

# Sittlington Cup Final 2016

Player	No	Y	R	G	Player	No	Y	R	G
Jack Mitchell					David Gillian				
Michael Crooks					Brendan Gallen				
Neil Magowan					Chris Murray				
Carl Ross					Dean Webb				
Matthew Campbell					Lorcan Fairmichael				
Matt Gouck					Fraser Hutcheson				
Stuart Kelly					Conor Mallon				
Danny Gourley					Liam MacDonald				
Andrew Marshall					Mark Kelly				
Sam Hanna					Ciaran Fox				
David Gabbey					Mark Macaulay				
Jordan Finney					Nathan Lynch				
Lewis Patmore					Sean Pettis				
Mark McLeod					Jonny Hoey				
James Carlisle					Jonny Murphy				
Stewart Leitch					Chris Burns				
<b>Match Officials:</b>					Ted Workman				
<b>Referee:</b> Tommy Rossi					Peter Boylan				
<b>Assistant Referees:</b>					Fergal Quinn				
Dean Gray & Philip Clarke					Paul Sheeran				
<b>Referee Convenor:</b> Jimmy Fegan									

Match Balls & Man of the Match Award by:

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## SITTLINGTON CUP FINAL



V



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UPRITCHARD PARK, BANGOR  
2<sup>ND</sup> MAY 2016, 7.00PM KO



# DAWFL Chairman's Message

IAN FRAZER



As always I would like to take this opportunity to thank all clubs for taking part in this year's Sittlington Cup and congratulate both Comber Young Men and Corrymeela in reaching this year's Final, which is a great achievement in itself. Like all of us in attendance tonight I am looking forward to a fair, but competitive final, which I'm sure both teams will not disappoint in providing.

It would be remiss of me not to also highlight my gratitude to the highly competent group of match officials that have officiated in the competition along the way, with our legendary Referee Convenor Jimmy Fegan deserving a special mention for his mentoring and work behind the scenes that often goes unnoticed.

I would like to thank Bangor Rangers F.C. for the use of their ground and facilities for this season's final and not forgetting TeamWear Ireland, for their provision of the man of the match award and match balls.

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# Referee Focus

Photo	Name	Profile
	<p>Tommy Rossi</p>	<p>Tommy has been a referee for 12 years, starting off in the South Belfast Youth League (SBYFL) &amp; the Belfast Sunday League.</p> <p>The Belfast official is no stranger to the big occasion, having officiated in 5 Sunday League finals, 24 SBYFL finals, 8 DAWFL finals and 2 u16 Girls International games.</p> <p>Widely regarded as one of the best referees in the league, Tommy has declined several offers to move up the levels, noting that his passion lies with mentoring the Youth players and Referees in the leagues he represents.</p>
	<p>Dean Gray</p>	<p>Dean is an ex- DAWFL player who has represented various teams within the League.</p> <p>Qualifying as a referee in September 2015, the Newtownards man started off as an Assistant Referee in NIFL Championship 2, before joining Jimmy Fegan's team of respected officials in 2016.</p> <p>Dean is no stranger to the big occasion, having acted as the Assistant Referee in an Irish Cup 4th round tie and this season's Billy Allen Memorial Shield Final.</p>
	<p>Philip Clarke</p>	<p>Philip is originally from Greyabbey, but now resides in Carrowdore.</p> <p>A well known figure within the DAWFL after six years officiating, with final experience including the Frank Moore Memorial Cup in 2013.</p> <p>Philip also officiates in the youth leagues and has been assistant in two junior finals.</p> <p>A previous player for Rosemount Rec, where he received medals from most of the cups and leagues.</p>

# Manager Focus



**Name:** Ryan Meekin

**Age:** 27

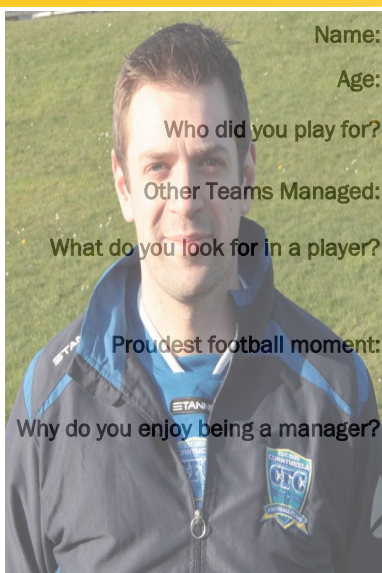
**Who did you play for?** Killyleagh, Ards Rangers and Comber Rec Youth Teams. Comber Young Men

**Other Teams Managed:** 1st senior Manager role. Experience with various age groups at Comber Youth

**What do you look for in a player?** As well as the obvious attributes, technically and physically for each designated position. Attitude and Personal traits plays a huge part for me. Someone who respects me, shows commitment at training and during a match, is reliable, and most importantly is a team player and shows the drive and determination for success.

