



Dr. Crokes G.A.A Club

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2015

Wednesday 14th, January 2015 • Dr. Crokes Club House - 7.30p.m.



County Club Champions

Bun - Orduithe

In order that the proceedings of the Convention may be carried out without undue delay, the following Standing Orders will be submitted for Adoption to the members at the opening of the Convention.

1. The Proposer of a Resolution or of an Amendment may speak for five minutes, but not more than five minutes.
2. A member other than the Proposer of a Resolution or Amendment may not exceed three minutes.
3. The Proposer of a Resolution or of an Amendment may speak a second time for three minutes before a vote is taken, but no other Member may 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 (after which a vote must be taken).
5. Standing Orders shall not be suspended for the purpose of considering any matter not on the Agenda.
6. That the Business of the A.G.M. be conducted between 7.30 p.m. to 10.00 p.m.

Clár Gnótha

1. ADOPTION OF STANDING ORDERS
2. MINUTES OF 2014 AGM
3. CONSIDERATION OF HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT
4. CONSIDERATION OF TREASURERS REPORT
5. CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS
6. MOTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION BY CONVENTION
7. ELECTION OF OFFICERS FOR 2015
8. DELEGATES TO COUNTY BOARD
9. DELEGATES TO EAST KERRY BOARD
10. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

SECRETARY'S REPORT

2014 - bliain sásúil arís. B'fhéidir nach bhfuil an méid sin coirn again i mbliana. B'fhéidir nach bhfuil ár bhfoireann sínséar ar barr an Chontae nó ar barr Mumhan. B'fhéidir nach bhfuil Lá Fhéile Phádraigh inár aigne anocht. Ach bhí an bua againn I gCeannais Chumann an Chontae. Tá an league ann fós. Bhí bliain iontach ag imreóirí peil na mban. Bhí torthaí na iománaithe níos fear i mbliana agus tá fheabas a chur ar ár imreóirí óige gach aon bliain. Bhí bliain rathúil ag na Chrócaigh tríd 2014 agus seo díobh tuarascáil ar an rath sin.

Each year needs to be examined on its own merits and not compared with previous years or what might have been. And while we tend to look to our senior footballers as the barometer of the Club's success, this should not overshadow other elements of the Club. The following is a short summary of how all aspects of Dr Crokes fared in 2014.

Senior Team

Our Senior team won the County Club Championship for the third time in a row and reached the County League Final, where they await Austin Stacks - that's five years in a row of senior county titles. This is a return every Club in the county would be happy to celebrate at the end of any year and so does Dr Crokes. Such is the calibre of our Club's position in football that we can realistically set ambitious targets like national titles at the beginning of each year. And for the past number of years we have gone a long ways along that road. This year the road was a bit shorter. We can look to Colm's injury in Limerick, Johnnie's injury in Rathmore, the number of players involved in County teams - senior and minor, etc. etc. But for 2014, our seniors have to accept a more "ordinary" version of success, rather than the unreal versions achieved in recent years.

At this distant of our exit from County Championship and O'Donoghue Cup, it is safe to say that our senior lads deserve a rest from all-year-round football. They may not agree, but I don't know how our lads kept going year after year with no break at all. There is only one regret we

should have in relation to the senior set-up, which I will relate later in this report.

Now, we all look forward to 2015, with everyone rested and healthy. I have this sneaky suspicion, that 2015 will be one hell of a year for the seniors.

Junior Team

Unbeaten in all competitions last year, this team again won the East Kerry League, beaten in the final of the O'Sullivan Cup and won the Molyneux Cup again this year.

For the first time in many years, Dr Crokes fielded a second County League team. And boy, did they hit the ground running. Unbeaten throughout the entire campaign, they emerged champions of Division 5. Next year, we look forward Division 4 football for this team.

Third Football Team

Such is our success in bringing underage players through to senior football, Dr Crokes fielded a third senior team in 2014. They did not claim any silverware, but we now have a very serious progression path for our underage players to emerge and break through into the senior ranks. Every player now has a mechanism to find the level of football that meets their current ability and if any player has the ability to reach the highest level, then Dr Crokes will ensure players get to the top - nurtured, not forced.

Under 21

Our under 21s were very unlucky not to harvest some silverware in 2014. They reached the final of the East Kerry Championship to lose, conceding a last minute goal. Similarly, they lost the final of the County Club Championship - this time it was a last minute Dr Crokes' goal, not awarded, that was the difference. A Divisional team knocked them out of the County Championship.

Minor

Our Minors had a very successful year in getting to the final of all four competitions entered. The opposition for both County competitions was Dingle and the result

was also the same, losing by three points. Similarly, the opposition in both East Kerry competitions was Spa. Again, the East Kerry League Final saw the Crokes lads come out second best. The final competition of the year was the East Kerry Championship. It would have been easy for these lads to take second place again. However, through sheer determination and character, our Minors ground out a well-deserved win to emerge champions.

Juvenile

2014 may not have been the most successful year in terms of medals won. But the attention to skills development continues to be the Club's priority for our juvenile members. It is interesting to hear retiring heroes from other codes emphasising the need to concentrate on skills at underage level as opposed to physicality, strength and conditioning. Crokes have always been in this sphere. Let the medals and trophies come if they will, but the main objective is to ensure our lads are tops on skills.

The work and dedication in our underage structure is perhaps the most important. It is here that our future senior players learn their trade. It is here they learn their skills, how to win with pride and graciousness to our opposition, how to lose with dignity and recognition of the winners' achievement. It is here that they understand the real meaning of teamwork, learn to listen and take advice from mentors and appreciate support from parents, friends and Clubmates. It is here that we set the seeds that develop future leaders, future club men and women.

Hurling

The senior hurlers had a frustrating year. The County League was littered with walkovers, which deprived our hurlers of much needed competitive games. Our terrific run in the Intermediate County Championship gave our hurlers an opportunity to show their true colours. Beating some of the more noted North Kerry teams, we reached the final in September. Our lads were well in contention right up to the last quarter, but faded in that quarter to lose out on the ultimate prize. But the 2014 journey and

the part our younger hurlers played gives confidence for 2015.

Ladies

The progress made in the Ladies' Section of the Club is testament to the increased number of members providing mentoring input - a section of the Club that needed attention for a while. Now that there is improved mentorship, the Club is harvesting the benefits of this input. The girls have reacted very positively. I have also noticed that the ladies attract great support from parents and friends.

The younger teams progressed very well without bringing home any laurels. However, our senior ladies and U16s had significant wins in their respective competitions and added to the Crokes' trophy cabinet. There is no doubt that our ladies are every bit as passionate about their football as are their male counterparts.

Scór/Cultural

The 2014 AGM did not provide a Scór Officer for the Club. But Scór was still actively progressed in the Club. Parents and Club members like Jackie Looney, Teresa Hickey, Áine O'Shea and Noreen Coffey helped our young members to prepare and participate in various aspects of Scór... and with a lot of success. Discussions are already in train on how cultural matters will provide a more active outlet for Dr Crokes in 2015.

IT

The main item on this front was the re-launch of our website. The new-look website has many new features and will include online lotto. Other Club social media - facebook and twitter - continue to update members on Club activities.

Events

There were a number of our regular events throughout 2014. We took part in the St Patrick's Day Parade, held Halloween and Christmas parties for the kids along with Easter and Christmas Camps. We also organised some bigger events. The Club Social was held a little later than usual. The Clear Air Boys ran a boat trip to Lord Brandon's Cottage and a large group of members traversed the Gap to Kate Kearney's Cottage by horse and shank's mare. The ever-improving Colm Cooper Invitational Tournament took an international twist this year with a Scottish club taking part. One terrific event for Dr Crokes was Sam's homecoming to the Captains' Club. It was a huge occasion for Dr Crokes when Kieran and Fionn, accompanied by most of the Kerry team and management, brought the Sam Maguire Cup to our Clubhouse. A number of the Minor team and Management later arrived with the Markham Cup to cap the night off.

Development

As always, the two pitches were the main focus for our facilities and developments. The envy of every Club in the county, is the result of care, attention and hard work.

