**Nursery**

Numbers continue to grow for the nursery and training/ skills intro is going very well. Helen Power and Jenny Ivory getting great support from coaching squad.

**2012s- U7s**

The 2012s who have now finished at nursery kicked off their mid-week training at the start of September with training every Wednesday night at the Ball Wall. We are delighted to see such high numbers with over 40 attending the training session each week. There are 9 Coaches and Flos for this age group. The 2012s are training in both Football and Camogie. Many thanks to the club for supporting a recent hurl and helmet deal for all the players. We will start Go Game matches for the 2012s in March 2020.

**2011 – U8s**

Since returning after the summer break the 2011 girls have played 4 football and 3 camogie matches. One camogie match had to be cancelled due to adverse weather conditions. There has been strong improvement in their skills during match play and they are proving to be an equal to any of the teams they have competed against. We intend to arrange a few friendlies during the period between November and the new season commencing in Feb/March.

Splitting the training session on the Monday evening between camogie and football continues to work well; we meet at 6.15 and train till 7.45, this result in time for warmup and 35-40 minutes per code. For training we have one coach who sets out the drills for football and one who sets out the drills for camogie in advance of the session. These coaches will float and observe during the relevant session.

The approach taken to training has resulted in less of a drop off in participation in camogie matches. As a result we have strong numbers for each match. From a base of 45 girls now, we typically average 32 for football matches and 27 for camogie.

We anticipate that the coming season will prove challenging when fielding teams due to the greater majority of the team making their communion in the April/May timeframe.

Miriam provided an abridged version of the Code of Behaviour at the start of October, with wording appropriate to the age of the U8s. This was sent to the parents and in addition we spoke to the girls at the end of a training session. They were also sent home with a hardcopy of the code. The parents were asked to reinforce the message at home.

**2010 Girls (U9’s)**

There are 40 girls registered including 5 new players joining this September. We have between 30-35 training each Wednesday and about the same number for matches.

This the second year of matches so the girls are well used to playing matches at this stage. They love playing matches and are always very competitive. We always mix up the teams, so the girls get to play with different players each week.

The highlights for the team for the year were:

· Taking part in Hell & Back in June (even though they lost 18 runners between them)

· Attending the Ladies All Ireland Final

· Existing players bringing their friends up to play

We have 11 coaches now which means we can allocate more than one coach to a drill if needed. We tend to do the same drills for 3 weeks so the girls get to practice the skills for a few weeks in a row. All sessions will have an element of shooting, tacking, passing and craic!

Our goals for 2020:

· 3 teams to participate in the U10 leagues

· Continue to help the girls develop their footballing skills while making sure the drills are fun

· Encourage the girls to bring their friends along so they can start playing football

· Get one of the St Sylvester’s senior players to take a training session and talk about their playing experience

· Continue to enjoy playing and make friends

**2009s U10s Girls**

We have 40 girls registered and the majority of the girls turn up for training each week. 2018 was the first year the girls played league matches. We played 8 league matches and the girls were competitive in every game against strong teams. The team participated in summer and autumn blitzes which the girls really enjoyed.

The highlights for the team for the year were:

* Taking part in Hell & Back in June-great team building experience
* Attending the Ladies All Ireland Final
* Tour of Croke Park at Christmas

Our coaching team has expanded and we now have 11 coaches

Our goals for 2019:

* 3 teams to participate in the U10 Dublin league
* Arrange challenge matches
* Develop core ball skills of all players, upskilling weaker/ new players, challenging stronger players
* Invite one of the Sylvester/Dublin players to come and coach/talk to the girls
* Players to enjoy training and playing matches. Encourage friendships and emphasize the value of being part of the team.

**2008s U11s**

* Currently 44 players registered on the squad
* 4 additional girls trying out currently, were 6 trying out but 2 have moved to squad
* Typically perform well at matches and tend to win against most opponents
* Girls are really gelling together and it’s very rewarding to see new friendships being formed.
* Manage to recruit a number of new mentors during 2018/2019 including 2 female mentors who also play G4M0 which is a fantastic addition to the team
* Next year we move towards streaming of our players for matches
* It was agreed at a recent strategy meeting that the main focus would be on fun & participation rather than winning.

**2007s -U12S**

* The U12 girl’s team has had a fantastic year.  The team has grown to 45 players over the period with a focus on ensuring new players are well integrated and welcomed to the set up.  The group train twice a week in a mixed training set up with forwards and defensive coaching on Monday followed by core skills training on Wednesday.  We have a large coaching team that has grown over the years. The availability of a large group coaches both male and female has a very beneficial impact on team development and has ensured that the group as a whole has developed from a skills perspective. Following a successful early year campaign the squad was placed in Division 1, 2 Team for U13 grading. Both A and B groups had a fantastic campaign beating Na Fianna, Foxrock, St Bridgets and Kilmacud to retain our unbeaten run.  Alongside our league games development the team participated successfully in the community games championship beating Stillorgan, Jude’s and Skerries on the way to a Dublin final playoff against Clontarf which they lost narrowly. During the year we also hosted Colin Gales from West Belfast with great support from parents with drinks and refreshments afterwards in the Club.  The girls will continue to train over the winter in anticipation of their U13 league and championship games next year. We are delighted to have McCabes, Siam Thai, The Grand Hotel, Alliance and EirGrid as sponsors of the team.

