



ROSCOMMON GAELS

Gaelforce News

June 2021



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Caseys Roscommon New Club Sponsor

The Club is delighted to welcome Casey's of Roscommon, Londis, Circle K & Supermac's as Roscommon Gaels new club sponsor.

This is a positive development on the sponsorship front of our club. As one of the largest GAA Clubs in the County, we are delighted to be involved with Casey's, a local Roscommon business with deep roots and involvement with the local community.

The club is looking forward to building a strong and mutually beneficial positive relationship with Casey's over the coming years through which both organisations can develop and grow our ties and involvement in the community. We would like to thank Tom Connolly & Sons Ltd for their support over the past 10 years also, and look forward to their continued presence in the club.



GAA Referee Recruitment

Are you interested in becoming a referee? **Think you can do better?** Then "Put your whistle where your mouth is" and **"Become a GAA Referee"**!

The GAA have Referee Administrators & Recruitment Officers in each of the 32

Counties to help you get started and assist you in progress as a referee.

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Why Become a GAA Referee?

- **Stay involved** with the game as an alternative to playing
- **Fitness** – It's a great way to keep fit
- **Ambition** – could you referee a County Final or even an All-Ireland?
- **Learn** more about the game
- **Give Something Back** - offers players, at the end of their playing days, the opportunity to continue in the sport
- **Personal Development** - helps to develop personal skills that are of value in all walks of life

What qualities are required to become a GAA Referee?

- Good knowledge of the playing rules
- Be physically and mentally fit
- Have the ability to remain calm
- Have the moral courage to take decisions which are correct



Referee Training Courses now take place online. Enrolment for courses take place on the GAA.ie training portal <https://learning.gaa.ie/lms/course/index.php?categoryid=244>

GAA Learning Portal Guide: The following is a list of instructions on how to register and access the Referee Foundation Level Blended

Learning Course on www.learning.gaa.ie: 1. First the participant must navigate to the GAA Learning & Development Portal by typing www.learning.gaa.ie into the web browser.

The Foundation Level Referees Course comprises 4 modules.

- Modules 1 and 2 are completed online see instructions attached how they gain access to the eLearning portal.
- Module 3 is classroom-based course to be completed in the Counties with National tutors.
- Module 4 is Online exam to complete the course.

All Stars Return to Weekly Sessions

Last week, finally, after a long wait, the Club's All-Stars group returned to their weekly sessions. With a change in venue due to government restrictions, all children ascended to the Astro Turf at Roscommon Community Sports Park, Lisnamult. The excitement was something to behold. It was like they had never been away. Volunteers were on hand to assist with games and activities, while mums and dads watched on from outside.

Thank you to all the volunteers who turned up and offered their assistance. Sessions will take place every Friday at 5.45 p.m.

Please remember that all children have to register with the club on www.foireann.ie.



Football

Our senior footballers dusted off their Covid Cobwebs and welcomed neighbours St Dominic's to Lisnamult for their first game. This was a very competitive game with St Dominic's causing our lads plenty of problems with swift attacking play on the break. However, some decent interchange allowed Kieran Kilcline to goal which was the difference at the half time break. An improved performance saw the Gaels lads go into a 6-point lead but a swift Dominic's break and some lack concentration allowed the away team in to goal. Both sides match scores to the end with our boys coming out on top by a few points.

Overall a very worthwhile game for both teams but rustiness was evident. Positives other than been out and about again were the performances of young lads like Ronan O'Malley, Gustavo Rodrigues and Aodha Hession as well as the returning Ollie Hannon and Ryan Horan.

Special Thank you to Declan Hunt for excellent officiating.

Junior Football

Div.4 Round 1

Junior Footballers travelled to Ballyleague for their Junior Football Division 4 opener against a strong St. Faithleachs team. Roscommon Gaels took the lead from an early start, however, St. Faithleachs reduced the deficit and went ahead for a majority of the match leading by 4 points with 8 minutes to go. Roscommon Gaels showed good character and dug deep scoring 5 unanswered points which would see Roscommon Gaels win out on a 0-10 to 0-09 score line.

Div.5 Round 1

Junior Football League Division 5 commenced last Friday June 11th with Roscommon Gaels hosting Padraig Pearse's in Lisnamult. The game was refereed by Tony Brennan and both teams played 13-s-side. The game was a great opportunity for adult football members to play a competitive game of football after so many months and it was evident that both teams enjoyed a long overdue game on the main pitch which was in immaculate

condition. Roscommon Gaels took an early lead which was maintained throughout to the final whistle. High energy levels resulted in some good scoring and management were afforded the opportunity to give all who attended game time. Roscommon Gaels 2-17 Padraig Pearses 2-06

Below Mick Byrne keeps a watchful eye on proceedings of the Div 5 Game against Padraig Pearses.



