

CUMANN LÚTHCHLEAS GAEIL **PÁDRAIG PEARSES G.A.A. CLUB**

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Ballymacward Hall, Sunday November 30th 2014



A.G.M. AGENDA

1. Opening of Meeting and Adoption of Standing Orders.
2. Secretary's Report.
3. Financial Report.
4. Chairman's Address.
5. Motions.
6. Election of Officers, Members of Executive Committee, & Team Managers.
7. A.O.B.
8. Membership.

STANDING ORDERS

In order to carry out the meeting without delay the following standing orders will be observed:

1. The proposer of a Resolution or of an amendment thereto may speak for five minutes.
2. A member speaking on a resolution, amendment or report may not exceed three minutes.
3. The proposer of a resolution or an amendment may speak for a second time for three minutes before a vote is taken, but no other member can speak a second time on the same resolution or amendment.
4. The Chairman may at any time he considers a matter has been sufficiently discussed call on the proposer for a reply, and when that has been given 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.
6. Standing Orders shall not be suspended for the purpose of considering any matter not on the agenda, except by the consent of a majority equal to two thirds of those present and entitled to vote: i.e. paid and registered members of the club.

SENIOR HURLING PANEL 2014



SECRETARY'S REPORT

Dear Members,

It is once again my honour to present to you the Secretary's Report after another busy year in 2014 for the club at both juvenile and adult level. The Under-14 footballers and Under-13 hurlers delivered County titles in their respective grades and following a difficult year at Senior level our hurlers maintained their status in the top tier after a thoroughly deserved victory over Kinvara. There were many notable performances and successes for a number of other teams in football and hurling despite coming up short in terms of silverware. A more detailed account of each of our team's performances in both codes is offered further on.

PITCHES AND FACILITIES

Off the field the main focus has again been the improvement of the playing facilities with continued investment in the playing surface given the productive results of the work done last year. The Executive Committee also decided to maximise the field space available so that sessions for different groups can take place simultaneously. To that end we have started work on moving the main pitch towards the stand side of the field and marking out a defined pitch area and a defined training area that will ease congestion for all codes and all grades in hurling, football and camogie. We would like to thank all the people involved in assisting with this so far particularly the Pitch Sub-Committee and to the players and management of all teams for their patience thus far. A special word of thanks to **Martin Naughton** and **Martin Kilkenny** for their excellent work and help with this. On a day to day basis I want to pay tribute to **Gerry Murphy** for his maintenance of the grounds in Ballymacward and to **Noel Burke** for his co-ordination of same in Gurteen.

JUVENILE COMMITTEE

The continued time and dedication demanded by Juvenile administration has to be observed to be believed. The number of teams between both codes, the growing number of competitions in terms of Championships, Shields and Blitz's and the raft of new regulations, changes and red tape makes it a very taxing role requiring a great deal of commitment, ability and attention to detail. I would like to thank our Juvenile Secretary **Dorothy Scarry** for her dedication to this role that she makes look effortless despite the vast amount of work involved. Chairman **Martin Scarry** and Dorothy as Secretary have put a structure in place that releases a huge workload from the other officers in the Club. This, while already reaping dividends will show its true value in the coming years. I would also like to thank our Child Protection Officer **Eoghan Barrett** and Coaching Officer **Anthony Kenny** for their input and vision in developing our underage structure as well as a special mention to Anthony for his role with the Cúl Camps this year.



FINANCE

Blending in with the national trend, GAA Clubs are becoming increasingly expensive to run. This is reflected in our accounts that will be displayed in detail at the AGM. In my opinion the role of Treasurer is now as significant as Secretary in terms of workload and luckily we have an outstanding one in **Shane Ruane**. His ability, integrity, scrutiny and ease in his brief cannot be underestimated in the day to day running of this Club. The '250 Club' established last year has been a resounding success that we have modelled our expenditure on and ensures a consistent flow of revenue. We have a dedicated Lotto Committee that knows who they are without mention and attend every Monday night and this source of income is the lifeblood of the Club. I want to sincerely thank those that attend every Monday night and collect tickets from the various pubs. To these Publicans I extend our sincere thanks for their facilitation and welcome each week. They make a great effort and contribution in selling tickets for the Club for which we are extremely grateful.

