



1981 - 2022 (41 years) At the Centre of Our Parish

A Cháirde, Dear Fellow Members and Volunteers

As per our Gaelic calendar an Samhain, its November and we remember bygone spirits and those of our families that have recently passed and those members who went before. We ask that you continue to connect post Covid years, to think about, support and talk to each other not just now but always. Effective support and teamwork (Méitheal) on and off the field is the cornerstone of our GAA Association, and the same applies for this Club now in its 41st year, in order for us to continue to succeed and keep as many people playing sport especially now as we have reached 2,600 members.

I would like to extend a huge thanks to the outgoing Executive in helping steer the club as it has been difficult few years for all. Despite this, as you can see from the financial statements that the club is in a good place. Special mention to Neil Fogarty who steps down as Juvenile Chairperson, Maeve Kearns who steps down as Club Treasurer and Veronica Donnelly steps down as Secretary. In particular thanks to Debbie McDaid who steps down from the Executive after many years service and continues to manage the Ladies Camogie team alongside Eoin Murphy. Both Ronan Bourke as Adult Games Chair and Neil Fogarty as Juvenile Chair working with Eddie Bouabbse, Director of Coaching have achieved great work in putting shape and structure on our ever growing number of teams – 74 teams and counting.

Congratulations to the Senior Ladies Camogie Team on winning their Championship Final and Adult Mens football team managed by member Michael Brides on their promotion to Division 1, both tremendous achievements. Our ladies Football continue to make strides each year all the way to Division 3 and our very young hurling team are holding their own. Our minor teams are increasing in numbers in all codes and will also continue put the club on the Dublin map.

Please note we have **our formal Adults wards on November the 18th** in the Talbot Hotel with a full house. Given above progress it will be a great night. Please support out Adult and Minor Mini all Irelands on Nov 26th It was a fantastic day last year. Also we have a **Mentors night on Sat November 26th with Liam Moggan talking about The Coaches Coach**”.



Pic: Aerial.ie

'Coaching the Coaches' Strategy:

Purpose: To improve our mentors/coaches education to help all players improve and get to be the best they can be.

Chloe Ní Cheallaigh a senior club player has joined as a GPO alongside Eddie our Director of Coaching and we like to express our thanks for their fantastic work they have delivered. Over 200 mentors have been trained this year, 600 children at various camps and 1,623 children coached in our schools in six week blocks. Strength and Conditioning and Planning for Success workshops are underway, showing the level of detail that will help teams get the best out of themselves.

Partners/ Sponsorship:

- We are very pleased to announce that we have secured the extension of our Sponsorship with IRES for another 5 years hence for our Adult Section. They have signed up to be one of three partners with our Sustainability initiatives. So we now have **openings for two more partners for the sustainability initiatives.**
- IRES have agreed to allow us to offer our **both Juvenile and academy sections for additional sponsorship opportunities.** So if you know of any entities that may have CSR budget and wish to partner with the club please do let us know. Regarding the extension with IRES the executive wish to express their sincere thanks to Conor Watters, a Senior football player and finance committee member who helped negotiate the new agreement.

Pitches and Facilities:

- We wish to thank **Brother Damien of the De la Salle Brothers** for the continued use of the lower St. Benildus pitches and is delighted to support our sustainability initiatives.
- We engaged the same company that DLR CoCo use to fertilise and aerated the lower Benildus pitches and this has made a marked difference to our playing surfaces. We intend to do this yearly at a minimum. We are in the process of refitting the two containers to provide stage lockers for each team's gear
- **Club Gym** – Is now open to Adult players and over 65s (off peak) for 50 euro. We are looking at extending this to active volunteer mentors as well.
- **Sports Grants** – we are looking to repurpose our sports grants for the like of **upgrading the existing floodlights to LED heads.** To maximise light it's best to have lights on both sides facing each other. To help achieve this we have **invested in a set of mobile lights to extend our training areas.**
- We have secured the **new Rosemont school floodlit Astro pitch in Fernhill** for our girls academy on Sunday mornings during the winter.
- **Planning Permission was sought for our Astro and Skills Wall extension and received in June this year.** The DLR biodiversity officer has requested a winter survey regarding the Brent geese to ensure they won't be disturbed during any building works and hence the delay. Please **support our 'buy a brick' fundraising campaign that will go towards the cost of this extension and future pitch improvements.**
- We wish to thank Paul Lyons, our clubhouse manager who in addition to his role as our head barman, for taking on the pitches allocation role seamlessly, engaging and maintaining relationships with all the various sponsors, Tribe and the clubs and use our club.
- Thanks to John O'Brien for regularly marking the pitches and Neil Fogarty for cutting the grass and both for keeping the pitches looking so well.

