



Coiste Peil na mBan - Nás na Ríogh / NAAS GAA – Ladies Football

9<sup>th</sup> Nollaig 2020 / 9<sup>th</sup> December 2020

**CLÁR / AGENDA**

1. Fáilte / Welcome
2. Miontuairiscí 2019 / Minutes of 2019
3. Déanta go Dáta Runaí / Secretary's Report – Elaine Reddington
4. Déanta go Dáta Cisteoir / Treasurer's Report – Sean Conboy
5. Déanta go Dáta Cathaoirleach / Chairperson's Report – James Costello
6. Oifigh Ainmnithe 2021 / Officers Nominated for 2021
7. AGE / AOB

## Minutes – Naas Ladies Football Section AGM 2019

Chairman James Costello opened the meeting

There was a minute's silence observed in remembrance of friends and relatives associated with the club who passed away during the year.

James thanked all for attending the AGM

Apologies from Andy Doyle, Jor Morrin, Niamh Bergin, Carolyn Dempsey, Marcello Antilovi, Eric Browne, Paula McFadden, John Smyth, Joe O'Carroll & Gerard Dunne

Minutes from the 2018 AGM were read by Secretary; no matter arising, the minutes were proposed by Ann Ryan and Seconded by Dermot Clancy

Secretary's Report was presented by Elaine Reddington.

Treasurers' Report was presented by Sean Conboy.

Chairman's Report was presented by James Costello

### Election of Officers for 2020:

The following section Executive Committee was proposed and seconded (see nominations attached) and as there were no other persons proposed or seconded were deemed elected.

Chairperson: James Costello

Secretary: Elaine Reddington

Treasurer: Sean Conboy

The election for the remaining officers will be appointed at the next Ladies section meeting.

### AOB:

Mick Hoban was interested in looking at what numbers we had in the different age groups, especially the younger age groups and that we should focus on the primary schools to increase these numbers. Ann Ryan responded that every year we send flyers into the schools and have even gone to the point of standing outside schools on the public footpath to hand them out if the school won't issue them out on our behalf, we've always got a good response from it.

Sinead Keogh want to thank Stephanie Bergin for all her help in promoting Ladies Football and that she does a fantastic job. She also wanted to say from the Camogie side of things that we have a great working relationship within the section and hopes it continues. Also, as a mentor for the Senior Ladies Camogie team, she wanted to thank the senior football mentors for managing all the dual players this year.

John McMahon: I want to congratulate and thank the members of the committee, everyone who's involved in ladies football over the past year. A huge amount of work and activity went on and that doesn't happen without you all. I was delighted to see the increasing numbers in players coming into the club, its hugely encouraging but we have the challenge of trying to cater for the increasing numbers. There is a lot of work coming down the track with the 5-year development plan that's due to start in 2020. Thanks again and best wishes for 2020

Johnny Langan: As a mentor for U11's he wanted to thank Paul Coffey for all his help with registrations and Elaine Reddington for help with the Blitz this year, parents are thanking all the U11 mentors but it's also the people in the background and that U11 mentors really appreciated their help.

Bernard Delany wanted to congratulate us on the Barretstown Fundraiser and its success. It was mentioned to him by many different people in different circles and that shows Naas as a really strong contributor to the community and the ladies football was very instrumental in that. As a parent he wanted to thank Dermot, Marcello and Carolyn for all their work and for Dermot for stepping in.

James Costello wanted to extend his gratitude to Johnny Langan and Edel Scannell for the amount of work & time that went into the organisation of the Barretstown blitz. It was a fantastic event and a special thanks to them. Stephanie Bergin says that it's very difficult to get a female physio. She'd like to thank Fiona Bergin for coming on at the last minute. Going forward we need to put it out there that we are looking for a physio for the senior team for the coming season.

### Closing Address:

The Chairperson thanked everyone who attended and the Committee members for all their work during the year and wished everyone a successful season in 2020.

Minutes Proposed by \_\_\_\_\_

Minutes Seconded by \_\_\_\_\_

## Naas Ladies Football Section - Secretary's Report 2020

You are all very welcome to the AGM of the Naas Ladies Football Section. Along with everyone else 2020 was a challenging year for the ladies section.

