



# An t-Iompú Mag Uidhir

GAA

*Tempo Maguires GAC - Annual General Meeting 2023*

## CLG Mhic Uidhir, An t-Iompú Deiseal Tempo Maguires GAC



**Annual General Meeting**

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

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*CLG Mhic Uidhir, An t-Iompú Deiseal - Cruinniú Cinn Bliana 2023*

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## GAA

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## Secretary's Report | Tuarascáil An Rúnaí

To our club members - I present this secretary's report for 2023. This report will highlight our club's achievements, activities, and notable developments over the past year.

Once again, Tempo Maguires experienced an eventful year, demonstrating high activity both on and beyond the field. Our members continue to proactively lead the club with a strong sense of professionalism.

### Coaching & Games

#### **Cúl Camp**

In July, 111 children took part in Cúl Camp in Tempo - a great success. A massive thanks to all the volunteers in the club for making this possible by assisting over the course of the week, Paul Foy as Cúl Camp co-ordinator, as well as Teresa McNabb and her team from Fermanagh GAA.





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### **Coach the Coaches**

A number of sessions were held during the year which is a great opportunity for our coaches to develop themselves and as a result implement this on the pitch with our players. A number of further initiatives are planned over the winter period. We encourage our coaches to participate in sessions organised by Fermanagh GAA, Ulster GAA and LGFA which are often provided free of charge.

### **Halloween Camp**

58 children took part in a Halloween Camp funded by the Fermanagh & Omagh Community Safety Partnership. This camp included coaching sessions, games, athletic development sessions and player focussed workshops.



### **First Aid**

First Aid Sessions and Defibrillator training was held at the club on two occasions during the summer, with 17 members taking part. This is very useful and extremely important for our members to be able to deal with different health and medical emergencies.

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## Community Engagement and Development

### **Walkathon and Family Fun Day**

The Walkathon fundraiser was a huge success and showed what can be achieved when all our members come together in such a positive fashion. £31,611 was raised with a small amount of business sponsorship still to come in. It is hoped that progress will be made on the new building in the coming months. Thanks to everyone involved in the event with particular appreciation to Sarah McCusker who coordinated and Thomas McCusker who organised very successful Paul and Orla tournaments on the Saturday.



### **Christmas Winter Wonderland**

There was great feedback on the successful first Winter Wonderland hosted by the club last December. This was a big success, thanks to a fantastic team of volunteers led by Sarah McCusker and Leda Fry, who provided this service for both club and non-club members, earning appreciation from everyone. We look forward to the wonderland coming back again next month.



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### Charity Work

We handed £1572.51 and €59.60 over to Concern Worldwide as a result of our Street collection. Many thanks to those who volunteered their time on a really cold day, and to the many people who generously donated to the collection as well as to those who donated as part of our Winter Wonderland experience.

We were also delighted to hand over £1,000 to The Kevin Bell Repatriation Trust following our 24 Hour Walkathon. KBRT does amazing work helping so many families across Ireland.

We also donated 50% of the takings from a Night at the Races in Charlie's Bar held last December. This resulted in a £1,900 donation to Tempo St Vincent de Paul.



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## Culture, Social & Irish Language

### Traditional Music / Ceol Traidisiúnta

Weekly classes for Tempo Trad Group in tin whistle and fiddle were held in the clubrooms thanks to grant funding from the Arts Council. A concert was held in September to mark Culture Night. Classes continue each Wednesday. Hopefully some of the participants can represent the club in Scór na nÓg in the future.

*A bhúí le maoiniú ó Chomhairle na hEalaíne, bhí ceachtanna seachtainúla le haghaidh Grúpa Thraidisiúnta Iompú Deiseal ar siúl i seomraí an chlub. Bhí ceachtanna fheadóg stáin agus fiddle ar fáil. Leanann na ceachtanna ar aghaidh ar an gCéadaoin. Bhí ceolchoirm ar siúl i Meán Fómhair chun Oíche Chultúir a cheiliúradh. Tá síil againn go mbeidh na rannpháirtithe in ann ionadaíocht a dhéanamh ar an chlub sa chomórtas Scór na nÓg sa todhchaí.*





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### **Scór**

The club entered a team in the 2023 Fermanagh Tráth na gCeist finishing in joint second position. Well done to Eamonn Fee, Sean Fee, Phil Flanagan & Emmet McCarron. We also entered a Tráth na gCeist trí mhean na Gaeilge eagraithe ag CLG Comhairle Úladh do clubanna sa Chúige in Árd Mhacha.

*Ghlac foireann as an chlub páirt i dTráth na gCeist Fhear Manach 2023, agus chríochnaigh siad sa dara háit le foireann eile. Comhghairdeas le Eamonn Ó Fiaich, Seán Ó Fiaich, Pilib Ó Flannagáin agus Eiméid Mac Cearáin a ghlac páirt sa Tráth na gCeist. Cuireadh foireann isteach i dTráth na gCeist trí mhean Gaeilge fosta, eagraithe ag CLG Comhairle Uladh do clubanna sa Chúige in Árd Mhacha.*

### **Irish Language / Cúrsaí Gaeilge**

An intensive Irish Language course was held in the clubrooms in September, ranging from beginners to advanced level. This was a great success with large numbers attending.

Bhí dianchúrsa Gaeilge ar siúl i seomraí an chlub i Meán Fómhair agus bhí ranganna ar siúl le haghaidh daoine ag bunleibheal go dtí ardleibheal. D'éirigh go hiontach leis agus d'fhreastal a lán daoine.

### **Gaeltacht Scholarship / Sparánacht Gaeltachta**

The club contributed to a Gaeltacht scholarship fund administered by Fermanagh GAA and this was used by some club members to avail of a reduced cost of a Gaeltacht place in summer 2023.

