



07 November 2010

After the excitement of last week it was back to more mundane things this week. It was disappointing that our opponents and some of the media seemed to focus on some of the negative aspects of what was a great game of football. Our goodwill gesture in applauding our opponents on to the field has been described in some places as cynical. Great play has been made of what has been described as our physical approach to the game. It should be pointed out that four out of the first five scores came from free kicks awarded to us. The first three yellow cards issued were given to our opponents and indeed they were extremely lucky not to receive a red for an off the ball incident.

On a more positive note our attention is now focussed on Sunday next when we travel to Casement Park to take on Burren. There will be a local derby element about this game. As usual I would ask our supporters to get behind the team and give the team your full vocal support. It is easy to support a team when they are winning; it is when the going is tough that your support is required. The team and management have worked hard to get so far and we wish them good luck on the day.

#### U21 Championship

The decision of the Armagh County Board Fixtures Committee to fix this game a week before our Ulster Championship fixture beggars belief. The club has always been told you are representing the county and we are all behind you, but action speaks louder than words. This is not the first occasion we have been placed in this situation. Why the urgency to play the competition now when it has been lying dormant for almost four months? The county seniors and minors exited the championship in early August, so why the delay? With the heavy rain that fell the game was transferred to Callanbridge where conditions were fairly primitive to say the least.

It is a long time since we played Middletown in a competitive game at under age level. The mid Armagh side were really fired up for the game and put us under heavy pressure from the throw in, and within ten minutes had established a four point lead. During this period we had a couple of good goal chances which we did not avail of. Each side scored two points to leave the half time score Rangers 0-4 Middletown 1-6 . On the resumption it was our opponents who opened the scoring with a point to leave us six points and a mountain to climb. A couple of switches gave us a grip on the game and over the next twenty minutes we scored a goal from a penalty and eight points to our opponents one to leave the final score Rangers 1-12 Middletown 1-8. This sets up a final clash with St. Pat's on a date to be arranged.

#### AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the club will be held on Wednesday the 24th, November in the Rangers Hall. All members are requested to attend and new members are also welcome. The annual meeting is the most important event in the club during the year. Without a good committee everything else fails to function.

Members often complain about various issues during the year. The annual meeting gives you a chance to make your views known, so why not come along and do so.

#### Christmas Party Nights

The Christmas Party night has been arranged for Saturday 19th December in the Rangers Hall, music by Caitlin & Applejack. There is always a demand for tickets so early booking is advisable. To reserve a table or book a place contact Feargal McMahon or any member of the committee.

#### Club History

The GAA are asking all clubs to update their history and send it to Croke Park where it will be archived. We are looking for personal memories stories, photographs, mementos, medals, newspaper clippings of the club over the years. Copies will be taken and the originals returned to the owner. Contact club secretary Gerard Rushe at 30861895, P.R.O. Tom McKay at 30861043 or any member of the committee.

#### Lotto

The lotto jackpot was not won last week and now stands at £1,800 or €3,600. The lotto provides much needed funds for the day to day running of the club and your support is much appreciated. A large club like ours requires a huge amount of money to keep us going as insurance, transport and equipment costs have risen dramatically over the last few years. I would ask all our members to support the lotto and if you could sell five or ten tickets to your friends we will only be too happy to provide you with a book.