

Ballina Camogie Club

Chairpersons Address 2019

I would like to thank you all for attending the AGM this evening.

Firstly to acknowledge my fellow officers Rachel Kinahan (secretary) and Helen Purtil (treasurer) for their continuous hard work in keeping the club running efficiently throughout the year.

For your friendship, support, some great laughs and rant..For the amount of time,energy and total commitment that both of ye give to the club in your role as officers and coaches. Ladies all your hard work is recognised and gratefully appreciated by us all in Ballina camogie.

Special thanks to Sinead Spain (PRO), Marion Flynn (Registrar), Sarah Devane (Vice Chair), Catherine Mc Whey (CDP), Anne Sheehy(Childrens Officer), and Tim Crowe (School Liaison officer) for their work and help within their various roles in the club. Also, Michael Glynn who is stepping down as field coordinator this year, Thank you for your patience and serenity in keeping all the training and matches running smoothly for the past two years.

I would like to pay tribute to our coaches who willingly give of their time, knowledge and expertise, there is a tremendous amount of work and time given by them in their crucial role in the development of our camogie teams I acknowledge their involvement in the success the club is enjoying. We need to continue to strive for excellence in our coaching set up and to put in place a system where our coaches will always feel supported in every way . It is important the club continues to maintain and develop a high standard in coaching and camogie., that our club is one of inclusion and fun that we retain our young players so that they make an easy transition from underage to the adult game. Our plan is that we will be playing intermediate and senior in the not too distant future. Thank you for your compliance with the New Child Legislation Act that was introduced this year and attendance at camogie workshops throughout the year.

Our Junior team contested in the A league and championship and accounted well for themselves in Autumn semi championship final. Our Minor team will contest the County Minor final Championship tomorrow wishing them the very best of luck. Hopefully bringing some silverware to the club in 2018 and winning a minor A county title. The participation of our teams in A leagues and championships is reflective of our vibrant and extremely active club and is a fantastic achievement by the girls and commitment of our coaches. With the numbers increasing each year we need to recruit extra coaches to allow our club to expand and prosper most age groups possibly having two to three teams in each age group. We need to encourage new parents and coaches to the club bringing new ideas and enthusiasm on a yearly basis. We need to prepare for the future development of our club.

Fundraising is crucial for our club to survive. Fundraising allows us to pay the bills throughout the year, equipment, medals, social events, celebrations, Feile, jerseys and our biggest expenditure each year, referees fees. .Again a big thank you Helen Purtill (treasurer) who is the driving force within our fundraising committee along with the assistance of our fundraising committee; Christina Graham, Martina Clarke, Margaret O Sullivan and Alan Mc Evoy. They are an extremely active hardworking group who spend a huge amount of hours getting us the funds that are needed to run our club. They organised a very successful bucket collection on a busy August Bank holiday weekend in conjunction with Killaloe Ballina family resource centre. The collection which was equally divided between both groups. We are delighted and proud of our links with KBFRC and our local community. This sub-committee also coordinated a successful bag packing day in Dunnes Stores, a Christmas raffle and are currently organising a major fundraiser 20K Drop with the senior and juvenile club for 2019. We do not always see these people or perhaps know who they but they are a vital part of our club who work quietly away in the background for this we thank you and appreciate what you all do.

Thank you to our local community, sponsors, businesses and parents who contribute generously to our fund raising efforts that keep our club going we acknowledge your generosity.

Thank you to Peter King and the Senior club for their support to the camogie club; for the use of the field, facilities and the donation from Strictly Come Dancing early in the year. Also, Paul Mc Keogh and the juvenile club for your co-operation in accommodating us with changing training and matches as needed throughout the season. To the field committee, thank you for always having the field immaculately lined and groomed. It is much appreciated by all of us in the camogie club.

Congratulations to Lucy Mc Evoy who was part of the Minor Tipperary camogie team for 2018, also to Sarah Lane, Emily Clarke and Aoibheann Ward who were part of the U16 Tipperary team. Sarah Mc Whey for her selection on the U14 team. We also had four U13 girls attending Tipperary U13 development squad Anna Hanley, Sophie Riordan, Elitza O Connor, and Patricia Mc Whey.

Thank you to both our local national schools and Principals Una Kennedy and Berneice O Connell for allowing us to coach the girls in the school this is invaluable to us in camogie as this is where the girls are introduced to the beautiful game of camogie. Thank you to Sarah Devane, Anne Sheehy, Margaret O Sullivan, Rachel Kinahan. Helen Purtill who helped out with the school after school coaching in Ballina each Monday. Also to Tim Crowe and Sarah Devane who helped out in Boher national school. Finally to our minor players who were in TY in 2018 in St Annes College who also came and helped out in the schools training and end of year blitzes, Saoirse Mc Keogh, Noreen Kennedy, Hazel Mc Mahon and Leah Hunt. Thank you to St Annes Collegewho have allowed the girls to be part of this for the past two years. This has of been a great help to the club, school and beneficial to the girls.

Condolences to the members of our club who have lost family members or friends this year.
Ar dheis De go raibh a n-anam.

I will not be going forward as chairperson for next season and would like to welcome our new chairperson Edel Neary to the table. Edel I wish you the very best of luck in your new role. I will continue to be actively involved in Ballina camogie club and will support you in your new role if needed. It was an honour to hold this position in the club, I consider myself fortunate to have worked with excellent hard working officers, coaches and sub committees.