



**Clubs**  
Aughrim  
Avondale  
Ballymanus  
Baltinglass

**2023**

**GAA**

**WHERE WE ALL BELONG**

*#WEAREWICKLOW*



# CLG Eachroim. Aughrim GAA.



## Foreword

Aughrim Juvenile Gaa Club had a very busy 2023. The club participated at all levels from U7 to U19 in underage football action during the year, and with the combined Luke O' Toole's hurling club we fielded at all age groups from U-7 to U-17. In effect, we had teams out several times a week for the month of April through to December, when the U19's closed the curtain on a very good season for the club. You can read about the exploits of Luke O' Toole's hurling in a separate section of the yearbook.

To top the season and for the first time in the club history, we fielded in Ladies Football (LGFA) at U8 and U10 level, while later in the year a ladies G4MO's team was established.



Under 7's

Off the pitch, the club had success in the Leinster Scór and won a bronze medal for its Healthy Club initiatives.

## Aughrim Juniles GAA



Under 11's

## Academy

The club continued with its recruitment of young players with close on 15 kids signing up to the Academy squad this year. It was fantastic to see these young kids learning the skills of football for the first time and great credit must go to the coaches who took on this amazing task.

## Aughrim U7 and U9 Go Games Football

Our U7 and U9 footballers participated in the Go Games again this year. We attended blitzes every other weekend at locations throughout the county, kicking off in April and running right through until September. We finished off the season with monster blitz's in Ballinakill. It was a great season for all of our youngest players. It was wonderful to see such a vast improvement in skills from all of our players from the start to the end of the season and we look forward to continued development next year. A big thank you to coaches, parents and most importantly all of the children who participated this year. Aughrim Abu.

## U11 Football

Aughrim U11's had a busy year in 2023 playing in the Division 2 league. There were six divisions in all and the boys weren't out of their depth and in fact were well able to compete at this level. The team took a few defeats in the early part of the season but improved in every game and overall, with fourteen games played won about 80% of their games which in itself

was testament to a really good year. Most of the players are moving up to U13 in 2024 and are really looking forward to the new challenge. A big effort went in with training and matches under the guidance of Niall Byrne, Derek Kavanagh, Declan and Yvonne O'Brien. The lads had a great end-of-season bonding session, heading to Hidden Valley in Rathdrum to enjoy the water Activities. Well done to all concerned.

## U13 Football

Aughrim U13 joined up with Avondale this year due to lack of numbers at this age, the boys had an outstanding season and welcomed back some players that had retired early from the sport. The combined Aughrim/Avondale team played in Group 3 and participated exceptionally well throughout the year. The team finished in a credible second position behind a very strong Ashford team, and then went on to be narrowly beaten by a strong Eire Og side in the C final in Ballinakill in October. Credit must go to Paul Cullen who was pro-active in finding a home for the players in 2023 and then coaching the group of players with the help of Tommy Keogh and Mark Fluskey.

## U15 Football

The U15 Football team started the season with a bang, winning all their games to win the Division 5 Feile. In a play-off for a Regional Feile spot they faced up to a strong Baltinglass team but try as they might they just came up short. The lads were disappointed but they quickly turned their attention to the league campaign where they played in the D League. The team played some great football winning 4 of their 6 games and losing the other 2 in very close contests. Following from this reasonable success the team was moved up a division to play in the C Championship. They found this division that little



Under 15's



Under 17's

bit harder, they won their first game but then struggled a bit during the summer holidays. They needed a win in their last league game to make the C Championship semi-final and although the lads gave it everything they had, they just came up short again and missed out on the semi-final slot. The consolation was a C Plate Final v Kilcoole. Before a ball could be kicked in this final the weather turned and the game was cancelled time after time. It was finally played some 3 weeks later. Luck wasn't on Aughrim's side for this final, several lads picked up a vomiting bug in the run up to the game and weren't even close to being fit for the game. Still, they put in a huge performance but with time almost up they ran out of legs to allow Kilcoole to gain victory by 1 point with the last kick of the game. All in all, the team had a good year and with a bit of luck could have come home with some more silverware, but they are the breaks. Thanks to Rory, Sean, JP and Darren for their work with the team throughout the year.

