



CUMANN LUTHCHLEAS GAEL
**PÁDRAIG PEARSES
G.A.A. CLUB**



**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
BALLYMACWARD HALL – SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17th 2013**



AGM AGENDA

1. Opening of Meeting and Adoption of Standing Orders.
2. Secretary's Report.
3. Financial Report.
4. Chairman's Address.
5. Motions.
6. Election of Officers, Members of Executive Committee and Team Managers.
7. A.O.B.
8. Membership.

www.padraigpearsesgalway.com and Facebook: 'padraigpearsesgalway'

STANDING ORDERS

In order to carry out the meeting without delay the following standing orders will be observed:

1. The proposer of a Resolution or of an amendment thereto may speak for five minutes.
2. A member speaking on a resolution, amendment or report may not exceed three minutes.
3. The proposer of a resolution or an amendment may speak for a second time for three minutes before a vote is taken, but no other member can speak a second time on the same resolution or amendment.
4. The Chairman may at any time he considers a matter has been sufficiently discussed call on the proposer for a reply and when that has been given a vote must be taken.
5. A member may, with the consent of the Chairman move "that the question be now put" after which, when the proposer has spoken, a vote must be taken.
6. Standing Orders shall not be suspended for the purpose of considering any matter not on the agenda, except by the consent of a majority equal to two thirds of those present and entitled to vote: i.e. paid and registered members of the club.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Dear Members,

It is my honour to present to you the Secretary's Report for 2013 in another eventful year both on and off the field in the development of the club. Our aim is to keep all our members informed of the work completed throughout the year and to outline our vision and aspirations for the coming one. While on the field activities at adult and juvenile level obviously attract most of our attention as members, it is also essential to mark the work of everyone that ensures the club functions to the best of its ability. I hope both aspects are reflected favourably within this report. A more in depth account of all our teams in both codes is offered further on.

Administratively it was an extremely busy year.

- The decision was taken to affiliate football teams at Adult and Juvenile level in the name of Pádraig Pearses following the winding up of St. Kerrill's Football Club.
- We launched the '250 Club', a long term initiative aimed at creating a consistent revenue stream for the Club.
- We invested significantly in our playing surfaces this year in order to enhance and maintain them for the volume of activity that they have to take.
- The Club attempted to improve communications with members and the wider community in all forums in an effort to get people more involved and try to build a stronger and more inclusive organisation.
- Our Juvenile Committee continued to work on improving the structures within the Club for members in terms of best practice in Child Protection/Welfare as well as investing in coaching and development with a view towards the long term of the Club and its members.

These efforts require on-going work and attention in the coming years to ensure they come to fruition. Obviously we would like to see instant success on the field however we have to continuously build for the future by putting in place more of the initiatives and structures that were started this year. The Club remains open to all suggestions and ideas that may improve things and we gladly welcome them.

FOOTBALL AFFILIATION

In late January of this year the Executive Committee took the decision to affiliate football teams in the name of Pádraig Pearse following the winding up of St. Kerrill's Football Club. This was a big step and not an easy one given the short time frame in which it was organised and I want to pay tribute to everyone involved in facilitating it. I would like to thank the former officers of St. Kerrill's and the members of their Committee whose co-operation and application made for a smooth transition that has created the potential for an exciting future as a dual club. I would especially like to acknowledge the help of **Leo Morrissey** throughout the year.

250 CLUB

Owing to a variety of factors GAA Clubs are becoming increasingly expensive to run. Therefore it is vital that we plan ahead rather than just operate on a year to year basis. Early in 2013 we decided to launch an initiative that would offer an element of consistent revenue to the Club and one that offered members something more in return. In April we launched our '250 Club' that gave all those that signed up to it: membership of the club, entry to the weekly lotto and a separate monthly cash draw for all participants. We were overwhelmed with the response to what was deemed an ambitious target at the outset. As a result between adults and juveniles we have a membership of 415 people in 2013. This was a major undertaking involving a lot of work by many people in the Club and the generosity of the local community. I would also like to acknowledge **Eoghan Barrett** for bringing the concept to the Committee's attention and for the effort put into ensuring it came to fruition.