Important **Womens Health Wellbeing and Performance talks with hersport.ie** were organised thanks to Katie Grimes , Adult player and Executive member from U12s to Adult and Mentors. We received valuable insights on we can help encourage and retain more female players and female mentors.

The first **Corporate Lunch** in three years was held in September in Croke Park – Ger Murphy former St.Olaf's School Principle was presented with the Club's Hall of Fame Award in front of 300 attendees. A big thanks to Declan Murphy, John O'Brien, Ronan Bourke, Paul Lyons and Mary Shivnan for organising.

Our **Golf society** led by its captain Peter O'Brien and Secretary, Eileen Hickey had multiple successful outings this year and thank you to those that support this important social outlet. The irrepressible Brendan McGlynn continues to do trojan unseen work and connections with our local parish church of Ballally with Fr Lane and Fr Caffrey.

Please support our **club lotto** diligently run by Mick Brown our Club President and his committee.

https://play.clubforce.com/play_newa.asp?ll_id=297&ID=765888&RP=1#Anchor

The Executive encourages everyone to listen to the link below which discusses **respect to referees and behaviours on and from the side-lines**

<https://www.newstalk.com/podcasts/highlights-from-off-the-ball/the-saturday-panel-referee-abuse-silent-sidelines-pushy-parents-2>

Páirc Uí Bhríáin – memorial blessing

In September we honoured the memory of Barry O'Brien with his family and with matches between teams from Ólaf's, Castleknock and Ballyboden managed by Barry's brother David and Mick Brown's son Gavin. Barry's nephews and nieces played with both clubs. Back in February we moved Barry's memorial stone up to pitchside facing the sun and the Dublin mountains overlooking our grounds. Thanks to Kevin Birrane Jr for speaking about Barry, Barry's Brother David spoke very well. Thank you to Father Caffrey for saying a few words and a blessing and to Mary Shivnan for helping to organise a lovely day for Barry's Mother, Family, his friends and our club. Thanks to Tim Doyle, Bríain Doyle, Frank Keane and Neil Fogarty for helping move Barry's Memorial.

In June CLLR Lettie McCarthy as DLR CoCo Chair gave Naomh Ólaf a **DLR Cathaoirleach's award in recognition of services to the local community.**

The Adult & Minor Section had great fun in their first Mixed Mini Irelands which helped them all to get to know each other. Our **social hurling group** organised fantastic multi club blitz in April and set a marker for future events. Our Juvenile Mini Irelands were back for the first time in 3 years and 470 children enjoyed themselves. A big special thanks to the **Parents of the U15/16 Girls** who made the club proud by organising a brilliantly run cross country féile football final in July. It was very well received with the executives of the LGFA in attendance and shows what collaboration can do. Well done all.

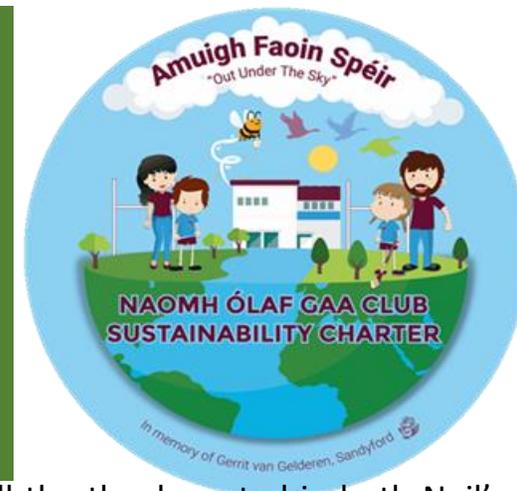


Sustainability Charter was launched in March in memory Gerritt van Gelderen. The Minister for Sport and Green Party TD Catherine Martin was in attendance & Cllr Oisín O'Connor members of the van Gelderen and Eamonn de Buitléar families.

<https://www.naomholaf.ie/the-club/sustainability.738.html> Neil Barrett is our Sustainability Officer and any help is welcome.

Thanks to Pat Kavanagh for his work on the clubs tractor and managing and **harvesting honey from our 3 rooftop Beehives** with the assistance of Pat Gogarty. Due to a long winter and poor weather the harvest was smaller than expected. The beehives are **sponsored by Brennan and Co, Clayton Hotel Leopardstown and SBD, Sandyford Business District.**

Mastercard staff and charities committee have raised money to plant smaller native tree copse sized **Pocket Forests** along the Benildus Avenue wall/fence. Planting will take place in Jan /Feb and with Br Damien's permission.