*Thug an club airgead do chiste sparánacht Gaeltachta a chuireadh i bhfeidhm ag CLG Fhear Manach, agus bhí baill den chlub in ann áit ar chúrsa sa Ghaeltacht 2023 a fháil ar phraghas laghdaithe mar gheall ar an tionscnamh seo.*

### **Fondúireacht Sheosaimh Mhic Dhonncha (Joe McDonagh Foundation)**

The club was delighted to be presented with a bronze medal award from the Joe McDonagh Foundation in recognition of the work that has been done in promoting the Irish language by the club at an awards dinner in Croke Park. Our Chairperson Phil Flanagan and Irish Language Officer Ursula Ní Fiaich accepted the award on behalf of the club.



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*Bhí lúchair an domhain ar an chlub gur bhronnadh bonn cré-umha orainn ag an Fondúireacht Sheosaimh Mhic Dhonncha ar son na hoibre a rinneadh sa chlub chun an Ghaeilge a chur chun cinn. Bronnadh an bonn ag dinnéar bronnta i bPáirc an Chrócaigh. Ghlac Pilib Ó Flannagáin, Cathaoirleach an chlub, agus Ursula Ní Fhiach, Oifigeach na Gaeilge, leis an ghradam ar son an chlub.*



### **Ireland Lights Up**

100 people took part in weekly walking sessions early in the year. This was a great opportunity for our club to light up and bring our community together to walk and talk in a safe environment during the dark winter evenings. We will be taking part again in early 2024 with more details to follow soon. Thanks to Sharon McCaffrey for co-ordinating this initiative.

### **Autism**

An Autism workshop was held in September in conjunction with Ulster GAA to help make the club more friendly for people with autism. We hope to follow this up with a range of autism friendly events, camps and activities.

### **Club History Book**

Damian Campbell has updated our club history book, focussing on the period from 1987 to 2021. We look forward to seeing the completed book which is being released later this month. A great Christmas stocking filler for sure.



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### Facilities and Infrastructure

#### **Facilities**

Our facilities have well used this year with both primary schools and the preschool making use of the pitches for sports day. We held the Family Fun Day as part of the Walkathon weekend in June. We also hosted an Ulster Ladies Gaelic Roadshow and a Fermanagh GAA Camp in August. As part of the Royal Black Institution's parade in August, use was made of our car parking facilities and we received a thank you card and a £100 donation from the organisation.

#### **St. Michael's Diocesan Trust**

The club have been continuing to work with St Michael's Diocesan Trust in relation to outstanding issues from the lease of the training pitch. We met with the trust twice this year and we await their feedback on proposals. We look forward to working with the trust to satisfactorily meet their requirements.

#### **Floodlights**

The three remaining concrete bases, along with the steel poles and bulbs were installed down the dugout side of the pitch in late summer to finish off the lighting of the training pitch which is a fantastic sight when fully lit.

We have been successful in a grant application to erect match standard floodlighting on the match pitch worth £60,000 and the decision was taken during the summer to proceed with this.



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### **Dugouts**

Dugouts are being erected at the training pitch over the next short while.

### **Club Maith**

The Bank of Ireland Club Maith accreditation scheme allows clubs to benchmark themselves against best practice and encourages them to aim for excellence in their club activities beyond the playing field. The awards makes a clear, proven statement about the quality of Tempo Maguires right across five core areas of GAA club business: Governance; Community Engagement; Coaching & Games; Health and Wellbeing and Safeguarding of our Members.

Having been successful in accreditation for Bronze, Silver and then Gold Club Maith Awards, we were delighted to be one of only eight clubs from across the province to receive awards at the presentation day in Armagh.



### **Hosting of Games**

We hosted Fermanagh for two intercounty games this year - an U20 men's match against Leitrim and the Senior Ladies Ulster Championship tie against Down. At club level we hosted our own Intermediate Championship game against Belcoo

We also hosted a Senior Football Championship group game, Intermediate Championship Semi-Final, Under 13 League Division One Final, Minor Football Championship final and

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our own girls' Under 13 Development Section final. It is a credit to our club and our facilities that we are being considered for these games. It is a great opportunity to showcase Tempo Maguires and is also a good income that goes back into the running of our club. We thank all our club members who help out on these days in various roles.

The opening of the club shop on these days is welcomed by visitors and is also an important income for the club. Many thanks to Tom & Eithne Doherty for their dedication in running the shop.



### **Back Lane**

The wall at the back lane has been completed and is a lovely job. The older wall above it has also been plastered. The next steps at the back lane are to put a fence, similar to the fence at the club rooms, on top of the wall across to the gym to close off the grounds. There is also the need to light up the area at the back lane for gym users.

### **Pitches**

A comprehensive programme of work, at an extensive cost to the club, was carried out on both pitches earlier in the year. The 'match pitch' in particular, is now in fantastic condition and will need to be protected to retain this. The goalmouths were resodded and two frames now close off the goals when not in use.

Seeing our match pitch return to the condition of yesteryear garnered a huge amount of positive feedback from both our own club members and visitors alike.



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While pitches are obviously there to be played on, the way we can all take care of them will determine how nice a surface we can have the enjoyment of playing on in the future. If all teams train on the match pitch then, unfortunately, we won't have a match pitch to be proud of. That is why the decision was taken to restrict team training on, and individual use of the match pitch.

There is a fantastic 'training pitch', that we are now fortunate to have, to work on individual and team performance, and it should be used in the first instance for this. As a club, we will also be wary of overuse on the training pitch to ensure it is not being damaged. A programme of work will be carried out over the coming weeks to improve drainage on the training pitch and to ensure it is in good condition for the start of the 2024 season.

We are honoured to host neutral games at our club on occasion, and when we do, we want to be able to showcase a fantastic surface, and avoid a repeat of the unfavourable commentary of our match pitch from a national print media journalist that we received last year when hosting a Senior Football Championship game.