PITCHES AND FACILITIES

Outside of the members of our club the greatest asset we have are our playing areas. They cater for hurling, football and camogie at all levels and are constantly in use. We are lucky to have two pitches in the club and one of the main focuses we had this year was to invest in the improvement and maintenance of both. Ballymacward pitch in particular has taken incredible traffic over the years and we aim to ensure it retains its ability to accommodate all this activity. We sought expertise from a number of sources this year as to how best to achieve this and have invested accordingly. Further investment on an annual basis is necessary in order to maintain these standards. I would like to thank everyone that contributed to these efforts during the year and in particular to **Gerry Murphy** for all his excellent work in Ballymacward in maintaining the grounds. We are now lucky enough to have another excellent facility in Gurteen for the playing of our games. This year witnessed more great work in St. Kerrill's Park and I want to note the outstanding contribution of **Noel Burke** in continuing to develop and improve it. Also many thanks to **Martin Naughton** for the work he has put into it this year too.

JUVENILE COMMITTEE

On the Juvenile front it is difficult to convey the workload involved given the numerous age groups and competitions involved. Our Juvenile Secretary **Dorothy Scarry** and Chairman **Martin Scarry** have been excellent in managing

this and I thank them for this and all their assistance throughout the year as it would be impossible to operate it without a committed Juvenile Officer Board. They put in an incredible amount of work into it and the preparation for both the Cúl Camps and our role as a host Club drew specific praise at County Board Level. I would also like to thank our Juvenile Delegate **Martin Barry**, Child Protection Officer **Eoghan Barrett** and Coaching Officer **Anthony Kenny** for their input throughout this year. Finally to the parents whose co-operation and help makes these jobs much easier to do.

SENIOR HURLING TEAM

Following on from reaching the Quarter Finals of the Senior Hurling Championship in the previous year hopes were high among players, management and supporters of further progress in 2013. Again the preparation, application and commitment of our players and management were stepped up another level in search of another breakthrough. In the Senior League we were placed with Portumna, Kinvara, Athenry, Castlegar, Gort and Clarinbridge. League matches were typically experimental with victory coming against Athenry.

In the Round One of the Championship we avenged last year's group loss to Moycullen with a 2-18 to 1-15 win in Athenry. Incidentally this was the only goal the team conceded in their five championship games. Drawn in Group D the team recorded hard fought victories over Kiltormer (0-16 to 0-14) and against Beagh (2-11 to 0-14). Having ensured qualification Tommie Larkins were accounted for in the final game on a scoreline of (1-15 to 0-10). The Quarter Final Draw pitted us against another group winner in the form of Loughrea. After a tense and tight game with some marginal calls Loughrea prevailed by a single point, 0-14 to 1-10. It was a heartbreaking defeat given the circumstances and the level of expectation the team had set itself this year. No excuses were offered or considered afterwards and with the same application next year, plus a little more luck on the injury front ambitions are again set high.

We would like to thank all of the players for their extraordinary efforts with preparation starting as far back as the end of 2012. The buzz and the excitement they created in the community were extremely positive and had an excellent impact on the juvenile members of the club in particular. I also want to acknowledge the contribution of a number of the players who gave their time to underage training at different stages of the year and at the Cúl Camps during the summer. It was much appreciated.

To the Management team of **John Raftery**, **Martin Tierney** and our Coach **Gerry Kearney** we extend our sincere thanks for their efforts. One cannot speak highly enough about the culture of positivity and encouragement they have created within the squad. The energy that was brought to the set up and the absence of any conflict was testament to this throughout the year. I know they would also be the first to acknowledge the help and support they got this year to make their jobs easier thanks to the input of **Tomás O'Neill** and **Rory Treacy**.

From a medical point of view a sincere thanks to **Martin Bellow**, **Eoghan Barrett**, **Margaret Kilkenny** and **Helen Raftery** who covered all matches and training sessions throughout

the year. Finally we thank our Senior sponsors for the year, **William and Nancy Parker** for their generous support of the team. We also acknowledge the many other businesses and people who chipped in along the way in facilitating another progressive year for the Senior team.

