

MIDLETON A.F.C.
36th AGM Season 2009-10

CHAIRMAN'S ADDRESS

It was another Successful busy and progressive season both on and off the playing field.

Its been a fantastic end of the season and my congratulations to Our Senior team champions of the 1st div and Back in the premier league where we belong.

Reaching the final of the Munster senior up was a fantastic achievement another bit of history.

Our Under11 & 14 teams champions of their leagues

Our Under U12A & U13A teams had a great season winning promotion in their respective leagues,

The Under 15 & 16 team had a great national cup run reaching the quarter final stage

And Girls U12 team also finished mid table in their league

We also had Emmet Cotter capped for the first time Ireland v Belgium in Belgium. Danny Morrissey and Raymond Savage playing on the cork under 16 team that won the national cup with Leonard O Driscoll as Manager.

I would like to thank all the adult players for their commitment over the past season. The Senior management team John Ryan and Barry Mc Mahon Brian Lambe Junior manager Noel Twomey for their commitment and dedication over the past season.

We again had youth football in our club and my thanks to Liam Mc Mahon as coach to the team for his efforts. And also as development coach to the adults teams.

Leonard O Driscoll introduced A Skills programme to further cater for players who really want to develop their game further and who are really serious about football.

Thanks to All the school boys /girls managers coaches and all concerned for their efforts and commitment to their teams My thanks to our School boys Development coach Leonard O Driscoll who worked closely with all the managers and coaches of the teams over the season.

The Sunday morning football Academy has gone from strength to strength We now cater for over 220 playing members. My thanks to parents, coaches and Academy Development coach Martin Hurley who has done a excellent job in encouraging parents and setting up a coaching structure for all ages. My thanks to Geoff Lambe who took up the new position of Academy co Ordinator for all his efforts.

Club Shop has been a great success with all club teams kited out with same club jersey from senior right down to 5 years. With a club shop list of attractive

items to purchase for any age it provides an attractive way to promote our club. My thanks to Eric Desmond his wife Eithne and Hillary Lane for supervising the shop on Sunday mornings.

Our Annual Players Awards were held at the Midleton Park Hotel and I would again like to congratulate all award winners of the past season. Again it very well attended and a great success.

The Facilities at Knockgriffin Park were well maintained and I would like to thank the Fas workers who I worked closely with over season , for their kind help and co-operation received in maintaining our grounds and facilities in top condition. Thank also to the volunteer's who helped concrete the stand erect new dugouts and are at present helping out with the repairs to playing pitches My thanks also to Allison English caretaker of all weather facility.

The development of floodlights on no one playing pitch was achieved early in the year with a fantastic official opening with almost the whole club taking part in a great celebration, It is hoped the lights will in some way ease fixtures at weekend and give us more options going forward.

Club Annual under 12 team Trip to England was the biggest to date and really enjoyed by all players and parents. My thanks to Eric Desmond and his team for organizing the tour.

Our New Club Website now managed by Imokilly Webs has really taken off and over the past 6 months we have had 6,781 visits, 3448 visitors, and 32,806 pages have been viewed. This success will only continue if regular information is sent on for publication. Thanks to those who email info club information and on their team.

Our weekly lotto that is our main source of income has a fantastic small group of supporters (50) who commit themselves each week in the selling of tickets. Without their support it would not be possible for the club to function. I would like to thank all who sell lotto tickets, direct debits and the members of the community who purchased tickets to make our draw a success. I would particularly like to thank the people who organize the draw and checking of tickets. Every Thursday night

Sponsorship, today is an essential part of Midleton Club to offset the huge costs involved in catering for over 500 playing members. I would sincerely like to thank our main sponsor Seamus Cunningham of Wallis' Bar, school boys sponsor Douglas Renault and John Hurley of Hurleys Super Valu, Mac Donalds Market Green shopping centre for their financial support to the senior junior, school boys Girls teams and Football Academy. Thanks also to the many more businesses that are supporting many other projects over the season.

The club FAI summer camp is again the best in Ireland for the second year a record 165 will attend this summer camp and my thanks to Jerome Sheehan coordinator. Also ulhsport camp has done well and will take place on the 5th July

Looking ahead to next season Our total club playing membership is now over 500 playing members.

The big increase in playing numbers has already brought its demands for more volunteers more parents and more pressure on training facilities.

We will look forward to our senior junior youth and schoolboys/girls teams progressing further for honours. We will be working closely with all team managers and coaches in helping to develop our own players as high a quality as possible so good management and coaching is vital.

We will be looking at marketing our home matches with Friday night football encouraging all in the club to come and enjoy a night together, We would like to see all players wearing club gear for matches and club occasions.

In short we want to raise the whole profile of the club

Our club is growing rapidly the demands to raise our standards is also growing. These are very exciting times to be involved in Midleton Football Club We again must see more members come on board, we are too small with a few carrying too much responsibility. It is now important we see more people involved at management level

We have started a review of all sections in the club and will continue over the next 2 weeks where a report with recommendation will be put forward

Players can play an important part to ease that burden. I welcome players to show an interest and play a part in the running of our club. I have already seen some play a part but so much more can be done. Our academy coaches and schoolboys managers would welcome our senior players to come along and give some advice. Remember our club can only be as good as its members.

Off the playing field With the big increase in membership the club will again We have set out a list of all positions and areas that people can get involved

We have seen the running costs of our club go up in many areas. This is another challenge and we will be looking closely at all our spending and the difficulty of sponsorship in these recessions' times.

With only 2 playing pitches and facilities at knockgriffin park at breaking We will again have to look at how best to manage our facilities and what

possibilities are there to expand or acquire other facilities. The need to develop our 2nd pitch into a full-size all weather to play and train our teams is still a huge commitment and needs to be investigated further.

I would like to thank the East cork journal, Midleton News, John Cashman and Echo and for the coverage received during the past season.

I would like To thank my fellow Management Team for their support

I would like to thank all of you who have responded to the challenges which we face. I look forward to the new season with great optimism for what we can achieve together.



Club Chairman Michael Kirby.