Let us all lead by example in this regard and make it a culture in our club to look after our pitches and keep them in the best possible condition.





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## Fundraising

### **Cairde Tempo**

Cairde Tempo continues to be a very important fundraising scheme for our club that enables much needed work to be completed for our members, paid for, by our members. The club continues to go through an exciting period of development, and we are immensely appreciative of everyone who donates their time and money to assist us make improvements. Please get in contact if you can join this plan and support the growth of our club.

Cairde Donations in the financial year raised £23,640 plus an extra £5,000 in Gift Aid payments as a result of our registration as a Community Amateur Sports Club with HMRC.

### **Cairde Monthly Draw Winners**

October 2022: Gerard McCann

November 2022: Caolan Corry

December 2022: Aidan Breen

January 2023: Eamon & Vonnice Fee

February 2023: Leo Monaghan

March 2023: Cleona Bogue

April 2023: Neil & Eilis McGreevy

May 2023: Declan & Grainne Quinn

June 2023: Gabriel Dunne

July 2023: Kieran Ingram

August 2023: Darragh Traynor

September 2023: Caitríona Breen

October 2023: Ciara Flanagan

### **National Club Draw**

£3,000 worth of tickets were sold for the NCD with £100 being paid to Dermot Foy, the winner of the Tempo prize for sellers of 5 or more tickets. Tickets are out for this year's draw and I would encourage you all to support this initiative.

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## **Win a House in Fermanagh**

The club received £11,725 from selling Win a House ticket sales. £1,200 is still outstanding from 120 tickets sales by Fergie Bogue in the USA. Many thanks to all those who sold tickets for this fundraising competition and to those who supported our club and county by purchasing tickets.

## **Sponsorship**

A new 3 year term was agreed with The Nally Stand as the senior ladies team sponsor. Thanks to Paul and the McNally family for their continued support of our ladies team.





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Thanks also to CD Consulting & SM McCaughey for supporting our senior men with training gear.



A massive thanks to all our sponsors, their ongoing support allows us to continue providing the best standards and facilities we can for our members. I ask our members in return to support our sponsors in the community.

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### On The Field

#### **Parish League**

It was fantastic to see our parish league reintroduced on our calendar this year. Once a great tradition of our club, it had on extended break before Eamon Maguire and his team of coaches held the league in September in an effort to both retain existing players and encourage new members to the club. There were 62 children out playing, 6 of which were new to football with the club over 4 nights under the supervision of 16 coaches. It was very well supported and enjoyed by the children and wider community, with parents, relatives and volunteers cheering on the games. It was a hugely successful club event which the children are already looking to taking part in next season.



#### **Referee**

A special thanks goes to Hugh Breen, our club referee, who fulfils an extremely important duty for our club. Hugh has shown his competence as a top referee and we were all delighted to see him appointed as the man in the middle for his first senior championship match this year for the meeting of Kinawley and Devenish. Hugh was also appointed to referee the minor football championship final between Derrygonnelly and Irvinestown on his home pitch in Tempo which was another notable achievement. We also thank our club members who assisted Hugh as umpires.

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We need to supply a second referee, and ask anyone who is interested to seriously consider doing so for 2024.





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Ladies football within the club is becoming stronger and stronger. It is great to see the enthusiasm in the underage section especially and the future looks bright. Some of our teams are now competing at the highest level in the county which is a reflection of the great work being put in at youth level. Notable moments were the two U13 teams winning their developmental leagues - well done to both! These teams fed into our U14 squad who competed strongly in the Division One league which was great for their development.



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Our U16 and U18 teams operated in Division Three of their respective leagues and the 'B' championship. The teams did find some of the games tough going but there was great work put in with both these sides during the year that will hopefully see a number of them progressing to play with our senior team in the future.

Throughout the season, managers and coaches have put in a lot of effort to make sure the players enjoy their football and acquire the required skills to compete in their respective games. We express our gratitude for all of their hard work. Congratulations to our players who were chosen to represent county teams.

With low numbers, the senior team took part in the 9-a-side league, winning the final against Lisnaskea. A great start to the season for them.



The team again played in Division One of the Senior Football League this year finishing in third place.



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Seven of the girls travelled to Dublin and reached the All-Ireland 7s Intermediate Final, losing out to Shelmaliers from Wexford. This is a massive achievement for this team, which was a big commitment playing so many games on the one day with no subs. It is wonderful to see Tempo Maguires represented and competing on the national stage. Well done girls!



In the intermediate championship a final place was secured with victory over Enniskillen in the semi-final to meet Aghadrumssee in the county final. In an outstanding final, with lots of fantastic play, Aghadrumssee took the title after extra time. Our squad of players and management should be extremely proud of their play and endeavour on the day as they give everything for the cause. After reaching back-to-back championship finals you have proven you are not far away and we urge you to keep going and get your just reward by claiming the intermediate title.

Well done to our senior ladies player Blaithín Bogue who was named on the TG4 Junior Team of the Championship for her performances for Fermanagh this season - congratulations Blaithín!



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In our underage boys section, the season finished on a positive note with the U13 'Young Maguires', an independent team formed by Tempo Maguires and Brookeborough Heber MacMahons, winning the Jim Dundas Tournament in Lisnaskea. The team operated in division two of the league where they faced some good teams and this season of football will have brought them on a lot. A positive first year for this new arrangement and something that will hopefully benefit our club in the future.



Our under 15 squad found the going particularly difficult in the Division Three league this year. The fact the team fielded this year was a positive seeing that they had not enough numbers to have a team at under 13 level two years ago. They are a resilient bunch of players who deserve great credit for giving their all despite facing up to playing much stronger opposition.

The Under 17 team competed in a very competitive and even division two league that saw them put in some very good performances. They ended up losing six games but with four of these games being defeats by 1 goal, 2 points and 1 point on two occasions, this illustrates the fine margins in these games. Those competitive encounters will have

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brought these players on. Unfortunately in the championship the team did not deliver what they are capable of against Teemore and they exited at the first round.

