

# Underage Report 1996





## **U10 - Brady Shield**

**Selectors: Liam Reilly, Joe Breen, Tom Meyler**

Having won the 1995 Shield in Ratoath, Blackhall Gaels hosted the 1996 competition. the tournament was run off over two evenings in June. Eight teams participated - St. Martins, St. Peters & Pauls, Moynalvey, Summerhill, Donaghmore, Ashbourne, Curraha, Ratoath and Blackhall Gaels. The teams were divided into two groups of four with the top team in each group qualifying for the final. The final was contested by Blackhall Gaels and St. Peters & Pauls with Gaels running out easy winners in the end. Tom Nolan presented the Brady Shield to Sean Rattigan, captain of the team.

It was a great sight to see 8 teams playing so many games in the best spirit of the game. A special word of thanks to Joe Breen, Pat Callanan and Des O' Brien for their work in marking out the pitch and ensuring that everything ran smoothly.

The panel of players were:-

**L. Fagan, J. Reilly, L. Brosnan, N. O' Connell, K. Coyle, A. Kely, M. Maye, M. Leonard, D. Larkin, I. Mulreed, P. Duffy, G. Newman, P. O' Leary, S. Hughes, R. Hickey, S. Rattigan, R. Grahame, J. Bailey, L. Garvey, M. Mullally, M. Whelan, C. Devaney, T. Corrigan, M. O' Neill, P. Ennis, K. Tierney, M. Snee, A. McGowan, D. Dalton, D. Jordan, T. Coyle, J. Meyler, P. O' Brien, S. Whelan, P. Townsend and A. Leonard.**

## **Navan 7 a Side Blitz**

We entered two teams in this competition which was held on 16th September. Our team competed in Division 1. We beat Simonstown and St. Peters & Pauls and Skynne to qualify for the final where we were eventually well beaten by O' Mahony's.

Our second team competed in Division 3, where we qualified for the final and beat St. Michaels by 3 points in an exciting final.

## **U11 Football Campaign**

The Under 11 Football campaign for 1996 began early in the year with Saturday morning training sessions and challenge matches being run in conjunction with the Under 12 panel. As it had been decided to enter a team in the Under 12 Division I Reserve League, this panel was mainly comprised of Under 11 players.

5 Challenge matches took place:-

### **Date Opposition Result**

**3rd February '96 St. Peregrins Draw**

**11th February '96 Erins Isle Lost**

**9th March '96 Kill (2 teams) 2 Wins**



**30th March '96 Round Towers (2 teams) Lost both**  
**10th April '96 St. Oliver Plunketts Lost**

2 panels were then picked - Panel 1 played the Under 12 Division I League and 4 Under 11 players were drafted onto this panel. They were :- Michael Dowd, Eoin Heaney, Donal Keane, Liam Rattigan. The selectors for Panel 1 were Eugene Ferris and Kevin Sweeney.

Panel 2 played in the Under 12 Division I Reserve League and the panel of 20 players was:-

**Colm Mc Cormack, Lorcan Fagan, Mark Forrest, Johnathon Kerins,  
John Mc Carthy, Ronan Mc Gowan, Conor Callanan, Aidan Ferris,  
Francis Colgan, David Carthy, Ciaran Mulligan, Ricky Moore, David Leddy,  
Ciaran Delaney, Frances Nolan, Patrick Dunne, Conor Kealy, Eoin Bennett,  
Brian O' Connor and Thomas Clarke.**

**The selectors for Panel 2 were: Jimmy Leddy, John Keane, Michael Heaney and  
Gerry Delaney.**

**Panel 2 played the following matches in the Reserve League:-**

**Date   Opposition Venue Result**

**18th May '96 St. Peters & Pauls Away Lost**  
**29th May '96 Simonstown Away Win**  
**1st June '96 Navan O' Mahonys Away Lost**  
**25th June '96 Trim Home Win**

Panel 2 qualified for a Semi-final against O' Mahonys. This match was played on the 3rd July, 1996, in Dunsany. Unfortunately, Blackhall Gaels were defeated by 6 points.

