

## **An Mhaigh Tír na nÓg G.A.C. Notes** (week commencing 02/03/09)

### **Senior & Reserve Team News**

An Mhaigh senior footballers experienced match action for the first time since defeating Trillick in mid-December to clinch the All-County League Division Two title. Mattie McGleenan's men made the short trip into county Armagh, last Sunday morning, to take on up-and-coming Intermediate side Madden in a challenge match.

Although slightly understrength due to injuries and a number of players being away on a skiing holiday, it still proved to be a very useful first outing in 2009 for the Tír na nÓgs. Conditions were excellent and allowed for some free-flowing and entertaining football. Madden, with a few games already under their belt this season, were worthy opponents and there was little to separate the sides all through.

One of the Moy players who missed out through injury was new senior team captain Tommy McNicholl. He was watching on from the sidelines and, along with the senior and reserve management teams, will have been satisfied with the effort and performance of each of the players.

### **Under 14 League**

#### **Cill Iseal v An Mhaigh**

An Mhaigh Under 14 boys made the perfect start to their new season, last Saturday afternoon, when recording a three point victory (4-6 to 2-9) away to Killeeshil in the league. The young Sky Blues are the early joint leaders in section 3A and will hope to maintain this very good form for the remainder of the competition.

Moy turned a four point deficit at half-time into an eight point lead in the second half. Although our lads were pegged back in the closing stages, they still succeeded in holding out for a 4-6 to 2-9 win. Patrick Lavery, Chris O'Neill and Rory Magee turned in notable displays but Player of the Match was undoubtedly John Millar at full back who was a powerhouse throughout.

**Team & Scorers:** Eoin Fearon; John Millar, Conor McCourt; Joe McMahon, Shane O'Neill, James Cavanagh; Mark McConville (0-1) and Ryan Dynes; Chris O'Neill (0-1), Declan Conroy, Patrick Lavery (2-0); Rory Magee (1-2), Niall McConville (1-2).

**Subs used:** Philip Mallon, Eoin Kelly and Shay Armstrong. **Other subs:** Jordan Conroy, Eoghan Kelly, Oisín McKeown, Lorcan O'Hanlon, Tom Loughran, Michael Quinn, Aaron Burns, Conor Foster and Liam Lynch.

Moy's next league game is against Aghaloo this Saturday (7<sup>th</sup> March) at 12.00pm. Venue to be confirmed. For more information on Under 14 team training and fixtures, contact either Martin Conroy or Gerry McCourt.

### **Fun Gaelic Start**

The opening weekend of Fun Gaelic Start in Moy proved to be a fine success, with 35 boys aged between 4 and 8 years in attendance on Saturday morning and 25 girls aged between 4 and 8 years turning up for a series of games on Sunday morning.

Parents were the key to this very well organised and enjoyable venture, and we would encourage all parents of our young players to come along each weekend and support their children in these fun sporting activities at Moy Parochial Hall. Parents with boys and girls are allowed to take their children to both the Saturday morning session from 9.30am to 10.30am and Sunday morning session from 11.30am to 12.30pm.

As club co-ordinator Karol McQuade is away this weekend, parents should contact either Aiden McCormack or Adrian Jordan if they have any queries.

## **Under 18 Girls League**

### **An Mhaigh v Achadh Ui Arain**

An Mhaigh Under 18 girls got their league campaign underway with a game against visiting Aghyaran last Saturday afternoon. The match was switched to Collegeland, due to recent re-sodding at Pairc Thír na nÓg, and there was disappointment as the Moy cailini lost narrowly to their bigger opponents.

A terrific goalkeeping display by Catherine Duffy was the main highlight of the first half for Moy, who took a long time to settle and were fortunate to be only three points behind (1-1 to 0-7) at the break. Despite playing into a strong breeze, our young team improved considerably in the second half with Ellie McCance scoring some great goals and every player in blue rising to the challenge.

Unfortunately, Moy ran out of time and were unlucky not to have at least secured a draw. A relieved Aghyaran side held out for a two point win, making their long trek home that bit more pleasant. **Final Score:** An Mhaigh 4-2 Aghyaran 1-13.

