

Suncroft GFC Annual General Meeting 2011

Agenda

- Opening Address
- Minutes of Last years AGM
- Secretary's Report
- Treasures Report
- Chairman's Address
- Election of Officers & Executive Committee
- Election of Team Managers/Selectors
- Ratify under age and Ladies Committee's AGM
- 5 year Strategic Plan
- Community & Culture, PR and Communications
- Finance & Fundraising
- Coaching & Games
- Development & Facilities
- AOB

Secretary's Report for year 2011

Presented by Club Secretary Shane Kavanagh

Team reports

Teams - Senior

David Clancy was initially ratified as senior manager in February 2011 for the year. In June Mick Stynes agreed to take over as Senior Team manager for the remainder of the season. The Club would like to thank John Moore, Christopher Brennan and David Clancy for their work in the early part of the season. Ollie Brannock and Paul Sinnot who were also selectors with David Clancy continued to work with Mick Stynes for the remainder of the season.

Seniors - Aldridge Cup

The Aldridge Cup was our first official competition and while we did not progress beyond the group stage, and with little training, we did manage to show some good early form.

Senior League Division 2

The seniors played in division 2 and the team started positively with good win over Moorefield however the team suffered a lot of injuries and failure of the county board to release county players hampered our progress midway through the league which resulted in us missing a chance of promotion. We retained our status in Division 2 and next year the first target of the Senior team will be to win Division 2.

Championship

We were drawn against Ballymore in the first round and to be fair Ballymore were far the better prepared team and we suffered a disappointing loss.

Due to the Kildare Senior team progress in the All Ireland qualifiers the club championship was put on hold. This worked to our advantage and gave the players time to prepare for the second round against Athy. This game was a real championship game and a much improved Suncroft side battled very hard and had Athy down to the wire however a last minute penalty from Athy gave them a 6 point cushion in the end. Apart from the disappointment of suffering a loss we also suffered another injury blow to John Brown.

The next game we had was against Clane and this turned out to be a real battle and Suncroft to their credit never gave up however we narrowly lost out in the end. This result meant Suncroft needed to win their next game against Kilcock to try and avoid a regulation battle. In fairness to the players they approached the Kilcock game with great heart and played some great football and were rewarded with victory over Kilcock. Despite this great victory Suncroft had to play in the regulation playoff and once again the draw gave us Kilcock. Suncroft played Kilcock again won the game and secured senior status for the club. The fact that Suncroft beat the same team twice in the championship is an excellent achievement and one that both the Club and its supporters really appreciate.

The club would like to take this opportunity to thank the team manager Mick Stynes, Team trainer Killian Brennan, team selectors Ollie Brannock, Paul Sinnott, and the infamous Eamon Ryan for their dedication and commitment during the year.

Senior B League and Championship.

The management used this league and championship to help guide younger players and prepare them for Senior Football. This initiative worked very well and we had some great league wins and narrowly missed playoff position. The Championship sadly was disappointing as injuries caught up with us in the end. I would personally like to thank the players, Dessie Brannock & Johnny Moore for their help, work and commitment during the year.

Minors

After a successful season in 2010 this team put in a immense performance and paid off reaching the league semi finals. They also reached the Championship quarter finals after an impressive win over our nearest neighbours St Laurence's. Sadly Injuries hampered the quarter final performance. Thanks again to the players, Christopher Brennan and Johnny Moore for their work and commitment.

Under 21's

A very professional approach was taken this year with the under 21's. Suncroft has a very young under 21 side and indeed only one player will be overage for next years championship. Alan Middleton was manager and Killian Brennan again took over team training and an immense effort was put into this young side. I would like to also thank Wayne Middleton for the time he spent with this under 21 side. Along side Alan & Killian was Anthony Toft and Daniel Whelan. Their first match was against Rathangan and after a spirited performance Rathangan progressed to next stage and Suncroft played Monasterevin in the Shield and battled hard but in the end Monasterevin was to strong for our young side. The club wishes to thank Management and players for the effort and commitment they gave to this competition.

