



Indianapolis GAA

Coaching Report - 2021

Andretta Erickson

Last November, Indy GAA voted Paul O'Donoghue in as the Coaching Officer. In May, due to unforeseen circumstances, Paul and his family left Indy and I was asked by Paul to continue his work.

From May through September, we hosted combined football and hurling practices on Tuesday nights. A small pack of (16) volunteer coaches stepped up to plan these practices and facilitate them not only for veteran players but also for any newbies that showed up. Early on in the season, there were upwards of 25-30 players at each practice, by September the numbers were sometimes reduced to less than half that.

Fall league was a much shorter season this year with only three Sunday dates, one getting rained out. They consisted of a short skills session followed by scrimmages in both sports. Both sessions had a handful of newbies recruited from Irish Fest, Global Fest, and word of mouth.

This winter, the Coaching Officer will be looking to greatly grow the list of coaches available and willing to assist with practices, tournaments, and travel teams. For 2022, we'll need coaches for:

- Nationals Teams: coach and selection panel for hurling, camogie, Gaelic football, and ladies football
- Practices: weekly practices – TBD on if hurling and Gaelic football will be together or separate
- Tournaments: organizational contact
- Youth: practices and demos

This winter, we'll be hosting at least one (maybe more if there is interest) coaching clinic. Anyone who would like to assist in coaching will be encouraged to attend. In addition, anyone who is interested in coaching the youth will need to go through a background check.

Special thanks to Paul for the work he was able to do before leaving and to all the coaches that carried this season. Looking forward to a full 2022.

Go raibh maith agat,
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