JUNIOR A & JUNIOR C HURLING

Following on from the 2012 in Junior A it was expected that the club would be placed in Junior B for the 2013 Championship owing to results and a difficulty in getting numbers for matches in the Junior A grade. However an anomaly in the rules that meant there was to be no relegation and we were placed in the revised Junior A competition that gave us a ten game Championship fixture list. The team started brightly with a victory over Menlo Emmett's and was followed up with a draw against Portumna following a rousing second half comeback. With the loss of players to the Senior team, injuries and emigration impacting on numbers and competitiveness we were subsequently defeated by Kiltormer and Annaghdown. With six games left to play and the loss of three more players to Senior we were unable to field in the remaining games. Thanks to the management of **Tomás Kenny, Mick Carr and Gerry McDonagh** for all their work with this team.

2013 also saw the entry of a Junior C team for the first time in a number of years. After a competitive group campaign with games against Tynagh/Abbey-Duniry, Clarinbridge, Kilbeacanty, Liam Mellow's Kinvara and walkovers from St. Thomas' and Ballindereen the team qualified for the Shield competition. Pearses defeated Kinvara to qualify for the final against Carnmore that is fixed for this weekend. We would like to thank everyone involved particularly **Kevin Lally, Paul Scarry and William Dilleen** for their efforts all year. The Club would also like to thank **Ruane's** for sponsoring the Junior C jerseys for the hurling and football this year.

U-21 HURLING

The under 21's began their campaign with a spirited victory against a fancied Kilconieron side. Following this, a last minute goal for eventual finalists Cois Fharraige denied the team the win in a tough clash in Turloughmore. The lads redeemed themselves by grinding out a one point victory in a high scoring game against Oranmore Maree to set up a Quarter Final date with Killimordaly. Unfortunately this was where the campaign ended despite a bright start in the game. Goals before half-time were enough to keep Killimordaly in front who also succumbed to Cois Fharraige in the following round.

Thanks to team manager **Tomás Kenny** and selectors **Cormac Ward, Shane Raftery, David Cunniffe and Paul Bellew** for their input in what proved a very competitive championship.

MINOR HURLING

The Minor team began their campaign in blistering fashion with a comprehensive win against Killimordaly. This was followed by a draw with Sarsfields after an absorbing game in Ballymacward. Kilconieron got the better of us in the next game before the lads got back on track when defeating Oranmore Maree. After losing to a strong Clarinbridge outfit the team recorded back to back wins against Mountbellew/Moylough and Mullagh to qualify for the Quarter Final. Six

months on from playing their first group game Pearses lost out to Killimor following an intense contest in Loughrea by two points.

We would like to thank **Paul O'Brien, John Jenkins, Kevin Connell and Martin Campbell** for their work with this team all year.

U-16 HURLING

The Under-16 team had an excellent season in a very competitive B championship this year. From their seven group games they had impressive wins against St. Thomas', Tommie Larkins, Liam Mellow's, Cappataggle and Meelick Eyrecourt with defeats coming against Portumna and Oranmore-Maree. In the County Semi-Final Pearses overturned the group result against Portumna with a great victory after a super start in Athenry. Unfortunately the final also witnessed a group reversal when St. Thomas' managed to turn the tables on us in the County Final.

Credit to **Paul O'Brien, John Jenkins, Kevin Connell, Martin Campbell and Gabriel Flannery** on an excellent campaign. We are also very grateful to **Martin Beckett** for his sponsorship of the Under-16's.

UNDER-14 HURLING

The under-14 team had a busy year competing in the Suck Valley League, the under 14 Championship and the Féile Competition in Galway. In the Suck Valley League the team beat Sylane before losing out to Mountbellew/Moylough and Skehana.

In the Championship the team beat Moycullen B in our first game before losing out to Sarsfields, Ragoon-Newcastle, Carnmore, Clarinbridge, Ballindereen and Ballinasloe.