It is no secret that the Lotto and the '250 Club' are the main source of income for our Club. For that reason there has been little fundraising or prohibitive barriers for our members in the past two years. We have the lowest priced membership of any club in Galway. That is to ensure every person in our community feels the club is accessible, open and welcoming. Adult membership is €20 and under 18 at €5. Equivalent prices of clubs in Galway can range from €50 to €150. Furthermore we are a dual club that provides for hurling and football since last year and again there has been no increase in membership for members or players despite the increased costs in registration and insurance. Added to this we look after the welfare of our players at all levels when injured. Rivalled with any other Club and indeed other sporting organisations there is little comparison for value.

SENIOR HURLING TEAM

After the disappointment of defeat to Loughrea in the 2013 Quarter-Final the appetite and ambition to atone for the loss was palpable from players at an early stage. The return to early training and the huge commitment was extraordinary to observe. There was a huge effort from players, management and officers to push on and build on last year and while all was done in this regard circumstances dictated to make for a very difficult year. Injuries took their toll during the year and in as well as never getting the our full team out on the field we played three games without two men who had played in the All Ireland Senior Hurling Final Replay for Galway in 2012 and our Hurler of the Year and club captain for 2013. To take the equivalent out of any team in Galway would be catastrophic but thankfully all involved showed great character to pull through and ensure Senior status for 2015 and an opportunity to rebuild. I salute the players for their huge efforts again this year and it should be noted that effort and commitment should not be exclusively associated with success.

I would like to thank the hugely dedicated management team of **John Raftery, Martin Tierney** and our Trainer **Gerry Kearney**. To Gerry, a special thanks. He threw his heart and soul into Pádraig Pearses for the past two years and had a hugely positive impact on us and this group of players. He was a pleasure to deal with and always be very welcome to us here. To the man as we know as **JR** I want to extend our sincere thanks and gratitude for his guidance and leadership over the past three years. We reached two Senior Quarter-Finals in three years under his management and only our third overall so far in our history. He was an integral part and driving force on the management team that won the Minor 'A' Title in 1977 and between now and then he has continued to take on roles with teams good and bad in an effort to keep developing and improving hurling in the parish. The words from the players, officials and others involved following our win against Kinvara summed up our gratitude and acknowledgement to John for his commitment and his efforts.

From a medical point of view a sincere thanks to **Martin Bellew, Eoghan Barrett, Martin Campbell, Margaret Kilkenny** and **Helen Raftery** who covered all matches and training sessions throughout the year.

JUNIOR 'B' AND JUNIOR 'C' HURLING

The Junior 'B' team in 2014 had a dramatic and entertaining game up until our semi-final replay defeat v Kinvara. Having dominated the drawn game it was unfortunate we are not reviewing a County Final performance after an immense effort this year. It has been widely observed and should not pass without comment the massive impact this Junior 'B' side had on maintaining our Senior status this year. We

fought a hard battle to ensure we played Junior 'B' rather than 'A' this year and this was rewarded with a good run and guaranteed we kept players engaged over the summer. With our injury crisis in Senior we looked to the members of the Junior 'B' squad who contributed hugely to the relegation battle and subsequent survival. Again a big thanks to **John Raftery, Martin Tierney, Gerry Kearney** and **Tommy Skehill** for their efforts.

Our Junior 'C' had another enjoyable campaign this year playing five matches and fielding a total of 24 different players. After finishing fifth in the group of eight we ended up in the Shield final for the second year in a row. Unfortunately the result was the same after losing out 0-16 to 1-10 to a strong Kinvara side. While the Junior 'C' can be a something of a co-operative effort I would like to particularly thank **Noel Burke, Paul Scarry** and **William Dilleen** for their huge contribution throughout the year.

UNDER-21 HURLING

Our Under-21's began their campaign against Kinvara and after a score for score game lost out narrowly at the final whistle. A similar pattern followed the weekend after in an engaging game in Athenry against Liam Mellows with the city side scraping through for a finish. Thanks to team manager **Tomás Kenny** and selectors **Emmet Ward, Adrian Bellew** and **Tommy McDonagh** for what continues to be a very intense competition.

MINOR HURLING

Our Minor hurlers put in a number of quality performances in achieving victories against Moycullen, Oranmore-Maree, Michael Cusacks while losing out to Killimordaly. In the Quarter-Final Pearses prevailed against Abbeyknockmoy to set up a rematch with Michael Cusacks who they defeated in the group. Unfortunately the performance wasn't replicated as we succumbed to defeat. There was a huge amount of good work done with this team this year that will reap the benefits in coming years at adult level. Thanks to **Anthony Kenny** along with **Martin Scarry, William Dilleen, Kevin Lally** and **Pádraig Murray** for all their work with this team this year.

