

## Senior Ladies Report 2020

This was not certainly not the year we had planned for regarding Ladies Football in Galbally but, like everyone else in life at the minute, we had to go with what was within the Rules and Regulations regarding Covid-19.

Our Senior Ladies were under new management of Fergal Christie, Sarah Rafferty and Paul Allen and had a panel this year of 34 girls. They were training away together with fixtures originally to begin towards the end of February Feb time. Unfortunately, things did not work out as planned and, due to Covid-19, all football matches and collective training was stopped for a good few weeks as a “*lock-down*” was introduced! Training resumed after the GAA had ensured that proper sanitising, social distancing and all other health and safety measures were in place in place! Thankfully, the girls were delighted to resume training in June with the upcoming league to begin in July.

Our first league match afforded the ladies the honour of being the very first match to take place in Páirc an Phiarsaigh since the new Covid-19 Guidelines came into place. The girls played Coalisland in wet miserable conditions and from the look of the scoreboard at half-time, Coalisland ahead on by 4-01 to 1-04, it was difficult to see where to see a win for the home side was going to come from. An absolutely outstanding second half performance ensured that the girls recorder a fantastic first win of the year with final score 3-11 to 5-3, lifting everyone’s spirits.

The next match was away to The Rock, another wet miserable Friday evening. The girls dominated from the beginning and looking very strong with half time score 0-

2 to 1-05 to Galbally. The second half started a little shaky with Galbally only making their 1<sup>st</sup> score 15mins before the final whistle was blew! Thankfully they got themselves together and ended the game with a 7 point lead; final score 0-05 to 2-06.

The third league match was the following Friday at home once again against The Moy. Moy were probably rated the favourites going into this game but fair play to our girls they never give up their fight and at the end of the match The Moy won by a narrow gap of 3 points.

Just three days later, and with very little recovery time, our girls travelled to Clonoe for their final league match in their group. This was another tough match and at half time Clonoe were ahead by 3 points with the score line at 1-04 to 1-01. In the second half the girls were full of fight never giving up with some great score being made and they finished on a high winning by a single point finishing 2-06 to 2-07.

This got into the semi-final of the league play offs against Moy. This was played in the Moy and with great support for the girls they give it their all. Some poor decisions and a lot of injuries had a huge impact on their confidence and the overall game. Unfortunately, it wasn't to be their day; final score was Moy 1-12 to Galbally 0-08.

Just five days later and not much time for the injuries to recover, we travelled to Kildress for the first round of the championship. The first half seemed tight right up to the water break but after the break Kildress seemed a little hungrier and half time score was 2-06 to 1-02. With the injuries not helping our strong squad the second half just did not go as planned the match finished on a final score line of Kildress 4-10 to Galbally 2-05 .

This took our season to a close for the year! A big thank you goes to the management of our Senior Ladies 2020. The year ahead seems very positive with Fergal Christie staying on in the management team along with Malachy Kane! Ladies football is going from strength to strength in this club at all age levels and could not be done without the help and commitment of each of our coaches and sponsors! This year saw a big increase in our supporters attending which is a great lift to the girls especially at away games. Maybe next year another few will turn out as well.