#### **PRO REPORT**



CUMANN PEIL & IOMÁINT DROMTAIRBH AGM

5 December 2014

It is with pleasure I present this PRO report on what was a fantastic year for our club which incorporates Dromtarriffe Junior Club , Juvenile & Ladies Clubs.

## Dromtarriffe Minor / U21/ Junior football

With the AGM failing to appoint Junior management for 2014, the club applauded the committees recommendations of the new 5 man management in January.



**Our U21's** had begun their campaign and despite losing their first round match aet to Croke Rovers in a windswept Mallow, St Peters (in Rockchapel) in the "losers round" proved no major obstacle, then followed a semi final meeting with Kiskeam (at home & under lights) saw our boys qualify for the final to again face Croke Rovers. Millstreet was the venue and in a highly entertaining & competitive match both sides battled hard with nothing separating the sides as the clock hit the 60<sup>th</sup> minute – we were all hoping for a draw but Croke Rovers pointed and though we did have a last grasp chance – It was not to be



#### **Junior As**

The Ducon Cup campaign began positively with wins over Kilbrin , Millstreet & Knocknagree , however losing to Cullen , Castlemagner & Kiskeam before beating Boherbue and Dromtarriffe may have qualified for the semi finals had their not be the congestion of fixtures in early May with the club players having 6 matches in 13 days between hurling & football , which ultimately led to us having to award Lyre the match due to mounting injuries and players unavailable during college exam time . Our championship campaign did not go as planned , our first round match was v Lyre , who at late notice were awarded the " home venue" for the fixture , and used this advantage to record the victory. In June we had a Duhallow Cup quarter final meeting at home v Boherbue , where in a competitive match the home venue proved to be an advantage and we progressed to meet Ballydesmond in the semi final – however the semi finals were not fixed until late September and with Dromtarriffe footballers out of competition for the past three months , this Semi final never took place with Ballydesmond advancing to the final.

The round 2 – back door match was brought forward from the original proposed date , and neither Millstreet or Dromtarriffe fielded their strongest , injury free team , but credit to our players & management who battled hard only to lose by the minimum . Still we had a Nevin Cup competition – quarter final saw a great victory over Cullen in Millstreet , played in September but Knocknagree who provided the semi final opposition had more competitive football through their league & championship competitions and on the night deserved the victory. In Junior B Football – unfortunately 2014 was not a very successful year with neither team reaching the semi final stages. **Our Minors** had a fairly successful year reaching both league & championship Rebel Og North finals, however losing both to Trinity Gaels (Newmarket /Glenlara).



As runners up in the Rebel Og North Championship, Dromtarriffe qualified for a quarter final county meeting with Carrignavar in Kilavullen. Despite holding the lead until the final 10 minutes our boys failed to hold on and were defeated by the minimum. - still overall the footballers made three finals – showing the future of football in the club remains positive & strong.

#### Dromtarriffe Minor / U21 / Junior B Hurling



Reflecting on the hurling year in the club during 2014 shows the huge strides made over several years coming to fruition . Our Junior hurling management in consultation with the hurling squad decided to venture into the Junior A Hurling league to provide more competitive matches in preparation for the County Junior B Championship. Our hurlers fared admirably throughout the campaign especially when they picked up the league points v Castlemagner ( h) . As the county campaign our first round match was against Uibh Loaire though conditions were not ideal the hurlers won comfortably. With this win , we qualified for the third round we were pitted against hot favourites Kilavullen in Mourneabbey. On a beautiful sunny afternoon our boys raised 5 green flags to end the Kilavullen challenge and progress to the Quarter finals and as the draw panned out Uibh Laoire was again our opponents. At Brinny on a

beautiful Sunday afternoon again our hurlers showed their class and easily dispatched of their

opposition 🔛 ..

Qualifying for the County semi final was a new venture for our boys (last year we lost out at the Quarter final stage) and so Rathpeacon were our opposition, this time in Donoughmore. Though Rathpeacon may have been the more experienced side at the stage of the competition, nothing fazed our young squad who's determination saw them qualify for the County Final. Pairc Ui Rinn on August 24<sup>th</sup> was our final date, and the parish of Dromtarriffe got behind our hurlers displaying signs and flags throughout the parish. A huge support travelled that Sunday to Pairc Ui Rinn but unfortunately the

weather could not be accommodating as a heavy mist welcomed the

teams onto the pitch.