A notable initiative by the club, led by our youth officer Thomas McCusker, has been the decision to attend underage tournaments outside of our own county. For the second year in a row the club attended the Greenlough tournament in May where our U9.5 team beat teams such as Loughmacrory from Tyrone, Down club Byransford, Faughanvale of Derry and Antrim side Portglenone.

This was followed up by attendance at a tournament in Carryduff in September which saw the team win 5 out of 7 games. This exposure to playing top clubs from throughout the province is a wonderful experience for our young players that will help develop their skill and confidence levels.

The Reserve men performed well in Division 2 of the league, winning 9 games from 10, which saw them reach the league final only to lose out to Devenish. The team also performed well in the 'B' championship, topped the group to qualify for a semi-final against Erne Gaels which they won comfortably, qualifying them for the final. It was to be Devenish once more though who stopped the team claiming silverware after they won out after a comfortable second half performance.





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The Senior team got off to a challenging start in the Club Players League, with a win over Brookeborough and defeats to Teemore, Roslea and Maguiresbridge and a further loss to Lisnaskea in the play-off seeing the team progress to the Senior Football League carrying no points.

Things improved thereafter with seven wins and a draw leaving the team in the hunt for promotion but unfortunately results did not their way to gain a top two finish.

The intermediate championship saw a similar pattern to last year's championship with two early wins, away in Irvinestown and at home to Belcoo seeing the team qualify for the semi-final with the final group game to spare. That game against Newtownbutler saw lots of players gain valuable championship experience and another win was gained to move into a semi-final with three wins from three. The semi-final against Derrylin was looking good for large parts of the first half and early into the second-half when the team went three points up but unfortunately they were unable to push on from that point and Derrylin deservedly won through to the final.

#### **Condolences**

I wish, at this time, to offer my sincere condolences to those families, who have lost loved ones over the course of the season. Ar dheis Dé go raibh a n-anamacha. May they rest in peace.

#### **Thanks**

I want to extend my appreciation to all the members of the Executive, led by our Chairman Phil Flanagan, who have been invaluable in supporting me during my role as Secretary over the past year. Despite your busy lives, you always make time for the good of the club and its members. Thank you all for your tremendous efforts.

Is mise le meas

Niall Mac Giolla Rua  
Rúnaí





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## Team Reports

### Under U10.5 & U11.5 Girl's Teams

**Mentors:** Eamon Maguire, Teresa McNabb, Bronagh Brennan & Sheila Breen, Emelyn Campbell, Lisa Kelly, Edel McMahan.

The U11.5 Girls group have a huge interest in football, regularly attending training and games. We had a very difficult game in 2nd game of the Belleek tournament- short of players as the game was played on Saturday afternoon at the same time as the mixed U11.5 team played. Having tried to use girls from the P5 group- we decided that it would be best to work with the P6/P7 group only.

With a panel of 22 players [14 P7's and 8 P6's], they played 9 games and a blitz between 18th March and 10th June. Special thanks to Tommy McCaffrey of Erne Gaels, for organising such a successful tournament, without this there would have been very little football for 14-18 of the girls as lots of them had very little interest in playing in the mixed games.

As the weeks progressed and team developed, their confidence grew resulting in a number of very impressive performances. Regardless of the score in any game the focus was always on development of the girls individually and collectively.

Teresa McNabb deserves great credit for the foresight to enter 2 teams into the U13 Girls development leagues; this allowed the P6/P7 girls to play very competitive games against older girls. Physically the games were a big step up for the girls but they grew in confidence each week when they saw that they were competing.

Fermanagh LGFA organised a 5 weekends of blitz between 19th August and 16th September- we decided to enter 2 teams; by including the P5 girls. Across the 5 Saturdays they played nearly every team in the county, it is fair to say that our group of girls are as good as any in the county. It was disappointing that the girls did not get the opportunity to demonstrate their skills with final round of blitz games due to be played in Tempo on the morning of 1st round of the men's intermediate championship game.



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The development of the group throughout the year has been very encouraging; by the end of the parish league [September] there were 13 P6, 12 P7 and 13 Y8 girls contributing in the games.

The U10.5 girls gained valuable experience in blitz events and half time games, with emphasis on participation and development of skills. All girls got game time and were encouraged to try a variety of positions across the games. It would be good for the girls development if there was a league or blitz tournament organised specifically for this cohort.

Special thanks to Bronagh, Sheila, Emlyn, Teresa, Lisa and Edel for all their help throughout the year, and to all parents that helped in any way in getting the children out for training or games. Keeping the children involved and active is the key. Thanks also to all sponsors who contributed to our fund raising for the Walkathon.

Finally, thanks to all the girls. They were a very well behaved group and they always represented the club with honour.

## Under 13 Girl's Development Team

### Mentors

**Maroon Team:** Bronagh Brennan, Eamon Maguire, Sheila Breen, Declan Campbell, Conor Campbell.

**White Team:** Conor Meehan & Teresa McNabb.

### U13 Maroon Team (Bronagh Brennan)

**League Division:** Development Section C (winners)

The U13 Girls have shown great dedication and interest in the game which was shown in their attendance in both training seasons and games. With having approx 36 girls and with the guidance of Teresa McNabb it was decided to divide the girls into two individual teams. The girls were grouped according to their school year. Which has been proven to be very successful.



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Teresa's decision in creating two teams made the U13 team easier to manage and has given all the girls lots of game time, which has promoted the development for each player on the team.

Throughout all 6 games we have watched these girls develop skills, grow confidence and build friendships, but most importantly we have watched these girls make, grow and build a team and become great team players by supporting and encouraging each other at training seasons and at matches.