### Registrations:

To date we have 412 active players in Naas Ladies Football

### Child Welfare:

No issues for 2020

Under legislation all persons dealing with under age children must be both Garda vetted and have completed a child welfare course in sport. Garda Vetting time period has been reduced from every 5 years to every 3 years from 2021. This year only 2 courses were done online.

### Coaching Courses

As part of the development of ladies football a variety of courses are usually run throughout the year but unfortunately this never happened in 2020. Croke Park are currently working on ways to provide these courses online for 2021.

### Quiz Night

We had a very successful Quiz night in February, an enjoyable night was had by all and we raised €2,850

### Team Performance Report

**U4 & U5: Mentors: Conor Clavin, TJ O'Connor, Martin Herson, Stephanie Kerr, Seán Coughlan, Henry Flanagan, Clodagh Santonacci, Sinéad Maguire, Neil McCarthy**

We have 49 girls across the two years with 14 from 2016 and 35 from 2015. We started out with about 12 girls on 30<sup>th</sup> August on the main pitch in the club to now averaging 45 girls per week down in K Leisure. The main aim of our sessions is to start working on the basic skills and having fun. A big thanks to all for their help, participation and keeping the sessions enjoyable.

**U6: Mentors: Tracy Bridges, Marie Thérèse Melia, Libera Kavanagh, Amanda Galvin, Laura Vaughan, Ronan Farrell, Bernadette Coyne**

We have 36 girls in the U6 group who actively participate on a weekly basis and have on average 28-30 girls present at training on a weekly basis. Training is continuing throughout the winter in K-Leisure. The girls are divided into pods of between 10 - 12 with on average two/three mentors per pod. The pod approach is definitely helping improve the girls' skills. We will break for Christmas on 13<sup>th</sup> Dec with a presentation to each of the girls and return on 10<sup>th</sup> Jan 2021. We greatly appreciate the assistance and dedication of a club player who through Gaisce is helping us on a weekly basis. We look forward to continuing to build the girls skills and put them all into practise in the U7 league in 2021.

**U7: Mentors: Avril Lysiak, Kevin Tully, Stephen O'Brien, Will Maher, Fran Theron, Victoria Dowling, Michael Quinn**

With 27 girls in the U7 group, on a weekly basis we have anything from 18 to 24 children present at training. The girls are coming on great with their skills & hopefully put them all into practise in the U8 league in 2021

**U8: Mentors: Eric Browne, John Geraghty, Paul Quigley, Sean O'Rourke, Laurence McNamara, Denise Gray, Stephen O'Brien**

Overall considering we had a good year. Due to the pandemic we had no competitions this year. Girls are coming along great and thanks to Ann's school drive we got some new players. We only had two challenge matches which the girls enjoyed and were superb.

Looking forward to 2021

**U9: Mentors: Mark Ronan, Paula McFadden, Sean Earley, Marie O'Connell, Ronan Farrell, Sharon Langan, Marian Hickson & TY Claudia Gray**

Our 2011 girls had started the year well having come back to the hall for training in the New Year. This was to be our first year playing in a League structure for the Spring and Autumn leagues. However this was not to be as both were called off due to the Covid crisis. The girls faced a lengthy spell off as a result of the first lockdown but eventually got back training in September. The girls managed to get some challenge matches played in Maynooth, Clane and Leixlip where they acquitted themselves very well. The girls displayed great skills & development throughout the games. However, the spell of matches was short lived again due to Covid. We're now back in non contact training on the astro surface in K Leisure on Sunday mornings. We're delighted with the numbers attending training & regularly have 30-35 girls attending. The pods are working well & could not be run smoothly without the help of our Covid Supervisors & also our new mentors who have stepped in to help with training along with our TY student Claudia Gray. The girls are thoroughly enjoying their training & were delighted when Lauren & Briona from the Naas Senior Ladies team came to help with some drills & games recently. The girls have made the most of their limited time on the pitch this year & continue to hone & improve their skills each week. We're looking forward to getting back to playing matches when guidelines allow.