**Proudest football moment:** Represented Co.Down School boys team scoring twice in the 3rd/4th place play off in a 3-0 Win. Hoping after tonight's Sitlington Cup Final this will be my 2nd proudest moment!

**Why do you enjoy being a manager?** The Challenge and responsibility gives me a huge buzz. Trying to push players to their limits. Giving direct instructions and encouragement to players. Success is a bonus, but being responsible for players development and their individual goals is also rewarding.



**Name:** Iain Hutcheson

**Age:** 36

**Who did you play for?** Corrymeela FC from 1997

**Other Teams Managed:** None

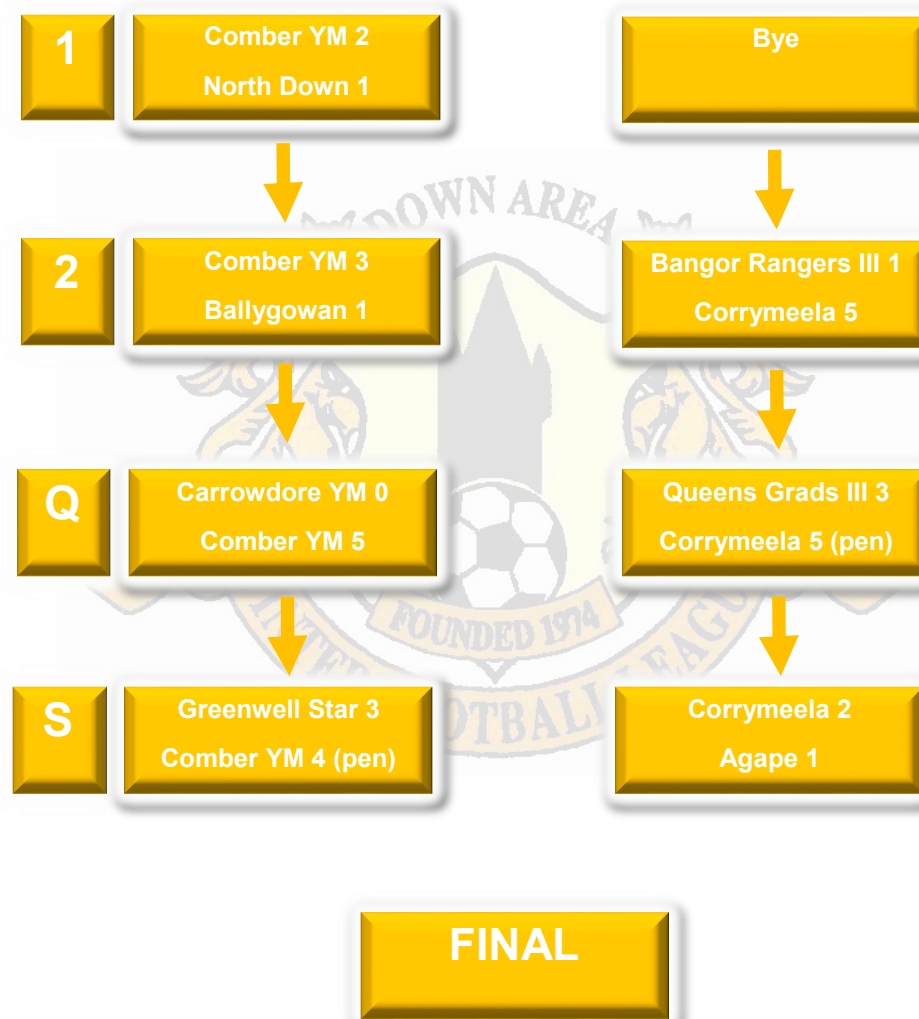
**What do you look for in a player?** I think fitness and strength are the most important attributes for 11 a side football, but I like a player with confidence and composure on the ball and keeps calm under pressure.

