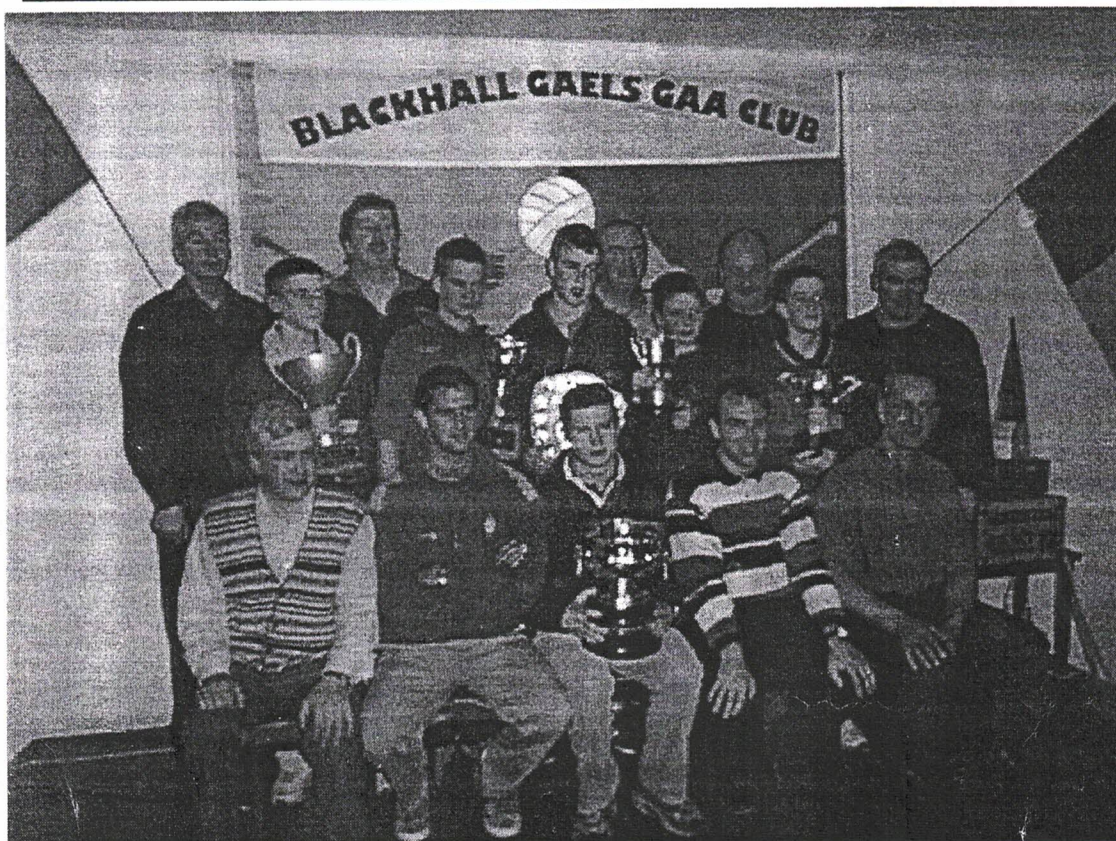


Blackhall Gaels Newsletter

February 2000

20p

Underage Medal Presentation Night in the Kilcloon Inn



Back Row: Michael Heaney, Darragh Keogh (Under 13 football), Tom Meyler, Ciaran Delaney (under 14 hurling), Martin O' Neill (under 14 football), Michael Mullally, Thomas Delaney (under 11 hurling), J. J. Whitty, Mark Mullally (under 13 hurling), Jimmy Burke.

Front Row: Gerry Delaney, Nigel Nestor, John Callanan (minor football), D.J. Carey, Frank Broad.

Saturday night 5th February in the Kilcloon Inn was a very special night for the Underage section of Blackhall Gaels. On the stage were the "spoils" of success – Minor Football Championship, Under 14 Reserve Football League, Under 13 Div. 1 League (Feile), Under 14 Rural Hurling, Under 13 Div 2 Hurling League, and Under 11 Ground Hurling.. Present were

the selectors, the parents, the captains, and the players, but the night was for celebration only – the main task in hand was to present 118 county medals to the successful players. Master of Ceremonies for the night was recently re-elected Underage chairman Tom Meyler who was also a selector on four of the winning teams. The presentations were made by our own Nigel Nestor All-Ireland winner with Meath last

