

## Club Newsletter

Spring 2011

### Officers of the Club:

Chairman:  
Liam McCarthy

Vice-Chairman:  
Liam O'Mahony

Secretary:  
Liz O'Donoghue

Treasurer:  
Brid Ryan

PRO:  
Enda Nicholl

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# BALLYBRICKEN BOHERMORE GAA CLUB



## East Intermediate Championship success over Pallas

When playing South Liberties in the East Senior Championship in Caherelly, we got the better start with a pointed free which was followed by several more to just two in reply. We were looking more in control of the game coming into half time until we conceded two goals just before the break. At half time we led by 12 points and continued to do well in the beginning of the second half; unfortunately Liberties gradually got back into the game, reducing the lead to five points at the final whistle. The final score was 4-16 to 2-17.

We went on to play Doon in the East Intermediate Hurling Championship semi-final in Killeely. The game started well for us as we had the hill in our favour in the first half

to leave us well up going into the break against the breeze. We started well in the second half also with several more points tagged on from frees and from play. We were 8 points up going into the final minutes until a goal was conceded. We won on a scoreline of 1-14 to 2-16 in what was a very stop-start game with no continuity but we clinched a place in the East Championship Final and that was all that mattered.

The East Championship Final was played in Killeely. We took the early lead thanks to points from Mike Wilkinson and 1-1 from Enda Frawley. This was added to with points from Eoin Kirby and Colm Teefy. Pallas ate into our lead by scoring a goal but we returned in kind with a goal from Wilkinson.

We led 2-7 to 1-7 at the break. On the restart we developed our lead again thanks to points from Enda Frawley, Mike Wilkinson and Stephen Frawley, but as the case with past experience of Pallas they are never fully out of the game and they had us down to within 2 points going into the dying minutes. It was not until one of the last pucks of the game that Joe Bermingham put over a fine point from the stand side to put us a goal ahead. We won on a scoreline of 2-14 to 1-14 in what was a deserved win for the club. It was our first piece of silverware since 2005 when the prize was again the East Intermediate Championship.

Well done to all players and management involved in what was to be our best result of the season.



Congratulations to Michael Wilkinson on being awarded the East Intermediate Hurling Player of the Year 2010



Kevin Ryan & Liam McCarthy 'rolling back the years' during the Lá na gClub Celebrations last year

## Intermediate County Hurling Championship

Our Championship began with a clash with Tournafulla in the first round of the Intermediate Hurling Championship in Kilmallock.

The game began slowly, with both teams slow out of the blocks, with us eventually getting the first score. Points were exchanged with little between the teams due to a great reaction save from Pat Mc in goals; until just before half time when we got a goal courtesy of Stephan Frawley to give us a 1-6 to 7 points lead at half time. We came out more determined after half time and soon had Tournafulla under constant pressure, while extending our lead to the end and restricting Tournafulla to a single point in the half. We won deservedly on a scoreline of 1-15 to 8 points.

The following week we played Monaleen in round 2 of the Intermediate Hurling Championship in Claughaun. Monaleen got the first score from a free and followed it up with another.

We got our first score in the form of a goal that dropped short from a free

taken by Mike Wilkinson, Joe Bermingham was also to score in this half. Monaleen forged ahead with more frees and a scrappy goal themselves to leave us trailing 1-6 to 1-2 at half time. On the restart Monaleen again started the stronger and it took until the latter part of the second half to get fully into the game. Wilkinson pointing several frees and being added to by Joe Bermingham and Andrew Ryan. We had the chance to get a goal from a penalty, but unfortunately it went over rather than under the bar. Things became very exciting in the dying minutes when Liam O'Rourke who came on as a sub injected some extra life into the attack and got a point; until another point drew us level to leave things at fever pitch level. However it wasn't to be as Monaleen reapplied pressure and forced two late frees to give them a 1-12 to 1-10 lead at the final whistle.

In what turned out to be our final game we played Dromin/Athlacca in our last group game in the IHC. The game started slowly, with Dromin

getting the first point after a few minutes. Most of the play was between the two 45's. It took us a while to score but we did with Andrew Ryan scoring a long range free. I'm afraid Dromin began to take control of the game with the concession of several frees, despite us having the wind. We were dealt a blow 25 minutes into the match as we were reduced to 14 men after Damien Browne was sent off after an off the ball incident. Things did not improve much after the break with our full forward line becoming increasingly more isolated and we began to come under pressure in all areas of the pitch and we conceded several more points from play. Mike Wilkinson and Joe Bermingham were our only two scorers in the second half. We eventually lost on a scoreline of 15 points to 6. Despite the disappointing result, we still managed to do better than the previous year and avoided a relegation battle. It can also be said that the younger players stepped up to the mark this season and made a very good contribution.

## Junior B Hurling

We played against Caherline in the Brian Butler Cup in what was a tight affair, with Colm Teefy getting a lot of the scores on the day; unfortunately we lost on a scoreline of 2-11 to 1-11. Next we played Liberties in the East League in what ended 1-10 a piece. We then unfortunately lost heavily to Doon.

