We returned to play division 3 Championship after the summer break. Three injuries at the resumption of the season put pressure on the squad and results didn't go our way. Nonetheless we made it the Shield Final against Peregrines and won the match on a scoreline of 4-8 to 3-2. The five new players that began the season with us have now settled in very well and are making huge strides in gaining their skills. We look forward to under 16s next year with a stronger squad, which will hopefully lead to a successful year.

Under 15 Boys Football and Hurling

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

League: Féile Division 1 Football/Division 3 Hurling, Winners of Div. 3 Hurling

Sponsor: CORE Builders Providers

County Representation: Multiple players participating in Dublin developments.

We finished 2022 playing a Division 1 Shield Final against Castleknock under lights on Monastery Road in front of a huge crowd, after a thrilling match the lads were narrowly beaten after extra time in a game many will remember for a long time

The objectives for the players and mentors of this group for 2023 was to be competitive at the highest level in their leagues and to bring this progression through to next year. We welcomed two new players into the teams this year (Jack Fogarty and Johnny Egan) who have both been great additions.

In the Football Féile our Boys qualified to compete in Division 1 Féile for the first time in a long time playing three tough group games and competing in every game eventually beaten in a shield semifinal by a strong St. Sylvesters team. The boys will play Division 2 Football next year with the hope of qualifying for the U16 A Championship

In the hurling Féile the boys played very well in all group games winning two and narrowly beaten by a single point in the third, they bowed out in the semifinal beaten by Ballinteer the eventual winners, in the second half of the

year the Boys competed in Division 3 league and winning it unbeaten after a great run of games.

Thank you to all our players who worked tirelessly over a tough year and reaped the rewards due to them.

We would like to thank Lee Moran for coming onboard as a Football mentor who brings youth, enthusiasm and great coaching to this great bunch of boys and secondly, we would also like to thank Mark Healy and Niall Byrne for the great football training sessions they have given our team and we look forward to more of this at U16. On the hurling side we would like to thank Pat Lawless and John Hoolan for their great help and support at training when asked.

Finally, we the mentors are all looking forward to working with this great group of players and parents in 2024 as they enter their final year as Juvenile Players and follow in the footsteps of great Round Tower juvenile teams who have gone before them.

Under 16 Girls Football

Mentors: Alice Dodrill, Will McCabe, Amanda Gilsenan, Caimin Keane.

League: Division 4

Sponsor: Peter Marks

County Representation: Maia Egan

The main objective for the management of our U16 girls was to bring home wins for both a League & Championship at the start of the year. We worked hard to keep our strong squad of 19 girls together for the year.

We started the year with the League campaign and had a mixed campaign with a mid-table finish.

In the Autumn we played the Championship and reached the Championship semi-final in Division 4.

Main Egan represented our team as the first-choice goalkeeper for Dublin under 16's, who won the Leinster Championship and made it to the semi-finals of the All-Ireland.

We have a great bunch of girls with some real characters, who trained hard this year on the pitch and in the gym.

Thanks to the players and their parents who continuously support and attend the matches regularly and bring girls to all their training sessions. Also, thanks to all the Round Towers members who travelled and supported us in our home & away matches throughout the year. The passion and support from the side-line were brilliant.

Finally, we wish our girls the very best in the future as they move up to Minor football next year.

Under 16 Camogie

Mentors: Bernard O’Sullivan, Eoin Ryan

League: Division 5

Sponsor: None

County Representation: None

Once again, another very successful year for Under 16 Camóige on the back of a league win and shield win last year. We had a great run in the league both ourselves and Kilmacud unbeaten. Unfortunately, they were too strong for us in the league decider, but they say, “revenge is a dish best served cold” and we did overcome them in the Championship Semi-Final. The Girls continued their great form into the Final and had a magnificent display against Na Fianna clinching the championship for themselves. This success was only achieved due to the fantastic co-operation from Mentors and Players in the Camóige Section who supplemented our team, since we only have 13 registered U16 camóige players.

I’d like to say a special thanks to Eoin Ryan who gave his time and knowledge to us so generously he was a huge asset to our team. It has been my privilege and pleasure to coach nearly all these young girls since they were 7 and 8 years of age and to watch them develop into fantastic young ladies. They are a credit to themselves, their parents and the club, and I’m sure they will go on to have even greater success within their camóige careers.