The main pitch was sanded, vertidraind and re-sodded in areas. The top pitch was reseeded down the centre third. Thanks to generous funding from the Clear Air Boys, the Club ordered a new tractor mower has been ordered and is due for delivery later this month.

Health and Well-being

Much of the work on this front was preparation work for next year with County and Croke Park committees. Dr Crokes had adult and youth involvement in a national seminar on Health and Well-being. Already Dr Crokes have committed to the "Off the Booze and On the Ball" campaign with a number of senior players signed up to take part. We might all consider taking part for the benefit of both the Club and ourselves.

Golf Society

The Clubs Golf Society continues to be a vibrant social outlet for members and had another successful year, running off a number of competitions, both individual and team. Brian Looney proved to be as useful with the golf clubs as he is with his football boots, winning golfer of the year. The Society also assisted the Club with much needed fund-raising, through the annual Golf Classic and Golf Challenge competition.

Congratulations/Condolences

2014 was a terrific year for the County teams in both codes. Congratulations to the many Crokes players, who wore the green and gold jersey in football and hurling, male and female, senior and under age. It is a terrific achievement and one in which your Clubmates are proud of. Kerry games are always a bit more interesting, when the green and gold is sprinkled with a bit of black and amber.

We congratulate those who brought silverware to Dr Crokes and those who didn't, but wore the black and amber with pride. Congratulations to members who reached a significant number on the age front, those who popped the big question and those who replied positively. Long life and happiness to those who were married in the past year. Congratulations and well done to anyone who brought new life into the world and future players for Dr Crokes.

Condolences to members, who were bereaved in the past year or suffered loss of any kind. Two particular Crokes' stalwarts passed on in 2014 that will be particularly missed - Maureen Cooper and Bridie O'Shea. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a hanaim dhilis

Thanks

As I step down from the Secretary's role I want to thank my fellow Officers, particularly our Chairman, Ger O'Shea. I also wish to thank all those members who assisted me in any way throughout the past two years. It has been an honour to represent the Club in this role and I now have a much greater appreciation of the work that so many do for our Club, much

of it unheralded. There have been many great times and experiences during that time. I have had the absolute privilege of being in close quarters with the senior team on game days and listening to what our tremendous leaders have to say in the dressing room.

However, one of the best moments I experienced with Dr Crokes was earlier this year as a mentor of one our underage teams. It wasn't our most successful year at this age group, but in the last competition, this team reached the semi-final. They played their hearts out. But decisions went against them and they lost by a narrow margin. The reaction of some parents, supporters and officials from the winning club was less gracious than you would have expected. So we held the lads back on the field to have a quick chat, cool emotions and walk off as a team. In contrast to the winning club, the reaction from our supporters was fantastic. Our lads were cheered and applauded off the field - learning how to win and lose with the same dignity and honour.

Reflecting on this and my earlier references to regrets - we had a senior team that won nearly every honour available, year after year. When it inevitably came to an end, we allowed this group of players just walk off the field. We may have offered a sympathetic word or pat on the back. But those players should have left our own field and the pitch in Rathmore to nothing less than what heroes deserved. They should have left those fields, not in defeat, but to a cacophony of applause and cheers to represent our appreciation of all they had achieved; all they sacrificed for the black and amber; to win and lose with the same dignity and honour. So, I do now want to applaud and thank the players, mentors, backroom teams and all involved over the past number of years with our senior setup. As previously stated, I do believe that with a well-earned rest and Colm's return, 2015 will be another unreal year.

Finally, last year I suggested that we could all help Dr Crokes by positively supporting our teams, leaving the negativity at home and secondly through volunteerism. These are still important requirements. How better to support in a positive way than by giving our players the same appreciation, dignity and honour as they leave the field of play - win or lose. And by now, you will be aware that the Club intends running a fund-raising dance event in March. Volunteer dancers have already come forward. However, many more volunteers will be required to help run this event. You are needed by your Club.

Go raibh maith agaibh agus tá súil agam go mbeidh bliain iontach eile againn i 2015.

*Maitiú Ó Néil
Rúnaí*

SENIOR TEAM FOOTBALL REPORT

The senior team's season got underway in February with the East Kerry Super League competition. The team performed quite well, although a lot of the senior panel did not play in all these games because they had just finished the previous season the week before this competition began. Also, we must consider the fact that the new management team was still not put in place at this stage. The County League was the next competition and this commenced on the 23rd March away to Austin Stacks. We lost this game narrowly and it was to be the only game we would lose in this competition and are looking forward to renewing rivalries with Stacks early in 2015 with the County League Final. Moving on to the Club Championship in April and we got over a tough challenge with Laune Rangers and progressed to a semi-final with Dingle which we also and qualified for the club final, which was to be played later in the season.

Next up was the County Championship and we were drawn away to Rathmore on the June Bank Holiday weekend. Looking back now, there was a lot of pressure on the team and a huge amount of talk about the impending five in-a-row. The team prepared as best as they possibly could, we did have a few injury problems but looked forward to the game as we always did and of course the challenge that was definitely going to come in Rathmore. On the night, we didn't play all that well and we paid the ultimate price and lost to a buoyant Rathmore team. We dusted ourselves down from the challenge of this and prepared for the challenge of Kenmare District the following week and we played much better and won the game to qualify and meet our local rivals Legion in the last 16 of the County Championship. A really good draw for us and a game to savour and look forward to. It was played on July 13th in our own field in front of a really big crowd. We played well on the night but just came up short and lost on a score line of 17 points to 15 points. This was a really difficult game for Crokes players to lose but they regrouped, took a little break for a week or two and got ready by training really hard and looking forward to the second half of the season. But I suppose it was eventually going to come to an end at some stage, it was just a pity it had to be in 2014.

Having trained really well across the summer months and with only a handful of games in this period, we were really looking forward to the Club Championship Final and when it came around the team disposed of the Legion with ease and it looked like we were ready to continue on to represent Kerry in the Munster Club if the need arose, but it didn't. Then it was the O'Donoghue Cup and another trip to Rathmore and once again we fell short in this game, a little unluckily on this occasion though.

So, while the season was not a great one in comparison to previous years, the team still won the Club Championship and are waiting to play in the County League Final also. While the effort that was made by all players is recognized and appreciated by management, we need to continue to improve and raise our standards again and bring some more glory days back to this great club. Bring on the 2015 season.

Martin Byrnes, Dave O'Connor and Finian Moran



Senior Club Championship Winners

JUNIOR B FOOTBALL REPORT

2014 was another great year for the Club Junior team. We played in four competitions winning three.

The players committed fully for the year and while the team personal changed from competition to competition, the standard of play remained the same. We played at a very high level all year, which is no surprise as many of our players were and are senior standard players. Junior football has played an important role in our club over the last 20 or so years. Mixing rising young stars with experienced players gives a perfect blend for team success. The junior team has always acted as a stepping stone for future stars while also rejuvenating senior players.

As usual the year began with the East Kerry League. By topping Division 1 we progressed to play Legion in the final. With a good overall performance, we were always in control winning comfortably in the end.

This year for the first time in many years we decided to enter Division 5 of the County League. This was always going to be a challenge and so it proved with many of the games keenly contested. Surprising we went through the campaign unbeaten, beating

many traditionally strong clubs along the way. Building a good relationship with the senior management helped enormously to avoid too many clashes with the Division 1 team. This allowed us at times to have some senior players available for game to game. Going up to Division 4 will give more players a chance to play regular football at a higher level thus ensuring that they will be ready for the step up to senior level when required. We know the division will be very competitive but we are looking forward to the challenge.

The O'Sullivan Cup was next. After an extra time win over Glenflesk, and a big win away to Spa in the semi-final it was Legion again in the final. Without ever reaching the heights of other games we eventually lost out to a fitter team.

The Moylneaux Cup (B County Championship) is a very important competition for the club. After wins over Kerins O'Rahillys in Round 1 and Austin Stacks after a replay in the semi-final, we qualified to play Kilcummin in the final. Missing a number of key players, the team, like it did all year, stood manfully to the task at hand and won comfortably in the end. Great credit is due to all players. Playing for our club is always a special feeling and the players wore the black and amber jerseys with pride all year.