### U17 /Minor Football

Our U17 team played in the Div 2 player Pathway in the early part of the season and did themselves justice with some fine performances. The team went down heavily to Rathnew in Rathnew in their first game of their season to quickly shake off the cobwebs, things didn't get any better when the team lost narrowly to eventual Minor A Champions, An Tochar, but things were slowly starting to gel. Annacurra were next up and with all county players available to both sides Aughrim beat Annacurra after a great battle in Annacurra (the referee recorded it as a draw, but the dogs in the street knew otherwise), the team went on to have a good win away to Michael Dwyer's and saw out their campaign with another

solid win v St Kevins. The team were moving in the right direction and were bolstered with numbers when several U15 players were brought into the squad.

Aughrim were due to play in the Minor B Championship, but with a Coiste na Nog shake up in the championship structure, they were moved into the C Championship.

Aughrim certainly didn't have it all their way in this League/Championship and had to fight hard for a win over a never-say-die attitude from Kilcoole early on. Clann na Gael were strong and Aughrim were lucky to draw with them with home advantage. Baltinglass too were impressive with Aughrim only taking control mid-way through the second half, but there were games where Aughrim were in complete control and it was mainly against clubs who were fielding their second teams like Blessington, Tomnafinogue and Eire Og. Pearse Gaels struggled to field a team but played anyway while AGB's second team decided not to play. Michael Dwyer's were last up and Aughrim needed to secure a win to top the table and secure a game against 4th place opposition. The team duly accounted for Dwyer's and as luck would have it, they would face off against Clan na Gael again, in the semi-final. This game was played in Ballinakill and it was a teak tough battle. Clan na Gael gave as good as they got all over the pitch, but it was eventually Aughrim's ability to get in for killer goals that saw them through to the final. Baltinglass were the opposition in the final, and with the weather having turned for the worst pitch availability was at a premium. After all the rain, Ballinacor's pitch was in surprisingly good order so both teams headed for the Glen for a showdown. Baltinglass raced into an early lead with 2 good points but fortunately for Aughrim they

left their shooting boots behind and could and should have been a further 2 or 3 points ahead before Aughrim came to life. James Lambert and Marc O' Shea got in for killer goals and with Conaill O' Brien and Colm McGuckian now being fed more ball the points started to add up too. Lorcan Toomey and Jack Byrne started to lord it at midfield and with Ryan Kinsella, Cian Keogh and in particular U15 player Sean Byrne taking control at the back, there was only going to be one winner. The team won out on a score of 3-07 to 0-07 but it could have been a little different, the Aughrim goal led a charmed existence at times with goalie Alex Parle Evans having to come to the rescue on more than one occasion too. Well done to the team and Management of Eugene O' Brien, Eoin Forsyth and Richard Keegan for all their effort throughout the year.

### U19 Football

Our U19 team entered the "A" Championship this year and were placed in a group alongside Blessington, Rathnew and Tomnafinogue. Our first game was away in Blessington and our very young side battled very well and were unlucky to lose by four points on a scoreline of Blessington 2-8 Aughrim 1-7. Our next game was due to be a home game against Rathnew but pitch conditions were not favourable and the game was moved to Rathnew under lights. After a slow start we once again battled hard and were beaten by two points in the end. The score here was Rathnew 0-13 Aughrim 1-8 with the lights playing a factor in some wayward shooting from Aughrim. This left us going into our last game at home against Tomnafinogue needing a win and other results to go our way to put us into the semi-final of the cup competition. We beat Tomnafinogue by a single point on a score of Aughrim 0-14 Tomnafinogue 3-4, but unfortunately this wasn't enough to qualify for the cup so we went into the shield instead, where we were to play Eire Og / Greystones in the semi-final. On the morning of the game, we got late word from our opponents that they weren't travelling so we qualified by default for a Shield Final vs St Nicholas. This final game was played on Sunday 3rd December in front of a big crowd in Knockananna. The team were superb on the day winning on a scoreline of Aughrim 2-11 St. Nicholas' 1-9. This is a very young squad with only three of the panel being overage for next year. Big thanks to all the lads who made themselves available, and especially those you travelled half the country to make it to games. Also, a massive thanks to John Keenan, Liam Keenan jnr. and Eugene O'Brien for looking after the players. Panel: Mark Shannon, Finn Byrne, Ryan Kinsella, Sam Healy, John Fanning, Oisin Keegan, James Woolmington, Alex Kavanagh, Lorcan Toomey, Colm McGuckian, Joe McGuickan, Marc O Shea, Cian Keogh, Cameron Byrne, Conaill O'Brien, Jack Byrne, Layton O'Neill, Hugh Gunning, Patrick Leccardi, James Lambert, Conor Wilson, Kyle Gillick, Cormac Sheridan, Darragh Rice, Corey O'Toole and Leo Byrne.