Under 16 Boys Football

Mentors: Robbie Waterhouse, Tom Gilvarry, Paddy Morris & Barry Quinlan

League: Division 4

Sponsor: Kitchen World

County Representation: Aaron Waterhouse

It was a year of transition on and off the pitch for this group. They had two changes of management between the end of last season and this. The main objective of the mgt. team that came in was to maintain the commitment levels and ensure a full squad is transferred into the minor ranks next season. Both of which have been achieved. The mgt. team would like to thank all players and parents as they leave the juvenile ranks of the Club after 8 great years. Special thanks to Robbie and Tom for all their work and Paddy Morris who helped massively when we needed a coach.

Under 16 Hurling

Mentors: Paudge Byrne, Tim Greene, Philip Quinlivan, Greg Stafford

League: Division 4 and C Championship

Sponsor: Kitchen World

County Representation: None

This is a committed group of young men who represent our club extremely well both on and off the field. Our objectives at the start of this year were,

- To continue to provide a fun environment for the players.
- To improve as a team.
- To do more together outside of the games.
- To work hard to improve our hurling skills.
- To ensure that as many of our players as possible transition to the minor grade next year
- To challenge for League and Championship honours.

We have a small group of 18 players and are thankful to the u15 team for helping us out with players during the year. They are a very committed bunch and training and matches are very well attended.

We finished mid-table in the league having drawn 2 games. Wins in those games would have had us challenging for the league.

We had a very competitive championship group. After a great start beating Clanna Gael at home we lost by a point to St Brigids conceding a late goal and were beaten by 2 points by Scoil Ui Chonaill is a cracker in Moyle Park. This meant we were in the Shield competition, and we have beaten Ranelagh Gaels in the q/final of this competition setting up a semi-final against Erins Isle on November 18th.

We have a very close relationship with the football mentors and ran a very successful fundraiser early in the year. This enabled us to get new gear for both panels and we also had a day out bowling and a great trip to Kilkenny to see Kilkenny and Dublin in the Leinster Championship. We are planning another outing for the lads before the end of the year.

We are grateful to the parents and guardians of this group who have supported us throughout this year and indeed since we became involved with this group as under 8's.

A special thanks to our pitch coordinator Mick Fallon and the facilities group headed up by Mick McAdam who have been very helpful when called upon. A special mention to Pat Lawless and all those who have undertaken to have the pitches marked on match days. It makes such a difference to have our facilities so well presented.

As we move out of the juvenile ranks, we bring great memories of the time spent with this group and I am sure they will continue to represent our club with the same pride and passion in the future.

Referee Coordinator Report
Juvenile Hurling, Camogie & Football

In 2023 our Juvenile refs were called upon to officiate at 367 games across Football, Hurling and Camogie. A total of 24 refs supported these games. During the year we had 10 new refs complete training courses across Level 1 and Level 2 and 1 ref completed the Level 3 course.

I want to call out the refs for their commitment during the year. As you can imagine organizing what can be some weeks up to 24 match referees over a weekend is a daunting task and could not be done without the cooperation of the refs and their adherence to the process we have in place. Given the weather this year we also had to accommodate last minute changes and cancellations which are a pain but which were accommodated seamlessly by the wider team.

I also want to thank the mentors for their support throughout the year. Their feedback is important and goes a long way in developing the referees and the right culture that Towers refs are recognized for. We again have had numerous plaudits from away teams as to the quality of the refs and the manner in which they conduct themselves.

Is Mise

Brian Douglas

Adult Games

Adult Games Committee

AGC met regularly throughout the year, thanks to Val Kelly; Veronica Morris; John Hoolan; Billy O'Connor; Michael Broderick and Martin Corrigan. The AGC put in place an adult section "Charter" (Appendix 1) which was circulated to all team mentors and is working with the Executive and its sub-committees and Armored Performance to develop and implement the Towers Abú strategy and to meet its requirements under the Charter. In particular, the AGC is working to put management teams and team strategies in place to work towards Club goals and objectives.