We proceeded to the East Championship where we beat Knockane in the first round and Pallas gave us a beating in the next round however we redeemed ourselves with a good performance against Caherline; this allowed us to get another bite of the cherry due to results from other fixtures. Again it was Pallas who provided the opposition in the playoff. The half time score was 5 points to 3 to Pallas. After half time our intended push to the victory line was thwarted by a resilient Pallas who by now had been restored to a full compliment of players. We conceded several points in quick succession midway through the half which killed off the game after which we had plenty of possession, but we put chance after scoreable chance wide. Our Championship run for the year ended as we lost on a scoreline of 10 points to 1-3.



## Under 18's

In our first Minor match of 2010 we were well beaten in Caherelly by Caherline on a scoreline of 4-10 to 7 points, most of our scores coming from John Ryan, Darragh Martin and Conor Grene, with the likes of Andrew McLoughlin, Raymond Ford, Joe Stack and John Casey also playing well.

In our second match despite barely putting together a team and having no expectation for the game we went to Granagh/ Ballingarry and showed excellent team spirit and won the match 6-9 to 1-9 most of scores came from John Ryan, Liam O'Rourke, Darragh Martin, John Casey, Conor Grene, Steven Tynan and John Stack, with great performances from Andrew McLoughlin, Michael Tynan and John Mitchell. This was a great result which put a sense of belief into the team.

In our third match we were beaten by a decent Creora team, the final score 17 points to 2-6, best on the day for us was John Stack in goals, Liam O'Rourke, Kevin Blackwell and Darragh Martin outfield.

A sickening one point defeat to Monagea on a scoreline of 1-11 to 15 points meant our chances of qualification were slim, best on the day for us was Liam O'Rourke, John Casey and John O'Dea, with John Ryan getting most of our scores.

We faced a massive test against a strong Killeely team, points from John Ryan, Liam O'Rourke and Darragh

Martin meant we were ahead by a point at half time with the score at 5-4. We went out all guns blazing at the start of the second half and we were unlucky to concede a goal halfway through the second half. Further points from Darragh Martin and John Ryan meant we were still in the game in the final minutes, the score was 1-7 to 7 points while we pushed bodies forward in search of a goal, but unfortunately we were caught on the break and conceded a second goal in the last minute leaving the final score 2-7 to 7 points. Brilliant team performance from the boys, especially from Liam O'Rourke, Darragh Martin, John Ryan, Andrew McLoughlin, Kevin Blackwell John Casey, John Mitchell and John O'Dea.

Although we did not have much success in winning games it was a very productive and successful season of hurling. A big thanks to Ian McLoughlin for coaching the team throughout the year and putting the belief and energy into the team that we needed.

The panel for the year was: Darragh Martin, Liam O'Rourke, Andrew McLoughlin, John Mitchell, Joe Stack, John Ryan, John Casey, John Stack, John O'Dea, Joe Barry, Raymond Ford, Steven Tynan, Michael Tynan, Conor Grene, Kevin Blackwell, John Kennedy, Jamie O'Donoghue, Daniel McGuire and Matt Mitchell

## Under 21 Championships

In January last year it was decided that the Ballybricken/Bohermore Club would join forces with Killeely/Dromkeen and enter the Premier Championship in Under 21 Hurling and Football for the 2010 season. This followed a successful amalgamation between the two clubs at Minor level over the previous two years.

We played our first Hurling Championship match against Patrickswell in March under lights in Knocklong and after being reduced to 14 men after five minutes we battled very well and eventually were beaten by just three points. We played Ballybrown early April in the Gaelic Grounds and produced our best performance of the year, lead changed throughout the game and we were two points behind in injury time, a late free led to a goal and we recorded a great one point win over a worthy opposition. We played Ahane in our third match in Caherconlish and while competing well we were eventually beaten by a couple of scores. Ná Piarasaigh were our opposition in the County Quarter Final and in a game played in Bruff, we were well beaten by a very strong and skilful side. Ná Piarasaigh went on to win the County Premier Final, beating Adare in a thrilling match.

Our Football Championship started with a game against Pallasgreen, this was a game we should have won as we had a big lead at half time, we eventually had to settle for a draw.

Our second game was against Mungret in Cloughaun and we played some excellent football and won the game easily. This left our final group game against Newcastle West and we were rank outsiders as they had beaten us comprehensively in the Minor County Final last year. We were well down at half time having played against a strong wind; the team put in a huge effort and eventually won the game by two points in an exciting finish. The team must take great credit for a tremendous effort and it certainly erased the memory of the Minor Final of 2009.

We went through to a semi-final as winners of our group and after a number of weeks delay, we played Bruff in Ballyagran. We were slow to settle and conceded some handy scores in the first half. We improved our performance in the second half and eventually lost by a couple of scores.

We have a very young panel and we will certainly improve in the coming two seasons. The experience of playing at premier level will certainly stand to the lads in the years ahead. The panel of players included Ian McLoughlin, Kevin Ryan, Eoin Kirby, Darragh Lyons, Enda Frawley, Sean Browne, Liam O'Rourke, Paul Martin, Darragh Martin, Andrew McLoughlin and John Ryan.