Under 17's

The Clubs U 17's panel kicked off their football season with a challenge game vs Oran/St Croans last Sunday evening (June 13th) in Lisnamult. This was a great workout for all of the lads with 24 in total of a panel to work off. Even though this was only a challenge game, it was very competitive.

Tuesday evening, June 15th the group played St. Faithleach's in another challenge game in Ballyleague at 7.30 pm. This game was mostly for the U 16 Div 4 team of 2020 which have a Div 4 County Final coming up very soon vs St. Dominic's. Again, this was another good workout for all the lads getting them back to playing games. A lot of work done and a lot more to do.

County U17 Representatives:

We have 5 Representatives on the County U 17 Panel - Ryan Conlon/DJ Hession/Senan Lambe/Rory Carthy and Ethan O Reilly. They play another challenge this weekend vs Donegal in Boyle on Saturday at 12 Noon. Good luck to the lads

Under 13 & 15 Car-Wash Fundraiser

Friday afternoon and Saturday June 4th & 5th brought a great sense of energy around the vicinity of the Hyde Park, Roscommon where the Management and Players of the clubs Under 13 and Under 15 Football teams got together to raise funds for their season ahead.

There was water and suds flying everywhere and the sound of laughter and banter between the power hose handlers and the sponge handlers was something to behold. It was great to witness. From the outset at 1.00 p.m. on Friday cars queued up waiting to have their cars hosed, sponged and shined at the various stations along the route of the Roscommon Gaels Car Wash experience. And thankfully they didn't do a U turn if the queue was long, they waited patiently probably due to the fact that they were entertained by the giddiness of what was going on outside their car windows!

There was more to this event than it just being a fundraiser however. Like many other groups of children, these two teams have boys on them who have become great friends even while attending different schools. This was an opportunity to take time out to do something enjoyable and also something responsible. And that they did, showing their kindness in deciding to donate a portion of their funds to fellow club member and school friend Ella Donlon who is currently in Crumlin Hospital.

Well done to all the boys involved.

Below is a note from both teams....

The U13 & U15 Roscommon Gaels Boys Football Teams would like to sincerely thank all for the support they received over the weekend; from our community, our club members and indeed the parents. Those that helped out on the day whether it was washing cars, or buying washing materials or making refreshments.

A thank you must go to the people that helped set up the equipment in the Hyde Community Centre on the lead up to Friday & Saturday. A special mention must

go to our local fire brigade who were just great on the day.

Over the two days we experienced some very generous acts of kindness towards our fundraiser which helped us raise €4,761.12. This was a fantastic result and we are very grateful to all those that contributed.

The money will be split evenly between both age groups. Both Teams will be using it to buy training gear as there is 85 players in total. A portion of this money will also go towards Team building.

The U-15 Team had decided prior to the Fundraiser that they were going to make a donation towards Ellen Donlon's ongoing treatment in Crumlin Children's Hospital. Ellen went to school with a number of the Team and is a neighbour to others. We all would like to wish Ellen well in her treatment.

Our aim for this event was to give the players some responsibility, and involve them in the organising of the Fundraiser, encourage Teamwork and to gain a sense of having 'earned it'. They did this really, and sometimes there was more 'suds' on the players than on the cars but they had fun. Enjoyment is integral ingredient for both Teams.

Finally, the Management Teams are very proud of these group of players and what they achieved over the weekend. There was a real sense of club community over the weekend. With this in mind we are looking forward to seeing your support for these Teams and indeed all our Teams over the summer. Thank you.

Regards

*U13 & U15 Football
Management Teams*



Camogie

County Representatives

Well done to Ciara Killeen, Eve McNeill, Ava Mulry, Allanah Sutton, Martha McSharry, Grace Geraghty, Emma Hough and Jenny Morris who are representing Roscommon Gaels on the County Camogie Under 16 Team.

And also to Colleen Kelly, Lisa Mullen, Issy Cullen, Katie Nugent, Niamh Madden and Mia Fallon - Roscommon Gaels Camogie players on the County Panel who played in the League semi-final win over Tyrone pictured below.



HURL WITH ME

Have you a daughter, granddaughter or niece playing camogie with Roscommon Gaels? Well, if you have, you won't want to miss out on this unique opportunity. Parents, grandparents, aunts and uncles are invited to come along to a fun session and learn some basic camogie skills.

Our camogie coaches are offering parents or family members two sessions on camogie skills. So why not join us for a fun hour and show your daughter/granddaughter or niece what you are made of. Great fun in store. Just turn up on the night to **Lisnamult GAA pitch**, no booking required.