Adult Team Reports Received:

Team: Minor Hurling Team

Mentors: John Hoolan, Pat Lawless, Lorcan Downey, Jimmy Coleman, Ray Doonan, Paul Whelan & Fergal McDonagh

League: Division 2 & Division 5

Championship: Minor A Championship

Sponsor: Nyhan Wood

County Representation: Cillian Downey & Donnacha Desmond

With the change in age grade minor hurling reverted to U18 for 2023. This allowed for 2 teams to participate in league.

Division 2 Team – Good league overall but unfortunately the league did not conclude so hard to know where team finished. Some really good performances throughout. This is the 2nd year hurling at Division 2 with the team well capable at operating in this division.

Division 5 Team – Again good league performances but with walkovers and games not played it did not help lads with game time. Again, league did not finish.

Minor A championship – first time since 2005 that a minor team hurled in A Championship. Good performances throughout the 3 game group stages. We did not progress from the group but great for lads to get to hurl at the highest level.

No team for Division 4 championship.

Overall, the panels acquitted themselves extremely well. They trained hard and everyone got plenty of game time throughout the year.

Although we did not manage to progress in championship great credit must go to the players for the hard work and commitment shown throughout the year. A big thanks to the U16 management for their support with players being made available. Thanks also to our facilities team. Never without a training location or match day pitch.

Finally, a massive thanks to all the parents for their continued support. The hard work of getting lads to training and matches is always appreciated.

Team: Minor Camogie

Mentors: Eoin Ryan, Val Kelly, Aidan Robertson, Veronica Morris.

League: Division 3

Championship: Division 5

Sponsor: DVP

League : The team struggled in this division and had some very tough games.

Championship : The team reached the Quarter Final in this competition but were narrowly beaten by 2 points by O'Toole's. It was a difficult competition to prepare for with a lot of match postponements from clubs but overall there were great improvements in the players.

Minor is a difficult time for players with big demands on education, work and subbing up for adult teams.

Team: Minor Football Team

Mentors: Mick Broderick, Paddy Morris, Jimmy Coleman, Jason Murphy, Kevin Walsh, Sean Flynn, Martin Corrigan, Paul Whelan

League Division 3 & 6

Championship B & D

It was great to see the club fielding 2 minor football teams in the league and Championship this year.

Both teams competed well in the League finishing mid table.

All matches were very competitive, with results having the narrowest of margins either way. We started with a panel of 36 players and unfortunately, we had a few drop offs during the year. Thanks to the support of the U16's we were able to continue fielding 2 teams throughout the season.

Minor Championship B & D

Unfortunately, both teams did not make it through the Group stages, however all matches were closely contested.

Thanks to the parents who continuously support and attend the matches regularly. Also, thanks to the Executive committee for their support throughout the season, and in particular the facilities committee.

Special thanks to all the Round Towers members who travelled and supported us in our home & away matches throughout the year. The passion and support from the side-line was brilliant and long may it continue.

A very special thanks to Jimmy Coleman who has been with these players from Nursery.

Finally, we wish all players the best for next year's competitions, particularly the second-year minors who will move up with the adult teams.

Adult Ladies Football

Team: Ladies First Team

Management Team: Frankie Roebuck, Ken Barry, Pdraig McCarthy, Marc Taylor

League and Outcome: Div 8 Winners

The team played 11 League games winning all games convincingly well. The ladies won back-to-back league titles and will be hoping to be promoted more than one division as a special request to the county board for next season.

Championship and Outcome: Junior E Winners

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.

Cup and Outcome: Div 8 Winners

The ladies played five cup games to secure a semi final spot. They beat St. Sylvester's well in the semifinal. The team played St. Annes in the Cup final and the final game of the season at Monastery Road. Again, the ladies came out as winners and had great support on the night.

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 Second Team

Management: Veronica Morris, Aidan Robertson, Will McCabe, Caitríona McGrath

Championship and Outcome: Junior I Championship

The team played five round robin games. The ladies won one game, one draw and lost three games. The team bowed out at this stage. The new team made up of adults and minors put in a valiant effort on the pitch. The team did not train together, were brand new and did not know each other personally. They were very lucky not to earn a semi final spot.