## County Squads

On the County scene, the club was well represented. Cian Keogh and Jack Byrne were on the Minor panel and with the performances they gave for the club all year, it is hard to see how they couldn't make the starting team in the Leinster Championship this year. Ryan Kinsella and Marc O' Shea played with the U16 County Squad throughout the year and proved their ability with both making the Minor County Squad for 2024. After end of year trails, Colm McGuckian has also been added to the panel for 2024. We wish them all success in 2024.

### Other

We would like to acknowledge James Lambert again this year for his exploits at music, James is one of our talented U17 dual players and this year he brought home All-Ireland success at the Fleadh Ceoil, a 3-in-a row for James. A big congratulations for this mighty man. James with his brothers, Padraic and Darragh and friends Bobby Callaghan and Oren Cullen also won the Wicklow Scòr na Nòg and Leinster Scòr na Nòg earlier in the year, so a big congratulations to this team too.

On the Healthy Club scene, Donal Rice and Majella O' Shea continues to do trojan work, their efforts brought back a bronze medal to the club during the year. They were also successful in their grant application for an upgrade to our walking track which will see €15k of funding coming into the club to do some fantastic work to our track, so a big shout out to the 2 for their dedication and hard work.

Finally, and once again credit must go to all our coaches for their commitment and dedication and all the work they put in with coaching the children. Thank you, thank you, Thank you. We look forward to a new season of sport with bated breath.



Under 19's





# CLG Abhainn Dála. Avondale GAA.



Avondale GAA club held their A.G.M on Saturday 25th November 2023 at Avondale gaa.

The A.G.M was very well attended. The only change was Tony Hagan was voted in as chairman of the club for the 2024 season and we wish him the best of luck in his new role as chairman of the club. The following was election of officers for 2024

Club President: Alice Hamilton, Jimmy O Shaughnessy, Jimmy Kearns, Paddy Kennedy, Kevin Kennedy, Christy O Toole

Chairman: Tony Hagan  
Vice-Chairman: Seamus O Shaughnessy  
Secretary: Helen Penn  
Vice-Secretary: Paula Pierce  
P.r.o: Seamus Doyle(Senior) Claudia Byrne (Juvenile)  
Players Rep: Zach Cullen  
Childrens officers: Claudia Byrne & Colm Mcadam  
Committee: Victor O Shaughnessy Sandra O Shaughnessy  
Brendan Brady, Barry Sheehan  
Danny Morley, Oisín McGraynor, Donal McGraynor

## Nursery

Our club Nursery went from strength to strength this year and we now have approximately 50 kids enrolled in our nursery from ages 3-6 years old. This was the first year our nursery programme ran for the full year. We moved indoors when the weather broke and the kids really flourished. In our nursery we focus on developing our kids fundamental movement skills through a range of different fun games which focus on developing our ABC's (agility, balance and coordination) and our RJT's (running, jumping and throwing). Our nursery Programme will begin again in January, and we will welcome

kids born in 2020 to join. Our sessions take place on Saturday mornings at 9am and to register your interest please contact our Nursery coordinator Eugene Dunne on 0876569890

During the year we had an Easter party, 2 Summer fun days, and a fancy dress Halloween Party. But I think everyone will agree the highlight of the year was when Santa Claus paid us a surprise visit. The excitement on the kids faces made all those early Saturday morning starts worthwhile.