During the year we lost Ruairi Mangan Selector/Player to emigration. Ruairi proved a fantastic clubman and was a big loss on and off the field.

Management:

*Moss Harmon, Tadhgíe Fleming,
Pat O'Shea, Eddie O Sullivan
and Ruairi Mangan*



Molyneaux Cup Final

JUNIOR C FOOTBALL REPORT

2014 saw the club enter a third senior team for the first time in many years. Over 30 players lining out throughout the County Junior League which proved that there is interest in players to continue to play for the club at this level.

We played six games in the competition with varying success. While this was our first year back in competition we hope to build on in over the coming years.

A big thank you to James Hurley and Ruairi Mangan for all there help during the year.

U21 FOOTBALL REPORT

Our under 21 squad competed in east Kerry championship and progressed to the final beating Glenflesk after extra-time. Rathmore were our opponents in the final and, in a game where we were in control for long periods, we eventually lost to a last minute goal.

In the County Championship, we drew St. Kierans away, we played well on the night and were in the game right until the final whistle however it was not our night.

In the County Club Championship we played our best football and having won our 3 games against Beale/Ballylongford/Asdee, Dingle and Rathmore, we found ourselves in the final. On this occasion, An Gaeltacht were our opponents. We started poorly while they got off to a flyer and we trailed badly at the interval. In the 2nd half, we were a different kettle of fish playing a fluent brand of football, however with a last minute goal not awarded, we again came up 2nd best.

This squad has massive potential and hopefully, all will play a big part in our club history in the coming decade and beyond. We wish them well. Special mention for Steven Brosnan who had many a good sleep on our bus journeys.

Management:

Martin Byrnes, Tommy Brosnan. Pat O'Shea and Seamie O'Doherty.



East Kerry Champions

MINOR FOOTBALL REPORT

The first competition of the year was the Division 1 County League, three home wins in a row against Austin Stacks, Kerins O'Rahillys and Spa put the team top of the table before an away game to Gaeltacht. A 3-10 a piece draw with An Gaeltacht ensured a home semi-final versus Kerins O'Rahillys in which Crokes ran out easy winners to set up a county final versus Dingle in Austin Stack Park in Tralee. Unfortunately Dingle ran out 3 point winners.

After a break for the Leaving Cert. the next games were home wins in the East Kerry League Division 1 against Firies and Legion and an away win against Spa set up a home final versus Spa. However Spa ran out winners in Lewis Road by 2 points.

The County championship campaign got off to the worst possible start getting beaten by Mid-Kerry in Lewis Road, however a back door victory versus Feale Rangers set up a quarter final tie away to South Kerry in Caherciveen. After extra time Crokes came out winners by the minimum. A semi-final against reigning champions East Kerry awaited Crokes to be played in Spa, and after 60 minutes Crokes were 5 points winners. The county final saw a repeat of the county league final against Dingle again in Tralee and unfortunately the result was the same with Dingle again running out 3 point winners.

The final competition of the year to be played was the East Kerry Championship, after a win over Firies in the semi-final set up a final against Spa in Fossa which resulted in a 3 point win for the Crokes.

In all, the minors competed in 4 competitions, reached 4 finals, winning the East Kerry Championship.

29 players were used over the 4 competitions and numbers at training were always extremely high so great credit has to be given to the minor squad for competing so competitively in all competitions over the year.

Management: Brian McMahon, Caoibhean O'Donoghue, Jim Connolly, Edmund O'Sullivan, and Pat O'Shea.



Minors

U16 FOOTBALL REPORT

2014 was a fruitful year for this dedicated group of players. The year opened with the East Kerry league and we progressed to final of this with relative ease. In the final, we had to withstand an early onslaught from Rathmore but we quickly gained control and ran out easy winners. Following this, the East Kerry Championship was held and we accounted for Rathmore in the semi-final and played Gneeveguilla in the final. After suffering a few heart-breaking defeats down through the years, we produced our best performance of the season and were convincing winners on the night.

The summer brought the county league and we completed our regulation games with victories against Austin Stacks, Gneeveguilla, Listowel, Kernis O'Rahillys and Laune Rangers. We qualified for the final following a semi-final victory over Listowel and in the final we played Gneeveguilla on a wet evening in Rathmore. On the night, while dominating the game for long periods, we could not find the same fluency which we had all year. A tough one point loss was the result.

2014 was a successful year for this crop of players, with many gaining a lot of experience with the minor team, winning an East Kerry Championship and playing in a Minor County Championship Final. This will stand to them in the future while those remaining under the age for 2015 will bring great leadership to the team. I would also like to congratulate the Dr Crokes players who were key players on the East Kerry team which won County Championship honours at Under 16 level in 2014.

I would like to thank my fellow selectors for their efforts, Philip O'Connor and Finian Moran, as well as those who helped us throughout the year in various aspects.



Under 16 Champions

U14 FOOTBALL REPORT

2014 was tough year for this group, as a number of our players missed out on vital parts of the season due to injury. While no silverware was won, players developed and matured very well.

The boys competed well in the County League, but just missed out on final stages. Our best performances were against the stronger teams. The County Féile competition was disappointing in that we did not make the final stages. However, there were many terrific individual performances from players, which later in the year gelled into a better team performance.

East Kerry was a more successful campaign, where we had better results. The boys won through to the semi-final stage. The semi-final was a terrific game. With some players injured, others stood up to the mark. The game was in the pot, right up to the end. But unfortunately, we were on the wrong side of the result at the final whistle. The reaction of parents and supporters after the game was heartening, as a very disappointed group of lads were cheered and applauded off the field.

Well done to the players who were part of a successful East Kerry panel that won the District County Shield and the players who made the Kerry South panel who were also successful in inter-county competitions. Finally, thanks to all the players, who turned up to training in numbers throughout the year. Also thanks to the many parents who supported the U14 at every game and helped transport the players to away games.

Full Panel: Colm Cagney, Jason Cahillane, Mark Cooper, Niall Daley, Roan Delaney, Fionn Doherty, Mark Donnellan, Lee Downey, Josh Fleming, Fionnbharr Hickey, Liam Kelleher, Michael Lenihan, Shane Looney, Sean Magann, Frank McGuire, Jonathon Mee, Gary O'Connor, Oisín O'Connor, Tristan O'Donoghue, Lorcan O'Hare Wyatt, David O'Mahony, Seán O'Neill, Harry Potts.

Management:

*John Cagney, Mike Hickey,
Diarmaid O'Mahony and Matt O'Neill.*



U14 B Team

U12 & U11 FOOTBALL REPORT

The Dr. Crokes U12's and U11's trained together all year under the guidance of John O' Shea & John Looney with additional help from Brendan O' Connor. In excess of 50 training sessions plus Challenge games (3), Co. League A & B teams, East Kerry U11 Competition, East Kerry U12 competition and Firies U11 Blitz.

Training sessions were designed to strike a balance between challenging the stronger players and bringing on the weaker. Generally as a group, they are not a very physical bunch but they have a good attitude and we believe we made decent progress on both these goals. This work was hampered by the fact that all players trained together and with only two coaches it was difficult to tailor sessions. Game panels were spilt to ensure all 12's started a game with all players getting playing time (a half) in each game.

The U12's had lost only a handful of games since their U8's days. Their lack of physicality made this year a different story. They lost a number of games in both the league and East Kerry. While they played well with the ball, took excellent scores and won about half our fixtures, their inability to physically compete for possession or stop-up advancing players was something more physical sides took full advantage of.

The U11 group competed well in the B games in county league but were inconsistent in East Kerry U11 and suffered a few defeats. Because of numbers generally the 'B' teams contained a number of 12's that made them stronger against teams struggling to make-up a second team.

Going forward they are a great bunch of kids with what we believe excellent potential - they may have a difficult year again this year physically but we believe when things level off in the coming years there are several excellent prospects.

