

Ballina Camogie Club

Secretary's Report 2018

Ba mhaith liom failte a chur roimh gach duine anseo anocht, go dti an cruinniu bliantuil

I would like to welcome everyone here tonight to our Annual General Meeting.

I would like to thank Helen Purtill who stepped in at the beginning of the year and took over the role of secretary along with being treasurer, coach and fundraiser. Without her the club wouldn't have functioned so we should all be grateful that we have people like her willing to give so much of their time and patience to running the club.

In addition, I have to thank Carmel Bradshaw who took over the Chairperson's role in addition to being head coach of U12s, fundraiser, Coaching Coordinator, Assistant County Chairperson and county selector. Without your level of commitment, love for the game and wealth of knowledge we wouldn't be a club that strives towards creating a safe, fun, healthy environment for the girls.

Also I want to acknowledge our previous Chairperson Alan McEvoy and the work that he did forging a better relationship with the senior club and wish him well in his endeavours.

Finally I would like to thank the fundraising team, Martina McKeogh, Christina Graham, Margaret O'Sullivan, Alan McEvoy and Helen again for your energy and commitment to ensuring that we have enough funds to run the club.

Thanks also to all our fantastic coaches. The reason we have a successful club is due largely to our diligent and competent people who put great effort into coaching and managing our teams, fundraising and general club functions.

I will now move onto some stats and detailed reports for the year 2018

At the end of this season we had 197 registered players across all age groups from u6 through to Junior

Membership Type	Number
Underage player	185
Adult player	12
Full member (Non-Playing)	39

Detailed Report from each group

Coaching Coordination Group (by Carmel Bradshaw)

Coaching Ballina Camogie.

1. 15 coaches completed Foundation level Get A Grip.(mandatory for all coaches)
2. All our coaches are Garda vetted and have attended Safe Guarding Level 1 (mandatory)
3. Four club TY girls attended the Young Whistlers course in the Ragg, these girls as well as the five girls from previous years can ref at U8/U10 and U12 Go-Games. they have participated in the County blitzes this year as well at home blitzes. They also completed Foundation Level.
4. Two coaches and two of our players attended Goal keeping course giving by Brendan Cummins in the Ragg.
5. 6 of our coaches attended three night wall ball workshop by Ger Downes in Portroe both we also had six girls who participated in the workshops for the three nights
6. 5 coaches attended Jim Kilty workshop for 5 nights over the Winter on Fundamental Movement, Speed & Agilty.
7. 2 coaches attended workshop in(Annacarty) coaching 14-16 year old.
8. 4 coaches attended workshop coaching 10-12 years girls (Burgess).
9. From numbers(3-8) courses were run by county development and were of no cost to the coaches.
10. Level 1 coaching will be commencing in January (information to follow.)
11. Three coaches will attend workshop in the Dome over two nights in November'.

All workshops are sent into the coaches whats app text message and from club secretary they are regularly updated.

12. We need to develop more goal keepers in our club, presently at U12/U10 their is specific coaching for girls who are showing an interest in Goalkeeping.

13. We had hoped to get a workshop for parents and coaches Hurl with Me at the start of the season but our season got very busy. Maybe at the start of next season we may get it up and going.

The number of coaches with level one needs to be increased in the club, as we are now have a Junior A and Minor A panels. Management teams at adult level should have at least one Level 1 coach in their set up.

It is important that all coaches keep up to date with best coaching

practises, thank you to the coaches who attend the workshops it certainly benefits the girls in the club.

We are delighted to have girls from our club on development panels and teams from U13 to Minor at County level. This is a great sign that our coaching set ups and that our coaches are having a huge influence in the progress and development of the girls enabling them to be selected for county teams.

It is important that all coaches are up to date with Camogie Association Policy Statement and Core Values.

Apologies we were unable to have more meetings with coaching sub committee this year as our season was extremely busy at officers level.

I have all ready thanked all the coaches in my Chairpersons Address so again I would like to acknowledge the work, commitment, energy and time that you all give to Ballina Camogie it is very much appreciated.

First Aid Report (Tim Crowe)

There was no serious incidents to report this season. No major injuries were reported,thankfully.

All first aid bags need to be returned for restocking.

First Aid course will be organised after Christmas for anyone who hasn't completed one already,or for anyone who needs to refresh their skills.

Can all coaches please ensure that they have an adequately stocked First Aid bag at every training session and game please.

Tim.

Schools Camogie Ballina/Boher (by Tim Crowe)

Once again this year we would like to thank Bernice and Una for affording us the opportunity of going into both Ballina and Boher schools. This has given us the opportunity to expose every girl in both schools the chance to receive extra coaching. It's also a great way to recruit new players or entice girls back to the Club. The U11 1/2 and U13"s competed in the Cumann na Mbunscol competition this year and put in some great performances.

