

# NAAS GAA – Adult Hurling Committee

## Chairpersons Report 2020



Date: 01/12/2020 Delivered: at AGM online.

A chairde gael,

2019 was a year that went down in the Hurling history of this club; unfortunately 2020 will do the same but for a very different reason. As I write this report the Senior, Intermediate, Junior and Minor championship county finals are yet to be played. Obviously this is very disappointing but it does present an intriguing opportunity.....2021 could see us win 13 county finals!

Whilst no titles were won at club level, we can be immensely proud of all the Naas players on the county team that won The Christy Ring cup and promotion to the Joe Mc Donagh competition. Congratulations to all involved.

Despite the lack of games training continued as far as was permitted and therefore funds were required. We greatly appreciate the continued support of our main sponsors Boran Packaging. The fences at Punchestown are a major part of our fundraising, a massive thanks to all who helped out during the year.

As you will no doubt be aware, fundraising for our section has always been a major issue for us. Thanks to some very hard work, commitment and determination on the part of the Senior Hurling committee we have seen the successful launch of The Joker fundraising initiative. Special thanks to The Joker subcommittee for their work in achieving this. We now need everyone to get behind The Joker, to buy in and to promote it wherever possible.

The stop/start nature of training and matches and the introduction of various restrictions presented certain difficulties but again these were overcome by people coming together to help out as required. Many thanks to our COVID officers, those who live streamed matches and also special thanks to Rita Sheridan for providing much needed sustenance to players after training and matches.

I would like to thank Frank Joyce for his continued cooperation in dealing with Senior players and fences. A further thanks to Liam Hennessy in Juvenile Hurling for support in driving both sections in the same direction.

Thanks to all committee members but particularly to Eoin, David and John who were a pleasure to work with despite the difficult circumstances in which we found ourselves.

We are still in uncertain times but I hope and pray that 2021 will be a year in which we can again compete, and win, a year in which we can attend matches and cheer on our teams and return to our club to celebrate. Above all I hope it will be a year of good health and happiness for all.

Ar scáth a chéile a mhaireann na daoine

Is mise,

Aibhistin O hAimheirgin

# NAAS GAA – Adult Hurling Committee

## Secretary Report 2020



Date: 01/12/2020 Delivered: at AGM online.

I would like to wish all who are reading this report continued good health in these unprecedented times. For those of you who have lost loved ones during this difficult time I offer our sympathies on behalf of Naas Adult Hurling, to you and your families.

On December 1<sup>st</sup> 2019 at last year's AGM we had 5 championship trophies on display. A unique achievement which reflects the hard work over years by many hurling players, managers, mentors and officers in Adult and Juvenile Hurling sections of Naas GAA Club.

At the closing of the AGM our chairperson Austin Bergin wished everyone good fortune in the year ahead as we attempted to replicate some of the success of 2019. In March 2020, our world changed due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Our championships are incomplete. Championship 2020 will be decided in 2021 as is presently arranged – however no dates are yet decided.

On the field of play the Senior team qualified for the final V's Confey, the Intermediate and Junior championships are incomplete while not all semi-finalists are known yet. Naas, however are progressing very well in both Championships. The Minor final pairings are decided, and Naas will play Maynooth.

I would like to thank all the players who represent or who have represented Naas GAA club on the hurling field throughout the year. In a difficult year, your responses to the changing times were exemplary both in complying with the changing Covid restrictions and rules of return to play. Thank you for your continued support for the officers (especially the new secretary!), for your patience during the changing times while issues were resolved and for your continued help with fund raising for Naas Adult Hurling.

I am aware that a number of players have retired or moved away from the Naas GAA hurling family over the last 12 months. I would like acknowledge their service to our community, their loyal support and the contribution they made to hurling in Naas GAA. We wish you continued success in your new endeavours and hope to see you supporting our teams from the side-lines.

To our players who were injured or are recovering from injury we wish you a speedy recovery and look forward to seeing you back at training soon.

Congratulations to our club players who have represented their county in hurling both Senior and Minor in 2020, those on the country development teams, those who represented their colleges and those who represented their schools in 2020. Well done to the players who represented Kildare and Naas so well in The Christy Ring campaign and congratulations to all of them in winning this championship and gaining promotion.

Thank you also to each of the management teams for your dedication and hard work with the players.

Thank you to Emma Watson – our medic for her commitment and never failing to turn up, even on very miserable days.

This year saw a number of fund raising projects discussed and actioned. With the arrival of the pandemic these plans were thrown into disarray. However, we have initiated a new Hurling Development Lottery in conjunction with our Juvenile colleagues called the Joker. I would like to thank all on the hurling joker development team for their efforts in realising this project and for their continued support.

I am very grateful to the following for their support to me during this, my year as secretary:

- All on the adult hurling committee for their insight into the processes and procedures with which I needed to be familiar with, especially to Liam Greene, Jim Sheridan and Colm McTague.
- The Covid Gate guardian team in Liam Greene, David Delahunty and John Burke.
- The hurling development joker team, especially Shane Donnelly (the co accused), the PRO twins John and James and all who are out there raising the profile of this lottery every week.
- The Juvenile hurling officers of 2020, Liam, Jan, Tim and James for their hard work and dedication to all things hurling in Naas GAA. Liam, Jan and Tim are retiring from their positions and I would like to wish them well and look forward to working with them again in the future.
- The outgoing adult hurling Secretary Richard Hogan for responding to my calls and emails.
- My fellow officers – Austin Bergin, David Delahunty and John Burke. A very strange year, which had less hurling but had more administration and planning! It is a pleasure to work with you and I must acknowledge the workload that you place on yourselves on a voluntary basis for the betterment of Naas Hurling.

Finally, I would like to thank on behalf of the officers, hurling committee, players, mentors and supporters the following people and groups for their support through the year. Their huge input and dedication to the Naas GAA club are commendable.

- The club executive officers, chair John McMahon, secretary Richard Hogan, treasurer Clive Lacey, pro Sinéad Keogh, registrar Liam Whelan, welfare officer Joe Friel and Gaeilge / Irish officer Mick Ó Muirchéartaigh and all other members of the executive from other sections of the club, football (Senior and Juvenile), Juvenile Hurling, Ladies Football and Camogie.
- Andy Doyle and the grounds committee for all the work they do every year in all weathers.
- Owen L'éstrange the pitch and ball wall coordinator in getting access to pitches and the ball wall.
- The Club Covid team in Brendan Kenny, Des Bergin and Cormac Kirwan.
- The bar management (Paul), staff and room coordination team (Linda).
- The catering and kitchen team under Eddie.
- Our delegates to the various county committees.
- Club GPO Leon and Juvenile Hurling Development Officer, Brian Murnane.
- Juvenile hurling officers, Liam Hennessy, Jan O'Donoghue, Tim Mulvhill and PRO James O'Dwyer.
- The club development team on the changes we are seeing in the facilities over the last few months and the changes coming in 2021.

To conclude – I would like to thank everyone for their support for Naas Senior Hurling in 2020. Hopefully, 2021 will see a vaccine roll out to our communities, allowing us some form of returning to normality.

Have a safe and joyous Christmas,

Is mise le meas

Eoin Ó Mórdha

Naas Adult Hurling Secretary 2020