Mentors: *John Looney and John O' Shea.*



U10 Team



U13 Team - Colm Cooper Cup

JUVENILE CHAIRMANS REPORT

For all successful clubs, one identifying factor is common - a strong senior club is a product of a strong juvenile club. Thankfully, the Dr. Crokes Club has always realised the importance of developing players through child and youth programs. Membership of the club is not just about playing games, it's about a club ethos, it's who we are.

A big thank you to all coaches, mentors and interested club members for the dedication they gave to their respective roles during the past year. The club is so grateful for the unselfish time you have given over the past year. Dr. Crokes has always had a proud tradition in nurturing its juvenile players and the club continues to uphold these values today.

The club strives to develop and promote all games in the GAA family namely Gaelic Football, Hurling, Ladies Football and Camogie. We are conscious that the club must continue to show that we are a family friendly club who aim to develop all players not only physically but socially as well.

While the club continues to be successful at many age groups this is not necessarily the only barometer to gauging progress. A strong recruitment policy followed by an age appropriate coaching programme for our nursery section is vital. As players develop ensuring they have regular meaningful games at all levels is also a priority.

One of the big reasons to our overall success is the calibre of coaches and mentors that give of their time to develop our players to the reach their full potential. Developing players must continue to be our number one priority as these will be our future stars. Putting time and energy honing their skills will be worth it when we see them continue in the footsteps of our present senior players.

While we are delighted and grateful for the quality and quantity of coaches we have we would always welcome more to help out particularly at the Saturday morning nursery sessions and the Ladies section.

A special thank you to John O'Shea, our hard working coaching officer for the countless hours he has put in to ensure we remain the envy of all juvenile clubs. Thanks also to juvenile secretary Gerard Sugrue for all his help and assistance over the past year.

Pat O'Shea

SATURDAY MORNING ACADEMY

The Saturday Morning Academy commenced in early March with a hugely successful Open Day. Bouncy castles and an ice-cream van added to the fun. The aim of the day was a recruitment drive to attract new children to the club and to showcase the excellent facilities that the club has to offer. The event was a huge success and record numbers attended the open day and many new children are now regulars at the Saturday morning academy.

On Saturday mornings, hurling with Gene O'Doherty and his coaches commences at 10:00am to 10:40am followed by football 'til 12 noon. Going forward it is hoped to have greater co-operation between the hurling and football academy and sharing of coaches and arranging of challenge matches and recruitment etc. The success of the Saturday Morning Academy is down to the excellent coaches that give of their time to train the next generation. A special thanks to the young coaches, boys and girls who make an excellent contribution each Saturday coaching and are highly popular with the children. Also to the adults who coach, supervise and provide refreshments, a big thanks to you all.

Finally, I would appeal to club members of all ages to get involved with the Saturday Morning Academy in some small way as there are jobs for everyone and we are often tight with numbers. Someone to volunteer to supervise the gate could be the most important job in the club as children's safety is the number one priority.

Overall, the 2014 Saturday Morning Academy was a huge success and a special mention to coaching officer John O'Shea for his huge contribution over the past few years, he raised the bar to a new level and put unbelievable work into ensuring the smooth running of the Saturday Morning Academy. Finally, a big thank you to Pat O'Shea for both his management of the structure of the Saturday mornings and his brilliant coaching of the children. To finish, I know the coaches, the adults and the children enjoyed the year, roll on 2015.

Billy Hennigan



SENIOR LADIES FOOTBALL

The senior ladies began the year with a players meeting to access our goals in what we want to achieve for 2014. The girls wanted to win the County League which has eluded them so far. So our main goal was to win out the County League. We prepared first with strength/conditioning classes in early January. There was great commitment to get to a good level of fitness before we started with our outdoor football sessions. Football sessions began and the girls were enthusiastic about the football they were going to play, so every player was brought in to the type of football we're to play.

Our first County League began away to John Mitchells. This was a great performance to start off with very good attacking play, 3 great goals scored. But the defensive play by the girls was very good, and this was the foundation to our defensive structure for the rest of the league. As the league games came, it was evident the girls were getting confident and better with their overall team play on the field. With wins against Dromid, Southern Gaels and Milltown, it put us in a strong position in the league. The real tests were coming with our big test against a very strong Spa team This was an outstanding game of football and a great test of character for the girls, as this went down to the wire. They came away with a fantastic win with everyone contributing to it with their defending, the tackling that helped make so many turnovers in the game.

So with further wins against Kilcummin and Currow, we booked our place in the final against John Mitchell's. Again combined with youth and experience in this side, they produced a fantastic performance to win the County League. Our only other competition we played was the junior championship, short a few regulars, we played a very strong Dingle team, only to come up short at the end. This is a competition that we can compete for in 2015.

I would like to personally thank every player that wore the black and amber jersey with their heart on their sleeve. They were so committed in training and thus playing to their very best in every game. Also to our supporters who supported the ladies in every game. Lastly, I like to thank Pat O'Shea, Mark Cooper and Catherine Keogh for their help throughout the year.

Tommy Brosnan

U16 GIRLS FOOTBALL

County Champions back to back, what a great year for a dedicated and talented group of girls.

We played Dingle at home in our first game. Looking rusty and in trouble the girls were down 11 points at one stage but a Kate Stack goal with the last kick sent the game to extra time. Playing superb controlled football we pulled away to secure a great win against a talented Dingle team. The semi-final was away to Moyvane who beat us well in the under 14 competition last year. The girls produced the performance of the year to win well after a tough battle.

The final was away to Spa and despite the absence of Mia and Dawn, we pulled through to overcome a young Spa side. We battled hard all night to receive our just reward for the year's hard training. To a great fanfare, Jessica Galvin lifted the cup, a marvellous achievement. Thirteen of this panel will be underage for the competition in 2015 so why not three in a row? Thanks to all involved and to the parents who helped out all year

Management:

*Tommy Brosnan, Colm Galvin,
Brendan O Connor and Mark Cooper.*



U16 Ladies

U14 GIRLS FOOTBALL

2014 was again a very exciting year for Dr.Crokes' girls. A very young side started off in March, defeating Currow in Lewis Road. We played in Division 3 of the County League. Scartaglin away saw us lose a tight game. Victories over Abbeydorney and Glenflesk saw us qualify for the semi-final. Playing Cromane away, we put out a great display but were beaten by a stronger Cromane team who went on to win the final. Half the panel were under 12 this year so it was, looking back, a great year for this group of players.

We took a break for a couple of weeks, before we started back in East Kerry Division 2. Playing Cromane at home and Scartiglen away, we played great Crokes football to win both, a testament to the hard training the girls put in. Our second last game saw us lose to a strong Kilcummin side. Playing Currow away we put in a great performance to qualify for the East Kerry Final which took place on November fifth [a long year!] What a great game and a wonderful display by a brilliant group of players. Losing a game by two points is never easy, but in a final its even harder. Down nine points at one stage we dominated the second half but time ran out on us.

This group of players are destined for great things. Thanks to all he parents for their tremendous help and to the great coaches we have in the Crokes, Brendan, Jason, Colm, Tommy and Catherine.

U13 & U12 GIRLS FOOTBALL

The Under 12 girls had a very good year this year. Although we didn't have large numbers at the start of the year the girls played very well in the Division 3 County league this year, up a Division from last year and where they reached the semi-final stage but due to injury and holidays it was a very young team that played so wasn't successful on the day.

The girls also took part in the East Kerry league and again reached the semi-final stage but it wasn't to be. The girls throughout the year trained hard and showed some great skill and teamwork. This is a young team with many of them under-age again next year. So the future looks bright for our under-age teams.

The Under 13's had just one game this year as it's a knock out competition and unfortunately due to injury and holidays we were missing a lot of the girls that would be of age so again we had to go with a younger team although they were beaten on the day. They played their hearts out and never gave up which shows great spirit and we were very proud of the girls on the day.

Thank you to fellow selectors Colm Galvin and Tony Power for all their help and advice.

Catherine Keogh



U12 Girls

SENIOR HURLING

The year of 2014 was one of mixed fortunes for our Senior team. The earlier part of the season was difficult in that Division 2 of the County League was marked by a series of walk-overs conceded by several of the competing teams to one another and this inevitably resulted in disrupted momentum early in the Spring. That certainly had a negative effect on our lads and we finished mid-table, but to their eternal credit, they turned the ship around when the County Intermediate Championship time came.