All girls within the team played a part in winning and getting to take part in a gold plate final, which has been a great achievement for both Tempo Maguires coaches, and players. The girls should all be very proud of themselves for all their dedication and hard work.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Eamon, Teresa, Conor, Declan, Sheila and Emlyn for all their help and support throughout the year, they have all contributed something different to the group and it has been very much appreciated. I would also like to thank the parents for all the traveling to and from games.

Finally I would like to give a special thanks to the girls for making it easy and a pleasure to coach. I look forward to seeing them all return next season.

### **U13 White Team (Teresa McNabb)**

**League Division:** Development Section B (winners)

We have an unbelievable eager bunch of u13 girls mad to play football so much so that we started back on 4th November under lights with a block of winter skills sessions to which there was never less than 25 girls out at each session. We then re-commenced training on 30th March finishing on the 6th July.

In May we played challenge matches against Trillick, Ederney & Derrygonnelly. There was an u11.5 girls development league ongoing at this time so our young girls were playing regular matches also. We had 34 players from p6-2nd yrs.

We made the decision to enter 2 teams into the u13 development league to ensure as many girls as possible would get games. Because it was a development league we decided





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to split the teams by school classes 2nd & 1st years in White teams P7/P6 in Maroon team.

We are blessed to have a strong coaching team at this age; Bronagh Brennan, Eamon Maguire, Sheila Breen, Declan Campbell, Conor Campbell (Maroon mgt team), Conor Meehan & Teresa McNabb (White mgt team).

Tempo White Team played in Section B against Erne Gaels, Kinawley Blue, Roslea, Ederney & Devenish, our girls finished top of the league and played Roslea in the final which was a curtain-raiser to a senior league match in Tempo. The girls won the final 9 points to 4.

All the Coaches were delighted with the commitment that these girls have showed and how they have developed as a team and individually has been very pleasing. We would like to thank the players for their hard work and dedication and their parents for ensuring they were always there.

Thanks to all the coaches involved with both u13 teams - the old saying it takes a village to raise a child, it's taken a village to raise these teams. Thanks also to the club executive for support and backing both teams.

We look forward to 2024 with now having set the bar high, the aim is to keep challenging these girls to improve and get better.

### Under 14 Girl's Team

**Mentors:** Teresa McNabb, Bronagh Brennan and Conor Meehan

**League Division:** 1

This year's U14 girls were playing under the supervision of Teresa McNabb, Bronagh Brennan and Conor Meehan. The girls were placed in Division 1 for the 2023 season, and this is possibly the first time this has ever been the case for an underage ladies' team in the club. Once again player numbers were extremely strong with 26-30 at training every session, with every girl continually wanting to improve and push each other on, we had 3 friendlies against a range of opposition and each game we were putting in great performances giving us hope for the upcoming league.



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## GAA

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We were placed with Enniskillen, Roslea, Knockninny and Newtownbutler where we would play each team twice Home and away. The campaign started with a game against Enniskillen where we were comprehensively beaten by a Physically stronger and direct team, this was an eye opener for the girls where they learned in hard terms that the level required to compete would take a lot to achieve. After re-grouping in training, we now had a benchmark to work towards and the girls put in serious effort to raise the standard.

Games followed against Knockninny where the girls avenged the defeat of the previous year's U13 final and against Newtownbutler. Both fixtures home and away ended in success for Tempo ahead of the re-match against Enniskillen. This game was one where the girls redeemed themselves from the first match in Brewster. Their effort and bravery were outstanding from start to finish, with an abundance of skill on show throughout the game. But for 2 soft penalties awarded the girls would have been victorious, but nonetheless they proved that they could compete against the best.

This left 2 games to play against a strong Roslea team with us needing to avoid defeat to qualify for a league final. The game in Roslea was a titanic battle all the way through with the game going end to end for 50 minutes. A huge effort from the girls seen them victorious, in a coming-of-age performance that delighted the strong group of travelling supporters. Unfortunately, the return game ended in defeat after a similar performance from both teams meaning that we missed out on a league final place on scoring difference.

When the disappointment of missing out on a final settled, the gravity of what the girls have achieved this year is remarkable. On the back of 2 successful U13 teams and an already strong squad from the previous year the club now has the nucleus of a special group of players. To see their drive and hunger in training and games it's clear to see something special is happening, if this group can be kept together then in years to come the senior ladies will be in the position to challenge for major honours'.

As a management team we would firstly like to thank the girls for their endless support and dedication, the parents for encouraging and mentoring their children and for getting them to training and matches. Our county board representatives for attending meetings and the club for facilitating our requests throughout the year.



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## GAA

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### Under 16 Girl's Team

**Mentors:** Stephen Jackson, Edel Jackson and Caitriona Breen.

**League Division:** 3

**Championship Grade:** 'B' Championship

In the U16 league we played 5 games, winning 1 and losing 4. We fulfilled all fixtures, beating Kinawley at home in last game.

We lost 1st Round of Championship vs Newtownbutler.

Generally it was tough to compete in games as we had a very young team, and were playing against teams who were bigger, stronger more physical etc and it told as games wore on.

Attendance at training was OK, an issue would be that players only seem to consider it worthwhile attending training when games are very close or on. There was a gap of 2 plus months between league and championship. All U16s were able to attend training with senior ladies but many didn't bother so that was very frustrating. The scheduling by Fermanagh LGFA was very poor, having such a break between league and championship.

### Under 18 Girl's Team

**Mentors:** Stephen Jackson and Edel Jackson.

**League Division:** 3

**Championship Grade:** 'B' Championship

In the U18 League we played 5 games, winning 3 and losing 2. If we had managed to beat Belnaleck (the eventual league winners) we would have qualified for a league final, but just lost narrowly.





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In the Championship, we lost to Ederney after extra time. This was a very notable game as Ederney beat us by 30plus points in the league as we were missing a number of players due to holidays. Come championship we were missing just 1 player and were 3 points up in last minute but conceded a goal and just couldn't get on top in extra time. Ederney then won the B Championship. So we just missed out narrowly to both competition winners.

