



## **Midleton RFC CLG AGM 2020 Committee Reports**

**Due to COVID-19 restrictions in place at the time of our AGM, the following reports will be adopted as presented. 13<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

***(Note: Presidents address, Chairpersons Address, Minutes of AGM 2019 & Treasurers report are presented at the AGM so not included here)***



## Rugby Report

Please see below Director of rugby report for season 2019/2020

Once again another season in the Energia AIL is completed although the season finished up short due to the current pandemic it was an up and down season.

Pre-season started well with a few good games in the run up to the AIL. We regained the Cyril Fitzgerald plate with a home win over Sundays Well.

We were then into AIL and had a tough first game away to league new comers Enniscorthy on the 5th of October, we lost that game 22-3. A week later we had our first home game of the season where we defeated Bangor 26-15 and another good home win a week later against Bruff 23-10. We were off to a decent enough start with 2 wins from the first three games.

After the break of three games we were away to Skerries who came down from 2b the season before and put in a disappointing performance losing 27-3, a week later we were at home to Omagh and again disappointingly lost 19-33 having conceded some opportunistic try's they left Townspark with their first win down here.

A quick turnaround to the Friday night in IIP we took on Sundays well and came out 2nd best in all departments losing 24-6.

On the 30th of November we welcomed AIL newcomers Clonmel to Townspark and lost 6-21, we were then on the road to Tullamore in what was a massive bottom of the table clash and despite playing better rugby injuries and squad depth took its toll in the end losing 29-17, a week later on the 14th of December we were at home to City of Derry and had a vital 18-3 win in the last game of 2019.

The 2020 season opened with an away trip to City of Derry on the 11th of January and we came away with a heart breaking defeat losing 10-6 in the final minutes of the game.

We then had Tullamore at home on the 25th of January and lost 14-28. We were now at the bottom of the table with serious sole searching to do for everyone. In fairness to the squad they set goals for the remaining part of the season and a big thanks to Gary Colbert for facilitating this for us.

On the 13th of February tragedy hit Midleton RFC with the sad passing of senior squad member Cormac Ryan. Chorm was a character to say the least and had many friends all over the world not to mind in Midleton. All the lads stuck together in searching for him and wouldn't stop until he was home. The club can hold their heads high in the moving tributes to Cormac and hopefully it was some bit of comfort for the family at an unbelievably tragic time. I have to thank Kevin Beggs in the IRFU and Clonmel who kindly postponed the game in respect to Chorm.

On the 22nd of February it was back to rugby and still in the emotions of an extremely tough week for our young lads we went out and played Sundays well with Chorms memory deep in the hearts of the lads and came away with a massive 31-5 win.

We then made the long trip to Omagh and this had all the dramas of rugby. There was a weather warning all week for that day up there and it didn't prove wrong. In blizzard type conditions we



snatched a 15-19 win with a try in the last play of the game. It made the long trek home a lot easier and for some reason a bit shorter.

Little did we know that would be our last game of the season with the Corona virus creating havoc on all fixtures and of course our lives. We finished bottom but with a new lease of life we were going to finish strong.

Our 2nds competed in the J2 league once again and again this was a good competitive league. All games were on Friday nights and we ended finishing 3rd in that behind CON and UCC. We fulfilled all fixtures which was great and at times testing but strong numbers were at training meant we could get 2 squads out at a weekend. I have to say thanks for Morgan O Connell and Keith Cocking for their tireless work during the season in keeping the team going.

Looking forward to this season briefly Ken Murphy has come on board as forwards coach and Stuart Lee has stepped up to the role of player coach of the backs with Tom as head coach. The 3 lads are working hard off the fields planning ahead and with the season we have its an ideal time to bring through some young talented players and get them up to speed with senior rugby level. I wish our club captain Bryan Moore best of luck for the coming season.

Our underage in the next few seasons is exciting and the club needs these young men to come through and play senior rugby for Midleton.

I have to mention young Danny McCarthy who has been brought onto the national u18 training squad this is deserving reward for a young man who puts in a lot of work off the field , not only is it good for Danny but its great for the club and his proud parents. I wish Danny the best of luck in his season ahead.

Id like to thank Bryan Morris, Christy Condon and Tom Mulcahy for their tireless work during the season its 5 or 6 days a week between planning and all else going on and they always done what was best for the squad and club. Thanks to all the underage coaches and volunteers in which a club does not operate without. thanks to our club child welfare officers Jennifer and Tracy for making sure all coaches were Garda vetted and so on. To Colette and her team at Imokilly physio a massive thanks for their professionalism as always. Thanks to Jason Boyle for doing video for all our games. Thanks to Dr. Diarmuid Mulcahy for his match assistance for all our home games and off field advise also is greatly appreciated. To all our sponsors thank you, a club cannot survive without your valuable donations, it's not easy keeping a club on the road in the AIL.