Inspired by the enthusiasm and performances of several young players not long out of our junior 'academy', we had a series of terrific Championship victories, notably in the County Semi-Final against Lixnaw. That game went to extra time and our display and ultimate victory on what was a wet and miserable night in Tralee was our best for many years.

So, we found ourselves in a County Final to be played against Kenmare as the curtain raiser to the County Senior Final. To be training and still hurling up to the end of September was a wonderful new experience for us.

However, all great journeys must come to an end and so did ours on the day we faced our great rivals Kenmare Shamrocks in the final. We were well in contention into the mid-point of the second half but our effort faded and Kenmare ran out worthy winners on a score-line that perhaps was not a fair reflection on our efforts.

It was a disappointing conclusion to the season but the overall picture is certainly one of progress and that now presents us with a challenge. That challenge is to maintain the progress, to continue to integrate young players and to believe, now that we have flown closer to the sun, that we can return to the top table and taste success in 2015.

Because we have always played as a 'team', we have avoided naming any individual but will make one exception. Our manager, Timmy Hourigan, was a wonderful inspiration to us all the way through the season. We thank him and we dearly hope that we can go one better for him in 2015.

We would also like to take the opportunity to congratulate our players who figured in the Kerry All-Ireland Minor 'B' Championship win. They are Christopher Doncel, Shane Lyne, Jack Lenihan and Aaron Murphy (who was also included in the Kerry Minor Football set-up that won "Sam Óg").

Players who lined out in 2014: Jamie Lenihan, Shane Kavanagh, Kevin Landers, John Ivory, Shane Barrett, Seanie Morris, Rory Waters, Seanie Burchill, Brendan McMahon, Paraic Fitzpatrick, Michael McCarthy, Michael O'Keeffe, Patrick Landers, Tolm Murphy, Jack Lenihan, Aaron Murphy, Dan Guerin, Christopher Doncel, Bryan O'Shea, Barry O'Grady, Michael Milner, Anthony Keogh, Kevin Smith, Shane Lyne, Cian O'Brien, Ciarán O'Donnell, Fintan Moore, Brendan O'Donovan.

Management: *Timmy Hourigan (manager/trainer), Sean Browne (selector), Paul Downey (selector), Dave Cotter (selector).*



JUVENILE HURLING REPORT

2014 was again a very busy year for all the young hurlers in the Dr. Crokes club. No doubt, the highlight of the year was the fact that we had 4 players; Aaron Murphy, Christopher Doncel, Jack Lenihan and Shane Lyne, on the All-Ireland Minor 'B' Winning Kerry Hurling Team. This was a magnificent achievement for these players and the club are extremely proud of their success and congratulate them for their efforts.

The most pleasing aspect of this is the fact that all these players have come up through the ranks - from the Saturday Morning Academy right through to minor. It is also worth noting that these 4 players are dual players and continue to play both football and hurling and are proving that playing both codes can be done. A special mention to Aaron Murphy, who had a tremendous year winning 3 All-Ireland Medals, being on both successful Kerry Minor teams and also with his college, Coláiste Ghobnátan, Ballyvourney, winning an All-Ireland 'C' Colleges Football title. We hope that all these players will inspire others to continue to play both codes and bring further honour to this club in the future. Can we dare to dream to follow the significant and historic achievement of Cratloe, the Clare club team that won both Senior Football and Hurling titles in 2014. Certainly, their success showed what can be achieved by hard-work, commitment and co-operation. While we acknowledge that we are a bit off that at present, we can set it as a target and see where that gets us!

The Dr. Crokes Minor hurlers combined with Kenmare and Kilgarvan for the second successive year to play under the auspices of South Kerry. In fact, Dr. Crokes players were the back-bone of this South Kerry side with 8 of them starting and another 6 on the panel. This South Kerry team had some excellent performances in the year and had great wins over St. Brendan's, Ardfert and a very fancied combined Crotta/Abbeydorney team to reach the Minor Championship Final against Lixnaw. Unfortunately, we did not enjoy the fairytale ending and eventually went down to a very strong Lixnaw team that included 5 of the senior panel that won the County Senior Hurling Championship also this past year.

In hindsight, the South Kerry Minor Hurling team did very well to reach the County Final while their preparations were not what they should have been, with our players having to fulfil an unacceptable level of fixtures in a space of a few shorts weeks. In fact, some of these minors played in 4 County Finals from the end of September to the end of October and unfortunately, suffered defeats in each one. While we all like winning, they say you have to lose one before you can win one. Many also say that you learn more from losing and if that is the case, we have learned an awful lot this past year!

Eitherway, we take our hats off to these players for their dedication, hard work and commitment as it was no easy task to keep the heads up during this period. We hope that the perseverance shown by these players will pay dividends next year and the years ahead.

Our U10 hurlers also achieved success this year in winning the Dr. Bill Mangan Perpetual Trophy in Muckross Traditional Farms in late August. In fact, this was the third time Dr. Crokes won the event in the 5 years it has been running. Well done to all concerned.

The Dr. Crokes club again made a significant contribution to Kerry hurling over the past year. In addition to having 4 players on the successful minor team, we had representatives from the club at both player and mentor levels for the other development squads; U15 Level: Dylan Dermody and Ciarán Kennedy.

U14 Level: Michael Lenihan, Michael Horgan and John Lenihan (Manager).

All these players have put a huge amount of time and commitment into Kerry hurling and have represented the club well.

At the 4th Annual South Kerry Juvenile Hurling Awards in the Killarney Plaza Hotel on 28th November last, all players in the South Kerry region who represented their clubs on county squads were acknowledged for their efforts and success. The awards were presented by Anthony Nash, Cork Senior Hurling Goal-keeper who gave his views and life experiences to all in attendance. The inaugural 'Sports Star of the Year' Award was presented to Aaron Murphy in recognition of his great achievements in 2014.

We would like to take this opportunity to congratulate our club members who won the All-Ireland Senior and Minor Championships this year - Seniors: Fionn, Kieran, Johnny, Daithi and Colm - and Minors: Micheál, Jordan, Aaron and Gavin.

Finally, we appreciate the support and encouragement of the Club and its members. We would like to thank the parents for their support and assistance throughout the year and for providing travel to games. We extend our thanks to all our players and mentors of all the groups for their commitment and dedication - keep up the good work. We encourage anyone with an interest in hurling and the progression of the sport within the club to lend a hand and get involved with us.

John Lenihan



Kerry Minor Hurlers:- Chris, Jack, Aaron & Shane



Aaron Murphy receiving 'Sports Star Award' at South Kerry Awards

MINOR HURLERS REPORT

The Dr. Crokes Minor hurlers combined with Kenmare and Kilgarvan under the auspices of South Kerry for the second year in succession. Our first outing was in the Division 1 League vs. Crotta/Abbeydorney, played in Kilgarvan in late June. This was an encouraging start for us as even though missing many strong players on the night, we still managed to give Crotta/Abbeydorney a very close contest and ended up losing by a few points. Having received walk-overs from both Ballyheigue and Ballyduff in the League, we qualified for the semi-final vs. Causeway but due to a clash of fixtures and players involved with football in their club, the County Board awarded Causeway the game and so we did not get the opportunity to play this.

In the quarter final of the Championship, we were drawn against St. Brendan's, Ardfert who were reigning County Champions. This game was played on Friday, 22nd August, the same weekend the Kerry Minor Footballers were contesting the All-Ireland Semi-final vs. Mayo. This meant we had to play without 2/3 of our strong players but we had no choice and were happy to get away with a draw on the night. The replay was played on Sunday, 14th September in Kilgarvan and with a full squad, we had a comprehensive win of 3-15 to 1-07 over last year's winners. Dr. Crokes had 8 players starting in this match with Aaron Murphy scoring 2-03, Jack Lenihan 0-02 and Christopher Doncel and Daniel O'Brien with 0-01 each.

