

PARK/RATHENISKA

G.A.A. CLUB

DEVELOPMENT PLAN

2003

PARK/RATHENISKA GAA - CLUB DEVELOPMENT PLAN 2003

Background

In 2002 our club set up a development sub-committee for the first time. The role of this committee was to examine the running of the club and to plan for the future. Initially little progress was made in this area. In late 2002 a workshop was organised by Laois Sports Partnership on Club Development Plans, the information provided at this seminar provided us with a clear structure and guidance on how to prepare a club development plan.

First Steps

As a first step to preparing a club development plan we formed a committee consisting of Ms. Ann Marie Maher from Laois Sports Partnership, Mr. Michael Reynolds from Leinster Council GAA along with representatives from our senior & juvenile clubs, players and parents.

The Plan

The committee met on five occasions between 12th February and 31st March 2003. As part of preparing the plan a player questionnaire (copy attached – Appendix 1) was designed and distributed to all players in the club from sixteen years of age upwards. The purpose of the questionnaire was to get players views and it proved very beneficial in preparing the plan, also players welcomed the opportunity to have their views taken into account. The club has now adopted five clear goals from its development plan as follows:

- (1) To maintain quality facilities at the club and continue to develop additional facilities – especially for winter activities**
- (2) To compete for a senior title within 10 years in either code**
- (3) To establish a coaching structure for all juveniles leading to senior status**
- (4) To achieve community wide commitment to the club and club commitment to the community**
- (5) For all players to enjoy hurling and football during the winter months**

As part of the development plan the club has decided to apply for a grant from the Department of Arts, Sport and Tourism to assist with the above goals.

The detailed Club Development Plan is set out on the following pages.

Park/Ratheniska G.A.A. Club

Worksheet 1: Why Plan?

1. Know where we are going?
Do best possible job for area.
2. Need to set goals for various terms - 3, 5, 10 years.
Raise standard of service to players/raise standard of playing.
3. Move away from AGM to AGM trying to decide whether we want to concentrate on hurling or football.
Consider if the facilities we have are appropriate/adequate.
4. Try to be focal point of area to attract people.
Plan around ages/population.

Worksheet 2: Club Profile

Senior

Intermediate & Junior Hurling & Football
Ladies Club - u12 - to senior

Membership:

Adult -120 subscribed members
Juvenile u/10 - u/17 - 93 members
U/10 - u/17 Hurling & Football teams - Grade B
*130 houses in area approx.

Facilities:

One full size pitch & two juvenile pitches
Full size pitch with some floodlighting. No dugouts or scoreboard.
Clubhouse - 4 changing rooms, meeting rooms, toilets, 2 upstairs rooms (some furnishing work remaining).
11 acre site. Room for all weather facility.

Finances:

Weekly lotto, membership fee €10.00.
Laois G.A.A.; County Board Draw (main source)
Lotto funding 2000 drawn down £25k + £5k (previous years).

Leaders (Administrators, Managers, Coaches etc):

12 level O hurling and football - all involved with teams.
No referees in training
Short on first aid knowledge.

Other?

Players representing county at juvenile & senior level.

Worksheet 3 - Milestones?

- 1933 - Park Club Founded.
- 1938 - Park win Minor Football Championship
- 1942/43 - Park win junior Football Championship
- 1952/53 - Park win senior football championship

- 1953 - Ratheniska Hurling Club Formed

- 1958 - Ratheniska win Junior Hurling Championship
- 1961 - Ratheniska win Intermediate Hurling Championship
- 1971 - Ratheniska win Junior Hurling Championship
- 1972 - Park win junior B Football Championship
- 1977 - Ratheniska win Intermediate Hurling Championship