A special mention to our county players Cathal, Conor and Zach who paid us a special visit before their big day out in Croke Park.

We would like to thank all our wonderful coaches who helped out throughout the year also

## Our Juveniles

Our juvenile section of the club with over 150 kids registered and playing hurling and football from the nursery(U6) up to minor (U17) is continuing to grow and had another successful year.

Retention and maintaining playing numbers was a key strategy for the juvenile group in 2023. Special recognition for the U13 hurlers and U15 footballers who had very tight numbers to start the year and retained their squads to compete throughout the year.



Santa visits our Nursery players



Under 13 Shield Winners

Another key strategy that was set out in our juvenile club is to work towards being able to field stand-alone Avondale teams in football and hurling in all age groups from U7 to U17. We expect that this will be achievable for the Club in the 2025 season with continued efforts which would be a fantastic achievement for the Club and the first time in many years we will be in that position.

For the first time this year, we ran our Mini-All Ireland hurling event, together with the Avondale Camogie Club, which was a huge success. It brought together boys and girls and their families and friends on a fantastic day where there were some great skills on display.

Gavin Weir came on board as the Club GPO and has been working in the local schools and also contributing to club events such as the Club Camp and mini-All Ireland.

We had players join a number of county development squads in football and hurling, and more have joined the U13 Rising Stars program in 2023.

A special thanks to all our players, coaches and people who assisted the juvenile club in any way throughout the year."

## Minor Football

Our minor footballers this year played with the Michael Hogan's group team and had a relatively successful season. Training started back in early February and we had a great run

in the Spring development league winning 6 games out of 6. On to the championship then where we beat St Nicholas and St Kevin's but lost to Tomafinogue, Annacurra and An Tochar. This put us into the B championship but despite winning our 1st 4 games we came unstuck in our final game against St Nicks to lose out on a place in the final on score difference. However we regrouped a few weeks later to defeat Bray Emmetts in the Shield final. Avondale had 7 players on the panel and they were Joseph Jacob, Jamie Doyle, Mark O'Reilly, Darcy Santos, Alex B Johnson, Kyle Kenny and Calem Nangle with Seamas Doyle in as coach/selectors.

## Junior Football

The junior footballers had a very promising year considering the lack of numbers we had throughout the year, poor numbers for our senior team had knock on effect on the junior team but we put up some great fights and some fantastic games. We reached the division 4 semi final but lost to a strong Dunlavin side, prior to that game we won the quarter final in Newcastle through a very exciting penalty shootout with some heroics from stalwart Brian Burke saving 3 penalties.

In the Junior B championship we advanced from our group finishing second and played Eire Og Greystones in the quarter final, unfortunately we lost after a slow start to the game. Despite the lack of numbers we had throughout the year the club is delighted with the fight and passion shown by our Junior B team.

## Senior Footballers

We started off the Division 1A league campaign very poorly with 1 win in 4 games. We turned it around by winning our remaining league games and we came 2nd in the league which clinched promotion to Division 1 for the 2024 season.

Championship came along and with winning 1 game from 5 group games we faced a relegation playoff against Dunlavin. Unfortunately we lost one of our star players Conor Byrne during championship to a terrible injury and he proved to be a huge loss in the remainder of the championship.

Dunlavin the much better team on the day won by 8 points which means we'll be playing Intermediate championship in 2024.



Our Michael Hogan's Under 17 B shield winners with Coach – Seamus Doyle

## Senior Hurlers

After a tough 2022 our senior hurlers dropped down to intermediate hurling for 2023. We had a mixed league campaign and in the championship we failed to get out of our group. We joined up with our near neighbours Barndarrig to enter a team in the senior hurling championship where we acquitted ourselves reasonably well but again failed to get reach the knockout stages. Our senior/intermediate panels for the year was Mikey O'Toole, Ray Nolan, Dara Owens, Eanna Owens, Ben O'Neill, Eugene Dunne, Eamon Kearns, Ross Ward, Jack Manley, Zach Cullen, Owen Baker, Cathal Baker, Conor Byrne, Conor Sheehan, Shane Byrne, Diarmuid Phelan, Dan Owens, Danny Morley, Karl Phelan, Kevin Kinsella, Paul Gahan, Dean Gahan, Torna Mulcrouney, Anthony O'Toole, Wesley O'Toole.