**Proudest football moment:** Winning Corrymeela's first trophy - DAWFL division 1b title in the 1999-2000 season

**Why do you enjoy being a manager?** The most enjoyable part is planning for a game, setting your team up for a certain opponent and then winning the match well. It's a lot more satisfying to win as a manager against a good opponent than as a player because of all the extra preparation and responsibility. The losses are also a lot more frustrating but they make winning all the sweeter.



## Route to the Final



# Sittlington Cup reflections

By Conrad Kirkwood

All of our cups and trophies are named after people who have given a great deal to the local game or to the league itself.

It is a special way to recognise the contributions which key people have made down the years. Some are named in memory of someone who passed and others reflect the efforts of current characters.

It was a sad loss when George Sittlington passed away and it is great that the trophy, which he sponsored, bears his family name. Some of my early memories of the League Committee are of the members discussing how to fully express their thanks to him for providing one of the most impressive trophies in the league.



George had donated the trophy to reflect the loss of his father James who had passed away in 1986. He wasn't really seeking any other great recognition or fuss and so it was that the League Rule Books of the time were emblazoned on the back cover with the late Ronnie Galway's typically flamboyant phrase "LIGHT THE LEAGUE WITH SITTLINGTON ELECTRICS!!" Indeed, the Sittlington Cup has lit up the league for many years since.

It was memorable that George was able to attend the 2010 AGM and Awards Presentation at Park Way. He was joined by family and was keen to note that his daughter Anna Marie was 'almost as old' as the trophy itself. He was visibly moved and proud of both at the time.

On 4th May 1998 **Jimmy Menagh's Greenwell Star** claimed the Sittlington with the biggest victory margin ever acquired in the Final - Star beat **Tudor Rangers** 9 - 0 at Castle-reagh Park.

In the 1998 - 1999 season **Abbey Villa 3rds** became the first reserve side to reach the Final - and they celebrated the achievement by defeating **Blades** 4-1.

On Tuesday 15th March 2001 **Rosemount** suffered their second Final defeat under the "Golden Goal" ruling when **Ernie Lant** scored after 4 minutes of extra time to give **Bally-walter Rec.** victory.

This evening - with the staging of the 31st Final - we naturally commend the achievements of **Comber YM** and **Corrymeela** on their appearance at Upritchard Park, and are certain that those two sides will add another illustrious chapter to the stirring story of the Sittlington Cup.

This afternoon a former winner of the Trophy will have made a celebrated appearance at the National Stadium at Windsor Park in the Junior Cup Final and it is indeed a fact of much significance that such a moment of history should belong to a former Down Area side and a Club who made a total of eight appearance in a Sittlington Cup Final.

The Greyabbey Club carried off the Sittlington four times - the last time in the 2009 - 2010 campaign.

On Monday 19th May 2010 at Drome Park **Rosemount** beat **Corrymeela** 3-2 in their last appearance in a Sittlington Cup Final.



The team from Islandview Road fielded the following side on that occasion - **Chris Rice, Andy Pitman, Nicky Eccles, Stephen Atcheson (Captain), Ricky Paton, Colin McAvoy, Alan Eccles, Will Doherty, Peter Bailie, Graham Vincent and Chris Wallace.** The substitutes were **Daryll Harrison, David Lynch and Stephen Hollinger.**

We are privileged to be able to include with this Feature a photograph of the Rosemount team celebrating that victory.

We certainly wish tonight's contestants the best of good fortune as they tussle to get their name engraved on the 31st shield on the magnificent Sittlington Cup - and, at the same time we can rejoice in the thought that on this very day a former winner of the Trophy had the acclaim of running out on to the hallowed turf at Windsor Park.

By Dennis S. Nash

# THE SITTLINTON CUP

**T**he very first Sittlington Cup Competition was played in season 1985 - 1986.

It was on Monday 26th May 1986 that the Down Area Association staged that very first Sittlington Final.

It was played at Castlereagh Park and Ards Blues beat Ardcarnet 4 - 0.

On the 29 occasions that the Sittlington has been staged since there have been many memorable encounters.

The lack of space here denies us the opportunity to reflect on all the occasions, but it is prudent that, as the Committee prepare for the 31st staging of the Association's major knock-out competition, we cast a contemplative glance at some of the most notable instances from the past.