Cup and Outcome: Div 11 Semi final

The team played five Cup round robin games. The ladies won three games and lost two games. This was enough to secure a semi final spot. The team lost to a stronger Fingal Ravens team at the semi final stage.

This team was the first step in building an adult ladies football section with teams for all players. The team did not enter the league competition as many players are involved in other teams in the club. With more time and with more players coming through from underage the second adult ladies team will become a permanent option for players. A special thank you to the management who dedicated their time to this team, as well as many other teams in the club.

Adult Camogie

Management Team: Brian Douglas, Mick O'Meara, Dawn O'Neill

League: Junior 2

Championship: Junior 2

On Field Success: Junior 2 Shield Championship Winners

2023 saw us consolidate our position at Junior 2 grade. We had a very positive League run winning 5 out of six games finishing in 2nd place.

Championship was hampered with a couple of absences during our run. We had it in our hands to progress to a sixth semi final in a row and were up in the deciding game. A little bit of inexperience allowed the opposition to get a run on us at the end of a well played game and it ended all square. Results elsewhere meant we were destined for a Shield Final.

On the day the girls delivered a well fought win and for the third year out of four silverware was heading for Clondalkin. We want to thank all the players for their input and effort throughout the season I think they will all agree that we consolidated our position and learnt some lessons that will serve us well in 2024 for the push to Junior 1.

To all who supported us during the year, a heartfelt thank you for the support and encouragement.

Adult Hurling

Team: Intermediate Hurling Team

Mentors: Dermot English, James Mullans, Eimear Keenan, Billy O' Connor & Conan O'Broin

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 2024.

Championship: Championship proved to be a tough campaign and the team found themselves in a very competitive group. Despite the best efforts of all

involved positive results were hard to come by. However securing Intermediate championship status for 2024 will allow the team to bring a fresh approach in terms of player availability and minors stepping up onto the panel will be a boost to player numbers.

Management would like to thank the Facilities team for all their help throughout the year. 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: Cian Flanagan, Eoin Flanagan, Murt Corrigan, Denis Kelly, Dave McTiernan, Dónal Cummins

Sponsors: Ciarán Carr Foundation

League: AFL 2

Championship: Senior 2

The 2023 season proved to be a mixed bag across both league and championship competitions for our first adult football team with AFL 2 status retained and the knockout stages of the SFC B championships reached seeing the group go one step further than in 2022.

An emphasis was placed on bleeding new players with game time for younger panel members such as Craig Shaaban, Jay Meehan and Harry Leech which augurs well for the future.

Over the course of the year which proved challenging due to injuries and some players travelling, a total of 33 players were used. Early season defeats to Parnells, St Margaret's and St Mary's heightened the need to get points on the board and this commenced with an away win over Naomh Mearnóg which saw the team's fortunes improve.

Further successes followed against St Maur's and Templeogue Synge St amongst others saw the team finish with a mid-table berth after securing 13 points from 15 games.

In championship a big lead was surrendered against St Anne's before a share of the spoils was secured and despite defeat to Naomh Barróg in the last group outing, the second-round win over St Maur's was enough to see the team advance to a quarter-final berth with Naomh Olaf which was lost after a flat O'Toole Park display.

A word of thanks and acknowledgement is due to those supported the team in the background, not least Louise Stynes who prepared the team gear over the course of the season.

Team: Intermediate Football Team – Division 5

Mentors: Donal Cummins, Terry Murray, Liam Connolly

League: Division 5

Championship: Junior 1 Championship, Group 1

Sponsor: Wood Fire & Wings

County Representation: N/A

League: A mixed league campaign which started very well, only losing 2 games in our first 7 matches. However, we did struggle over the summer months, only managing to achieve one drawn game in our final 8 matches leading to a relegation play off against Erin Isle, which we thankfully won to remain in Division 5.

Championship: Championship proved to be a tough campaign as we were drawn against the top teams in our division, we did lose all three of our matches, two of them by the narrowest of margins and again found ourselves in another relegation play off, which again we won to remain in Junior 1 Championship next year.

The team would like to thank both Barry and Mick for their support over the course of the year.