**U10: Mentors: Siobhan Jacob, Sarah Gannon, Fiona McHugh, Brian Lyons, Darren Lynch, David Ruane**

We started training from the end of January on Sunday mornings until the lockdown in Mid- March. Once lockdown was lifted we began training again mid July until the Kildare lockdown in August. Once allowed to play & train again we trained on Sunday mornings & Wednesday evenings through September & October. Our Naas Blue & Naas White teams played challenge matches against Kilcock, Athy, Suncroft, & St Laurences. We've continued to train Sunday mornings in November & December on the Astro at K-Leisure. Despite covid restrictions we had great numbers at all training sessions and matches, the players have made significant improvements and have played and trained with great enthusiasm. To acknowledge their huge effort each player was given a Naas Hat this year kindly funded by the ladies section. We look forward to 2021!

**U11: Mentors: Deirdre Dalton, James Costello, Breen McManus, Gavin Kenny, Joe O'Carroll, Dermot McNamara, Clive Lennon, David McGuire**

The 30 strong U11's panel are a dedicated and resilient bunch. They turn up in big numbers for our twice weekly training sessions no matter what. Earlier in the year they played a few challenge games and acquitted themselves really well against the likes of Kilcullen, Maynooth and Celbridge. Then Covid struck & stopped them, briefly! in their tracks. Once we resumed the girls haven't looked back and have adapted with gusto to the new training guidelines. It has shown us the mentors the true importance of sport and in particular team sports for building camaraderie and lifelong friendships which will endure no matter what obstacles are put in their way. It has been a pleasure to coach them in this most unusual of years. Roll on 2021. Mentors U11 .

**U12: Mentors: Johnny Langan, Frank Carolan, Edel Scannell, Phil O'Carroll, Paddy Kelly, Kevin Harrington, John Smyth**

2020 was an interesting year to say the least for the under 12s. We nearly went the whole year unbeaten but then we had to play matches 😊. We were lucky we got to play 7 matches over a 4 week period, the girls really enjoyed been back on the pitch. We have massive numbers attending training and girls all seem to be enjoying it while learning more skills and improving. We are looking forward to brighter and fun days on the pitch in 2021. NAAS ABU.

**U13: Mentors: Adrian Cronin, Suzanne Whelan, Colm O'Connor, Joe Blake**

2020 has been a tough year on us all. We were very lucky that the Autumn League went ahead in late July. The girls were very competitive winning 4 of the 5 games in division 2. The numbers remain in the low 30's which is great. We're currently training on Astro in K Leisure & looking forward to 2021.

**U14: Mentors: Rob Walsh, Alan Hennessy, Eric Browne, Dymphna Byrne & Paraic Daly**

There are currently 26 girls on the U14 panel, with 2 new girls joining this spring. The girls train on Thursday nights & Sundays morning between the club grounds, Monread Park and K Leisure. The girls were scheduled to compete in the Feile competition this spring before lockdown interrupted the season.

The girls competed in the U15 Div 6 Autumn league and got to play 5 matches before the league was abandoned. The girls played some wonderful flowing football & put up some big scores. All 26 girls got to play in every match, with a different team taking to the field after every water break. There were victories against Maynooth 2 (twice), Athgarvan and Sallins 2. The girls finished level on points with Sallins at the end of the league, but Sallins were awarded the league title on the "head to head" results. The girls will potentially get another chance at Feile in 2021.

After lockdown the mentors were supported by 5 great Covid Supervisors: Edel McDonnell, Niamh Kirwan, Tony McMahon, Sue Burns and Paraic Daly – thank you very much!

Paraic joined the mentoring team for the autumn league. The team now has 5 dedicated mentors that make it all happen, many thanks to them for their time and effort.

**U15: Mentors: David Hayes, Mick Browne, Deirdre Waldron, Celine Brennan**

2005 girls got to play 4 of their 5 matches winning 2 & losing 2, on a whole it wasn't where we wanted to be but with a panel of 24 and the year that was in it, we made a decision that in order to have every girl back next year we gave them as much time as possible on the field.

Would we have won the division, I don't know! but potentially a final if things were different!

We've always had at least 20 at training and 22 minimum at matches.