- 1981 - Park & Ratheniska Clubs amalgamate to form Park/Ratheniska G.A.A. Club

- 1985 - P/R Club purchase first pitch in Park.
- 1987 - P/R win Junior Hurling B Championship & League
- 1988 - P/R win Intermediate Football Championship
- 1988 - P/R win Minor B Hurling Championship
- 1989 - P/R win Under 21 B Hurling Championship
- 1994 - P/R win Intermediate Hurling Championship
- 1995 - P/R Club purchase new pitch in Ratheniska
- 1995 - P/R win U 17 Hurling Championship
- 2000 - P/R win U/14 Hurling & Football
- 2002 - P/R Club open new Clubhouse in Ratheniska
- 2002 - P/R win Junior C Hurling Championship
- 2002 - P/R Ladies win Junior Football Championship

Worksheet 4 - Key Changes and Effects:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| Increased population | - | Potentially more players & members. |
| New club & facilities | - | Help attract new players & members. |
| Provide more social events | - | Improve club spirit & interaction. |
| Coaching facilities/courses | - | More skilled coaches - improve existing players and attract new players. |
| Improve links between schools & Clubs | - | More players/members & coaches. |
| Lottery Funding | - | Improve facilities e.g. floodlighting. |
| 13 a side & 11 a side | - | Keep club identity by fielding own juvenile teams. |
| Decentralization | - | Possible increase in population in area. |
| Urban development | - | Not allowing people to build in the county. |
| Standardization of coaches e.g. (Foundation to level 1) | - | Better service to juveniles. |
| Lottery Funding & other agencies. | - | Improve present facilities. |

Worksheet 5:

Strengths?

- Facilities / Location.
- High membership
- Community spirit / social activities
- Good committee structures
- Good juvenile structures
- Good coaching structures
- Good relationship with local schools
- Strong links with ladies football club
- Increase in area population
- Financially sound
- Dual club
- Good relationship with County Board and neighboring clubs.

Weaknesses?

- Limited number of players to compete in both codes at same level
- Shortage of mentors
- Shortage of supporters at games
- Lack of knowledge of commitment needed to be successful
- Occasionally poor attendance at senior training sessions
- Lack of discipline among some players
- Lack of training of juveniles by senior players
- Not enough minor & under 21 training
- Lack of support between juvenile and senior clubs
- Lack of community spirit and identity
- Poor involvement of parents to attend juvenile training/matches.
- Lack of social events.

Action Planner - Senior Title

Goal: To compete for a senior title within 10 years.	Resources	Timeframe
Improve coaching - structures & preparation at all levels.	Volunteers Paid Coaches Social Events Training facilities Coaches/Mentors	0 - 5 Years Budget €5,000 0 - 10 Years
To instill an understanding of the commitment required from each player to be successful.	Advice on training, diet, injuries	1 - 5 years
Develop culture of winning	From above	1 - 5 years

Action Planner - Coaching

Goal: To establish a coaching structure for all juveniles leading to senior status.	Resources	Timeframe
Get our coaches	Personal contact Link Up School Letters Leinster Express notes	8 - 10 years 6 Weeks
Train our coaches	Volunteers to take training courses & Occasional high profile players and outside coaches	Foundation level ongoing each year initially. Level 1 - 2 0-2 years - later on demand
Coaches to draw up programme for hurling & football.	With guidance from authors	3 Weeks

Action Planner - Community

Goal: To achieve community wide commitment to the club & club commitment to the community.	Resources	Timeframe
Run regular (non profit) social events. Encourage club members to support community events.	Community notice board and newsletter	0 - 5 Years
Club website development	Voluntary input	0 - 1 Year
Children to bring supporters to games/competitions	Voluntary input	0 - 1 Year
Internet "ideas for volunteers"	Voluntary input	0 - 1 Year

Action Planner - Winter Facilities

Goal: For all players to enjoy hurling & football during the winter months.	Resources	Timeframe
Provide additional floodlighting on main pitch	Own funds & Lottery funds	0 - 1 Year
Examine the options of using indoor facilities outside the club.	Investigate neighboring facilities	4 weeks
Possibility of club providing own all weather surface - costing	View other club facilities in the area. I.e. soccer club, Portlaoise & Graiguecullen	8 weeks

Detailed Action Plan

Goal 1: To maintain quality facilities at the club and continue to develop additional facilities - winter playing.