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September and just back from a well deserved holiday with his Meath colleagues. The night was greatly enhanced by the presence of D.J Carey who could claim to be the hurler of the decade. It was only when Tom Meyler listed his achievements – 2 Senior All-Ireland's, 1 Minor and 1 under 21 All-Ireland's, 1 Colleges All-Ireland, 7 All-Stars and various County Titles- that we really appreciated the achievements of the man. The Chairman John O'Reilly and Secretary Enda Smith of the County Juvenile were also present, to give a further boost to hurling in the Club. The medals were presented to the various teams by Nigel and D.J. with several players receiving four medals and there was a special word for Alan Nestor who featured on all 5 winning teams. There was also a presentation to Jonathan meyer who won the County Meath U14 skills and finished a creditable fifth in the All-Ireland competition. In his speech D.J. congratulated Nigel Nestor and stressed the importance of having a role model in the Club. He laid great emphasis on enjoying your sport " You will not always be successful " he said " but you need to be enjoying the game to keep going" Specially engraved Clocks with the Club logo were presented to the selectors Tom Meyler, Frank Broad, Michael Mullally, Michael Heaney, Gerry Delaney, J.J. Whitty, and Jimmy Burke. 1999 was a truly remarkable year for the young "gaels". Our hope now is for continued success at underage but of even greater importance is that the Minor players will graduate to the adult teams and help bring the Keegan Cup to the Parish.

Underage Selectors 2000

Football

Under 10

Jimmy Burke	01 - 6286540
Tom Conneally	01 - 8251683
Paul Corcoran	01 - 6290496
Noel Farrell	01 - 8250343
Edmund Hegarty	01 - 8251704
John Keane	01 - 8250369
JP Kelly	01 - 8252560
Sean Kelly	01 - 6287915
JJ Whitty	01 - 8258341

Under 11

Jimmy Burke	01 - 6286540
Paul Corcoran	01 - 6290496
Ollie Mulligan	01 - 6285352

Under 12

Paul Corcoran	01 - 6290496
Paul Cummins	01 - 8251840
Ollie Mulligan	01 - 6285352
Ann Nestor	01 - 8252430

Under 14

Frank Broad	01 - 6287291
Tom Meyler	01 - 8255870
Michael Mullally	01 - 6285216

Willie Murphy(Res) 01 - 6285359

Under 16

Patsy Callanan	01 - 6285465
Michael Dalton	01 - 6290547
Jimmy Leddy	01 - 6285288
Liam Moore	01 - 6285779

Minor

Niall Brosnan	01 - 8259050
Noel Farrell	01 - 8250343
Jimmy McGovern	01 - 8259745

Hurling

Under 11

Jimmy Burke	01 - 6286540
Gerry Collins	01 - 8259003
Christy Mangan	01 - 8259901
JJ Whitty	01 - 8258341

Under 13

Gerry Delany	01 - 8259047
Ann Nestor	01 - 8252430

Under 14

Frank Broad	01 - 6287291
Tom Meyler	01 - 8255870
Michael Mullally	01 - 6285216

Under 16

Frank Broad	01 - 6287291
Gerry Delany	01 - 8259047
Michael Heaney	01 - 6285106
Tom Meyler	01 - 8255870
Michael Mullally	01 - 6285216

Chairman: Tom Meyler 01 - 8255870

Secretary: Gerry Stenson 01 - 6286473

Adult AGM

Officers elected:

Honourary President:	Sonny Carr
Chairman:	Eugene Ferris
Vice Chairman:	Vincent Nestor
Secretary:	Paul McNulty
Assistant Secretary:	Bruce Crehan
Treasurers:	Patsy Burke, Kevin Sweeney
PROs:	Ann Nestor, David Barker
Committee:	Noel Farrell, Christy McNulty, Joe Breen, Matt Nolan, Jim McGovern, John Maye, Tom Nolan, Brian Sheridan, Michael Heaney, Michael Dalton, Emily McKeon, Niall Brosnan, Sonny Carr.

Football Managers:

1st Team:	Tom Nolan
2nd Team:	Liam Reilly
U-21:	Noel Farrell

Hurling Managers:

Adult and U-21: Val Ledwith.

Co. Board Delegates:

Football: Noel Farrell & Joe Sheridan.
Hurling: Enda Smith & Brian Heavin.

Report of underage AGM

There was a good attendance at the AGM of the Underage Section of the club which was held recently in Batterstown. The meeting was unique in that the trophies for 6 county titles which had been won during 1999 were proudly on display. *For the record and for any reader who still is not sure what all these titles were – The Delaney cup for the minor football championship, the under 13 football Division 1 League (Feile), the under 14 football Reserve League, the under 11 Ground Hurling competition, the under 13 hurling “B” championship and the under 14 Hurling “B” rural championship.*

In their respective reports outgoing chairman Tom Meyler and outgoing secretary Michael Joyce both reflected on this magnificent achievement and the opportunities that these successes create for further glory for the club in the future. They both highlighted the fact that many clubs build successful senior sides on one or two underage successes. Blackhall Gaels success at underage level in 1999 and in other recent years are giving the club a much wider base on which to build. However they warned there is no room for complacency. Success in the future at any level will not come automatically. The work will still have to be put in at all levels of the club.