As it stands, we started our Strength & Conditioning twice a week at the beginning of November and will finish up mid-December

**U16: Mentors: Dermot Clancy, Marcello Antilovi, Carolyn Dempsey, Anne-Marie Clear**

The Kildare LGFA U16 championship was scheduled to take place between mid-February and mid-April 2020. The Naas team operated in division 2 comprising a total of 6 teams with 5 round robin matches followed by play-offs. Following some excellent performances in the previous year's U15 championship, the panel had a realistic hope of success. The 20 strong panel comprised of 13 at U16 and 7 at U15. The players prepared well from the previous November with weekly running sessions in Monread Park, and (when pitch became available) Sunday morning skills sessions at Millennium Park. A number of players also signed up for eight weeks of strength and conditioning, which was run and supervised by Well 4U, in early 2020. Having prepared very well, the players & management were extremely disappointed that no games were actually played due to poor weather/pitch unavailability (February) & the onset of Covid 19. The competition was subsequently cancelled by Kildare LGFA. The team returned to training in early July in preparation for the minor championship (subsequently cancelled) & shortly afterwards accepted an invitation to join, train & become part of the Club's Junior championship panel. All players got game time in the competition & acquitted themselves well. The future is bright for each & every one of this group as they transition to minor & adult ladies football. We, as mentors, were happy to be part of your football development and wish you well for 2021 and beyond.

**Juniors: Management Team: Ger Dunne, Seamus MacGabhann, Edel Scannell and Dermot Clancy**

The Junior ladies team had quite a satisfying year. The squad was made up of a mixture of senior girls and a large number of U18 and U16 girls. However they gelled very well and a good team spirit was generated. We had 5 games in the Junior C championship of which we won 3 and lost 2 and narrowly missed out on a semi final spot. The large numbers involved augurs well for the future.

**Seniors: Management Team: Richie Shaw, Jim Woods, Seamus MacGabhann, Mick Hoban and Stephanie Bergin**  
2020 is a year no one will forget! While difficult, we got to participate in competition albeit more condensed than the competition we are used to. Although, no silverware was won the following are points to note:

- Large numbers attending training
- Approx. 50 participated with a few faces from old returning
- Close working relationship between Intermediate and Junior Management teams
- A couple of new players joining the ranks
- Senior players involved with meeting U16's to ensure smooth transition and integration of younger players to the Senior environment
- Structured training to aid younger members adapt to senior set up
- Adapting training with the Climate that existed during restrictions with Online Gym work out sessions, HIIT and Strength & Conditioning along with small running pods
- Good working relationship with Camogie

## Chairperson's Report 2020

I would like to welcome you all & thank you for attending our 2020 AGM for Ladies Football which is unusual in that it is on Zoom which is a first for our AGM.

You will have seen & heard the Secretary's and Treasurer's reports which demonstrate what a year it has been both on & off the pitch.

I'd like to begin by acknowledging what a difficult, challenging and strange year it has been since the Covid19 pandemic outbreak across the world. The GAA and the Club took on board the challenge that this presented and they reacted to the challenge by putting in place plans and procedures to get players back out on the pitches in June. The Executive, Sub-committees, Mentors and Players took on board on everything that was asked of them which is a testament to the spirit that exists within the Club. The setting up of the Covid Guidance team was a positive development within the club and it is important to acknowledge the excellent work that was and is still being done by the 3 Covid Officers Des, Brendan and Cormac.

In light of this 2020 was a year where the Club gave all of our players an opportunity to train and play sports with their friends. There was a lot of change where we were in and out of lockdowns but people embraced these changes for the welfare of our players. Throughout this year we have managed to retain our players and continue to grow the overall player numbers. The retention and the continued growth of our player numbers along with ensuring that they are developed and supported is our number one priority. As the number of players continue to grow, it builds and strengthens relationships with the local schools and encourages their participation in Football activities. It cannot therefore be underestimated what a key role these schools have in helping promote our games.

As we have continually state our key stakeholders within the club will always be our players. We must continue to ensure that our focus revolves around player welfare and development. Adherence to this ethos is essential for all parents, players and mentors. The core values of fun, respect, achievement and fair play must underline every activity at the Club. In recent years we commenced the holding of player bonding events for each of the age groups that worked well in the section and we hope we can hold them again going forward.

Whilst we are operating in tougher times we must continue to invest in our players as it will always be positively received across the section and helps strengthen our core values. All initiatives are done to ensure that the player welfare & development was given the requisite level of support & investment. They also helped ensure that the players developed other friendships within the section & helped further strengthen team spirit.

We continue to recognise and thank our counterparts in Camogie for all their support throughout the year. We have a strong relationship with them to support the dual players whilst promoting both codes. We have encouraged our Mentors to adhere to this at all times and remind them that the welfare of the player is always central to what we do.