The semi-final against Crotta/Abbeydorney took place on Friday, 19th September in Austin Stack Park, Tralee. This fixture caused us problems as, once again it clashed with the All-Ireland Minor Football schedule with Kerry contesting the All-Ireland Final on the Sunday of that weekend. Surely, it is not right that the Club Minor Hurling Championship should be clashing with the Inter-county Minor Football Championship fixtures. Surely, the dual players involved should be given the opportunity to at least play championship hurling with their clubs. Despite this, we had a fantastic victory over a fancied combined Crotta/Abbeydorney team on a score-line of 4-09 to 2-14. This was a great team display showing real heart and fighting spirit to come back and get a fantastic goal in the last 2 minutes to win by a single point. A special mention to 15 year old Ciarán Kennedy who scored 3 goals, playing wing-forward on the night, and, of course, Aaron Murphy who popped up with a peach of a goal to win the game for us.

The County Minor Hurling Final was played on Saturday, 4th October against Lixnaw in Abbeydorney. This was the first game where we had a full complement of all of our players available to us. However, due to other commitments and a pile-up of fixtures, our preparations were limited and not ideal. We were also not happy with the fact that the venue was Abbeydorney in the heart of North Kerry - surely this was not a neutral venue for a County Final. Regardless, we were getting used to this kind of treatment and again had no choice!

The game itself was truly a game of 2 halves as wet and windy conditions dictated play. We started brightly and maintained the advantage up to 10 minutes from half-time where we allowed Lixnaw back into it. Still, we were leading by 5 points at half-time and even got a further point ahead shortly after the restart. However, Lixnaw then took control and got 2 quick goals to forge ahead. We never recovered and Lixnaw's better skill and stick-work became evident and they eventually ran out easy winners on an impressive score-line. We were bitterly disappointed with our performance but, in hindsight, we did exceptionally well to reach the County Final and if we had more work done, we would have given a better account of ourselves. This Lixnaw side had their homework done and man-marked some of our top players and we had no answer. No doubt we will learn from this.

Full Panel: Patrick McCarthy (Kilgarvan), Eodhán De Brun (Dr. Crokes), David Crowley (Kenmare), Shane O'Sullivan (Kilgarvan), Shane Lyne (Dr. Crokes), John Mark Foley (Kilgarvan), Daniel O'Brien (Dr. Crokes), Jack Lenihan (Dr. Crokes), Brian O'Sullivan (Kenmare), Micheál Burns (Dr. Crokes), Patrick O'Shea (Kilgarvan), Christopher Doncel (Dr. Crokes - Capt.), Aaron Murphy (Dr. Crokes), Fionán O'Sullivan (Kenmare), Ciarán Kennedy (Dr. Crokes). Subs: Flor O'Sullivan (Kilgarvan), Michael Owen Buckley (Dr. Crokes), Dylan Dermody (Dr. Crokes), Mark O'Shea (Dr. Crokes), Kevin Healy-Rae (Kilgarvan), Mark O'Shea (Dr. Crokes), Jack Murphy (Dr. Crokes), Gearoid Fennessy (Kilgarvan), Cian O'Brien (Dr. Crokes), Daniel O'Donoghue (Legion) and Paul Clarke (Dr. Crokes).

Management: John Lenihan (Dr. Crokes - manager), Flor O'Brien (Kilgarvan - trainer),
Mickey Foley (Kilgarvan - selector) and Sean O'Regan (Kenmare - selector)



U16 HURLERS REPORT

Our U16 hurlers also combined with Kenmare and Kilgarvan under the auspices of South Kerry. They also played in Divisions 1 of the County League and were unlucky as the St. Brendan's and Lixnaw teams were particularly strong this and we suffered some heavy defeats. However, a highlight of the year was a great win over Crotta/Abbeydorney on a score-line of 7-12 to 7-11 in which Ciarán Kennedy scored 6-06 playing in full-forward on the night. Some display, Ciarán!

We were knocked out in the first round of the Championship by the same opposition but we were missing 2/3 of our strong players due to their involvement with the football development squads.

Dr. Crokes players involved with the South Kerry U16's were: Ciarán Kennedy, Dylan Dermody, Eodhán De Brun, Daniel O'Brien, James Flavin, Mark O'Shea, Shane Kennedy, Lorcan O'Connor, Conor Quirke, Caimin Sheehy, Michael Lenihan, Diarmuid Mullane, Cian O'Hare and Michael Aherne.

Mentors involved: Jim Kennedy and Mike Kennedy.

U14 HURLING REPORT

The Dr. Crokes U14 hurlers also joined forces with Kenmare and Kilgarvan this year to play as a South Kerry side in Division 1 of the County League. Overall, we performed well with good wins over Causeway and Tralee Parnell's but were narrowly beaten by Crotta (eventual winners) and Abbeydorney (winners of the Féile). However, we qualified for the County League Semi-final against Causeway and this is a game we should have won.

Also, unfortunately, as an amalgamated team, we were not eligible to participate in Féile na Gaeil.

Dr. Crokes U14's did compete themselves in the South Kerry Championship in September and were defeated by Kilgarvan in the Semi-final.

Congratulations to the 2 Dr. Crokes players who represented the club on the Kerry U14 team; Michel Lenihan and Michael Horgan and to John Lenihan who managed the Kerry U14 team this past year.

South Kerry U14 Team: Padraic Looney (Dr. Crokes), James McCarthy (Kenmare), Liam Twomey (Kilgarvan), Michael Horgan (Dr. Crokes), Jack Foley (Kilgarvan), Dan McCarthy (Kenmare), Cian Fahy (Dr. Crokes), Michael Lenihan (Dr. Crokes), Daniel Casey (Kilgavan), Conor Lucey (Kilgarvan), Donal O'Sullivan (Kilgarvan), Frank McGuire (Dr. Crokes), Gary O'Connor (Dr. Crokes), Griffin Wharton (Kenmare) and Tom Doyle (Dr. Crokes).

Dr. Crokes U14 Panel: Patrick Crehan, Gary O'Connor, Michael Horgan, Padraic Looney, Liam Kelleher, Cian Fahy, Ian O'Connell, Michael Lenihan, Frank McGuire, Kieran O'Connor, Jason Kerins, Tom Doyle, Jason Cahillane, Adam Carey, and Darragh Tangney.

Mentors: John Lenihan nad Kieran Crehan.



Dr. Crokes U14 Hurling Team



Dr. Crokes U13 Hurling Team

U13 HURLING REPORT

Our U13 hurlers participated in the South Kerry League and reached the final against Rathmore which was played under lights in Dr. Crokes on 26th November. Unfortunately, carrying a number of injuries, we were second best on the night to a vastly improved Rathmore side that are making great headway. They also won the South Kerry U14 title this past year and are certainly making great progress.

Full Panel: Adam Carey, Michael Horgan, Cormac Rowe, Ian O'Connell, Padraic Looney, Gary O'Connor, Michael Lenihan, Tom Doyle, Patrick Crehan, Jason Kerins, Liam Kelleher, Jack McGuire and Charlie Keating.

Mentors: John Lenihan and Kieran Crehan.

U12 HURLING REPORT

Our U12 hurlers competed in Division 2 of the County League and overall, performed pretty well in Phase 1 with all teams in the division fairly equal. We recorded wins over Kilgarvan, Kilmoyley and Ballyduff (B) while we lost to Lixnaw. In Phase 2, we again beat Kilgarvan but lost to Tralee Parnell's, Kenmare, Rathmore and Crotta.

In the South Kerry League, we reached the semi-final and played very well against Kenmare but were defeated 5-08 to 3-08.

Overall, we found the going pretty tough this year as we were struggling for numbers in many of our games. However, we kept going and got on with the job and will try and increase our numbers in the coming year. Well done to all the players on the panel for their hard-work and commitment during the past year. Also, special thanks to the parents for your great support all year.

Finally, 8 players from the Dr. Crokes U12 team were nominated to play on the South Kerry U12 Hurling squad that travelled to the Gaelic Grounds, Limerick on 21st July 2014. They played very well in this open day blitz and won all of their 4 games. Well done to: Adam Carey, Padraic Looney, Tom Doyle, Jason Keirns, Cormac Rowe, Darragh Tangney, Jack McGuire and Charlie Keating. They were acknowledged for their efforts and received trophies at the 4th Annual South Kerry Juvenile Hurling Awards in November.