- (1) To continue to employ a contractor to maintain the existing quality of facilities both indoor and outdoor.
 - (2) Attend information seminar training on Management/Facilities.
 - (3) Apply for grant for:
 - Additional floodlighting
 - Dugouts
 - Score board
 - Completion of clubhouse refurbishment
-

Goal 2: To compete for a Senior Title within 10 Years (either sport)

- (1) Goals 3, 4 & 5 following will play a major role in achieving this goal i.e., coaching, community interaction & winter activities.
 - (2) In addition to the above specialist advice to be provided to players from minor upwards on the following: -
 - **Training:** By qualified coaches, high profile player/ex player
 - **Diet:** By dietician - advice to players plus literature distributed to players for future reference.
 - **Injuries:** By qualified coaches - how to avoid injuries, by first aid trained volunteers at all club games, administer correct advice on follow up treatment if required. (Club to promote training in first aid for coaches, mentors and other volunteers by funding courses).
 - (3) Extend pool of available players:
 - (a) Keep existing players by running club in efficient & proper manner with clear realistic goals and enjoyment.
 - (b) Attract new players to club based on (a) above.
 - (4) Carry out detailed review of clubs ability to compete in both codes if this goal is to be achieved - player survey, population statistics, planning legislation, competition for players.
-

Goal 3: To establish a coaching structure for all juveniles leading to senior status.

- Appoint club coaching officer - reporting to club executive.
 - New coaches to be recruited through the following: -
 - Present contacts - parents and existing parents.
 - Local paper notes
 - Parish newsletter
 - School letters
 - Foundation course to be completed by all juvenile coaches - new coaches to be trained end of year - target 6 coaches this year.
 - C.O. to get as many coaches to move to level 1 as quickly as possible to enable coaches bring teams up to senior level.
 - High profile players or coach being brought in occasionally during the year to boost morale.
 - Attendance awards etc. for -
 - Most interested players
 - Most improved player
 - Most valuable player
 - Most committed player
 - Novelty items with club name to juvenile players
 - Coaches to participate in winter training to keep players together, not just seasonal.
 - Club Child Welfare Officer to be appointed.
-

Goal 4: To achieve community wide commitment to the club & club commitment to the community.

- (1) Set up social and community sub-committee - appoint Community Liaison Officer.
- (2) Organise at least four non profit making social events per annum - table quiz, cards, golf outing, scor, dinner dance etc.
- (3) Promote and support all local voluntary organisations-
 - Have representative where required on each organisation.
 - Support events organized by other clubs
 - Provide regular information to local newsletter
 - Provide a community notice board and make clubs aware of its existence.

(4) Develop web-site - provide space for information from other local organisations.

(5) Increase support at games:

Juvenile:

- (a) Coaches encourage players to bring supporters to their game
- develop novel idea of achieving this.
- (b) Organise tournaments with clubs of similar strengths from under 10 upwards to encourage parents and neighbours to come and see games.

Adult:

- (a) Provide notice for general public of up-coming games e.g. church gate notice
 - (b) Send notice to local e-mail addresses.
 - (c) Constant reminder at local social events.
 - (d) Use local paper notes to remind supporters of their importance.
 - (e) Coaches to remind players of supporting other teams i.e. senior to juvenile and vice versa.
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Goal 5: For all players to enjoy hurling & football during the winter months.

Steps:

- (1) Set-up sub-committee to oversee plan. Time frame one month from completion of development plan.
 - Committee to consist of one representative from juvenile / senior committees.
 - Sub-committee to report back to club executive within two months of set up.

(2) Terms of reference for sub-committee as follows:

- Examine availability of external facilities (sports halls, swimming pools, gyms, all weather facilities).
- Identify interest among players in various age groups / juvenile to senior in the different activities identified above.
- Identify suitable types of games/activities.
- Examine how format of competitions or games are run. E.g. seven a side indoor hurling league.