Thank you to everyone for getting our players to matches, coaching them though all weathers and dark evenings . I echo all the thanks noted in both Neil's Juvenile and Veronicas Secretary's report and won't repeat them here. Thank you to every single volunteer, all our players and parents/families that support them, making the daily commitment to ensure these players of all ages attend training and matches, make friends, learn life skills, become better people and stay active as long as possible in the club. Maoilíosa Ó Dubhthaigh your Vice Chairperson and Children's Welfare Officer does trojan work in the background and please continue to support and cooperate with his critical work. **Our county board delegates** Liam Kavanagh, Kevin Birrane Snr and the ladies Associations Declan Naughton and Eoin O'Riain. We also very fortunate to have Jim Shanahan involved the Dublin County Camogie Executive and John O'Brien on the Dublin County CCC. It's also been really great to see so many Senior players begin to help with coaching younger teams as Barry O'Brien did so 20 years ago.

Thank you to all mentors, especially those who lead groups, take on the challenging but rewarding role of managing groups of young people to promote physical activity, positive mental health, our games and our club. We can all now look forward to supporting each other into the decade ahead and what it may bring is now tangible in terms of improved facilities and the continuing success and growth of our teams and the friendships and support across the club. Thank you to all our sponsors and please do let us know if you can source more to take on our Academy of over 400 children and the Juvenile Section. We continue to be very proud of all our players involved with Dublin/Development squads who increase year on year and its a testament to their coaches, parents and teammates that they get these opportunities to represent Naomh Ólaf at the highest level, This year Christine Shanahan in Camogie, Jim's daughter, joined David Byrne as a Senior Dublin player. Maith Thú to all our players and mentors across all age groups and our academy from which small acorns grow to be our future Oak trees.

And if isn't too soon, we hope everyone in the parish has a happy warm Christmas no matter how you celebrate this special time. Nollaig Shona. Here's to the year ahead 2023, a bright future ahead and thank you all again for being part of our Club. Each one of us/You are the club, you are the friendly welcoming Culture and the very same reason more members continue to join in to experience what we creating here by working together.

ÓLAF's ABÚ! Seán Ó Somacháin (John Somers), An Cathaoirleach **CLG Naomh Ólaf**

So with all the above in mind:
To All Naomh Ólaf Members:
Please can you
help/Support/Sponsor your
local community GAA club?

Note: Our academy and
juvenile sections are available
for sponsorship



We need more volunteers
to help the club as it
continues to grow
beyond 2,500 Members

Support Suggest Volunteer



Your local GAA Club needs you

Naomh Ólaf GAA Club have 2583
members, 74 Teams, academy of
426 players and growing

We are looking for new ideas,
solutions and support to help
develop our club around our
community

Do you want to:

- Give back?
- Volunteer your own time?
- Help raise funds?
- Manage/support a team?
- Voice your solutions, ideas,
suggestions and follow through
with implementing them?

If you would like to get involved please
contact us below



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www.naomholaf.ie

CLG Naomh Ólaf
now has 2,600 members:

To put this in perspective:
There are 873 Towns, Cities and
Agglomerations in the Rep of Ireland

- 85% or 744 of these towns are less
than 2,600
- 15% or only 144 of these towns and
cities are larger than our GAA club



Census Town	Clara	Offaly	3,336
Agglomeration	Skibbereen	Cork	2,778
Census Town	Donegal Town	Donegal	2,618
Agglomeration	Boyle	Roscommon	2,568
Census Town	Castleisland	Kerry	2,486
Census Town	Athboy	Meath	2,445
Census Town	Kenmare	Kerry	2,376
Census Town	Killorglin	Kerry	2,199
Census Town	An Daingean (Dingle)	Kerry	2,050
Census Town	Abbeyfeale	Limerick	2,023
Census Town	Enniskerry	Wicklow	1,889
Census Town	Rosslare	Wexford	1,620
Census Town	Clifden	Galway	1,597
Census Town	Adare	Limerick	1,129

Appendices: Naomh ÓLAF: Development Projects 2023 - 2025

2017 2021 2022 Within 1yrs time 3 yrs time 4 yrs time
Nov 2023 2024 2025



Astro Skills Wall –
planning Submitted
Extension 2023



Over 18's Gym/Physio
Completed in 2021



Upgrade of Floodlights
to LED? 2023



Potential for an All
weather Prunty Pitch?
on 2024/5

Dependency still on receiving
De La Salle permission and DLR
Planning Permission

Our Mission/Goals -The Club wants all our players, all ages, genders, codes to play, to enable them to become the best they can be whatever their levels, to have fun and become better people as a result of representing **Naomh Ólaf GAA Club**. We are working on the cornerstones that allows that to happen