**Final score: Blackhall Gaels 3-4 Navan O' Mahonys 5-4**

#### **Blackhall Gaels Under 11 Tournament - P&L Cup**

The fifth Annual Under 11 Tournament took place in Kilcloon during May/June. The teams which took part were grouped as follows:-

##### **Group 1   Group 2**

**Blackhall Gaels St. Martins**  
**Ratoath Confey**  
**St. Peters & Pauls St. Peregrins**  
**Moynalvey Summerhill**

3 League round matches were played on Sunday mornings 19th and 26th May and 2nd June. The semi-finals were played on Sunday 9th June and were contested by:-



**St. Peters & Pauls V St. Peregrins**  
**Summerhill V Blackhall Gaels**

The final was played on Sunday 16th June and was contested by Summerhill and St. Peregrins, with Summerhill emerging victorious to claim the P&L Cup. They join St. Mary's 1992, Blackhall Gaels 1993, St. Martins 1994 and St. Peters and Pauls 1995, as winners of this tournament.

**Under 11 Club Football League - The Paddy Mc Hugh Memorial Cup**

As the attention of all those interested in football (and boxing!) was diverted towards Croke Park for the month of September, the 5th Anniversary Under 11 Club Football League took place in October and November. This league involved all players born in 1985 or later and approximately 80 young players took part over 4 Saturdays.

The teams and managers were:-

**Team Managers**

**Mayo Tom Meyler and Niall Brosnan**  
**Kerry Liam Reilly and Joe Breen**  
**Tyrone Gerry Delaney and Martin Jordan**  
**Meath Willie Rattigan and Gerard O' Carroll**

League rounds were played on the 12th, 19th and 26th October with the final round on 2nd November. Third place play off was contested by Meath (0-11) and Tyrone (1-4). The final between Kerry and Mayo was won by Kerry, 2-5 to 1-4.

The Paddy Mc Hugh Memorial Cup was presented to winning team captain, Liam Rattigan, by Juvenile Chairman, Tom Nolan.

Finally, a special word of thanks should go to St. Oliver Plunkett and St. Peregrins. Oliver Plunkett invited the Under 11's to participate in a blitz tournament on June 27th. St. Peregrins facilitated us greatly by travelling out to Kilcloon 3 times during the year (3rd Feb, 9th Sept and 23rd Nov) to play challenge matches - all these games ended in draws.





### 1996 - U12 A

**Selectors: Kevin Sweeney, Jimmy Leddy, Eugene Ferris.**

In this underage section we were placed in Division 1. The club entered two teams at this level for the very first time in the history of the G.A.A. in the parish.

As the league progressed this may have been a slight disadvantage to the "A" Team but it gave at least 40 players competitive football during the season which in itself is a major benefit for the future of the club.

The team was unlucky to loose the first game of the league to St. Martins.

We then had a good win over Donaghmore, Ashbourne but losing the next two games to St. Peters & Pauls and Oldcastle was a set back.

We won our next game against Round Towers but then lost to Simonstown, O' Mahonys and Trim and we finished the season with a win over St. Colmcilles.

The panel of players were:-

John Corrigan, Kevin Mc Keon, John Jennings, Ciaran Costello, David Nelson, Colm Mc Elligott, Daniel O' Neill, Michael Meyler, Liam Howlett, Robert Cox, Ronon Flynn, Kevin Sweeney, Aidan Dalton, Darren O' Loughlin, Daniel Gannon, Marr Heffernan, Liam Rattigan, Michael Dowd, Eoin Heeney, Donal Keane and Daniel Leddy.



## **1996 - U13 (Feile Competition)**

**Selectors: Kevin Sweeney, Tom O' Loughlin, Eugene Ferris**

In this competition we were in Division 1. This competition was changed to Sundays which meant that we were missing two of our strongest players for almost all of the games.

We were invited into the U-13 Confey Tournament. We had a good win in the semi-final over Confey. We were beaten in the final by Maynooth.

In the league we were beaten by St. Colmcilles, Simonstown, O' Mahonys and Oldcastle but for these games we were missing these two players already mentioned.

When we were able to field a full team we had good wins over St. Peters & Pauls and Trim.

Playing this competition on Sundays did not help us this year but we should do well in the U-14 League and Championship of 1997.

