



Newsletter Winter 2014

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We got the season off to a great start by opening a new pitch at Kilcornan, with an Open Day on 7 September. There are now three grass pitches and a floodlit training area. An all-weather pitch is next on the planning board. Some day there will be a club house too.



Cup campaign Several Colga teams are in new-season cup campaigns but there was unfinished business from 2013-14 for the U14 girls, who contested a Connacht Cup final in early October, losing 2-0 to Salthill-Devon. Congratulations to the girls and their coaches, Tony Callaghan and Derek Murphy (right, above), on getting to the final.

Table Quiz Test yourself and have some fun in the second table quiz of the season on Friday 7 November at 8.00 pm (registration) in Raftery's Rest in Kilcolgan. Tables of four €40. Prizes include match tickets, cash and spot prizes. Text 086 3854506 to register a table.

Join the Dirty Dozen The pitches at Colga are prepared for match days by our tireless groundsman Pat Flanagan. But there is always more work than one man can do. We are recruiting a volunteer gang who will be asked to give half a day, once a month, to the work of improving the grounds and maintaining them in good order. If you want to volunteer contact Kevin Cotter at 087 687 5661.



Thanks Clareen Banjos A big thanks on behalf of all our members to Fintan Cussen (left) and his father Tom, who recently presented a cheque for €1000 to Club President Mike Bindon, towards new goals and replacement nets for the grounds.

Tom was a renowned banjo player and a member of the celebrated Shaskeen Céilidh Band. Today he makes stringed instruments, with Fintan, so that banjos and mandolins from Clarinbridge are now played all over the world.

Coaches and Mentors The coaches at Colga are all volunteers but take their responsibilities seriously, both for developing football teams and for the welfare of individual players. This autumn 15 of the Colga coaching team attended a seminar on children's welfare in sport, organised by the Galway Sports Partnership, and 19 novice coaches attended a KickStart course delivered by the FAI. We are always on the lookout for new coaches. Get involved if you can. The club will pay for your coach training.



Time for reflection November is the month of 'All Souls'. Colga is a community as much as a club and we extend our thoughts and prayers to all of our members who have lost friends or family this year. We think especially of the family of young Hassan Taiwo (15 years) who died suddenly in October during a football match, while playing for local club Merlin Woods FC. The Colga and Oughterard U11 boys squads (below) took part in a solemn sporting tradition on 18 October, with footballers all over the city and county, when they observed a minute's silence for Hassan.



The club Chairman is David Silke (087 872 8523) and Derek Murphy (087 1207877) is Secretary. Geraldine Browne (087 410 5751) and Martin Whyte (087 650 1016) are Child Protection Officers. The Cadets Coordinator (U6 - U10) is Seán Conacur (086 255 4594)