Sessions Dates: **Friday June 25th**
6.30pm - 7.30pm
Friday July 2nd
6.30pm - 7.30pm

Contact Joan Moore for more details at 087 9201818

Photo: Joan Moore and Lorraine Flaherty/Reynolds promoting the HURL WITH ME programme



Hurling

Under 11's

After our successful Video Coaching initiative run during the Spring, our U11 hurlers returned to the field en masse at the start of May. We are very fortunate that our strong numbers from 2020 have again continued to grow this year with a number of new faces joining the panel. All Gaels are welcome to come along to a training session to 'give it a go'.

Our training sessions continue every Wednesday from 6:30 to 7:45 in Lisnamult. With player welfare at the centre of all we do, we continue to alternate weekend training sessions with our U11 football colleagues which is working very well this year. On our alternating 'hurling weekend', training runs on Sunday mornings from 10:15 to 11:30.

Our U11 management team are working with 'Coiste Ioman' to run a structured schedule of challenge games over the coming months. More details to follow on this.

Pictured Below : U11 & U13 prize winners from our Video Coaching initiative run during the Spring lockdown show off their new sliotars!



game with The Gaels emerging narrow winners.

On what has become a trademark of this group every player gave his all on the evening and there were some outstanding individual performances. Most importantly, hurling was the real winner with 28 of our players getting quality game time.

We play Padraig Pearses next week in the Championship at home in Lisnamult while the Galway League also commences. Training continues every Tuesday.



Under 15's

The Gaels U-15 hurlers went out in force on Saturday in the first championship match of the season against St. Dominic's in Lisnamult. The team was most entertaining with great displays from both teams, featuring long-range points and good defensive play.

The Gaels held the upper hand and led 0-6 to 0-3 at half-time. The start of the second-half was tense as St. Dominic's attempted a comeback. However, the Gaels rallied again and pulled away to win comfortably by 0-10 to 0-5.

With one win under their belt, the Gaels' next match will be a tough one away to Athleague/Tremane in Lane Park on 4th July. Team: Tom Biesty, Aaron Bracken, Odin Fallon, Matthew Finneran, Brian Geraghty, Conor Grogan, Darragh Gubbins, Ronan Hoey, Eoghan Keaveny, John McGuinness, Luke Mitchell, Cathal Mulry, Ciarán Mulry, Conor Mulry, Lochlann Mulry, Liam Naughten, Bertie Satchwell, Ryan Timon.



Under 13's

After many months of waiting it was great to finally see our u 13 hurlers back doing what they enjoy most - playing a match. On Thursday we played our first championship match v St Dominic's in Knockcroghery. The swirling wind meant weather conditions were difficult for hurling but both teams contributed to what was a very close and entertaining

Ladies Football

Under 14's

Roscommon Gaels 5-6

Boyle 6-9

In Thursday evening sunshine (June 17th), our U14 ladies took on Boyle in Abbey Park, Boyle. Boyle were quick off the mark, racking up scores in quick succession. However, after the first water break, the Gaels girls began their first half flurry of scores with wonderful performances coming from Aoife Connolly, Jessica McSharry and Amy Winston in attack, while Molly Tully steadied the troops in defence with Elia Cormican and Sarah Reilly being ever so reliable in the two corners supported by Ava Naughton.

The second half began at a frantic pace and Boyle notched on scores while the Gaels responded with wonderful scores coming from the boot of Grace Campbell, Andrea Murray and Sadie Devaney assisted by Lucy Hone. As the final quarter got underway, the Gaels' spirits were high and the adrenaline was pumping. Síofra Hession swept away balls in defence, added scores in attack and lead by example all over the pitch. Sienna Devaney showed wonderful leadership ability stopping many shots that came her way between the posts. It really was an enthralling contest, which had spectators on the edge of their seats! In the end, Boyle ran away winners by a narrow margin, in what was an incredibly entertaining and sporting game. Fantastic team spirit and commitment from all 27 U14 Gaels ladies.

Under 16's

Roscommon Gaels are privileged to have 2 U16 Ladies team participating in Championship 2021 Division 1 and Division 4 ensuring that every girl gets football.

Division 1: Round 1

Roscommon Gaels v St. Barry's

Our U16 ladies played their first round of Championship 2021 against St. Barry's in Tarmonbarry on June 8th. The Gaels girls fought hard against a very strong St. Barry's side. All players worked hard throughout and never dropped their heads but on this occasion the home team came out on top. Jane King worked hard in goals with great support from Megan Donohue, Emma O'Farrell, Kate Harlowe, Jennifer Morris, Sarah Purcell and Emma Hough in backs. Alannah Sutton and Martha Mc Sharry did their best at midfield. Zara Fallon, Anna Kiernan, Shauna Walsh, Eimear O'Connor, Ciara Killeen and Grace Dwyer kept busy in forwards and put some lovely scores on the board. Molly Rose Finneran, Orla Dwyer and Eve Mc Neill joined play to give legs a rest and contributed well.