County Players.

Once again we had a number of County Players, senior, Junior, Under 21's, Minor and indeed underage who have represented the Club at County Level. These players have represented our club with great pride. Congratulations to John Brown who won a Leinster Medal for the Kildare Juniors. John did both his club and county proud this year and was unfortunate when he missed the opportunity to represent Kildare in the All Ireland final due to injury. The Club on behalf of the community wish to take this opportunity to formally thank these players.

Underage

2011 was another busy year on the playing fields, with the year commencing in February and running right through to the end of November. Our coaches continue to work hard and maintain solid coaching and training programmes for all teams. The results of their work can be measured by the fantastic league win from our under 14's our under 13's reached the shield final and our under 16's narrowly missing a Championship Final spot to Confey who went on win

the Championship. On behalf of the Club I would like to thank the Under age committee under the stewardship of Mark Prendergast for their work and commitment during the year.

I would also like to thank Jack Setright, David Nolan and Colin O'Modhrain for help with underage refereeing during the year.

Merchandise

A big thank you to Marie Knight who did a excellent job looking after the Club Merchandise for the Club this year.

Club Memberships

This year we saw a slight increase in Membership but I do believe its a area that needs radical improvement. Its disappoints me to note that there are still players and mentors who didn't pay their membership and while I am not going to embarrass any individuals, I hope this wont be an issue next year.

Fundraising and Sponsorship

The Club ran a number of fundraisers including field day, Golf day, Shave and Waxing night, Table Quiz's, Mobile Cinema, Suncroft Festival and the "S" Factor.

There was many people who contributed to the fundraising efforts in the Club during the year. Thank you to the volunteers who gave so generously of their time.

Special thanks to the following people in particular who contributed so generously:

1. Principal contributors, John Moore of Moore's Well, Tony Howard, Rising Sun, Alan & John Troy of Troy Electrical and Richard Sutton of Alliance Property Maintenance all who contributed well over €500 each during the year. Indeed John Moore and Tony Howard of London and Suncroft who contributed over €1,000 each in year.

2. all who paid to take part in the golf classic and sponsored tee boxes
3. all who bought items at the auction and spent money at the field day
4. all who purchase weekly lotto tickets, pay online lotto or paid upfront lotto contributions
5. Marie Knight and Siobhan Lawless for contribution from Michael Lawless Memorial Day
6. senior players who contributed and arranged the very successful players 'shave and wax' night
7. Murphy family in Suncroft and UK for the Suncroft festival contribution
8. Centra Shop Suncroft for arranging Mobile Cinema which contributed €1,015
9. the four companies companies who advertised on the club website
10. all those who are currently purchasing lines for the S Factor
11. Val Dillon and Colm Keane for renting the land from the club
12. anyone else who put their hand in their pocket for the benefit of the Club in 2011

Finally I ask that you please support our sponsors

Lotto

The Lotto has been a our main source of income over the past few years however sales have declined in more recent years and this year we set about a new initiative incorporating the club membership and lotto on line. This initiative gives our members two ways to pay one being €200 up front payment for year and the second being a €20 standing order for the year. Last year we had some good success with this initiative and this year the club will aim to build on this success and double the uptake. A a recent fundraising meeting it was agree to increase the sales agents and door to door each week to drive sales.

The Lotto requires a lot of work, commitment and dedication and its disappointing to say that only for Mary Val Dillon and Dessie Brannock who consistently give their time to helping with the draw we would be in trouble. Before I go any further I would like to acknowledge Johnny Moore, James Keane, Val Dillon and Ollie Brannock who from time to time have chipped in during the year. The Club has spoke previously of doing the draw in different locations and drawing up a lotto roster. I would go further and suggest we have dedicated lotto co-ordinator who will take responsibility for ensuring tickets are collected for agents and making sure the draw is completed each week. This area needs attention and this is your club and I am asking you to get involved and help out please. Once again I would like to thank Mary Val Dillon for her Trojan work again this year. I would also like to thank Padar Kane, Eamon Ryan, Betty Bradley (Bush Pub), John Dowling, Paddy Behan and Kevin Murphy for help with ticket sales. Finally thanks to John Moore for use of his facilities during the year.