It is great to see the continued success and development of the Gaelic for Mothers & Others in the club. This sees women playing sport in a fun, healthy, non-competitive and social environment. It has proved hugely popular with the Ladies involved and it is important that the club continues to support this important group in their enjoyment of our games.

The number of mentors that now work with our players across the age groups continues to grow. In recent years we have also seen a number of transition year students get involved and this is something that we hope can continue. The mentors do a great job and we are privileged to have them involved. We recognise and acknowledge all of the work done by the them throughout the year in terms of training the players in all sorts of weather, attending development courses & club meetings, distributing tickets, and communicating with parents. We regularly discuss the importance of our ethos & culture as mentioned above & so all mentors must adhere to this to support our players as we ask them to.

On the subject of child welfare we continue to adopt a "zero tolerance" policy this year in terms of garda vetting and the completing of the child welfare course for all Mentors. This takes a lot of hard work to ensure that all of our mentors completed the programme and we would like to thank the efforts of our Child Welfare officer and that of the Club Child Welfare officer for their support in this regard. The safety and wellbeing of all of our players must always be to the forefront of our minds. Every time we engage with a member or potential member we are representing the club and we must be aware of the impact of our actions and tone. Whilst I am satisfied that no child welfare issue arose during the year we must maintain our focus on this critical issue

To support the activities and team requirements, and to minimise the financial burden on parents there is a need to fundraise. Whilst this year saw success in our fundraising activities, engagement needs to continually improve and as a committee and group of mentors there is an onus on us to promote the positive aspects and value each player receives from participating in Ladies football within Naas GAA. I want to thank all of our sponsors for their generous support throughout the year.

For all the parents we want to thank you for your continued support in bringing the players to training and matches. Thanks for your support for attending our fundraising events and buying tickets for our various draws.

Moving away from the off field activity and back to the pitch 2020 saw our players return to the pitches during the summer where gradually we got to have all our age groups back playing various degrees. Our nurse group train every Sunday with a smile on their faces as they make new friends and learning the game. Our under 7's to under 12's got out training but sadly they did not get to play the matches that gives players, Mentors and Parents the real enjoyment of our games. Our teams at under 13 and older did get to play matches with the exception of the under 16's and Minors but not all matches were allowed to finished due to further lockdowns.

Our under 13's played in the Autumn league winning 4 out of 5 games in Division 2. Our under 14's did not get to play in the Feile competition in the Spring due to Covid19. They did get to play in the under 15 Autumn league winning 4 of their matches.

Our under 15's got to play 4 of their matches where they won 2 and they lost 2. Our under 16 teams did not unfortunately get to play their Spring competition this year due to Covid19.

Our minor team did get to have training sessions in the Autumn but they did not get to play matches in the minor championship due to Covid restrictions. They continued training up to recently which was great to see.

Our junior team had a satisfying year where they played 5 matches. They won 3 and lost 2 thus narrowly losing out on a semi final place.

Our Senior team came into 2020 with confidence and a belief that was great to see. Whilst we did not win any silverware this year was another step in the right direction for this team.

I would like to acknowledge the support of our Club Chairman John McMahan and other Club Officers, Executive members, counterparts in Camogie, Football and Hurling, Covid Officers, Pitch Co-Ordinator Owen L'Estrange and Grounds Committee for their support throughout the year.

Finally I want to acknowledge and thank my fellow committee members for their continued support and hard work throughout the year. To Joe, Elaine, Sean, Stephanie, Ann, Rob, Paul and Johnny I thank you. The commitment, hard work and dedication of this group of people has contributed to making the section a success both now and into the future.

Go raibh maith agat

James Costello

Cathaoirleach Coiste Peil na mBan – CLG Nás na Ríogh

## Section Officers / Committee

Role	Outgoing	Nominated for Club AGM
Chairperson	James Costello	James Costello
Vice Chairperson	Joe O'Carroll	
Secretary	Elaine Reddington	Elaine Reddington
Treasurer	Sean Conboy	Sean Conboy
Registrar	Paul Coffey	
PRO	Stephanie Bergin	
Grounds	Johnny Langan	
Child Welfare	Ann Ryan	
Executive Representative	James Costello	James Costello
County Board Representative	Joe O'Carroll	
Development Officer	Rob Walsh	
Age Group Coaches	As nominated by age group	