

COLGA F.C. Newsletter

@colga_fc www.colgafc.ie

September 2024



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Welcome to the 2024/25 Season

We would like to extend a warm welcome to a new season of football to all our returning and new members. The league season began on the last weekend of August and all of our GFA teams are back in training in preparation for their league campaigns. Cadets are back on the 7th of September and Saturday mornings will be as busy as always from now until May. This will be another very important season as we near our 30th anniversary as a club in the 2025/26 season. We now have our magnificent astro facility in place which has already proven to be a huge asset to the club allowing for more training sessions per squad and reducing the impact of the notorious Galway weather over the course of the season.



2024 Fundraiser

Our first major fundraiser for the season is 'Last Man Standing'. All of our players should have received their entry sheets at this stage. The premise is simple enough. Whoever wins gets €1000 and the funds raised by each squad are split 50/50 between the club and the team. This can be spent on training equipment etc by the management so get selling!

Lotto Jackpot Won



Colga committee members Julian Sammon and Frances Cussen were delighted to present the cheque to our jackpot winner of Sundays draw for €3500 - Michelle Spelman.

Our latest jackpot winner was Michelle Spelman. **All the funds raised via the Lotto go towards paying off the astro project costs so please continue to participate as the season progresses.**

<https://colgafc.clubforce.com/products/colga-football-club-lotto>

Chairman's Notes

Welcome back to you all as we start the new season. It's critically important that we get behind the 2024 fundraiser. The club has approximately **€400k in loans** to service. At present these repayments account for approximately €80, **or over 50%**, of the registration fees we receive from every member. The quicker we reduce these loans, the quicker we will be able to fundraise to finish off our development plan and construct a clubhouse which will compliment our excellent playing facilities.

Best regards, Stephen Moran, Chairman

Membership Deadline

All players need to have their membership paid by the 14th of September to ensure they can play in GFA competitions.

September 2024

Astro Reminder!

In order to maintain the quality of the surface please adhere to the footwear rules.

PERMITTED



Garda Vetting

It is important that as many parents as possible get their Garda vetting completed. This is especially important to help the coaches of our female sides as Garda vetted females are required to be present at training sessions and matchdays. This is also one of the pillars of being awarded the FAI Club Mark and amassive thanks is due to Geraldine Browne for driving that initiative in the club over the past couple of years. David Kilkelly has stepped into the Child Welfare Officer role this season so please reach out to us if you want to get involved. The more people we have vetted the less work it is for everyone as you might only need to be present for one session a month if enough parents get involved. Beats sitting in the car right?

Colga Grounds Management

We are busier than ever these days with 3 full size pitches available on match weekends and Monday to Friday evenings schedules packed on the astro. This has resulted in a lot of traffic on the grounds so we'd ask you to stick to a few simple rules when entering and exiting.

- Maintain as low a speed as possible (15KPH) when on the grounds. If you're 5 mins late for training 40KPH won't make a difference but it could lead to an accident
- Parking in the clubhouse area is reserved for committee members and visiting match officials
- Parking outside the clubhouse fence area is prohibited as it blocks the route down to the astro area
- No parking in front of astro access gates for ambulance access reasons

New Junior Mens Coach

Our GFA premier side are delighted to welcome Marek Krynicki as their new Head Coach. Marek is pictured below left with Domhnall McMahon (Bar manager Paddy Burkes) and Kevin Stankard (Assistant Coach) at the presentation of sponsored matchday tops for the Junior A squad. We wish Marek and the team all the best of the season ahead



2024/25 Committee

We had our AGM back in May and it was one of the best attended in years and really shows the continued support in the community for the club and our desire to develop Colga as a facility for everyone. The executive committee for the 24/25 season are listed below.

