

2003 Footballers (U14) – Team report for Juvenile AGM 16.11.17

The year started out quite well for the team, in terms of player numbers and participation. We started the year with 21 players on the books, having grown our numbers steadily over the previous 12 months.

Challenge Games

Played 3 challenge games in January against Dublin opposition with a couple of very competitive games against Baldoyle (1 point loss), Westmanstown (1 point win), and a mismatch against St. Vincents' U14's B Team who we beat by 3-13.

Cross County League

The first year of the U13 & 15 cross county leagues saw the team requesting to be graded and play as U15 reserves. Our first game was against Clonbrony / Wolf Tones from Longford who beat us by 5-22 to 1-6.

After subsequent enquiries with the league organisers it transpired that the team had been incorrectly graded as a Division 1 full U15 team, and we withdrew from the competition after organisers decided it was not possible to regrade the team.

Played a pre-Feile challenge game against Skryne and lost by 1-8.

Feile - 2nd Weekend in April

Team had a very good run in the Feile with 19 from 20 players attending, supplemented by 4 lads from 2004 team. Four wins against Walterstown, Simonstown, St Pats and Kilmainhamwood saw the team progress to Sundays quarter-final where we lost out to Kilbride by a couple of point, despite a valiant effort.

The club supported us well in our preparations for Feile by allocating a training slot in the arena over the winter months when pitches were closed. Suggest the 2004 team are afforded the same for Feile 2018.

Spring League

Spring league started on April 13th, with a what appeared to be a hangover from the Feile, with consecutive home losses to Walterstown, Senchalstown and Simonstown. Good away wins followed against Longwood / Clonard and Gael Colmcille, a loss away to Dunboyne and a walkover against St. Cuthberts.

Summer league in July saw two losses away to St. Cuthberts and at home to Longwood / Clonard. Player availability having a big effect in both games.

Championship

Championship saw the side lose out to a very good Skryne team, and then in the shield another loss to Longwood / Clonard.

U15 – League

Joined up with 8/9 lads from the U15 team in September to participate in Autumn League as U14 football had finished for the year.

Wins against Walterstown, Drumconrath / Meath Hill and a walkover to Rathkenny), coupled with losses against St. Cuthberts and St. Olivers, meant the team qualified for a semi-final against St. Olivers.

Semi-final was a very tight affair (as was the league game against the same opposition), and the closeness of the tie was no reflective of the 2 goal losing margin, with both goals coming in the last 90 second of play.

Three of our U14 lads never trained for, or played U15.

Two of our U14's stuck at the U15's until the end, but weren't really able to make the step up and had limited game time.

Two of our U14's gave up on U15 football halfway through the league.

Some of the above are small in size compared to the majority of the group and might benefit from reserve football at this time. As Meath don't allow full age players to play reserve, this will be an issue next year when we join with the 2004 group.

We gained a player and lose a play early in the year. Some new recruits via the GPO would be nice, preferably big lads!!

Training attendance:

Tuesdays: Generally between 7 to 10 out of 20.

Thursday: Generally 10 to 15.

We gave up on Saturdays. Could be as low as 4 or as high as 13

Average attendance at matches: 17