**U13 div 5 team**

With new arrivals, the div 5 league panel of players is now at 25.

League:

Playing 9 games in the league, the team won a brilliant 8 games and lost just 1. The defeat came against St Peters in last game to decide league winners. Both teams were then promoted from div 6 up to div 5.

Cup:

The team were in a group with Kilmacud B, na fianna B and O’Tooles.

Winning their first game well against Na fianna, the team lost a competitive 2nd match to Kilmacud by 4 points.

Losing third match to O’Tooles by 6 points, the team entered the shield semifinal.

They beat Erin’s Isle first team to qualify for the shield final that is due to be played 1st week of November versus Raheny first team.

POI:

* There is need for additional U13 coaches to enable formation of third training group for players who have just started. Request given to parents of these players. This would allow A panel to train as one group, stronger 14-15 B panel players as 2nd group and then 3rd “skills development” group.
* With a number of stronger B players likely to move up to A panel, serious consideration should be given to moving team back to div 6 league for 2020 season. The difficulty with leagues 5 and higher is games are primarily against first teams and significant number of B panel players are not at this level

**U15 Girls**

For the league we fielded 2 teams, one in Division 3 and one in Division 7, the Division 7 team was supported by U14s.

It was our first year in Division 3 having come up three levels in three years and while it was a big step up, we acquitted ourselves well; we were competitive in all games and finished winning as many games as we lost. Similarly the Division 7 team did well and put in some great performances.

For Championship we entered one team, in to Division 4. We won our first 2 group games convincingly, at home to St Margaret’s and away to Lucan leaving us with a home game against O’Tooles to top the group. Despite a great first half performance (our best first half performance of the year), turning 4 points ahead, we contrived to lose by 2 points. This was a game we should have won well and the second half display came back to haunt us putting us in to an away semifinal at Man O’War.

A reasonable first half saw us grab an early lead but injuries contrived to see us lose some key players and while we trailed by 1 at the break, we had a big second half needed. We started that period poorly with our goalie making some key interventions but still conceded 2 early goals which rocked us back. It was a credit to the girls that they kept going and hauled themselves back in to it, grabbing a couple of goals but some naive errors saw us 4 points down going in to added time. We couldn’t reel them in unfortunately.

It was a good season and the girls have improved from playing in a higher league.

Thanks to Marcus, who has now stepped down, Damian Langton, Patrick Mulleney and Trish Delaney for their hard work coaching this year and to Celine, Rachel, Michelle, Michelle, Pauline and everyone else who acted as FLO during the season.

**Minor, Junior and Seniors**

The Senior Ladies, Junior Ladies & Minor team trained as one group under one management team. Eric led the senior team, Declan led the junior team and Brian led the minor team. Shane, Mick, Noel, Leona, Josh and Angela made up the rest of the management team.

The senior ladies competed in the division 1 league and senior championship. In what are highly competitive competitions at the top end of ladies football in Dublin, the team progressed strongly again this year. They topped their group in the championship round robin to reach the semifinals. Unfortunately it wasn’t to be in the last four matches, losing to a strong Kilmacud team.

The junior ladies had a strong year again competing well in the league and qualifying for the championship semifinals. The met Templeogue Synge Street in that game and unfortunately lost narrowly in an excellent match. Loads to build on for this team in 2020 where a championship is not far away.

The minor team competed well in the league and made it to the championship final after a tough group challenge. They met Raheny in the final in October and what was a cracking game, our girls lost out in a single point defeat. All of the minor girls played up at either senior or junior level throughout the season and will be huge additions to these teams in 2020.

Lots of our players played at county level over the season. Leah and Katie with the U16’s. Kirsten, Sadabh and Sophie played with the U17 development squad and Caitlin was with the Dublin Minors. Sinead, Niamh, Nicole and Kate all starred for the Dublin Senior team winning the All Ireland v Galway in September.

**G4M&O**

The Gaelic for Mothers and Others have enjoyed another successful year; this is the 4th year this programme has been in operation in the club. We have 36 registered players with a high turnout at training every Friday evening on the All Weather Pitch. We participated in a local Round Robin tournament again this year. We represented St Sylvester’s at both the National Blitz and the Leinster Blitz. A key highlight of the year was co-hosting the National Blitz with Naomh Mearnog on Saturday October 4th where we had 120 teams from all over the country participate in a day long football blitz across both clubs. Many Thanks to the Facility’s committee for all their work in helping make this such a successful day for the club, we would hope to expand on this event next year and would appreciate further support from the club. Many Thanks to our dedicated coaches.