David Ryan – Director of Rugby



## Lotto Report

I would like to thank my lotto committee Ivor Smyth, Frank Murphy, George Jeffery, Donal and Sheila Falvey and Jennifer Cashman for what has been a tough year.

The Jackpot for the lotto is standing at €17,800. Tickets sales were climbing due to high Jackpot then the year took a strange turn like no one could have predicted with the global pandemic of Covid 19. This put a quick stop to our lotto where we had to suspend it from the middle of March.

Also we lost one of our biggest seller of tickets by the passing of the legend that was Jim Eady. Jim raised thousands over the years for our lotto and will be greatly missed not only in the lotto but will be a big loss to the club itself.

With all the pubs closed at the moment we would find it difficult to have our weekly draws, we don't know what the future holds for our lotto in the current form. But of course as always we will keep you posted.

Tracy McCarthy  
Lotto Chairperson



## Grounds Report

### Cricket Field:

In the cricket field the soccer club have been renting what was our training pitch. The College have always been very good to us and they allow us to use their pitches on Saturday mornings and for the Seniors to do their warm ups.

When the ESB wanted to run an underground cable from Hurleys Super Value to the Distillery, part of the agreement I had with the ESB was that they would shift the six Lights in the cricket field for us. In Sept 19 we got the six poles and lights moved to the railway end of the cricket field. In Dec we got a mini digger from Dave power plant hire and we laid a new cable for the lights, we then got them connected up. I would like to thank the people who helped out to this work my grounds team Charlie Moore, Niall McCarthy , Mick Cashman ( organised the digger ) and Dave Ryan ( who organised the cable and did the electrical side of it ). The total cost of this job came down to the purchasing of the cable which came in at around €500 !!!!

The lights are good but however we still have a problem with social drinking and with broken glass and bottles left there.

We are so lucky to have a good relationship with the college as we help one another out, we allow them access through the club carpark and when there is a ladies soccer match on we allow the College the use of the dressing rooms and we have let them use our pitch and dressing rooms for senior games if need be. The college in particular Clive Seale has been very easy to deal with and we have a good understanding of each other, which may have something to do with knowing one another for 35 years plus !!

### Fertilising and Spraying :

Since the season finished in May 2019 and up to August of 2020 we have managed to get fertiliser (twice) out on the pitches, mini area and the cricket field ( not the soccer area) and we have sprayed them twice as well using Galaxy spray. We also sprayed with Roundup around the buildings and the car park.

### Grass Repair :

I would like to thank Dan McCarthy who got us good quality top soil and we did not have to pay for it. We have done a lot of re-seeding and putting out of topsoil in areas that needed it on the main pitch and also the 2nd pitch. I would like to thank Niall & Mick for all the grass cutting and they have done a great job with it.

### The Gym & Dressing Rooms :

In December we lost our tenant in the gym, Kevin has joined up with another group in Blackpool. We wish Kevin all the best in his new venture. Since the first lockdown for Covid -19 back in mid March the gym has been closed to all user!

We have been cleaning it and the dehumidifier have been keeping the place well maintained.

In June 2019 we had a problem with the dressing room drainage all the drains in the showers were blocking up so Mick and myself tried rodding them but there was a problem with the septic tank was full so we had to call on another favour and McDonnells came in and sucked it out for us they never charged for it !!

In July we hired a hoist to power wash the Gym building and the old dressing rooms and clubhouse we had it for a week at a cost of €200 ! Mick organised the power washer from Dave Power Plant



hire and I and Charlie Moore washed it . Dave Ryan connected up new LED light on the outside of the building using the hoist to do this as well.

**Mini Area Lights :**

With the Covid-19 hitting us hard it has been hard to make progress with the lighting for the Mini Area, however I have been keeping contact with Conor Day who will be doing the contract and we have been talking to Philips to get the right flux readings for to this they will visit the sight draw up a lighting program and we take it from there.

**Other Jobs Done :**

We did a lot of hedge cutting we cut behind the school, out by the footh path (Twice), down behind the goals on the 2nd pitch.

We built a Manhole around the famous fire hydrant belonging to the school and back filled it with topsoil.

We power washed all the advertising hoarding around the place. I would like to thank Terry O'Leary on a great job he has done with the signage around the main pitch they look very good now and good quality.