Attendance was generally OK and it was combined with senior training, but the poor scheduling of fixtures by Fermanagh LGFA meant it was almost impossible to train anyway. They fixed 5 league games in 2 and half weeks (senior games also on going) so some players were having to play senior and minor and with 2 games a week and a senior game at weekend U18 girls couldn't train. This is no way to develop players.

### Under 8.5 Mixed Team

**Mentors:** Lisa Kelly, Barry Breen and Edel McMahon

Lisa Kelly, Barry Breen and Edel McMahon were lead coaches with this group. Group started well training in February on Fridays. Steady 12/15 odd out each night with a mixed group. Limited numbers of P3 Boys and 3 P3 girls in group. Training involved focusing on skill development, positioning and using space.

### Games

April: Invited by Irvinestown to participate in Four Masters tournament. 9 players out. Played against Teemore in Tempo in conjunction with P5 games. At this stage limited numbers noted from Mullanaska. Played Ederney and Brookeborough U7.5 & U9.5. Worked on the basis of less subs the better. At this stage girls numbers noted as very low in P3/4 group.

May: Participated in Girls Blitz in Lisnaskea U8.5 and the group took part in Greenlough tournament. Huge success for this group getting as far as the semi-final of the plate competition. Another blitz in Lisnaskea to follow and we organised a home blitz against Trillick.



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Aug-Oct: Group played in county blitzes in Teemore, Ederney, Roslea and Enniskillen with continued steady numbers at training on Tuesday nights.

Final training sessions in October involved working on weave passing and kicking/passing drills. Good progress made with this group.

Moving forward: Focus needed on positions, using space and key skill development. More focus needed on developing girls as the girls are much less confident in boy group games/issues with passing. A terrific bunch of children with lots of potential.

### Under 9.5 Mixed Team

**Mentors:** Thomas Mc Cusker, Cathal Owens, Barry Breen and Lisa Kelly

Thomas Mc Cusker, Cathal Owens, Barry Breen and Lisa Kelly were lead coaches with this group with other coaches helping out.

Group started training in February. Steady 20 odd out each day. Concentrated on basic skills of pickup, catching, soloing and kicking etc.

March/April: Played Ederney and Brookeborough U7.5 & U9.5. Worked on the basis of less subs the better. Tempo at U9.5 played 3 teams in these blitzes so everyone got game time. 7 aside games.

April: played our P5 team in Division 6 of the U11.5 league. Didn't win any games but exposed the kids to a higher level of football and played against kids who were 2 years older. Really brought them on

May: Brought 2 U9.5 teams to Greenlough tournament. The older U9.5 team beat Loughmacory, Byransford, Faughanvale and Portglenone in the grading section of the blitz. This team qualified to the senior division and got knocked out by Cargin of Antrim by a goal. Huge success winning 4 out of 5 games. The second team played in the plate section getting to the semi-final, beating Aghyaran along the way. Again another huge success.

P5 team also won their section in the St Michael's blitz beating Kinawley in the final.



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Aug-Oct: Group played in a couple of county blitzes. We also took 12 P6 boys to Carryduff tournament in September. Again another huge success playing teams throughout Ulster winning 5 out of 7 games.

Final training sessions in October involved working on weave passing and kicking/passing drills. Good progress with this group throughout the year. Probably one of the strongest age groups to come through in quite a while.

Moving forward: Focus needed on positions, using space and key skill development. A terrific bunch of children to work with, eager to learn with loads of potential.

### **Under 10.5 Mixed Team**

**Mentors:** Cathal Owens, Ciara Flanagan, Thomas McCusker, Thomas Dunne, John Owens, Barry Breen, Lisa Kelly, Bronagh Brennan, Emyln Campbell, Eamon Maguire, Shelia Breen.

This season we had the job of looking after the under-10.5s, who were a pleasure to coach. The large numbers that consistently turned out for training and matches were keen to learn new things and practised hard at basic skills. But most importantly, they are a very well-mannered bunch who made our job a breeze.

With no league to participate in, we played a few challenge games within the county and a tough trip to Trillick. We had mixed results but held our own in the defeats. In the winning games, it was great to see the joy it brought the children. We took part in the brilliant Derrygonnelly Tournament against tough opposition such as Belcoo, Erne Gaels, Enniskillen and Derrygonnelly. Again, we had mixed results with one victory and three losses including a very tough test against Enniskillen who landed with 40 players. However, it didn't seem to phase them as they gave their all to the end. At the end of this Tournament, a separate blitz took place in Derrygonnelly and we recorded two brilliant victories in our group against Derrylin and Kinawley.





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### Under 11.5 Mixed Team

**Mentors:** Cathal Owens, Ciara Flanagan, Thomas McCusker, Thomas Dunne, John Owens, Barry Breen, Lisa Kelly, Bronagh Brennan, Emyln Campbell, Eamon Maguire, Shelia Breen.

We also had the pleasure of coaching the under-11.5s and this included a lot of the under-10.5's. The team were a very strong bunch with immense performances from the P7s every game bolstered by the P6 contingent.

We were in a league format against Brookeborough, Maguiresbridge, Newtownbutler, Belcoo and Coa which we played home and away. We were caught cold in the first game against Maguiresbridge on a miserable winters day but went on to secure victories in the next 9 which saw us play Maguiresbridge in Donagh in the final. Again, we came out on top. This was the least they deserved for their work and commitment from day one with very few absentees at games or training. Eamon Maguire organised a Parish League which hadn't happened in a while. It was thoroughly enjoyable for both coaches and kids and will definitely be an annual event from now on.

The P7s transitioned effortlessly into the under-13 teams which was great to see.

All in all, it was another great campaign for both teams and good foundations have been laid for next season.