Full Panel: Adam Carey, Darragh Tangney, Joe Ruddan, Oran Smith, Cormac Rowe, Padraic Looney, Tom Doyle, Nathaniel Doncel, Charlie Keating, Killian Healy, Jason Kerins, Jack McGuire, Caóilte O'Cronín, Cian O'Connor, Ben O'Connell, Ben Flavin and Darragh Crehan.

Mentors: Fergal Smith and John Lenihan.



Dr. Crokes U12 Hurling Team

U10 HURLING REPORT

Our U10 hurlers had another great year and were worthy winners of the Dr. Bill Mangan Memorial Hurling Tournament in Muckcross Traditional Farms in late August. This was a great experience for our young hurlers as they really enjoyed the atmosphere and fun aspect of this promotional event. This year, as there were 6 teams participating, we played the group stage games in Lewis Road on the Friday of the weekend. Dr. Crokes had good wins over Rathmore and Kenmare 'B' to reach the Cup Final on Sunday. There they played Kenmare 'A' and this game turned out to be a thriller with Dr. Crokes just shading it in the end. Captain, Charlie Keating, led by example and played a starring role in a great win for Dr. Crokes. Others who impressed were Cormac Rowe, Nathaniel Doncel, Oisín Lynch, Niall Coffey and Jack McGuire. This was the 3rd time in 5 years that Dr. Crokes were successful so great celebrations were had when Charlie Keating lifted the cup.

Full Panel: Jack McGuire, Cian O'Connor, Cormac Rowe, Charlie Keating (Capt.), Conal Gallagher, Ben O'Connell, Caóilte O Cronín, Nathaniel Doncel, Brian O'Connor, Oisín Lynch, Killian Healy, Niall Coffey, T.J. O'Sullivan and Donal Hickey.

Mentors: Gene Doherty, Claire Keating and Pat Healy.



Dr. Crokes U10 Hurling Team



Saturday Morning Hurling Academy & Coaches

SATURDAY MORNING HURLING ACADEMY

Hurling training continued every Saturday morning from 10:00am to 10:45am for our U6's, U8's and U10's. Numbers have slightly increased and the coaches; Gene Doherty, Niall Keogh, Timmy Hourigan, Pat McElligott, Billy Collins and Rory Waters are doing Trojan work at introducing these young players to the basic skills of hurling. Hopefully, with the new initiative of commencing regular hurling coaching in the National Schools of Killarney, our numbers will increase even further.

The young players that are attending these Saturday morning sessions are really enjoying the experience and developing their skills in a fun and safe environment. The U8's participated in a number of Fun-Go Games and are enjoying the Saturday Morning Sessions. We again need to focus on attracting more numbers at this age level.

The highlights of the year included a visit from Podge Collins, Clare All-Ireland Senior Hurler and Footballer to one of our Saturday Morning Academies and also the Centra Community Hurling Event in Fitzgerald Stadium with hurling stars Sean Óg O'hAilpín and Padraic Maher. Our young players really enjoyed the experience of meeting these hurling legends and getting a few expert tips from them.

Finally, thanks to all mentors, parents and players for your help and support during the year - it is greatly appreciated.



Some of the Saturday Morning Hurling Academy with Podge Collins

COACHING OFFICERS REPORT

Summarising a 12 month term in a short space is quiet taxing. While overall we made great progress in many areas, unfortunately due to a number of reasons we didn't reach our goals in some.

Our coaches with all our teams have done a superb job again. Some have been involved in a number of teams. I've observed every team training and playing during the year. I'm very positive of the way our young players are being coached and, more importantly, being treated.

Where the work done by everyone involved in the juvenile structure is of the highest quality, lack of volunteers and new helpers has made it very difficult for those who remain involved. Over the last number of years, (ironically as our senior team have our most successful spell in the club's history), we have not been replacing people as quickly as we've been losing them. This means the few remaining are required to do more work to keep our standards high. This unfortunately cannot continue. The club seriously needs to make it a priority to get a minimum of 3 to 4 people involved with each individual age. As referenced in the boys U-12 report, lack of help meant we couldn't individualise our sessions for the full benefit of the group. This would be my one recommendation as a priority for the club in the new term.

All our camps were again very well supported, a sure sign of how good our young coaches and organisers are at structuring the camps. A special thanks to Fionn and Daithi for their help all year (not just at the camps). We again had a very successful session with CampAbility Irl. (a national Easter Camp for visually impaired children). Colm and Eoin came along and spent some quality time with both the campers and our boys. Not the only time this year they both made themselves available to us. Thanks to them.

This is my fourth year as Coaching Officer and each year the work load has increased. Unfortunately, due to work/family commitments, I am no longer able to give the time this post requires. I will be delighted to help the incoming Coaching Officer in any capacity I can. I also look forward to getting back involved again soon, possibly in another role.

Many people have helped me in my term over the years, but a few deserve special mention, because only for the people directly involved, their work goes unnoticed. A sincere thanks for all your help to Terry Potts, John Looney, Billy Hennigan, Mark Cooper, Brendan Connors, Martin Muldoon, Tommy Brosnan, Dave O'Connor, Frances O'Sullivan and of course, two men who have always made sure we are ahead of the rest, Pat O'Shea and Vince Cooper. Thank You to everyone.

John O'Shea

GOLF SOCIETY

Captain, Denis Coleman and President, Tom Looney ensured that our 21st year with 7 outings was another enjoyable year on the fairways of Kerry.

James Arthur, Hamper in Tralee, John O'Leary, Mahony's Point, Seamie O'Connor, Captains Prize in Killeen, Johnny O'Connor, Dooks, Brian Looney, Kenmare, were the individual winners . We had team outings in Beaufort and Ross also.

Brian Looney won the 'Golfer of the Year' as our most consistent golfer.

I would like to thank our sponsors Tom and Mary O'Donoghue, Maurice O'Donoghue, Niall and Eoin Brosnan, Paudie O'Callaghan, Mike Buckley, Patrick and Eddie O'Sullivan and Vincent Casey.

John Keogh and PJ Lawlor put a lot of work into the Masters Challenge which is a great fund raiser for the club. This needs additional support from all club members.

The society is responsible for the devoting and maintenance of the 6th hole on both Mahony's Point & Killeen courses. This work is undertaken on the first Tuesday of each month and takes approx.. 50 mins. Our first outing is 28th March on Lackabane. There is no green fee payable as a reward for our work last year.



US Open Golf Challenge

The committee of Vincent Casey, John McEnery, Michael Howard, Ger O'Shea and Brendan Keogh were as usual efficient. Lastly, I would like to wish our Captain for 2015, Brian O Callaghan and President, Michael O'Leary all the best for the year ahead.

Best wishes to all for the New Year.

Liam Hartnett

DEVELOPMENT REPORT

The club will be taking a delivery of a new tractor mower at the end of January. This is made possible by the membership of the 'Clear Air Boys'.

I would encourage people to join the 'Clear Air Boys' as this is the only way that we can fund development.

Maintenance of Pitches:

The sanding programme was carried out again this year on both pitches. They were also vertidraind. The main pitch had some resoding done while the floodlight pitch had the middle third reseeded.

I would like to thank everyone for their co-operation and understanding while the pitches were closed.

I applied for a sanding grant from the Munster Council and the Club received €2,000 in December.

Our Community Employment Scheme was renewed for three years in November. (Heretofore, it was renewed annually)

Our pitches are the best kept in the County, if not in the Country. This is in no small way as a result of the work Tim and Larry put into them. I would like to thank them for their loyalty and commitment to the Club.

Clubhouse/Field rent:

Field rent should be down as we limit the number of teams that use our floodlight pitch.

Clubhouse rent should be up, mainly due to securing a computer course for 20 weeks.

Finally I would like to thank Dan Kelliher, David Moloney, Mossie Harmon, Seamie Doherty and Matt Courtney for their help during the year and the events committee and Deborah Anne in the shop for their continued hard work.