Management...Tom Byrne, Clive Heffernan, Leonard Byrne, Paul Gahan

Physio..Shane Farrar

Kit man and ad-min....Seamas Doyle

## We remember

The club would like to remember our past players and members Sean Field, Dan Morley, Seamus Busher and Liam Jordan who passed away in 2023. May they all rest in heavenly peace.





# Baile Mhánais CLG. Ballymanus GAA.



While 2023 didn't result in any silverware, it was the second successive year where the club fielded two adult teams at Intermediate and Junior D respectively, no mean feat for a small club. Thank you as always to the players and coaches for their hard work and commitment throughout the year. Thank you to our sponsors for their continued generosity and finally, thank you to you, our club members and supporters. Your ongoing support is greatly appreciated.

## Junior D

Under the watchful eyes of Ollie Murphy and PJ Byrne, the Junior team enjoyed a thrilling league campaign in which they marched all the way to the league final decider against Donard in Knockanna. The final was played in front of a huge crowd and proved to be an absolute cracker of a game. With some fine football on display, the game could have gone either way but goals for Donard at key times had us on the back foot and it just wasn't meant to be in the end.



Junior D's



## Intermediates

The Junior team picked up where they left off and began their championship campaign in fine fashion with victories over Aughrim, Kilmacanogue and Avoca in the group stages. This was followed by a thrilling 4-04 to 1-06 quarter final triumph over Valleymount which saw the lads through to the semi-final. Unfortunately, it was not meant to be for their championship campaign and they suffered a 2-09 to 1-06 defeat at the hands of Tinahely.

## Intermediate

Under the returning management team of Larry Byrne, Decie Byrne, Shane Whelan, John Harmon and Will Tyrell, the league got off to a flying start with a victory away to Dunlavin.

However, this was as good as it got in the league as results took a turn with a narrow victory over Ballinacor proving just enough to stave off relegation. A thin panel was severely hit by injuries throughout the campaign and, in the end, the team did well to pull itself out of the relegation places.

The Intermediates began their championship campaign with a bruising defeat at the hands of Bardarrig. The team then moved on to play Coolkenno a week later knowing that

progress from the group was at risk. In what was a tight game, the lads came from behind to snatch a draw with the last kick of the game via a precision Adam Byrne free from a tight angle. The next game saw defeat to Newtown leaving them with it all to do to progress to the knockout stages. The team faced Hollywood and again, a last gasp Adam Byrne free was needed to secure a vital draw. This kept hopes of progressing alive going into the final group game against Kilcoole. On a terrible day for football, the lads put in an accomplished performance to take victory with 2 quickfire goals sending them to a quarter final against local rivals Annacurra. Again, this game was played in poor conditions. A four-point deficit at half time was overhauled through an inspired second-half performance. Annacurra levelled affairs with a late free and extra time was on the cards. While the team took a slim lead into the second half of extra time, we were unable to see out the game with a number of players running on empty after heroic efforts in the second half.



## County

Congratulations to Mark on a great year with the Wicklow footballers, the highlight of which was a trip to Croke Park for the league final against Sligo. Mark was a key player in Wicklow's league campaign which culminated in a second-place finish and a league final berth after a thrilling final day of action. Mark covered every blade of grass in the league final and kicked a terrific point into Hill 16 early on as Wicklow raced into an early lead. Congratulations also to Sean Harmon who was a member of the Under 20 Wicklow panel. Sean continues to be a key performer for the club and it is great to see him getting recognition for this at county level.



Mark in action for Wicklow GAA

## Billies on Tour

The club would like to acknowledge and congratulate our club members who have had great success this year with their respective clubs in Hurling, Camogie and Ladies Football.