### Under 13 Boy's Team ('Young Maguires' with Brookeborough)

**Mentors:**

**Tempo:** Aidan Breen, Thomas Mc Cusker and Ciara Flanagan.

**Brookeborough:** Joe Corcoran & Zak Kyle.

**League Division:** 2

U13 boys. We were amalgamated with Brookeborough, predominantly Tempo players but the few players from Brookeborough added quality to the squad



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which allowed our lads to play at a higher level, without them we would have been in lower league.

We had 8 challenge games, league games and 2 blitzes so there was plenty of football. Positive results in the challenge games and in the Paul and Orla Bogue blitz which we fielded 2 teams in. Going in to division 2 I felt we would have been challenging to win it but unfortunately due to player availability we couldn't get a full team out until the final game in which we beat the league winners Teemore. Disappointed to only win 1 league game especially after showing early season promise but we were competitive in all games losing most by 1 score, with a full hand available we definitely would have finished higher up the table.

We were invited to the Jim Dundas blitz in Lisnaskea. We won it, beating the hosts in final. Important morale boost for the lads, a taste of winning and good platform to build on.

Big thanks to Thomas, Ciara, Joe & Zak for their work with the team and also special mention to Cathal Owens for his efforts.

### Under 15 Boy's Team

**Mentors:** Paddy McEaney, Stephen Cassidy, Brian Quinn, Thomas McCusker, Barry McCaffery.

**League Division:** 3

**Championship Grade:** 'B' Championship

A late and disruptive start to the season regarding forming a management team and my absence from some early training and matches is probably indicative the of this year for the U 15 boys.

There was a lot of inexperience on the line and in the team with several of our final year boys joining us late after a few years absence from the game. As a result the team had very few 15-year-olds available to us and relied heavily on U13 players to fill the many positions throughout the season.



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We started with a squad of 18 increasing to 22 over the course of the season. We had an average 14 to 16 at training.

Training once or twice a week depending on fixtures, the commitment of the lads when on the training pitch was excellent with a very good work ethic and willingness to learn and very good camaraderie developing within the group.

Unfortunately, with some very strong teams our lack of power and age profile made it hard for the group to develop self-belief. It was a big step up for a lot of the lads in regard to the jump in age grade.

We completed all our league fixtures shipping heavy defeats in some of the matches. We had some great periods of play and some exceptional individual performances throughout the year.

This group hadn't fielded a team at under 13 so it was great to get over 20 lads committing this year.

We conceded our championship match away to Garrison due to our inability to field a team due to injury and absence of a number of our stronger players.

### Under 17 Boy's Team

**Mentors:** Aidy Bogue & Declan Murphy

**League Division:** 2

**Championship Grade:** 'B' Championship

We started off training in early May. We finished up with our last game in mid-September. Training and playing through the summer months which was mainly OK weather wise with dry pitches but difficult with players away on holidays at different stages.

We started off with two challenge games against Clogher and Enniskillen Gaels. Then we played in division two of the league along with Teemore, Belcoo, St. Mary's, Belnaleck





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and Coa. We were competitive in all the games losing some by one or two points and we finished in the lower end of division two.

We played Teemore in the first round of the championship. We were well beaten with a disappointing performance on the day.

They were a great bunch of lads to work with. Overall we felt it was a disappointing season. This team is better than they showed this year.

### **Senior Ladies Team**

**Mentors:** Stephen Jackson, Keelan Kelly, Tiarnan Bogue & Kevin West.

**League Division:** 1

**Championship Grade:** Intermediate Championship

In the 9-a-side League we played 8 games, winning 5, drawing 1 and losing 2. We qualified for the League final which we won by beating Lisnaskea, who had previously beat us in the League.

We were runners up in All-Ireland 7 a-side competition at Intermediate Level.

We were runners up in Intermediate Championship, where we lost to Aghdrumsee by 1pt after extra time.

In the Division 1 League we finished 3rd, played 5 games, winning 2, losing 3. Again the league was cramped into a very condensed period so players unavailable due to injury or away on holiday massively affected league performance.

I couldn't question the commitment of the senior players who were at home and available. However overall numbers were low at times as players were away with county/living abroad/Belfast/Dublin. I was frustrated with the minor players who had the opportunity to train with the senior squad but didn't.



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### Reserve Men's Team

**Mentors:** John Pakenham & Brendan Fee

**League Division:** 2 (promoted to Division 1)

**Championship Grade:** 'B' Championship

The reserve team competed in the Erne Cup 2 league. Of the 11 rounds, we played 9 matches and received a walkover and had a bye round. We won 8 of the 9 games with our only defeat being at home to Devenish and finished the league by securing promotion back to Erne Cup 1. In securing promotion we reached the league final where we suffered defeat to Devenish. We were well beaten on the day by Devenish on a scoreline of 2-12 to 1-05 after a tight first half.

In the Reserve B Championship, we disappointingly lost our first game to Kinawley's 2nd junior team but thankfully went on to record 4 wins in a row and make the Reserve B Championship Final. Again we met Devenish and unfortunately there was to be no third time lucky for us. After a cagey and tight first half, we trailed by a point at the break however Devenish hit us for a goal from the throw in for the 2nd half and went to beat us 1-10 to 0-06.

It was great experience for the players to make two finals but very frustrating not to have taken home some silverware for the club as the players deserved some for their efforts.

Our strategy especially for the league was very much to play guys who were not making the senior team to give everyone an equal amount of game time.

It was frustrating that towards the latter end of the reserve championship we had to rely on playing guys who were playing regularly for our senior team as we had men missing for a variety of reasons - holiday, injuries and non-attendance at training & games. While there is always a crossover of players making the senior team who are also available for the reserves, a good rule of thumb for player development would be for the club and future management to adopt the approach for our reserve team, that preference is given to select players not making the seniors.