The 1987 Final was the first to require extra-time. **Ards Blues** retained the trophy when **Walter George's** 92nd minute goal gave them a 3-2 victory over Tudor Rangers.

The 1988 Final was the first Sittlington decider to be played in Bangor, and **Stormont** beat **Ardcarnet** that day at Clondeboye Park.

On Friday 12th May 1989 the Final moved away from the Ards and Bangor district for the first time and it was at Wilgar Park, the home of Dundela, that **Tudor Rangers** beat **Stormont**. That particular game was also the first Sittlington Final to be settled in a Shoot-Out.

At the start of the 1990s **Stormont** became the first side to reach three successive Sittlington Finals but, at the Junior Stadium, they lost 3 - 2 to **Donaghadee YM** on Saturday 26th May 1990.

When **Donaghadee YM** beat **Portavogie** at the Junior Stadium on Friday 26th April 1991, the Sittlington Final tossed up yet another unique occurrence since the referee that day was **John Savage** who had actually kept goals for **Ards Blues** when they lifted the Trophy in 1986.

On Monday 5th May 1997, with normal time completed in the final at Park Way, **Rosemount Rec**, the holders, were tied at 1-1 with **Tudor Rangers**.

For the first time in the competition the "Golden Goal" ruling was applied and, when **Stewart Beattie** netted from a **Sammy Spiers** cross after four minutes had been played in the second half of extra time, it was **Tudor's** Trophy.

This time of year always brings to mind the late Brian McGaughey of Willowfield Parish.

I considered him a mentor in my early days on the County Antrim FA. He had formerly been a leading light in the Churches Alliance League and, when it ceased to exist, he made a gift of many of its trophies to the Down Area. Many have been repurposed and are still in use. At this time of year, Brian would scarcely have missed a final and I always enjoyed a lengthy chat with a grand old man of local football.



In many ways, that is what finals are about. It is great to have an interest as a player, coach or supporter when your team is involved in a final but it is also a welcome opportunity for the neutrals to catch up with old friends. In that spirit, I hope to attend and catch up while Andrew Rodgers and Ian Frazer cheer on their own side. Corrymeela's last appearance in the final was a thrilling encounter in 2014 when they were beaten 4-2 by Moat Park Rangers.



For my own part, I have a great fondness for the trophy, not least because my own club, Abbey Villa FC, were fortunate enough to have their name on the Cup in 1999 after a victory over the Blades. That day holds a place in my heart which I won't forget as my club were less than well favoured before the game and managed the unthinkable. It is ironic that George's own club, Bangor Rangers, have not yet won the trophy. They came close in 2011 when they lost out 3-2 to

Greenwell Star.

I hope that Rangers are able to put that right soon as it would be very fitting. It would be lovely to see George's wife Barbara or brother Sam present the trophy to their own club sometime soon.

# A brief history of



It was the year 1977 when the late Billy Allen put the foundations of the current club in place through his association with Comber Methodist Church. After organising a series of friendly fixtures a resolution was made in 1978 to move into the competitive arena and it was at the time of this decision that Comber Methodist Church Youth Club was formed.

The new team took up membership of the 5th Division of the Irish Churches League and immediately demonstrated an ability to gel into a side which could string together an impressive catalogue of victories. The successes achieved in their first competitive season were clearly underlined when the side won promotion to the 4th Division at the first time of asking.

In the 1979-80 season the club continued to tread the paths of success and when they finished divisional runners-up in the McCallum Shield, promotion was assured for the second successive season. This time success was achieved with the stunning record of having lost only a single point in the process. 1980-81 brought an amazing continuation of the club's promotion trail as the team once again moved up a division.

Although the team continued to hold on to membership of the Churches League, a decision was taken to adopt a name change and the term Comber Young Men was used for the first time. Shortly after the management of Comber YM opted to leave the Churches League and seek membership of the locally based Down Area Association.

The McCaw Shield offered the Club their first taste of Down Area victory in the 1982-83 season and it was the Young Men who came out on the right side of a 3-0 scorecard.

It was the 1992-93 season that the seconds finished off a truly amazing sequence of results to end up in the McCaw Shield Final. Portavogie Rangers had won their passage through to the big game on the other side of the draw, but when the Down Area Council ruled that the affair had to take place under the Castlereagh Park floodlights as a midweek fixture, the Peninsula side withdrew. While the 2nds were denied their big night under the lights, the fact they were awarded the Shield gave Comber YM the distinction of becoming the first – and only – club to field a reserve side which claimed the McCaw Shield.