The panel of players were:-

**Daniel & Darren O' Loughlin, David Ferris, Ciaran Argue, Colm Mc Elligott, Liam Howlett, Marr Creevy, Eoin Byrne, Laurence Fagan, Robert Cox, Denis Byrne, Colm Mc Cormack, David Nelson, Kevin Sweeney, George Snee, Paul O' Hanlon, John O' Sullivan, Siobhan Fagan, Andrew O' Hora, John Jennings, Daniel Gannon, Aidan Dalton, Daniel O' Neill, James Larkin, Kevin Mc Keon and Dermot O' Brien.**

## **- U14 Football League**

**The team competed in the Under 14 Division I League. We fared as follows:-**

- 1. 22nd March An Away win over Round Towers**
- 2. 30th March A Home win over Old Castle**
- 3. 13th April An Away defeat by Navan O' Mahonys**
- 4. 17th April A Home win over St. Martins**
- 5. 24th April An Away win over Simonstown**
- 6. 1st May A Home win over Ballivor**
- 7. 8th May An Away win over St. Colmcilles**
- 8. 15th May An Away win over Trim**
- 9. 22nd May Heavily defeated at Home by Dunboyne**

Having won 7 of our 9 games we finished in joint second place with Dunboyne whom we then played in the Semi-final in Dunshaughlin on 29th May. A last minute victory for Dunboyne. O' Mahonys were the eventual winners of the competition.



## Under 14 Division I Championship

**Having won the competition in 1995 Blackhall Gaels were seeded and were straight** through to the quarter finals as a result. The other three teams to be seeded were Dunboyne, O' Mahonys and Simonstown.

Quarter Final, June 19th in Dunshaughlin. We beat Dunleek. This result meant a semi-final show down once again with Dunboyne at the same venue. In a fiercely contested game we were beaten by a single point which was the last kick of the game. Dunboyne went on to beat St. Colmcilles in the final.

## Feile '96 - Mayo

### Thursday, July 14th

The panel and mentors headed West and took part in the Feile Parade along with 106 other teams in Ballina at 7.00 p.m. Afterwards we made our way to Claremorris where we were most generously hosted for the weekend.

### Friday, July 5th

This was a free day to sample the delights of Mayo. The players pleasantly passed the day in Castlebar where the highlight was the amusements of the local Bowling Alley, where we beat the home team.

### Saturday, July 6th - Ballintubber

**11.15 a.m. We beat Ballintubber**

**12.45 p.m. We beat Oranmore -Maree of Galway.**

This meant a 6.00 p.m. semi-final place against Na Piersaigh of Cork that same evening in Ballina. Na Piersaigh won by a point.

**T**

### Sunday, July 7th

In the best Feile spirit, players and mentors travelled to Mc Hale Park, Castlebar to view all the finals. Ballinderry won Division I of the Feile by beating Na Piersaigh. Eventually all players arrived safely back in Kilcloon at about 9.30 p.m. on Sunday evening, after what was a wonderful and unforgettable weekend.

The mentors would like to pay tribute to each and every one of the 21 players on the panel whose behaviour was exemplary, both on and off the pitch. Their attendance at training and their will to win were the cornerstone of their many successes. We would like to congratulate George Beirne, Stephen Mc Govern and Tadhg Brosnan who played on the Meath U14 team in the Fr. Bannon cup. A special congratulations to George Beirne who captained the victorious Meath U14 Team and thereby brought the Fr. Bannon Cup back to the parish.



**The Under 14 mentors were: -**

**Mel Beirne, Dessie O' Brien, Tommy O' Loughlin and Niall Brosnan.**

Finally, we would like to thank the many people who helped the panel in different ways during the year and a special thank you to the ladies who willingly washed the jerseys.

### **U15**

**Selectors:-Jim Mc Govern, Nicholas Casserly, Pat Callanan, Michael Joyce**

We reassembled the panel which had won the Under 14 Championship, just over a year earlier, for the Under 15 campaign.

We started with training sessions and a number of challenges against Edenderry, St. Marys' Leixlip, Newtown Forbes and Johnstown Bridge. The visit of Newtown Forbes was a very pleasant occasion when after a competitive match we provided a snack for the visiting team. Our thanks to Nicholas Casserly for the sausages.

Our first match was away to St. Peters & Pauls. In a somewhat uncompromising match played on the eve of the All-Ireland we were lucky to escape with a draw and must thank our goal keeper Emmet Dalton for a number of final saves. We followed this with easy wins over St. Martins, St. Colmcilles and Round Towers. We travelled to Navan to meet our rivals, O' Mahonys' and though weakened by injuries we kept them within range until close to the end. Simonstown, after failing to turn up twice eventually conceded the points which put us into a semi-final with St. Peters & Pauls in Dunsany. Injuries deprived us a number of players and this combined with the concession of two earlier goals left us with a mountain to climb. We battled gamely and got to within four points. St. Peters & Pauls went on to win the tournament beating St. Colmcilles in the final.

We were encouraged by the attitude of the panel through both training and matches. Indoor training was held in Batterstown which was well attended. We look forward to 1997 and the Under 16 Championship.

