



*Cumann Pheadair Naofa C.L.G.*



**St. Peter's GAA Club, Warrenpoint**  
**warrenpointgaa.com**

U/19 Football

Manager:Liam Howlett

Mentors: Tommy Ruane,Martin Houlihan,Martin Trainor

Our season started on 7/1/20 in St Marks,this team were the first team to avail of the new U/19 age group and without a doubt at the first meeting of management and players the overriding desire from the players was to compete in the highest league and compete with the best players at their age group, as a management team we had to raise questions and challenge this decision, as the saying goes "before you make up your mind open it" we went over past seasons and even the last season, numbers available and commitment but swayed by the talk and desire showed we backed the men and asked the club to enter us in Div1 football.

we prepared with a night in St Marks and a Sunday session in Kilbroney which Martin Houlihan led and we thank Martin for these sessions and his dedication to pushing the lads to the max, you could see them getting stronger and enjoying the challenge of a park run. On 4th Feb our season moved to the next stage and we got a feel of grass under our feet a real bit of realism that the season was moving quick, our next step was to have a challenge game against Shamrock on 5th March, bolstered by U/17 players Ben Lynch,Conor Madden,Luke Kelly,David Breen and Daragh Ruane we got game time and an eye opener to competitive football, after a torrid 1st half and trailing by 12 pts at half time, a few positional moves and a bit of plain-talking the lads knuckled down to the job facing them and edged the game by 8pts, without doubt a fighting spirit anyone could only hope to display was showed in abundance and rather than look at the tough 1st half it was, without doubt, the 2nd half that we needed to focus on at training over the next few weeks before our 1st league game, two more sessions into our season and we were all called ashore with the Covid epidemic.

We resumed training on 30th June and asked the players how they felt about competing in the 3rds Fr Davis league, with the promise of 5 games they accepted rather than train with no games, we were bolstered by Darren Rice,Conor Cole,Shay Madden,Eoin Carr,Corey Hourican, Sean Gallagher,Jamie Lynch,Jack Collins,Aaron Magee,Ruairi Kernan,Sean Mc Givern,Brendan Rice and Conor Lavery and special thanks has to go to Darren and Conor who not only played but gave a commitment to training and when they did our sessions were given an extra zip and to this we thank them no end. we played 5 games winning two and no doubt our highlight was a 1pt win in Burren in our final game.

We resumed training after a 2 week break on 8th September hoping by the middle of October we would have an U/19 league/C/ship to compete in but covid has now again scuppered our chances again and Club football is suspended until November 13th at least, so in writing this report we do not know what the future holds for these young men.

On Behalf of the management team we would like to express our thanks to this group of men who have been through a roller coaster of a season and still kept going and took what was thrown at them with the best intentions,they won two games of senior football, progression was made when a few were asked into the 2nds panel and we had 2 men compete with the senior team, we thank you all.

In the time of new ground we had to adapt to a regime of health questionnaires on a nightly basis, hand cleaning/sanitising before and after training and Tommy Ruane took care of this, it was a truly momentous job and we cant thank Tommy enough for his constant texts and whatsapp keeping us all in line and safe through a very difficult period.

To our coaches Martin,Tommy and Marty I thank you for your commitment to take this group.

Le mise

Liam