

COLAISTE



Iognaid

## Coláiste Iognáid Rowing Club Newsletter October 2018 Edition No 12.

Welcome to our Newsletter to all current and former Rowers and friends of Coláiste Iognáid Rowing Club. All previous editions of the Newsletter can be seen on our website [circ.ie](http://circ.ie). and this site includes much current and archive material going back to the formation of the club.

The Newsletter will be sent to all rowers for whom we have an email address. We appeal to all to pass the newsletter on to other former rowers and to forward any contact details or suggestions to us at our e-mail address [rowingiognaid@gmail.com](mailto:rowingiognaid@gmail.com).



**Rowing Club Photo** taken at school of 2018 season rowers taken on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2018 by Ed Bell.

The 2018 season was the most successful season in the club's history other than years when National Championships were won. The club had 96 no podium finishes in total, winning the Schools Championship, second in Junior 18 Men's Coxed Four and Junior 18 Women's coxless Four Championships, two girls competing for Ireland in the Coupe de Jeunesse in pairs and eights, Boys under 16 eight unbeaten all season and of course winning the Anderson.

The rowers resumed full training in late August with a significant influx of new first years. Last year's first year rowers returned almost entirely which boosted the numbers significantly particularly the overall boys group. Training for the senior boys and girls quickly increased to full intensity with 18 rowers going forward for National Trials at the end of September. These trials are part of an intensive effort by Rowing Ireland and the new high performance Director Antonnio Maurogiovanni to maximise the return at all levels of international rowing. This in turn puts enormous pressure on rowers, coaches, parents and clubs to enable the rowers to participate in these trial events which have been held to date at the NRC in Cork. These trials have been in pairs for all sweep rowers and our club is very appreciative that NUIG, Tribesmen and CCRC loaned pairs to our rowers for these events as we have not got sufficient high quality equipment of our own to give our rowers a reasonable chance. From this trial 10 went forward to the second trial and following a third trial this has now been reduced to four Thomas Hume and Sam Reidy and Elise Carney Frazier and Ellen Forde. In the overall process Jes had the largest contingent and even though the numbers have now reduced a number of our rowers other than the four above are still very much in the frame for the Homes and Coupe.

This is a great tribute to the rowers and coaches and all the backup and support from parents and the club has been complimented by a number senior coaches from other clubs on the rowing standards being achieved. **We must be doing something right.**

## Club News

The club currently has 94 no rowers registered with Rowing Ireland. This is the highest number ever for the club by some margin and in a school of approx. 650 pupils this represents roughly one in seven pupils. The club's profile in the school has been greatly enhanced by the work of "our" teacher in the school ,Linda O Hara, who took on the role as liaison with the school a year ago and has significantly expanded this role to organisational matters and ensuring that the rower's and club's achievements are highlighted within the school.

The **Club AGM** was held on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> October and was very well attended by parents. Pat Dempsey on behalf of the group tasked with assessing the future needs and organisation of the club, outlined the need for increased and targeted financial contributions by parents to ensure that the club could meet it's annual running costs and provide for future purchase of much needed equipment. This was very well received and this group took on the onerous task of raising funds for new equipment. Maria Maguire, our excellent treasurer of the past seven years, relinquished her post and a presentation was made to Maria in recognition of her major contribution to the club.



*Maria, Captains Aaron deBurca, Roisin McGrath*

The **Annual Club Dinner** was held on 24<sup>th</sup> October in the Salthill Hotel. There was a great attendance and Fr Murt Corry, Fr Shane Daly School Principal, teacher Linda O Hara and Adrian O'Neill attended as our guests. There were a number of exceptional speeches

particularly by senior rowers Caoileann Nic Donncha and Thomas Hume who really captured the essence of the club and what it meant to them personally and how it had become such a positive influence on their lives. The club person of the year was Luke O Flynn who unfortunately could not attend. It was a most enjoyable night with considerable style on show from the ladies.