President: Mike Bindon

Chairperson: Steven Moran

Vice Chairperson: Fionn Kiely

Secretary: Paula Kealy

Vice Secretary: Peter Greaney

Treasurer: Cathy Turke

Vice Treasurer: Mike Hannon

PRO: Julian Sammon

Child Welfare Officer: Dave Kilkelly

Registrar: Rory Macadam

Cadets Coordinator: Patrick Burns

Committee Members

Fran Cussen, Geraldine Browne, Paul Collins, Iggy Greaney, Jamie Morrissey, Shaun Smith, Emma Hayes

Colga Cadets Update

Gary Traynor from Galway United ran a very welcome 'coach the coaches workshop in Colga on Saturday the 31st of August in advance of the new season. Thanks to Gary for providing a great 3 hours of education to 29 coaches from the U6-U11 groups. Thanks to all the academy coaches who attended, great to see the level of interest and commitment



Cadets Schedule 24/25

Cadets Saturday Schedule 2024/2025							
Time		Clubhouse Half of Astro			Cage Half of Astro		
Start	End	Group	Contact	Number	Group	Contact	Number
9:15	10:15	Under 6 Boys & Girls (2019)	Geraldine Browne	087 410 5751	Under 7 Boys (2018)	Eric Hennessy	087 242 2952
10:30	11:30	Under 8 Boys (2017)	Harry Lewis	086 154 5747	Under 9 Boys (2016)	Gary Rainsford	086 836 5684
11:45	12:45	Under 11 Boys (2014)	Karen Lyons	087 174 7404	Under 10 Boys (2015)	Helen Melia	087 938 4555
			Anne-Marie Hoade	087 204 0959		Patrick Burns	087 415 3554
13:00	14:00	Under 11 Girls (2014)	Ollie Fitzpatrick	087 928 1485	Under 9 & U10 Girls (2016 & 2015)	Manus Finnerty	089 223 0767
CAGE							
13:00	14:00	Under 7 & U8 Girls (2018 & 2017)	Patrick Burns	087 415 3554		Shane Meehan	086 037 1309



Cash For Clobber

Our cadets will be back on Saturday the 7th of September. For any new members please reach out to the coaches to let them know you will be attending. We are always happy for kids to try out first before registering. For U6's we generally ask that kids are in school before they start with us as they're used to someone other than mum or dad issuing instructions!

There is an ongoing collection in the prefab behind the goals at the clubhouse end of the astro - please drop what you can when you can.

A thank you to our patrons

With a significant portion of our membership fees going to pay off our mortgage we are incredibly grateful to our sponsors support for allowing us to maintain the development plans that we have for the club. Every Euro provided by our sponsors is incredibly important to us and is invested in ensuring we provide the best possible facilities for our members. We hope to publish our longer-term development plans over the coming months to outline the vision for the future. None of these projects would be possible without the support of these businesses and we would encourage all of our members to support them in return where possible.



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<https://www.wardandburke.com/>



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Moran's Oyster Cottage Seafood Restaurant is a traditional thatched cottage that dates back over 250 years. Today Moran's is run by the 7th generation of the Moran family in the business. It is renowned the world over for its superb seafood and Galway oysters which attracts people from the five continents, and is open all year round.
<https://www.moransoystercottage.com/>



Founded in 1998, PlanNet21 are a fully privately owned multi-award winning technology solutions provider with headquarters in Dublin Ireland. PlanNet21 employ over 140 full time staff with regional offices across Cork, Galway, Belfast, Paris, Edinburgh and California USA. Since our inception PlanNet21's heritage was built upon pioneering technical innovation and excellence and this continues with some of the key customers PlanNet21 work alongside today.
<https://www.plannet21.ie/>



Established in 1989 by Ignatius Greaney, the staff at Ignatius Greaney & Associates provide innovative architectural designs and engineering solutions in a cost effective, friendly and efficient manner.
<https://igreaney.com/>



Clarke's Pharmacy are a family-owned community pharmacy caring for all your health needs. Located in Kilcolgan and serving the whole community.
https://www.instagram.com/clarkespharmacy_kilcolgan/



Centra Kilcolgan have long been supporters of various Colga efforts with proprietor Mike Kerrigan MC'ing our Lip Sync Battle in April this year. After a fabulous refurbishment this year; with a butchers, coffee dock, deli and off-licence it has everything you need!
[Centra Kilcolgan Facebook](#)