The Féile Competition in the form of the Toddy Byrne Shield saw Ballymacward chosen as a host venue with Pádraig Pearses putting in excellent performances in the Group winning against Tuam and Micheal Breathnach's before losing out to Sarsfields. This ensured qualification from the Group to get a chance to compete in the following days finals with a fixture against Ballinasloe. After a valiant performance the team lost out to a very strong Ballinasloe team.

Thanks to **Pat Healy and Gabriel Flannery** for all of their efforts this year with a very young group with only three players on the age of 14.

U-13 HURLING

Our under 13 hurlers had a fantastic season winning the under 13 C County Championship. In the group matches they had wins over Athenry, Mountbellew, Barna Furbo and Ballindereen while losing to Ballinasloe. In the Quarter Final Pearses overcame Tuam before defeating Annaghdown to set up a rematch in the final against Ballinasloe. After a thrilling contest Pearses came out on top for a well-deserved victory.

Thanks and well done to the Management team of **Michael Carr, Dessie McCabe Eoghan Barrett and Gabriel Flannery**. We would also like to sincerely thank **Hynes Agri** for

sponsoring the under-12/13 teams as well as our Under-10's. The **Ballymacward Hall Committee** also generously contributed to this team also.

UNDER-12 HURLING

Our Under-12's enjoyed a successful year in their two competitions. They topped their group with wins against Ahascragh-Fohenagh, Skehana, Ballinasloe, Abbeyknockmoy and Ballygar. In the final they lost out to Sylane.

They also got the opportunity to compete in the Aer Lingus/ Etihad Blitz to coincide with the International Hurling Festival in Galway. They beat Kiltormer, Meelick Eyrecourt and Sylane before overcoming Tommie Larkins in the final to win a new set of jerseys. This also put them forward to compete in a non-competitive exhibition in Salthill on the day of the International Hurling Festival Final in Pearse Stadium that included teams from other counties. Again we want to thank **Michael Carr, Dessie McCabe, Gabriel Flannery and Eoghan Barrett** for their contribution.

U-10 AND U-8 HURLING

Our U-10's competed in East Galway League and Garda tournament this year. In the East Galway League they recorded thrilling group victories against Portumna, Kiltormer, Meelick-Eyrecourt, Ahascragh/Fohenagh, Athleague, Ballygar and Ballinasloe. In the semi-final they lost out narrowly to Mountbellew/Moylough. In the Garda tournament they played Skehana, Mountbellew and Ballygar.

This year the under 8's trained along with the Under-10's and got to play games against Ahascragh/Fohenagh, Athleague and Mountbellew/Moylough.

Thanks to Manager **Martin Scarry** as well as Selectors **Eddie Mitchell, Keith Murphy and Sean O'Neill** for all their work with this team and to all parents that helped out.

JUNIOR C FOOTBALL

The team competed in the Junior C North Board League and had a victory against Williamstown while suffering narrow losses to Ballinasloe, Milltown, St Brendan's and Sarsfields.

In the Championship Pearses lined out against a fancied Claregalway side and lost out by two points following a thrilling finish to the game in Menlough.

We would like to thank Manager **James Clancy** and also to **Michael Kelly** and to **Leo Morrissey** for all their efforts all year. Thanks also to **Martin Campbell** and **John Raftery** for doing medical during the year.

UNDER-21 FOOTBALL

The under-21 football championship was based on a knockout system this year with Pearses getting a tough away fixture against Dunmore MacHales in the Quarter Final. Missing a number of players Pearses lost out to superior Dunmore outfit. Many thanks to Manager **Rory Treacy** for working with this side.

MINOR FOOTBALL

We played in Division Three North of the League this year and were fortunate that the games were 13 a side due to the small pool of players available. The team beat St. Gabriel's and lost out to Menlough, St. Brendan's and Willimastown in their games.

In Championship the competition reverted to 15 a side and we received a walkover against St. Gabriel's. Unfortunately we only had 13 players available for selection against Menlough and had to concede the game.

Thanks to **Adrian Queeney** and his selectors **James Clancy** and **Peter Skehill**.