Credit to St. Barry's on the day they were the better side. Not our best outing but it was the first game of the 2021 and better outings are on the horizon.

Division 4. - Round 1.

Roscommon Gaels v St. Faithleachs

Unfortunately St. Faithleachs withdrew from U16 Championship so our girls did not get to play game which was fixed for June 9th.

Division 1 - Round 2

Roscommon Gaels v Clann na nGael

June 15th saw our first home game for our U16 Ladies with home ground looking great! After a delay with the start of the game, the Gaels got off to a great start against Clann na nGael with some lovely scores from Martha Mc Sharry, Zara Fallon, Alison Mc Namara, Emma Hough and Alannah Sutton. The first 30 minutes saw most of the attack play from the Gaels who were working very hard with serious defence



play on the full back line from Eimear O'Connor, Megan Donohue and Kate Harlowe. Anna Kiernan, Emma O'Farrell and Emma Hough covered alot of ground on the half back line while forwards Zara Fallon, Martha Mc Sharry, Grace Dwyer, Molly Rose Finneran, Sarah Purcell and Alison Mc Namara caused a stir up front. Jennifer Morris and Alannah Sutton worked well at mid field. Half time saw the scoreline at 0-11 to 01-04 in favour of the Gaels girls. The second half saw the introduction of Shauna Walsh and a couple of switches on-field put in place. Clann attacked with attitude in the 2nd half and clocked up some early scores to give our girls a run for their money! Both teams fought hard and the Gaels continued to tap them over the bar. Clann rallied with a couple of goals and tapped the over too. Tit for Tat with every score counting for both sides.. who was going to be victorious? The final 2 minutes saw Roscommon Gaels awarded a penalty which Shauna Walsh put in the back of the net. Roscommon Gaels emerged the victors with a sweet one point win after what was a great game of football from both sides in horrible conditions. The girls once again deserve great credit for never giving up and battling hard which stood to them! Well done girls.

Division 4: Round 2. Roscommon Gaels v St. Mary's

Our first Division 4 game of 2021 kicked off on June 16th with a home game against St. Mary's, Tulsk on a bright sunny evening! Contrary to the evening before, this match started ahead of time!! St. Mary's got off to a flying start and clocked up a number of points early on. The Gaels settled and put some fine scores up on the board both in points and goals. Sarah Reilly played well in goals with good support from Grace Campbell, Gwen Killion, Naise Wynne, Amy Winston, Molly Tully and Ella Bailey covering backs. Lile Mc Caffrey and Síofra Hession covered alot of ground at midfield. Jessica Mc Sharry, Grace O'Gara, Isobelle Sexton, Emily Cummins, Maria Campbell and Katie Larkin worked hard in front of the St. Mary's goalie. There was only a score between them at the half time break. Grace Geraghty and Laura Feeney with fresh legs gave some of our players a rest and worked well while Molly Tully covered goals for the 2nd half. St. Mary's clocked up a few more

goals in the second half and continued to tap over the points. The Gaels rallied with a couple great goals and some more points but St. Mary's were game winner by a narrow margin. A massive effort for their first day out from under 16 players greatly assisted by a number of U14 players. Many thanks to the U14 girls for ensuring we are well represented in the Division.

Dates for the Diaries

Division 1: Round (3).
Roscommon Gaels v St. Dominic's.
7pm Tuesday 22nd of June (Home).

Division 4: Round (3).
Roscommon Gaels v Northern Harps
7pm Wednesday 23rd of June (Home).



Under 16 Ladies prepare for Championship at training in the Hyde

Roscommon U16 County Football

Congratulations to our U16 girls Sarah Purcell, Shauna Walsh, Megan Donohue, Alannah Sutton, Eve Mc Neill and Emma Hough who are representing the Club on the County Ladies Under 16 panel and donned the Roscommon colours when they played in two games against Meath on Saturday 5th of June in Kilbride, Co. Meath. Also,

Declan Walsh and Michelle Hughes Walsh are involved in management 2021 for the U16 set-up.

Roscommon U14 County Football.

Congratulations to our U14 girls Síofra Hession and Amy Winston who are representing the Club on the County Under 14 Ladies Football panel and will don the Roscommon colours when they play Kildare in two games on Saturday 19th of June in Ardclough, Co. Kildare. Also, congratulations to Yvonne Donohue who is part of the U14 management team.