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However, commitment regards attendance at training & games must also be given by the players to realise this strategy. On a few occasions we relied on members of the management team and senior management team to tog out to enable us to field games which should not be the case.

Debuts were handed out to 6 players from last year's U17 team and these lads will hopefully push on and back bone our senior and junior teams for many years to come. We would like to see those young players use the gym to build their strength & conditioning as they continue to adapt to adult football. It was hugely encouraging to see a few members of the 2023 U17 team attend senior training sessions towards the end of the year to help acquaint themselves with the environment that adult football brings.

We took on the role of co-managing the team following the first league game as no manager was in place. We were ably assisted on occasion by senior management Conor Meehan, Rory Foy and Barry McKenna and we thank them for their help. Thanks also to Seán & Mary Murphy for their roles on match days, thanks to Angela Moran for always having the jerseys washed and ready and thanks to our club referee Hugh Breen who by officiating on behalf of our club ensures that we can field teams.

Overall, the players were a pleasure to deal with and we feel that they represented our club well and we would like to thank each and every player who togged out for the reserve team this year and wish you all nothing but the best for 2024.

An Tiompu Abú.

### **Senior Men's Team**

**Mentors:** Conor Meehan, Rory Foy & Barry McKenna.

**League Division:** 2

**Championship Grade:** Intermediate Championship

Tempo management met in Mid-January to formalize plans with the intention of training starting early February. We had a player meeting with a great turnout numbering close to 40 players indicating an interest in being part of the squad.





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We set out our targets of being in the mix for promotion and to challenge for the intermediate championship.

Early training sessions and challenge matches were hampered by poor weather and pitch availability, we also had issues around footballs where some were lifted from the storeroom after a session and after much asking, we eventually bought our own and this was a little disappointing for us as a management. The boys worked hard to get the base levels of fitness before the commencement of the Club players league. In the Club Players League, we were placed with Teemore, Maguiresbridge, Roslea and Brookeborough. We were only victorious in one of these games Vs Brookeborough and in the playoff game against Lisnaskea, we had a terrible start where we found ourselves out of the game early on and had to battle to make a competitive finish where we eventually lost and gained no points that we could carry into the proper league structure. This is a competition where the club have continually struggled to gain any momentum and this year was no different. We were hampered by injury, player commitment and poor performances that as management, we felt wasn't reflective of the level of training that was taking place.

In the league structure there were 9 games. We won 7, Drew 1 and Lost 1, finishing in 4th place 2 points outside the promotion places, this is where the poor club players league form really hit us hard. During the league we gained great momentum and put in some hugely encouraging performances that displayed the true character of the squad. Ultimately the failure to pick up any points from the club players and the fact other clubs in the division conceded to hand our direct opponent's free points at a vital juncture in the season meant we came up short in terms of promotion, but the unity and togetherness of the squad had put us all in a great place heading into the Championship.

The group stages of the championship pitted us against Belcoo, Irvinestown and Newtownbutler. We once again negotiated the group stages unbeaten and topped the group beating 2 division 1 teams in the process. Both games against Belcoo and Irvinestown required us to dig deep and pull results out late in both games and against Newtownbutler we were able to rotate the squad, giving every playing member game time in the championship. This gave us a direct route into the semi-finals where we would play Derrylin. Our training was great, and we felt we were in a great position to win the game. After a tight start, we



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missed a few goal chances and when Aidy scored before half-time, we believed it was the catalyst to propel us on in the second half. We had been performing strongly in all our previous games in the second half, and after an early score we expected to kick on. Unfortunately, the opposite happened and with unforced errors and poor performances, Derrylin came out the victors. This was and still is a game where we left it behind and will hurt for a long time.

The talent in the current squad is too good for division 2, there is absolutely no doubt of that, but talent alone does not guarantee success. From a conditioning perspective, there aren't enough players in the Gym and the culture in the club is poor. This can be seen in games against the better teams where their size and physicality dominate our players who aren't in the Gym even though technically our players may be better. If we are to compete, this is an area where the club should look to gain expertise in interested members or hire a competent professional to look after the club, there was an attempt at this, but it never really got going in any beneficial capacity.

Commitment from younger players is an issue, where if they don't perceive themselves getting instant success they drop away and aren't willing to give the time and effort it requires to make it at senior level, being a good underage player doesn't guarantee success and it's what's done away from the pitch that often has the biggest effect. From the 2022 winning U17 squad only one member Aaron Cassidy was able to make the breakthrough and play some senior minutes, playing beyond his years when asked in often difficult circumstances. From that perspective, it would be beneficial if the underage moved back to even ages to allow the boys to get an extra year of development before stepping up to senior level.

On a positive note, we had 6 of this year's U17 players join us for our championship training as they proactively looked to integrate before the 2024 season, and that is an encouraging step these lads made and hopefully they progress onto playing some part next year. The fact the Juniors are playing at a higher-level next year in division 1 will aid player development.

Rory and I would like to thank Barry McKenna for his efforts in training the squad this year, his knowledge and application were of the highest order and something I know the players really appreciated. Nothing was left unturned in



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our efforts for success and Barry spearheaded our charge. To John Pakenham and Breandan Fee, they stepped in to oversee the Juniors when no management could be found and steered them to promotion and a championship final. They were also invaluable as selectors and are club men of the highest order. Sean and Mary Murphy for looking after the Admin and First Aid, often gets forgotten about but is a major cog in the machine that squad management has become. To Cathal Owens in his role as Kitman and Stephen Jackson on Stats we are so grateful for their commitment throughout the year. Thanks also to Niall McElroy in his role as secretary, Hugh Breen for his Referee duties and Angela Moran for her service in looking after the jerseys.

The players were a joy to be around for the last two years and are more than well equipped to bring success back to the club, we wish the team and the club every success in 2024 and it has been a pleasure to have been afforded the chance to manage a great bunch of players.

An Tiompu Abú.