Congratulations to Kathleen and Christy Brennan on winning the Lotto Jackpot during the year, I am sure you all will agree its great to see local winners and Kathleen and Christy are both very worthy winners.

PRO

Kevin Fennelly was once again PRO for this year and Kevin did an excellent job on keeping the Suncroft.com website updated and ensuring that week after week our club notes always appeared in the Local Press. Kevin on behalf of the Club I want to formally thank you for your work throughout the year.

Grass Cutting

This year the Club invested in a Mower and its fair to say the fruits of this investment is beginning to show with improved quality of grass on the pitch itself. I would like to thank Padar Kane for his help this year. Both Dessie and myself have given time to keeping the pitch cut however we will need to increase the level of volunteerism in this area for next year. The machine is great but it doesn't drive itself. Finally, I would like to thank John Moore for allowing us use his facilities to store the machine.

5 year Strategic Plan

Suncroft GFC held their first ever Club Strategy Workshop on the 4th October in Lumville House Hotel. It was positive to see over 60 people turning up to give their views on where the club should be going for the next 5 years.

Areas covered included:

Coaching & Player Welfare,

Facilities & Development,

Finance & Fundraising,

Social & Culture, PR & Communications.

This initiative bodes well for the future of the Club and will give everyone a feel for what this club will stand for in the coming months and years ahead. A big thank you to all who made the effort to ensure this night was fantastic success. Finally, a big thank you to Paul O'Kelly and Orla Cullen from O'KellySutton Business Consultants for their expert guidance on what was a most enjoyable night.

Dressing Rooms

Suncroft GFC has recently been given the approval from the Trustees of the Community pitch to seek planning permission for Dressing Rooms. We have also recently met with Kildare County Council in a pre-planning meeting in relation to our proposed dressing rooms. Killian Brennan has done an excellent job in drawing up the plans and working with the council on this proposal. I want to thank Killian for his help to date on this positive development for Suncroft GFC.

GAA ASAP

As you may know the GAA's Alcohol and Substance Abuse Prevention (ASAP) programme has been running successfully for some years. Under the GAA's Strategic Vision and Action Plan, 2009-2015, every club in the country has been charged with having an active ASAP officer in place, and with adopting a club Drug and Alcohol Policy. The Club would like to thank Nicola Kiely for her work on both the ASAP and Children's Officer for the club.

Gate Collection's

Once again Alan Tobin and Padar Kane have done a fantastic and I might add at times thankless job looking after match gate collections. Both men have never let the club down and their work and commitment is fully appreciated by is Club.

Conclusion

2011 was a busy year for the club with teams competing at all levels. The Under 14's won the League and our seniors secured senior status gives us a taste of the years highlights.

To all team managers, coaches, selectors and players who gave up their time and hard work to ensure that we always be a very competitive club, we say thanks to all. I would like to thank my fellow Club Officers, and committee for their hard work, help and support throughout the year and to all who help out with day to day running of the club, including those who have obliged in doing umpire and linesmen at home and away matches and also when called on by the County Board. A big thank you to all of our families and the wider community for all your support and commitment throughout the year.

I would like to thank the Chairman Dessie Brannock for his leadership and support during the year. Dessie has always put the Club first when matters of importance have arose and I would also pay tribute to Susan for her support, understanding and patience throughout the year.

I also want to thank Treasure Pat Sutton for his help, support and commitment throughout the year. Managing the finances of this club can be at times testing and Pat has done a tremendous Job and always kept the ship afloat.

In January 2012, The club will look forward to getting the show on the road again and hopefully we will win some silver way along the way. We hope to have your continued support as we continue to build and develop this fantastic football club that we are all so proud to be part of.

Mise le Meas,

Sean Caomhanach