Dromtarriffe started positively with three unanswered points until a Colm O Neill goal brought Ballyclogh to parity, but again Dromtarriffe fought hard in that first half only to be pegged level at the short whistle by some late Ballyclogh points. The second have commenced with Ballyclogh raising their game and dominating proceedings. 5 points down as we entered the closing minutes but Dromtarriffe aided by a Danny Mullane goal fought to earn a respective draw and replay date.

September 13<sup>th</sup> again in Pairc Ui Rinn was the replay. From the off Ballyclogh had learnt their lessons from the first meeting and came with the intention to hussle out the young Dromtarriffe players by using their strength & experience. Scores came easier to them as they rattle over 9 points to Dromtarriffe 2 but just before the half time whistle sounded a Sean Cremin goal gave the side hope entering the break. Second half and Ballyclogh came out again with the stronger resolve , despite some valiant displays from the club team the half continued the men against boys trend. The white flags were easily raised by the North Cork representatives and despite a brace of Howard goals our boys really had no answer as the final whistle sounded it was Ballyclogh's evening.

Still our hurlers had two more domestic challenges to turn their attention towards and firstly came the Duhallow Junior B Hurling league – Kilbrin provided the semi final opposition in Mallow and Dromtarriffe easily qualified to meet Meelin in the final.

The final produced drama from start to finish in what was a brillant game of hurling -Darragh Crowley opening the Dromtarriffe account , followed by a Mark O Connor point which Meelin equalized from a free moments later. Meelin added the next two match points before a Sean Howard free & a Conor Cremin point levelled matters on the 14<sup>th</sup>minute. With the defence playing well , a Kevin Cremin cleared ball was passed by Daniel O Keeffe to Darragh Crowley who goaled on the 21<sup>st</sup> minute , however three quick points from Meelin found the sides level again , 1-4 to 0-7 with 5 minutes of the half remaining ,

Four Sean Howard points (1 f& 2 65's) in that closing period had Dromtarriffe 1-8 to 0-9 in front as the



referee called half time.

Meelin again opened strongly with 2 points , but Dromtarriffe ahead edged ahead with a Howard free and Danny Mullane point. Meelin again equalized with two more unanswered points , before two more Howard frees were keeping Dromtarriffe ahead . As the match was entering the final 10 minutes Meelin were stepping up their attack and with 4 minutes remaining edged ahead 1-12 to 0-16. Dromtarriffe had both goal & point chances which were well defended or drifted shy of the target , and impressing in defence were Vincent Browne , Kevin Cremin, Jack Murphy & Michael O Brien. Stephen Ahern was introduced into the Dromtarriffe attack, who as a unit were battling hard in search of an equalizer , with 3 minutes remaining O Keeffe slotted over the equalizer. As the stopwatch entered the red , Mullane gave Dromtarriffe the leading point, again the defence was called on to stand firm and soak up the Meelin pressure , entering the third minute of stoppage time , Dromtarriffe were awarded a free , Howard again stood up and converted , another play , then the final whistle sounded and so the 27 year old gap was bridged. Joint Captains Vincent Browne & Darren McSweeney collected the cup from Sean McAuliffe Duhallow Board. Final Score Dromtarriffe 1-15 Meelin 0-16.



In the County B HL Dromtarriffe faced Donoughmore in Donoughmore easily dispatching them 1-19 to 1-19 to 0-8. However when we faced Erins Own in Mallow in the semi final, we met a side filled with some wonderful skilled hurlers many of whom has senior club experience and despite some hard work from our players, Erins ran out worthy winners. Kilbrin provided the championship semi final opponents and again Dromtarriffe saw off this challenge to set up a final date with Lismire. Played in Meelin Dromtarriffe opened the scoring through a Sean Howard placed ball in the second minute, however Lismire opened their scoring raising an opportunistic green flag added by a free. Howard added 2 further placed balls either side of a Conor Cremin point to level matters. Two great points in a row credited to Jack Murphy & Darren O Connor were answered with a brace for Lismire. Aaron Daly pointed for Dromtarriffe but Lismire added the next three points so when Stephen Ahern pointed approaching half time Dromtarriffe were leading by two 0-12 to 1-7, Daniel O Keeffe closed out the half with a point, giving Dromtarriffe a three point lead at the short whistle. Kevin Cremin opened the second half scoring followed by a Conor Cremin point. Stephen Ahern was working hard up front and added Dromtarriffe 17th point (after another Howard free), but the story of the half was the strength of our defence and how as a team the pressure mounted by Lismire was absorbed. Darren O Connor worked tirelessly at mid field, however this resulted in a calf strain, but he was ably replaced by Billy O Gorman, also dominant were Kevin Cremin, Jack Murphy, Vincent Browne, Michael O Brien in defence with Ahern, O Keeffe & Daly contributing also around the half forward line, in the 15 minute spell midway through the second half the only score was to come from Lismire, but Dromtarriffe were still comfortable, Sean Howard

finished out the match with a placed ball and though Lismire rallied on last attack our defence stood firm



to the challenge.