In his report the chairman also acknowledged in most appreciative terms the contribution to the club of all teams and their mentors, parents, referees, the grounds committee, those who provided transport, people who assisted with the preparation of jerseys and equipment, provided catering, raised funds, the various county boards and last but not least the generous sponsorship of Tom Bailey and Bovale Developments.

Michael Joyce's last report as secretary of this section again highlighted plenty of thought provoking comment. He called on people at all levels in the club to support such competitions as the Jarlath Carty, the Paddy McHugh and the P&L. He also looked forward to the development of the U 19 football competition which was inaugurated in the Autumn. While cataloguing the underage successes of recent years, the amazing fact that with the exception of the minor hurlers that the club had at least one player on every county team, he warned of what he sees as the most serious issue facing the club based on the results of a survey of the schools in the parish. This survey indicates that in four years time the club may not be in a position to field an under 12 boys football team, because of the decline in numbers. He also thanked all of those who helped him in his role of secretary in 1999 and in previous years and he wished his successor and the club well in the future.

In the discussion that that followed both reports many issues were thrashed out, some in detail. Others were left to the incoming underage committee to focus on particularly on how the club will face up to the challenge of dwindling numbers.

The various officers and selectors were duly elected and are detailed elsewhere in the newsletter.

During the meeting and before the election of a new secretary glowing tributes were paid to Michael Joyce who had a long time ago signalled his intention to pass on 'the mantle' to a new secretary. He was thanked for the quality of his all year round work, of his annual reports and his capacity to generate new ideas for the development of the club. He was wished well in whatever he does and the meeting looked forward to the club tapping into his knowledge and experience.

Gerry Stenson Underage Secretary

Senior Team Share Points With St Pauls

After a long Winter break it was back to business for the senior team in the first round of Division 3 of the All County League. Their opponents at windswept Clonee were the 1999 Junior A Champions, now playing Intermediate St Pauls. The cross field gale force wind made a mockery of any attempt to play football. At one stage the St Pauls' goalkeeper had to replace the ball on several occasions before he could take the kickout.

St Pauls started stronger and led by four points to three at half time. Blackhall got the first two points of the second half but were then rocked by a great goal from a St Pauls' substitute. The Gaels finished the stronger with a succession of points to level the match on a final score of 0 – 9 to 1 – 6. Overall a draw was a fair result and no doubt Tom Nolan and his selectors will have learned from the somewhat experimental lineout that had Paul Nestor and David Barker in the half back line and Mick Stafford at full forward.

Blackhall Gaels; Thomas Dalton, Liam O'Doherty, Daragh Canning, Ralph Mannion, David Barker (0 – 1), Paul Nestor (0 – 1), Jamie Moore, Barry McKeown, Paul McNulty, Jimmy McGovern (0 – 1), Stephen Nally, Mark Crampton (0 – 1), Martin Whelan, Michael Stafford (0 – 1), Mark Ferris (0 – 4)

Sub; John Callanan for Michael Stafford

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Ladies Football

Blackhall Gaels Ladies Football had their AGM on Friday 21st January, with a great number in attendance the following committee was elected:

Chairperson: Una Burke (6285652)

Vice Chairperson: Joe Breen (6289072)

Secretary: Jane Keane (8250369)

Assistant Secretary: Mary Fagan (8251246)

PRO: Angela Fahy (6285491)

Treasurer: Patsy Burke (6285652)

With 70 ladies playing football, we decided this year that we would have to enter an under 12, under 14, under 16, under 18 and a junior team, to ensure that all girls will have matches.

The following are the mentors which are over each team:

Under 12: Jane Keane & Jane Burke

Under 14: Una Burke & Mary Fagan

Under 16: Alice McNulty & Angela Fahy

Under 18 & Junior: John Maye & Joe Breen

Our first training session will be held in Batterstown Hall on Tuesday 15th February at 8:00pm for all age groups. This night will also be an information night, telling the girls of various different events happening during the year such as: days and times for training sessions; fundraising; registration and a table quiz.

New members are welcome, if you need more information please contact one of the committee members at the above numbers.

Membership:

Rates increased to £20 for adults, £10 for students (over 18), £20 for family membership.

Membership is now due and payable to any committee member

Dinner Dance

The Annual Dinner Dance will be held in the Lucan Spa Hotel on Friday 25th February. Tickets are £15 each. Tickets are available from committee members. Medals will be presented to the Minor football and Junior hurling teams at the dance.

Editors Note

This news letter will be available on the third week of every month. All articles for the newsletter must be handed in by the second week of each month. All articles are to be given to Noel Joyce. As we enter a time of high activity for all teams could you please send match reports.

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