**Team & Scorers:** Catherine Duffy; Laura Kelly, Kerri Conroy; Kerrie Cunniffe, Lucy McMahon, Roisin Hamill; Niamh Gillen and Rachel Coyne (captain); Eimear Swail (0-2), Ellie McCance (4-0), Grace McCormack; Catherine Daly, Rebecca Donnelly.

**Subs used:** Sophie Lavery, Caoimhe O'Callaghan, Caoimhe Lynch. **Other subs:** Katherine Hughes, Molly Kennedy, Sarah Kerr, Sara Loughran, Grace Mallon, Roisin Quinn, Aine Swail.

An Mhaigh G.A.C. wish to thank our neighbours Collegeland for the use of their field and facilities last weekend. Moy's next league game will be against Edendork this Saturday (7<sup>th</sup> March) at 4.00pm. Venue to be confirmed.

For more information on minor girls training and fixtures, please contact Niall Conlon, Colin Mackle, Colette McQuade or Joanne Daly.

## **Girls Underage Training**

Girls football training for all Under 16, Under 14, Under 12, and Under 10 players will take place at the Moy G.A.C. pitch each Sunday from 11.30am to 12.30pm. Any girls in these age groups who are interested in playing football are welcome to come along.

For further information, please contact Ladies Chairman Aiden McCormack or any of the underage coaches.

## **Training Schedules**

All of our team coaches are reminded to make use of the small floodlit grass area at Pairc Thír na nÓg, as well as other temporary facilities, for training until the main pitch re-opens. It is very important that team mentors book the training area in advance with An Rúnaí Mary Daly to avoid clashes with other teams who are currently using it.

A calendar, containing the training schedules for each of our teams, has been drawn up. The Secretary must be given 48 hours clear notice of any changes or amendments that team coaches/mentors wish to make to this calendar.

## **Welcome Home**

The committee and members of An Mhaigh G.A.C. are glad to learn that Frances Magee is back home again, following a lengthy spell in hospital, and we wish her well as she continues on the road to making a full recovery.

Frances has been a great supporter of our club in recent years and her family are all heavily involved at underage level.

### **Forthcoming Courses**

All current defibrillator certificate holders within the Moy club should note that there will be a defibrillator refresher course held in An Mhaigh G.A.C. Clubrooms next Monday evening (9<sup>th</sup> March) at 7.00pm.

Meanwhile, a First Aid Refresher Course will take place in An Mhaigh G.A.C. Clubrooms on Thursday 26th March from 7.30pm to 9.00pm. This course is for any of our members who currently have a First Aid certificate and would just like to brush up on their skills. All managers and coaches who fall into this category are advised to attend.

### **Club Membership**

Club membership for the year 2009 is now due. The annual fees are as follows: Adult £30 and Youth £10. New members, and those who wish to renew their membership, should note that payment can be made to any member of the executive committee. The closing date for payment of fees has been extended to March 31st.

In this momentous year for the GAA, celebrating its 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary, An Mhaigh Tír na nÓg G.A.C. will be endeavoring to extend the traditional realms of our community of Gaels and inviting many new members into our club. We will be encouraging input from all strands of our community, regardless of age, gender or religion.

We will also be engaging with local parents, families and schools to afford the best provisions to our youth membership. Indeed, it is our aim to make contact with all of the parents and families of our existing youth members over the next few weeks in order to engineer that vital support for the continuation of the high standards of development for our many youth members.

### **Adrian Jordan - Unsung Hero**

Congratulations to Adrian Jordan who is An Mhaigh G.A.C.'s Unsung Hero for the month of March. Perhaps best known as a long serving player with the Tír na nÓgs, Aidy was nominated for this accolade for the huge amount of time and effort he gives to the club in a number of different capacities.

Like all of our unsung heroes, much of Aidy's work often goes unnoticed. He has always helped out in whatever way he can for the good of the club, be it providing assistance with ground development or getting the wife and mother to prepare a loaf of sandwiches for a visiting team. More recently, he has taken to coaching some of our very youngest players. Now that he has officially retired from playing, Aidy has also joined Mattie McGleenan's senior backroom team as a goalkeeping coach and kit-man.

If you would like to nominate anyone for our club's Unsung Hero of the Month, please contact myself or any member of the club committee. Please state the name of the person who you wish to nominate and the reason for your choice.

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