### U21 Hurling

For 2014 Dromtarriffe were able to field their first U21 hurling team in the Duhallow Championship , and our first round match we faced St Marks in Meelin – a fantastic team performance saw our boys run out victors. Kanturk were our semi final opponents , and their experience at this level ( as well as many of the players playng in the County Intermediate Hurling ) saw them eventually dispell the Dromtarriffe challenge.

#### Minor Hurling



Our Minor hurlers gave us some heart stopping matches during the year, none less than the semi final championship encounter with Kilshannig. The first match was played in Kanturk and while Dromtarriffe

seemed to be edging towards the final spot, Kilshannig fought back to earn the draw, there was a debate would extra time be played but due to the dark onset on the September evening a replay was decided so two days later, Kilbrin provided the new venue for the replay. Again a highly entertaining match was played out between both teams, but lady luck favoured Dromtarriffe in the closing stages and they ran out winners. The Minor hurling final was played in Banteer against neighbours Millstreet. Another tough and competitive match but Dromtarriffe held on to win by a goal at the final whistle. Captain Mark O Connor was on hand to accept the Cup.



In the county semi final we met Carrignavar in Donoughmore , unfortunately the dismissal of one of our very influential players , the Easy Cork boys ran out winners on the day .

To the league and our minors easily qualified for the semi finals, where they met Kildorrey in Mallow. Again no major challenge was presented and so a final meeting with Kilara Og . With many of our minor hurlers also heavily involved with our Junior squad and the huge amount of games fixed at this level our minor manager had to agree to a mid week final in

Kilworth . With the unavailability of two key players due to injury , the small panel faced the away challenge and another cracking match was played out but unfortunately time just ran out and we could not get the equalising point to force the draw .

DROMTARRIFFE LADIES CLUB

### Dromtarriffe Ladies County U21 C Champions

Congrats also to the Dromtarriffe Ladies Club who have again had a magnificent year – two County titles – at U21 (win over Newmarket) & Junior (Division 3 win over Watergrasshill)



- the hard work is surely paying off . Hard luck to the Minor Ladies who travelled to Redmonds GAA to face Carrigaline in the County final – the weather was shocking and unfortunately Carrigaline edged out the result.



Dromtarriffe Ladies County Division 3 League Champions

# DROMTARRIFFE JUVENILE CLUB

Congrats to Dromtarriffe U16 hurlers who won the County U16CHL v Shamrocks and all teams who fielded at both hurling and football during the year for our Juvenile club - ye are the future of



### Dromtarriffe U16 Hurlers County U16CHL Champions



#### Congrats

To all our players that wore the Duhallow Jersey during the year especially the members of the Duhallow U20 football & U14 hurling on your 2014 titles with Duhallow & also Sean & Tomas Howard who again were members of the Cork development squads.



Thanks

To all managements for your co-operation all year - informing me of fixtures etc .

To the Junior hurlers who provided your players profiles for the county program etc.

To Noel & Ger for all your assistance & to all who have dropped in the weekly Lotto results to the house.

#### Club PR

A thank you to the Junior Club & Juvenile club for funding the new club camera which has been a help with club pr – Our Twitter accounts currently has 1457 followers, with our club Facebook page 270 likes – and our website is constantly updated with all the club news – however our website needs revamping so any one with website experience, I would be grateful for some feedback (if I am re – elected!) – email Pro.dromtarriffe.gaa.ie – there is so much potential a better website can be for a club as many websites now facilities to run the club lotto – club memberships – club fundraising events so as I said anyone who has website insight your help would be appreciated.

Finally – Dromtarriffe GAA & Ladies Football Club Social

January 17<sup>th</sup> 2015, Hibernian Hotel, Music The Kelts – Tickets €25 – Hope to see all there!