Junior B Football

Mentors: Bernie Cronin, Richie Harney

League: AFL 9 (15th position - relegated)

Championship: Junior 4 All County

A tough year in that we suffered some heavy beatings and although we came with a late burst towards the end of the season, mainly due to the influx of minors, we were relegated. This may well be good in the long run in that in recent years we struggled in Division 9 and the drop down should mean that we will be competitive next year and hopefully challenge for the title.

We fared better in the championship beating Marks, losing by two to Brigids and despite taking an almighty trimming to Clann Mhuire avoided relegation. However, it might have been better to drop down to a championship that we might have a chance of winning.

Interesting statistics 52 players got game time over the 18 games including a few who hadn't played for some years.

Round Tower Clondalkin - Adult Games Charter
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Players will respect each other, managers, opponents, referees, and others, at all times while representing our Club.2. Players will pay their membership, register and respect the Club facilities and those provided by our local Council and Schools.3. Players will give something back by volunteering to help with Club activities beyond their own teams.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.
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Mentors will treat players, other Club mentors, opponents, and match officials with respect at all times while representing our Club.2. Mentors will communicate effectively with each other on matters concerning players for more than 1 team and particularly dual players.3. Mentors will work effectively with our professional athletic development partners to develop players.4. Mentors will work to improve their experience, expertise, and qualifications.
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. The Club Executive/AGC will ensure each team has an appropriate management team in place.2. The Club Executive/AGC will ensure each team has an adequate place to train, access to facilities and equipment.3. The Club Executive/AGC will ensure that each team's progress is monitored with a view to its potential being reached.4. The Club Executive/AGC will respond to requests for assistance from mentors and players.
<p>We are a Club made up of human beings and undoubtedly, we will fall short, in our actions and behaviours, from time to time. When we do, we will own it.</p>

Gaelic 4 Mothers

Gaelic for Mothers and Others, is a fantastic social fitness program, we have see an influx of new members. A lot of members give back to the club as mentors or as FLO with under age teams. Our motto is no experience required just a sense of humour.

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 August in which the Round Tower team won. Games against St Anne's, Robert Emmets, Geraldine Moran's and Thomas Davis throughout the year

In October 34 members travelled to Madrid in Spain and played a friendly game against the local GAA team Madrid Harps, Very successful and enjoyable trip

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 be fixed for 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.

Earlier this year some of our referees gathered in Monastery Road for the Respect the Referee campaign. These are our club mates without whom we wouldn't have games. This great group represent Round Towers with pride every weekend. We need to return the favour and show respect to all their refereeing colleagues who officiate at our games.

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: Fred MacCarthy / Simon Breslin / Sharon Jordan / Val Kelly / Méabh Milton

Volunteer Mentors: Caimin Keane / Gary Behan / Greg Waters

Sponsor: Luas Transdev

The Dermot Earley Youth Leadership Initiative started in our club in November 2021. Since then we have had 42 young participants who took part in the programme. These young people then go on to graduate from NUIG with a QQI level 6 third level qualification in Youth Leadership and Community Action for their efforts.

During the programme participants will gain aptitudes in essential leadership skills in a safe and supportive environment. Module one focuses on the individual and their leadership skills, building their self-awareness, community skills, values, and communication skills. Module two focuses on their ability to lead as part of a team enabling them to cultivate their skills further. Module three focuses on the participant's individual leadership aspirations and offers the participants the opportunity to lead their own project within their community from conception to completion.

2023 saw 24 young club members across all codes sign up for the initiative, with a significant increase in the number of boys attending. It has been great to have groups of young people in our clubhouse on Friday nights contributing to energetically and passionately on a wide variety of leadership topics. We are delighted to see that the programme has grown. We would like to acknowledge the contribution of our volunteer tutors and mentors who give of their time to deliver the sessions in this programme. It simply would not happen without them.

A word of ‘go raibh maith agat’ to Coláiste Chillian who have allowed us to use their school as a venue when the clubhouse has been unavailable.

We are very appreciative to Luas Transdev for their continued sponsorship and support of this programme.

Oifigeach Gaeilge / Irish Officer **Síomón O Breaslain**

Nóta onar oifigeach Gaeilge.

Ta áthas orm thuairisciú go raibh blian thar a bheith ráthúil eile againn maidir le cur chun cinn na gaeilge ar bhealach spraiúl sa gclub.