The tractor was serviced and we got the blades sharpened the John Deer ride on lawnmower which was in the back of the contain- er for 18 months was sold for €750.

Draper Tools : I would like to thank Tom Mulcahy and Draper tools for supplying us with all the ground work equipment that we need to keep the club going and their sponsorship of this equipment has had a substantial saving to the club.

**THANK YOU'S !**

- I would like two start by thanking our TWO FAS workers both Garoid & Freddy are excellent around the place you ask the lads to do something and it is done. They have painted inside and outside of all the buildings, also during the Covid-19 the lads have worked away. We are blessed to have two good lads like this.
- I would like to thank AMAC next door to us especially Aidan Murphy very obliging and helpful.
- I would like to thank Robin Forrest & Denis Kelleher for giving me advice and guiding me when i have asked for it.
- I would like to thank my Grounds Committee Mick Cashman, Niall McCarthy, Charlie Moore, Jason Boyle and Dave Ryan.
- Finally I would like to Thank The Chairman and the general committee for their support and faith that they have had in me and my committee.
- Thanking You !

Graham Eady  
Chairman of the Grounds



## Bar Report

Dear Members,

Firstly I would like to thank everyone for the opportunity to be Bar Chairman for the year just gone and the support shown by members of the club. It has been a tough year both on and off the field and it has been a tough year in the clubhouse as well. We have tried to keep upgrading the clubhouse as much as possible and improving facilities for the members but with Covid all work is just the basic to keep it in good repair but the clubhouse is 22 years old and is starting to show its age and it's starting to cost a bit more to keep it maintained.

We have tried to tackle the heating issue a bit, we lower the ceilings in all the toilets in an effort make the space smaller, this has helped a small bit but we will see over the coming months. I would like to thank Morgan O'Connell for his work putting up the ceiling and to Tommy Lynch for providing the materials.

In the coming year I think we need to look at the windows in the clubhouse as they provide no insulating value and are starting to split in places and are adding to running costs of the club.

We also replaced the tiles in the hall in front of the bar area as some were cracked and there was a health and safety concern with these tiles as they were not up to friction levels and there was a fear that someone would slip and fall on these. Again I would like to Thank Tommy Lynch of Lynch Tiles for his help, advice and contribution to this work and to all the help he has given me during the year.

The bar has been closed more or less since March except for 2 events we ran for club members, 1 in July, A sit down dinner and a second we ran in August that started off as a BBQ but due to Covid restrictions we had to change it to a sit down meal. Both of these were well received and there was a lot of positive feedback as to the way the events were ran in accordance with Covid restrictions outlined by Failte Ireland. A lot of members were grateful for the safe night out and a welcome escape from the stress of the current climate. I think we as a club to need to adapt to, what appears to be, the new normal but there is an unwillingness by some to change, but in order for us to be there for our members we need to work within regulations and get the clubhouse up and running again.

As always I have a lot of people to thank as I cannot do it all myself, Firstly I want to thank our chef Rory Graham and his wife Mandy for all their hard work during the year, not just the pre match lunches but other events during the year, from funerals, to remembrance services and birthday parties and of course our pre match lunches, and having been to couple of others we definitely have one of the best in the country.

I would like to thank our Social Chairperson Carol O'Leary for her hard work and help during the year, hosting and serving the pre match lunches and her work fund raising and her help with events in the club.



A special mention has to go to Gearoid and Freddy for their work around the club since they started in the club, from cleaning, cutting hedges, washing the buildings and at the moment all the sanitising that they are doing, thank you.

I would like to thank Mick Cashman and Graham Eady for their help during the year, in fairness they do a lot of work around the club, a lot of work that people don't know about and the club would be at a huge loss without either of these men.

I want to thank Tracy and Jen for their work during the year from serving in the bar on Saturday mornings to setting up for the pre match lunch as well as serving the lunch and all the other work around the club, again either would be a huge loss to the club.

I would like to thank everyone that helped with 2 emotionally hard days in the club during the year, when we lost Cormac and Jim, The club offered its facilities to the families and the entire club stood up and gave them a huge send off, as was only right for our members. Thank you all so much.

Finally I would like to thank, our President, Mr Con Walsh, Our Chairman, George Jeffery and all the committee as well as all the members for their help, support and advise during the year and I can only hope that we'll all meet again soon and get back to cheering on all our teams on the pitches!

Niall McCarthy





### **Fixtures Report**

No report – as It's normally at the latter end of the season that fixtures need to be changed but we didn't get to that stage this year because of Covid.

### **Branch Report**

No report

### **PRO Report**

No report

### **Social & Fundraising Report**

No report