1	Safe Place Support
2	Learn Life Skills Resilience
3	Good Habits
4	Fun Friends Social
5	Player Team Athlete
6	Culture Behaviours
7	Give Back Volunteer
8	Better People – Challenge to get the best out of themselves
9	Connects Community
10	Mindset Resilience

Ólaf Us - The 8 C's Circle The Club's Ecosystem

1. Culture – see below
2. Connect Care Competence
3. Communicate Consistency message Positive Coaching
4. Compete – Coaching Collaborative Team Work, Creative Skill and
5. Critical Thinking and Making Decisions, Performing Under Pressure
6. Coaching standards – Coaching the Coaches to improve our players
7. Circle Back – Ólaf Players can then become coaches, managers, club officers 
8. Community – be the centre of our parish and a positive place to visit

Culture is the key Pillar & foundation of continued success

Our Club and you, All 2,583 members, now has the positive challenge of how to maintain our friendly culture as we continue to grow and become more successful on and off the pitches.

There is a definition of Culture that says “it’s the collection of observable actions by all those involved in an organisation or club” like ourselves. Respect and Support each other

We/You/Ólaf Us are our Club Culture.

“The strength and depth of your culture isn’t determined by how much you win, but rather by how you deal with adversity and the struggle to succeed. A strong culture involves a group of people who come together in times of difficulty.” (Allistair McCaw) Our GAA response to Covid has proved that.

If we as a Club wish to be successful and be taken seriously then we need to first take ourselves seriously should we wish to progress – So Progression in 2021/2022?– How? What have we done And how are we doing to get there?

To achieve our goals we need to work collaboratively on the following:

- On Funding and Sponsorship to support the club improvements and team/players needs
- Engage with our community
- Our Partners & Sponsors
- DLR, SBID and De La Salle

On the best equipment and supports

- Strength & Conditioning – in place
- Video Analysis – in place
- GPS – data analytics – in place
- Sports Psychologists – in place
- Nutritionists – in place

On Improving standards – for coaches and players

- Skills Practice
- Game based training
- Coach the Coaches



On IMPROVING TRAINING PRACTICE AND PLAYING & SOCIAL FACILITIES

- New Physio Room – Sparc for all - in place
- New Weights Room and Aerobic Area – in place
- New playground and walkway
- New storage containers
- New Hall Heating System, new boiler
- New Security access system
- New barrier entrance
- New Bar ceiling and painting, blinds, sanding
- New outside social area, cleaned up building site

On Ensuring a safe friendly atmosphere & environment for all

- Juvenile Vetting
- Children Welfare
- GPO into local Schools - in place
- Health and Well Being
- Sustainability Charter
- Committees in place



Please take a look at the various **Club Website** Updates

www.Naomholaf.ie (Special thanks to James Shiel)



Sustainability
Our Green Charter, and how we're working together to make a difference.



About Us
Who we are, what we do, and where we're going!



Club History
Our Viking past and humble beginnings.



Academy
Home to our future stars. Information for new joiners.



Teams: Senior
All about our ladies and mens teams in football, hurling & camogie.



Teams: Juvenile
All about our girls and boys teams in football, hurling & camogie.

- "Club Overview" @ <http://www.naomholaf.ie/the-club.8.html>
- "Club History" @ <http://www.naomholaf.ie/the-club/club-history.236.html>
- "About Us" @ <http://www.naomholaf.ie/the-club/about-us.235.html>
- "Fixtures" page now links to Debbie's Twitter listing of fixtures weekly @ <http://www.naomholaf.ie/fixturesresults.207.html>
- Weekly newsletter embedded into the "News" page @ <http://www.naomholaf.ie/nuacht.9.html>
- "Sustainability & Green Charter" with help from the van Gelderen family @ <http://www.naomholaf.ie/the-club/sustainability.738.html>
- New Page for the "Gaelic for Mothers & Others" group @ <http://www.naomholaf.ie/the-club/gaelic-for-mothers-and-others.741.html>
- New Page for the "Social Hurling" group @ <http://www.naomholaf.ie/the-club/social-hurling.740.html>

Club Strategic Roadmap from 2019 -2022 and onwards



**At the Heart of Our Community
for 41 years**