UNDER-16 HURLING

Our Under-16's put in a series of excellent performances in this years championships and after winning three, losing three and a draw against Kiltormer we entered the Shield competition. Up against Kiltormer in the semi-final of the competition we unfortunately lost out.

Huge credit to **Paul O'Brien, Kevin Connell, Martin Campbell, Gabriel Flannery** and **Enda Cunniffe** for their commitments throughout the year for their efforts in what was a very challenging role given the lack of numbers.

UNDER-14 HURLING

After playing seven games in the group, winning five, drawing one and losing one our Under-14's lost out narrowly to Michael Cusacks in the semi-final despite defeating them in the group. In the Féile competition hosted in Ballymacward we lost out to Carnmore and a strong Gort outfit before defeating Michael Cusacks. Thanks to **Mick Carr, Des McCabe, Eoghan Barrett, Gabriel Flannery** and **Declan Moran**.

UNDER-13 HURLING CHAMPIONS

Our Under-13 hurlers once again showed their class and potential in powering to the County title. The team won 6 games in style, disposing of Ballinderreen, Abbeyknockmoy, Athenry and Barna-Furbo in the group stages before overcoming Annaghdown and Sylane in the semi-final and final respectively. Once again it showed the dominance and power of a very talented group of players.

Again a big thank you to **Mick Carr, Des McCabe, Eoghan Barrett, Gabriel Flannery** and **Declan Moran**.

UNDER-12 HURLING

Our Under-12's while challenged with numbers won their games and performed excellently. Given the small numbers at this age group the team were dependent and grateful for the contribution of four girls to strengthen the squad. This is a big challenge going forward for this group and one was brilliantly handled this year by **Eddie Mitchell** as Manager with assistance from the Juvenile Committee.

UNDER-10 AND UNDER-8 HURLING

Our Under-10's once again competed in the East Galway League this year. The Under-10's and Under-8's trained at 12pm every Sunday and this year incorporated football training along with hurling sessions. Our Under-8's played their first ever football match in Mountbellew. A great deal of thanks is owed to Manager **Martin Scarry** as well as selectors **Adrian Queeney, Sean O'Neill** and **Micheal Kelly** for all their work with this team and to all parents for their support.

JUNIOR 'C' FOOTBALL

In the League the team played five games winning one while receiving walkovers in the other three.

Come the Championship and access to more players the team powered through their first round game against Mountbellew-Moylough and a win against Corofin in the Quarter-Final. This impressive run of form was followed up by a great win versus Milltown in the North Board Semi-Final ensuring a final date against Meelick-Eyrecourt. After a tight and tense game we came up two points short in the final and rued the loss of key players in Tomás Flannery and

Damien Wynne. It does leave regret but also a lot of potential for 2015. We would like to thank Manager **James Clancy** as well as **Adrian Queeney** and to **Noel Burke** for all their contribution all year. The role of **Leo Morrissey** in organising and co-ordinating the football games and admin cannot go unnoticed so a big thanks for his efforts and success in a very challenging role. Thanks also to **Martin Campbell** and **Martin Bellew** for doing medical during the year.

UNDER-14 FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS

The Under-14 footballers were a big success story in 2014 contesting finals in League and Championship. After winning four games in the Championship the team defeated Milltown in the County semi-final and setup a local derby in the final against Caltra which they eased passed with flying colours. The League form was just as impressive with wins against Caltra, Milltown, Williamstown, Kilkerrin-Clonberne and Menlough before just losing out to Headford in the final.

Once more we pay tribute to the work of **Des McCabe, Mick Carr, Eoghan Barrett, Gabriel Flannery** and **Declan Moran** for their outstanding work all year and deserved success.

GALWAY COUNTY TEAMS 2014

Congratulations to **Ronan Bellew** who represented the Galway Minors again this year and to **Ronan O'Neill** with the Galway Under-16 squad, **Conor O'Neill** who was a member of the Under-15's and **Ronan Flannery** with the Galway Under-14's.

SPONSORSHIP

To our numerous sponsors this year at Adult and Juvenile level we are very grateful for your contributions. We thank all those that contributed this year and to our team sponsors at different levels particularly our main sponsors **Parker Stores**, as well as **Ruanes, Glentane, Hynes Agri** and **Ballymacward Hall Committee** for their generous support this year.

CAMOGIE

I would like to thank the Pearses Camogie Club for their co-operation throughout 2014 and extend our best wishes for 2015. A big congratulations to **Niamh Kilkenny** on being nominated for an All-Star again this year.