Ba iad na buaicphointí ná na himeachtaí a bhain le Seachtain na Gaeilge agus úsaid na cúpla focal le linn na féile.

Mar chuid den fhéile agus 'Tionscnamh Ceannaireachta Óige', Dermot Early, d'eagraigh duine dár gceannairí óga ón gclub seisiúin treanala as gaeilge ag Towers Óg.

Chuir muid tús le páirt a ghlacadh le 'Scór' freisin. Sé atá i gceist le 'Scór' na comórtas sóisialta a bhaineann le caitheamh aimsire tradisiúnta. Cuireadh tús leis an gcomórtas seo i 1969 leis an aidhm cuid de na rudaí tradisiúnta a chaomhnú agus chun deis a thabhairt do na baill bualadh le cheile ag am nach bhfuil morán ag tarlú maidir le cluichí.

Sa bhliain ata le teacht beidh muid ag cur leis an méid atá bainte amach againn cheanna féin. Is é an phríomhaidhm atá againn i 2024 na leanacht le cur chun cinn an teanga ar bhealach spraiúl, cuimhsitheach agus taitneamheach.

A note for our Irish Officer

I am delighted to announce that we had another successful year promoting the Irish language around our great club in a fun and inclusive way.

The highlights where some great events around Seachtain na Gaeilge and promoting the “cúpla focail” around the club over the festival. As part of the festival and the Dermot Early Youth leadership Initiative, one of our young leaders from the club organized training sessions at Towers Óg as gaeilge. Great fun was had by all.

We were continued our work on the Joe McDonagh Foundation award. The Joe McDonagh Foundation is a support service provided by Glór na nGael and the Gaelic Athletic Association to GAA clubs wishing to further the Irish language in their clubs.

We also started to explore Scór. Scór is a GAA competition that combines all the colour and rivalry of Gaelic Games with the social/fun element of Ireland's traditional past-times. The competition was established by the GAA

in 1969 with the aim of promoting Ireland's traditional pastimes and culture while offering club members the chance to meet up, have fun and represent their club during the winter months while Football and Hurling had ceased.

The upcoming year will be all about building on these successes. Our main goal as a club for 2024 will be to continue promoting the Irish Language in an engaging, fun and inclusive way.

Facilities

Facilities Committee: Michael McAdam, Anita Broderick, Gary Behan, Ken Byrne, 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 and it has increased its membership over 2023. 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 2023, by seeking estimates and quotations for the works identified to help financial planning and assist in preparing applications for grant funding.

Pitch Marking group: A significant achievement in 2023 was the establishment of a Pitch Marking group of volunteers to carry out pitch markings on the SDCC pitches that the club uses in the Community Centre and Corkagh Park. The club funded a pitch marking contractor to carry out initial pitch markings twice during the season. The volunteer group carried out pitch markings on over 20 weekends across the season. Many thanks to Pat Lawless, Billy O'Connor, Ray Donnan, Bernie Cronin, Ciaran Kearney, Con McCarthy, Frank Kelly, Dean Alford, Denis Kelly, Donal Whelan and Eamon Behan, and mentors, for volunteering and assisting 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. This funding will be used to convert the current grass warm up area to an Astro pitch, it is anticipated that the works will be carried out early in 2024. Many thanks to Linda Halpin and Derek Grant for their assistance on this project to date. A key element to gaining the grant approval, was the work done by numerous club volunteers in the outreach activities held in Monastery Road for international protection applicants, including refugees from the Ukraine crisis.

Some of the other key achievements this year include:

- Independent, professional pitch assessments were repeated in 2023 at Monastery Road and Moyle Park. The multi annual maintenance plans have been continued, with significant works in both venues. Further work is planned for 2024.

- 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 (the small pitch) in the Community Centre was carried out by the Council this year. The Council is confident that the pitch will be available for matches at the start of the 2024 season.

- 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. An example of the usage statistics for Monastery Road indicates 310 hours of use in 2023, that was split as follows; 44% Adult teams, 44% Juveniles and 12 % Minors.

- Facilities Committee would like to thank Mick Fallon for the extensive work that he has done as Pitch Coordinator this year and the invaluable feedback he provided us.