**The panel of players were:**

**J. Beirne, T. Brosnan, J. Callanan, S. Carty, G. Cassidy, S. Casserly, A. Dalton, E. Dalton, A. Doyle, P. Dowley, V. Dowley, F. Dunne, B. Gorman, N. Hora, J. Joyce, C. Kennedy, A. Lambert, J. Leddy, C. Mc Carthy, D. Mc Carthy, S. Mc Govern, D. Mc Gowan, K. Mc Gowan, P. Neville, C. O' Brien, J. O' Brien, K. O' Brien, N. O' Hora, N. O' Reilly, J. Staunton and D. Treacy**





## U16

**Selectors:-Tom Nolan, Joe Sheridan, Michael Joyce**

After a good showing in the 1995 Under 15 League, when we lost the Semi-final to St. Cuthberts and felt we could have gone further had we not lost a number of player through injury.

We prepared well for the 1996 Under 16 Championship, Benny Caffrey Cup. We played challenge matches against St. Marys (Leixlip), St. Brigids (Blanchardstown), Clane, Kilcock and Dunboyne.

The campaign started in earnest with a home game against St. Martins on 10/3/96. We matched the Dunshaughlin outfit throughout the field but conceded some soft scores including an O.G. which was the final margin between the two teams.

Our next game with O' Mahonys was postponed because of bad weather. We again had home advantage for the visit of long-standing rivals St. Cuthberts. We were almost at full strength for this match which was to be our best display of the season. Once the threat of Glen Loughran who won an intermediate county medal with Cortown was snuffed we started to dominate the game and eventually won by 2-9 to 1-4.

After further postponements we met the eventual champions, Walterstown, who were much too strong for us.

Things started to go badly when we conceded a home defeat to Simonstown - a match we should not have lost. Still, an easy win over Trim left us with a chance of qualifying if we won our remaining matches.





We travelled to Navan expecting to beat the pointless O' Mahonys, but it took two last minute goals from Martin Whelan to salvage a draw. Our chances of qualifying had now virtually disappeared and finally ended a further defeat to Round Towers in Kells.

For a team which has always managed to make the knock out stage since it competed in U12 in 1992, this was a most disappointing result. The transition to Under 16 Football is not an easy one but the display of many of the players in the last year was well below par.

Some players went for U16 trials in Moynalvey:- Jason Reilly, Thomas Dalton, Mark Ferris and Brian Bent, others were not available. Both Thomas Dalton and Mark Ferris played in the Gerry Reilly tournament in Oldcastle and deserve our congratulations.

The panel of players were:-

**B. Bent, F. Byrne, J. Callanan, S. Casserly, G. Cassidy, A. Dalton, T. Dalton, E. Dalton, R. Doyle, D. Doyle, R. Dunne, G. Farrell, M. Ferris, A. Fitzhenry, B. Gorman, J. Joyce, D. Lucas, D. Mc Gowan, TR. Nolan, K. O' Brien, N. O'Reilly, J. Reilly, D. Sheridan, J. Staunton, M. Whelan, D. Mc Carthy and C. Mc Carthy.**



## **Minor Football Report**

**Selectors: Noel O' Brien, John Mc Keon**

This team had a rather undistinguished campaign, winning two, drawing one and losing six of our matches in Division 2 of the Minor League.

These statistics conceal some 'gutsy' performances, we lost four matches by a margin of two points or one, and our biggest defeat was by five points. At no stage were we in a position to pick from the entire panel due to one player studying in U.C.G. and two others in Boarding School. While attendance at training was very patchy, the players gave their best on the field of play, behaved themselves in an exemplary manner and were a credit to themselves and their club.

### **Summary**

**Defeated** St. Cianan's, Yellow Furze

**Drew with** Walterstown

**Lost to** St. Ciarans, Clann na Gael, Parnells, Ballivor, Dunsany and Dunhaughlin.

The panel of players were:-

**Alan Larkin, Barry Mc Keon, Ben Tighe, Bernard Corbett, Bernard Fitzgerald, Cormac O' Brien, Damien Sheridan, David Crampton, David Doyle, Declan Lucas, Eamonn Byrne, Finan Smith, Gareth Farrell, Jason Reilly, John Ferris, Johnny O' Hora, Joseph Larkin, Kenneth Mc Gowan, Kieran Ledwith, Mark Ferris, Mel Beirne, Michael Murray, Michael O' Malley, Patrick Snee, Paul Dwyer, Paul Regan, Paul Whelan, Robert Dolan, Robert Dunne and Ronan Doyle**



# Hurling

## U11 Hurling

We had an exciting and fruitful year with the only disappointment being a defeat in the Championship Final. We played a total of 8 matches, 6 in the Championship and 2 Challenge Games. We also brought the team to Celbridge for an evening of indoor hurling, which was an interesting experiment and has possibilities for the future development of players skills at Juvenile level.