Both schools attended an end of year blitz in Monaleen,and a great day was had by all. We are hoping to go into the schools earlier next year to begin coaching before training starts back in the field. This will hopefully give the girls the opportunity to hone their skills even more and continue their progression on the camoige field.

Finally,a huge thank you to Carmel,Anne,Margaret,Sarah,Rachel, Helen and Muinteors Clare and Ciara for their help,hard work and patience this year.

U6/U8 Year Summary (By Edel Neary)

The u8 team had a strong season in 2018 with high numbers – over 30 players attending matches and training. This group has a large no. of strong and enthusiastic players who are striking the ball well and enjoy playing matches. There were five county development blitzes held in different venues in Tipperary including one in Ballina, these events were the highlight of the season for the group with up to 30 players attending (3 teams). The development blitz in Ballina got great assistance from the Camogie club – thanks to all. The parents in this age group are very enthusiastic as regards travelling to blitzes and to challenge games. I saw major improvements from the girls in tackling and losing fear of clashing. I believe this will be a strong team in years to come.

Participation from u6 girls was not as successful as last year. We had maximum of 10 players at training sessions with just 4 players attending the majority of sessions due to long holidays. It should be noted that Ballina NS numbers were down in 2017 due to the ECCE scheme (2 years subsidised pre-school). We need to focus on increasing numbers in this age group in 2019.

Our initial coaching team of Mike Glynn, Tim Crowe, Sonya Joyce and myself was augmented by Andrew Bourke, John Sage, Noel Moroney, Catriona Ryan, Sinead Spain and Keith Conroy. Would like to thank everyone and hope that they stay involved.

U10 Report (by Sarah Devane)

There were 26 girls involved with the u10s this year, participating in 40 training sessions, 6 cluster blitzes and a number of matches with other clubs. Overall it was a very good year for the girls with considerable progress being made in skills and athletic development. The girls enjoyed themselves, had fun and were a pleasure to work with. Sincere thanks to our coaches who gave so generously of their time. Laura, Caitriona and Kevin and also to the parents for their ongoing cooperation and support.

Under 12 Report (By Carmel Bradshaw)

We had a busy start to the season commencing with five weeks on the wall ball in Ogonnelloe before we returned to the field. Thanks to Eleanor Walshe for the use of the wall. The girls trained extremely hard all year, their dedication to training and improvement of their skills was evident as the year progressed. It is a privilege for us to watch these girls play games seeing their progress, enthusiasm and readiness to learn. The huge determination that they have when they play matches is admirable, with their never give up attitude often against physically stronger and older teams. Their acceptance of victory and defeat in an equally sporting manner is something to be proud of. The majority of the girls will compete at the same level again next year.

We had two teams competing this year; a Blue & White. Our White team

contested the plate semi-final narrowly defeated by Ballybacon/Grange in a thrilling game. Also the Blue team accounted for themselves extremely well in the Summer League.

Our aim this year was to have two teams competing from the club this was to assist development and increase participation for all the girls. Our measure of success has been that each girl was giving equal playing time and match practise to develop their skill and also to increase their match confidence. Success is not always measured by trophies or medals. Having two teams is fantastic for any club but it also increases the work load for our coaches who have had to attend two matches weekly as well as two training sessions. A huge commitment by our coaches.

The girls love to party and always showed up in numbers for days out and fund raisers. They attended the Tipperary Fun Run/Walk supporting our county and Tipperary camogie running the 5km with ease and also were interviewed by Tipp FM radio on the day..They also got to go Semple Stadium to watch the Tipperary Senior team play Cork in the Munster final, the girls gave strong vocal support to the the Tipperary ladies. After they got to meet the team where autographs, hurleys and selfies taken. Lovely to see these girls getting to know the names and faces of their county team, having female sporting heroes that they know and can aspire to in the future. Thanks to Helen for organising our days out the coaches and parents who help out on the day.

Thanks to our U12 coaches Helen, Rachel, Fiona, Damien, Kenneth, Finbar and Tim for your commitment, expertise and the positivity throughout the season.

Thank to a super supportive group of parents, bringing the girls to training travelling the length and breadth of Tipperary for matches. Always making themselves available for days out and fund raising and taking the jerseys after each game to wash, all of this is such a great help to us and the club.

U14s (by Aidan Coyne)

The under 14 panel consisted of 24 girls this season. We entered in 4 competitions. Unfortunately we were playing in the B grade in each competition which was above our playing standard.

We lost out to Roscrea in the Feile competition way back in February. Our next competition was the championship which started in May. We lost all 3 games in this competition getting a walkover from Thurles We also entered the community games competition where we were narrowly beaten by Moycarkey who went on to contest the final.

In August we started our league again playing out of our depth we fought bravely but again lost all our games in our section. We had 2 away games in this competition which consisted of 6 hours round trip to play the games. We recommend that the county board take a look at this when arranging fixtures in the future as it is asking a lot of people to give up this amount of time for one hour of camogie.