SCHOOLS

I would like to thank the teachers in the various schools in the area for their work in promoting hurling and football. We realise the important role that schools play in fostering and encouraging Gaelic Games and the knock on effect it has at Club level. We have made a concentrated effort to help them also in terms of resources and supplies. I would like to particularly acknowledge the work of **Martin Scarry** and **Dorothy Scarry** in this area.

GENERAL

On behalf of the club I would like to express our deepest sympathy to all our members who suffered bereavement during the year.

The Club extends its congratulations to all those that got married this year and to those who had new arrivals in 2014.

I would also like to acknowledge the Hurling, Football and County Board officials whom we work with on a regular basis and to all referees and officials who make our games possible. I also thank our delegates to these bodies: **John O'Grady, Noel Burke** and to the County Board Chairman **Noel Treacy**.

Again I want to reiterate our gratitude to all those who helped out on the medical side of things this year. They have been mentioned with the teams but should be acknowledged for the excellent work and service they give to all teams.

Finally I come down to the people I deal with most on a day-to-day basis and who are often forgotten or taken for granted. I would like to thank all members of the Executive Committee for their contribution and conduct all year.

I want to thank all our members, players, parents and supporters for making the Club what it is. Given the range of roles and the amount of people involved in the running of a Club it is difficult to single out every individual so I apologise in case anyone or any area is excluded – it certainly is not intentional!

Leo Morrissey has been a fantastic Assistant Secretary in stepping into the role a few times this year when I was away and also co-ordinating the football side of matters throughout the year with ease.

David Cunniffe has continued his role as PRO to the point that many of us are taking his passion for granted at this point given his standards of excellence and reliability. He is the premier Club PRO in the county and makes our lives a lot easier. He is an invaluable asset and I would particularly like to thank him for his assistance with this document and the general AGM mayhem that accompanies it!

I touched already on the extraordinary expertise and ease **Shane Ruane** brings to the role of Treasurer. He is a dream to work with in terms of efficiency, organisation and integrity. He is ably assisted by **Ollie Laheen** and they have both established best practice when it comes to the Lotto and it's running.

Finally to our Chairman **Tom O'Grady** I pay a special thanks. Tom always and ever only has one thing at heart and that is the Club and it's advancement. His guidance and leadership has been exemplary. His integrity, commitment and will for it is extraordinary and an example to us all. It is a demanding role. To paraphrase a wise man: 'one must be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to anger'.

For anyone that has further questions or needs clarification on any issues raised in the report please do not hesitate to raise them with me. Paul Bellew, Phone: 087 122 4273 or by Email: secretary.padraigpearses.galway@gaa.ie

JUNIOR FOOTBALL PANEL & MANAGEMENT 2014



A.G.M. MOTION 2014

That up to three players from an adjoining, adjacent or suitable Junior Club be allowed to play Senior Hurling with an appropriate Senior team.

NOMINATIONS

CHAIRMAN

Thomas O'Grady

SECRETARY

Paul Bellew
Leo Morrissey
Martin Bellew
Eddie Mitchell

TREASURER

Shane Ruane

JUVENILE CHAIRMAN

Martin Scarry
Anthony Kenny

PRO

David Cunniffe

IRISH OFFICER

Michael John Kilgannon
Noel Treacy
Dorothy Scarry
Sinead Kilkenny

HURLING BOARD DELEGATE

John O'Grady

INSURANCE OFFICER

Paul Bellew
Oliver Laheen
Leo Morrissey

CHILD PROTECTION OFFICER

Eoghan Barrett

VICE-CHAIRMAN

Tomás Kenny
Anthony Kenny
Tom Kenny
Martin Campbell
Eoghan Barrett

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

Leo Morrissey
Dorothy Scarry
David Gilligan
Paul Scarry
Tomás Kenny
Eoghan Barrett

ASSISTANT TREASURER

Oliver Laheen
Paul Scarry

JUVENILE SECRETARY

Dorothy Scarry

HISTORY OFFICER

Martin Bellew

ALCOHOL & SUBSTANCE ABUSE OFFICER

Cyril Donnellan

FOOTBALL BOARD DELEGATE

Noel Burke
James Clancy
Leo Morrissey

REGISTRAR

Paul Bellew
Leo Morrissey
Martin Campbell
Martin Bellew

U14 FOOTBALL CHAMPIONS 2014



U13 HURLING CHAMPIONS 2014

