



# Kinvara United FC Quarterly Newsletter

## September 2024

### A Message from our Chairman

*"There is huge excitement building for the new season ahead in Kinvara United. The Academy has started and matches are underway with some great results in all age categories already. There are lots of changes this season, but the club ethos remains the same. First and foremost, we are about providing everyone of all age groups a chance to play football. We want to grow participation in our girls teams, boys teams and adult teams. This is only made possible by the strong sense of volunteerism the club has always fostered, from the coaches to the parents, to the committee. We will need more people to put their hands up to help in the months ahead. We have urgent roles to fill - Club Secretary and Fundraising. Our goal of securing a new permanent pitch and home by 2025 remains the same too. The club needs to be secure for the future for our kids and hopefully their kids too. We want facilities that reflect our ambitions as a club, and the first step toward that is securing a permanent pitch. We are calling on the community to act as our eyes and ears for any suitable sites that become available for the club in the coming weeks and months. For now, I just want to wish all players, coaches, volunteers and parents the very best for the season ahead."*



### Search for a New Home

As most people will be aware at this stage, the club has been looking to purchase 10-12 acres of land in a location that would have been central to all sports in the community, but unfortunately our efforts have been to no avail and all avenues have been exhausted. As a result, it has been decided to move our search elsewhere.

We are making a fresh appeal to all landowners, local farmers and the business community for land in & around Kinvara, to help secure the future of our club's ever-growing membership, which now stands at 450+ members. It is becoming critical that we source our own land, so that we can develop top class facilities to support the needs of our young boys and girls in our community. This would include a full-size astro pitch, two additional grass pitches, a clubhouse and improved training facilities.

As always, we are extremely grateful to the Connolly family for their continued support and use of Killina.

### Committee Update

We are currently seeking new members to join the Kinvara United committee for a number of key administration roles which are essential for the successful operation of the club - particularly relating to secretarial duties, interaction with Galway FA, fundraising and treasurer support.

If you are interested in volunteering to join our great team please contact David Noone on 087 239 3918.

## Fundraising Update

It is essential that the club continue to fundraise within our community throughout the year to ensure our teams are set up for success. We will soon kick off our fundraising campaign for this season starting with a Table Quiz and then coordinating across all age groups to drive similar events throughout the season. We welcome all ideas and support from parents, players, supporters and friends of the club, please email [kinvaraunitedfc@gmail.com](mailto:kinvaraunitedfc@gmail.com) if you have any interest, ideas or suggestions.



## Sponsorship Update

A big THANK YOU to our sponsors below who have provided funding to buy new jerseys and equipment over the last year across all of our age groups. We are grateful for your support!

If you are interested in becoming a jersey sponsor or supporting the club financially in any way for the 24/25 season, please reach out to David Noone on 087 239 3918 or any member of our committee.



## Coaching Update

This season we will ramp up our KUFC Coaches, Player & Parent Development programmes across a number of different areas. We will also continue our partnership with Galway United Community Coach Gary Traynor who has been a highly valuable asset to the club in recent seasons.

Some of the key focus areas will include the following:

- ⚽ Set Pieces
- ⚽ Goalkeeper Coaching
- ⚽ Coach the Coaches
- ⚽ Player Education
- ⚽ Meet the Ref
- ⚽ Parent Education



Sessions will commence in early October - please contact Aisling on 0872060634 to register your interest in any of the above.



## Silent Sideline Policy

Kinvara United operates a Silent Sideline Policy as part of our philosophy in nurturing a safe, positive and encouraging environment for all players and club members in which to play their football. We would like to remind all parents and supporters of the following:

1. No Parents in the Coaches Area - this space is reserved for coaches and players only. The presence of parents in this area can be distracting and can inhibit the effectiveness of the coaching staff.
2. No Coaching from the Sidelines - we appreciate the enthusiasm and support of our parents. However, it's crucial that parents refrain from coaching from the sidelines. This can confuse the children and contradict the instructions provided by the coaches. Let's support our children by cheering positively and letting the coaches do their job.
3. Children Are Playing to Have Fun - the primary goal of our sports programs is to ensure that children enjoy themselves. Winning is secondary to the development of skills, teamwork, and a love for the game. We encourage everyone to keep this in mind and promote a positive and fun atmosphere.

Please see <http://kinvaraunited.com/silent-sideline-policy> for more information.

## Academy News

We are delighted to announce the return of our Club Academy for Boys and Girls aged 6-11 every Sunday and Thursday starting from 15th September 2024!! Gary Traynor (Galway United Community Coach) is supporting our Academy coaches this year with ~150 kids participating weekly. More details can be found on our website - <http://www.kinvaraunited.com/academy>.

We are seeking parents to assist with coaching at our Academy Sessions (min. 1hr per week), please contact Catherine (0872266189) or Aisling (0872060634) to register your interest.



## Pitch Update

Our current home pitch in Killina is in fantastic shape ahead of the new season, and a huge shout out to our caretaker Mike O'Brien for his extensive continued efforts to make sure our pitches are always up to scratch each week. We are also pleased to confirm that we have obtained new pop-up goalposts and new goal nets ahead of the new season!



## Team Spotlight - U17 Boys



*Kinvara Utd 3-1 Colga FC*

Our U17 Boys are coached by Pádraig Ó Máirtín, Damien Forde, Paul Canning & Nóra Cassidy and currently play in the second tier of the Galway FA U17 league. The lads opened their campaign with an excellent 3-1 win at home to Colga on Sunday 8th September 2024, with a spectacular hat-trick from Donnacha Mullane sending Kinvara on our way to a hard fought Championship victory against our local rivals. Looking forward to the season ahead, Kinvara Abú!

Back Row: Damien Forde, Jake MacMahon, Shane O'Shaughnessy, Lorcan Ward, Adam Hammer, Donnacha Mullane, Keelin Morud, Charlie McKernan, Samuel O'Donoghue, Nóra Cassidy, Pádraig Ó Máirtín

Front Row: Conor O'Donnell, Isaac Warrick, Diarmuid Crossan, Otis Warrick, Evan Canning, Róan Cassidy Ó Máirtín (c), JJ O'Connor

Absent from photo: Shane Talty, Charlie Forde, Ross O'Dowd, Luke Marchant