- 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.

- A long-term agreement was signed 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.

- A joint Sports Capital Grant application with Coláiste Bríde was submitted for the upgrade and improvement of the playing facilities in Coláiste Bríde. An announcement on that grant application is expected in mid-2024.

- Following an agreement with Moyle Park College during 2023, a secure storage area for mobile goals and equipment was installed in Moyle Park, close to the back of the club.

- 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 2 years through better and more regular maintenance and grass cutting.

- There was an agreement reached to use the existing Coláiste Cillian school pitch.

- The cross-club group established in 2022 helped deliver impressive Artwork in Monastery Road resulted in the dressing rooms and the skills wall. Plans for future artwork are in development.
- “Trees on the Land” charitable group provided trees and volunteers to plant native trees in suitable spaces at Monastery Road. Plans are being drafted for a second phase of planting.
- Cleaning and maintenance work on the club containers at Corkagh Park and 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 several other grant applications, including an application for permanent lighting of the walkway at Monastery Road and an application for grant funding for the installation of Electric Vehicle Charge points in Monastery Road, we await a decision on the outcome of these applications.
- 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: Pdraig MacCarthy, Caitríona McGrath, Michael McGlynn, Aislinn McDonnell, Dermot Milton, Gillian Whelan, Alan Milton, Aaron Douglas

The main function of the Communications Committee is to oversee communication within the club and with the public on behalf of the Club. Our focus is to present a positive image of the Club and Cumann Lúthchleas Gael within the club, in the local community and beyond.

Our focus for 2023 was to provide timely and informative information through the different mediums available to us and to engage with as many constituents as possible.

- Club Website:** In partnership with Club and County web developers, the communications committee designed and launched a brand-new club website in 2022, and throughout 2023 we have kept the website up to date and relevant. We continue to develop the website so it can a) become the first point of information on all topics for all members b) Allow us to share events, successes, announcements etc c) Provide an information platform for all our coaches d) Promote our partnerships with businesses both locally and nationally and e) Host Galleries of all club events. We

must acknowledge that the traffic on our website is not as high as we would like, particularly our coaches corner page and our information download pages. We encourage members to trust the website as a source of information gathering.

- b. **Social Media:** The club operates officially on 4 social media platforms: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and Tik Tok. In 2023 the communications committee increased the frequency of posts on these platforms in an aim to keep all our members and our wider audience up to date on all club affairs. Indeed, very few days passed without a post from our communications committee on at least one of our platforms. Our social media pages have unharnessed potential. For example, our Facebook account has 8221 followers and our Instagram has 2580. The gender split of followers is roughly 50/50 across both mediums. The monthly reach of our Facebook page averages at 30,000 with an average of 15,000 post engagements per month. For Instagram we have an average of 4000 profile visits per month and both accounts are gaining between 30-50 new followers per month.
- 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 McGrath for her enormous contribution in this area. Finally, I would like to thank all members of the communication committee for their valued input in 2023.

Financial Position

Treasurer Damien Murray will give a detailed analysis of this year's financial figures.

-We met all our day to day expenses.

-Once again membership subscriptions has increased now at €151k.

-Bar performance improved resulting in a Net Profit of €56k.

-Fundraising and other income increased to €147k, of this €62k relates to individual teams fundraising and receiving sponsorship for gear.

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

-Lotto Committee

-Recycling Crew

- Croke Park annual fundraising team
 - Social Committee
 - Jimmy and the bar crew
 - Xmas draw committee
 - Affiliation fees were €80k for the year.
 - We continue to invest in our coaching and games through our LTAD program and GPO.
 - Both light and Heat and Interest rate's have increased during the year.
 - We have invested €17k in capital items, including goal posts and match recording equipment.
- Club income is sufficient to meet day to day expenditure, a step change in income would be needed to meet strategic goals.

