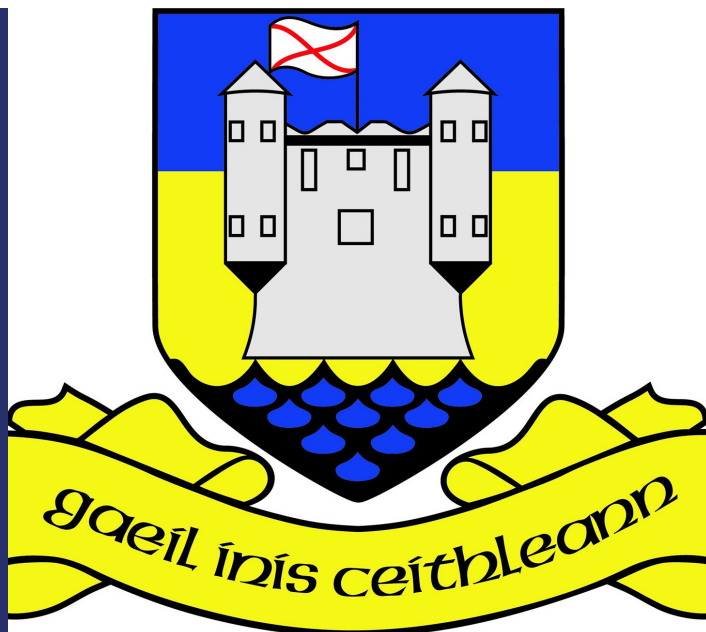


ENNISKILLEN GAELS YOUTH NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2020



GAELS TO TAKE PART IN ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE

Enniskillen Gaels Youth will once again be involved in the St Patrick's Day parade in Enniskillen and as always it is a big day for the young people from the club who will be taking part.

This year we will have a float in conjunction with the Willowbridge School.

The parade gets underway at the Lakeland Forum at 3.30pm before returning to the same spot for 4.40pm. The float will then return to the Gaels club where stew will be served at around 5.30/6pm.

So why not come along and enjoy the day with traditional music which will start at around 6.30pm. U10 coaches will be in touch with regards participation and timing.



On a recent visit to Willowbridge School Guggy and Ding were delighted with the progress of the St Patrick's Day float.

Enniskillen Gaels Dinner Dance

The annual Enniskillen Gael Dinner Dance will take place in the Westville Hotel on Saturday March 28. Tickets are priced £35 for adult and £25 for U18s and are available from the clubhouse, Declan McCaughey, Eimear Keenan, Dara McManus, Julie Connolly or Rory Rafferty.

Dates for the diary

7th March - U15 League to commence

14th March - the start of the U11.5 League

28th March - Dinner Dance time at the Westville Hotel. Let the hair down before the season really kicks in.

17th April - Outdoor nursery and primary school coaching begins for ages 3-11.

June - Outdoor Movie Night LIVE at Brewster Park. Date to be confirmed.



THE STREET LEAGUE TO COMMENCE IN APRIL

The Enniskillen Gaels Street League will get underway at the start of next month and is sure to see some great action as the four teams vie for the Street League title.

The four teams are named after the provinces; Ulster, Munster, Connacht and Leinster and there will be plenty of games on a weekly basis.

Enniskillen Gaels Youth Chairman, Tom Brewster, was one of those behind the return of the league last year.

"A number of the coaches at the club would have grown up playing in the Street League and it was always popular and very competitive. For one reason or another it disappeared but it was decided to bring it back last year and it went down really well.

"We are looking forward to this year's league now getting started," he said.

Hurlers in action



The young hurlers at the club were involved in half time games during Fermanagh's senior hurlers game against Leitrim at Brewster Park. This was a brilliant experience for the players who thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

MEET THE COACHES



BRIAN HEGARTY

Brian is a coach with the Gaels U11.5 team who begin their league campaign on Saturday March 14.

Team you are involved with:

Under 11.5 (along with Kayce Lunny, Anne McEvoy, Aidan Corrigan, Kevin Gunn, Paul Maguire, Thady Turbett and Mark Millar)

What is your earliest GAA memory?

Winning a primary schools hurling blitz under the expert tutelage of Red Joe Maguire, a man who single handedly kept hurling alive around Ederney for many, many years. A lot of lads and lasses would have never picked up a hurling stick if it wasn't for him. What got you into playing GAA? The man referred to above when he was my P5 teacher. Also, I've 4 older brothers and 3 of them played so I probably just tagged along after them.

Who was your biggest influence when you were young?

Joe Maguire when at primary school, and Dessie Cassidy when I started playing underage. The number of kids he used to squeeze into the back of his car for away matches was a sight to behold!

What is your best GAA memory?

From a playing perspective, winning a Corn na nOg with St. Michael's and then winning it again the following year after the increase in age level for the competition following some supposed lobbying from a certain St. Pat's Maghera icon (sorry Adrian). And as a fan, any of those fantastic days out following Fermanagh in 2004. I still reckon they would have ran Kerry closer than Mayo did had they made it to the final. I hold Tom Brewster personally responsible.

What got you involved with Enniskillen Gaels Youth?

As a parent of 3 boys that I hope get as much out of playing football as I did, I felt it was only fair for me to offer to help out wherever the club needed me. So in an effort to do what I could, I put a call in to Brendan Rogers last November to put my hand up, and have been helping out with a cohort of dedicated others ever since. Coaching the youth is now impossible if it's a 1 person effort, and nothing I do would be possible were it not for the dedication of all the other coaches I mention above.

What for you is the most important thing about coaching young people?

The kids need to enjoy the sessions or they won't come back, so the most important thing is probably fun or enjoyment. After that, it's learning and encouragement - you want them to achieve their potential by stretching their skill base, and to give them the confidence to achieve that they need to be given encouragement along the way so that they believe they can do it.

What advice would you give to any young player?

The most basic advice that I constantly give my own 3 boys is to work hard and be kind. The same thing should apply to every player. Don't just concentrate on the stuff you're good at - work on the things you know you're not good at, these are the things that will make you a much better player. And with regard to being kind - a word of encouragement, a pat on the back for a job well done, or helping out when someone is struggling - this can make a difference for someone way beyond what you can ever imagine.

What are your hope for Enniskillen Gaels Youth?

Primarily, to see an increase in the number of kids playing our games and representing our club. And for those that do come out, for them to be able to develop their skills in a fun and safe environment.