In summary we played a total of 10 competitive games, losing them all .We also played 6 challenge games.

I would like to thank the girls for all their effort and can honestly say despite all our losses we had an enjoyable season which was reflected in all the 24 girls training every evening right up to the end of season.

U16 (by Tim Crowe)

This years U16 season did not pan out as expected for us. The season never really got going. The timing of the two competitions could not have been worse for us. The County championship was played around the Easter period and the County league was played straight after the Junior Cert. For both competitions our squad was severely depleted. For two games we were missing 10/12 players.

This squad did not progress to a semifinal this year, but hopefully the experience of playing A level Camoige will stand to them as they go forward. Hopefully the girls now realise the level of commitment required to play and compete at A level.

Minor (by Mike Keely)

The minor season is still in progress.

Playing at Minor A for the first time in the history of the club the team has made fantastic strides. In our group games we won 1, drew 1 and lost 1 which placed us 2nd in the group. Then in a semi-final against Newport we ran out 3 point winners having been 5 behind with only 10 minutes to go.

The girls have a never say die attitude that has stood to them throughout the competition. It's been a tremendous achievement to get this far and everyone is looking forward to the final.

Junior (by Mike Keely)

2018 was Ballina's first year in Junior A following our victory in the 2017 Junior B championship.

The league competition started in early April. With convincing wins over Moycarkey and Kildangan we qualified for the semi-final stages. A great achievement in our first competitive outing at this grade.

We played the semi-final in mid-May, but shorn of many players due to Leaving Cert, College and Work commitments we bowed out at that stage.

I believe that given the time of year these competitions reach the knock out stages, the County Board should allow some flexibility around match times and days.

It was a very disappointing that we were missing between 6 – 8 of our older girls, but were refused point blank any leeway with regard to even a change of a few hours to the start time. During the early summer months we competed in two 7-a-side tournaments which provided valuable match practise.

In the championship while we lost our 3 group games we were extremely competitive in all of the games. We pushed HolyCross to 5 points having been well beaten by them in the league semi, so we definitely made progress as the year progressed.

While the Junior A grade is a step up the girls are well capable of competing at this age group. With a strong group of U16 moving into the junior ranks next season this team will push on and I would expect would have a major say in the 2019 championship.

Fundraising (Alan MCEvoy)

First and foremost we would like to thank the fundraising sub-committee of Christina Graham, Martina McKeogh and Margaret O'Sullivan for all the hard work put in during the year. Also to everyone that helped out in our various events throughout the year, those who donated prizes for the draw, who bought tickets, the parents who bag packed and everyone who helped out on the bridge for our bucket collection.

As we all know the club needs fundraising events to cover its costs during the year. It is only with the generous help of these people that it can do so.

In January, our Nollaig Na mBan Draw brought in €2,090. We were lucky to secure the Dunne's Nenagh bag packing again this year and for a few hours of packing we raised €1,080, tanks again to Carmel for arranging this. Over the August Bank Holiday we teamed up with KBFRC once again for a very successful bucket collection and this raised €2,463 for the Club.

In addition to this we received a cheque for €1500 from the Senior Club as a contribution to our costs. This was on the back of the Camogie Club's involvement in the Strictly Come Dancing fundraiser. A special thanks is due to all of the Dancers, managers and fundraisers involved in this very successful event along with everyone who contributed by attending individual fundraising events the the shows themselves.

As the Club is involved in the upcoming 20k drop with the Senior and Juvenile clubs we won't be holding our Christmas draw this year.

Child Protection Officer (Anne Sheehy)

As a Club we are fully compliant with the Camogie Association requirement for all coaches working with u18 players, which includes Garda Vetting and Child Protection.

We are all aware by now that this is a Legislative Requirement for all clubs in the country and indeed for anyone involved with young people. Our 2018 Child Safeguarding Statement is on view in the Complex. There were no issues to report .

Finally, I want to wish our Minor Team, Panel and Coaches the best of luck in the Co. Final v Annacathy on Saturday and the Club continued success in 2019.

To conclude Ballina Camogie Club continues to be one of the biggest clubs in Tipperary. We will have to work very hard to maintain that, keep it financially stable, and comfortable for all of our players and welcoming to other teams in the years to come.

To reiterate our vision from last year it should be, that everybody has the opportunity to be welcomed to take part in our games and culture, to participate fully, to grow and develop as individuals and as part of a team, and to be inspired to keep a lifelong engagement with our Association and with this club.

I would like to thank everybody that has helped Helen, Carmel and myself throughout the year in order to keep the club functioning.

I am willing to put my name forward once again for a final time. If proposed and seconded then I will accept the position of Ballina Camogie Club Secretary for 2019.

To anybody I forgot to thank tonight then please, accept my apology for the oversight.