- Provide club executive with details of proposed plan to include costings.
- Review to be carried out after one month in operation.
- System to be put in place to ensure continuity of scheme/plan.
- Over longer term to examine possibility of providing own all weather/indoor facility.

(3) Scheme to be fully operational by end of 2003.

(4) Club executive to ensure scheme remains operational.

END

Sub Executive earlier this year (2003) set up a sub-committee to draw up a Development Plan for the Club.

To assist the Sub Committee's work to prepare a draft Development Plan for presentation to the Club please complete the enclosed Questionnaire.

The Questionnaire may be signed if you do wish. Responses may also be expanded on blank sheets if desired. Questionnaire MUST be returned ON/BEFORE Tuesday - 17th March, 2003 - a box will be provided for returns in dressing rooms on evening of job.

When returning the Questionnaire please deliver it to the Club's secretary at box.

Sir
Patricia
Carnarvon
Development Committee

PARK RATHENSKA C.L.G.

The Club Executive earlier this year (2003) set up a sub-committee to draw up a Development Plan for the Club.

To assist the Sub Committee's work to prepare a draft Development Plan for presentation to the Club please complete the enclosed Questionnaire.

The Questionnaire may be signed if you so wish. Answers may also be expanded on blank sheet supplied. Questionnaire **MUST** be returned **ON/BEFORE** Tuesday, 18th March, 2003 - a box will be provided for returns in dressing rooms on training nights.

When returning the Questionnaire please tick your name on list provided at box.

Signed,

Pat Brennan
Cathaoirleach,
Development Committee

PARK RATHENISKA G.L.G.

PLAYER'S QUESTIONNAIRE

Tick where appropriate

- | | | | |
|-----|-------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| (1) | FOOTBALLER | YES
<input type="checkbox"/> | NO
<input type="checkbox"/> |
| | HURLER | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

(2) **AGE GROUP**

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 16 - 19 | 20 - 24 | 25 - 29 | 30 - 34 | 35 + |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

- | | | | |
|-----|-------------------|--|--|
| (3) | FOOTBALLER | Intermediate
<input type="checkbox"/> | Junior "C"
<input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | U-21
<input type="checkbox"/> | Minor
<input type="checkbox"/> |

- | | | | |
|-----|---------------|--|--|
| (4) | HURLER | Intermediate
<input type="checkbox"/> | Junior "B"
<input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | U-21
<input type="checkbox"/> | Minor
<input type="checkbox"/> |

(5) NUMBER OF GAMES YOU PLAYED IN 2002 FOR THE CLUB:-

FOOTBALL *Competition* *Friendly/Tournament*

HURLING *Competition* *Friendly/Tournament*

(6) (a) List four positive aspects of Park-Ratheniska C.L.G.

(1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

(4) _____

(b) List four negative aspects of Park-Ratheniska C.L.G.

(1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

(4) _____

(7) Examine any two of the above and list how further improvements can be made:-

(a) _____

(b) _____

(8) List areas, which you feel, need focus and attention in Park Ratheniska C.L.G.:-

(9) Examine areas listed and state why they need attention and what improvements you would recommend

(10) What in your opinion does the future hold for Park Ratheniska C.L.G. in 3 to 5 years time. What are your suggestions for the Club to reach the said target?

(11) Are you a member of the Voluntary Players Insurance Scheme, if not why?

(12) (a) In your opinion should the Club promote Football & Hurling equally?

YES

NO

If no, which code is your preference:

FOOTBALL

HURLING

(b) How realistic do you think are Park Ratheniska C.L.G.'s chances of becoming a dual Senior Club? Elaborate

(13) Would you be interested in:-

(a) Assisting the Coaching of Juveniles?

YES

NO

(b) Taking Foundation Level Coaching Course?

YES

NO

(14) Indicate your preference for training nights

SIGNED: _____ **DATE:** _____