Well done to Knockananna Camogie Club on a historic year which saw them claim both the Wicklow Junior and Senior Championship. The Senior team went on to retain the Leinster Junior A Championship and progress to the All-Ireland Junior A semi-final. The club were also represented on the Under 12, 14 and 16 teams.

Well done to the Tinahely Ladies Football team who also made history when they won their 9th Wicklow Championship Title. They went on to represent Wicklow in the Leinster Championship but unfortunately did not progress on this occasion. The club were also represented on the Under 12, 14 and 16 teams. Well done to the Under 16 team who won the A Championship, while Áine was also involved as a coach.

Well done to Annacurra LGFA on a very successful 2023 Intermediate Championship Campaign. Despite only forming this year, they went on to win the Intermediate League and Cup, and were unlucky to lose out to eventual championship winners Baltinglass in a hotly contested semi-final which saw extra time needed to separate the sides. The club were also represented on the Under 12 and Minor team, while Aisling was also involved as a coach.

We were also represented by several club members on the Knockananna and Kiltegan Junior Hurling Teams, and also the Kiltegan Senior Hurling Team.

## Juvenile

The Ballymanus juveniles had another busy year on the field in 2023 and it was great to see some new faces join the group. Thank you to all the coaches for their hard work, effort, and commitment during the year. A special mention to Donal, Orla, Ann, Mick, Kieran, Eamon, Laura, Brendan, John and Aisling.

Our Under 7's & 9's had a great year and took part in over 20 Go Games blitzes across both football and hurling. There was

great talent and lots of skills on show. Well done to Daniel, Grace, Aoife, Josh, Oran, Chulainn, Aoibh, Billy, Conor, Isobel, Ella, Maebh and Ellie.

The Michael Dwyer's Under 11's had a very successful year and improved with every game. They are a dedicated group and it was great to see such a large group of players from the club involved. Well done to Manus, Joseph, Adam, Brion, Jamie, Hugh, Sara, Fia, Blaitheín and Leah.

Nathan was our sole representative on the Michael Dwyer's Under 13 team this year but came away with silverware in the final against Tomnafinnogue. Congratulations to Nathan and team.

Well done to the Michael Dwyer's Under 15's who bet AGB by a point to win the Under 15 D Championship in a thrilling final in Ballinacor. Well done to Conall, Jack, Liam, Shane and Ryan.

Well done to Callum, Malachy, Conall, Jack & Liam who represented the club at Minor level this year. Unfortunately, they were beaten in the semi-final of the shield by Baltinglass. They were very unlucky not to get the result they deserved after all their hard work and commitment throughout the year.

The Michael Dwyer's Under 19's concluded the year by winning the Under 19 B Championship Final in a hotly contested battle with Annacurra in the County Grounds. A penalty in the second half turned the tide and the lads saw out a four-point win. Well done to Callum, Caolin, Adam, Conor, Ewan, Enda, Sean and Malachy who were all involved with the panel.



Michael Dwyers U19 Football Champions 2023

## Scór

The Club entered Scór na nÓg in the Spring. Well done to Callum, Jack and Liam McRae and Malachy Byrne who made up our Tráth na gCeist team. We were also represented in the Scór Sinsir competition by our quiz team of John O'Keeffe, Ann Doyle, Cathal Doyle and Mícheal Stapleton, while Ollie Murphy and Ann Whelan who took part in the Amhránaíocht Aonar category. Well done to all involved.



Scór na nÓg



Scór Sinsir

## Field Day and Ice Cream Party

Ballymanus Field Day and Ice-Cream Party for the Wicklow Branch of Down Syndrome Ireland was a brilliant community day out once again. Huge crowds attended and an amazing €4,982.98 was raised, the biggest year yet. This is a huge amount of money which will help the Wicklow Branch immensely in the great work they do. A huge thank you to everyone who donated raffle prizes along with all of the local businesses who sponsored the event. Well done to Tara and all who helped out on the day.