The late 1990s and 2000s brought some success to the club with them finishing runners up in Division 2B (1999-00), the Reserve Team Cup (2000-01), Division 1 (2001-02), the Sittlington Cup (2003-04) and the Supplementary Cup (2005-06), however winning Division 1 in the 2004-05 season.

In the Club's 35th Anniversary season the 2nd XI lifted the Division 2B title under Mark Spence, recording only one League defeat along the way.

Further silverware was to come the Clubs way in the 2012-13 season, with Andrew Miller and James Chamber's 1st XI lifting the Frank Moore Cup in an entertaining final against Bangor Young Men 3rds at Parkway, Comber. In 2014/15 the 2nd XI reached the Tommy Murphy Memorial Shield final, however fell to a 2-0 victory against tonight's opponents. 6

Name	Position	Notes
Sam Hanna	Midfielder	Technically gifted and extremely versatile player who is comfortable in any position. Played a huge role in the Frank Moore Success.
David Gabbey	Midfielder	Composed presence, keeps the team ticking. Slick range of passing. Football brain. Brings experience to the team.
Jordan Finney	Midfielder	Another who was coached by manager at youth level. Loves a tackle! Again played in Frank Moore Final winning team. Only returned to club this season.
Lewis Patmore	Forward	Produced eye catching performances with the 2nds in 1st half of the season. Such recognition paid off and now a regular 1st teamer. Full of energy, hard working, good in the air and an eye for goal.
Mark McLeod	Forward	'Pastie' is the veteran of the team, and longest serving player. Discipline has improved this season with maturity! Creates chances.
James Carlisle	Forward	Impressive in front of goal with 27 goals in 28 games. Burst of pace can leave defenders for dead. Goals scored in 2011/12 Season was vital for winning 2b.
Stewart Leitch	Forward	Bags of potential, dubbed by the gaffer as most skilful at the club. Pacey player who can create and score plenty of goals.



### Club Committee:

**President:** John Martin    **Chairman:** Ian Frazer    **Secretary:** Chris Barr

**Committee:** Alan Meekin, David Gabbey, Joel McMullen Josh Halliday, Neil Strickland, Ryan Meekin, Daniel Rosbotham



# PLAYER PROFILES

Name	Position	Notes
Jack Mitchell	Goalkeeper	'Cat Nav' Very vocal and keeps the defence organised. Great shot stopper. Huge part to play in heroics of the semi final. Comber's reverse Josh Maginnis.
Michael Crooks	Defender	Got his breakthrough with the 1sts this season and has established himself as a strong defender, with great aerial ability.
Neil Magowan	Defender	Has attributes every manager dreams about. A quality, experienced and an intelligent player who reads the game so well. Recognised as one of the best players in
Carl Ross	Defender	Strong no nonsense defender. Success with the 2XI in winning 2b in 2011/12. Also figured in the heart of the defence in the Frank Moore winning side in 2012/13. Mr. Consistent
Matthew Campbell	Defender	Soupy's second season with Comber Young Men. Good at going forward as well as his defensive duties. Smashing left foot. Dead ball specialist
Matt Gouck	Defender	Vocal Centre Half. Consistently impressive this season. Unfortunate to be ruled out due to injury.
Stuart Kelly	Defender/ Midfielder	Promising young full back and midfielder. Settled in well with his first season with the club and senior football. Comfortable with ball at feet .
Danny Gourley	Midfielder	Born Leader. Team Captain. Full of encouragement and instructive knowledge. High levels of energy, comfortable on the ball and all round top player. Another player who experienced 2012/2013 cup final success.
Andrew Marshall	Midfielder	Youngest player in the squad who is 100% committed with a great attitude. Hardworking midfielder, known for ability to defend and get forward. Full of potential and



## brief history of



**C**orrymeela Football Club was founded in 1988 by two volunteers from the Corrymeela Community. The Club completed its first two seasons in the now defunct Belfast Churches League before moving to the Down Area Winter Football League in 1990. The 2015-16 season is its 26th season in the DAWFL.

The team lifted its first piece of silverware in 1999-2000, with founder member and then manager Robert Semple winning the Division 1B title.

In 2002-03 the team came close to adding to their honours list when Arty Watson's side lost 2-1 to Greenwell Star in the Supplementary Cup Final.