UNDER - 16 FOOTBALL

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UNDER - 13 FOOTBALL

In the under 13 League we lost to Milltown in the opening game before a run of victories against Cortoon Shamrocks, Headford, Williamstown and Killereerin ensured qualification to the final. This match was a renewal of the opening fixture against Milltown and after a closely fought game Pearses could count themselves unlucky to lose out by three points.

In the Championship we received walkovers against Menlough, Cortoon Shamrocks and Headford while suffering defeats in games against Milltown, St. Brendan's and Kilconly and missed out on qualification for the knock out stages.

UNDER-12 FOOTBALL

We played five games in this competition with wins against Caltra and Athenry. St. Gabriels, Kinvara, Craughwell and Monivea Abbey did not field giving us walkovers while we had losses against Loughrea, Ballinasloe and Mountbellew-Moylough.

Credit to **Dessie McCabe** and **Michael Carr** for their management of both the Under-12 and under 13 teams.

GALWAY COUNTY TEAMS 2013

To **Cyril Donnellan, Fearghal Flannery and Emmet Ward** we reiterate our pride in them wearing the County jersey at Senior level in 2013 and the commitment and sacrifice involved. Congratulations to **Ronan Bellew** who represented the Galway Minors with distinction and competed in an All-Ireland Minor Final this year. Well done to **Brian Sweeney** and **Paul Lally** who were part of the Galway Under-16 squads this year and to **Conor O'Neill** who was a member of the under 14's.

FUNDRAISING AND SPONSORSHIP

It is an understatement to say that the Club Lotto is crucial to the running of this Club. It is a vital and irreplaceable source of revenue. We would like to thank all the publicans for facilitating us and our members for consistently supporting it. I would like to sincerely thank all of those that look after their areas and consistently attend the Lotto on a Monday night. At the risk of forgetting anybody I will not list them all. Also to everyone that continues to support the lotto, subscribers to our '250 Club' and to our annual lotto members we are extremely thankful.

To our numerous sponsors this year at Adult and Juvenile level we are very grateful for your contributions. We thank all those that chipped in and to our team sponsors **Parker Stores, Ruanes, Hynes Agri, Ballymacward Hall Committee and Beckett Agri** for their generous support this year.

CAMOGIE

The Club are delighted to extend our congratulations to **Niamh and Orla Kilkenny** and to the Galway Senior and Intermediate Camogie teams for their outstanding All Ireland double success in 2013. We also note Niamh's fantastic achievement in receiving a second All Star award in succession this year.

We thank the Pearses Camogie Club for their co-operation this year and wish them all the best in 2014.

SCHOOLS

I would like to thank the teachers in the various schools in the area for their work in promoting hurling and football. We realise the important role that schools play in fostering and encouraging Gaelic Games and the knock on effect it has at Club level. We have made a concentrated effort to help them also in terms of resources and supplies. I would like to particularly acknowledge the work of **Martin Scarry and Dorothy Scarry** in this area.



GENERAL

The Club wish to thank and extend our best wishes to **Father Slattery** on his retirement and to **Father Long** on his new role. We also extend a warm welcome to **Father Ray Sweeney** and thank him for his help and support.

On behalf of the club I would like to express our deepest sympathy to all our members who suffered bereavement during the year.

The Club extends its congratulations to all those that got married this year and to those who had new arrivals in 2013. We are already looking forward to a vigorous contest for the under-10 jobs here in 2023!

I would also like to acknowledge the Hurling, Football and County Board officials whom we work with on a regular basis and to all referees and officials who make our games possible. I also thank our delegates to these bodies - **Tom O'Grady, Noel Burke and Michael Bodkin** and County Board Chairman **Noel Treacy**.

Again I want to reiterate our gratitude to all those who helped out on the medical side of things this year. It is an essential requirement at all levels and one we plan to continue to build on.

On a personal level in terms of the day to day running of the Club there are a number of people who are in constant contact. I cannot over emphasise the amount of work and time spent by our Chairman **Tom O'Grady** on all matters club related. I thank him for his guidance, calmness and support throughout the year.