We played in the Meath Division B Championship and we had some well fought, closely contested matches. We more than held our own against teams from traditionally strong hurling clubs and this argues well for the future.

We commenced our Campaign with an away match against Boardsmill on 22/9/96 and after a seesaw struggle, we eventually held on for a well deserved 1 point victory. We played Navan O' Mahony's B in Batterstown on 6/10/96 and Ratoath (Away) on 13/10/96 and recorded very easy victories in two one sided matches. We travelled to Killyon on 20/10/96 and in our best performance of the year we prevailed by a 1 goal margin after a very hard fought encounter. Our lads showed great character and spirit against strong and skilful opponents. We played our old foes, Kiltale, in Batterstown on 27/10/96 and were comfortable after being in arrears at half time. We had now qualified for the final against Killyon. Prior to the final we played a challenge match against Maynooth and a narrow defeat showed that we still had a lot to learn.

The final was played in Kilmessan on Sunday 10th November. In a low scoring match, Killyon got off to the best start and we were never able to pull them back. Again our team fought very well but suffered from a lack of scoring power, something which was a problem when we met good opposition. To finish off the season we played one further challenge match away to Celbridge on 17th November. We suffered our biggest defeat against a much stronger and more skilful team.

### **MATCH RESULTS: CHAMPIONSHIP**

**22.9.96V's Boardsmill (Away) 3-2 to 2-4**  
**6.10.96V's Navan O' Mahonys B (Home) 14-4 to 0-1**  
**13.10.96V's Ratoath (Away) 12-2 to 1-1**  
**20.10.96V's Killyon (Away) 1-1 to 0-1**  
**27.10.96V's Kiltale (Home) 5-2 to 2-0**  
**10.11.96V's Killyon (final at Kilmessan) 0-3 to 2-1**

### **CHALLENGE MATCHES**

**3.11.96V's Maynooth (Away)**



## **U13 Hurling**

Our Championship Campaign consisted of 5 matches played from late April to early June. Before this we played a challenge match against St. Martins in Drumree. St. Martins were narrow winners. Our first rival championship match against Kiltale was planned for Monday 22nd April and we received notice of cancellation as we were about to travel from Batterstown at 6 p.m. We therefore started the Championship on 29th April against Kells in Kilcloon. In a match where we had plenty of the play, but had difficulty scoring, we lost by a heavy margin which did not reflect the run of play. Our next match was on 6th May, away to Navan O' Mahonys. As they were unable to field a full team, we supplied them with some of our panel and we played a useful Challenge match. The match with Kiltale would decide if we qualified for the semi-final of the competition. After 2 further postponements, and much chaos and confusion for mentors and players alike, the match was eventually played on 20th May in Kiltale. This was an exciting match, with some excellent individual displays from Blackhall. After trailing behind for most of the match we fought back to snatch a draw at the final whistle. The replay was planned for Sunday 2nd June at 6 p.m. in Dunboyne.

Against all the odds, our lads played some great hurling and ended up winning by 8 points. Inside 5 days we were lining out again in Kiltale to play St. Martins in the semi-final on 7th June. This was a match we could have won, having come from behind to draw level with 10 minutes to go. Unfortunately, St. Martins got the breaks to score 2 late goals and secure victory. This was another fighting display and a tribute to the team spirit, particularly as almost half our panel were under 11.

We were invited to take part in a 1 day blitz which was run by Kilmessan Club. This took place on Saturday 27th July. We played two matches in our Section in Kiltale, narrowly beating Bocustown by 1 point and then having a narrow victory over Kiltale in another very exciting match. A number of our stronger players were unavailable on the day and made our success all the more meritorious. On then to Kilmesan for the semi-final against Kilmessan who were a Division 1 team. Our exertions earlier in the days took their toll and the lads were unable to raise their game sufficiently to pose a real threat to Kilmesan. However, it was no disgrace to lose to one of the strongest teams in the country and in the end, Kilmessan won quite easily.