## Congratulations

Congratulations to Stephen Hunt and Caroline Murray, Anne O'Keeffe and Marc Stokes, Deirdre O'Neill and Martin O'Brien and Brendan Doyle and Tara Kenny on tying the knot over the last year. Congratulations also to Brendan and Tara, Jim and Mairead, and Shane and Joan on their new arrivals.

## In Remembrance

We couldn't finish without mentioning our past members and supporters of the Club who we lost this year. They will all be sadly missed and fondly remembered. We would like to extend our sympathies to their families and friends. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-anamacha.





# CLG Bealach Conglais. Baltinglass GAA.



Another busy year on and off the pitches for all in Baltinglass GAA Club.

## Juvenile boys

The Academy for our youngest boys and girls started back in early January led by club GPO Cormac Noone. It took a break during the summer months and re started to run in line with the school year.

Our u7 and u9 boys trained during the week and had Go Games on alternative Saturday mornings. There are big numbers in these age groups which is encouraging. Along with Go Games blitzes they organised challenge games with local Carlow clubs and participated in the James Byrne and Joe McHugh cups in the club at the end of the year.

In u11 age group the boys trained a couple times of the week. Numbers were good and we fielded 2 teams which divided into u10s and the older boys u11s. The u11 boys played division 2 while the u10 boys played in division 3. Both teams had a good league playing around 12 games each and finishing with a large blitz in Ballinakill. The U10s participated in the Player

Pathway league and topped their group they also gave a great performance in a tournament hosted by Navan O'Mahonys. Both groups and all their coaches had a memorable day out in Croke Park earlier in the year where they played a match in Gaelic HQ against Portarlington. A super experience for these young boys.

The u12 boys entered in the Tinryland tournament again and had a great day out. They played challenge games during the year and also entered the player pathway league. They also participated in the Allen cup and Ray Daniels cup during the year.

The u13s trained twice a week throughout the year. The boys had an encouraging year doing well throughout the league in a tough and very competitive B division. They ended up in a playoff where they beat Bray Emmets to get into the top semi final where they lost in a reply to St. Kevins after two very tight good quality games.

The u15s trained twice a week during the year. Numbers are very tight at this age group and the focus is to retain all players through to minor while developing their skills. This group were entered into the division C this year due to the low numbers. The boys competed well and reached a semi final and beat St. Kevins to progress to the final. The boys played Carnew in the C final and played a great game and had a super win on a very wet day. The u15 boys also played in the Féile during the summer playing very well all day and beating Aughrim in the final which meant they progressed to the Regional Feile in Kilkenny where they lost out in the Shield final on the day.

The U17s trained all year continuing with an S&C programme from 2022. The boys competed well in the B division losing a few games by a narrow margin. The boys had an impressive comeback win against Michael Dwyers in the semi-final and faced Aughrim in the B final where they proved a little too strong but the boys competed well. An u16 team competed in a very enjoyable 7 aside tournament in Tinryland during the summer just losing out by 3 points to Naas in the final.

## Senior mens section

The Junior B team participated in the Division 4 league losing a semi-final to a strong Dunlavin team. They played in a four team group in the championship where they lost at home to both Kilcoole and Avoca and beat Donard away to exit the championship on score difference.

The Junior A team had a mixed division 2 league campaign, winning all their home games to finish just outside the play off places. In a group of 6 in the Championship they lost to Ashford in their opening game and then beat Knockananna, St. Pats, AGB and Stratford/Grangecon to qualify for a quarter final meeting with Blessington. The team gave their best performance of the year in the second half of this game to progress to a semi final meeting with Ballinacor. This proved to be an never ending story. The first game was abandoned due to an injury to a Ballinacor player, the second game was abandoned due to an injury to a Baltinglass player. In the third and final instalment Ballinacor proved too strong for our lads and proceeded to win the final the following week.

The Senior mens squad league campaign was impacted by the unavailability of many players involved in county panels and other players out through injury. They were involved in a bottom 4 play-off but were ultimately relegated to Division 1A. In the group stages of the Championship a win a draw and 2 losses left us needing a point and a must win game to qualify for the quarter-finals. On a foul day for football the lads unfortunately played out a draw with Rathnew and we exited the SFC.