To our Treasurer team of **Oliver Laheen and Shane Ruane** I compliment them on a job impeccably done in what is a very demanding role. Their attention to detail, transparency and professionalism is exemplary.

David Cunniffe has been a fantastic PRO whose passion for the role is reflected in everything he does for the club. He is an invaluable asset. He has been central to improving our communication efforts.

To keep up to date on all Pádraig Pearses Club news you can visit our website www.padraigpearsesgalway.com, Like us on Facebook "padraigpearsesgalway" or you can Follow us on Twitter "@PearsesGAA".

Finally I want to thank all our members, players, parents and supporters for making the Club what it is. Given the range of roles and the amount of people involved in the running of a Club it is difficult to single out every individual so I apologise in case anyone or any area is excluded – it certainly is not intentional!

For anyone that has any further questions or needs clarification on any issues raised in the report please do not hesitate to raise them with me.

Paul Bellew

NOMINATIONS

CHAIRMAN:
Thomas O'Grady
Anthony Kenny

SECRETARY:
Paul Bellew
Leo Morrissey

TREASURER
Oliver Laheen
Shane Ruane

JUVENILE CHAIRMEN:
Martin Scarry
Eoghan Barrett
Anthony Kenny
Adrian Queeney

PRO:
David Cunniffe

IRISH OFFICER:
Noel Treacy
Dorothy Scarry
Sinead Kilkenny
Michael John Kilgannon

HURLING BOARD DELEGATE:
Thomas O'Grady
John O'Grady

CO COMMITTEE DELEGATE:
Michael Bodkin
Paul Bellew
Thomas O'Grady
Martin Bellew
The Secretary/Chairman

INSURANCE OFFICER:
Paul Bellew

VICE CHAIRMAN:
Tomás Kenny
Thomas O'Grady
Martin Scarry
Eoghan Barrett
Adrian Queeney

ASSISTANT SECRETARY:
Anthony Kenny
Dorothy Scarry
Leo Morrissey
Tomás Kenny
Eoghan Barrett

ASSISTANT TREASURER:
Shane Ruane
Oliver Laheen
Tomás Kenny

JUVENILE SECRETARY:
Dorothy Scarry

HISTORY OFFICER:
Sean Broderick
Martin Bellew
Tom Kenny

ALCOHOL & SUBSTANCE ABUSE OFFICER:
Noel Burke
Cyril Donnellan
Michael Carr
Tomás O'Neill
Anthony Kenny
Shane Ruane
Martin Tierney

FOOTBALL BOARD DELEGATE:
Noel Burke
Tomás Kenny
James Clancy
Leo Morrissey
Eoghan Barrett
Des McCabe

CHILD PROTECTION OFFICER:
Eoghan Barrett
Aiden Kilkenny

REGISTRAR:
Paul Bellew
Dorothy Scarry

MOTIONS FOR AGM 2013

- Proposed that a Sub - Committee be established to oversee and prepare for the club's 50th anniversary celebrations in 2016 with a view to running events to promote the club and printing a publication of the history of Gaelic Games in the parish.
- Proposed that the adult club hurling teams are affiliated at Senior, Junior B and Junior C level for 2014.
- Proposed that the Juvenile Chairman/Secretary be the Juvenile Board Delegate.
- Proposed that the Vice Chairman also be Juvenile Chairman and also serve as Juvenile Board Delegate.
- Proposed that the County Committee Delegate be the Chairman or Secretary of the affiliated club as recommended by the Galway GAA Bye Laws 2013.
- Proposed that all underage teams play in at least the second division/grade of each age level.
- Proposed that the Assistant Secretary have responsibility for all matters football related in Padraig Pearses to include fixtures, team registration, etc. and to work in conjunction with the Secretary on all matters related to the club.
- Proposed that in accordance with GAA rules the AGM of Padraig Pearses GAA Club be held in November each year and before the annual County Convention.
- Proposed that the additional positions on the Executive Committee be limited to three given that the Committee includes all elected officers and all team managers given that we are now a dual club.