Der Brosnan



Crokes Boys Do IT For Kerry



Management - U16 Ladies

IT REPORT

Following appointment as IT Officer in January 2014, the priority was to build a full new website and get it live. This was no trivial task and exercising due diligence, I explored the options available to us. Further to weighing up the pros and cons, it was decided that we go to SportsManager to host the website and provide a secure platform and information back-up for the site. This also allowed for the integration of live feeds from social media and Kerry GAA fixtures. Most importantly, there is no requirement to download any software to update the website and it is future-proof as anyone with basic computer skills can update it with minimal training.

The website went live in October following agreement on a suitable layout and initial compilation and upload of information. It maintains an Events Calendar on the home-page as well as Lotto Results, Fixtures / Results (both County and East Kerry) and Facebook / Twitter feeds. There is also space available for any local companies who wish to advertise on the website with a link to their own. We have investigated the On-line Lotto and will be trial running it on the site in the coming months. Many thanks to those who helped arrange the information and, in particular, Gerard Sugrue who compiled the Coiste na nÓg section which is currently going live. There are still sections which require completion so if you can provide any help, it would be greatly appreciated.

Today, one may argue that the roles of PR and IT Officer tend to go hand-in-hand as news published locally needs to reach the world-wide audience via social media and the website. But due to career circumstances, an increase in international projects and the amount of travel associated with it, I can no longer remain as PRO for the coming year. I will, however, act as IT Officer until the website is fully complete and those who wish to contribute are trained to update it. I'd like to thank all who provided the news, match and event reports during the past year and, in particular, Ger O'Shea and Matt O'Neill for providing news and event updates for the weekly notes and social media. I look forward to meeting the next PRO whom I will provide help and get them accustomed to the various duties associated with the role.

Michael O'Keeffe

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

2014 was another busy year for Crokes on and off the field. As everyone should be aware by now, in order to be competitive and do things in the best possible manner across age groups and grades, the club needs to incur a significant amount of expenditure and this in turn leads to a need to fundraise on a continuous basis.

The lotto continues to remain the financial life blood of the club. This year saw our largest ever jackpot €12,600 being won in the 20 year existence of the lotto. The operation of the lotto involves huge effort and I would like to thank all those involved. I won't name names but the club owes them huge gratitude and they an integral part of the running of the club.

We had various fundraisers during the year. The golf classic was a success as were the golf major prediction competitions, the national league predictor and guess the score. These events have been running for a number of years and may be in line for an overhaul. I would like to thank all involved and the club should be grateful for their efforts.

The clubs supporters club, the Clear Air Boys fund raising activity helped with two capital projects being the completion of the machinery shed and also the purchase of a new mower. They also organised a memorable trip to the Gap of Dunloe on the first Sunday in September.

We were lucky to be able to assist the Killarney Racecourse with parking during the races. This was a valuable source of income for us. The fact that it may not continue in the future would leave a void in our finances which must be addressed for 2015.

Finally, I would like to thank all those who helped to contribute to the club finances. I would hope that we will get good support for our upcoming Strictly Come Dancing Event in the INEC on 5th March which will be very important for the clubs plans for 2015.

Diarmuid Kelleher



Big Jackpot Lotto Winner

A.S.A.P. (ALCOHOL & SUBSTANCE ABUSE PREVENTION) REPORT

As the A.S.A.P. and Children's Officer for the Club, my attention for 2014 has been diverted largely to activities within the Co. Board, the fruits of which I envisage will be directed back to the Club in 2015. In early 2014, following a directive from Croke Park, each county was requested to activate a "Health and Well Being Committee". Within Kerry, this group is chaired by Bernie Reen, Children's Officer for the county, the secretary is Áine Ní Shuilleabháin, Eamon Egan holds the A.S.A.P. post, I was asked to cover Youth and other posts include; Mental Health, Inclusion and Integration, Rural Men's Group etc. In June a "Youth Day" was held in Croke Park which I attended with two teenage representatives from the Dr Crokes and Spa clubs. It was an opportunity to meet with all the other county Youth Post holders and in a separate room the teenagers themselves got an opportunity to discuss the changes/improvements they would like to see within the Association. The President of the GAA, Liam O'Neill, addressed the attendees with the focus very much on giving young people a voice and opportunity to share their views. It is envisaged that we will endeavour to hold a Youth Day for all clubs within Kerry during 2015.

Claire O'Toole who is the Co-ordinator for Kerry Children's Services Committee (set up in Sept 2010) has been in contact with me and has requested that as the Youth representative for the GAA I attend their monthly meetings during the coming year. In April they will be launching a 'THINK About Alcohol Booklet' which I believe will be very useful and appropriate for our own underage players. THINK stands for Teenage Health IN Kerry and I believe that the more joined up thinking and cooperation between our children's services there is, the better for all of us interested in supporting young people make wise decisions around alcohol and drug related issues. They have already created a wonderful THINK booklet covering areas such as mental health, depression, anxiety, eating disorders, relationships & sexuality, bullying and abuse, grief, self-harm and suicide with listings of the appropriate contacts for those in need of assistance.

As I have referred to in previous reports, I truly believe that the attitudes and behaviours of parents, mentors, coaches, senior players and adult members of our club in relation to alcohol use, has an unquantifiable and lasting effect on our younger members and we therefore have a responsibility as individuals to model a healthy awareness around our own consumption of alcohol. In this regard, I believe it would be remiss of me not to acknowledge the delight expressed by many in relation to the exemplary behaviour (even though in celebratory mode) of both senior and minor teams on the night of the homecoming for the victorious All Ireland winners. Also closer to home, the behaviour of both the minors, and the senior players ably captained by Kieran O'Leary and Fionn Fitzgerald, as they brought the Tom Markham and "Sam" back to the Dr Crokes Clubhouse needs mention. Congratulations can further be expressed to all of those involved in organising that special event.

Looking ahead for 2015, The Club has also agreed to take part in the "Off the booze and On the Ball" Challenge with some seniors players already having signed up to participate. It is open to anyone to partake and I intend to do so myself. It involves a commitment to refrain from consuming alcohol for 1 month and acquiring sponsorship for so doing with the club benefiting financially. Details of which month we choose will be advised in the near future. Let us work together to make 2015 a fruitful and happy year for all our members.

Eileen Buckley



Crokes' All Ireland Heroes



Cooper Colm with Saturday Morning Academy



We Are The Boys



Nearly There



Girl Power



King of the Castle



Wanna Be in My Gang



Saturday Academy

CLUB OFFICERS 2014

OUTGOING OFFICERS 2014:

Patron:	Murt O'Shea.
President:	John Moynihan.
Vice-Presidents:	Dan Kelliher, Patrick O'Sullivan, Bridie O'Shea, Fr. Tom Looney, Donie Sheahan, Niall Keogh, Eddie O'Sullivan, Liam Murphy, Paddy O'Shea, Fr. Paddy O'Donoghue, Jackie Looney.
Chairman:	Ger O'Shea. (Not seeking re-election)
Vice-Chairman:	Pat O'Shea.
Secretary:	Matt O'Neill. (Not seeking re-election)
Assistant Secretary:	Gerard Sugrue.
Joint Treasurers:	Malachy Walsh, Diarmuid Kelleher.
Finance Officer:	Diarmuid Kelliher.
P.R.O.:	Michael O'Keeffe. (Not seeking re-election)
Development Officer:	Der Brosnan.
Registrar:	Frances O'Sullivan.
Cultural Officer:	Vacant. (formerly Scór Officer)
Children's Officer:	Eileen Buckley. (Appointed not Elected)
Co. Board Delegate:	John Keogh, Niall Keogh.
East Kerry Board Delegate:	Donie O'Leary, P.J.O'Brien.
IT Officer:	Michael O'Keeffe.
Hurling Officer:	Paul Downey.
Event Sub Committee:	Anne Byrnes.
Clear Air Boys:	Michael O'Leary.



Cooper Family



Jordan Introduces Mark to John



Dr Crokes Open Day - Eoin and Daughter



Welcoming Sam to Crokes



Two Legends



The Boys on the Hill



Supporters in Limerick



Limerick Support