Lotto Committee

Members: John Ryan, Ray Verso, Gerry Banks, Bernard Cronin

The club lotto continues to be a vital revenue source for the club. Since going on line 3 years ago the sales have continually increased and the lotto reached a major milestone in October when it passed 1000 entries sold in one draw. It is great to see so many people purchasing tickets from all over the world. The lotto committee would like to encourage more members to use the online facility. a special thanks to those who help sell tickets every week, namely Jimmy Lee at the bar, Mary Douglas at Towers Óg, Ray Verso for the village pubs and Padraig McCarthy and Caitriona McGrath for their promotion on social media

John Ryan
Ray Verso
Bernard Cronin
Gerry Banks

Membership

Niall Connaughton

It has now been three full years since we launched Foireann as the one stop solution for all GAA membership activities. There is still much missing supplementary functionality but the core day to day functions are user friendly and fit for purpose.

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 517. Our family membership remains ever popular and the staggered payment option is one availed of frequently.

Juvenile membership for 2023 is at 765 boys and girls

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

<i>Category (year 2023)</i>	<i>No of members</i>
Adult Players	156
Adult non-players	517
Total adult players	673
Juvenile	765
Total members	1438

Figure 1: Membership breakdown in numbers

I would like to thank Sharon Jordan, Dean Alford, Dawn O'Neill, Fiona Coy, Mark Casey, and all mentors & committee colleagues who have provided me with huge support all throughout 2023 and made my job very straightforward.

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!

This scheme is to encourage and bring environmental awareness to members and supporters of Round Tower GAA Club to recycle their cans & plastic bottles. In doing so, for every bag filled, the club receives €5.00.

Every Wednesday our team is onsite at Monastery Road collecting bags from members and our community. This pilot scheme has been very beneficial to our Club financially. We would like to see more members dropping bags off. This year our aim is to put segregated bins in place near the dressing rooms and pitches at Monastery Road. Therefor allowing our members to recycle more after training and games.

We couldn't continue with this scheme without the hard work carried out over the past four years by Séan Mc Namara, Brendan Cronin, Gerry Banks, Valarie Kelly, Edward O Malley, Jessica O Malley, Damien Murray, Phil O Connor, Billy O Connor, Rónan Delaney, Colm Halpin and Linda Halpin. If you have an hour to spare once a month, please let us know, 'as many hands make light work'.

We are also launching a new green-club committee which will be led by Sinead Curran – we wish Sinead and the committee the best for next year and would encourage all members to assist and help out with the initiatives that will be launched in the coming year!

Social Committee 2023

Members:

Val Kelly, Joanne Moore, Catriona McGrath

Activities:

We have run 5 discos so far this year for 4th/5th & 6th class, they were all sold out and all our young players had a fantastic time. We would like to thank are brilliant DJ Robbie Moore who puts on a great night for the kids.

A big thank you to all our teenage girls for all their help in the shop and supervision we could not have the Disco without them. Thank you to Laura Delaney who helps us at all the Discos.

Our Line Dancing is still going every Thursday night. It was great to get the Bingo back on Tuesday night a big thanks to Carol Cryan. The Committee would like to thank all the volunteers that helped with any of the above activities.

Hopefully we will have more social nights in the club going forward.

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.

Conclusion

I would like to acknowledge all my executive colleagues, and thank them for their time and efforts throughout the year. I have enjoyed my time as secretary, and look forward to continuing in the same role next year.

My hope for 2024 and beyond is that we continue to encourage the spirit of welcome in our club. I encourage all members to consider a volunteer role – there are so many ways, big and small, to contribute and give back to our club and each and every act makes a significant difference.

A special call out to the women of the club – I strongly urge you to come forward to step into leadership roles in our club. When I look around at the female side of the house and see the future of what's coming down the track, I realise that we need our young girls and young women to see women standing up and making waves. If they see it, they can be it (to paraphrase) and they will simply take for granted that women are part of the leadership fabric of the club and aspire to do the same. The executive and wider membership are so supportive of this and encourage it too.

I would like to extend my deepest sympathies to all members who have lost a loved one during the year. Continue to support each other, and let's look out for all our members in the club and wider community who may need an extra helping hand.

Nollaig Shona agus Athbhliain faoi mhaise daoibh – here's to a healthy and happy 2024!

Towers abú!

Is mise le meas,
Sharon Nic Shiurtáin

Sharon Jordan
Rúnaí, Cumann an Chloighthí
25ú Mí Na Samhain 2023