The panel of players were:-

**Ciaran Costello, Daniel Gannon, Paul O' Hanlon, Eoin Henney,  
David O' Loughlin, Ronan Mc Gowan, Darren O' Loughlin, Johnny O' Sullivan,  
Johnathon Mafter, Liam Rattigan, James Larkin, Ciaran Delaney,  
Michael Meyler, Ronan Glynn, David Ferris, Aidan Ferris, Brian O' Connor,  
Colm Mc Elligott, Sean rattigan, Michael Dowd, John Jennings,  
David Tennison, Colm Mc Cormick, Thomas Coyle, Donal Keane,  
Ian Hatch, and Mark Forrest.**



## U16 Hurling

The following games were played in the preliminary rounds:

Date Vs

18/4/96 Ratoath (Home)  
25/4/96 St. Pats (Away)  
2/5/96 Donaghmore (Home)  
9/5/96 Baconstown (Away)  
16/5/96 Dunboyne (Away)

We won all these games with relative ease except for the game against Dunboyne. This proved a hard and testing game. During the second half we came under intense pressure and looked like losing the match. However, our lads gave a great account of themselves and came through in the end with a strong finish to win a very good game. The semi-final was played in Dunboyne against Kiltale. We had high hopes of getting to the final where we would meet our old enemy Kildalkey. After an equally contested first half, we began to dominate the second half. With five minutes to go we were leading by five points and coasting. Then disaster struck. We let in two goals and the final whistle blew. For awhile, confusion reigned as the referee had declared the match a draw. On the way out of the pitch he rechecked the score and said that Kiltale were the winners. Unfortunately, this led to a lot of resentment among our players. While the year ended on a disappointing note, nevertheless we must also be aware of our achievements. I am very confident that if this squad of players stay together, they will bring honours to the club. I would like to thank all those associated with the team over the year and especially Patsy Callinan.

A very notable achievement of this panel over the year is that six of them played for the County:

P. Neville, B. Gorman, E. Dalton, S. Casserly, D. McGowan and N. Hora.

The panel of players were:-

**G. Farrel, R. Doyle, B. Bent, T. Nolan, J. Coldrick, B. Porter, S. Casserly, N. Hora, E. Dalton, B. Gorman, D. McGowan, T. Brosnan, S. O' Loughlan, P. Dowley, V. Dowley, A. Doyle, J. Callinan, P. Neville, M. Kearney and A. Dalton.**

## 1996 - Minor Hurling Championship

For the first time in the club's history there was a planned training programme for the minor hurlers. Unfortunately, one of our best players transferred to another club at the start of the year. However, the commitment from the other players was excellent.

Training was held every Thursday evening and attendance was very good. We played three preliminary games on a league basis:

Date VS

1 15/7/96 Donaghmore (Away)



25/7/96 Wolfe Tones (Away)

7/8/96 Kiltale (Home)

We won all of these games fairly easy. Then the chaos began. What was meant to be a Summer tournament now became a Winter competition. The semi-final was eventually played against St. Martins on Saturday 12th October at 4.45 pm in Grange. By that stage we were short a number of our key players who were in Boarding School and were not available for either games or training. The net result was that we had to start the game with six of our under 15 team. Nevertheless, I was very happy with the performance of all the players on the day - each and every lad gave his best. For the first half it was an even contest with some excellent scores and courageous defending. However, in the second half the age and physical factors eventually told and St. Martins gradually put up a big score. Our boys, in fairness, kept fighting to the bitter end, losing the game in the finish by 8 points. I would like to thank all those who helped with the team, especially Peter Farrell who took a number of the training sessions.

The panel of players were:-

**B. Corbett, F. Smith, P. Myler, C. Ledwith, R. Dolan, G. Farrell, C. O' Brien, R. Doyle, P. Brady, E. Dalton, B. Gorman, M. Carr, D. Mc Gowan, T. Nolan, N. Hora, P. Neville, A. Dalton, B. Bent, M. Kearney, S. Casserley, P. Dowley and V. Dowley**

### **GENERAL COMMENTS**

A) Once more the organisation left a lot to be desired:-

-games never started on time, in one instance we were left waiting one and a quarter hours before the other team turned up.

-postponements and cancellations were a common occurrence especially in the minor grade, a gap of two months between our last match and the semi-final is simply not acceptable. The affect on the boys' morale is devastating. We are giving them the message that we are not serious about the sport.

-the lack of neutral referees was also a constant source of irritation.

B) We still need more adults involved at under age level. It is very energy sapping when you are on your own looking after 25 young lads.

C) The present system of financing hurleys, sliothars etc., is most unsatisfactory. We need to look at alternative systems of funding.