2007-08 saw Corrymeela FC celebrate its 20th Anniversary by just failing to add to its honours list. Manager Stephen Morris led his team to the Sittlington Cup Final, Billy Allen Shield semi final and runners up spot in the Premier Division, losing out on the title by 1 point.

Colin Quinn managed to win a trophy the following season when the Sittlington Cup was clinched after a penalty shoot out victory over Comber Rec III. They just failed to retain the trophy when losing to Rosemount Rec in the 2009-10 final.

Geordie Carson took control of first team affairs in 2010-11 and built upon 3 consecutive Sittlington Cup Final appearances by winning the DAWFL Premier Division for the 1st time. The following season his side won the Frank Moore Memorial Cup after defeating Agape 4-1 in the final at Drome Park. The victory was dedicated to the memory of Club stalwart Gary Morris who died suddenly of heart failure due to familial hypercholesterolemia on 15th February 2012 at the age of 33. Since then the Club has organised pre-season tournaments in his memory to raise money for NICHHS.

Neil Mullan took over 1st team duties in 2012-13 and in his 1st season his team were runners up in the Sittlington Cup Final, losing out to Brentwood in their 25th anniversary year.

2013-14 saw another Sittlington Cup final appearance, but unfortunately another runners up medal with Moat Park Rangers winning 4-2. 2015/16 sees the Club reach it's sixth final in 9 seasons.

The 2nd team took centre stage in 2014/15, winning the Tommy Murphy Memorial Shield final 2-0 against Comber YM II.



# PLAYER PROFILES

Name	Position	Notes
David Gillian	Goalkeeper	Fourth season as the Club's number one keeper. He made two saves in the quarter final penalty shoot out.
Brendan Gallen	Defender	Club Chairman. Likes a good 50/50 challenge. Another player who is usually heard before seen.
Chris Murray	Defender	Comfortable anywhere on the left side of the pitch and chips in with the odd goal. Definitely will not be heard too much!
Dean Webb	Defender	Comfortable on the ball. Recently joined the Club but some niggly injuries have prevented him getting a proper run in the side.
Lorcan Fairmichael	Defender	Key player, makes things happen when playing midfield and very solid in defence. If only he had a twin.....
Fraser Hutcheson	Defender	Likes to play out from the back. Can play left back or central defence, and can double up as a back-up goalkeeper.
Conor Mallon	Midfield	Nippy midfielder, good close control and hard to shake off the ball. Also has a powerful left foot shot.
Liam MacDonald	Midfield	Loud, Scottish midfielder who has a powerful long range shot. Considering opening a card shop because he collects so many.
Mark Kelly	Midfield	Beast! Joined the Club in September but only made his 1st team debut in March due to a series of injuries / match call-offs.
Ciaran Fox	Midfield	Wonder goal in the semi final won the match. Played the Roy Keane role as he knew he would miss the final due to a family holiday.
Mark Macaulay	Midfield	Qualified coach so knows the game. Played in the Tommy Murphy Memorial Shield winning side in 2015.
Nathan Lynch	Midfield	Joined the Club in September. Promoted to the 1st team squad after promising 2nd team displays. Knee injury makes him a doubt for the final.

Name	Position	Notes
Sean Pettis	Midfield	Tricky ball player who has recently added goals to his repertoire. Utility player who can play forward, midfield or even left back.
Jonny Hoey	Midfield	One of the young guns of the squad. Another player who is comfortable anywhere on the left side of the pitch.
Jonny Murphy	Forward	Promoted from the 2nds recently. Another who played in the Tommy Murphy Memorial Shield winning side last season so has recent cup winning experience.
Chris Burns	Forward	Another player who joined the Club in September. Scored the opening goal in the semi final win v Agape.
Ted Workman	Forward	Another who has that winning feeling having played in the 2015 Tommy Murphy Memorial Shield winning side.
Peter Boylan	Forward	Recently returned from a three month break. Will inject some pace into the Corrymeela front line.
Fergal Quinn	Forward	Very good close control and holds the ball well in the forward position.
Paul Sheeran	Forward	Still top scorer despite being out injured since October. Is a constant threat to the opposition defence.



## Club Committee:

**Chairman** - Brendan Gallen      **Secretary** - Gerald Morris

**Treasurer** - Barry McDermott / Neil Mullan

**Committee Members** - Mark Hoey & Danny Meegan