*Above: Paul Hornibrook, Coach, Caoileann Nic Donncha, Elise Carney Frasier both on Coupe crews Noel Hume Coach.*



*Left: Senior and Under 16 Mens Squad with in Back Row Coaches John Lawless second from left ,Luke Coughlan extreme right.*

The club has ordered a new lightweight coxless pair/double scull from Fillippi Ireland and is seeking to raise funds for same and hopes to order a similar middleweight pair/double to suit our senior men. As previously stated the club have had to borrow boats to ensure that our trialist crews all have competitive equipment. The proposed purchase of the pairs is actually a continuation of our boat upgrade program to renew our top fleet boats. Our original Fillippi boats are now 14 years old and even though they are well maintained they all have very significant mileage. Our increased numbers are also leading to intensive usage of our older fleet of Janousek boats all now in excess of 20 years old with the exception of one pair/double purchased in 2003. We are currently mounting a major fundraising drive to generate a boat fund whilst paying off our loans for the recently purchased eight and two fours. Following the setting up of Club Ramhaiochta Naoimh Iognaid we have submitted an application for funding under the Sports Capital Program and are awaiting what we hope will be a successful outcome from same.

Our Recreational Rowing has continued to thrive with a core group of almost 20 rowers continuing to go onto the river into December with an average of four crews going on the water each weekend organised by Linda O Hara and parent Ruth Smith. The group consisting of rower's parents and teachers in the school (all first timers), had been rowing on many evenings during the week but fading light curtailed this from mid October. This has been a great success and great thanks is due to the above organisers and we are aware of at least another 20 would be rowers intending to try out in late spring when weather conditions improve.

## Rowing News

The first event of the season was the **All Ireland Youth and Open Regatta** held at the NRC on 29/9/2019 and this was mainly a trial event for Junior 18 (U18) initial national squads. We did not enter younger rowers. We had eighteen triallists in total 10 boys and 8 girls and as stated, borrowed equipment in addition to own two Fillippi pairs as all sweep trials were in pairs. It was very successful in that 3 boys pairs and 2 girls pairs went forward to the next set of trials and as a club we had the largest number going through within the under 18 group.

**Castleconnell Head of the River** held on 27/10/2018 clashed with the second round of National Trials at the NRC and whilst the club attended both it was a major organisational challenge. Conditions at Castleconnell were just manageable for the traditional first years initial outing but rowing was a little disjointed for our seniors with so many absent at the trials in the NRC. A good day out for all involved otherwise.

**Dublin Head of The River** held on the 10/11/2018. The club entered three eights at under 18, two men's eights mixing the men's senior squad and a women's U 18 eight. All rowed well but were a little off the pace for a short head rowing lower rates than the opposition but a reasonable workout for all.

**Provincial Indoor Rowing Championship** held at UL on the 24/11/2018. The club brought 75 rowers and achieved a number of notable results Tom Maye winning the U14 competition, the U18 girls winning the team competition and a number of third places for Elise Carney Frazier, U15 Boys Eamon Gallagher, U18 Girls Roisin McGrath and U18 Boys Sam Reidy.



*Above: U18 girls Eight at Carrick*

men's U18 eight won the outright head despite missing a number due to illness, also wins for the women's U18 eight, Men's U18 coxed four, women's U18 coxless four and girls and boys U15 coxed and there were excellent performances from our U16 boy's eight and both U15 eights.

*Left: U18 Men's Coxed four at Carrick.*

**Head of the Shannon** held at Carrick on the 1/12/2018. The club brought all except first years, a total of over sixty no rowers and our



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To subscribe and join please download and complete the following and return the completed form to [rowingiognaid@gmail.com](mailto:rowingiognaid@gmail.com)

A copy of each quarterly newsletter will be forwarded to you and a copy of the club history “Eighty Years Rowing” will be sent to you. The Newsletter will be sent by email. Your subscription will be directed exclusively towards the “Boat Fund”.

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